

AJR INFORMATION

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ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

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Bernhard Reichenbach

INQUEST ON WEIMAR

Among the older generation of German emigrés a unique place is held by the now 75-year-old Dr. Erich Eyck. The Berlin barrister, active alike in city council politics and legal journalism, not only starts all over again, not only turns the hobby of his youth—the study of history—into a new profession, but having produced a three-volume biography of Bismarck, a political history of Imperial Germany, and two biographies relating to the history of British Liberalism—all within the seventh and eighth decade of his life—he actually joins the front rank of contemporary historians. The fact that he was so appreciated too by British reviewers of his Gladstone biography, will no doubt have afforded him deep satisfaction.

New Work by Erich Eyck

That the verdict was well warranted is shown by his latest work—the first volume of a history of the Weimar Republic,* ending with the election of President Hindenburg in 1925. It is an account that draws strength from the fact that the author was placed near enough to both the events and the principal actors involved, and yet never himself held a responsible position, thus enjoying freedom from bias in addition to the advantage of a 20 years' retrospect. His observation that the Republic's miserable and pitiful end casts a sombre light on the whole of its history, is fully borne out in the book. After all, the end did not come "out of the blue"—it came as a plain illustration of the grandiose truth that *Die Weltgeschichte ist das Weltgericht*.

Inasmuch as the Republic's history constitutes its judgment day, the trial is not only one of statesmen and politicians. The core of the tragedy is—and the liberal democrat Eyck feels it keenly—that the German people in 1918 showed themselves so lacking in instinct, so immature, so little capable of making competent use of the political self-determination then gained. This, of course, may seem the inevitable result of 200 years of absolute government—nevertheless the tragedy remains.

It is no part of the tragedy that, after the collapse of their political power during the war, men like Hindenburg and Ludendorff played vital parts in this Republic, that Bavarian reactionaries like Kahr and his friends, and eventually Hitler, in spite of his failure in November, 1923, managed to ruin Germany. The tragedy is rather that in the exercise of their Parliamentary rights and duties, the German people time and again gave these men the power to act.

* Geschichte der Weimarer Republik (Verlag Rentsch, Zuerich und Stuttgart, DM 13.50)

"Little men wishing to play the big man, happen to be a dangerous species," Eyck writes. Which is true enough in Germany—in England they will be laughed out of court.

Eyck says: "The few hours Hitler (in 1923) thought he was in control, sufficed to show what a Nazi tyranny would be like . . . Events like that ought to have opened the eyes of every sensible person. But the people of Munich continued to be enthusiastic about Hitler . . . The most distressing part of the story is that in the Germany of the time no one made himself impossible because of such foolish pranks so long as he disposed of a sufficient supply of patriotic catchwords and nationalist passions."

On such foundations the successful campaign sprang up against men like Erzberger and Rathenau, and such was the spirit that pervaded all phases of the Republic. "Germany had become a Republic, but the German people had no understanding of the dignity of their own independent responsibility," Eyck writes, while describing the period of the inflation. He refers to the blind belief among so many Germans that the destructive effects of war and defeat could be ignored. "When those illusions were disappointed, the blame was laid at the door of the Republic, not of the evil story of 1914-18, which few were disposed to remember."

A Lesson for Post-War Germany?

This part of the past is bound to call to mind the fortunes of the second German Republic which came about after the evil story of 1933-45. A comparison would seem to suggest that a nation may well learn the lesson of its own past. It is possible that the growth and terroristic activity of "Self Defence Squads" and other camouflaged gangs, was largely prevented by the presence of Occupation forces, but on the other hand, the elections have been encouraging in that they have shown that the people this time will have no truck with the adventurers.

Another point of difference between the first and the second Republic: Discussing the person of President Ebert, of whom he thinks very highly, Eyck remarks how little respect and appreciation he enjoyed among the people. A telling observation of Stresemann's is quoted: "The truth is that the German people do not want a President in a top hat: he must have a military uniform and a lot of medals. The sight of a man wearing a top hat and looking humdrum, is liable to draw the comment: 'I could do that myself!'" Eyck adds: "The fact is,

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PROF. F. E. SIMON KNIGHTED

Prof. F. E. Simon, who became a Knight last month, is the first Jewish refugee from Germany on whom this high honour has been bestowed.

Franz Eugen Simon was born in Berlin in 1893. He was the only son of Ernst and Anna Simon, née Mendelssohn. He was educated at the Kaiser Friedrich Schule, a "Gymnasium" which he utterly disliked. From boyhood onwards he was interested in natural science, and showed outstanding ability for mathematics and physics. He studied physics in Munich, Goettingen and Berlin, where he was a pupil of Professor Nernst, under whose guidance he wrote his thesis on low temperature. It is to this particular field of physics that he has devoted his life.



After working for some time as assistant to Professor Nernst, he became "Privatdozent" at the University of Berlin, and several years later was awarded the title of professor. In 1930 he was given the chair of Professor of Physics at the "Technische Hochschule" in Breslau. As soon as Hitler came to power, Professor Simon, as a conscious Jew, resigned from this post and accepted a position at the Clarendon Laboratory in Oxford. Later he was appointed Professor of Thermodynamics in the University of Oxford.

During the war he was one of the chief collaborators in the development of the atomic bomb. In 1941 he became a F.R.S., and in 1946 a C.B.E.

His wife, whom he married in 1922, was formerly Charlotte Muenchhausen, and they have two daughters. The elder is a fine art expert at Newcastle University, and the other is married to a Canadian scholar.

Recently Professor Simon spent a few weeks in Israel, where he was invited by the Weizmann Institute to advise on the development of physical research in Israel.

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men with truly democratic feeling were a rarity in the German Republic." Now, considering the authority enjoyed today by President Heuss, it may be said—so far as this is a measure of democratic sentiment—that the German people have begun to acquit themselves well.

What will they think about Eyck's book? It ought to be adopted in all schools as a primer for the teaching of history. Particularly fitting for this purpose are the chapters on the Treaty of Versailles and the Ruhr adventure, 1922-23. Eyck is no gentle critic of Poincaré and French post-war policy, but neither does he spare Lord Keynes, whose book on the economic consequences of the Peace Treaty had so disastrous an impact on German mentality as it gave rise to the propaganda which found a scapegoat in President Wilson and branded the policy of "fulfilment" as high treason.

Repercussions of Versailles

At the same time, Eyck takes care to analyse the factual repercussions of the Treaty, whose gravity he does not attempt to deny. It must be remembered that "Versailles" became one of the most disastrous German complexes, the manure which fed the ideology of Helfferich, Papen, Hitler. Even Socialists were sadly infected by the virus. Eyck tells a characteristic story: when at the Social Democratic Party Conference in January, 1919, the aged Eduard Bernstein made an effort to distinguish between what was right and what was wrong in the Treaty, he found no sympathy; Scheidemann actually denounced him as an undesirable doctrinaire.

Eyck is sufficiently broadminded to recognise that, however hard he may try to do otherwise, the historian will review events always from his own peculiar standpoint. The fact that Eyck's standpoint is that of liberal democracy, eminently enables him to tell a strictly factual story, though its impartiality occasionally falls short without the author apparently realising it. He does not think much of the mass psychological and sociological forces behind the workers' movement in those years. Nor does he appreciate that the workers were in advance of the Democratic Party politicians (who included not only Eyck and Heuss, but also Dr. Schacht) in that they clearly saw the dangerous portent of the co-operation between heavy industry and political reaction. The recognition of the "Arbeiterraete" (Workers' Councils) was not fought for in order to introduce Bolshevik methods, as Eyck seems to assume. In fact, it was considered essential in view of the interrelation between economics and politics which also called for new forms of "Industrial Democracy" as an indispensable supplement to political democracy.

A glance at his sources, too, shows that Eyck did not devote much attention to books written by politicians left of Noske and Severing. Neither Professor Arthur Rosenberg's History of the German Republic, 1935, nor Gumbel's "Vier Jahre Mord" are quoted. Yet reference to Gumbel would have spared the author a deplorable error. In contrast to his habit of conscientiously supporting his statements by evidence, Eyck asserts that Rosa Luxemburg was "lynched

RESTITUTION NEWS

DELAY OF COMPENSATION CRITICISED IN BUNDESTAG

In the name of the Social Democratic Party, Deputy Herbert Hauffe asked when the Implementary Orders to the Federal Indemnification Law were to be expected. He stressed that the matter was particularly urgent because the major part of the victims was more than 70 years old. These people had still to wait whilst those who had humiliated and persecuted them from 1933 onwards had been re-employed in public service and may look forward to a carefree eve of their life. In his answer Federal Minister of Finance, Dr. Schaeffer, declared that the delay of the implementation was due to the decision of the Bundesrat to amend the present contents of the law. Dr. A. Arndt, also a Social Democrat, described this explanation as highly unsatisfactory. Notwithstanding any later amendments, it would have been the duty of the Minister of Finance to bring the law into operation by issuing the implementary orders after the promulgation in September 1953. In the name of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), Mr. Georg Schneider contrasted the misery of the victims of Nazism with the economic prosperity of those Germans who had "more or less adapted themselves to the situation after 1933".

ABLAUF VON ANMELDEFRISTEN Kriegsopferversorgung

In dem Gesetz zur Wiedergutmachung nationalsozialistischen Unrechts in der Kriegsopferversorgung fuer Berechtigte im Ausland vom 3. August 1953 ist vorgesehen, dass Wiedergutmachung nur auf Antrag gewahrt wird. Die Antraege sind binnen einer Ausschlussfrist von einem Jahr nach der Verkueundung des Gesetzes bei der fuer den Wohnort zustaeundigen Vertretung der Bundesrepublik Deutschland zu stellen. Eines Antrages bedarf es nicht, wenn der Berechtigte seinen versorgungsrechtlichen Wiedergutmachungsanspruch bereits auf Grund der bis zum Inkrafttreten geltenden Rechtsvorschriften oder Verwaltungsanordnungen angemeldet hat. Da das Gesetz am 10. August 1953 verkueundet worden ist, endet die Ausschlussfrist am 10. August 1954. Berechtigte, die ihren Wohnsitz innerhalb von Grossbritannien haben, muessen die Antraege bei der Diplomatischen Vertretung der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, 4-6 Rutland Gate, London, S.W.7, rechtzeitig einreichen. Die fuer die Antraege benoetigten Formulare sind bei der Diplomatischen Vertretung erhaeltlich.

Haftentschaedigung in Oesterreich

Die Frist fuer die Anmeldung von Anspruechen auf Haftentschaedigung fuer Opfer der nationalsozialistischen Verfolgung, die die oesterreichische Bundesbuergerschaft verloren haben und bei Anmeldung des Anspruches nicht mehr oesterreichische Staatsangehoerige sind, laeuft am 19. August 1954 ab. Ansprueche sind unter Vorlage oder Bekanntgabe der Nachweise ueber die erlittene Haft entweder bei der oesterreichischen Diplomatischen Vertretungsbehoerde, in deren Bereich die betreffenden Opfer ihren Wohnsitz (Aufenthalt) haben, oder beim Amte der Wiener Landesregierung anzumelden.

to death by a frenzied mob". The only authority for this assertion are the murderers themselves. Nobody ever saw a trace of a "frenzied mob" on that occasion. It is established beyond all possible doubt that Luxemburg, like Liebknecht, was slain by forerunners of the SA gangsters, and it was on a charge of murder that Guardsman Runge was sent to prison for a few years. The crime had the effect of arousing large sections of the working class and bringing home to the truly Republican middle class the dangers that were threatening the Republic from these gangsters and their political and financial backers. It is also a historical fact that the revolutionary masses which had established the Republic, refrained from violence and bloodshed. The numerous assassinations of persons of left-wing convictions later were responsible for isolated reprisals.

Regrettable as this bias against the revo-

ANTRAEGE AUF ELTERNRENTE NACH BUNDESENTSCHAEDIGUNGSGESETZ

Gemaess Par. 14, Abs. 3, No. 4 BEG. haben Verwandte der aufsteigenden Linie, deren Lebensunterhalt ganz oder ueberwiegend durch umgekommene Kinder oder Enkel bestritten wurde, Anspruch auf eine Geldrenteentschaedigung im Falle der Beduerftigkeit. Mitunter koennen sie aber im Augenblick den Anspruch nicht durchfuehren, weil sie noch ihren Lebensunterhalt zu bestreiten in der Lage sind. Es ist ratsam, wenn sie in solchen Faellen bereits vor Eintreten der Beduerftigkeit ihre Anwartschaft auf die Geldrente vorsorglich anmelden, mit er Erklaerung, dass im Augenblick, da Beduerftigkeit noch nicht vorliegt, keine Antraege auf Zahlung einer Geldrente gestellt werden.

GERMAN HIGH COURT JUDGE ON INDEMNIFICATION LAW

Under the auspices of the Association of Democratic Lawyers (London), Dr. Hans Kosterlitz, Senatspraesident at the Oberlandesgericht Frankfurt/Main, spoke about the Federal Indemnification Law on May 21 at Broadhurst Hall, N.W.6. Referring to his practical experiences as President of the "Entschaedigungssenat", he gave a vivid survey of some of the questions arising out of the contents of the law. Unsatisfactory decisions, he said, are often due to the shortcomings of provisions which call for urgent amendments. One of the problems is the assessment of damages for loss of the economic career. With regard to the claims of persecutees who were confined in Shanghai during the war, thorough investigations about the conditions prevailing at that time have been initiated by the Senate. The speaker, himself a persecutee, stressed the need for interpreting the law in a way which does justice to its basic object, namely, to make amends for the wrongs committed under the Nazi regime. Dr. J. Auerbach was in the chair.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH AUSTRIA

Mr. Ian Winterbottom asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs how far the Jewish Trust Corporation of Germany Limited, established in accordance with regulation No. 7 pursuant to Military Law 59, is recognised by Her Majesty's Government; and if he will extend to its general secretary, Mr. Carl Kapralik, Her Majesty's Government's support in the negotiations which he is now conducting with the Austrian Government on behalf of Jewish refugees.

Mr. Selwyn Lloyd replied: "The Jewish Trust Corporation Limited, which was incorporated in the United Kingdom in 1948, is a charitable organisation, but has no official status. Her Majesty's Government have already expressed their interest in the successful outcome of the negotiations with the Austrian Government in which the Corporation is taking part."

(As this issue is going to press, the negotiations are still going on. A report on their results will be published as soon as an agreement has been reached. — The Ed.)

lutionary forces which brought the German Republic into being may be—there are also other examples in the book—it does not basically impair the great value of this work, the critical analysis of political events, of leading personalities and of the mentality of large sections of the German people. Eyck helps us to realise that the reactionary forces whose final triumph became evident by the election of Hindenburg as President paved the way towards the victory of the National Socialists and towards the German catastrophe. We are sure that important aspects of these developments will be described in the second volume. Thus, the motto of Bismarck's Memoirs also applies to this history of the Weimar Republic:—

"Den Soehnen und Enkeln zum Verstaendnis der Vergangenheit und zur Lehre fuer die Zukunft."

Dr. C. Kapralik:

Pensionen aus der oesterreichischen Angestelltenversicherung

Das oesterreichische Parlament hat am 7. April 1954 ein Gesetz beschlossen, dass in einem beschaenkten Umfange die Zahlung von Renten in der Angestelltenversicherung an Emigranten aus Oesterreich, die vor der Auswanderung oesterreichische Staatsbuenger waren, zulaesst (2. Novelle zum Sozialversicherungs-Ueberleitungsgesetz 1953, im folgenden als "das neue Gesetz" bezeichnet).

Die oesterreichische Sozialversicherungsgesetzgebung zeichnet sich durch besondere Kompliziertheit aus. Auch Beruissjuristen koennen sich nur schwer in dem Paragraphengewirr und den immer wiederkehrenden Verweisungen auf andere Gesetzesstellen und andere Gesetze zurechtfinden. Wenn wir nun im Nachfolgenden versuchen wollen, die Auswirkungen des neuen Gesetzes so gemeinverstaendlich als uns eben moeglich zu erlaeuern, so sind wir uns dessen nur zu sehr bewusst, dass viele unserer Leser diesen Versuch als nicht genug "populaer gefasst" betrachten werden.

Es sei bemerkt, dass das neue Gesetz und auch dieser Artikel sich nur auf Pensionen aus der Angestelltenversicherung bezieht. Wiederholte Versprechungen, dass ausgewanderte Staatsbeamte und andere oeffentliche Bedienstete ihre wohlverworbenen Pensionen erhalten werden, harren noch immer der Erfuellung.

Wir wollen einleitend auch den Begriff "Versicherungsfall", der im Gesetz und auch in diesem Artikel oeffters vorkommt, definieren. Versicherungsfall ist das Ereignis, das die Leistung aus der Versicherung ausloest. In der Pensionsversicherung ist dies entweder

- die Erreichung des 65. Lebensjahres bei Maennern, oder des 60. Lebensjahres bei Frauen, von welchem Momente die Altersrente faellig wird,
- Invaliditaet in Bezug auf die Invalidenrente,
- Ableben des Versicherten, von welchem Zeitpunkt die Witwen- bzw. Waisenrente faellig wird.

Unter dem Gesichtspunkte der verschiedenen Auswirkungen des neuen Gesetzes auf diejenigen, die Oesterreich unter dem Terror des Naziregimes verlassen mussten, sind fuenf Gruppen zu unterscheiden.

Gruppe I

Alle Personen, die im Zeitpunkt der Emigration bereits pensionsberechtigt waren, erhalten die Pension rueckwirkend vom 1. Mai 1950. Das Gleiche gilt fuer Witwen nach solchen Personen.

Die Pension besteht aus dem Grundbetrag, Anpassungszuschlaegen und der Ernaehrungszulage; letztere nur in Hoehe von 50% des Betrages, der an Pensionisten, die in Oesterreich wohnen, gezahlt wird. Auch wird die sogenannte Wohnungsbeihilfe nicht an Emigranten gezahlt.

Was hingegen diejenigen Auswanderer betrifft, die im Zeitpunkt der Emigration noch nicht pensionsberechtigt waren, so kommen fuer die Beurteilung der Pensionsberechtigungsfrage die Bestimmungen des 1. Sozialversicherungs-Neuregelungsgesetzes (1. SVNG) von April 1952 in Frage. Die Bestimmungen des § 5(1) und (2) dieses ausserordentlich verwickelten Gesetzes haben praktisch zur Folge, dass im Allgemeinen nur diejenigen ihrer vor dem Jahre 1939 erworbenen Anwartschaften nicht verlustig gehen, die in Oesterreich auf Grund einer versicherungspflichtigen Stellung Versicherungsbeitraege entrichten. Dies schliesst automatisch Emigranten aus, weil sie ja eben nicht in Oesterreich wohnen.

Das 1. SVNG sieht jedoch im § 30(1) und (2) gewisse Erleichterungen vor.

Aus Gruenden der Zweckmaessigkeit wollen wir uns vorerst mit § 30(2) des 1. SVNG befassen.

Gruppe II

Gemaess dieser Gesetzbestimmung sind vor dem Jahre 1939 erworbene Anwartschaften anrechenbar, wenn am 31.12.1938 mindestens 180 Beitragsmonate in der oesterreichischen Angestellten (Pensions)-Versicherung erworben waren und wenn diese Beitragsmonate den Zeitraum zwischen dem Beginn der ersten Versicherungszeit (also Antritt der ersten versicherungspflichtigen Beschaeftigung) und der Vollendung des 60. (sechzigsten) bei Maennern, bzw. 55. (fuenfundfuenzigsten) Lebensjahres bei Frauen, mindestens zu drei-vierteln ausfuellen. Dies wird technisch "Drei-Viertel-Deckung" genannt.

In anderen Worten ausgedrueckt:—Diejenigen haben Anspruch auf Beguenstigung nach § 30(2) des 1. SVNG, die bis zum 31.12.1938 dreimal soviel Beitragsmonate (mindestens jedoch 180) aufzuweisen haben, wie die Zahl der Monate zwischen dem 1.1.1939 und der Vollendung des 60. Lebensjahres bei Maennern, bzw. 55. bei Frauen.

Es ergibt sich daraus, dass z.B. ein Mann, der im Jahre 1885 geboren war und von 1917 bis 1938 ununterbrochen in Stellung oder freiwillig versichert war, unter die obigen Bestimmungen faellt. Das gleiche gilt fuer eine Frau, die im Jahre 1890 geboren. Beide haben die erforderliche Drei-Viertel-Deckung erworben.

Im Allgemeinen kann gesagt werden — doch muss jeder Fall nachgerechnet und ueberprueft werden — dass Maenner, die nicht spaeter als 1887/88 und Frauen, die nicht spaeter als 1891/92 geboren sind, die Drei-Viertel-Deckung erreicht haben werden, wenn sie im ueblichen Alter, manchmal auch spaeter, eine versicherungspflichtige Stellung angetreten haben.

Gruppe III

Fuer die Jahrgaenge bis etwa 1891/92 bei Maennern und 1895/96 bei Frauen koennen die Bestimmungen des § 30(1) des 1. SVNG in Verbindung mit dem neuen Gesetz helfend eingreifen.

Paragraph 30(1) des 1. SVNG sieht vor, dass vor dem Jahre 1939 erworbene Anwartschaften dann anrechenbar sind, wenn bei Eintritt des Versicherungsfalles der Zeitraum seit dem Beginn der ersten Versicherungszeit mindestens zu drei-vierteln mit Versicherungszeiten ausgefuellt ist. Auch dies wird "Drei-Viertel-Deckung" genannt.

Das neue Gesetz schafft nun die Moeglichkeit, dass Personen, die an und fuer sich keine Drei-Viertel-Deckung aufzuweisen haben, durch Entrichtung von Beitrageen von oest.Sch.30 per Monat (also ca. 8s. 6d.) fuer die Zeit der Auswanderung, laengstens aber fuer die Zeit bis zum 31.12.1945, weitere Rechte (s.g. "Steigerungsbetraege") in der Angestelltenversicherung erwerben koennen.

Die Begrenzung des Erwerbes solcher Steigerungsbetraege bis zum 31.12.1945 begrenzt gleichzeitig den Kreis der Personen, die aus den Bestimmungen des neuen Gesetzes praktischen Nutzen werden ziehen koennen.

Wer nun "Steigerungsbetraege" bis zum 31.12.1945 erworben hat, hat dann die Voraussetzungen fuer den Rentenbezug erfuehlt, wenn er seit Beginn der ersten Versicherungszeit bis zum 31.12.1945 dreimal soviel Beitragsmonate aufzuweisen hat, als die Zahl der Monate vom 1.1.1946 bis zum Eintritt des Versicherungsfalles. Wie unsere Leser sich nunmehr ausrechnen koennen, ergibt sich daraus, dass bei ununterbrochener Leistung von Pflicht- oder freiwilligen Versicherungsbeitraegen und bei Nachzahlung gemaess dem neuen Gesetz bis zum 31.12.1945, folgende Jahrgaenge ihre Pensionsrechte waehren koennen:—

Maenner	Frauen	Maenner	Frauen
Geburtsjahr nicht spaeter als	1896	Ununterbrochene Beitragszeiten seit	1912
1892	1896	1909	1912
1891	1895	1912	1915

Maenner, die vor dem Jahre 1891 und Frauen, die vor dem Jahre 1895 geboren sind, werden im Allgemeinen, bei Entrichtung der entsprechenden Nachzahlung, pensionsberechtigt sein, soweit sie im ueblichen Alter eine versicherungspflichtige Stellung angetreten haben.

Es sei bemerkt, dass Zeiten der Einkerkerung durch das Naziregime beitragsfrei zu beruecksichtigen sind.

Gruppe IV

Die Bestimmungen des § 30(1) 1. SVNG sind auch fuer die Beurteilung der Pensionsberechtigung der Witwen von Bedeutung. Folgendes Beispiel erklaert dies:—

A. geboren 1900, ununterbrochen in Stellung von 1922 bis 1938, starb 1942. In diesem Falle ist ohne weiteres "Drei-Viertel-Deckung" gegeben und die Witwe kann Pension beanspruchen.

Waere A. im Jahre 1948 gestorben, so muesste die Witwe von der im neuen Gesetz geschaffenen Moeglichkeit der Nachzahlung Gebrauch machen, um die Drei-Viertel-Deckung zu erlangen.

(Continued next column)

LETTER FROM JERUSALEM

In the past year or so, after a period of comparative stagnancy, developments in Jerusalem have assumed a faster pace. With the transfer of the Government departments from Tel Aviv to Israel's capital, which reached its climax last autumn, when the Foreign Ministry moved to its new site, not only thousands of civil servants have made their homes in Jerusalem, but the city has once more become the country's administrative and political centre.

Jerusalem's problems are many. Her municipality has always been struggling with a constant deficit as her population, consisting largely of white collar workers, has not a tax-paying capacity comparable with that of the more industrialised Tel Aviv or Haifa. However, some of the old sores, like shortage of water and electricity, have been mended, adding to Jerusalem's attraction for tourists.

A number of new hotels have gone up lately and more are under construction. The imposing building of the "Convention Centre" which housed the last Zionist Congress and the "Conquest of the Desert" Exhibition, is still far from completion—it was planned to contain a theatre and a concert hall. The absence of both makes it very awkward for theatrical companies and also the Philharmonic Orchestra to visit the city as frequently as it is desired. The creation of such facilities would be at least as integral a part of tourism as the actual building of hotels. Visitors from abroad not seldom remark that after very interesting day tours they are confined during the evenings to hotel lounges, because of the absence of entertainment amenities.

Private building has also been greatly stepped up, and hundreds of new residential houses have eased the city's accommodation problems. Adjoining the residential quarter of Rehavia, an area of 350 dunams has now been reserved by the Jewish National Fund for the capital's cultural institutions, among which there will be an Academy of Music, the Bialik Foundation and the new and extended premises of the Bezalel National Museum. In the same direction, namely, south of the capital, lies the site of the new Medical Centre of the Hadassah and the new grounds proposed for the Hebrew University. A ring of suburbs is going to arise here. Next to the popular housing project of Beit Mazmil, whose population already exceeds 10,000, another garden city is to be built on 1,500 dunams, comprising 2,000 housing units.

HERBERT FREEDEN.

Gruppe V

Diese Gruppe umfasst Maenner, die nach den Jahren 1891/92 und Frauen, die nach den Jahren 1895/96 geboren sind, also die weitaus ueberwiegende Zahl der Emigranten, welche auf Grund der Erklarungen des Bundeskanzlers Dr. Raab berechnete Hoffnung hatten, dass ihnen ihre Anwartschaften auf Pensionen aus der Angestelltenversicherung wiedergegeben werden. Fuer diese Gruppe bringt das neue Gesetz als solches keine Abhilfe. Inwieweit in einem konkreten Fall, ausser der oben erwahnten Nachzahlungsmoeglichkeit bis zum 31.12.1945, noch anderweitige Nachzahlungsmoeglichkeiten bestehen, kann nicht generell gesagt werden und muesste durch Anfrage bei der Angestelltenversicherungsanstalt geklaert werden. Wir empfehlen unseren Lesern sich schleunigst mit der Anstalt* ins Einvernehmen zu setzen.

Wir raten auch allen unseren oesterreichischen Freunden, die in die Gruppen I-IV fallen, sich so rasch wie moeglich, unbedingt aber sofort bei Eintritt des Versicherungsfalles, an die Angestelltenversicherungsanstalt zu wenden und um Feststellung ihrer Pensionsrechte bzw. Anwartschaften zu ersuchen, u.zw. unter Bezugnahme auf die am 7.4.1954 im oesterreichischen Nationalrat verabschiedete 2. Novelle zum Sozialversicherungs-Ueberleitungsgesetz 1953 (BGBI.97/1954) und unter Angabe aller Einzelheiten ueber Alter, Beschaeftigungszeiten, usw.

Wir bemerken auch, dass Ansprueche nach dem neuen Gesetz jedenfalls spaetestens bis zum 18. Mai 1955 (1 Jahr nach Kundmachung des Gesetzes) geltend zu machen sind.

Wir verweisen schliesslich unsere Leser auf den in der vorigen Nummer von "AJR Information" erschienenen Artikel, in dem wir uns mit dem neuen Gesetz kritisch auseinandergesetzt haben.

*Adresse :— Wien V, Blechturmgaesse 11.

THREE BIRTHDAYS

GERSON STERN

Among those German-speaking Jews who shared the experience of the 'thirties in Germany, there will be few who do not remember the tremendous emotion aroused at the very beginning of the Hitler persecutions by the publication of a novel, "Der Weg ohne Ende", by an almost unknown author, Gerson Stern, which in a short time became a Jewish best-seller. Seldom in human affairs has to such a degree the right word been spoken in the right way. It was a historical novel of Jewish life in Germany and Austria in the 18th century, full of fascinating and moving characters and culminating in the persecution of Jews under Maria Theresia and their expulsion from Prague; at the same time it was a document of Jewish faith and devotion, steadfastness of the soul in face of injustice and unexplainable suffering. This book became one of the weapons which helped the Jews to stand firm in their fight against Nazi brutality, at least on the psychological front, and to withstand with dignity and mental strength the onslaught on their honour and on the foundations of their life. It is unforgettable.

The modest and amiable man who wrote that book, Gerson Stern, will be eighty on July 7, and

"A GATEWAY TO A NEW WORLD"

Margarete Susman: Gestalten und Kreise. Diana Verlag, Zurich, 1954. 365 pages.

Margarete Susman, who will be 80 this year, gives to her large circle of readers a new collection of essays of which she says: "This book is an attempt to create a gateway to a new world, as we have come to the end of the old one."

More than half the book is devoted to character sketches of great Jews of the past and the present, and as Margarete Susman is herself a Jewish refugee from Germany she realises and tries to analyse the deep tragedy that emigration has meant for Jews. Germany was the only country where the Jews had become so imbued with all that was beautiful and elevating in the land of their adoption and where they had themselves created immortal works in a language they had come to love.

This entry of the Jew into German life and culture starts as early as Moses Mendelssohn, the great friend of Lessing, who in spite of his love for everything German, had not anticipated that Lavater, another of his friends, would challenge him to proceed to the logical conclusion of this love—and become a Christian. As a result of Lavater's letter, the pious, orthodox Mendelssohn had a nervous breakdown, which brought him near to melancholia.

In contrast to Mendelssohn, who was first and foremost a Jew and then a German, Franz Rosenzweig's family was already so much assimilated that he had to find his way back to Judaism, his own religion. His beautiful explanation of the Star of David is unforgettable. A circle of Jewish and Christian friends and students surrounded him, even in the last eight years of martyrdom which he spent completely paralysed and deprived of speech in an invalid chair, but still working at the translation and annotation of the religious poems of Jehudah Halevi. Like Job, he looked upon his suffering as a trial of his faith in God.

On the fringe of an epoch where everything seems to crumble into decay stands the poet Karl Wolfskehl, in his youth an admirer of Stefan George—who died in New Zealand in 1948.

A most beautiful essay is devoted to the great and almost unknown mystic, Gurewitsch—whose words remind us of the visions of the prophets and whose short life was in itself like a hymn of praise. Then there are Henri Bergson and Sigmund Freud, to whom the writer has a highly original approach—and last but not least the essay on the Chassidim in which M. Susman demonstrates how out of the Jews' almost unbearable destiny was born the joy of life which opens the human heart to all that is good and so becoming the purest worship of God.

All those who feel a responsibility for enabling Jews and Christians to live together in a harmonious community will gain from these essays a deeper understanding of the problems involved.

MARIE HEYNEMANN.

he certainly deserves not only our congratulations but the expression of our affection and gratitude. He lives now in Jerusalem with his distinguished brave wife Erna (to whom "Der Weg ohne Ende" was dedicated) and his marvellous old mother-in-law (who is also the mother of Professor Evenari, who is just now visiting this country on behalf of the Hebrew University); his home is one of the most attractive, genuinely Jewish patriarchal houses and a centre of a wide circle of friends. The Sterns have not been spared the most profound grief when their only son Yoel was killed during the disturbances which preceded the establishment of the Jewish State. Only their deep religiosity helped them to overcome this terrible blow.

Gerson Stern wrote several other novels after "Weg", but none of them has reached a similar popularity. His last novel, describing the lot of a Jewish family in Hitler Germany, in Stern's own native Rhineland, has some autobiographic touch but was published, as far as I know, only in a Hebrew translation. Better known to a wider public are some of Gerson Stern's lyrical poems, most of them expressing deep religious and human feeling. A collection of this poetry has been published in Jerusalem during the world war as a private edition, because public opinion was hostile to publications in the German language.

At the age of 80, Gerson Stern is still full of life and interest in all affairs of the spirit and of art, and indeed in anything human. His gentle confidence and trust in God imposes itself on all who have contact with him. Not only his personal friends and admirers (to whom this writer is happy to belong) but, I am sure, a wide circle of readers and especially former German Jews all over the world will join me in sending Gerson Stern the heartiest greetings and wishes upon his birthday.

ROBERT WELTSCH.

S. ADLER-RUDEL

There are few men to whom the AJR owes as much as to Mr. S. Adler-Rudel, who recently celebrated his sixtieth birthday. He belonged to that small circle of refugees who, in 1941, took the initiative in founding the AJR, and, from the very beginning until he left for Israel, he was one of the most dynamic and active members of its Executive. His are many assets by which his work for the Jewish refugees has been of a unique value. One of them is that rare combination of a politician and a social worker. He knew our needs and utilised for our benefit his long standing experience in German-Jewish life and the widespread connections he had built up since his arrival in England in 1936. His practical work has never been a matter of routine, but has been guided by his analytical mind which urged him to realise the underlying sociological problems. This approach is also reflected in his innumerable speeches, each of which conveys new ideas and new messages to the audience. He has always been a man of clearly defined convictions, but at the same time a broad-minded personality whose sphere of work knows no narrow frontiers or "ideological" prejudices. No wonder that people—last not least young people—from various walks of life and of different views feel a deep affection for "Rudel." To-day they thank him for his personal loyalty to them and for his work for the Jewish people. They extend to him their sincerest congratulations and wish him further achievements in the years to come.

W. R.

MAX APT

Professor Dr. Max Apt (at present Haus National, Baden-Baden) celebrated his 85th birthday recently. Before 1933 he held leading offices with the Berlin Industrie- und Handelskammer and the "Aeltesten der Kaufmannschaft"; he was also chancellor of the Handelshochschule, whose foundation in 1900 was due to his initiative. At the same time he took an active part in Jewish affairs. He was associated with the Deutsch-Israelische Gemeindebund and, in 1893, was one of the founders of the Jewish Central-Verein. His first publication, written almost 60 years ago under the pseudonym "Parmod", dealt with the problem "Antisemitism and Criminal Law". The AJR, which considers it a great privilege that throughout the years he has identified himself with its cause, conveys to Professor Apt its sincerest congratulations.

ANGLO-JUDAICA

An Optimistic Survey

An optimistic survey of conditions in Anglo-Jewry was made by the President of the Anglo-Jewish Association when he told the Provincial Conference at Brighton that the scene was at present "remarkably peaceful... showing a surprising degree of co-operation and goodwill". The community, Mr. Montagu said, was an "extraordinarily well-knit body, with magnificent organisations centralising political, religious and welfare work".

"During our 300 years' history here, we have quite naturally imbibed the fine democratic tradition of this country—a tradition that combines the election of official organs of political life with the establishment of voluntary groupings of society which can express any differences in their points of view, either with each other or with the official bodies".

At the same time, Mr. Montagu thought that much harm had been done in recent years by such organisations as the World Jewish Congress, which had brought largely alien methods of exaggeration and misrepresentation to the communal life. This particular criticism was also voiced by Mr. N. Laski, Q.C. He declared: "We have no need for an international body which is not and cannot be representative in any shape or form and which inevitably gives colour to that old bogey which has done so much harm—international Jewry. Jewry is not international."

Day Schools' Progress

An important event in the field of Jewish education occurred when a settlement was reached in a three years' old dispute involving the London Board of Jewish Religious Education, the Jewish Secondary Schools Movement, and the Jewish Day Schools Trust for Greater London. The funds of three famous, now defunct schools—the Jews' Free School, the Jews' Infants Schools, and the Westminster Jews' Free School—had been made available to the London Board in order that other State-aided voluntary schools might be built in different localities in accordance with a scheme to be approved by the Ministry of Education.

Such a scheme was submitted to the Ministry but blocked by objections from Rabbi Schonfeld, Principal of the Secondary Schools Movement, and Dr. Braude, Chairman of the Day Schools Trust. These objections have now been withdrawn on condition that a Governing Body for the dormant trust funds is set up, that out of these funds £25,000 is transferred to existing Jewish day schools, and that a secondary modern school is established (probably in Camden Town). Negotiations with the Ministry and local authorities will now have the united support of the entire community.

The J.P.A. reached more than half of its target in May when £1,050,000 was subscribed by over 11,000 people.

Honours

Several Jews were honoured on the Queen's birthday. Professor F. E. Simon, one of the British scientists whose researches led to the production of the atom bomb, was knighted. A C.B.E. was awarded to Messrs. Bertram Benas, J.P.; A. L. D. Haskell, Director of the Sadler's Wells Ballet School; Professor Louis Rosenhead, F.R.S. mathematician of Liverpool University; and Lieut.-Col. G. Salmon, Honorary Catering Adviser to the Army.

The first Epstein sculpture in St. Paul's, a bronze bust of the late Sir Stafford Cripps, was unveiled by Mr. Attlee. For the first time, too, a Jew, Mr. Yehudi Menuhin, gave a violin recital at the Cathedral.

Among Jewish painters who recently exhibited some of their works were Leo Kahn, Leonard Rosoman, Jacob Bornfreund, Fritz Kramer, also F. Joss, the Vienna-born cartoonist of the *Star*.

Rabbi Dr. Israel Mattuck

The outstanding leader of Liberal Judaism, who passed away some time ago, was also a trusted friend of the refugees from Germany and Austria. Before the war a special committee, under his chairmanship, set up by the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, successfully worked for the admission of many persecutees and, in a number of cases, guaranteed for their maintenance. As the spiritual leader of the Liberal Synagogue, Dr. Mattuck supported the work of the New Liberal Congregation, which had been built up by the refugees and helped a number of Rabbis from Germany to find a new sphere of activities in this country.

Walter Schwab

HAMPSTEAD BOY

Infant memories are very vivid but not always reliable, since they only highlight things which impinge on the child's narrow personal world. For instance, until I was married and learned differently from my wife, I was under the impression that Frankfurt-a-Main was limited by the extreme orthodoxy around the Friedberger Anlage, since that was all I knew from my frequent visits there as a small boy.

Similarly with Hampstead! I grew up in orthodox surroundings, so that my memories of thirty years ago only embrace a minute aspect of life as it really was at the time. There were other Hampsteads then, just as there are now, quite apart from the cosmopolitan, highly accented circles that we all know.

For instance, in my early days three rabbis lived in Goldhurst Terrace. I do not know why this fact should have made such an impression on my infant mind: it was, I think, because I felt it rather noble to live in the vicinity of such scholarship and learning. For in themselves they were not even ordinary rabbis; one was the principal of Jews College himself, another a professor at the same college, and the third, a man of great learning and orthodoxy who had been forced by circumstances to adopt a business career. I often wondered why they, like so many other Jewish families, should have chosen to settle in that particular vicinity, since they were none of them natives of the district and very few of them even English born. Perhaps it was just coincidence that when in the first flush of their youth, they wanted to set up house, Hampstead itself was being developed with just those respectable, inexpensive, middle class houses that suited both their needs and their pockets.

During the week it was not easy to tell Hampstead apart from any other suburb, except perhaps for the rather higher proportion of spectacles and beards. But on Saturdays and High Holidays—what a difference! Out came the toppers—for no

male over the age of thirteen, and some even younger, would have dreamed of going to synagogue without his black suit and silk hat. In fact, this custom did not entirely die away until the second World War, and even now the wardens of the Community still feel it incumbent on their dignity to sport a topper, though it is rumoured that they do not actually wear them in the street, but change into them at synagogue before going in to take their seats of honour. Top hats bobbing along the Abbey Road were just a feature of the age, it meant either a Society match at Lords Cricket Ground or a Jewish High Holiday. Sometimes, but not often, the dates clashed.

The synagogue itself was like all synagogues, except perhaps that the poor were practically non-existent. You did not live in Hampstead if you were poor! Despite the holiness of the Sabbath and the High Holidays, vital news still managed to creep in. The announcement that we had departed from the Gold Standard, which occurred in the middle of one service, was, as I remember, almost but not quite announced from the pulpit.

What other memories are there of those days? The greengrocer at the corner of Fairhazel Gardens—she is still there—furtively taking my mother on one side to get the dates of Passover and New Year, so that she would be ready with her fruit baskets, which everybody sent, and the whole horse-radish for the Seder dish. And that went for the nurseryman, too, in Loudoun Road, who had to lay in good stocks of fir branches with which to decorate the Succoth that sprang up in the back gardens all along the road.

Of course, the face of Hampstead itself has changed in all these years, not only as a result of air attacks. Hardly any of the big blocks of flats then existed. Northways was the site of a theological college—and most of the large houses were in single occupation. The artists had not yet moved into the Heath Street end, though in that part there was always the nucleus of a Bohemian community.

Who would have imagined that Hitler would have effected such a change? Why the new immigrants chose Hampstead as their chief place of abode is today still a debatable point. The changes in a community are dependent upon so many factors that it is hard to isolate any one of them and to pick it out as the prime cause. But I have often wondered whether one reason was not the fact that many of the chief workers in the committees resided in that area and, naturally, perhaps subconsciously, steered immigrants to a neighbourhood which they knew and of which they understood the possibilities. In any event, the change came about. The migration moved both ways, some existing families out to the outer suburbs or inwards to the fashionable St. John's Wood and the West End, while the new immigrants occupied their former homes, now converted into flats or even let out as single rooms.

And so the ball once set into motion gathered its own impetus and today—well, there is no need to describe the virile community that has come into being. 'Appy 'Ampstead, the Cockneys used to call it, and for many, I am sure, it lives up to its name.

Mr. Gunter H. Treitel, M.A., B.C.L., has been elected a Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford. After a brilliant academic career—he gained first-class honours in his degrees—he has, for the last year, been lecturer in jurisprudence at the University College, Oxford. His election to Magdalen means a return to his old College, which he first joined as a scholarship undergraduate eight years ago. Mr. Treitel, who is 25, is the son of the former Berlin lawyer Dr. Theodor Treitel (London).

★ DOWNS VIEW ★

Private Hotel

Folkestone, Kent 40 Bouverie Road West
Telephone 3446The Hotel is situated a few minutes from the Leas,
Shopping Centre, Theatres and Tennis Courts
Excellent Continental cooking and homely atmosphere

Old Acquaintances

"The Story of Cuddles"—Like all good comedians, Szoce Szakall is a warm-hearted human being in the first place. In his memoirs subtitled with "My Life under the Emperor Francis Joseph, Adolf Hitler and the Warner Brothers," published by Cassell and translated by Paul Tabori, the Hungarian born actor tells more about his "Aunt Emma", who was his foster-mother, and his six brothers and sisters, than about his career in Budapest, Vienna, Berlin and Hollywood. His book is full of very funny stories and references to people, whereas the author himself remains always in the background. He started as a writer, and his famous "Streichquartett" which we saw first in Berlin's "Boulevard-Theater" in the 'twenties, is taken from his own experiences: it is the story of a young man who is invited by his boss to play in a "Quartett" although he cannot play any instrument at all. Through the whole book runs a warm feeling for all his fellow countrymen; all Hungarians seem to be one big family. Numerous familiar names come up in Szakall's reminiscences and his fascinating smile is behind every line he writes. "The Story of Cuddles" costs 18 shillings, and if you ever enjoyed seeing the author on the screen or on the stage you should buy his book.

Milestone.—Dr. Ralph Benatzky is 70 years old and as a birthday gift London's Empress Hall is presenting "White Horse Inn" on ice with the music he wrote. Born in Budweis he started in cabaret together with his first wife, Josma Selim. His first operetta was "Liebe im Schnee". Dr. Benatzky's name was connected with Max Hansen for a long time: he wrote "Das kleine Cafe" and "Axel an der Himmelstuer" for the Danish comedian. But best known of his works are the hit-tunes from "White Horse Inn".

Home News.—Paul Tabori is editing the first anthology of writers in exile who lost their countries and their readers, with contributions by de Madariaga, Storm Jameson, Barea, Bruegel and many more.—Peter de Mendelssohn is writing a Churchill biography for a German publisher.—F. Joss (Josefovich) of the Star, showed his sketches from India and Pakistan in the "Leger Gallery".—Agnes Bernelle played Oscar Wilde's "Salome" at the "Q".—Henry Cornelius, a Max Reinhardt pupil, will direct the picture based on van Druten's play "I am a Camera", which is running so successfully in the West End.—Leonhard Frank's autobiography "Heart on the Left", published by Arthur Barker here.—Peter Illing went to Spain to be in "That Lady", which stars Olivia de Havilland.—Professor Plesch's daughter Honoria designed the settings and costumes of "Cockles and Champagne"; she was also responsible for the window displays of Lyon's Corner House, Marble Arch, which were greatly admired.—Ernest Bornemann, the gifted director, Dr. M. Brenner, the well-known film cutter, Hans Tasiemka, the journalist, and your columnist, have been invited to attend the Film Festival in Berlin.

Obituaries:—Norbert Jacques, the author of "Dr. Mabuse" and many other thrillers, died in Koblenz at the age of 74.—Sixty-three year old Hans Janowitz, who helped to script the film classic "Dr. Caligari", died in New York.—Max Oppenheimer, the artist who worked under the name "Mopp", died of a heart attack in New York. He was 67 years old.—Seventy year old Carl Clewing, who started as an actor and became a singer, died in Badenweiler.—Danish author Martin Andersen-Nexoe died in East Germany at the age of 84.—Hans von Wolzogen, the son of "Ueberbrettel" founder, who used to run Berlin's "Schall und Rauch", died in Berlin at the age of 66.

U.S.A.:—Fritz Lang will direct "Moonfleet" with Stewart Granger for Metro.—Otto Preminger will produce "Carmen Jones" with an all-negro cast.—Billy Wilder's next film will be "The Seven Year Itch" for Fox.—Gottfried Reinhardt has left Metro after 18 years, and will go to Europe to produce Vollmoeller's "Miracle".—Charles Goldner, so successful on Broadway in "The Girl with Pink Tights", will leave the show and go to Hollywood for a picture.—E. M. Remarque's new novel, "A Time to Love and a Time to Die", published by Harcourt Brace here.—Max Kolpe finished a play "The Cha-Cha Tree" for early production.—Erich Burger, formerly with Berliner Tageblatt is now working for TV. in New York.

PEM

NEWS FROM GERMANY

PRESIDENTS OF GERMANY AND ISRAEL EXCHANGE GOOD WISHES

On the occasion of Israel's Independence Day, President Heuss cabled "sincere good wishes for the welfare of Israel" to President Ben-Zvi in Jerusalem. Mr. Ben-Zvi replied in French and thanked the President for his congratulations.

NO SHECHITA RESTRICTIONS INTENDED

The London Diplomatic Mission of the German Federal Republic assured representatives of the Agudist Executive that no restrictions on kosher butchering were intended in Germany.

TIETZ VILLA FOR BUNDESPRAESIDENT

The former villa of the Department Stores owner Tietz in the Koenigsallee (Berlin-Grunevald) is used as the preliminary Berlin residence of the Federal German President. The final residence will be Schloss Bellevue, which is under repair at present.

WEISSENSEE CEMETERY

According to an article published in the "Allgemeine Wochenzeitung" of the Jews in Germany, the Jewish Cemetery in Weissensee is in a good condition and the relatives abroad can be reassured that the administration is doing everything possible to maintain it. Whilst the so-called "Neue Halle" has not been rebuilt so far, the "Alte Halle" has been repaired. The street adjoining the Cemetery is called after Werner Baum, a Jewish Resistance Leader, who was executed by the Nazis. The West Berlin Jewish Community is negotiating about the purchase of a site for a cemetery in West Berlin near Heerstrasse. At present preliminary interments are arranged for at the Municipal Cemetery in Ruhleben.

CONCENTRATION CAMP, STUTTHOF Witnesses Wanted

Any witnesses of atrocities committed by the former leader of the Concentration Camp, Stutthof near Danzig, Paul-Werner Hoppe, should write to the judge in charge of the investigations: Landgerichtsrat Dr. Froese, Landgericht Bochum, Aktenzeichen 9. VU 8/54.

FILM AROUND THE CORNER

A monthly guide to some of the Films showing at your local Cinema

My only hope is that July proves a sunny month and that the evenings are mild enough for long walks in Regent's Park or on Hampstead Heath, because, by the looks of it, it's going to be a lean month at the Movies.

Best of the lot looks "FATHER BROWN"****: admittedly Father Brown is a priest, but he preaches mercifully little and looks so remarkably like Alec Guinness that you can soon forget his skirts and settle down to have a quiet, chuckling time while he gallops between London and Paris in pursuit of a very likeable crook, whose soul he is determined to save. Conceived a long time ago by G. K. Chesterton in a gentler world, Father Brown must, I suppose, be the best mannered detective in the business, and even if there is a little too much of him he is at least civilised company. The direction is deft, the photography admirable, and the wit jogs along pleasantly enough. A happy evening.

Best of the rest? Well, if you enjoy being horrified, "PHANTOM DE LA RUE MORGUE"*** should do the trick. It has a really frightening monster, eerie atmosphere (Paris, again, but very different from Father Brown's) and lots of damsels in distress with very shapely legs. And it is well made. Of the others, "ESCAPE FROM FORT BRAVO"*** has magnificent scenery and a great deal of cavalry; "HIS MAJESTY O'KEEFE"*** has Burt Lancaster; and "JOHNNY GUITAR"*** has Joan Crawford and a guitar (the guitar wins hands down). All three are very tough, very Western and simply strewn with corpses: a blood-thirsty bunch.

If the gourmet is, as he should be, a mobile animal, and if he hasn't yet paid a visit to Oxford Circus, Walt Disney's nature masterpiece, "THE LIVING DESERT"**** is still at Studio One and still the best thing in town. The new Japanese

**** Very good. *** Good. ** Fair. * Unfair.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Births

Gilbert.—On May 17, 1954, a son (David), brother for Carolyn, was born to Eva (née Lindemeyer), wife of Sidney Gilbert, of 93 Forest Approach, Woodford Green, Essex.

Meyer.—On May 27, 1954, a son (Peter) was born to Ilse Ruth and Dr. Richard Ernst Meyer, 29b Shirley Road, Flat 4, Wollstonecraft, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Max Apt, 7 Westfield Terrace, Leeds 7 (formerly Berlin).

Birthdays

Mrs. Rosa Asch, of Hannah House, 12 Brunswick Terrace, Hove, Sussex (formerly Berlin-Schoeneberg), will celebrate her 75th birthday on August 2.

Mrs. Kaethe Lewinsohn, of 53 Green-croft Gardens, N.W.3, formerly Elbing and Duesseldorf, will celebrate her 70th birthday on July 14, 1954.

CLASSIFIED

Situations Vacant

ATTRACTIVE VACANCIES for all Office Staff—from Junior to Senior. Best wages and hours. No fees. Savoy Agency, 489 Oxford Street, nr. Selfridge's. MAY 6421. Office hours 10 to 5, Mon. to Fri.

FOREIGN, German speaking, Working Housekeeper required for one lady, modern flat (central heating), in Putney, London; daily help five days weekly. Reply Box 267.

WANTED.—Woman for baking once a week and for occasional cooking. K kosher household. Box 286.

AGENTS WANTED to sell coloured Rosh Hashanah Greeting Cards in clubs, offices, works or privately. Liberal commission, 10 beautiful designs, charitable background. Box 287.

Men

MAN OF 40, former teacher, re-emigrated from S. America with a domestic permit to join his mother, wants a permanent position. Box 269.

AT YOUR DISPOSAL: a versatile business man with own typewriter, for any kind of correspondence or other work, in/outdoor or part time. Box 270.

LEDGER CLERK, elderly, exp. also in P.A.Y.E., typg. gen. clerical work—also serving customers in Gown Trade; 13 years in last firm which was liquidated, exp. in hire purchase, seeks position. Box 271.

ARCHITECT ASSISTANT, exp., seeks additional work, evenings or week-ends. Box 272.

COMPANY SECRETARY, 34, University and commercial educ., exp. book-keeping, business administration, export, seeks perm. position. Box 273.

BOOKKEEPER, good ref., wants full- or part-time work. Box 274.

STUDENT OF ENGLISH, skilful hands, wants work for the next five months. Own car. Box 275.

YOUNG MAN, 25, recovered after long illness, wants post w. prospects, pref. salesman in bookshop or music shop. Box 276.

HEBREW, FRENCH and GERMAN lessons taught by qualified person. Also English for Foreigners. Moderate fees. Box 277.

Women

KINDERGARTEN TEACHER, elderly, reliable, wants full- or part-time work in kindergarten or priv. family. Would also consider cooking or companion's job. Box 278.

SHORTHAND TYP. English/German, experience in restitution, 1 or 2 evenings free. PRI. 3542 after 6 p.m., or week-ends.

Situations Wanted

"FORMER" REFUGEES

Letter to the Editor

Sir,
During the last years, especially after the bulk of the Refugees were naturalised, some members of my local AJR branch informed me they were not Refugees any more, and they left the AJR, conveniently forgetting what it had done for them. In their opinion, they were now ex-Refugees, or Refugees "a.D."

In the more elegant version of "former Refugees", the new style has encroached even on the columns of "AJR Information", e.g., March edition, 1954, page 9, col. 2.

I fear the use, or misuse, will come to stay. We shall have to call our organisation the "Association of former Refugees", or, to embrace all of us, "of Refugees and former Refugees". But tell me: by what means may I resign my humble status as a refugee poor and simple and become a "former Refugee"? Is it the length of residence in this country that counts, or the naturalisation, or my Oxford accent, or my high prosperity? Perhaps, I fear, even an intelligence test may be required! Or could ambitious people just declare, in solemn form, preferably before a public notary:—

film, on the other hand, "GATE OF HELL"***, which has reached the Rialto, having won this year's Grand Prix at the Cannes Festival, is a huge disappointment: it has superb photography and occasionally exquisite direction, but, oh, how it drags! Finally, at the Everyman, Hampstead, there is "MADAME DE"****, a French film directed by Vienna's golden boy, Max Ophuls: a piece of kitsch filled with undying love, dying lovers, duels, cabs and stacks of crinoline, but so nicely served up and so prettily mounted that if you only let it it will pull at your heartstrings for all they're worth.

That's all: I pray the sun shines bright and long right through July.

L. L.

"Wir wollen wieder unsere Freiheit haben
Und fuer immer das Joch des Namens abschuettern,
Womit eine Horde von Menschenbuetteln
Sich angemast hat, uns zu begaben."
(Christian Morgenstern, Galgenlieder.)

No, sir, we don't want to obliterate our bitterest experience. And our Association caters for us, not as "former refugees", but because its main task is—and will be for a long time—to alleviate the consequences of our unhappy past. This situation of the Jews from Germany and Austria is not yet appreciated everywhere, not even among other Jews—as is evidently shown by the failure of the Council's negotiations with IRSO (your April edition, page 1).

Maybe some people, elevated to the peevage of the "former", wish to impress on their environment that they are not only naturalised but have well adjusted themselves to Britain and are now an "asset and not a liability" to the new Homeland. However, the new environment will not, or not without an explanation, understand the meaning of the incriminated adjective and, if so, they will not be pleased by the self-praise.

There is not much pride in the word I hate so much and I prefer the attitude of the Huguenots, expelled from France three centuries ago, whose Germanised descendants proudly call themselves up to this very day "the French Refugees".

Finally, also the linguist will dislike the "former". No one would say: I was formerly expelled, or I am a former emigrant, or I had to seek refuge formerly, or "ich wurde ehemals vertrieben"—because a one-time historical fact like the expulsion of the Jews by the Nazis does not bear the addition of "former": it would be a self-evident and superfluous addition, a pleonasm, or (Oxford Dictionary), a "redundancy of expression".

I remain, sir, your old and faithful—but never a "former"—refugee,

Georg Schatzky.

June 1954.
76 Hills Road, Cambridge.

Accommodation

TO LET furnished bed-sitting room, use of bath & telephone; if wanted breakfast & meals. GLAdstone 1587. 144 Fordwych Road, N.W.2.

TO LET, 2 large sunny rooms, good kitchen, healthy position on Alexandra Palace Hill. Party telephone, BOWES Park 5149.

FULL BOARD for one, lovely home, attendance. Queensbury. WOR 7097.

Miscellaneous

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

SINGER MACHINE, secondhand, in good condition, wanted. Box 285.

BARGAIN. Modern Cont. Oak Dining-room for Sale. Ring HAM 7204 9-10 a.m., or write Box 266.

Personal

BRITISH FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY, 231 Baker Street, N.W.1. Introductions to new friends everywhere. No age limit. Write for particulars.

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER, 33, would like to meet attractive and sincere young lady with a view to marriage. Box 268.

MISSING PERSONS

Enquiries for AJR

Laubhardt, Hildegard, teacher from Berlin-Friedenau, for Enni Zilke, Hamburg.

Heller, Mira, from Braunschweig, for Albert Stern, South Africa.

Cohen, Julia, née Weishaus, husband Moritz, son Michel, for Esther Reibenberg, Paris.

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AJR AT WORK

AJR GENERAL MEETING

The right of the refugees to an active share in the administration of the funds arising from the heirless and communal property in Germany and from the German reparation payments was stressed in the annual report given by the General Secretary of the AJR, Mr. W. Rosenstock, at the General Meeting on June 14. He also referred to the present efforts of finding a suitable site for the establishment of a Home for the Aged. The ensuing elections of the Hon. Officers had the following results:—Mr. A. Schoyer was re-elected as President; Dr. W. Berlin and Mr. H. Blumenau were elected as new members of the Executive. The other re-elected members of the Executive are: Dr. H. Reichmann (Chairman), Mr. A. Dresel (Vice-Chairman in succession to the late Mr. A. Horovitz), Mr. M. Pottlitzer (Treasurer), Mr. S. Bischoff (Trustee), Dr. F. E. Falk (Trustee), Mr. A. Wechsler (Trustee), Mr. W. M. Behr, Dr. F. R. Bienenfeld, Dr. F. Mann, Mr. L. Schurmann, Mr. L. Ullmann, Dr. W. Rosenstock (General Secretary). The present Board (see June issue of "AJR Information") was re-elected *en bloc* with the addition of the following new Board Members: Mr. Ernst Berent, Mr. Max Blank, Mr. S. F. Hallgarten, Mr. Herbert Hirsch, Dr. E. G. Lowenthal, Mr. Ludwig Loewenthal, Mr. Hugo Stern, Dr. A. Wiener, Mr. F. Wittelschofer.

In an address on the cultural heritage of German Jewry Rabbi Dr. Maybaum analysed the schools of thought promoted by several outstanding German thinkers and their influence on the spiritual attitude of the Jews from Germany.

Dr. H. Reichmann was in the chair.

AJR EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

A number of firms engaged callers on our lists for temporary work during the holiday period.

We should be grateful for reports on any vacancies for permanent or temporary positions. We are especially looking for openings for typists (home-work), bookkeepers, ledger clerks, translators, etc. We can also offer the services of needlewomen and of experienced people willing to do odd jobs.

HOSPITALITY FOR GERMAN-JEWISH GIRL

The AJR Social Services Department has been asked to find hospitality for an 18 year old Jewish girl in Duesseldorf who wants to stay in England for two months (August and September 1954), in order to increase her knowledge of the English language. In exchange, the girl would teach German and/or help in the household.

LIST OF ACCOUNTANTS

The AJR and the United Restitution Office would like to point out that it is not within their province to give individual advice on questions of taxation arising from restitution or compensation. Once refugees have recovered their assets or received indemnification, they are in a position to enlist the services of a professional accountant. A list of accountants of Continental origin will be compiled, to be put at the disposal of enquirers on request. Any accountants who think to qualify for inclusion in this list should send to AJR Headquarters details about their former and present professional activities and qualifications.

THE HYPHEN

The Hyphen comprises a group of young, mainly Continental and Jewish people, aged mostly 21-35, who get together for cultural, educational and social activities. During July there will be more outdoor activities and rambles. For current programme, please send a stamped envelope to the Hon. Secretary, Miss Helen Eisner, 26 Arthur Court, Queensway, W.2.

PERSONALIA

Dr. Wilhelm Adler (1 Old Manor House, Abbey Road, London, N.W.8) will be 80 on July 9. Dr. Adler, who was a well-known dental surgeon in Berlin, came to this country in 1939 and, himself debarred from registration, devoted most of his spare time to the fight for the unfortunate group of those colleagues who failed in their attempt at registration. The AJR, which wholeheartedly supported these efforts, has had the opportunity of co-operating with Dr. Adler for a great number of years. In spite of the disappointments encountered, Dr. Adler has never lost his vision and energy. The AJR joins his colleagues and friends in their heartiest congratulations to him.

Mr. Julius Brann (1/105 Belsize Road, N.W.6) will celebrate his 70th birthday on July 25. Mr. Brann, who is the only son of the famous Jewish historian, the late Professor Markus Brann (Breslau), has always taken an active interest in Jewish affairs, and, prior to his emigration, was a Board member of the Hamburg Jewish community.

Obituary

Rabbi Dr. Leopold Neuhaus died in Detroit, U.S.A., 75 years old. Rabbi Neuhaus was in the Theresienstadt Concentration Camp and after the liberation returned to Frankfurt/Main, where he stayed for several years and took a leading part in building up the Community anew and helping the victims of the Nazi terror.

It is learnt with regret that **Miss Frieda Ruben** passed away in New York after a long illness. Miss Ruben was a member of the AJR staff from 1942 until she emigrated to the United States in 1947. During these years she played a great part in building up the organisation. The AJR will gratefully remember her devoted services and her former colleagues mourn the death of a trusted and helpful friend.

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