

ISSUED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

8, FAIRFAX MANSIONS, FINCHLEY ROAD (CORNER FAIRFAX ROAD) LONDON, N.W.3

Office and Consulting Hours: 10 a.m.—1 p.m., 3—6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.—1 p.m.

Telephone: MAIda Vale 9096/7 (General Office)
MAIda Vale 4449 (Employment Agency)

Leo Baeck:

A NEW YEAR

It is the intention of our Rosh-hashanah to emphasise year by year that in spite of time never being cancelled, man is nevertheless enabled to begin again, to start on a new stretch of time. We can come to be aware of no better comfort and consolation amidst the troubles of life, and atonement also is rooted here. Apathy or despair would be a denial of the very idea of Rosh-hashanah and Yom-kippur.

Here is the main way where people, both individuals and nations, may unite again after their course has parted them. There is no final fate of division. Speaking of a fate, we mostly think of the future; we should rather think of the past. It is only the past that stands still, nor can it be broken off. But the future is the great opportunity given to man time and again. It shows us the task, since it points out the beginning which no one and no day are debarred from. Everywhere is the road to coming together anew.

Our world has become smaller, it is a world of inter-dependence now. No nation can escape the other, they are confronted with, and so often adverse to, each other. What they stand in need of to-day is a new way, a new principle, for the sake of which some part of the old independence, the old fate, so to speak, could be abandoned. Not merely another year should begin here, but a New Year. And a Day of Atonement will then follow.

L. BAECK

A VICTIM OF OUR TIME

The Death of Philipp Auerbach

The night after he had been sentenced to two-and-a-half years' imprisonment, Philipp Auerbach, the former President of the Bavarian Compensation Office, committed suicide. Whether his guilt was established, we do not want to decide; his lawyer stated that he had lodged an appeal. Even if, in a legal sense, he was guilty, it should not be forgotten that, as the *Manchester Guardian* rightly recalls, the general corruption of the first post-war years equally infected members of the occupying forces, Germans and their victims. According to medical experts, Auerbach was a weak and unbalanced man, but not a criminal character. The sufferings in the Concentration Camps during the war were bound to leave their mark on him. There can be no doubt that one of his first reactions was an ardent desire to help his fellow-sufferers and that in those days, when there was no strict borderline between energetic and unscrupulous action, he achieved much on their behalf. Gradually, he became the holder of offices for which he did not possess the necessary qualifications and administrative experience. His real guilt was that he accepted responsibilities to which he was not equal, and his tragedy that he thus came into the machinery of political intrigue by which he was wrecked.

LAST STAGE AT THE HAGUE

There is no Jewish Community for which the Hague Conference is of greater importance than for the Jewish Nazi victims from Germany and Austria. It has therefore been a decisive asset that, through the "Council of Jews from Germany," we were represented at the Conference and could thus safeguard our specific interests. The "Council" has considered it a matter of course to subordinate the interests of those in its trust to the supreme need of Jewish unity. Knowing the hopes and wishes of the victims and the gaps in the existing legislation, the responsible Hon. Officers of the "Council" were in constant touch with the Conference and submitted their proposals.

At the time of going to press, the Hague Conference has not ended. A number of points, referring both to the implementation of the Israeli claim and to legislation on individual compensation, are still undecided. Whilst it is therefore not yet possible to inform readers on the outcome of the negotiations and to interpret its effects, an account of the basic principles by which the "Council's" efforts have been guided and which will also determine its work after the end of the Conference deserves to be put on record.

It has turned out that the three claims under discussion at the Hague are closely linked up with each other: the global payment to Israel, the global payment to the non-Israeli organisations (represented by the "Conference on Jewish Claims") and the legislation on individual compensation. As each of these claims is justified to the same extent, it is of supreme importance that none of them should be implemented at the expense of the others. If global payments were used as a bargain to reduce Germany's obligations towards her expelled former citizens they would practically lead to a deprivation of the individual victims, for many of whom compensation is the last hope in their broken lives.

After the end of the first part of the Hague negotiations in April, the German and Jewish delegations worked out Joint

Recommendations which were published in this paper. They met at least part of the minimum requirements so far as compensation for individual victims is concerned. It now appears that the German delegation has withdrawn some of these recommendations for financial reasons.

We had hoped that the ethical principles on which the declaration of Bundeskanzler Dr. Adenauer was based would be the foremost consideration, and that the Germans would feel impelled even to make generous financial sacrifices in order to undo the wrongs of Nazi Germany, as far as this is humanly possible. We have always refrained from requests whose fulfilment would have been ultra vires, but the withdrawal of some of the original Joint Recommendations which now seems to be contemplated threatens to emasculate the idea of compensation in a number of decisive points.

Some Vital Demands

One of the most important demands which has not been acknowledged is the speedy payment of compensation. So far, payment to emigrated Jews has hardly begun. Since the damage was done, nineteen, or at least fourteen years have elapsed. Nobody has asked for the impossible, but it must be feasible to settle the claims within a period of five years.

Another vital demand is that of adequate compensation for those expelled German Jews who came from territories now incorporated into Poland (e.g. Silesia and Pomerania) or into Soviet Russia (e.g. East Prussia). These Nazi victims are in any case worse off than their fellow-refugees from Western Germany or Berlin, because they cannot recover their identifiable former property. On the other hand, a substantial part of their former assets has been taken away by the Reich by way of "Reichsfluchtsteuer" and "Judenvermoögensabgabe."

Compensation is also due to former Austrian Jews. The AJR, which feels equally responsible for former German and

(continued on page 2)

SOME OF OUR EFFORTS IN YOUR INTEREST

are described in the article published above

THEIR SUCCESS ALSO DEPENDS ON YOU

Therefore, don't overlook the circular attached to this issue

(Continued from front page)

Austrian Jews, has, through the "Council of Jews from Germany," at all stages fought for the Austrian claims. It has requested in particular that the Austrians should be compensated for the payments which they, too, had to make to the Reich. We still hope that at least this modest claim will be acknowledged.

Another point which has been repeatedly brought forward is the compensation for loss of economic prospects. A great number of expelled Jews had, at high expense, embarked on careers in the professional or artistic sphere which cannot be adjusted to the different requirements of their countries of refuge. The present laws provide for indemnification, but insufficiently. The fact must not be overlooked that many refugees who cannot follow up the work for which they were qualified in Germany had to switch over to occupations which are bound to be affected by the slightest economic crisis. They should be given the right to claim a pension if they lose their employment.

Finally, there is the question of transfer. At present only pensions to officials may be transferred at the ordinary rate, for the other victims the only way open is the sale of their blocked accounts which involves a further reduction of their partly recovered assets. A transfer at the ordinary rate should at least be introduced for pensions arising from existing and forthcoming compensation laws.

Global Payment and Nazi Victims

Whilst these demands are directed against the German partner of the negotiations, there is one request which has to be addressed to the "Conference on Jewish Claims." It concerns the use of the global payment of 450 million DM. which the "Claims Conference" is to receive. It is visualised that this payment will be combined with the settlement of the Israeli claim: the equivalent of the monetary amount will be sent in goods to Israel and reimbursed by Israel to the "Claims Conference" from the proceeds of appeals in the U.S. and other countries. There should be no doubt that the ultimate beneficiaries of the global payment to the "Claims Conference" should be, in the first place, those who were directly affected by the anti-Jewish policy of the Nazis. These are not only former German and Austrian Jews, but also the surviving Jews from other European countries who had to suffer at the hands of Hitler Germany. Whilst certainly nobody would object if part of the proceeds were set aside for general Jewish relief work, the specific character of the payment should never be overlooked: it is meant to help healing the wounds which have been inflicted upon Jews in and from Europe by the predecessor of the German Federal Republic. A claim for an adequate share in the global payment to the "Claims Conference" has been lodged by the "Council" and has, in principle, been recognised by the Presidium of the "Claims Conference."

The claim of the direct victims for a substantial allocation of the global payment has gained further moral importance by another recent arrangement arising from the Hague negotiations. As the "Claims Conference" represents only Jewish organisations, the

RESTITUTION NEWS

ENTSCHAEDIGUNGSGESETZ BERLIN

Es wird nochmals daran erinnert, dass die Anmeldefrist fuer Entschaedigungsansprueche in Berlin am 31 Oktober 1952 ablaeuft. Bis zu diesem Tage muessen Ansprueche beim Entschaedigungsamt Berlin-Wilmersdorf, Fehrbelliner Platz eingereicht werden. Da eine Verlaengerung der Frist nicht zu erwarten ist, hat das United Restitution Office erneut ueber Einreichung von formlosen Anmeldungen verhandelt. Das Entschaedigungsamt will formlose Anmeldungen als fristwaehrend ansehen, wenn die Mantelformulare eingereicht werden und angegeben wird, welche Schadensarten geltend gemacht werden. Die Einreichung der Einlegebogen kann dann spaeter mit Unterlagen, Lebenslauf, u.s.w. erfolgen.

LASTENAUSGLEICH

The German Lastenausgleichs-Gesetz was promulgated on August 14, 1952. The full text, published in the Bundesgesetzblatt of August 18, 1952, arrived in London after this issue had gone to print. The contents of the Law, which comprises 375 clauses, will as far as they are of special importance for owners of restituted property, be described in the next edition of "AJR Information."

GHETTO, SHANGHAI

It is understood that statements meant to give evidence about the claimant's stay in the Shanghai Ghetto are frequently insufficient. Evidence of witnesses should contain particulars about the length of residence in the Ghetto and also reveal the dwelling place in the Ghetto both of the claimant and of the witness. The signatures must be certified.

GLOBAL SETTLEMENT IN BAVARIA

The Bavarian Parliament has ratified an agreement, according to which Bavaria is paying to IRSO (Jewish Restitution Successor Organisation) a global sum of 20 million DM. in settlement of the claims arising from the heirless Jewish property.

AUSTRIAN PRO-NAZI LAW

Three new Austrian Bills aim at nullifying the penalties imposed on former leading Nazis during the first post-war years. *Inter alia*, the confiscation of their property is to be declared void, and the Government is going to grant compensation amounting to a total of 36 million DM. A further fund of 42 million DM. is to be established and to

German Federal Republic is going to make an additional global payment of 50 million DM. to non-professing Jews. These will obtain their share direct from the German Authorities, e.g. through the German Consulates, whereas the former German Jews will, through the "Council of Jews from Germany," settle the claim for their share with the Jewish "Claims Conference."

The Social Aspect

Time and again we have considered it our duty to put forward the requests of former German Jews, both with regard to individual legislation and to a share in general funds. We have on previous occasions pointed out that the Jews from Germany have a legal and moral right to a share of the heirless property left by German Jews, and we have also to safeguard their interests in connection with Germany's forthcoming global payment to the "Claims Conference." Our claims are, however, not only based on legal and moral arguments. They are also dictated by dire needs. From a social point of view, the blow which fell on German Jewry was heavier than any other catastrophe in European Jewish history: the former economic standard of the German Jews may be compared with that of the Jews in Spain and Portugal—but the German Jews had not

be paid to Nazi officials who were demoted. The Bills are subject to the approval of the Allied Council.

BUNDESVERSORGUNGSGESETZ FUER KRIEGSBESCHAEDIGTE UND IHRE HINTERBLIEBENEN

Im Bundesversorgungsblatt 1952 Nr. 7 vom 23 Juli 1952 ist eine Verordnung des Bundesministers fuer Arbeit "Ueber die Versorgung von Kriegsofern im Ausland" veroeffentlicht.

Diese Verordnung sieht eine Ausdehnung der bisher erlassenen Bestimmungen, die sich nur auf deutsche Staatsangehoerige beziehen, vor. Einbezogen in die Auslandsversorgung sind jetzt u. A. auch fruhere deutsche Staatsangehoerige, denen wegen ihrer politischen Ueberzeugung, oder aus Gruenden der Rasse, des Glaubens oder der Weltanschauung durch das Nazi-Regime die deutsche Staatsangehoerigkeit aberkannt worden ist, oder die im Zusammenhang mit der Verfolgung die deutsche Staatsangehoerigkeit aufgegeben haben.

In der Verordnung ist betont, dass ein Transfer nur erfolgen kann, wenn der Versorgungsberechtigte zur Bestreitung seines Lebensunterhaltes auf die Rente unbedingt angewiesen ist, d.h. ueber kein oder kein nennenswertes regelmassiges Einkommen verfuegt. Infolgedessen ist angeordnet, dass nur Schwerbeschae digte, Witwen und Waisen, denen nach den Vorschriften des Bundesversorgungsgesetzes neben der Grundrente auch eine Ausgleichsrente gewahrt werden kann, sowie Eltern fuer eine solche Massnahme in Betracht kommen.

Die ungleiche Kaufkraft und die verschiedenen Waehrungskurse in den einzelnen Laendern machen es praktisch unmoeglich, allgemein verbindliche Richtlinien fuer die Pruefung der Beduerftigkeit aufzustellen. Diese Pruefung wird daher den oertlichen Deutschen Konsulaten ueberlassen.

Folgende Versorgungsae mter (V.A.) sind fuer zustae ndig bestimmt worden: Das VA Flensburg fuer Daenemark, Schweden, Norwegen und Finnland, das VA Aachen fuer die Niederlande und Belgien, das VA Trier fuer Luxemburg, das VA Karlsruhe fuer Frankreich, das VA Radolfzell fuer die Schweiz, das VA Hamburg fuer das Vereinigte Koenigreich Grossbritannien und Nordirland, Irland und die aussereuropaeischen Staaten mit Ausnahme der Tuerkei und der amerikanischen Staaten, das VA Bremen fuer die amerikanischen Staaten, das VA Stuttgart I fuer die Tuerkei und das uebrige europaeische Ausland.

the same opportunities of maintaining or recovering their previous standard in their countries of refuge. On the other hand, they have, after their emigration, been confronted with considerably greater economic and psychological difficulties than the Russian pogrom victims, who also arrived penniless, but who came from poverty-stricken areas. All of us gratefully realise that we have been spared by having been able to escape in time, and none of us is yearning for the fleshpots of Egypt. Quite a few have succeeded in building up their lives anew. There are others, however, whose social standard has been greatly reduced; the stories of the lawyers, artists and business men who earn their livings to-day as storekeepers, porters, waiters or dispatch-clerks have often been recounted and need not be repeated. Others again are living in the utmost poverty—their plight is often unknown because they are too proud or too modest to complain. Every modern social worker knows that needs cannot be mechanically assessed to all alike, but that the background of the person or community in question has also to be taken into account. These specific social aspects are of no lesser importance than the legal and moral grounds on which the claims of the former German and Austrian Jews are based.

Kenneth Ambrose: OUTSIDE LONDON

For the best part of two hours our coach had taken us through continually built up areas. Were we crossing London? Nothing of the sort. We had just visited a biscuit factory in Yorkshire and were now crossing over into Lancashire to see some woollen and cotton mills. Like some of us, I had imagined I "knew" about the Midlands from geography and economic history. Like most of us, I had in fact been so London-bound, that an actual trip through the Midlands was an eye-opener of the first order.

If you had said "ribbon development" to me before I went on this trip, I should immediately have thought of the Great West Road or the main Brighton road. Yet our builders of the nineteen-twenties and thirties were evidently only copying what had been done further north up to a century earlier. I looked out through the coach window, wondering whether we should ever reach open country again. We did not—at least not until we left for Leicester a few days later. I do not want to infer that there is no countryside at all in the Midlands, but it certainly is not along the roads. As you leave one town so the houses follow you until you reach the next one. And they are not even mildly pleasant houses, as you mostly find along the more modern "ribbons" in the south. There are rows upon rows of terraced houses, all

LETTER FROM JERUSALEM

Tightening the Belt : NEP, the New Economic Policy of the Israel Government, though it has not raised the value of the pound, has certainly made it more valuable for the Israelis, for the simple reason that, with prices rising and wages frozen, money has become the rarest commodity.

Not so long ago there were endless queues in front of cinemas and theatres, and there was even a black market for tickets; nowadays, the seats are half-empty. Last year, 698,000 persons went to Tel Aviv cinemas in July; this July, the figure dropped to 630,000, although the number of cinemas in Tel Aviv has risen by two and the population by more than 10 per cent. "Habimah," with a seating capacity of 1,200, has an average of not more than 900 patrons. "Peer Gynt" did not draw more than 300 people.

Other "luxuries" have been cut down no less severely: the sale of cigarettes decreased by 20 per cent and that of cigars by 25 per cent. Hotels and boarding-houses in summer resorts speak of a "dead season" and textile shops complain of a drop of 40 per cent in the turnover, with a dampening effect on unofficial prices.

Even the keenly awaited American books and journals do not find enough buyers. Although Israelis, for many months, were starved of reading matter from overseas, news stands and shops are bulging with "Time," "Newsweek," "Life," as the people cannot spare the money.

Israel's biggest bottleneck, the building market, has been no less affected. Although thousands of people are looking for accommodation, there are not enough buyers for the expensive flats which are still going up. Prices for a three-roomed apartment in Tel Aviv, which were in February £16,000, have dropped to £13,000 to-day—but no offers are forthcoming.

Hebrew Names : Whoever wonders which names he ought to give his new-born children can now consult a little booklet issued by the Hebrew Language Council. The author, Jacob Arikhah, has compiled thousands of Biblical and post-Biblical names. In the Biblical period, girls do not fare too well; they are represented with 50 examples, whereas boys have the choice among 500—but later epochs make good with almost 600 female names.

The suggestions derive from the most diverse spheres—there are nouns like light, hope, etc., adjectives like faithful, good, etc., verbs like "Thou shalt blossom," Israel localities, flowers, precious stones, animals and adaptations of names from the Tenach. The matter becomes more complicated where Biblical names, in present use, have changed their sex; some female names, such as Avital and Ahinoam have become male, and vice versa, masculine names like Ela, Bracha, Dikla, have turned female.

HERBERT FREEDEN

in a continuous stretch, and all of one colour, a dirty dark grey.

The lasting impression as you pass through this part of the country is of the complete absence of beauty. It strikes you equally in the landscape, which is never free from houses, haze, chimneys and slag heaps from the mines, and in the architecture, or perhaps we ought to say the absence of architecture. The factories look like a cross between the worst surviving type of school building and a prison, the ordinary houses look like a dirtier and older edition of some parts of Battersea and the East End, and the public buildings, except in the largest cities like Manchester, mostly flaunt atrocious facades pretending to be Greek or Roman, or simply being plain ugly. There is, of course, a good reason for all this. When this country was the pioneer of scientific advance, a century and more ago, the Midlands were right at the heart of activity and were developed at a time when town planning and the welfare state had not been dreamt of yet. Moreover the developing was done by the newly risen middle class whose main objective was to be successful and co-incidentally make their country successful, but who had very little sense of beauty and even less time for it under the pressure of business. There are probably exceptions to these generalisations, but the overall impression from my coach window was certainly that the only thing to cheer you up in this environment could possibly be drink.

British Workmanship

The most profound lesson I received on this trip related to the quality of the British worker, and to British technical inventiveness. I know it is fashionable on the whole to maintain that the British worker is dull-witted and lazy, "his own worst enemy," as some put it, and that the Americans are so much better at machinery. If you subscribe to those views, I suggest a trip round any textile mill. You will see there the most unbelievably complex machinery efficiently turning out cloth or garments by what appears to be a wholly mystical mechanism.

Now look at the people who tend the machines. They go about their business in a disconcertingly placid and confident manner, performing as a matter of routine tasks which would completely bewilder me. One weaver may look after four looms at the same time, and a man may have up to twelve hose knitting machines in his charge. It is not all just "machine minding" either. Many skilled operations have to be performed.

Do you know what scutching and lap making is? What is a sliver, and what does a Slubber-Inter machine do? These are words from a completely different field of experience from the one we ordinary Londoners, and especially we "New Londoners" habitually move in. I was glad to widen my horizon to take this field in, even if only temporarily. We ought not to forget that England is not only London, any more than London is just Hampstead.

ERICH LUETH IN LONDON

On the occasion of his visit to London, Herr Erich Lueth, one of the initiators of the "Peace with Israel" movement in Germany, met some friends of the AJR and of the Wiener Library at a private gathering. In the course of his talk Herr Lueth stressed the need for a publication of a History of German Jewry between 1933 and 1945; such a book would be particularly valuable for school education. The widespread response to the "Peace with Israel" movement, he said, indicated a genuine desire of many Germans to atone for the crimes against the Jews; support had been particularly enthusiastic amongst students. Herr Lueth appealed to former German Jews to endorse the efforts of the "Peace with Israel" movement by their spiritual assistance. The talk, which left a deep impression on the audience, was followed by a lively discussion.

Frankfurt. Rabbi Dr. Harry Levy (Tel Aviv) has been appointed Gemeinderabbiner of Frankfurt and Landesrabbiner for Hessen. He recently arrived to take over his office. Before the war Dr. Levy was a rabbi in Berlin.

ANGLO-JUDAICA

Emigration and Aliyah

The subject of emigration attracted some attention after the Chief Rabbi, in an address to the Anglo-Jewish Association, seemed to have stressed the requirements of Australia and New Zealand while, it was felt, virtually disregarding "the mystique of Kibbutz Galuyot." Dr. Brodie explained that he was of course "a keen supporter of aliyah" from the West, but that aliyah, he thought, was not a mass emigration: it was qualitative and selective and prompted by high and noble resolves of the chalutsic motif. By contrast, the Dominions were offering not only material prospects but also the chance of British Jews making a spiritual contribution towards communal life overseas.

The Chief Rabbi felt it was only realistic to "recognise that the majority of our people are content to continue living in the free communities of the Dispersion." The important task, he considered, was to ensure that they be strengthened in their Jewish consciousness and that, above all, they must seek to keep alive Jewry's sense of constant responsibility towards the people, the land and the Torah of Israel.

Chalutsic aliyah from Britain has been increasing, according to figures announced by the London office of the Jewish Agency. 85 British chalutsim will leave for Israel in the second half of 1952; 40 had left in the first six months—altogether 46 more than in 1951.

Emigration from Britain was welcomed by the Executive Council of Australian Jewry which passed a resolution pledging "support to Jews of Britain wishing to settle in Australia, including Jews who are at present aliens in Great Britain."

Why Ministers Leave

Australia was chosen by yet another Minister leaving London, Rabbi I. Rapaport. Speaking of the reason why so many Ministers had left recently, Rabbi Dr. S. Lehrman, of the New Synagogue, Stamford Hill, said it was not because they were seeking higher salaries. What they really wanted was "more influence and more scope." Some came to their congregations full of sincerity and enthusiasm, but soon found that they were preaching to empty synagogues. Others felt that they had lost their influence within their own congregation. Another reason, Rabbi Lehrman emphasized, was that "in our highly organised community there was yet no system of graduation and promotion" for Ministers.

"The Scope and Possibilities of Hebrew Education" was the subject of Professor Brodetsky when he addressed the 8th Annual Conference of the National Union of Hebrew Teachers. He felt the scope to be enormous but the possibilities nil, unless certain modifications of method were effected. He blamed the decline in the standard of knowledge on the anglicisation of Jewry, the debased concept of Judaism and on the conflict between parents and teachers.

Group Libel was debated in the House of Lords, but Lord Silkin, a Jew, failed to secure a motion in its favour. Viscount Simon opposed the argument, and the *Jewish Observer* supported him. "The fact (it said) that it has not proved possible to frame a legal measure on group libel which would effectively offer protection is, perhaps, an indication that the conception is itself not sound"; the Zionist paper found itself in agreement with Earl Winterton that in Britain "a group libel law might well give the impression that certain minorities were seeking privileges and protection that singled them out from the rest of the population."

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BLOCKED GERMAN MARKS
AND AUSTRIAN SHILLINGS

ENQUIRIES INVITED

Dr. Hans Liebeschuetz: PROFILE OF AN HISTORIAN

The Work of Wilhelm Levison

Recently the leading German periodical for mediaeval studies, *Das deutsche Archiv*, published a lecture by the late Professor Wilhelm Levison, of Bonn (1876-1947) on the doctrine of the Two Swords, which has played such an important part in the struggle of ideas between the ecclesiastical and secular powers in control of the Western world seven, eight and nine hundred years ago. This article offers some points, which may interest a wider circle and a small sect of people, who have their hobby in studying the remote past. We learn from an introductory note that this contribution to learning—printed as a good-bye message to a doyen of the craft—should also be taken as a document illustrating a sad chapter of contemporary history, when a scholar, who had served Germany faithfully for many years, had to leave his homeland and to seek safety abroad. The text offered represents a German translation from a lecture in English, delivered to students of the Durham Colleges, where the Professor lived as an honorary fellow after his emigration in 1939. But some of this periodical's readers knew the German text of this lecture before in Levison's own version, which he gave to a circle of very attentive fellow-refugees in a bright dining-room of a boarding house on the seafront in Douglas, Isle of Man, during the fateful summer of 1940. I think none of the inmates of Central Camp will ever forget the slender, medium-sized figure in their midst with a strong, well-groomed beard, whose extreme modesty and affability hid so successfully his great position in the world of scholarship.

The field in which Levison made himself undisputed master was the period of transition, when, after the disintegration of the ancient world, Western civilization took shape for the first time under the rule of the Merovingian and Carolingian kings. Because Anglo-Saxon England and especially her Northern centres of learning played a prominent part in this historical process, Durham, with its ancient traditions and libraries, was much more than a harbour of refuge for Levison and his wife. It proved to be the most congenial place to crown a life, spent in ceaseless labour over numberless problems of manuscript evidence and chronology, by a great synthesis. In the shadow of the wonderful Northern cathedral Levison prepared a course of lectures on "England and the Continent in the Eighth Century," which he delivered in the University of Oxford in 1943 and edited as a book three years later. The *English Historical Review* summarized expert opinion on the work in these words: "One of the most remarkable contributions to our knowledge of English history, which has been made in recent years."

A Loyal Scholar

Loyalty was one of the most striking features in Levison's character. He was intensely thankful to England, which had accepted him willingly on the front bench of historical learning. And he always confessed his allegiance to those German institutions, where his own scholarship had been fostered. In the preface to his book, written in the hour of final victory in 1945, he turned his mind to those many collaborators and friends "who did not bow their

knee to Baal." But on the other hand he never forgot the primary root of his existence, his Jewish origin. One of the last works he completed was a manuscript dealing with the history of his own and related families in the Rhenish land.

Moreover, the personal style, in which he did his life's work seems to show a trace of this consciousness. In consequence of the subject matter of his research not a few Benedictine monks had been prominent among his advanced students in Bonn and his relations with leading figures of ecclesiastical institutions remained close all his life. In solving many problems of ecclesiastical history he proved his mastery of Catholic liturgy and Canon Law, but nevertheless he never renounced an attitude of reserve when dealing with problems of faith which are so often at the root of mediaeval developments. He knew all the facts about the creed of Boniface and Alcuin, as a friend of long standing must do, but despite a strong philosophical interest he never carried his analysis beyond a certain point, as if he did not wish to tread on ground which was holy to others.

He did great honour to our community in this country and we should not leave the guardianship of his memory exclusively to the learned corporations of Durham, Bonn and Munich.

A REFUGEE AS ENGLISH AUTHOR

The treatment of sociological problems in novelistic form always entails the danger that the characters are just walking theorems and the plot suffers from dogmatic coercion. Victor Ross, a former refugee, in "Tight Rope" (Cresset Press, London) has not quite circumvented these pitfalls.

His British officer who resigns his commission in Palestine after an anti-Jewish incident, follows only his frantic craving for justice. But before he remembers that he himself is a Jew, the others brand him as a Jewish traitor. Happily married to his Gentile wife, he turns a "professional" Jew by fighting anti-Semitism in his own unorthodox way. In the end he loses everything, his fight, his job, his wife, but what he gains—an insight into his Jewishness—seems to him a fair though painful compensation.

One would have wished that this development had relegated the analyses of anti-Semitism, Zionism and Judaism to their proper place in the background. As it is, an overdose of talk weighs heavily on the fabric of the plot and the characters, save the hero, wear their ideological stamp rather than their individualities. Yet both in the beginning and towards the end, Mr. Ross displays a flair for drama and a faculty of driving his narration to heights of suspense which, one hopes, will one day mould the ideological with the human. H.F.

DEATH OF TWO GERMAN WRITERS

Clara Viebig died in Berlin, 92 years old. As the widow of the publisher Fritz Th. Cohn she had to suffer under the Nazis, and for some time lived with her son in Brazil.

The death is also announced of the poet Waldemar Bonsels at the age of 71.

LAW and LIFE

Legal Advice Hours (for persons with limited means only): Sunday 11 a.m.—12 noon by appointment.

The Income Tax Act 1952

Readers who see references to this Act, on income tax forms or elsewhere, may wonder if any new rules are involved. The answer is that this new Act (incidentally, the first assented to by the new Queen, and a monumental piece of legislation, covering 511 pages) is merely the long awaited consolidation of annual Finance Acts (so far as they relate to income tax) up to 1951. Its object is, not to alter, but to combine and simplify the existing law. It was passed before the recent Budget changes.

The 1952 Budget and Finance Act

The Finance Act 1952, incorporating the Budget changes, received Royal Assent early in July. Two of the Budget changes are of special interest to

traders, viz. (i) the extension of loss relief, and (ii) the new excess profits levy.

Until recently trading losses could, for income tax purposes, be carried forward and set against future profits for (generally) only six years, so that if a business took longer to recover, the relief was lost. This time limit will no longer apply to future, nor to certain recent losses.

The new excess profits levy will hit medium and large concerns rather than the small trader. Traders who may be affected are those operating through one or more limited companies, where the profits exceed £5,000 per annum. Remuneration to controlling directors will be an admissible expense within certain limits.

By a Professional Accountant

MARTIN WOLFF—80 YEARS OLD

Martin Wolff, who in these days celebrates his 80th birthday, is the uncrowned king of the German-Jewish legal emigration. His fame is due to his standing both as a scholar and as a teacher of law. His "*Sachenrecht*" (Law of Property) in the Handbook of German Civil Law, published by him together with *Enneccerus* and *Kipp*, has become one of the few really classic works published by German jurists during the 20th century. There can be very few students of German law who have not derived all or at least the best of what they know in this field of law from this great work. The tremendous reputation of the *Sachenrecht* has somewhat unjustly overshadowed the author's other great contributions to German legal science, including his *Law of Marriage and Divorce* in the same Handbook, his contributions to *Ehrenberg's Handbuch des Handelsrechts*, and last not least his textbook of the German Law of *Private International Law*, which appeared shortly before the Nazi revolution.

Already before 1933 Martin Wolff had been beginning to focus his attention on comparative law. Later editions of his *Sachenrecht* and his *Law of Marriage and Divorce* showed increasingly to what extent the author was beginning to draw additional strength from the study of foreign legal systems. In 1932, he published a commentary on sec. 516 to 717 of the French Civil Code (in *Heinsheimer, Zivilgesetze der Gegenwart*).

The loss of his Chair at the University of Berlin and exile from Germany were the inevitable consequences of the Nazi revolution, but even under the adverse circumstances which followed, Martin Wolff's spirit remained unshaken. In fact it may well be said that during the last ten years he has given to the legal public works which not only maintain his reputation as one of the world's leading scholars in the field of law but have even lent additional glamour to his name. His "*Private International Law*" published by Oxford Press in 1945 and devoted in the first instance to English Law, has already run into two editions and has become one of the recognised standard textbooks in this field of law throughout the Common-Law world. No other English work on the Law of Conflict of Laws deals with an equally large number of problems on which there is no judicial authority. No other work of similar size has equally full references to foreign systems of Private International Law. For this reason, this work has met with an equally enthusiastic reception from academic scholars as well as from practitioners. Future decades may well think of Martin Wolff as of the man who wrote the famous "*Handbook of English Private International Law*" rather than as the author of textbooks on German Law. Another recent work is the chapter on *Commercial Law* in the *Manual of German Law* (published under the editorship of the present writer by H.M. Stationery Office on behalf of the Foreign Office). It is significant that every review of this work has included a laudatory reference to the brilliance of this summary of an important part of German Law.

Only a few months ago Martin Wolff's latest work was completed. It is the last volume of his "*Traité de Droit Comparé*," written in French with the collaboration of Arminjon and Nolde. This work has broken completely new ground. It is the first large-size textbook of comparative law, and may well become one of the chief instruments for establishing comparative law as a recognised subject for University instruction in law.

It is impossible to conclude an article on Martin Wolff without mentioning his tremendous influence as a teacher. Those who have seen the largest halls of Berlin University crowded out during his lectures and who remember the enthusiastic attention focussed upon the lips of this unequalled teacher, will treasure it as an unforgettable experience. Many other teachers have tried to combine clarity with brilliance, depth with humour, and a scholarly treatment with ease of diction—none has succeeded like Martin Wolff. It is a misfortune that exile has terminated his activities as a teacher of the spoken word. Fortunately his books mirror to the fullest possible extent his outstanding powers as a teacher of law. For generations to come they will bear witness to one who, through the written and spoken word alike, has become the most celebrated teacher of law in our times.

E. J. COHN

TRIBUTE TO DR. KURT SCHUMACHER

With the death of Dr. Kurt Schumacher the German Social-Democratic Party lost its post-war leader and the friends of democracy an eloquent and sincere protagonist. Those who believe in the idea of Europe mourn the loss of a great European.

The Nazis had not forgotten that, in a Reichstag speech of 1932, Dr. Schumacher had called their policy an appeal to the meanest urges in man. Of the twelve years when these urges were let loose in Germany, he had to spend eleven in concentration camps. Though he left them as a human wreck, the flame that the great ideas of liberty, social justice and humanitarianism had kindled in him was not extinguished.

He was the first, and for a long time the only German politician who found adequate words for what had been done to German Jews and to Jewry as a whole.

Irrespective of whether the idea of restitution appealed to the public and carried votes, he made himself the spokesman of fair and speedy indemnification, and he recalled the merits of German Jewry whenever an opportunity arose.

"It is the duty," he said in September 1951, "not only of international Socialists, but of every German patriot, to remember first and foremost the fate of German and European Jews and to offer any help necessary. Antisemitism indicates ignorance of the great contributions of German Jews to the German economy, German science and arts and German culture, and the part they played in the struggle for German liberty and democracy."

The German people would be in a better position to-day if the Jewish intellectual and economic forces were in its ranks and helped to rebuild the country."

IN MEMORY OF ELLY HEUSS-KNAPP

Elly Heuss-Knapp, the wife of the first President of the German Federal Republic, died on July 19. She was a warm-hearted, highly accomplished and selfless personality. Her loss will be deeply felt, not only by the German women, but all over the world, especially by those who had the privilege of knowing her personally, as I did. The refugees from Germany have cause to remember Elly Heuss-Knapp gratefully, as she was a fearless fighter against prejudices of race and faith and tried to help the persecuted under Hitler.

Elly Knapp was born in Strassburg (Elsass) as daughter of Georg Friedrich Knapp, the well-known professor of economics and finance. Already in her early youth she had a deep sense of social responsibility. At 18 years of age she passed her examination as teacher and later studied economics in Freiburg and Berlin.

She was deeply impressed and stirred by the "Heimarbeits-Ausstellung" in Berlin in 1908. This exhibition showed the deplorable conditions under which many thousands of women and children had to work for endless hours at home. It branded the hunger wages and the totally unhygienic conditions of work in the homes of these destitute people. It gave Elly Knapp a further impetus for her welfare work.

In 1909 she was married to Theodor Heuss in Strassburg by Albert Schweitzer. They lived first in Berlin. In 1912 they moved to Heilbronn, where Theodor Heuss became editor of the "Rhein-Neckar Zeitung."

After the end of the war the family went back to Berlin. Theodor Heuss found a vast field of activities as lecturer, editor and writer, and Elly Heuss-Knapp was a successful and beloved teacher at the Welfare School (Dr. Alice Salomon), Pestalozzi-Fröbel Haus, and Lettehaus. She was an inspiring worker in the newly founded voluntary "Nachbar-Hilfe" with Anna von Gierke and others, joined in all charity work, so necessary after the first war.

The Nazi régime deprived Professor Heuss of all his posts as lecturer and editor. His wife was forbidden to continue her work as a teacher. To maintain her family she worked as publicity adviser to commercial firms and, besides, did all the rough house work.

In those anxious days we frequently met in Friedenau, where we were neighbours. I admired her fortitude, loyalty and helpfulness in the face of her great personal worries.

In 1946 Elly Heuss-Knapp published "Schmale Wege" (Narrow Paths), a small volume of sketches based on true facts. She describes the heroism of persecuted human beings, who preserved their dignity and loyalties in spite of torture and fear of death, as well as the selfless endeavours to protect these victims of terror. These short stories give an eloquent testimony of the author's humanity and compassion. In the preface to the third edition in March 1950, Bad Godesberg, she writes: "Much has happened since 1946 in Germany, but there remains enough which we are not allowed to forget."

When Theodor Heuss was chosen President in 1949, Elly Heuss-Knapp was already seriously ill. But she devoted herself with all her energy to the duties which she had now to fulfil as the President's wife. Nor did she neglect her social responsibilities, above all the care for mothers.

We shall remember Elly Heuss-Knapp as a rare personality, untiring in her efforts to better the living conditions of her sisters in need and to inspire neighbourly love.

HELEN HURWITZ-STRANZ (London)

Old Acquaintances

Remarque's Visit to Germany:—When Erich Maria Remarque visited Berlin for a fortnight, accompanied by Paulette Goddard, a German paper wrote: "Stay away from us, Mr. R." The author was attacked because he "belongs to the people who heaped hate on everything German." "It was a good idea that Remarque left Germany again," concludes the paper.

Milestones:—Benno Reifenberg, formerly with the "Frankfurter Zeitung" and now co-editor of the German periodical "Gegenwart," is 60 years old.—Munkepunke, whose real name is Alfred Richard Mayer, celebrated his 70th birthday; so did actor Hugo Werner-Kahle.—Harry Piel, the dream boy of our early cinema days, is 60 years old.

London News:—Frederic Wendhausen and Ferdy Mayn are in "Albert, R.N." the P.O.W. play at the Saville, which has started a successful run.—Rolf Gerard, who did the décors for the "Metropolitan Opera," came to London to do the costumes for the new Gene Kelly picture "Invitation to a Dance."—Hans May is composing two new operettas; the librettis are by Eric Maschwitz and Diana Morgan.—Allan Grey scored the Claudette Colbert picture, "The Planter's Wife."—Peter Illing and Michael Rittermann will be in the Clark Gable film, "Never Let Me Go."—Actor Meinhard Maur returned from Spain, where he acted in "Decameron Nights."—Robert Stolz passed through London on his way to Vienna from New York, where he conducted Viennese music for the twelfth year running. The Theatre Guild in New York asked him to make a musical out of Sherwood's "Reunion in Vienna."—Anton Walbrook left the "Call Me Madam" show to start work in Max Opuls' "Finale" picture.

Obituaries:—Hans Bartsch, the man who did more than anybody for the exchange of plays between the United States and Europe, died in New York, aged 68. He brought "No, No, Nannette" to the Continent, and Oscar Straus' "Chocolate Soldier" to Broadway.—The journalist Joseph Bornstein, who used to be the right hand of the late Leopold Schwarzschild, editor of "Tagebuch," also died in New York.—Oscar Ebelsbacher, the actor who once played "Potsch und Perlmutter" in Berlin, died in London after a long illness. He appeared some time ago in the "Burning Bush" at the "New Lindsey."—The death occurred in Hamburg of Karl Lamac, partner, discoverer, and director of Anny Ondra, aged 54. He worked in London during the war, went to the States, and had just returned to Germany for the production of his first post-war German picture.

PEM

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- Glasgow New Synagogue 306, Albert Drive, Glasgow, S.1. (Apply Hon. Sec. 68, Gordon, St., Glasgow, C.1)
- Sinai Synagogue Leeds Lower Hall, Leeds Jewish Institute, Savile Mount, Leeds, 7. (Apply Hon. Sec. 27, East Parade, Leeds, 1)
- Bournemouth New Synagogue Trinity Hall, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. (Apply Hon. Sec. 35, Cecil Avenue, Charminster, Bournemouth. Winton 3718)
- Southport New Synagogue West Street Club, Southport
- Cardiff New Synagogue Temple of Peace, Cathays Park, Cardiff

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FROM MY DIARY

The most popular jokes about refugees are those which refer to their linguistic shortcomings. What holds good for the English proficiency of the refugees in this country seems also to apply to that of some settlers in Israel. This at least is the impression conveyed by an article in "Jewish Affairs" (S. Africa) whose author, Jacob Sarna, lived in London prior to his immigration. His first acquaintance with Jerusalem English, Mr. Sarna writes, was a "Conditory," a well-meant translation of a place which in Vienna or Berlin was called "Konditorei." There is also a "Sausagery" and another establishment that goes by the name "Textile and Gallantry." The funniest observation he made refers to a door plate on which is written in the most refined English "Corsets, Entrance from behind." For some moments the author was puzzled about the correct meaning. Does it mean, he asks, that the corsets made here are entered from behind or that the corset-maker's establishment is entered from behind, and from behind where? Ultimately he finds the right solution and soon enters the famous establishment situated round the corner of the street.

NARRATOR

FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in this column are free of charge. Texts should be sent in by the 18th of the month.

Birth

Schatzky.—A son (Anthony Michael) was born on August 12, 1952, to Mr. and Mrs. K. T. Schatzky at 13 Alford Grove, Sprowston, Norwich.

Death

Mr. Salomon Klausner, 99, Merrion Avenue, Stanmore, Middx. (formerly Cologne), passed away on July 29, 1952, at the age of 46, deeply mourned by his wife Edith (née Salomon) and children, Judy and Susan.

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PERSONALIA

Rabbi Dr. Hermann Schreiber (formerly Potsdam) recently celebrated his seventieth birthday. Dr. Schreiber, who now lives in London, has been a most interested member of the AJR since its foundation.

The famous opera singer **Herman Jadowker** celebrated his 75th birthday recently. He was one of the most prominent tenors of the Berlin Opera House and was honoured with the title of a "Kammersaenger." Later on, he was appointed a Cantor in his birth-town Riga. Jadowker, who was always a proud Jew, now lives in Tel Aviv as a music teacher.

Professor Dr. Felix Rosenthal (Leicester) passed away on August 2. He was an outstanding physician and an authority on liver and blood diseases. Prior to his emigration he held an appointment with the Breslau University Hospital and was Professor Extraordinary at Breslau University; from 1930 to 1938 he was Director of the Jewish Hospital in Hamburg. In Leicester, where he settled after having left Germany, he soon acquired again a high reputation both as a research worker and as a practitioner.

Dr. Rosenthal, who was a son of Rabbi Ferdinand Rosenthal, Breslau, always took an active part in

Jewish life. He was a member of the AJR Leicester Branch.

Professor Hermann Pick, formerly Librarian at the Oriental Department of the Prussian State Library (Berlin), died in Jerusalem recently.

The well-known photographer **Mr. Erwin Krongold** (London) fell in front of an underground train and was killed. Mr. Krongold was a former refugee from Central Europe.

The tragic death of **Dr. Alfred Schweitzer**, who lost his life during a climbing holiday in the French Alps, will also be deeply regretted by his many friends in the AJR. Prior to his removal to London, Dr. Schweitzer was an interested member of the AJR Leeds Branch.

Rabbi Dr. Karl Rosenthal, formerly Juedische Reformgemeinde, Berlin, died in U.S.A. recently. Prior to his emigration Dr. Rosenthal took a leading part in the work of the Jewish Central-Verein and the Reichsbund Juedischer Frontsoldaten. During the war, when he stayed in Oxford, he also was a member of the local Oxford Branch of the AJR.

Mr. Wilhelm Wolff, from 1910-1939 legal adviser to the Jewish Community Berlin, died in Johannesburg recently.

Miscellaneous

DEUTSCHE BUECHER GESUCHT R. & E. Steiner, 64 Talgarth Rd., W.14. FUL 7924.

CONTINENTAL elderly Viennese lady is looking for Club or private home to play Canasta twice weekly, near Hampstead. Speaks German only. Box 1383.

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MISSING PERSONS

Enquiries from AJR

Wajcman, Regina, born Berlin abt. 1915, last known address: 87 Albany Road, Cardiff, for URO, Tel-Aviv.

Schneider, Dr. Albert, lawyer from Berlin, for AJR.

Lippmann, K., from Berlin-Schoenberg, Kufsteinerstr. 7, for Wiedergutmachungsaamt, Berlin.

Gross, Eva, born 1924, from East Prussia, later Paderborn, for Jewish Community, Berlin.

de Leon, Erika, for Landgericht Kiel.

Spanier Hugo and Betty, from Breslau, for AJR.

Rochmann, son of Abraham and Hedwig, née Lublinski, from Berlin.

Kleistr. 6, for Dr. Peyser, Berlin.

Stiefels, Siegfried, from Frankfurt/Main, for URO, Tel-Aviv.

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AND NO MAN KNOWETH OF HIS SEPULCHRE (Deut. 34.7)

The Chevra Kadisha of the Adath Yisroel has been approached by several people who mourn for dear ones lost in the recent holocaust in Europe. They are grieved that the graves are unknown and that no memorial exists which they could visit at appropriate times. If sufficient applications are received by the mourning survivors of our martyrs or service men and women and civilians who lost their lives during the war, the Chevra Kadisha accordingly have decided to erect a suitable Memorial for them, as has been done in other countries. This Memorial would be erected at the entrance to the cemetery at Enfield, and names of lost relatives and friends could be inscribed thereon for a moderate fee of £7 7s.—plus 1s for each letter.

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GOLDEN BOOK INSCRIPTION

To express its gratitude for its Chairman's untiring services, the AJR inscribed, on the occasion of his eightieth birthday, the name of Mr. Adolf Schoyer into the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund.

PIANO WANTED

A Piano is wanted for a London Hostel of young Jewish refugees. Anybody who might be able to help should be good enough to contact the AJR.

CHANGE OF LANGUAGE AND NAME?

Replies to our "Gallup Poll" which came in after the last issue of "AJR Information" had gone to print confirm that most of the members are, broadly speaking, against a change of name and language. Here are some quotations from recent letters: "I would like to tell you that I, although technically not a refugee from Germany—I settled in England in 1925 and became naturalised in 1933—so completely identified myself with the Jewish refugees from Germany that many a time, quite unconsciously, I described myself as one, in private as well as in public. I feel that the name of your excellent paper describes it correctly and therefore should not be altered."—"Keep the name under which we and you are so well known in this country and abroad and under which you have achieved success and admiration."

With regard to the language most correspondents expressed the view that the vast majority is able to read English newspapers and that also for reasons of principle a reversal to German would not be recommendable.

The AJR wishes again to thank all correspondents who, by participating in the debate, have expressed their active interest. Whilst it seems that, at least for the time being, the discussion may be concluded, any further arguments in one direction or another are, of course, always welcome.

Letter to the Editor GROUP VISIT TO ISRAEL

Dear Sir,

At the request of many people we are hoping to arrange a group visit for the forthcoming High Festivals, leaving London approximately 15th September. Arrangements are in hand with a leading recognised air-service. Fares, greatly reduced, will however depend on the size of the group.

In order to facilitate early completion, we would be obliged if interested members of the public contacted our office immediately.

Yours sincerely,

Manchester Mizrahi Organisation,

Levi House,
Bury Old Road,
Manchester 8.

S. Frieslander,
Provincial Organiser.

(This letter was received after the August issue of AJR Information had gone to print. Considering the shortage of time, interested readers should contact the above-mentioned office without delay.—The Ed.)

VISA FEES FOR GERMANY

According to an agreement between the Federal German Government and the Government of the United Kingdom visas for German and British nationals under 25 years are now issued free of charge.

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