

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

8 FAIRFAX MANSIONS,
FINCHLEY ROAD (Corner Fairfax Road),
LONDON, N.W.3
Telephone: MAida Vale 9096/7 (General Office)
MAida Vale 4449 (Employment Agency)

Office and Consulting Hours:
Monday to Thursday 10 a.m.—1 p.m. 3—6 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m.—1 p.m.

ALLOCATIONS OF CLAIMS CONFERENCE

The Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany ("Claims Conference"), to which, according to the Luxembourg Agreement, German payments for the relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of Jewish Nazi victims outside Israel are made, met in Paris on February 5 and 6, in order to decide about the allocations of funds for the year 1955. The "Council of Jews from Germany," of which the AJR is the British constituent, was represented by Dr. W. Breslauer (London) and Dr. R. Callmann (New York).

Out of the \$10,000,000 to be distributed, the bulk (about \$7,000,000) was allocated for relief and rehabilitation, \$1,208,000 for cultural and educational reconstruction, and \$830,000 for the United Restitution Office, by which, so far, more than 50,000 needy claimants all over the world have been assisted, and which has to expect an increase to 75,000 cases. Most of the funds for the relief activities are to be used for Jewish communities in Europe; the \$6,000,000 earmarked for this purpose will chiefly be administered by the American Joint Distribution Committee. It is also to be expected that payments will be made towards the establishment of Old Age Homes in Great Britain, in accordance with a joint application of the Central British Fund and the AJR.

Allocations for cultural purposes include \$300,000 for the "Yad Ve Shem" memorial in Jerusalem, projected to collect material about the period of Nazi persecution, and \$65,000 for the Tomb of the Unknown Jewish Martyr in Paris. \$56,000 were allocated for Jewish Primary and Secondary Schools in Great Britain.

The "Council of Jews from Germany" had submitted a comprehensive social and cultural programme. It included detailed and carefully checked applications received from organisations of former German Jews all over the world. With comparatively few exceptions (e.g., the support of an Old Age Home in France), these applications were rejected. The same fate was suffered by the application for a Hardship Fund to be centrally administered by the Council and to be used for cases where relief from other sources was not or not sufficiently available; such a fund could, *inter alia*, be used for Nazi victims in distress from German territories to which restitution or indemnification legislation does not apply. The cultural programme submitted by the Council centred around the establishment of the "Leo Baeck Institute," which, by research work and publications, is to save for posterity the cultural heritage of German Jewry; the establishment and running cost for 1955 were assessed at

COLOURED IMMIGRATION

The Challenge of Racial Prejudice

*"A stranger in a land unknown,
I learned to pity woes so like my own."*

The right to enter Britain—a privilege so greatly cherished among the homeless and the dispossessed—is to be restricted, or rather "regulated," for certain immigrants who now arrive and who are not aliens but British citizens—as the Immigration Regulation Bill puts it: "British subjects not belonging to the British Isles." Under this Bill, the Government shall have the power to bar any immigrant from the Commonwealth if he fails to fulfil three conditions: good health, good character and ability to support himself.

No such conditions have ever been imposed on British citizens by Britain (in contrast to other Commonwealth countries), and there is some gentle irony in the reflection that so drastic a change should be considered precisely 50 years after the first modern Act to bar aliens—the Jewish refugees from Czarist Russia. Those who now come do not flee from oppression, but from the poverty infesting their native West Indian islands, especially Jamaica.

Like Joseph's brethren travelling to Egypt, they hope to find sustenance in what appears to them the plenty of Britain, and they come in many thousands. About 10,500 landed in 1954, three times as many as in 1953 and the year before, and this year many more may arrive. The number is not really large, roughly 12 per cent. of the total immigration into a land of 50 millions. The majority of them enjoy a good reputation, too; they make little trouble, which more than, rightly or wrongly

\$120,000 in the application, and \$42,000 were allocated by the Claims Conference.

Both last year and this time, the allocation policy of the Claims Conference has been the object of serious criticism by Jewish organisations and by the Jewish press. Some of this criticism has been directed against the general principles or, as some claimed, the lack of such guiding principles in dealing with the applications. Certain categories of claims, recognised as well as rejected, have been particularly controversial. The secrecy of the Claims Conference's deliberations has also been resented.

From the point of view of the victims, two major deficiencies have led to serious disappointment. Both of them are due to a failure of realising the specific character of the payments involved. These payments are not proceeds from Jewish charitable collections. They should therefore not be shared out, however benevolently, by the Jewish welfare organisations according to the usual welfare standards and more or less at the exclusion of the victims' representative organisations. They are meant to bring *additional* relief, because ordinary welfare measures cannot be adequate to undo the wrongs of the past, and they are not meant to relieve the welfare organisations of their current financial liabilities. It would be a

Continued on page 2

some will say of Irish workers. Moreover, Britain's economic condition is indeed sufficiently sturdy to banish all immediate fear of unemployment. There are thousands of industrial vacancies; in Birmingham alone, for example, some 40,000, and many firms, including some of the largest in the country, are clamouring for Jamaican workers, whom they are willing to train for semi-skilled tasks if need be.

Thus, these immigrants are fortunate in that they are not up against the prejudice which usually grows at the newcomer. Or they would be if it were not for fact that they happen to be black. It is the colour of their skin that is the trouble. Many of those who sponsor "regulation" will deny it, just as many sponsors of the Aliens Bill 50 years ago disavowed anti-semitism (some with perfect sincerity, e.g., Arthur J. Balfour). But this is an issue where reason is not always in harmony with sentiment.

There is at present no appreciable Colour Bar in this country. The virtue is possibly explained by the absence of opportunity—the coloured population here is negligible, less than 80,000—though it is pleasant to hear from the gallant South African trade unionist, E. S. Sachs, that, according to his observations, "the overwhelming majority of the British people have renounced jingoism and subtle racial superiority"; he complimented them on their "deep-rooted sense of common decency." Yet there is also, undeniably, a great deal of truth in the remark by an official lately retired from the Colonial Service: "For generation after generation, ordinary English men and women, through the Governments they elected, have been ruling the lives of millions of coloured people in all parts of the world, and it is only now that they are beginning to meet them really face to face."

The father of the Regulation Bill, Mr. Cyril Osborne, a Conservative, sincerely believes that unless some action is taken "we shall have as grave a colour problem in this country as they have in the United States." He stresses particularly the shortage of housing and the question is asked: what are likely to be the feelings of would-be white tenants who have waited years for a decent house when they see newcomers, no matter what their colour, taking over whole streets of properties? Inevitably, attention is drawn to the East End-like slums, where ten coloured men pay £1 each a week to share a room or 22 live in one small house.

Perhaps, fundamentally, the problem is the same as it would be if the people were Welsh or Australians or those Poles who remained here after the war and who have since been settled without much fuss. But there is, as often in the case of Jews, just that difference which seems doomed to confound some of the most emancipated minds. That the settlement of a substantial number of coloured folk in British towns will create problems, is certain, but as certain it is that, unless they follow South Africa's Nationalists, Britons must by their own efforts conquer the problem.

After all, they were the first to do justice to the black man. In the days of the Reform Bill they outlawed the slave trade, and across nearly two centuries now ring the famous words of Lord Justice Mansfield: "The air of England has long been too pure for a slave, and every man is free who breathes it. Every man who comes into England is entitled to the protection of English law, whatever oppression he may heretofore have suffered, and whatever may be the colour of his skin."

C. C. ARONSFELD

RESTITUTION NEWS

HAFTENTSCHAEDIGUNG FUER STERNTRAEGER

Der Senator fuer Inneres in Berlin hat mit Billigung des Berliner Stadtparlaments eine Verfassungserlassung erlassen, nach der der Zwang zum Sterntragen als Freiheitsentziehung im Sinne des § 16 BEG und § 17 BLEG anzusehen und dementsprechend zu entschaeudigen ist. Soweit Entschaeudigungsantraege schweben, will das Entschaeudigungsamt die nachtraegliche Anmeldung auch in den Faellen anerkennen, in denen die Frist nach dem Berliner Entschaeudigungsgesetz bereits abgelaufen ist.

CLAIMS CONFERENCE ON INDIVIDUAL INDEMNIFICATION

At the meeting of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany, held in Paris on February 6, a resolution was passed, directing Dr. Nahum Goldmann to convey to Chancellor Dr. Adenauer the "serious concern about the manner in which the German Indemnification programme is being carried out." Dr. Goldmann was asked to stress the following points in his letter:—(1) Indemnification legislation must be simplified; (2) the maze of technicalities which is strangling the Indemnification Law must be abolished; (3) the insistence on detailed proof in support of claims, which is almost impossible to obtain, must be eliminated; (4) the categories of persons entitled to compensation must be extended and the amounts to be paid must be increased; (5) advance payments must be facilitated and the machinery for handling claims enlarged and improved.

"Most important of all, however, the spirit which animated the enactment of the law must, somehow, be communicated down to every official until the compensation promised to claimants becomes not merely a hope but a reality," the resolution said.

In his reply, Chancellor Dr. Adenauer assured the Claims Conference that amendments to improve the present Federal Indemnification Law can be expected within the next few months.

Further Restitution News see page 8

CLAIMS CONFERENCE

(Continued from front page)

mistake if, after the bulk of the funds has been handed over to the largest Jewish welfare organisation, the rate of support rendered to the victims remained within the limits of charitable assistance. It is particularly regrettable that the allocations exclude from such additional relief Nazi victims in the United States.

The second deficiency is closely related with the first one. The funds under discussion are global indemnification payments to which the victims are entitled by right and in the administration of which they should therefore have a decisive say. All over the world, Jews from Germany and other European countries have built up their own organisations which, under great hardship, have tried to relieve the plight of those they represent. Their means were limited, but now, as global indemnification payments for their people have become available, they, at least, want to take their fate into their own hands. This does not preclude close and friendly co-operation with the existing experienced welfare organisations, but it does preclude the recognition of a policy by which their status as dependent objects of welfare work is to be perpetuated.

The Executive of the "Council of Jews from Germany" will meet shortly to consider the questions arising out of the Paris decisions of the Claims Conference.

CONCENTRATION CAMPS (ARCHIVES)

Mr. Lewis asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs why Her Majesty's Government agreed with the representatives of the Governments of the United States of America and France to hand over the Arolsen archives of the former concentration camps to the Bonn Government.

Mr. Turton replied that arrangements for the future of the International Tracing Service, which at present holds these archives, are still under negotiation between the United States, the United Kingdom, French, Belgian, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Italian, Israeli and Federal German Governments. No agreement has yet been reached. He also stated that it is the purpose of these negotiations to see that, if the archives eventually go back to the Bonn Government, they are preserved and not destroyed by that Government.

GERMAN AID SOCIETY FOR EMIGRANTS

Under the name "Hilfsverein fuer die Opfer des Nationalsozialismus im Ausland," an Aid Society was founded in Bonn, which intends to collect voluntary donations for the benefit of Nazi victims from Germany. The first proceeds will be used for the establishment of a Flatlet and Old Age Home in Paris. Professor Dr. Franz Boehm was elected chairman of the society; other committee members are President of the Lower House, Dr. Eugen Gerstenmaier, Deputies Dr. von Brentano, Jakob Altmaier, Professor Carlo Schmid, Walter Seuffert, and the chairman of the Free Democratic Party, Dr. Thomas Dehler.

NEW BAVARIAN STATE SECRETARY

The Munich lawyer, Josef Panholzer, was appointed Bavarian Secretary of State for Indemnification. Panholzer was the main lawyer for the defence in the trial against Philipp Auerbach.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH AUSTRIA

Statement by Nahum Goldmann

In his capacity as chairman of the Committee on Jewish Claims against Austria, Dr. Nahum Goldmann issued a statement on February 7 in which he pointed out that, although on some minor matters some progress had been made, fundamentally the negotiations were one uninterrupted series of delaying tactics and promises made and not kept. The Committee for Jewish Claims, he went on, had reduced its demands again and again; nevertheless, there was, as things stood to-day, not even the basis for further negotiations or any agreement.

The main reason, in Dr. Goldmann's view, for the failure of the talks, was the fact that the Austrian Government did not approach the issue as a moral obligation of the Austrian people and Government to make recompense, at least to some small degree, for the terrible crimes committed against hundreds of thousands of Austrian Jews by the Nazi regime in Austria, which was supported and welcomed by a very large part of the Austrian population. "We felt we should give Austria the opportunity to discharge its moral responsibility after what happened during the Nazi period in Austria and the pro-Nazi attitude of millions of Austrians," he said. "The last stage of this chapter has been reached. We will wait for a little while to see if any new offer will be forthcoming to serve as a basis for negotiation. If not, the Committee will have to make a final decision about the whole issue."

MAIDEN VOYAGE OF REPARATIONS SHIP

A combined fruit transporter-passenger vessel "Judea" was launched in Luebeck as a new addition to Israel's Merchant Marine. Present at the ceremony were Mr. Erich Lueth, chairman of the "Peace with Israel" movement, and Luebeck's Mayor, Otto Passarge. The ship had been built by the formerly Jewish-owned firm Orenstein & Koppel.

BUNDESGERICHTSHOF

Auslegung des Bundesentschaedigungsgesetzes

Da sich "AJR Information" an Laien wendet, beschaenkt sie ihre Berichterstattung ueber die Wiedergutmachung in Deutschland darauf, die Leser in allgemein verstaendlicher Form ueber die Gesetzgebung zu unterrichten. Ueber den Inhalt der zahlreichen ergangenen Urteile der Gerichte laesst sich in einer fuer Laien verstaendlichen Form nicht berichten.

Der Bundesgerichtshof, die hoechste richterliche Instanz in Streitigkeiten auf Grund des Bundesentschaedigungsgesetzes, hat jedoch am 22.11.54 (IV ZR 107/54) entschieden, wie das Bundesentschaedigungsgesetz auszulegen ist, wenn seine Bestimmungen unklar sind oder zu Zweifeln Anlass geben. Diese Entscheidung ist von so allgemeiner Bedeutung, dass ihr Inhalt auch in diesen Blaettern Darstellung verdient.

Der Bundesgerichtshof stellt den Grundsatz auf: "Ziel und Zweck der Rueckerstattungs- und Entschaeudigungsgesetzgebung ist, das verursachte Unrecht sobald und soweit als irgend moeglich wieder gut zu machen."

Eine Auslegung des Gesetzes, die moeglich ist und diesem Ziele entspricht, verdient daher einen Vorzug gegenueber jeder anderen Auslegung, die die Wiedergutmachung erschwert oder zunichte macht."

Da das Bundesentschaedigungsgesetz sehr viele Bestimmungen enthaelt, die unklar oder deren Auslegung zweifelhaft sind, so ist dieser Auslegungsregel eine grosse praktische Bedeutung beizumessen. Andererseits koennen natuerlich klare gesetzliche Bestimmungen, auch wenn sie Haerten enthalten, auf diesem Wege nicht geaendert werden: solche Aenderungen sind nur auf dem Wege der Gesetzgebung und nicht durch Auslegung durch die Gerichte moeglich.

Der Bundesgerichtshof wendet die von ihm aufgestellten Richtlinien auf einen Fall an, der in der Rechtsprechung und Literatur sehr umstritten ist. Es handelt sich um die sogenannte "Konkurrenz" von Rueckerstattungs- und Entschaeudigungsgesetzen. Der § 7 des Bundesentschaedigungsgesetzes bestimmt, dass Ansprueche, die unter die Rueckerstattungs-gesetze fallen, Entschaeudigung feststellbarer Gegenstaende, nicht auf Grund des Bundesentschaedigungsgesetzes geltend gemacht werden

koennen. Die einzige Ausnahme, die das Bundesentschaedigungsgesetz in § 21 aufstellt, betrifft Sonderabgaben. Dieser § 21 bestimmt, dass die Sonderabgaben im Entschaeudigungsverfahren insoweit geltend gemacht werden koennen als die im Entschaeudigungsverfahren zu gewaehrende Leistung hoeher ist als im Rueckerstattungsverfahren.

In dem zur Entscheidung stehenden Falle waren die Sonderabgaben und die Reichsfluchtsteuer durch Ueberweisung von einem Bankkonto oder durch Verkauf von Wertpapieren gezahlt worden. Eine Anmeldung auf Grund des Rueckerstattungs-gesetzes war nicht erfolgt.

Der Bundesgerichtshof hat dahin entschieden, dass der Anspruch auf Entschaeudigung fuer Sonderabgaben im Entschaeudigungsverfahren durchgefuehrt werden kann und dass die Entschaeudigung fuer geleistete Sonderabgaben nicht deshalb versagt werden kann, weil keine Anmeldung im Rueckerstattungsverfahren erfolgte.

Ein weiterer Zweifel bezueglich der Auslegung des Bundesentschaedigungsgesetzes bestand bezueglich der Frage, ob Reichsfluchtsteuer im Sinne der obengenannten Bestimmungen auch als Sonderabgabe anzusehen ist. Diese Unklarheit war dadurch entstanden, dass die Reichsfluchtsteuer an einer spaeteren Stelle des § 21 aufgefuehrt war, ohne ausdruecklichen Hinweis, dass die Bestimmungen fuer Sonderabgaben auf sie Anwendung finden. Der Bundesgerichtshof hat entschieden, dass es sich fuer Juden bei der Reichsfluchtsteuer um eine Sonderabgabe gehandelt hat und dass daher die obengenannten Bestimmungen ueber Sonderabgaben auf sie Anwendung finden. Daraus, dass die Reichsfluchtsteuer neben den Sonderabgaben besonders erwachnt ist, liessen sich bei der stellenweise mangelnden Fassung des Bundesentschaedigungsgesetzes keine besonderen Schluesse ziehen.

Der Bundesgerichtshof fasst seine Ausfuehrungen in folgendem Leitsatz zusammen:

"§ 7 Bundesentschaedigungsgesetz steht einer Entschaeudigung des Verfolgten fuer von ihm entrichtete Sonderabgaben nicht entgegen."

Es ist zu erwarten, dass diese Entscheidung zur Beschleunigung der Durchfuehrung von Anspruechen wegen Sonderabgaben und Reichsfluchtsteuer beitragen wird.

FROM THE GERMAN SCENE

BERLIN MEETING OF PERSECUTEES

At a Berlin meeting of the political and racial victims of Nazism, addresses were given by the Mayor, Professor Suhr, Deputy Dr. Friedensburg, and the new Senator of Interior, Joachim Lipschitz. All speakers warned of the dangers to democracy and stressed the moral need for just indemnification of the persecutees. Referring to rallies of people in SS. trousers and jackboots, Senator Lipschitz said: "How much stupidity must be involved if one walks amongst ruins and celebrates him who has caused these ruins."

PROFESSOR HEUSS RECEIVES JEWISH COMMUNITY CHAIRMAN

President Dr. Theodor Heuss gave an audience to Mr. Heinz Galinski, Chairman of the Berlin Jewish Community. The President expressed great interest in the work of the Community and promised to view Berlin's Jewish institutions on the occasion of his next visit.

LETTER FROM JERUSALEM

Diplomatic posts in Israel have in the past often been the starting point for big careers. The first British Ambassador, Sir Knox Helm, has been appointed Governor General in the Sudan, and his successor, Sir Francis Evans, is now Ambassador in the Argentine. Francis Russel, former U.S. Chargé d'Affairs, has been slated for an important assignment in Europe. The Turkish Minister Seyfulla Essen holds a key post in Moscow and the Swiss Minister Otto Seiffert in Indonesia.

Less fortunate were the diplomats from beyond the "Iron Curtain." P. J. Yershow, first Russian Ambassador to Israel, retired to civilian life; Eduard Goldstücker, Czechoslovakian Minister, was recalled and sentenced to life imprisonment as a "Zionist spy"; Polish Consul Rafael Lotz, recalled and dismissed from the service; Rumanian Minister Constantin Stanescu, recalled and arrested in Bucharest.

More casualties were suffered in Israel during 1954 as a result of traffic accidents than at the hands of Arab infiltrators. During the worst month—November—thirty people were killed on the roads. Considering the number of 30,000 licenced vehicles, the annual figure of 12,790 accidents constitutes a world record. Among the contributing factors are the narrow roads not designed for modern traffic and the Oriental immigrants unaccustomed to the deadly effects of western civilisation.

Road-safety exercises in schools and lectures with mobile film-units for grown-ups are part of a campaign to make pedestrians "road-conscious." Drivers are in for a rough time. In addition to police vehicles, road patrols operate in disguise. On occasions the camouflage is startling. The driver of a truck carrying crates of a well-known brand of beer on the Tel Aviv-Haifa highway one day halted all transport which passed it at unauthorised speed and surprised the unsuspecting drivers by turning out to be a traffic policeman.

A delegation of three leaders of the ultra-orthodox Neturei Karta is said to have travelled recently from Jerusalem's Mea Shearim quarter to the Austrian Consul General in Tel Aviv. They submitted the proposal that the Crown Pretender, Archduke Otto of Hapsburg, should further the internationalisation of Jerusalem by claiming his rights to the city. The enmity of the religious zealots to the Jewish State is known; but only now they discovered the historical curiosity that the Austrian Emperor, among his many titles, once wore also that of a King of Jerusalem.

To find an address in Israel's capital is a matter of luck. Of her 650 streets and lanes, only 400 have been named since the Municipality started to tackle this problem seven years ago. At the present rate it will take at least another four years before all the streets are identified.

But to have located a street does not yet mean that one has found the house in question. Not even a quarter of the total of 9,000 houses are properly numbered—and that goes also for the main thoroughfares. An appeal by Mayor Kariv to landlords to affix number plates against a small payment to their houses met with little response. Among the buildings which ignored his request was the Central Post Office.

HERBERT FREEDEN

BROADCAST ON WARSAW GHETTO

Under the heading "Jossel Rackower speaks to God," the Free Berlin radio broadcast the testament written by the Jewish prisoner, Jossel Rackower, during the last hours of his life in the burning Warsaw Ghetto. The testament was found in the ruins, hidden in a bottle.

AWARDS

The opera conductor, Josef Rosenstock, who, until 1933, held an appointment in Mannheim, and who now lives in U.S.A., was awarded the Mannheim Schiller Plaque on the occasion of his 60th birthday. When, in 1933, the "Jewish Kulturbund" was founded in Berlin, Rosenstock was the first conductor of its orchestra.

The publicist, Ernst Friedlaender, who also was 60, received the "Grosse Verdienstkreuz" of the Federal Republic.

The Director of the Vereinigte Stahlwerke, Siegfried Seelig (Duesseldorf), was given the "Bundesverdienstkreuz" in recognition of his merits for the reconstruction of German industry.

ISRAEL ARTIST'S SHOW

Fifty paintings by the Israeli artist, Aryeh Goral, were exhibited in the Hamburg Municipal Art Gallery. Goral, who is now 46, was born in Westphalia.

DR. GESSLER 80 YEARS

The Minister of Defence in the Weimar Republic, Dr. Otto Gessler, recently celebrated his 80th birthday. He was involved in the plot of July 20, 1944, and spent eight months in the Ravensbrück Concentration Camp. Dr. Gessler now lives in the Allgau and is active as the President of the Bavarian Red Cross.

GENERAL SECRETARY OF F.D.P.

The General Secretary of the Weimar Republic Democratic Party, Werner Stephan, was elected General Secretary of the Free Democratic Party.

DEATH OF LUISE EBERT

Luise Ebert, the widow of the first Reichspräsident, died in Heidelberg, at the age of 82.

FORMER 'REICHSSTUDENTENFUEHRER' MEMBER OF HESSE LANTAG

The former Reichsstudentenfuehrer, Dr. Albert Derichsweiler, has been elected a Free Democratic Deputy of the Hesse Landtag. He became an active Nazi in 1931.

"FROM MAAS TO MEMEL"

To commemorate the foundation of the 1871 Reich, the "Arbeitsgemeinschaft Vaterlaendischer Verbaende" held a rally in Hamburg. One of the speakers, the former Kommandant of Creta, General Andrae, called for a re-establishment of the Reich "from the Maas to the Memel, the Alps to the Belt and including Sudetenland and Western Poland." The rally was attended by 500 people. Simultaneously a protest meeting against the function was held by the Trade Unions. It was attended by 10,000 persons.

NEO-NAZI MEETING IN VIENNA PREVENTED

Demonstrators prevented a meeting convened by the Neo-Nazi "League of Independents" under the slogan "Hunger, Pensions and Jewish Restitution."

BERLIN ANTI-SEMITE FINED

Erwin Schoenborn, notorious Berlin anti-semite, was sentenced to five months imprisonment. He had described as "traitors and no-goods" the anti-Nazis who had been involved in the plot against Hitler in July, 1944.

SWINDLER POSES AS JEW

A non-Jew, Maximilian Lefart, was sentenced by the Aachen Law Court to three years penal servitude for fraud. Lefart, who on not less than 18 previous occasions had been an imposter, be it as a Prussian officer or a Catholic clergyman, even delivering

ANGLO-JUDAICA

Jewish Schools

The principal guest of honour at the silver jubilee dinner of the Jewish Secondary Schools Movement was Mr. C. R. Attlee, Leader of the Opposition. He spoke of the "need for tolerance" and "the fact that our civilisation is not built up on uniformity but on diversity." He said he did not believe in an educational system that tried to make people all exactly the same, and he thought it was wise for Jewry to maintain their schools. Over £20,600 was raised for the Movement.

The London Board of Jewish Religious Education now administers 82 synagogue classes (with over 9,000 pupils), 14 Talmud Torahs (2,000), and 25 withdrawal classes (2,800). The Jewish day schools in North and North-west London are attended by 2,500 pupils. New schools are to be built with the funds of the defunct Jewish voluntary schools. Hebrew classes or day schools in the Provinces have an attendance of 7,300.

When the Joint Treasurer, Mr. A. Krausz, resigned from the Central Council for Jewish Religious Education, he stressed the need for the Council's continued existence in view of "the continued decline in the general standards of Hebrew and Jewish knowledge among the rank and file of Anglo-Jewry"; he also deplored the "appalling indifference" shown in the lack of support by many of the provincial communities which had been made responsible for providing 50 per cent of the Council's finances.

During the year ended September 30, 1954, the British Youth Aliyah Committee forwarded £108,000 to Israel. £165,000 was raised at the annual dinner organised by the J.P.A. Textile Trade group.

Threat to Shechita

A grave threat to Shechita is presented by a private Member's Bill calling for an amendment to the Slaughter of Animals Act 1933 so as to ensure that animals at present slaughtered for food by the Jewish method shall first be mechanically stunned. A "Council of Justice to Animals and Humane Slaughter Association" is supporting the Bill, but local Health Committees are divided in their views.

Distinctions

Alderman Bernard Waley-Cohen, a son of the late Sir Robert and Vice-President of the United Synagogue, was nominated by the Court of Aldermen for the Shrievalty of the City of London. Aldermen who are elected Sheriffs are in direct line of succession for the Lord Mayoralty.

The Conservative Political Centre is to have a Jewish director—Mr. Peter Goldman, hitherto head of the Home Affairs Section of the Conservative Research Department, where he will be succeeded by a fellow-Jew, Mr. Geoffrey Block, hitherto head of the Housing, Local Government and Works Department.

A survey produced in 1948, but still considered a reasonable guide, showed that of the officers and other ranks in the Army, 0.3 per cent were registered as Jews.

Lord Russell's Gesture

Lord Russell has donated the royalties from the first Hebrew edition of his book, "The Scourge of the Swastika," to the Hebrew University. According to his wish the money will be used for the benefit of a student whose parents were killed in a Nazi concentration camp.

sermons in a Cologne church, had posed as a Jew in order to appropriate the legacy left by a recently deceased Jewish widow. He claimed to be a member of the "Zentralrat" of Jews in Germany, and thus succeeded in persuading a judge to call off a scheduled auction of the widow's home.

KZ-CRIMINALS SENTENCED

The Deputy Commandant of the Dachau Concentration Camp, Egon Zill, was sentenced to lifelong penal servitude by a Munich Law Court.

The former commandant of the Lieberose Camp, which was under the Central Administration of the Sachsenhausen Camp, Willy Kersten, was sentenced to seven months imprisonment and put on probation.

The war criminal, Karl Theiner, member of the SS. Medical Corps, who admitted to have killed about 100 prisoners in a sub-camp of Mauthausen by injecting poison into their veins, was sentenced to death by an East Berlin court.

THE FOUNDER OF THE WIENER LIBRARY

To preserve and utilise the records of our recent past is the increasingly urgent task of our community. We gratefully acknowledge the invaluable work carried out in this field by the Wiener Library and extend our sincerest congratulations to its founder and director on the occasion of his 70th birthday on March 16.

DR. ALFRED WIENER—SEVENTY

A printed article does not seem the appropriate medium for expressing congratulations on Dr. Alfred Wiener's seventieth birthday, and neither does the English language. He himself is fond of his native German, which he miraculously succeeds in imposing on anybody to whom he happens to be talking, and he is a man of the spoken word rather than of the written—unless, of course, the written word occurs in sufficient profusion to acquire the status of a book: then it gains a fundamentally new meaning, rendering it eligible for inclusion in the Wiener Library, which will be dealt with in turn. A birthday address, however, should be given in German and should be spoken.

Yet the compulsion to overcome these two handicaps is not altogether harmful. Putting one's thoughts on permanent record does away with the chance just to let the mouth speak what "the heart thinketh." It enforces a stricter order of ideas, an agenda for the festive occasion, as it were.

Dr. Wiener's personality and life seem to me to circle around two polar systems. The centres of one are the places of his origin, those of the other the main objects of his lifelong dedication. He was born in Potsdam, that town which like no other enshrined the tradition of the Second German Empire and its Prussian source. Dr. Wiener was strongly imbued not only with the spirit of that military pageantry which could hardly fail to make an impression on the malleable mind of a child, but also with those finer manifestations of a hard-working and duty-conscious State which are about slowly to reassert themselves in general esteem after they had suffered wholesale defamation alongside with Nazism and everything held rightly or wrongly responsible for it. Neither is Dr. Wiener in his loyalty to his place of birth unaware of the less laudable features of what became known as the "spirit of Potsdam" and was contrasted with the "spirit of Weimar" after the first world war. It makes him mention his attachment more often than not as something of an oddity of challenge. But he

— THE MAN AND HIS WORK —

All of us who fervently hope that the peculiar Jewish spirit which through centuries had steadily grown up within the Jewish community of Germany may survive and prove creative, feel greatly indebted to Dr. Alfred Wiener. This spirit had its many battlefields, and to understand its character and power one must know what he was struggling for and fighting against. Books are witnesses of this spirit and these combats, and they must be given refuge and shelter.

Dr. Alfred Wiener saw this clearly. Resolutely, and in time, with distinct foresight and courage, with remarkable ability and circumspection, he succeeded in large measure in saving these testimonies. But for him they would have been lost or dissipated. By establishing the Library which rightly bears his name, he ensured their survival and took care of them. In days to come thanks will still be rendered for this work.

This library is, so to speak, an open-door-library. Books are not only shelved but are made agencies and instruments. They are not idle books, but books that work. And Dr. Wiener and the fine people who so devotedly and so unassumingly assist him, are always prepared to help the book and to help the reader, to bring the two together that they may meet one another. Many are deeply grateful for this achievement with an ever fresh gratitude.

Heartfelt good wishes for years to come go out to the septuagenarian.

LEO BAECK.

will never deny the ties which still connect him with the lakes and forests of the Province of Brandenburg or the classicist castles and rows of civilian houses of his native town.

Yet Dr. Wiener did not spend his whole youth at Potsdam. His parents moved to a small town in the Province of Poznan, Bensch, and it was here that a second life-centre was added to the first. For Jewish life flourished in Poznan in those days: there were large Jewish communities and numerous Jewish writers and scholars. Although the boy's Jewish education had by no means been neglected during his early youth at Potsdam, the Poznan atmosphere gave him an even stronger Jewish background. There can be little doubt that Dr. Wiener's later wholehearted participation in the struggle for Jewish rights on German soil was prepared by these early impressions. Much more than mere symbols of his life, the two towns of his youthful experience shaped his future tastes emotionally and intellectually. When later on it became fashionable in the Jewish youth movement in Germany to assess the amount of what was called "Jewish substance" in every individual, Dr. Wiener, probably, would not quite have understood what it was all about. Nobody would ever have doubted his "Jewish substance," because his parents and teachers as well as the little Poznan town had built up in him a sufficiently extensive fund of "Jewishness" to see him through all digressions and distractions of life.

Knowledge of Judaism

Although his Jewish loyalty was originally not so much due to conscious decision as to the simple fact of his being a Jew, Alfred Wiener did not leave it at that. He studied Oriental languages and literature and devoted no small part of his university years to the acquisition of Jewish knowledge. "Judaism is knowledge," he will say to those who tend to mistake it for sentimentality, fund-raising or such quasi-Jewish concepts as irreligious nationalism. Long before Palestine became the State of Israel, Dr. Wiener was deeply devoted to the country. He had come to know it on frequent journeys. As the friend and assistant of Dr. Paul Nathan, he took part in the work of construction carried out there by the "Hilfsverein Deutscher Juden."

In his work for the "Central-Verein," the two strands in the texture of Dr. Wiener's personality were firmly interwoven. He served there under the leadership of Dr. Ludwig Hollaender from January 1, 1919, to the catastrophe. His political acumen soon made him the politician of the organisation. He was the editor of the *CV-Zeitung*; he was indefatigable in winning friends for the cause he stood for; he bore the main burden of the propaganda work of the organisation and he was a very popular public speaker. When in the year of fate 1933, he realised that Jewish emancipation in Germany had been defeated—together with German Democracy and the State of Weimar—he was among the first who decided to leave the country. His decision did not mean that he abandoned the work he had done so far, but that he followed it up by different methods from outside the German frontiers. He succeeded in winning the support of Professor Dr. David Cohen for the foundation of the "Jewish Central Information Office" in Amsterdam, whose aim it was to collect and disseminate information on the disastrous development inside Germany. Once more Dr. Wiener's gifts for politics and propaganda stood him in good stead. With his clear discernment of what was essential, he systematically canalised information of lasting value from all available sources into his office, thus building up the most formidable collection of material on the onslaught of Nazi barbarism.

When immediately before the outbreak of the second world war, Dr. Wiener transferred his collection to London, it had grown into what was to become widely known as the Wiener Library—an arsenal of weapons for the struggle against Nazi-Fascist totalitarianism. The possibility of evolution from a Jewish information centre into a comprehensive library and research institute of international repute was inherent in Dr. Wiener's

Continued on next page

MESSAGE FROM GERMANY

Lieber Doktor Wiener!

Es war die gütige und feste Hand von Dr. Leo Baeck, die mich eines Tages, nicht sehr lange nach dem Kriege, in London in die Wiener Library und dort in Ihr winziges Arbeitszimmerchen führte. Gewusst hatte ich längst um Sie. Seit den zwanziger Jahren war mir Ihre Arbeit im Central-Verein deutscher Staatsbürger jüdischen Glaubens bekannt, zu der auch eine "kritische Reise durch Palästina" im Jahre 1926 gehörte, bis sich Ihr Weg und Ihre Arbeit für mich in der Ihnen aufgezwungenen Emigration verloren. Aber nun stand ich Ihnen zum ersten Male auch persönlich gegenüber. War das schon erregend genug, so noch mehr, dass der von unserm ehrwürdigen Freunde unternommene Brückenschlag gelang: Es war uns beiden sofort klar, dass wir von nun an am gleichen Werk zusammenstehen würden.

Sie haben dann schon 1950, unter noch recht ungünstigen äusseren Verhältnissen, in Kassel bei der 2. Studententagung über "Kirche und Judentum" mitgearbeitet und über "Judentum und Antisemitismus" so menschlich und so versöhnlich, richtiger; versöhnt gesprochen, dass es keiner Ihrer Hörer je vergessen wird. Für die Bevölkerung der Stadt, von dessen bedeutender jüdischer Vergangenheit damals Hans Ehrenberg, der Vetter des Kasseler Franz Rosenzweig, in Verbindung mit der Geschichte seiner eigenen Familie ein bewegendes Bild gab, waren Sie sogar eine kleine Sensation, die Sie im Rückblick immer noch erheitert. Uns aber wurden Sie das Schönste, was wir im Kreise meiner Freunde und Mitarbeiter uns von Ihnen erhofften: ein Menschenbruder, wie wir ihn als Gefährten und Berater in den Mühn eines geistigen und geistlichen Neubeginns so sehr nötig hatten. Sie sind es uns bis heute geblieben in einer seltenen, uns immer wieder beschämenden und stärkenden selbstverständlichen Treue.

Seitdem haben wir uns immer wieder gesehen, gesprochen, in ungezählten Briefen miteinander beraten, geplant und unsere Arbeit aus gemeinsamer Verantwortung getan. Sie sind an meinem Tische zu Gast gewesen, und ich an Ihrem. Aber nichts hat uns fester verbunden, als jener Tag, an dem Sie darauf bestanden, mich auf der Fahrt zu zwei Nürnberger Gemeinden zu begleiten, vor denen ich über das christlich-jüdische Miteinander zu sprechen hatte. Sie nahmen dann auch selbst das Wort, ohne vorher zu ermassen, dass es über Ihre Kraft gehen müsse, wenn Sie als Jude auf dem Boden Nürnbergs vor einer christlichen Gemeinde ein brüderliches Wort von Vergebung und Vertrauen zu sagen versuchen würden. Was dann geschah, mag nur in gewissen chassidischen Erzählungen ein Gegenstück haben: eine grosse Versammlung, in deren schmerzvollem Schluchzen wegen unausgesprochener und unvergebener gemeinsamer Schuld die Gegenwart Gottes spürbar, wirksam und heilsam wurde. Wenn Sie dann doch Ihren Vorsatz ausführen konnten, so war damit ein Sieg gewonnen nicht allein im Kampf um den Frieden zwischen Israel und den Deutschen, sondern auch für das Recht des apostolischen Satzes, dass Gott grösser ist denn unser Herz und dass letztlich darauf unser Vermögen beruht, die Brüder zu lieben (1. Johannes 3, 19ff.).

Was ich Ihnen nun, da Sie in das biblische Alter eintreten, wünsche? Dass Sie den letzten menschlichen Fragen und Aufgaben auch künftig so nahe bleiben dürfen, wie Sie ihnen in einem durch viele Prüfungen geführten Leben gekommen sind. Sie blieben dann ja auch in der Nähe Ihrer deutschen Freunde, die Ihrer, des Siebzigjährigen, und Ihres jugendlichen Eintretens für alles, was recht und gut ist, heute und immer dankbar und zuversichtlich gedenken.

Ihr

Prof. KARL HEINRICH RENGSTORF
Institutum Judaicum
Delitschianum (Muenster/W.).

"FOUNDER'S DAY"

March 16 will be celebrated at the Wiener Library as Founder's Day. Elsewhere, Founder's Day is accompanied by banquets and junketings. Toasts are exchanged and healths are drunk.

Precisely how the staff of the Wiener Library will commemorate their Founder's seventieth birthday is Top Secret. But, whether in champagne or in tea, we shall wish him long life, happiness, and lots and lots of new books.

L. G. MONTEFIORE

Dr. M. Eschelbacher:

LEO BAECK'S NEW PUBLICATION

Isaiah says: "... this people I have formed for Myself shall sing My praises." (43, 21.) Leo Baeck has taken these words as the motto for his most recent work.* The first two words he has chosen for the title. The preface serves as a commentary on the whole work, describing how it was written and what went through the mind of the author in those terrible times. The book originated in the epoch of persecution and annihilation—the first two chapters still in Berlin, the rest in Theresienstadt. That the manuscript has survived under such circumstances is little short of a miracle. At first he wanted to render an account of this Jewish life, this Jewish people, only to himself, but his thoughts could not restrict themselves to these limits, and so, finally, his book has come to bear witness before all mankind, not only before Jews. "So now let it find its way to mankind" are the first words of the preface, showing us the ultimate aim and meaning of the book.

* Leo Baeck: "Dieses Volk" Juedische Existenz. Europaeische Verlagsanstalt, Frankfurt a.M. 1955. 182 ss. (9.80 Ganzleinen, 7.50 kartoniert.)

Dr. Alfred Wiener (continued from page 4)

emphasis on the fact that anti-semitism could neither be completely understood nor successfully countered unless it was perceived as a concomitant, albeit a particularly hideous one, of a much more comprehensive political and social disease. Racial arrogance was—so he said over and over again—part and parcel of that morbid affliction of a body and social that engendered aggressive nationalism and threatened the peaceful development of the world. By laying stress on the constructive ideas of his Institute rather than on its critical ones, on democracy and humanitarianism rather than on the fight against their disintegration, Dr. Wiener created an impressive edifice. Even the horrors recorded in these archives serve a positive aim.

It was in the course of his work for the Wiener Library that Dr. Wiener's other two great centres of life came into their own: books and human beings. It is not only that books for him are very much like living entities. They are, for he knows their origins, *curricula vitae*, places of residence, values both material and immaterial, ancestry and offspring. With his "unnecessarily good memory"—an expression of his teacher, Paul Nathan, which he is fond of quoting—he is a living book catalogue, he is a "Catalogue raisonné," of course, because his knowledge goes far beyond authors and titles. But if there is anything surpassing even his love of, and interest in, books it is his absorbing interest in human beings. Dr. Wiener cares for people, he studies them and understands them. People who meet him instinctively feel that he takes them seriously, that under his discerning eye even the unimportant and average takes on an individual dignity—be it only for the passing moment of a short conversation. Man as such is the main subject of his thinking and doing, of his imagination and decisions. "Man is the most important factor, after all," he will say after a lengthy discussion about the respective merits of two different ways of procedure in a certain situation. Man, his possible reactions, his treatment, his little joys and idiosyncrasies, the pains of his body and sorrows of his soul are all apprehended by him with an innate "sixth sense" which operates before and beyond any conscious mental process. It is from this rare gift of human sympathy, independently of his quick assessment of situations and intellectual alacrity in general that he derives his remarkable flair for politics, the root of many of his finest achievements.

That Dr. Wiener should have joined the ranks of the septuagenarians is hard to believe. His youthful vitality and perseverance are unimpaired by the vicissitudes of life which have not spared him, as they have spared nobody in our group of former German Jews. Only with some reluctance is he accepting the position of an "elder statesman" with its privileges and burdens. He is still in the midst of the colourful theatre of life which he thoroughly enjoys, both as an actor and a spectator. If certain misgivings intrude, he laughs them off and asserts his humorous superiority. He is of the stuff which makes us wish him many more happy jubilees to come, for his own sake as well as ours.

EVA G. REICHMANN.

To mankind, which knows very little of Jews and Judaism, "Dieses Volk" speaks about the Jewish people. From one point of view, it is unique. "It was the Divinity that spoke of the beginnings and genesis of this people, and proclaimed to it the conditions and purpose of its history. Of all the peoples the Israelites were the only ones to experience this at their beginnings and to preserve it for all time." (p. 11.) The divine word came to the Jewish people first when God called to Abraham and, then, at the start of its history in the Exodus from Egypt on His command.

Later He shows it the way in the revelation of Sinai and gives it the desert and the land of its fathers. Accordingly, the story is unfolded in four chapters:—The Covenant, The Exodus, The Revelation and Desert and Land. Never wasteful in words, tersely and concisely, Baeck gives his interpretation of the Covenant and the Law, of the hidden name of God and the Torah, of Moses, Elijah and the Prophets, of Job and Koheleth, of Philosophy and Mysticism and many other fundamental facts and ideas. He always speaks with the ripe experience of an abundant inner life. "Dieses Volk" should appeal to the Gentiles in the first place. For them it renders Jewish ideas and institutions into the language they can understand, because it is their own language. Thus, it speaks of the Seder as "the solemn supper," of Schowuoth as "the feast of Pentecost," of Unesanne Tokeph as "the prelude to the Sanctus of the New Year festival," of Amos and Jeremiah as "these Puritans, these Independents among the Prophets." Following a talmudic explanation of God's hidden name, Baeck writes:—"As infinite love, the eternal infinite Being enters into this ever-growing creation, called Man..." (p. 118.) This demonstrates a fundamental of Jewish religion as opposed to Christian dogma. Baeck also shows the paradoxical nature of some of the peculiarities inherent in "this people." "To be a democracy of aristocrats... that remained the unshakable ideal." (p. 110.) There is no arrogance in this definition, for it is a tribute to the Sabbath. "Taking the words in their true meaning there is hardly anything so aristocratic and, at the same time, so democratic, as the Sabbath." (p. 174.)

Israel and Mankind

"This People" is primarily concerned with Judaism, but, by inner necessity, its field widens to embrace the history of mankind, for "this people is set apart to represent mankind." In the experience and ideals of one people is perceived the history of the whole of mankind. God speaks to one, but in so doing, He speaks to all. Because the Law of God is valid for this people and its day, it is valid for all nations and their day." (p. 71.) What Baeck says about the early history of Israel claims therefore to be true of mankind in all epochs, especially in our own.

"Dieses Volk" therefore speaks of all human destiny, and of the German people in the days of the persecution and after, even if, to all appearances, it only explains the Scriptures. "Vengeance is reserved to God, as it were, it is His mystery, barred to human understanding and human action. Is it not laid up in store with Me, sealed up in My treasures? Vengeance is Mine and recompense." (Deut. 33, 34.) It is not left to man. Man, on the contrary, is told: "Thou shalt not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. I am the Lord!" (Lev., 19, 18.) What this meant ten years ago a German makes clear on the wrapper of the book. "It was Baeck who, after the capture of Theresienstadt, kept the camp inmates from taking vengeance on the German guards, delivered to them by the Russians."

The outlook of the book is directed to the days of the Messiah. It speaks about the millenia of the past and calls the great powers of those days, Egypt and Assyria, "the enemies and seducers." But in the same context it quotes Isaiah: "... In that day shall Israel be the third with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing in the midst of the earth, for the Lord of hosts has blessed him, saying: 'Blessed be Egypt, My people, and Assyria, the work of my hands, and Israel, My inheritance.'" (19, 24, 25.) Baeck calls this word "the final word, notwith-

standing all that was and still would be, the conclusion of the words of the Exodus from Egypt." (p. 72.)

The style of "Dieses Volk" is highly individual and reflects truly the author's particular way of thinking. Every idea of his is followed up in every direction until its whole depth becomes visible and its whole richness unfolds. When expressing it he looks at it from many sides and puts it into words with his characteristic power of expression. His word not only represents his thought, but also gives it added vigour. Thus, he explains the unevenness of the book as follows:—"It is a people full of paradoxes and the tensions resulting from them, the most clannish and the most solitary people, the most conservative certainly and the most radical perhaps, the most patient and the most inconsiderate, the confident and the critical, the people of the fathers and the people of the children, enjoying life and inclined to asceticism, the people of the inviting humour and of the repelling irony, the people of the way and of the 'fence,' the people that look and listen towards what is outside more than any other, and towards what is within far more than other—one is tempted to say, as it were, the people of the land and of the desert combined." Thus, in ten antitheses he pronounces his judgment that it is a people of paradoxes, and every reader understands his final verdict:—"Such is this people, and so does it live. It lives in the one current of tension, because it lives in the opposite at the same time. It cannot draw its full vigour from the one without gaining it in the other at the same time." (p. 147.)

"This People" is a document of a character and a personality. What it has to say about man in general is especially true of its author. "Man, he says, as long as he lives, is on the way, and as long as he lives the way lies before him. Only at the end of the way can be perfection. Man can look for it only, for he is a man with all his limitations. But this is man's great answer to the problem posed by human life: "In spite of everything!" "Wherever a man walks on the right path, one perfection reached is already his; for here man fulfils a commandment of God." (p. 23.) Baeck was over seventy when he wrote "This People." It is published in his eighty-second year. In the years of persecution he became one of the great representatives of German Jewry. In his personality, his life's work and now in his recent book he appears as the embodiment of the astonishing vital power of "This People."

CENTENARY OF BRESLAU SEMINARY

To mark the centenary of the Breslau Jewish Theological Seminary (see "AJR Information," August, 1954), the October issue of the "Historia Judaica," edited by Professor Guido Kisch, is dedicated to this institution. The publication includes articles by Dr. Isaac Heinemann, the oldest still living lecturer of the Seminary, by Dr. Albert Lewkowitz, who passed away recently, and by Dr. Adolf Kober.

BERLIN KEREN HAYESSOD

At its first gathering, the newly established Keren Hayessod Circle in Berlin honoured the Jewish veteran of the German Trade Union Movement, Siegfried Aufhaeuser, by dedicating to him a Jerusalem Bible in recognition of his active interest in the well-being of Israel. In the same way, Mr. Adolf Schoyer was honoured at the second meeting: in his address Mr. Schoyer recalled the pre-war Keren Hayessod activities in Germany and promised to work for the cause with all his strength.

STEFAN ZWEIG COMMEMORATED

Under the auspices of the Berlin Jewish Community a Stefan Zweig evening took place, at which the address was given by Otto Zarek.

NEW AACHEN SYNAGOGUE

The Aachen Jewish Community has decided to rebuild its Synagogue, which was destroyed in November, 1938. It has received a grant of 65,000 DM. from the Land Government North-Rhine-Westphalia. The Community only consists of 80 Jews as against 1,700 before the war.

IN MEMORY OF TWO GERMAN JEWS

RABBI DR. M. WARSCHAUER

The passing of Rabbi Malvin Warschauer stirs poignant memories in the hearts of countless men and women, notably among the younger colleagues of this excellent man, who was such a worthy representative of his calling. For myself and many of my contemporaries, these memories reach back more than half a century. As young theologians and students at the Institute for Jewish Learning in Berlin, we were taught by our lecturer, the celebrated preacher Siegmund Maybaum, in the homiletic seminar, how to preach and how not to preach. In this, the largest Jewish community in Germany, we had ample opportunity for listening to the sermons of the various Berlin rabbis on Sabbath and festival days. Most of these rabbis were elderly men of Austro-Hungarian origin and preached old-fashioned sermons. In Warschauer



we found a young rabbi trained in the German school whose approach immediately attracted us.

He was a man whose delicate body did not seem that of a man who could drive himself hard, but his head, with its thoroughly spiritualized features, triumphed over mere physique. He preached differently from the others: simply and naturally, without gestures, in a pleasant, quiet voice, which, without being loud, reached down to the very last rows even of the large New Synagogue in the Oranienburgerstrasse. The language of his sermons was simple, while not lacking in nobility, and he was easily understood by everybody. What he said was constructed and driven home with compelling logic and permeated by an inner warmth of feeling. He never touched on sensational questions of the day which happened to fill the pages of the daily papers, but he knew how to give a topical meaning to the ancient religious heritage of our people. To this people he was attached with a deep affection, being a Zionist at a time when Zionism and Liberalism were generally still held to be incompatible. He never concealed his convictions, even though the executive board of the community had made the employment of the very young rabbi conditional upon an undertaking that he would not publicly speak in favour of the Jewish national movement. It is not surprising that especially people of education and taste—and there were many of them in the Berlin of those days—preferred the sermons of this modern rabbi, a man of such character and intellect, to all others, whatever the synagogue in which he happened to officiate. It goes without saying that we younger men followed him wherever he went. The debt we owe to the living example he set us as a preacher is immeasurable.

At the same time, we came to love and value the man. We often used to accompany him on his way

home from the synagogue and hear many a wise word, many an apt joke from him, as he walked and talked with characteristic deliberation. His hospitable house was always open to us and we were privileged to catch a glimpse of a happy family life, uniting parents and children. I shall never forget a gay Purim festivity, with masquerade and dance, in which I and other colleagues took part at his home in the Krausnickstrasse.

Warschauer the preacher was also an excellent teacher and psychologist. Those who sat at his feet as pupils in the religious school directed by him were given something of permanent value by this teacher who could feel, and instil, so much enthusiasm. His confirmation classes and addresses became an experience of lasting effect in the lives of hundreds of young girls. With his quiet and penetrating eye, which would not be deceived by appearances, he understood the true nature of men and women and knew how to speak to their hearts, whether, at a wedding, he gave precept and blessing to a young couple, or, at a funeral, comforted those left behind by drawing a picture of the life of their dear one. The claims made upon him on such happy and sad occasions soon became so numerous that practically no time was left for literary work and public lecturing.

Not a few among us younger men maintained contact with Warschauer, after we ourselves had

begun to work as rabbis or teachers, or in some other capacity in the service of Judaism. We had shared his joy at his children's happiness and his deep sorrow at the sudden death of his first wife, who had cared for him in self-denying fashion and enabled him to bear the immense burden of his work. His letters, written to the last in an even and beautiful hand, faithfully reflected the old friend, who always took a father's interest in our lives.

After many eventful years I found him again in the homely surroundings in which his second wife and his daughter looked after him with loving care. As he began to age, he was not spared physical affliction. I remember him quoting, with tears in his eyes, from the psalm: "Cast me not off from the light of Thy countenance and take not Thy holy spirit from me. Cast me not off in my old age, when my strength is failing, Lord, forsake me not." I can still see him climbing the stairs to the reader's desk, carefully led, when he was called on the annual occasion to read from the Thora on one of the high festival days in the services held for my community.

He served God all his life and, as a true disciple of Aaron, he showed many the way to God, and now God has called him to Himself at an age which nobody would have dared to predict he could reach when he was a young man. Men and women now dispersed all over the world bless the memory of this just man.

Dr. G. SALZBERGER

JULIUS BAB

Another writer of the old guard has gone: Julius Bab died in New York at the age of 74. On his seventieth birthday, German and American friends presented him with a gift he greatly appreciated: a journey to Germany. His lecture tour—members of our community will remember some of the talks he gave when he visited London—was a triumph and was to become a permanent feature in his life's plan. He was looking forward to the next—and so was I to meeting him here again.

The books he wrote were mainly about the drama and the theatre, and he treated the theme from every aspect, including the Sociology of the Theatre, to which he devoted an important book. Fundamental was his analysis of the specific function of dialogue in drama. His "Chronik des Deutschen Dramas" recorded the development of modern drama for half a century—he promised to continue it, but the events of 1933 prevented this honest and expert chronicler from keeping his word. He had the courage of praising the unusual, e.g. the unknown Paul Gurk, a Local Government's subaltern official, who was awarded the Kleist-Preis. Yet for all his mildness and benevolence, he had a mind of his own and preserved his independent judgment of some fashionable playwrights applauded by the cliques of the day. His sense for the genuine was as great as his literary insight. Never a mere theorist, Bab was interested as much as in the dramatist's word as in the actor's world: we owe him dozens of portraits, such as "Berlin und Wien," a book which brings to life the social and cultural background of the two cities as well as their theatre. During his stay in France as an emigré, he enjoyed the living theatre to such a degree that he was inspired to write a series of profiles of French actors of the past—in French and in verse! (Unpublished and not conceived with the hope of ever being printed.) And we owe him the thorough full-length monographs on Matkovsky and Bassermann.

But it was as a public speaker that Bab was at his greatest, and he was as spell-binding when I heard him first during my last school years and as a young student, as when he was here last year. He was a great educationalist, for the arts and through the arts, a servant of great causes such as Volksbühnenbewegung, Humboldt-Hochschule. He was also associated with Jewish causes, especially as one of the earliest contributors to the *C.V.-Zeitung*, and, last, but not least, as literary director of the theatre of the "Jüdischer Kulturbund."

Wherever he spoke, he was conscious of the audience before him, and this consciousness enhanced his fine gift of explaining things. He considered his lecturing as a public duty, and doing so he never lost the human touch. When writing and speaking about Goethe, he emphasised the message of his work and life, and when dealing with Shaw he stressed the social responsibility. He mistrusted the Romantics inasmuch as they were irresponsible artists, hostile to life. A little book in which the artist Bab is most brilliant, "Rembrandt and Spinoza," was written for our comfort when, after 1933, we had to live in an involuntary ghetto.

In America he studiously and enthusiastically explored American life and letters, never losing the power of wondering. He wrote two books about American literature and made us share his new experience, opening to many of us a new continent of poetry ("Amerikas Dichter" and "Amerikas Dichter der Gegenwart": Christian Verlag, Bad Nauheim), some of which he translated. He also re-established his renown as a dramatic critic of the "New Yorker Staatszeitung."

When he held the same position at Rudolf Mosse's "Berliner Volkszeitung," we worked together, and I gratefully remember both the generous comradeship of an elder colleague and the altruistic humanity of a sincere friend.

LUTZ WELTMANN.

THE LATE OTTO SCHICK

It is learnt with deepest regret that Mr. Otto Schick, former London Editor of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency (JTA) *Daily News Bulletin*, and at the time of his death editor of the Jewish Chronicle News Service, has passed away at the age of 61. Mr. Schick was well known to Jewish journalists and Communal workers from Germany, because, prior to his immigration into this country, he was in charge of the Berlin JTA office. Both in Berlin and later on in London, he proved a most helpful and understanding colleague to them. The wealth of his experience in the Jewish field and his reliability as a reporter made co-operation with him particularly valuable. At the same time, when collecting information, his sole concern was to provide the public with the truth without aiming at sensational announcements. This modest, unassuming and capable man will be remembered with gratitude by all who knew him.

W. R.

Arthur Galliner:

THE PHILANTROPIN

150th Anniversary

On February 5 a Commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the foundation of the Philantropin took place at the Stern Hall in London.

There was a similar function a few weeks ago in New York, and another one in Frankfurt, where representatives of town and government officially attended the celebration, manifesting the great importance which the Philantropin had for many years as an educational institution in Frankfurt/Main.

The Philantropin was founded in 1804, at a time when the whole of Europe was in a turmoil, a time when, at the beginning of the Napoleonic Era, the whole of Europe was a war camp. In those anxious days a young man, Sigmund Geisenheimer, book-keeper and trustee of Mayer Amschel Rothschild, the banker, had the great courage and foresight to start a school with a few Jewish boys. In spite of great difficulties and many setbacks, always supported by the founder and some of his friends, it grew from a small private school to the "Volks- und Realschule" of the Jewish Congregation, which attracted poor and rich, boys and girls, not only Jewish but also a great number of non-Jewish pupils. In the 'twenties of this century it became the modern "Reform-Real-Gymnasium," which, at one time, had over 1,400 pupils. During the last years of its existence it was also authorised as a Cambridge School Certificate Examination Centre. Educating boys and girls from the "Kindergarten" to the "University" to become faithful Jews, true citizens and good Europeans and—with the wider outlook—real Cosmopolitans.

It was the most important institution of the Jewish Congregation, indispensable and therefore endowed with all means of modern equipment, with a teaching staff of highest standard. The directors—Michael Hess, Sigismund Stern, Hermann Baerwald, Salo Adler and Otto Driesen—were not only schoolmen, great educationalists, but also remarkable personalities in German Jewry, always conscious of their responsibilities. They developed the school constantly in accord with the requirements of their time, into a great modern centre of Jewish and general learning.

But the school had an even greater task. Based on the philanthropic ideas of the 18th century, the epoch of Lessing and Mendelssohn, the school

had as its aim "Enlightenment and Humanity"; the words "Für Aufklärung und Humanität" were chiselled on a tablet of stone at the entrance of the school. Educating youth to become spiritually enlightened and morally noble men and women, developing in them the faculty and the impulse to increase the good on earth and to diminish the sufferings and evil in this world, that is the everlasting legacy of the Philantropin.

This was emphasised by the chairman of the Commemoration evening, Dr. Arthur Galliner, who has been art master at the school for about 40 years. In his opening speech, which was preceded by a cello recital beautifully played by Paul Blumenfeld, he honoured the memory of those connected with the school who had fallen victims to Nazi persecution and welcomed former pupils and friends; about 250 were present, who had come not only from the London districts but also from the Provinces, Wales and Ireland, from Holland and France. Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger, in his address, connected the foundation of the school, its growth and existence with the great Emancipation movement, with the aspiration for higher education and modern culture, and with the tendency to religious reform in German Judaism. A suggestion by a former pupil that a "Philantropin Association" should be founded, was supported by Mr. S. Bischheim, a descendant of Sigmund Geisenheimer, the founder of the school. Rabbi Dr. Reinhart, the guest of honour, responded in his spirited way to the guests' toast. Mr. Julius Bloch, former member of the Board and Council of the Frankfurt Jewish Congregation, also spoke.

Messages arrived from all parts of the world, from Dr. Leo Baeck, from Dr. Albert Hirsch, the last director, and other teachers and pupils in America, from Professor Schaumberger, Frankfurt, from Dr. Max Elk, head of the Leo Baeck School in Haifa, and many others. They all expressed the hope that the spirit of the Philantropin, the love of man, should live for ever.

It was this spirit which held former pupils and friends of the Philantropin together until after midnight, and which made this reunion a memorable, happy event, unforgettable to all who participated in this function.

A Survey of Anglo-Jewry

Some of the book's* limitations are anticipated in the preface by the author himself. He does not propose to deal with the relationship of the English Jews to their environment, nor does he wish to explain the spiritual trends of Anglo-Jewry. However these two aspects can hardly be dispensed with, if a publication of this kind is meant to live up to its title. A further limitation arises from the fact that, of the century the study proposes to cover, more than one-third (1914 to 1950) is sketched in an epilogue of 20 pages. Finally, limitations are due to the shortcomings of the available material. Unlike Germany, the United Kingdom does not break up her census according to denominations; any statistics of the Jewish Community have, therefore, to be arrived at by indirect estimates, i.e., by adding up householders who—voluntarily—hold synagogue seats and assessing the approximate number of their family members.

For all these reasons the outcome of V. D. Lipman's labours is not a comprehensive book comparable, say, with works by the late Arthur Ruppin. It is rather a loose enumeration of historical and organisational data, concerned mainly with the internal structure of the Anglo-Jewish Community, its organisations and welfare institutions.

The gradual increase of Anglo-Jewry is mainly due to immigrations. In the first 100 years after the resettlement it grew from 35—Sephardic—families to 1,000 families, or 8,000 individuals in 1744, to 20 to 26,000 towards the end of the 18th century and to 35,000 in 1850. Of these, 35,000, 18 to 20,000 lived in London, the substantial balance in the Provinces, especially in the naval towns, many of which have meanwhile lost their Jewish population almost entirely. A generation later, in 1880, the

community which had grown to 60,000 members (about 46,000 in London), was an organic entity, led by well-known families such as the Montefiores, Goldsmids, Rothschilds, Cohens, Franklins and Samuels, who still play their part in Anglo-Jewish life. Yet an entire transformation was initiated after the Russian pogroms in the 1880s. From then until 1905 not less than 100,000 Jews immigrated, i.e., the Jewish population was almost trebled, and at present, the Anglo-Jewish Community, which is estimated by the author at 400-450,000, consists in its majority of immigrants or children or grandchildren of immigrants.

The author gives a vivid picture of the concentrated settlement of the immigrants in the East End after 1880, their housing conditions, their trades (with tailoring as the main single trade), their earnings and their organisations (i.e., Trade Unions and Friendly Societies). At the initiative of Sir Samuel Montagu (later Lord Swaythling), their numerous "shools" were co-ordinated by the establishment of the Federation of Synagogues. School education and club activities helped to anglicise the younger generation. Gradually, they were dispersed to the north, west and north-west of the Metropolis. The first Hampstead service, we learn, was held by the Reverend Morris Joseph in the old West Hampstead Town Hall in 1890, and the Dennington Park Road Synagogue was founded in 1892. Between the two wars, new centres in the suburbs came into existence.

In his concluding remarks, the author describes the forces tending for and against the preservation of Anglo-Jewry, exemplified on the one side by a feeling of solidarity and an attachment to Israel, and by disintegrating trends such as to inter-marriage, on the other side.

W. ROSENSTOCK

Old Acquaintances

End of a Newspaper:—With the closing down of U.S. financed *Neue Zeitung* in Berlin, the last of the many foreign-owned newspapers stopped publication. Founded and edited in 1945 by Hans Habe, *Neue Zeitung* was for a time the first and only German paper with an independent opinion; it showed the Germans again how to write without Dr. Goebbels' restrictions. Later on, Hans Wallenberg, the son of the late editor of *B.Z. am Mittag*, took over; Arthur Steiner tried to teach the readers to understand English, and Egon Jameson went over from London to report; Peter de Mendelssohn was its correspondent in this country. Although *N.Z.* was a good paper, the Germans didn't like it because it was an American one; it was nine years old when it ceased publication.

Quotation:—"A man must have a short memory indeed if he has forgotten the attitude of the Allies to the Germans during the spring of 1945," writes Prince Constantine of Bavaria, in his book, "After the Flood," published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson in London. The Prince overlooks conveniently what the attitude of the Germans to the Allies had been during the six preceding springs.

Tilla Durieux Memoirs:—In 1928 Tilla Durieux wrote a novel, "Eine Tuer faellt ins Schloss"; now she has published her autobiography, "Eine Tuer steht offen" (with F. A. Herbig, in Berlin). The Vienna-born actress tells everything: her beginnings in Olmuetz, her years with the young Max Reinhardt, her three marriages with painter Eugen Spiro, art dealer Paul Cassirer, who committed suicide, and L. Katzenellenbogen, who went bankrupt and disappeared during the war. T. D. financed Piscator to the tune of 400,000 Marks and lived dangerously underground during the German occupation in Yugoslavia: it's thrilling to read her book, though as an authoress she shows very little heart, warmth, or humility.

Home News:—Willi Frischauer finished his new book, the "Altmark Story," for Victor Gollancz.—Joe Lederer went for three months to Bavaria to finish her new novel for Kurt Desch in Munich.—Gerhard Kramer's book, "We shall march again," was published by Cape; the author was public prosecutor against Veit ("Jud Sues") Harlan a few years ago in Hamburg.—Cornell Borchers, a German actress, got the prize for the best performance of a foreigner from the "British Film Academy" for her part in "Divided Heart."—Anton Diffring, Marianne Kupfer-Deeming, and Susanne Bandler went on tour with Moira Shearer in "I am a Camera."—Peter Berg and Hans Casparius formed a new film company, "Music in Miniature," with Karl Haas as musical adviser.—Hilde Spiel will represent S. Fischer in London and edit a collection of new British writers for that publisher.

News from Everywhere:—The German theatre in New York will show Hauptmann's "Biberpelz" directed by Wolfgang Roth with Grete Mosheim, Ludwig Donath, Lothar, Rewalt, Wolfgang Zilzer, and Martin Brandt next.—Ingeborg Theek, who was Pola Negri's partner in "Mazurka," married in New York.—Before leaving Munich, where he directed his Wagner film, "Magic Fire," W. Dieterle announced he would do a Goethe picture next.—"Der Garten Eden," by the late Rudolf Bernauer and Oesterreicher, had a successful revival in Vienna's "Volkstheater."

Milestone:—Dr. Hans Flesch, chairman of the "P.E.N." centre of German authors abroad, celebrated his 60th birthday last month in London. The Brno-born "Viennese" started as expressionistic novelist and has been working for the German section of B.B.C. for many years. His first books were published by Kurt Wolff under the name Flesch-Brunning; in England he writes under his pen-name Vincent Brun. He represents everything what was good in Old Austria including Karl Kraus, and shows still the old-fashioned courtesy and smiling malice of pre-first war Vienna.

Obituaries:—S. Z. Sakall, the Hungarian born comedian, died in Hollywood, at the age of 67; he was a lovable actor and a wonderful friend known all over the world from his many screen parts.—Ernst Penzoldt died in Munich, at the age of 62; he was the author of "Die Powenzbande."—Hans Blucher, whose books about the German youth movement were once much discussed, died in Berlin; he was 66 years old.

PEM

* "Social History of the Jews in England, 1850-1950" by V. D. Lipman. Published by Watts & Co. 18/-

GERMAN REPORT ON RESTITUTION AND INDEMNIFICATION

In the official Federal German Bulletin of January 20, Oberregierungsrat Hans Wilden, of the Federal Ministry of Justice, publishes an article on the present state of Restitution and Indemnification under the sub-heading, "A moral priority task of the State which is the Successor of the Third Reich."

With regard to the *restitution of identifiable property* according to the Restitution Laws of the American, British and French Zone and Western Berlin, the article gives the following figures:— Total number of claims, 497,080 (242,776 by individual claimants and 254,304 by the Successor Organisations for the unclaimed, heirless and communal property). Of these total claims, 396,440 have been settled (213,535 individual claims, 182,905 claims of the Successor Organisations). This leaves a balance of 100,834 unsettled Restitution claims (29,241 individual claims and 71,593 claims of the Successor Organisations).

The second category of claims the article refers to concerns the *monetary restitution liabilities* of the Federal Republic arising out of restitution claims against the former Reich (confiscated bonds, jewels, Liftvans, etc.). The author reiterates that, as readers of "AJR Information" know, a law governing these claims (Rueckerstattungsergaenzungsgesetz) is in preparation.

The third category of claims refers to *indemnification* for damages sustained by Nazi persecutees (loss of life, damage to body and health, freedom, property and economic career). These claims are governed by the Indemnification Laws of the Laender and by the Federal Indemnification Law, which came into force on October 1, 1953. According to the author, up to September 30, 1954, Indemnification payments amounted to a total of DM.888,192,148.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birthday

Mr. Ludwig Rosenthal, formerly Heilbronn, of 116 Kenilworth Avenue, Wimbledon Park, S.W.19, was 75 on February 6.

Mr. Hermann Henlein, formerly Cologne, of 18 Yew Tree Court, Bridge Lane, London, N.W.11, will celebrate his 90th birthday on March 13.

Deaths

Mr. Alfred Flor, 69, passed peacefully away at his home, "Heston," 68 Chestnut Avenue, Esher, on January 27, 1955, deeply mourned by his wife, children and grandchildren.

Mr. Albert Lustig, of 54 Aberdare Gardens, London, N.W.6, died peacefully on February 6, 1955, at the age of 64, after a serious illness.

Mr. Carl Jaro (formerly Jaroczynski) from Berlin, died on January 21, 1955, in New York, shortly after his 80th birthday. Sadly missed by his nieces Lotte Kremer and Trude Tramer, nee Jaroczynski, 1 Buckland Crescent, Flat 1, London, N.W.3.

Mr. D. L. A. Nassauer, 7 College Court, College Crescent, London, N.W.3, passed away on January 27, 1955, at the age of 77, after a long illness bravely borne. Deeply mourned by his wife Minnie.

CLASSIFIED

Situation Vacant

LEATHER WATCH STRAPS. Leather goods Manufacturer requires active salesman to visit watch manufacturers and watch importers for the sale of leather watch straps. Progressive position and high commission is offered to the right man. Reply in confidence, with full particulars and details of experience to—Ernest Maxwell & Co. Ltd., 73 Basinghall Street, London, E.C.2.

REPRESENTATIVE for London and agents calling retail trade throughout country required by manufacturers haberdashery line. Popular article, original design. Excellent opportunities. Write in confidence—Box 60.

WANTED, refined Companion House-keeper for elderly lady in Lancashire seaside resort. Small modern house. Help kept. Box 63.

Situations Wanted

Men

VERSATILE MAN, available for corresp. and copies of any kind, also for other office work, in/outdoor, part/full-time, permanent/temp. own typewriter. Box 66.

CLERK/BOOKKEEPER, reliable, wants position of trust. Box 67.

CLERK/CORRESP./MANAGER, good ref., wants to change his present position to one with prospect. Box 68.

BOOKKEEPER, exp., reliable, wants full/part-time position. Box 69.

ELDERLY MAN, wants work as packer/storepr., good at figures. Also work as kitchenhand considered. Box 70.

GEN. CLERK, 30, wants position. Box 71.

GEN. CLERK/TYPIST, good at figures, reliable, wants position. Box 72.

PART-TIME POSITION wanted afternoon preferred, by elderly reliable businessman. Engl. and German office work. Possibly N.W. district. Box 92.

Women

FORMER JOURNALIST, available for home typing, translating, corresp., own typewriter, knowl. German, shorthand. Box 74.

MACHINIST, wants part-time job. Box 75.

FINISHER for dresses wants part-time work. Box 76.

ATTENDING WORK wanted for sick or invalid people, by reliable and patient woman. Box 77.

COOK wants part-time work in priv. household. Box 78.

CHILDREN'S NURSE wants part-time work in N.W. district. Box 79.

SALES LADY, exp. hosiery, wants part-time work, also as cashier. Box 80.

TYPIST, own machine, wants in/outdoor work. Box 81.

COMPANION/SITTER-IN work done by responsible elderly lady. Box 82.

GERMAN-JEWISH POETRY

"*Verfolge Deine Traeume nicht am Tage*" (Gedichte, 1954, Verlag Der Löwe, Köln, 64 pp., linen-bound) is the title of a volume of German verse which a friend of our Association and solicitor in London, Dr. H. Jacobi, has had published under his pen-name of Hans Schaffen. The book can be had at Messrs. J. & E. Bumpus, 477 Oxford Street, W.1, for approximately the equivalent of DM. 3.50.

This is, in fact, the third volume of Schaffen's poems: the reader will, however, be able to form a good picture of Schaffen's work altogether since he has taken over a number of his former poems into this new collection.

Does there exist an underground artistic activity among refugees, especially in the field of literature, where the urge of creation is often so closely tied up with the familiar almost instinctive use of German as to exclude any other language? In the

In his concluding critical remarks, Oberegierungsrat Wilden stresses the need to amend the Federal Indemnification Law, especially in the following directions: Persecutees, who at the time of the persecution were preparing for their career, should be entitled to claim for damage to economic career. The maximum indemnification payments laid down in the present law should be increased, especially the capital indemnification for loss of economic career. The categories of heirs and also the categories of persecutees entitled to indemnification should be extended. The principle according to which a damage must be due to a measure directed against the individual persecutee, should be governed by less restrictive requirements.

present case, where the results have been made known in print, something very attractive emerges: the form is that of 20th century German poetry, which seems unsophisticated and traditional when compared with modern English verse. But the poems are not at all typical of German poetry as to their contents. For again and again we meet pictures, ineradicably impressed on the mind, of scenes witnessed as if it were in another life, and of persons stretching their arms out from the past. It is this quality of dreamlike remembrance which makes these poems our own concern. Many of them, it is true, are the expressions of the poet's individual thoughts and sentiments. A number of them, set to music, have already proved their wider appeal in the concert hall. Yet the dreamlike quality persists. And though, in the introductory poem, the poet warns us against pursuing them in the light of day lest they should drag us to a shadowy world where the will falls asleep, the poet himself conveys the beauty and strangeness of those dreams to us.

Schaffen's poems do not require any puzzling out; but their full meaning can only be appreciated by slowly following his words to the deeper root of thought. There is nothing facile about his work; no halfway house of bourgeois comfort or ready-made clichés. It is fascinating to watch his ideas forming, grouping and regrouping from one poem to the other; there are themes played in variations or in the way of fugues. It is this that helps forming the collection into a whole, though the poems could not be labelled together as one cycle.

A late flower on the tree, once so richly laden, of German-Jewish poetry; but a flower entitled to bloom in its own right.

E. G.

SECRETARY/SHORTH./TYPIST, Engl./German, exp. England and Overseas, wants position, pref. export or engineering. Box 83.

BUCKLES, outdoor, done by exp. elderly disabled woman. Box 84.

MIDDLE-AGED LADY seeks part-time work where English is not important. Box 85.

DOCTOR'S DAUGHTER, middle-aged, wants part-time work as receipt, companion, travel comp., or similar. Engl./German/French. Box 86.

CORSETIERE, exp., available for in/outdoor work. Box 87.

STOCKING REPAIRS done by exp. widow with three children. Box 88.

NEEDLEWOMAN available for any kind of needlework, esp. alterations and linen repair. Box 89.

DRESSMAKER, exp., work in-or outdoor. Box 90.

FACTORY WORKER, 44, wants work, for drilling and tapping. Box 73.

Accommodation

VACANCY FOR PERMANENT GUEST, lady or gentleman, in beautifully situated well-heated country house, Continental cooking, every diet. Mrs. K. Schwarz, "Furzedown," Wood Road, Hindhead, Surrey.

ALL MAKES BOUGHT SOLD EXCHANGED



REPAIRED AND MAINTAINED

ELITE TYPEWRITER Co. Ltd.

WELbeck 2528

112 CRAWFORD STREET off BAKER STREET, W.1

WANTED, nice room, teleph., gas-ring, in Jewish family, near Swiss Cottage, for Gentleman. Off. w. price. Box 62.

Miscellaneous

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

ACTIVE DIRECTORSHIP required. Investment £3,500-£5,000. Any business considered. Greater London area only. Highest references required and exchanged. Fullest investigation. Principals only please reply in confidence. Box 59.

BUREAU ("SEKRETAER"), in good condition, wanted. Box 91.

ON SALE, German 3-seater Settee and single Divan, good condition, cheap. Box 65.

UPRIGHT PIANO, preferably Bechstein, wanted. Box 64.

Personal

BACHELOR, early forties, wishes to meet lady, not over 35, who includes among her interests music and books, with view to marriage. Write Box 61.

MISSING PERSONS

Enquiries from AJR

Goldstein, Dr. Hans, lawyer from Berlin, Unter den Linden, for URO, New York.

Gift, Oscar, from Munich, for Luise Stempfle, née Albert, Germany.

Strass, Mrs. S. We hold a letter from Glas, Stockerau, nr. Vienna.

Zinn, Noel Albert and Philip Henry, for JRSO, Berlin.

Ehrlich, Moritz and wife Ella, Leo (furrier), and Abraham, from Reichenberg, CSR, for Elise Tschoehmer, Wuppertal.

Gaertner, Ramon, born 14.4.32, son of Egmont and Elisabeth Gaertner, nee Petzke, Berlin-Steglitz, for Landgerichtsdirektor Glueckstein, Berlin.

Rabel, Alfred, and daughter Margot, for URO, Berlin.

Letter to the Editor

DENTISTS' CONFERENCE IN JERUSALEM

Dear Sir,

Towards the end of March a Conference will be held at the Dental School of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, at which a number of leading members of the Dental Profession from the United States and other countries will be present and a series of important lectures will be given.

Mr. B. Schrotter, co-Chairman of the World Federation for an Israel Dental School and some other members of the profession in Britain, have agreed to go to Jerusalem for this purpose. I feel, however, that as many Jewish Dentists as possible in this country should take an active part in this conference and would

be grateful if all those who would consider attending would get in touch with me. It may be possible that a special tour could be arranged and I will be glad to supply details.

Yours faithfully,

237, Baker Street,
London, N.W.1.Gerald Woolfiff,
Hon. Secretary.

Obituary

The first post-war President of the German Section of the Jewish National Fund, **Mr. Ernst Borchardt**, passed away in Berlin recently. In his youth Mr. Borchardt was active in the Jewish Youth Movement of his home district, Deutsch-Krone, Grenzmark. He survived the Nazi regime by going into hiding and, immediately after the end of hostilities, again took an active part in Jewish affairs.

Oberkantor Dr. Rudolf Plik (formerly Koenigsberg) died in Israel 65 years old.

INVITATIONS FOR SEDER

The AJR Social Services Department (MAIDA Vale 4449) would be glad to hear of any families prepared to invite lonely people for Seder.

THE HYPHEN

The Hyphen is a group of young people, mainly between the ages of 21-35, mostly Continental and Jewish, who get together for cultural, educational and social activities. Among other things this month, it is having a Purim Social on Sunday, March 6. For details of this and other activities send a stamped addressed envelope to Miss Helen H. Eisner, 26, Arthur Court, Queensway, W.2.

REMOVAL OF SELF AID

The "Self Aid of Refugees" has moved from 33 Seymour Place, W.1, to 1b, Swiss Terrace, Belsize Road, London, N.W.6.

BERLIN OLD AGE HOME

According to a report published in the "Allgemeine Wochenzeitung of the Jews in Germany," the Old Age Home of the Jewish Community in the Iranische Strasse has now a capacity of 160 persons, who are accommodated in single and double rooms.

STOATLEY ROUGH SCHOOL

This month the Stroatley Rough School in Haslemere, Surrey, is coming of age.

The school was founded by Dr. Hilde Lion, the former principal of the "Akademie für soziale Frauenarbeit" in Berlin in the beginning of 1934 and was recognised by the Ministry of Education in 1940.

During the first years of its existence, Stroatley Rough, which is beautifully situated near Hindhead, catered mainly for refugee children. Hundreds of boys and girls from Germany, Austria and some from Poland, found not only a refuge but a home there. Scores of old pupils, here and abroad, are still in touch with the school. All of them have achieved something in life, either in crafts, business, music, art, or scholarly professions.

Now the boys and girls of Stroatley Rough are mostly British born, the majority of English parentage. They are, as in other grammar schools, preparing for the Certificate of Education, State Scholarships and music examinations. Dr. Lion is still the principal, full of new ideas, always everywhere, untiringly interested in each child.

Her nearest co-workers who have been members of her mixed staff for many years, Dr. E. Wolff and Dr. Louise Leven, came from Germany as well.

REFUGEE FARMER LAUDED

"New world records have been instituted in butterfat production by two British Friesians belonging to Mr. Adolph Drexler, of New Manor Farm, Marston," states the *Oxford Times* of January 28, in a detailed report about a visit to Mr. Drexler's farm. Formerly an architect, Mr. Drexler arrived in England from Czechoslovakia before the outbreak of war. He intends to write about his turn to farming in a book he is now preparing. "If man can create buildings of beauty and usefulness, why not a dairy herd of beauty and usefulness? Man's talent is not limited to one sphere," he said.

EDITOR'S APOLOGIES

It is regretted that, for some time, "AJR Information" has appeared with delay. This is due to no fault on the part of the AJR, but to technical difficulties beyond the editor's control. It is hoped, however, that soon this paper will reach its readers again with the traditional punctuality.

PERSONALIA

On February 2, the celebrated violinist **Fritz Kreisler**, was 80. In his message of congratulation, President Eisenhower wrote that Kreisler's musical art had left an unforgettable impression on people all over the world. A fund of 80,000 dollars, collected on the occasion by his friends, will be used for the support of young talents and old needy musicians.

Rabbi Dr. A. Kober, formerly Cologne, now New York, recently celebrated his 75th birthday. Dr. Kober is also an outstanding Jewish historian.

Rabbi Dr. Siegfried Gallner (3, Dennington Park Road, London, N.W.6), formerly Gelsenkirchen, was 80 recently.

On March 17, **Mr. Alfred Rosenbaum** (20 Belmont Hill Court, London, S.E.13) will celebrate his 80th birthday. Prior to his emigration, Mr. Rosenbaum was owner of the well-known "Kronen-Apotheke" in Breslau. He also took an active part in public and Jewish affairs, e.g. as member of the Chamber of Commerce and Chairman of the Board of the Jewish Hospital. At the age of 65 he passed in examination as a pharmacist in this country.

Dr. Richard Rado, formerly Reader at King's College, London, has been appointed Professor of Mathematics at Reading University. Professor Rado, who came to this country as a refugee, is also Vice-President of the London Mathematical Society.

THE DORICE

Continental Cuisine — Licensed
169a Finchley Rd., N.W.3 MAI 6301

Parties catered for

BALSAM'S RESTAURANT

By Candlelight
Fully Licensed and open till 2.30 a.m.

DINNER & DANCE

THREE COURSES 7/6 INCLUDING CABARET

The popular **DAAPHNE GLENN** sings and entertains in French, Spanish and Italian

DELICIOUS LUNCHEONS & EARLY DINNERS

Three Course Dinner for 3/6
NO ENTRANCE FEE20 DOWN STREET, MAYFAIR, W.1
GRO 4679

LESSONS FOR 'CELLO

and

CHAMBER MUSIC

PAUL BLUMENFELD,

33 Mowbray Road, London, N.W.6
Tel.: Willesden 7056GERMANY
Koscheres Restaurant
MODERNUnter Aufsicht des Rabbinats
Frankfurt a.M. Goethe Platz 6.
Tel. 93829
Inh. R. H. Lieberfreund

DOLLS' HOSPITAL

Dolls & Teddies of any make repaired.
G. LEA,87 Boundary Road, N.W.8
(near Abbey Road)

TOY & GIFT SHOP

Latest English & Continental Toys.

J. A. C.

BROADHURST HALL
BROADHURST GARDENS, N.W.6
(behind John Barnes)Open Daily from 3 p.m. — 1 a.m.
forTeas, Dinners and
late SuppersExcellent Cuisine — Tea Garden
Coffee Lounge — Own Viennese Patisserie
Fully LicensedDances by Candlelight: Wednesday
Saturday and Sunday EveningLARGE HALL for
WEDDINGS, RECEPTIONS, CONCERTS
MEETINGS, Etc.

Members and Friends Reserv. MAI 9457

"ASHDALE GUESTHOUSE"

23 BEAULIEU ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH W.

On beautiful "Alum Chine," 5 min. Sea.
All Conveniences. Excellent Cuisine.TERMS: From 4/- 7 gns., according
to room and season.

Phone: Westbourne 619471. Prop. E. BRUDER

"FURZEDOWN"

The ideal place for holidays and convalescence
Large garden with sunshed
Running h. & c. water in all first floor bedrooms
Home atmosphere, Continental cooking,
all diets, Children welcomeBook early for Easter, Whitsun and summer months
Reduced terms for off-season periods and for long
or permanent residents

Wood Road, Hindhead, Surrey

Telephone Hindhead 335

ROSEMOUNT

17 Parsifal Road, N.W.6

HAM 5856

The Boarding-house with culture
A Home for you
Elderly people welcomed

SCHREIBER'S GUEST HOUSE

26 Blenheim Gardens, N.W.2

Comfortable home, also for the Elderly
Every convenience, T.V., Diningroom / Lounge
Excellent cuisine Moderate terms

GLA 5622

77 St. Gabriel's Road,
London, N.W.2

Tel. GlA. 4029

Permanent Guests and Visitors coming to
London are welcome in my exquisitely
furnished and cultivated Private Guest House
Hot & Cold Water, Central Heating, Garden,
Television.Continental meals can be provided if desired. Very
good residential district. Buses and Tube very near
Mrs. Lotte SchwarzCONTINENTAL
BOARDING HOUSEin Hampstead
Single—Double Rooms, H.C.W.
Full or Partial Board

Moderate Terms

Ring MAI 0079

LEO HOROVITZ
SCULPTOR—STONEMASONMEMORIALS FOR ALL
CEMETERIES16 FAWLEY ROAD,
W. HAMPSTEAD, N.W.6

Telephone: HAMpstead 2564

Shopfitting Efficiently Executed by
F. FRIEDLAND
188 Cambridge Rd., N.W.6
Telephone No.: MAIDA VALE 8910
Evening: MAIDA VALE 0786
Formica Covered Counters, Shelves, etc.
Modernising of Shop Fronts
Built-in Cupboards · General Woodwork



Emsa
"New Look"
Children's Footwear

Emsa
RUBBER GOODS

EMSA-WORKS & HERBERT FOOT
APPLIANCE LTD.
BLACKBURN, Lancs.

M. GLASER
PRACTICAL UPHOLSTERER
All Re-Upholstery, Carpets,
Furniture Repair, French Polishing
WILL BE DONE TO YOUR
SATISFACTION—
Phone HAMPstead 5601 or call at
432 FINCHLEY RD. (Childs Hill), N.W.2

A. OTTEN F.B.O.A. (Hons.)
OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN
Tel: 118, FINCHLEY ROAD
HAM 8336 OPPOSITE JOHN BARNES
& FINCHLEY RD. Met Sta.

L. A. PREECE
Experienced Decorator
First Class Work — Personal Supervision
Reasonable Prices
15 St. Annes Road, Barnes, S.W.13
Phone: PRO 5111

Ring
HAMPstead 4150
or **4686**
for *Chauffeur-driven*
Limousines and Saloon Cars
ANY DISTANCE
DAY & NIGHT
NORWEST
CAR HIRE
517a Finchley Road,
Hampstead, N.W.3

JEWISH BOOKS
of any kind, new and 2nd hand.
Whole libraries and single volumes
bought. Taleisim. Bookbinding
M. SULZBACHER
BOOKSELLER
4 Sneath Avenue, Golders Green Rd.
London, N.W.11 Tel.: SPB 1694

Silhouette
your figure

PHOTOCOPIES OF DOCUMENTS
11" x 8" first copy 1/8
additional copies 1/3
GOLDERSTAT
Head Office: 25, DOWNHAM RD., N.1
Phones: CLIssold 4386-6713-6714
Residence: 54, GOLDERS GARDENS
N.W.11 Phone: SPeedwell 5643

M. FISCHLER
CONTINENTAL UPHOLSTERY
FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP AND BEST
MATERIALS USED. CARPETS SUPPLIED
AND FITTED BELOW SHOP PRICES
CURTAINS, DRAPES AND MATTRESSES
MADE. ALSO FRENCH POLISHING
117, MELROSE AVENUE, N.W.2.
Tel.: EDG 5411

CONTINENTAL FOODS
DELIVERED TO YOU
COUNTER FRESH
BY POST
from
P. MORRIS & SON
Delicatessen

34 Charlotte Street,
London, W.1
Knackwurst, Leberwurst, Wiener
Wuerstchen, Salami, Sauerkraut,
Various Types of Continental
Cheeses and Bread, etc.

SEND FOR OUR DETAILED
MAILING LIST

AJR
HANDICRAFT-GROUP
Great selection of attractive and useful

GIFTS
at reasonable prices.
Gift tokens available
Orders for any kind of needlework
will be gladly accepted
8 FAIRFAX MANSIONS,
FINCHLEY ROAD, N.W.3
(Fairfax Road corner) MAI. 4449
Open: Monday—Thursday 10-1, 3-6
Friday 10-1

SPACE DONATED BY
S. F. & O. HALLGARTEN
Wines and Spirits
Importers & Exporters
1 CRUTCHED FRIARS, LONDON, E.C.3

First class
SHOE REPAIRS
Collect and Deliver
REICH
Phone: MAI 9875 or HAM 1037

The **WIGMORE LAUNDRY** Ltd.
CONTINENTAL LAUNDRY SPECIALISTS
We have not increased our prices
Most London Districts Served · Write or phone the Manager:
Mr. E. Hearn, 1, Stronsa Rd., London, W.12. Tel.: SHE 4575

If it's TYPEWRITERS
Phone:
MAI 1271
A. BREUER,
57 Fairfax Rd.
N.W.6.



H. KAUFMANN
16B Hampstead Hill Gardens, N.W.3
Tel. HAMPstead 8936
DECORATING
and
GENERAL BUILDING WORK

H. WOORTMAN
8 Baynes Mews, Hampstead, N.W.3
Tel. HAM 3974
Continental Builder & Decorator
Specialist in Dry Rot Repairs
Estimates free

G. LEA
87 BOUNDARY ROAD, N.W.8
(Off Abbey Road)
Repairs of Prams
Handbags, Travel Goods

 **STANDARD SEWING**
MACHINE SERVICE LTD.
Tel.: WEL 2528
All makes sewing machines Sold, Bought
and Exchanged. Easy Terms. Repairs
promptly Executed.
112 CRAWFORD ST., BAKER ST., W.1

HOLIDAYS 1955
Tours by Coach
TO THE CONTINENT

Western Capitals (10 days)	35 gns.
Seven Countries (10 days)	35 gns.
Paris and Brussels (9 days)	29 gns.
Switzerland (12 days)	38 gns.
Austria (12 days)	38 gns.
Swiss & Italian Lakes (12 days)	38 gns.
French & Italian Riviera (12 days)	39 gns.

All inclusive
Write for free brochure

SUPERWAYS
CONTINENTAL COACH
CRUISES
5/6 Sherwood Street, London, W.1

Reissner & Goldberg
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
AND CONTRACTORS
141-3 Canterbury Road, N.W.6
Temporary Telephone Nos.
MAI 2646, 0359
(Mornings and Evenings only)

ALL STYLE
DECORATING
MAC 1454
E. MIEDZWINSKI
27 JEFFREYS RD., S.W.4

While you wait
PHOTOCOPIES OF YOUR
DOCUMENTS
from 1/6 onwards
Phone for appointment: Tues. to Fri. 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Mrs. H. M. Barry
Flat 115, 20 Abbey Rd., St. John's Wood,
CUN 4860 Ext. 115 N.W.8

NORBERT COHN
F.B.O.A. (Hons.) D. Orth.
OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN
20 Northways Parade, Finchley Road,
Swiss Cottage, N.W.3.
Tel. PRIMROSE 9660.



VESOP
for flavouring Soups,
Stews, Gravies, etc.

ESSENTIAL FOR FIRST CLASS
CONTINENTAL COOKING
1/8 per 8 oz. bottle
Obtainable from Grocers and Stores
Manufactured by VESOP PRODUCTS LTD.
498 Hornsey Road, London, N. 19

NEWMAN'S
COSY
SLIPPERS

by
NEWMAN'S SLIPPERS
BLACKBURN LTD.

Valentine & Wolf Ltd.
Insurance Brokers
in association with
ARBON, LANGRISH & Co., Ltd.
HASILWOOD HOUSE
52, BISHOPSGATE
LONDON, E.C.2
Tel.: LONDON Wall 2366
(10 Lines)

All Types of Insurances with
Lloyds and all Companies