

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND NEW TASKS

The A.J.R. Board Meets

The solid foundations on which the AJR are built are not only due to the strength in membership, though it is already an achievement in itself that, by their own solidarity, the Jews from Germany and Austria have established and maintained the AJR as their representative body. It has proved even more important that the work of the AJR has never been carried out autonomously by its Executive and its office, but always in close co-operation with its Board, which comprises all sections of the community and acts as a kind of Parliament of the AJR. Regular meetings of the Board are held twice a year and their importance was reaffirmed at the latest meeting on September 2, when more than sixty Board members from London and representatives of all the major provincial groups were assembled.

The meeting was opened by the Chairman, Dr. H. Reichmann, who in his address commemorated the personalities who had passed away since the Board met last: Mr. Leo Ullmann and Mr. Louis Schurmann (members of the AJR Executive), Dr. Georg Schatzky (Chairman of the AJR Cambridge group), Rabbi Dr. Bruno Italiener, Dr. Herbert Schoenfeldt, and Dr. Max Friedlaender.

Homes for the Aged

A detailed report on the progress in the establishment of Homes was given by Mr. A. S. Dresel, Vice-Chairman of the AJR. He paid tribute to the members of the Pre-Selection Committee, under the chairmanship of the Board member, Mr. S. S. Boehm, and of the House Committee, under the chairmanship of the Executive member, Mr. H. Blumenau; he also expressed his appreciation of the friendly co-operation with the Central British Fund. The first Home (Otto Schiff House) at Netherhall Gardens has now been in operation for more than a year. Apart from unavoidable minor initial difficulties the work could be carried out satisfactorily to the benefit of the residents. A new wing, which will accommodate 20 residents in single rooms in addition to the 21 residents in the old building, will be ready soon, and the rooms have been allocated to the most urgent cases among the applicants. A second property has been acquired at Kew Gardens; however, in view of the insufficient accommodation in the existing house it would be opened only after a new main building has been erected on the site. It is hoped that this Home, which will also accommodate about forty residents, will be ready towards the end of 1957. A third property in Hampstead Garden Suburb was acquired a few months ago. Here, too, a new building will have to be erected before the Home can be opened, and the accommodation will also amount to about forty residents. It is hoped that this third Home will be ready as well towards the end of 1957. To complete the building programme a suitable fourth property is being looked for. At the same time efforts to find suitable premises for a Flatlet Home are going on. The difficulty is that existing

buildings so far inspected did not lend themselves to conversion and that vacant sites could not be found in London or the near suburbs. However, the need for Flatlet Homes is fully realised, and everything is being done to materialise this scheme as well as speedily as possible.

Help for Compensation Claimants

A new scheme recently launched by the AJR was described by Mr. W. M. Behr, member of the AJR Executive. Out of the assets from the heirless property a so-called "Revolving Fund" has been established to be used for loans free of interest to certain categories of restitution and compensation claimants. (With regard to the details of the scheme readers are referred to the special announcement published in this issue.—The Ed.) The Committee which has to decide on the applications works under the chairmanship of Mr. Behr and consists of Dr. H. Neufeld, an AJR Board member, Dr. F. E. Falk, an AJR Executive member, Dr. H. Herzog, Legal Adviser to URO, and one representative each of the immigrants from Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary.

Reporting on the general activities of the AJR as far as they were not covered by the reports of the other speakers, Dr. W. Rosenstock, General Secretary of the AJR, *inter alia*, dealt with questions of taxability of indemnification payments. The new Finance Act has met our request for the concession of reopening assessments in case payments of one year included arrears for preceding periods; in these efforts our Executive member, Dr. F. E. Falk, has played a responsible part. With regard to the taxability of pensions under the Federal Indemnification Law, to which the speaker also referred, readers will find details in another announcement of this issue. At the initiative of the AJR, individual relief work in the provinces will be intensified in co-operation with "Self Aid" and the AJR local groups; it is hoped that this scheme will come into effect soon. With regard to "AJR Information," the speaker asked for Board members' criticism and comments. There has been a further influx of new members; however, to carry out our steadily growing tasks as an independent organisation it is highly essential that everybody helps to enlist also those who so far have stood aloof.

Dr. Adelheid Levy reported on several aspects of the work of the AJR Social Services Department. One achievement of the recent past has been the establishment of the AJR Club at Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue. The difficulties of finding suitable accommodation, especially for people who do not work any longer, are steadily increasing, and the speaker appealed to members to notify the department of any vacant rooms obtainable at reasonable prices. There has also been a permanent demand for help in cases of illness and for visits to lonely people. The AJR Employment Agency and Economic Advice Hours have had the benefit of the co-operation of our Board member, Mr.

PFLEGE DER JUEDISCHEN FRIEDHOEFE

Bundesrepublik stellt Mittel bereit

Der Bundesminister des Inneren, Dr. Schroeder, hat an den Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland anlässlich des juedischen Neujahrsfestes das folgende Schreiben gerichtet:

"Im Bewusstsein des mannigfaltigen Anteils juedischen Geistes am deutschen Kulturerbe und erfuellt von dem Streben, unseren juedischen Mitbuergern, die soviel in Deutschland gelitten haben, Gerechtigkeit und Freiheit zu sichern, uebermittele ich dem Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland zu Rosch haschonoh 5717 meine besten Segenswuensche fuer ein glueckliches neues Jahr.

Bei dieser Gelegenheit moechte ich Ihnen folgenden Beschluss der Bundesregierung mitteilen:

"Ausgehend von der in der feierlichen Erklaerung der Bundesregierung zur Judenfrage vom 27. September 1951 anerkannten Verpflichtung zur moralischen und materiellen Wiedergutmachung der durch die Verfolgungsmassnahmen des nationalsozialistischen Regimes entstandenen Schaden wird die Bundesregierung zusammen mit den Laendern anstelle der vernichteten juedischen Gemeinden fuer die Sicherung und Betreuung der juedischen Friedhoeefe in der Bundesrepublik sorgen. Zu diesem Zweck werden jaehrlich im Haushalt des Bundes Beihilfen fuer die Pflege der Friedhoeefe bereitgestellt, die der Veraerstaerkung der entsprechenden Landesmittel dienen.

Die naeheren Einzelheiten ueber die Durchfuehrung der Sicherung und Betreuung werden durch eine Abmachung mit den juedischen Repraesentanten im Zusammenwirken mit den Laendern geregelt werden."

Diese Mitteilung wird auch unter den ausgewanderten Juden, deren Angehoerige auf juedischen Friedhoeefen in Deutschland ruhen, mit Genuegtung begruesst werden.

Bei den vom Minister in Aussicht gestellten weiteren Verhandlungen ueber die Einzelheiten werden die juedischen Organisationen durch ein seit einigen Jahren in dieser Angelegenheit taetiges Comite vertreten sein, das unter der Leitung von Dr. E. G. Lowenthal und Dr. Ernst Katzenstein steht.

V. E. Hilton, in addition to that of Mr. M. Pottlitzer. The records include quite a few suitable applicants; however, to place them in employment the understanding and help of refugee firms is highly essential. Dr. H. Fleischhacker has lent his expert assistance in cases of psychological difficulties.

Safeguarding our Rights

The improvements and drawbacks of the new Federal Indemnification Law were described by Dr. F. Goldschmidt, Chief Legal Adviser to URO, who, as representative of the "Council of Jews from Germany," had taken an active part in the negotiations which led to the promulgation of the new law. For the Jews from Germany the decisive improvement of the new law consists in the fact that now residents from all parts of Germany have been put on equal footing, whereas under the previous law former residents of territories East of the Oder/Neisse Line had only limited claims, and those from what is now the German Democratic Republic,

Continued on page 2

"REVOLVING FUND" FOR COMPENSATION CLAIMS

A New Scheme

Out of the assets of the heirless property a small amount has been allocated to the AJR to be used for the establishment of a so-called "Revolving Fund." From this fund limited loans, free of interest, may be granted to persons whose claims for restitution or compensation are in a fairly advanced stage and who may expect payments in the not too distant future.

Only such people qualify for loans who cannot claim advance payments from the German authorities. The loans may be granted particularly in cases in which the claimant requires them for special purposes, e.g., for medical treatment and convalescence, acquisition of accommodation, education, etc. As the funds at the disposal are very limited, generally only cases of genuine need can be considered.

The repayment has to be secured by the claim and becomes due as soon as the claim has been settled. Readers who think that they qualify for a loan and who would like to avail themselves of the facilities of the new scheme should write for further particulars to the Association of Jewish Refugees in Great Britain, 8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3.

Continued from front page

no claims at all. Furthermore, the new law under certain circumstances provides for pensions to widows for loss of career. Among the other improvements are increases of several upper limits for capital payments and pensions. One of the shortcomings of the law is the exclusion of indemnification for certain damages sustained in German-occupied countries. The speaker also dealt with the so-called "Bundesrueckerstattungsgesetz," which is to cover the monetary liabilities of the former Reich. The draft of this law does not visualise indemnification for assets confiscated in Central or Eastern Germany and is so far not consistent with the terms of the new Federal Indemnification Law. The detailed description given by the speaker reflected the intense endeavours of the "Council of Jews from Germany" (of which the AJR is the British constituent) to safeguard the interest of the Jews from Germany in questions of restitution and compensation.

Lively Discussion

The reports were followed by a lively discussion, in which the following Board members took part: Dr. M. Levy (Leicester), Mr. F. Godfrey, Miss A. Feuermann (Glasgow), Mr. G. L. Tietz, Dr. H. Fleischhacker, Mr. H. Freyhan (Bedford), Mr. V. E. Hilton, Mr. L. Kew (Birmingham), Mr. M. Pottlitzer, Dr. L. Guttman, O.B.E., Mr. L. Kritzler, Dr. A. Wiener, Mr. H. Stern, Rabbi Dr. M. Eschelbacher, Dr. L. Zeitlin, Dr. F. E. Falk, Dr. Eva Reichmann, Mr. B. Woyda, Dr. L. Engel, and Dr. E. J. Bergen (Leeds). All the speakers expressed their appreciation of the successful work carried out by the AJR. The suggestions they made covered both the social work in London and the provinces and means of increasing the strength of the organisation. Some speakers also referred to the work of the Leo Baeck Institute, which under the auspices of the "Council of Jews from Germany" has been established to preserve the cultural heritage of German Jewry. Others pointed out that both by publicity work in "AJR Information" and by other suitable methods more attention than before should be paid to trends in post-war Germany.

If there was any need of re-affirming the wide range of tasks to be accomplished by the AJR in the interest of the community, the reports and the discussion of the Board meeting served as a convincing and impressive proof.

W.R.

U.K. TAXATION OF GERMAN PAYMENTS

In our issue of June 1956, we reported about the proposed legislation, contained in Clause 11 of the Finance Bill 1956, by which certain hardships arising under the existing tax law in the tax treatment of pensions and other foreign earned income would be eliminated. As regards details, interested readers are referred to this article. We can now report that the proposed Clause has been passed as Section 12 of the Finance Act 1956 which received the Royal Assent in August last. In cases in which tax assessments have already been made which are not in accordance with Section 12, the assessments will have to be reopened and recipients of such income who may be affected in this way are advised to consult their accountants.

"Renten" under the BEG

The Board of Inland Revenue regards "Renten" under the Federal Indemnification Law, being recurrent payments, as income in the meaning of the tax regulations and therefore liable to income tax. However, regarding this treatment, representations have been made to the Board, and the Inland Revenue have recently agreed that "Renten" paid for damage to body and health ("Körper- und Gesundheitsschaden") should not be treated as taxable income. The Board of Inland Revenue regard this as a concession which they have made as they consider these payments to be similar to disability pensions paid to war injured persons and members of the armed forces; such pensions are exempt from income tax. The concession has so far not been extended to "Renten" paid to widows and orphans for damage to life ("Schaden an Leben"), in spite of representations made to the Inland Revenue and to the Treasury. Further efforts will be made by the AJR, (working in conjunction with the Ex-Service [N.B.] Association) to obtain a reversal of the attitude of the Inland Revenue in this matter. Similar representations are also being made as regards "Renten" for Damage to Economic and Professional Advancement ("Schaden im beruflichen und wirtschaftlichen Fortkommen").

We will advise readers of any further developments in these matters.

S.S. OFFICERS IN WEHRMACHT

According to regulations in force until recently S.S. commissions of applicants to the "Wehrmacht" were not recognised and the applicants were enlisted only as privates. This regulation has now been replaced by a new order of the Federal Defence Ministry according to which holders of commissions with the "Waffen S.S." are to be accepted as officers.

The Defence Ministry states that the removal of the previous restrictions has become necessary due to the lack of suitable former officers applying.

The "Zentralrat" of the Jews in Germany has expressed its concern and pointed out that former persecutees cannot be expected to serve under officers who had been members of the "Waffen S.S."

TERM "JEW" AN OFFENCE

The Fifth Senate of the Federal High Court, confirming the findings of a regional court, stated that the description of a person as a Jew may be an offence if it is meant in a derogatory sense. It is not decisive whether or not the incriminated person is in fact a Jew. Only the slanderous intention is decisive. Commenting on the judgment in the "Sueddeutscher Rundfunk," Senatspraesident Sarstedt stated that in present-day Germany the use of the term Jew with this intention was particularly offensive, because in a way it implied an approval of the injustice done by the Germans to the Jews.

GERMAN NEW YEAR MESSAGES

Many leading personalities in the German Federal Republic have sent Rosh Hashana messages to the "Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland." Among them are the Federal President, Theodor Heuss, the Federal Chancellor, Dr. Adenauer, and the Chairman of the SPD, Erich Ollenhauer.

Wenige Tage nach Verkündung des Gesetzes erscheint im Verlag Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland

Das Bundesentschädigungsgesetz

in der neuen Fassung mit einer Einfuehrung von Dr. H. G. van Dam. Ausserdem enthaelt die Broschuere das vom Bundeskabinett bereits angenommene Bundesgesetz zur Regelung der rueckerstattungsrechtlichen Geldverbindlichkeiten des Deutschen Reiches und gleichgestellter Rechtstraeger. ca. 160 Seiten—broschiert—DM. 7.80 oder 14/- einschl. Porto

Einige Wochen spaeter erscheint ebenfalls im Verlag Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland der grosse Kommentar zum

Bundesentschädigungsgesetz

von Dr. H. G. van Dam—Regierungsrat Dr. Loos unter Mitarbeit von Oberregierungsrat G. Neumann. ca. 600 Seiten—Ganzleinen—DM. 37.—oder £3.3.0.

Subskriptionspreis DM. 32.10—oder £2.15.0 einschl. Porto.

Zu beziehen durch alle Buchhandlungen oder direkt vom Verlag Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland, Duesseldorf-Benrath, Postfach 92, oder von Seymour Press Ltd., 282, Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, S.W.1.

GERMAN REPARATIONS TO ISRAEL

Appraisal by Head of Israel Purchasing Mission

On the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the signing of the Luxembourg Agreement, the head of the Israel Purchasing Mission in Germany, Minister Dr. F. E. Shinnar, expressed satisfaction that the German implementation of the pact had come up to the expectations entertained in Israel. He also described the voluntary readiness of the Federal Republic to make good the material injuries against the Jews as an indication of Germany's determination to adopt law and justice. At the same time Dr. Shinnar stated that the gradual normalisation of relations between the Federal Republic and Israel had hitherto proceeded in an orbit marked by discernment and responsibility.

FIRST JORDAN MINISTER TO BONN

Jordan has opened a Legation in Bonn which will be headed by Minister-Plenipotentiary Shubeilat. It is understood that the Iraq Government will raise the status of its West German Legation to that of an Embassy.

EX-NAZI FINED BY DENAZIFICATION COURT

The Berlin Denazification Court has imposed a fine on Herbert Heinsch, former Nazi party spokesman in the Moabit electrical works, and has also deprived him of his pension rights for life. In 1943 Heinsch maltreated and drove to suicide a German worker who had spoken kindly of Jews. When he heard a 60-year-old labourer and father of a large family, Friedrich Matke, mention that Jews were also human beings, Heinsch, together with two helpers, beat him and also announced that he would report him to the Gestapo. The same night Matke committed suicide.

EASTERN GERMANY

Former Nazis Wooded

The periodical "Die Nation," issued by the "National-Demokratische Partei Deutschland," appeals to former member of the NSDAP, officers and professional soldiers, to integrate into the work of the German Democratic Republic. Increasingly more former Nazis, the paper writes, consider the German Democratic Republic as the kind of German State which fulfills those expectations they had originally associated with National-Socialism. The paper regrets that so far the co-operation of former members of the NSDAP had not been sufficiently propagated. It would be their special task to keep contact with former party members in Western Germany and to support them in their efforts to find the right way and the right safeguard against Neo-Fascism and remilitarisation.

Closer Contacts With Egypt

The Broadcasting organisations of Egypt and Eastern Germany have agreed to exchange tape recordings and other programme material. Furthermore, they plan mutual visits of delegations.

ISRAEL AND THE SUEZ CRISIS

By a Middle East Observer

Whilst usually articles on wider political issues are not published in this paper, the following topical analysis which, of course, only expresses the personal views of the author will certainly be welcomed by our readers.—THE EDITOR.

One of the incidental, though none the less important, effects of the Suez Canal crisis has been to push the long-standing dispute between the Arab States and Israel into the background. Ever since July 26, when Colonel Nasser announced the nationalisation, or, as Sir Anthony Eden has more accurately described it, the de-internationalisation, of the Suez Canal Company, Arab nationalism has found an even more alluring target than Israel: a waterway that services a large part of the world's shipping. Consequently, although incidents are still reported on Israel's borders with Jordan and Egypt, they are not world news. And anyone who imagined that the Israeli Government might try to exploit Egypt's self-made crisis must have been greatly disappointed. Any such attempt, however understandable, would merely have involved Israel in a dispute which she has every interest in observing from the sidelines. No one, in fact, can begrudge her a certain feeling of Schadenfreude.

Refusal of Israeli Traffic

Of all the nations either directly or indirectly dependent on the Suez Canal none had, perhaps less reason to feel put out by Colonel Nasser's seizure of the Canal Company. Her ships have never enjoyed the free transit granted to other nations. As far as traffic to and from Israel is concerned, the Egyptian Government has always acted as if it was in sole control of the Canal. A Security Council resolution of 1951 was blandly ignored and an attempt to revive it in 1954 was frustrated by the Soviet veto. Incidentally, the Soviet delegate's reason for using the veto on that occasion is worth remembering today. He claimed that the freedom of the Suez Canal to shipping could not be guaranteed by such a "chance majority" as that of the Security Council but only by the countries immediately concerned.

This sad but true reflection on the impotence of the United Nations can be applied not only to the Suez Canal but also to the Arab-Israel dispute. The clearest case of it, however, was Egypt's refusal to recognise a Security Council resolution that went against her and the support given to her by the Soviet Union. The Western Powers, whatever reasons they may have had at the time for letting Egypt's discrimination go unchallenged outside the Security Council, have had good reason since then to regret their policy of "laissez-faire." For today a great many of the world's trading nations are threatened with precisely the same power to discriminate that Egypt has in fact been exercising against Israel for several years past.

The Israelis have, therefore, every reason to feel gratified that Colonel Nasser should have multiplied his enemies. Economically they have nothing to lose. Even if Colonel Nasser had his way, Israel's trading position would be no worse than it was before. It might conceivably be improved. One of the possible alternatives to the Canal that has been freely discussed is an oil pipeline from Elath to Haifa, which would bring in substantial transit dues and give a new lease of life to the Haifa refinery. But this is not, for the time being at least, a very likely venture and it would certainly not in itself be enough to counterbalance the long-term political effects of a "Nasserised" Canal.

No one imagines—least of all in Israel—that, if Colonel Nasser were given his head on the Canal, he would stop there. Long before he hoisted the flag of national sovereignty over Suez, he had been waving it over the Nile. Anyone who feels inclined to sympathise with Egypt's argument that she has an automatic right to run the Suez Canal because it is an integral part of her territory should study her refusal to accept an international authority for the Nile. The claims of other riparian States—the Sudan, Ethiopia and Uganda in particular—to have some say in the distribution of the Nile waters have been brushed aside on the grounds that an international Nile Valley authority would, in the words of a senior Egyptian official,

"touch Egypt's national ego on a sore spot." The same neurotic motive is behind Egypt's refusal—and the refusal of other Arab States—to recognise Israel.

So it is safe to assume that, if Egypt's national ego were satisfied on the Suez Canal issue, it would then look either to the Sudan or to Israel. Colonel Nasser's personal preference would probably be southwards in the Nile Valley, but he would undoubtedly be under heavy pressure from his Arab nationalist supporters to have it out with Israel. The question is, however, largely academic. All three problems—the Suez Canal, the Nile Waters and Israel—are so closely linked that they must be solved or dissolved together. To accept Colonel Nasser's brand of national sovereignty in one case would make it extremely difficult if not impossible to resist it in the others. Israel may have nothing to lose economically by an Egyptian victory over the West in the Suez Canal dispute but politically she has a great deal at stake.

The Israeli Government must know, of course, that the West cannot afford to lose this particular battle because it has even more at stake. But it is hard to believe that the confidence of the Israelis is entirely cynical. Much as they stand to lose, in the long run, by an Egyptian triumph, they stand to gain a great deal more by an Egyptian setback. It is inconceivable that whatever international authority is ultimately set up will not restore the complete freedom to shipping originally laid down in the 1888 Convention. How the solution is arrived at is immaterial. Whether Colonel Nasser is persuaded or forced to accept the new authority, whether it is Britain, France and America or the Security Council or both that produce the end result, the issue of discrimination *per se* has been raised and must be settled. International control of the Suez Canal must mean the lifting of the blockade on ships travelling to and from Israel. This will undoubtedly be difficult for Egypt and her Arab neighbours to swallow, but it is part—and an integral part—of the challenge Colonel Nasser made to the West.

Economic and Political Prospects

Free access to the Suez Canal would have an immediate effect on Israel's economy. But the effect on her political status would perhaps be even more far-reaching. One of Colonel Nasser's reasons for rejecting international control of the Canal is the knowledge that an important weapon in his anti-Israel armoury will be taken from him. But an Egyptian surrender on the Suez Canal would have repercussions in the Arab world which must also redound to Israel's advantage. Despite the vocal support Colonel Nasser has received from his Arab neighbours, there have been signs of uneasiness and even resentment at his cavalier treatment of them and at the power he would wield over their economies if he were in sole control of the Canal.

The flimsy structure of Arab nationalism has been held together since the war by an identity not of interests but of enemies. One of several reasons why the Arabs lost the Palestinian war was because personal interest frequently bulked larger than the common enemy—a weakness which Colonel Nasser exposes in his "Philosophy of the Revolution." Yet he himself has raised an issue in which this conflict is almost inevitable. Even Saudi Arabia, his most devoted supporter, must feel that her future is being heavily jeopardised in order to satisfy Egypt's national ego. And not only Colonel Nasser's Arab neighbours but countries further afield like India are becoming uncomfortably aware that Egypt's President has already seriously threatened the commodity they most need: Western credit.

The Suez Canal dispute is, in the last resort, a crisis of confidence. The Western Powers can say, with justice, that they gave Colonel Nasser the benefit of a great deal of doubt, while their critics—not least in Israel—can point out with equal justice that continued confidence in a government that made an arms deal with the Soviet bloc was, to say the least, misplaced. But this "phoney peace" is now over. Many will feel relieved that Colonel Nasser himself has shattered the illusions and come out into the open. Israel may yet have reason to feel grateful to him,

ANGLO-JUDAICA

The Chief Rabbi's Warning

It was not only the Suez crisis that put Israel uppermost in the minds of British Jews. Some considerable concern was felt at the clashes in Jerusalem as a result of demonstrations by Orthodox groups against the desecration of the Sabbath by transport companies, and an opportunity was taken by the Chief Rabbi, Dr. Brodie, in a Rosh Hashana sermon, to warn the Government of Israel against "religious indifferentism." A State practising "positive secularism," he said, "cannot for long command the mystic and deeply-felt affection of world Jewry. At most it would excite a philanthropic attitude as if it were any other community in distress. On the other hand, a State is properly called Jewish which preserves and respects the sacred institutions of Judaism . . . Notwithstanding the considerable bonds of a common language and a common attachment to the land of Israel, it is as well to remember that the prime factor and leaven of Jewish unification and survival is and remains the Torah."

Labour Party Conference

For the first time in several years, the Labour Party Conference has had no resolution on the Middle East, but a call is to be made for the right of unhampered passage through the Suez Canal of ships of all nations at all times.

A specifically Jewish issue was introduced by the Poale Zion branch calling on the conference to deplore the denial of religious and cultural self-expression to Soviet Jewry and affirming the hope that the improvement in the international situation will induce Russia to change the present "intolerable" attitude to the spiritual needs of the Jewish population.

A plea to support the State of Israel was made at the Trades Union Congress by Mr. S. Lever, chairman of the small London Jewish Bakers' Union, who never fails to address the Congress on matters of Jewish concern.

Norwich Exhibition

The only community outside London to hold a Tercentenary Exhibition, has been Norwich, the oldest Jewry in Britain apart from London and the university cities. The opening of the exhibition was attended by the Lord Mayor.

The 48-year old Sabbath Observance Employment Bureau, Anglo-Jewry's orthodox labour exchange, is facing a serious deficit. Last year employment was found for 770 people.

After a lapse of more than seven years, the Federation of Synagogues has again a Principal Rabbi—Rabbi Morris Swift.

Sir Wyndham Deedes

A true, dedicated friend was lost by the Jews in Brigadier-General Sir Wyndham Deedes who died last month. He was one of the famous company of Englishmen who were inspired by the visions of the Bible. He staunchly believed that it was the privilege of England to help the Jewish people to a new dispensation. As a confirmed Zionist he served in the early administration of Mandatory Palestine, and when he retired in 1922, he devoted himself to active propaganda for the restoration of the Jews. "It was (Mr. Norman Bentwich writes) his deep sense of the spiritual debt which Christianity owed to Judaism, and of the un-Christian conduct of the Christian countries for centuries towards the Jews, that made him an ardent supporter of the policy of the Balfour Declaration, and that cause was dear to him to the end."

When the Nazi persecution began, he was foremost in the work of rescue. With Professor Bentwich he was Joint Hon. Director of the Council for German Jewry and went several times to Germany and to South Africa on missions for the refugees. He also founded the Children's Inter-Aid Committee which became the movement for the rescue of boys and girls from Germany and brought to this country over 9,000 of them.

Another devoted worker for the refugees from Nazi persecution who recently died, was Ethel Alice, wife of Lt.-Col. Charles Waley Cohen.

Nelly Wolffheim

JEWISH WOMEN PIONEERS IN GERMANY

Some Outstanding Social Workers

It has often been noted how great a contribution was made by Jews to German culture. Special mention is rarely made of women in this context, and yet their contribution was often a very lasting one. I am referring particularly to social and educational work. Even today, in spite of all that happened since, much that was new then is still an active force, although the origins may have been forgotten. Thus, my intention here is to remind the reader of some of these women who, through their personalities as well as their work, have made important contributions in various fields.

Whilst our concern is with Jewish achievements, I must clarify at the outset that this is irrespective of religion. Although several of the women I shall mention were no longer Jews by religion, it would be wrong to omit them, for their intense activity and the way in which they fought for their ideals were very typical of the Jewish elements in them.

Lina Morgenstern (1830-1909) was one of that group of women propagating the then still revolutionary ideas of Friedrich Froebel. She worked in Kindergartens and trained Kindergarten teachers. She was one of the founders of the German "Hausfrauenbewegung" and introduced soup-kitchens in Berlin.

Organisers and Educators

Bertha Pappenheim (1859-1936) united Jewish women in Germany into forming the "Juedische Frauenbund." If Bertha Pappenheim's work was mainly restricted to Jewish relief, one of the schemes she originated, the home for unmarried mothers and endangered girls in Neu-Isenburg near Frankfurt a.M., is of general significance. To attempt to help those who, in those days, were called "fallen women," was a completely new idea at the time. If the execution of the idea was not up to the standards one would expect nowadays, yet the Isenburg Home acted as an inspiration to German social work in general and to that part of it which was concerned in helping and protecting young girls, in particular. Trying to stamp out white slave traffic was an important part of Bertha Pappenheim's wide field of interest.

Henriette Goldschmidt (1825-1920) was active primarily in Leipzig, where she founded the "Verein fuer Familien- und Volkserziehung," a framework out of which grew the "Hochschule fuer Frauen." This college served on the one hand the furthering of the general education of women, on the other Kindergarten training based on Friedrich Froebel's ideas, to which she tried to give a stronger spiritual basis than was usual at that time. When, in 1864, the "Allgemeine Deutsche Frauenverein" was founded, Henriette Goldschmidt was an active participant.

Jeanette Schwerin (1822-1899) was responsible for a number of important innovations in Berlin. Amongst other things she opened the first public reading room. Above all, she created the "Zentrale fuer private Fuersorge." The object of this was to try to do away with begging on the streets by giving practical help to really needy cases. Instead of arbitrary charity, help was properly organised. In the "Zentralstelle's" offices in the Flottwellstrasse in West Berlin a number of voluntary workers, men and women,

examined individual cases. Jeanette Schwerin could inspire tremendous enthusiasm in her fellow-workers, who all gave of their utmost under her guidance. Another of this indefatigable woman's aims was to find work in the service of society as a whole for the then still not generally employed and unoccupied women of the prosperous middle class. She tried to stimulate them and make them socially conscious. In this way Jeanette Schwerin laid the first foundations for the "Maedchen- und Frauengruppen fuer soziale Hilfsarbeit" in Berlin, which was eventually formed by *Alice Salomon* (1872-1948). This organisation came into existence in 1896 and, from small beginnings, developed into an important educational force. Whilst there had always been—especially in connection with the Church—so-called "Charity" and also humanitarian help and assistance, in the "Hilfsgruppen" it was a matter of channelling genuine efforts into the places where it was most needed. The lectures and discussions arranged by Alice Salomon and her helpers tried to further a real understanding of this problem. The workers were carefully picked for special jobs, so that Kindergartens and other educational institutions, the offices of organisations, homes, etc., really received the best help available. This organised social work was the starting point for the "Soziale Frauenschule" which Alice Salomon founded in Berlin-Schoeneberg, where, for the first time, women were trained for the "profession" of social worker. If my memory serves me correctly, the course was a two-year one, divided into theoretical studies and practical work. This training school was the first of its kind in Germany and became a model for all its successors. In the subsequent modernisation of girls' schools, too, many of Alice Salomon's ideas were used.

In 1898, presumably inspired by the Girls' and Womens groups, *Elsa Isaack*, who came from a wealthy family herself, founded and financed a Working Woman's Home in the centre of Berlin which, I think, was the first of its kind. This was a hostel for unmarried women factory workers. Its aim was to give the girls a pleasant sociable home, with possibilities for further education, in order to keep them off the streets.

Employment Bureau for Girls

Josefine Levy-Rathenau (1877-1921) opened the first Employment Advice Bureau for girls in Berlin, and may, in fact, have given the first impetus to an aspect of social work which today is taken for granted. The fact that more and more girls from well-educated middle-class families were taking jobs, made it desirable that their awakened interests and their need to earn a living should be led into the right channels. Whilst psychological examinations were not yet known, the new method was to try and discover the girl's natural bent and then to bring it in line with the practical requirements. Above all, the Advice Bureaux tried to make clear to the girls and, even more important, to their parents the value of a thorough vocational training. Frequently the girls were sent on to special information bureaux dealing only with the career the girl wanted to take up. Josefine Levy-Rathenau was active in various fields of social work, but, above all, during the First World War, she was the organiser of the "Nationale Frauendienst" in Germany.

Among the first women members of parliament after the foundation of the Republic were *Adele Schreiber* (born 1873, now living in Switzerland) and *Anna v. Gierke* (half-Jewish, 1874-1943). Adele Schreiber was well known for her writings on politics and education. Anna v. Gierke developed the Charlottenburg "Jugendheim" from small beginnings to a fine social-educational training college and into a centre for Charlottenburg social work as a whole. Her widespread influence came to an end under Hitler.

Her sister, *Hildegard v. Gierke* (1880, now living in the Harz), was for many years the head of the Pestalozzi-Froebelhaus in Berlin. It must be mentioned here that this world-famous school, considered to be the ideal establishment of its kind, was connected with a number of Jewesses. Not only was there a considerable number of Jewish

FERDINAND BRUCKNER 65 YEARS OLD

Between 1926 and 1930 three plays—"Krankheit der Jugend," "Die Verbrecher," "Die Kreatur"—were unusually successful in Germany but nobody knew their author. Officially they were written by one Ferdinand Bruckner, it was however an open secret that this was a pen name. Much later his real name was disclosed: Theodor Tagger, who in 1922 founded the Renaissance Theatre in Berlin and remained its director until 1928.

Bruckner was born in Sofia in 1891. He studied philosophy, philology, music, medicine, and law at the Universities of Vienna and Paris. In 1917 he was in Berlin—a member of the literary and revolutionary circle, the centre of which was Carl Sternheim. Bruckner became the editor of the periodical "Marsyas" where he published passionate articles against the war. His pacifist convictions were not a question of politics, they formed rather a part of his idea of man and mankind. Sympathy with his fellow-men and a deep understanding of their problems pervaded the above mentioned plays. With almost prophetic foresight he recognised that a solution had to be found for the complicated psychological situation of the post-war generation. Had his warning been heeded, German youth would perhaps have taken a road which might not have led to the battlefields of Europe.

In 1930 he scored his greatest success with "Elisabeth von England." Soon it was translated in 20 languages and as a film was shown all over the world.

In 1933 Bruckner, the humanitarian Jew, was forced to emigrate. His feelings about Nazism and his protest against it found expression in his play "Die Rassen." In 1951 he returned to Berlin where he now lives. The publishing house Kiepenheuer and Witsch in Cologne is publishing his collected works. The first volume is "Schauspiele nach historischen Stoffen," a second volume is to follow: "Dramen unserer Zeit."

In spite of all that has happened his faith in his old beliefs has not been shaken. Let us take, for example, this quotation from "Denn seine Zeit ist kurz" (1942):

"Es gibt noch Augen, in denen eine neue Hoffnung, eine unsagbare Erwartung glimmt. Kein Unterdruecker kann das aus der Welt schaffen. Im Gegenteil. Er setzt es umso fester in die Welt. Sobald wir darueber hinaus sind, den Tod zu fuerchten, geben wir auch die kleinste unserer Erwartungen nicht mehr her."

A. ROSENBERG.

girls amongst the students at the Seminary there, who later did important work elsewhere, but also there were several Jewesses on the governing committee who helped in an advisory capacity. Of these, I only remember two:

Frau Justizrat Friedemann, who was Chairman for some years, and *Frau Stadtrat Weigert*, who was on the Committee of the Pestalozzi-Froebelhaus as well as of one of the Children's Homes of the Jewish Community to which she tried to transplant the ideas of the former. This recollection takes me back to the last few years of the nineteenth century.

The sisters *Anna Wiener-Pappenheim* and *Gertrud Pappenheim* (now living in Lichterfelde, near Berlin) did valuable pioneer work in the Kindergarten field. The former was the head of the Berlin "Froebelverein" and its Seminary, and also the founder and chairman of the "Berufsorganisation der Kindergaertnerinnen Deutschlands." The first promulgators of the Montessori movement in Berlin were also almost all Jewesses.

I started by describing the work of Lina Morgenstern, the co-founder of the German "Hausfrauenbewegung." I cannot conclude without mentioning the modern representative of reform in the household. *Erna Meyer* (1890, lives in Israel) published a periodical called "Neue Hauswirtschaft" from 1929 to 1933, in which she encouraged new methods to make the housewife's work simpler, easier and more hygienic. The standard of this periodical, as also of Erna Meyer's various books, was so high, so far above the average writing on this subject and was so highly thought of that—as an examinee informed me—in the state exams for teachers of "Haushaltslehre," Erna Meyer was "Examen-gegenstand."

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ATONEMENT & OBLIVION IN GERMANY

Aftermath of the Crimes

REACTION ON REITLINGER'S "FINAL SOLUTION"

In a review of the German translation of Reitlinger's "The Final Solution" the Protestant weekly "Christ und Welt" commends the book to people who bluntly deny that the murder of the Jews was an action promoted officially by the Nazi Reich. At the same time it claims that even now, 10 years after the war, the crimes described in detail by Reitlinger were unknown to most Germans; however, just for this reason, the book was particularly important, the paper states.

The periodical of the Fascist International, "Nation Europa," maintains in its review that it will never be entirely clarified who actually knew about the murders of Jews, and that it was doubtful whether even Hitler himself knew about them. The responsibility rested solely with a group of secret agents who, behind the backs of the Germans, even of the Nazis and the S.S. men, secretly committed these crimes.

In a similar vein "Die Anklage," the organ of the "Entrechteten Nachkriegsgeschaedigten," speaks of the "atrocities story" of the six million murdered Jews. These figures, the paper says, were only Allied propaganda. To "prove" this, the paper deems fit to mention the following observation: "Many thousand Allied investigation officers examining German soldiers displayed a surprisingly exact knowledge of localities and personalities until, in the end, the questioned soldier realised: 'Oh, I see now, he is the son of old Isidor Kohn . . . and the other the lawyer Moritz Gruen; they were said to have died in the concentration camp in 1939. . . .'"

TRANSLATION OF SHOLEM ASCH'S BOOK

Sholem Asch's novel "The Prophet," reviewed in the September issue of "AJR Information," will be issued in a German translation by "Diana Publishing House," Stuttgart.

FDP COMMISSIONS NAZI EDITOR

According to the "Spiegel" the former editor of the Hitler Youth periodical "Wille und Macht," Guenter Kaufmann, has been commissioned by the Free Democratic Party to write a propaganda pamphlet for the next Federal Parliamentary elections. In this brochure all political scandals and trials incriminating the Federal Government are to be listed. Kaufmann is also the author of a book published in 1943, "Das kommende Deutschland — Die Erziehung der Jugend im Reich Adolf Hitlers."

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST K.Z. GUARDS

Proceedings have been opened by the Bonn Law Court against the former S.S. Hauptscharfuhrer Gustav Sorge and the former S.S. Oberscharfuhrer Wilhelm Schubert, who had been guards in the concentration camps of Oranienburg, Sachsenhausen, Eesterwege, and Riga. They are accused of murder. It is expected that altogether about five hundred witnesses inside and outside Germany are to be heard.

NO ROOM FOR NEO-NAZIS

The Association Jugendburg Ludwigstein will not any longer allow the former Senator of the Nazi "Akademie fuer Dichtung," Herbert Boehme, to hold meetings of his "Deutsches Kulturwerk europaischen Geistes" at the Jugendburg.

DISCOVERY OF ANCIENT JEWISH BATH IN COLOGNE

In the course of excavations made under the auspices of the "Roemisch-Germanische Museum" at the Rathaushuegel in Cologne, a cellar was unearthed which is supposed to have been the old Jewish ritual bath; the site is next to the old synagogue, destroyed when the Jews were expelled in 1423.

BOOK ON NAZI ATROCITIES EXCLUDED FROM ARMY LIBRARIES

The Federal Ministry of Defence has refused to include the book "The Third Reich and the Jews," by Leon Poliakov and Joseph Wulf, (Reviewed in the August issue of this paper.—The Editor) in the list of works recommended for display in the libraries of the new German Army. According to the "Sueddeutsche Zeitung" this decision was taken because some of the documents reprinted in the volume bear the signatures of military leaders who are again active in the West German defence establishment. The paper says that an elimination of such personalities would better serve the strengthening of German prestige than the suppression of the book. Similar views are expressed by the West Berlin Social Democratic "Telegraf."

NAZI LITERATURE IN BAVARIAN SCHOOLS

It is officially announced in Bavaria that books by the following Nazi writers may now be used and read in schools: H. F. Blunck (former President of the "NS-Schrifttumskammer"), P. Alverdes, Hjalmar Kutzleb ("Rassedichter"), Wilhelm Stapel (notorious antisemitic publicist), and Ernst Udet (the "Devil's General").

THE LOEB LECTURES

The "Loeb Lectures," inaugurated in February by Dr. Leo Baeck, are now held regularly in Frankfurt University. Their subjects are history, philosophy, and religion of the Jews. Guest lecturers so far were: Dr. David Daube (Oxford), Rabbi Dr. Alexander Altmann (Manchester), Dr. Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich (Basle), Dr. Hermann Levin Goldschmidt (Zurich), and Dr. H. G. Adler (London). Invitations for 1956/7 have been accepted by Dr. G. G. Scholem (Jerusalem), the distinguished specialist of the Cabbala, and by Dr. Eric Voegelin, Professor of Political Science at the Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, U.S.A.

RUBINSTEIN STREET IN MUNICH

In a section of Munich where the street names commemorate famous musicians of the past, one street has been named after the Jewish pianist and composer Anton Rubinstein.

HEINE CENTENARY PUBLICATIONS

The text of the Heine Centenary speech which the Vice-President of the Bundestag, Professor Carlo Schmid, made at the Paulskirche has been published by the Arani-Verlag in Berlin.

An impressive memorial publication was also issued by the Cultural Department of the Hamburg Municipality. It includes the text of the address delivered at the Hamburg celebration in February by Senator Dr. H. H. Biermann-Ratjen and the prose and poetry recited at the function by Sybille Binder and Gustaf Gruendgens.

MEMORIAL FOR JEWISH MARTYRS IN CHURCH

The Roman Catholic church of St. Mechtorn in Koeln-Ehrenfeld was rebuilt recently. Its name is derived from a corruption of the word "martyr," and the church was originally dedicated to the early Christian martyrs. Now, in addition to an altar commemorating these Christian martyrs, a second altar has been erected in the reconstructed church dedicated to the memory of the six million Jewish martyrs who perished under Nazi persecution. In a sermon delivered on the occasion of his visit to a church in Rome, the minister of St. Mechtorn, Karl Dambach, stated that he had been horrified when, after the war, he learned about the terrible crimes committed against the Jews. As a faithful Christian he thus wanted to contribute towards an atonement.

Old Acquaintances

Home News:—Elisabeth Bergner will go to Duesseldorf to play in O'Neill's "Eines langen Tages Reise in die Nacht," and Grete Mosheim, recently returned from the States, will act the same part in Berlin.—Michael Rittermann and Marianne Walla adapted "Third Person" into German; Jochen Hoehne, of the B.B.C. German section, will direct it in Ulm, where Li Nolden played Wilder's "Matchmaker" with great success; her husband, Leo Bieber, will be in the London revival of Shaw's "Doctor's Dilemma."—Emmeric Pressburger scripted Michael Powell's new film, "Ill-Met By Moonlight."—Peter Illing had to interrupt his Italian holiday to be in "Interpol" with Trevor Howard and Anita Ekberg.—No holiday at all for Anton Difrting, who will be in "The Crooked Sky," with Wayne Morris, and opposite Dennis O'Keefe in "Mistress to Murder."—Heinz Goldberg is returning to Germany more or less for good.

U.S.A.:—As requested, Richard Oswald presented the copies of his films, "Dreyfus" and "Hauptmann von Koepenick," to Bundespraesident Dr. Heuss.—Walter Reich signed a contract with Fox to produce, direct, and write.—Vicki Baum's novel "Grand Hotel" will become a musical.—Walter Slezak postponed his project to play his own father Leo in a German picture.—Emerys Bernauer's daughter Evelyn played her 25th part in the M.G.M. film "Wings of Eagles."—Marlene Dietrich's daughter Maria Riva, Peter Lorre, and Hans Wengraf are in the TV version of "Five Fingers."

Better late than never:—Benno von Arent, the former stage designer and Hitler's "Reichsbuehnenbildner," was fined 10,000 Marks and is not permitted to be a teacher, director, producer, publisher, or to belong to any party because he misused his political influence during the Third Reich.

News from Everywhere:—Kurt Hirschfeld directed O'Neill's "Gier unter Ulmen," with Maria Becker, and Lindberg produced Otto Zoff's adaptation of Gozzi's "Koenig Hirsch" in Zurich.—Ernst Deutsch, as "Nathan," opened the season in Duesseldorf, and Leo Mittler directed Durrenmatt's "Besuch einer alten Dame," with Hermine Koerner in the lead.—Mischa Spolianski's musical version of Zuckmayer's "Katharina Knie" will be produced in Munich for Christmas.—Gina Falkenberg and Maria Matray-Solveg scripted Robert Siodmak's new picture, "Mein Vater der Schauspieler," with Germany's darling O. W. Fischer.—Lilli Palmer's third German picture, "Zwischen Zeit und Ewigkeit," was scripted by Robert Thoeren.

Let's not forget:—Alfred Braun, the former radio reporter who helped Veit Harlan to produce "Jud Süss," is now directing the "Stresemann" picture scripted by Ludwig Berger and Axel Eggebrecht, with Ernst Schroeder in the title part and Leonard Steckel as "Briand." Braun, who is intendant of Berlin's radio station, has not done any outstanding film work at all until now.

Milestones:—Karl Figdor, author of "Herrin der Welt," on which Joe May based his film of the same title in 1919, celebrated his 75th birthday in Zurich.—Also 75 years of age is Oscar Sabo, who was born in Vienna and became a typical Berlin comedian and star of many operettas.—Another German comedian, Hubert von Mayerinck, celebrated his 60th birthday in Munich.—If they had not perished in a concentration camp two of our old acquaintances could celebrate their "round" birthdays now: that lovable actor and comedian, Paul Morgan, would be 70 this month, and Emil Faktor, editor and dramatic critic of "Boersen-Kurier," would be 80.

Obituaries:—Erich Carow died in Berlin at the age of 64; Carl Zuckmayer's "Hauptmann von Koepenick" was originally written for him, but he never played it. He was the last of a long line of Berlin's folk-comedians, and his theatre in Weinbergsweg became famous after Heinrich Mann had discovered him. Lately he opened a new place in Gatow without entertaining his guests himself.—Vienna-born Dr. K. Maril died in Washington aged 66. He was the director of "Voice of America" and used to be head of S. Fischer's theatrical department in Berlin before '33.

PEM

WALTHER RATHENAU IN BRIEFEN

Ein Beitrag zur Deutsch-Juedischen Problematik

In einer Zeit, in der (einer UNESCO-Veröffentlichung zufolge) etwa 150,000 Bücher jährlich erscheinen, darf man von Glück sagen, wenn man von ungefähr einem Buch begegnet, das so aufschlussreiche Einblicke in die verschiedensten Aspekte menschlichen Geistes—und Gefühlslebens eröffnet, dass man bis auf weiteres der "Qual der Wahl" enthoben ist. Um eine solche "Begegnung" handelt es sich für mich bei einer unlängst erschienenen Neuausgabe von Walther Rathenau's Briefen, wenn auch der Titel: "Ein preussischer Europäer" fuer eine Persönlichkeit, die sich wie Rathenau nur schwer auf einen Generalnenner bringen laesst, vielleicht irriige Erwartungen erwecken koennte. Deshalb ist es auch nicht einfach, bei dem Versuch einer Wuerdigung Rathenaus ihm in der Sphaere des Geistigen wie des Gefuehlsmassigen gerecht zu werden, da er nicht nur dem zur Zeit kaum noch vorstellbaren Typ eines "Polyhistor" nahe kommt, sondern gleichzeitig auch in seinem literarischen Schaffen wie oeffentlichen Wirken von nicht unbestrittenen sozial-ethischen Anschauungen beherrscht wird. Nicht die menschlichen Schwachen, die Rathenau, wie wohl jedem menschlichen Wesen, eigen sind, erschweren daher eine solche Wuerdigung, auch nicht gewisse herausgeberische Unzulaenglichkeiten. Wohl aber stoest man auf eine Vielseitigkeit, die nicht oberflaechlich ist, vielmehr einem geistigen und seelischen Reichtum entstammt, demgegenueber man nur zu leicht geneigt ist, eine skeptische Haltung einzunehmen.

Einblicke in die Persönlichkeit

Allein fuer die Leser dieser Betrachtungen, denen Walther Rathenau in lebendiger Erinnerung geblieben ist, auch wenn mehr als 30 Jahre vergangen sind, seit er den Kugeln fanatischer Nationalextremisten zum Opfer fiel, und die sich der unser Schicksal ueberschattenden deutsch-juedischen Problematik weder schämen noch zu schämen brauchen, kann es an Rathenau's Briefen kaum etwas Fesselnderes geben als seine geistige und seelische Haltung dieser Problematik gegenueber. Dass es Briefe sind, die in die deutsche wie in die juedische Komponente der Rathenau'schen Persönlichkeit neue und sogar ueberraschende Einblicke eroeffnen, sollte nicht weiter Wunder nehmen. Denn in Briefen, fuer die Rathenau, trotz eines voll erfüllten tätigen Lebens, ungewoehnlich viel Zeit fand, und die an einen erstaunlich weiten, den verschiedensten Lebensgebieten angehoerenden Freundeskreis gerichtet sind, gibt sich eine der Aussenwelt gegenueber betonte kühle und zurueckhaltende Natur wie die Rathenaus viel aufgeschlossener als im gesellschaftlichen, beruflichen oder amtlichen Umgang mit Menschen, oder in Buechern, die durch Sachlichkeit des Inhalts und Gewaehltheit des Stils wirken wollen.

Wie sehr Rathenau sein ganzes Leben hindurch mit dieser ihm stets gegenwaertigen Problematik gerungen hat, geht aus der Vielzahl von Briefen hervor, in denen er sich mit jedem Aspekt gerade dieses Themas auseinandersetzt. Die Annahme jedoch, dass seinem die deutsche Juedenheit aufs tiefste erregenden "Hoere Israel"—Bekenntnis (das 1897 in Hardens "Zukunft" erschien) zu einer Assimilation "sans phrase" der Sinn einer endgueltigen Entscheidung beigemessen werden muss, ist voellig abwegig. Sie wird einwandfrei widerlegt in dem an Rabbiner Dr. Ludwig A. Rosenthal, Berlin (S. 234) gerichteten Brief, 16. Sep. 1917,

in dem es heisst: "Entscheidend ist für mich lediglich die Frage, ob das Judentum seinem religiösen Inhalt nach als so dogmenfrei angesehen werden kann, dass ein reiner, weder durch Kirchenvorschriften noch durch Ritualgesetze beschränkter Monotheismus in ihm Raum hat. Meine eignen Prüfungen und Erwägungen veranlassen mich die Frage zu bejahen, und ermöglichen mir dadurch das Verbleiben im Kreise der kulturellen und religiösen Einheit. . . ."

Hinwendung zum Judentum

Ueber die innere Wandlung, die in diesen 20 Jahren zu einer positiven Einstellung Rathenau's dem Judentum gegenueber gefuehrt hat, unterrichtet uns die "philosophische Controverse" aus dem Jahre 1912 mit Rabbiner Dr. Daniel Fink, Berlin, die Rathenau in folgenden Sätzen zum Abschluss bringt: "Ob die Bande die mich mit dem kirchlichen Judentum verbinden, stark oder schwach sind, kann ich nicht beurteilen, und kann . . . zu dieser Frage keine Stellung nehmen. Entscheidend muss für mich Ueberzeugung und Empfindung bleiben, kirchenpolitische Erwägungen treten hiergegen in den Hintergrund." (S. 89.) Immer wieder betont Rathenau die Dogmenfreiheit des Judentums, die "keine empirische sondern eine spirituelle" ist, als das, worauf es bei der praktischen Wahl des Bekenntnisses ankommt, nämlich auf "die Freiheit, die eine allgemeine Glaubensvereinbarung gestattet." Für ihn liegt "das wirkliche geistige Fundament in der Ueberordnung des Gesinnungsmässigen über das Handlungsmässige" (S. 234). Es ist bezeichnend, dass Rathenau sich hierbei in voller Uebereinstimmung mit einem der religiösen Führer der englischen Juedenheit, Rabbiner Dr. Alexander Altman, Manchester, befindet, der erst kürzlich in einem vielbeachteten Aufsatz ("The Observer," 1.7.56) ausdrücklich darauf hinwies, dass "Judaismus mit Recht als eine dogmenlose Religion beschrieben wird."

Den juedischen Menschen von heute bringt dieses Bekenntnis zum Judentum als einer echten Menschheitsreligion einen Zuwachs an moralischer Stärke, der ueber die wissenschaftliche Bedeutung dieser religions-philosophischen Betrachtungen weit hinausgeht. Ueberheblicher Rassenstolz kann kaum besser ad absurdum gefuehrt werden als es durch Rathenau geschieht, wenn er denen, die sich damit brüsten, den Rat gibt, bei der Gegenueberstellung von Deutschland und Judentum nicht zu vergessen, "dass keine Stammesgemeinschaft, geschweige denn eine so kleine auch nur annähernd so entscheidend auf den Geist der Menschheit gewirkt hat. Moses-Jesaias-Christus, Johannes, Paulus—im Abstände Spinoza—in grösserem Abstände Marx bedeuten Wendepunkte der geistigen Menschheitsgeschichte" (S. 370). In anderem Zusammenhang wird diese Leistung erneut betont und unterstrichen: "Eine ähnliche Reihe (derjenigen menschlichen Verkörperungen, die den Gang der Geschichte auf Jahrhunderte oder Jahrtausende beeinflusst haben) weist keine andre Völkerschaft (wie die juedische) auf, die griechische eingeschlossen, die an weltbestimmenden Persönlichkeiten eigentlich nur Sokrates und Plato aufzuweisen hat und noch weniger die römische, die sich in Caesar erschöpft" (S. 317, an Wilhelm Schwaner).

Ob man diesem Exkurs Rathenaus in die Geschichts-Philosophie zustimmt oder nicht, mit dem häufig zu einem gedankenlosen Schlagwort entarteten, der modernen Psychologie entlehnten Begriff eines juedischen "Minder-

Continued on page 7, column 1

WINDOW TO THE WESTERN WORLD

English in Israel

By Herbert Freedman

To read or not to read Shakespeare—namely within the syllabus of Israel's secondary schools—was not so long ago the subject of a controversy which ended with the victory of the "Shakespeareans": the assertion that pupils needed only a modern vocabulary and greater familiarity with present-day English, did not avail against the argument of a broader educational basis. However, the discussion threw an interesting light on the ways and methods of teaching English in Israel.

When I went to see Dr. P. Blumenthal, the Inspector for English at the Ministry of Education, I wondered how tuition in the schools has fared since English ceased to be an official language after the end of the Mandate and has become a foreign language. It is true that under the Mandate the school syllabus provided for eight years English—four years each in elementary and secondary schools—and that by now the period in elementary schools has been shortened to three years (the four years in secondary schools, with five lessons per week, have been retained). But, Dr. Blumenthal explains, this has been made more than good by two factors: during the last years of the Mandate the pupils extended their animosity against the English also to the English language, and this resistance has now completely disappeared. Furthermore, greater progress is recorded through a coherent series of text-books, especially written for use in Israeli schools.

Before 1948 approximately 90 per cent of the text-books came from England and ten per cent from the United States. Naturally, they did not take into account the cultural background, the intellectual standard, and the grammatical and other linguistic difficulties of Hebrew-speaking pupils. The new text-books, home-made, are based on the direct methods and have, moreover, a speciality—they make ample use of songs: to each text-book a little song-book is attached, both with music and words.

1,400 Basic Words

In elementary schools, the children learn about 1,400 basic words which enable them to read a simplified text. Secondary schools start with a vocabulary of 1,200 words. During the first two years passages and exercises from English and American literature are read, with the emphasis on language; in the last two years, life, literature, and culture of the English-speaking countries is studied from anthologies. Dr. Blumenthal stressed again and again that the final aim is to gain an understanding of the Western world.

The end-of-school examinations include a free composition; an unseen passage—usually from Churchill's writings—has to be commented upon; and four questions refer to literature. There is no translation, either in the examinations or in the curriculum. The standard of the question on literature (Julius Caesar, Hamlet, Macbeth) is high and demands a real grip of the psychological problems. Poetry ranges from Milton over Shelley, Keats, Byron, Blake, Browning, and Tennyson to Poe, and the question on non-fictional prose includes Bacon, Lincoln, Edison, Macaulay, Huxley, and speeches by Churchill. The last question—fiction—covers a wide scope—Pearl Buck, Sinclair Lewis, Katherine Mansfield, Arnold Bennett, Steven V. Bennett, Stevenson, O'Neill, Steinbeck, O'Henry, H. G. Wells, and John Galsworthy.

Naturally, even the best programme must remain theory unless there are the right teachers to carry it out. A number of qualified teachers from England and the United States have considerably eased the position on the staff side, and there are now approximately 200 English secondary-school teachers in the country. In addition to a pedagogical examination, they must have a B.A. for the first two classes, and an M.A. for the last two classes. The position in elementary schools, with about 1,200 English teachers, is more unstable and from time to time refresher courses are required to maintain the standard.

In conclusion Dr. Blumenthal pointed to the fact that English is the only foreign language in elementary schools and the only foreign language in secondary schools which is a compulsory examination subject. "English teaching in Israel is more than the teaching of a language," he said, "it opens a window to the Western world."

* WALTHER RATHENAU, Ein Preussischer Europäer, herausgegeben von Dr. Margarete von Eynern (KAETHE VOGT VERLAG—Berlin); DM.17.50.

WALTHER RATHENAU—continued

wertigkeits-Komplexes" hat das auch nicht das geringste zu tun. Und wer etwa aus Rathenaus Briefwechsel mit Frank Wedekind schliessen wollte, "Furchtmenschen"—zu denen Rathenau auch die Griechen zählt—liessen sich mit einem angeblichen jüdischen "Mico" in Verbindung bringen, übersieht, dass Rathenau "das erste und letzte seiner Bekenntnisse" wie folgt zusammenfasst: "Nicht Tugend und Laster, nicht Geist und Ungeist, nicht Wille und Trägheit, nicht Leidenschaft und Phlegma—kurz keines der je erwogenen Prinzipien entscheidet das innerste Wesen und den tiefsten Kern der menschlichen Natur, sondern lediglich das eine: Mut und Furcht" (S. 65/66). Gewiss, ressentimentgeladene Bitterkeit, auch verletzte Eitelkeit lassen sich oft feststellen.* Wo es ihm aber darauf ankommt, Gleichgültige oder Gegner für sich zu gewinnen, oder etwaige Einwände gegen sein Wesen und Tun zu widerlegen, wird seine Haltung viel überzeugender positiv erklärt, worauf auch die Herausgeberin der Briefsammlung in ihrer feinfühligsten Analyse hinweist—aus der lebendigen Wechselwirkung zwischen einem einfühlsamen und verwandlungsfähigen Menschenwesen und der umgebenden Landschaft und Natur (S. 22 u. 24). Zusammen mit seiner Vorstellung von "der Entwicklung der Menschheit als einer nicht mehr an die Rasse gebundene" (S. 100) ist für ihn als "heimatberechtigten Sohn" "tiefe Liebe zum deutschen Volk und deutschen Land" etwas selbstverständliches, das sich mit seinem jüdischen Empfinden durchaus in Einklang bringen lässt.

Als Laien in Fragen der Psychologie leuchtet mir das durchaus ein. Einer "tiefenpsychologischen" Erklärung bedarf aber auch der umfang—und aufschlussreiche Briefwechsel Rathenaus mit seinem betont deutsch-national gesinnten Duz-Freund, dem Lehrer und Schriftsteller Wilhelm Schwaner, nicht. Er bietet kaum Anhaltspunkte dafür, dass sich Rathenau den "blonden Mutmenschen" gegenüber instinkt-mässig als "minderwertiger Furchtmensch" gefühlt hat.

Glaube an die Menschheit

Man mag vielleicht versucht sein, in der einen oder anderen Äusserung Rathenaus den Ausdruck eines etwas übersteigerten Patriotismus zu finden, so wenn er kurz vor dem Zusammenbruch schreibt: "Meine Aufgabe ist keine jüdische. Ich fühle deutsch und werde mich nie von meinem deutschen Volke trennen." Doch diesen Worten geht ein Satz voran, der eigentlich jede Missdeutung ausschliessen sollte: "Der Krieg ist noch nicht zu Ende. Er wird eine heilungsbedürftige Menschheit hinterlassen, die sich wechselseitig stützen soll, um ihre Sendung zu erfüllen" (6.8.1918, S.273) Welcher Diaspora-Glaubensgenosse hätte damals—and nicht nur in Deutschland—wohl anders gedacht? Und ich möchte meinen, dass auch heute im Welt-Judentum, trotzdem in Israel ein unabhängiger und sich seiner Souveränität bewusster Staat erstanden ist, die Zahl derer, für die in ihrer Bindung zum Judentum sein religiös-ethischer Monotheismus das Entscheidende ist, die der Anhänger einer national-rassistischen Ideologie bei weitem übersteigt. Im Uebrigen steht Rathenau—was wohl nur wenigen bekannt sein dürfte—dem zionistischen Problem, wie es von deutschen Juden in den ersten Jahren nach der Balfour-Deklaration

* Aus einem Briefe an Frau von Hindenburg v. 12. 12. 1917 (S.243): "Wenn auch ich und meine Vorfahren nach besten Kräften unserm Lande gedient haben, so bin ich, wie Ihnen bekannt sein dürfte, als Jude Bürger zweiter Klasse . . . Durch einen Glaubenswechsel hätte ich mich den Benachteiligungen entziehen können, doch hätte ich hierdurch nach meiner Ueberzeugung dem von den herrschenden Klassen begangenen Rechtsbruch Vorschub geleistet."
Ferner an Geheimrat Professor von Schmoller am 3.5.1917 (S.202): "Das befohlende Buch . . . wird Euer Excellenz bekräftigen, dass es mir um eine staatliche Laufbahn niemals zu tun gewesen ist, deren konfessionelle Vorbedingungen anzunehmen ich, wie Euer Excellenz bekannt sein dürfte, stets abgelehnt habe."

verstanden wurde, durchaus nicht ablehnend gegenüber. Trotzdem er damals—im Jahre 1921—an verantwortungsvollster Stelle vor Aufgaben stand, die seine Zeit und Arbeitskraft voll in Anspruch nahmen, war er sich doch bewusst "dass man sich den Aufgaben des jungen Landes, sofern seine inneren Verhältnisse gesund sind, nicht entziehen soll" und er hat den Wunsch "eine Reise nach Palestina zu machen, sobald (seine) Belastung es gestattet" (an Julius Kaliski, Berlin, v. 28.3.1921, S.388).

Ein Brief zur "Judenzählung"

Auch sonst fehlt es nicht an Beweisen, wie stark Rathenau für die berechtigten Interessen der deutschen Juden eingetreten ist. Sein Brief an Max Warburg, v. 28.11.1916, verdient in dieser Hinsicht besondere Beachtung, und sei daher auch mit wenigen Kürzungen im Wortlaut wiedergegeben:

" . . . Es hat meines Erachtens heute keinen Zweck mehr, philanthropische Auseinandersetzungen zu machen in einer Frage, die seit Jahrzehnten nach allen Richtungen erörtert ist. Es kommt darauf an, heute Tatsachen zu geben und diesen die kurze Erklärung hinzuzufügen, dass angesichts politischer Notwendigkeit und angesichts der Beteiligung der Juden am Kriege mit den Misständen ein Ende gemacht werden muss. Alles, was nach Bitten und Dialektik aussieht, scheint mir nicht mehr angängig.

Mir wär es daher lieb, wenn Sie lediglich Material brächten, so zahlreich wie irgend möglich, vor allem statistisches. Dieses Tatsachenmaterial würde ich an den Anfang stellen, und lediglich mit dem entschiedenen Hinweis schliessen, dass es unerhört ist, wenn auch im Angesicht der Kämpfe keine Wendung eintritt. . . ."

Was aus diesem nur zu zeitgemässen Vorschlag geworden ist, den man eher vom "C.V." als von Rathenau erwartet hätte, darüber ist in der Briefsammlung nichts weiter zu finden. Dagegen fehlt es nicht an Briefen, in denen offene und versteckte oder böswillige antisemitische Anspielungen von Rathenau sachlich und so scharf zurückgewiesen werden, dass von einem "Furchtmenschen" wohl kaum die Rede sein kann. Es ist "mir vollkommen gleichgültig, ob im Kreise der Alldutschen Antisemitismus besteht oder nicht. . . . Meine politische Stellung hat mit meinen Interessen nichts zu tun. Kommt sie mit ihnen in Konflikt, so habe ich meine Interessen zu opfern, nicht meine Ueberzeugung," so lautet die Antwort an einen Führer der Schwerindustrie (An Geh. Kommerzienrat Bertholt Körting, Hannover, 27.4.1917).

Judentum als Geistesreligion

Weiter auf diesen Teil der Korrespondenz einzugehen, besteht nach dem Gesagten kein Anlass. Wohl aber mag ein zusammenfassendes Schlusswort am Platz sein, zumal es sich an Zeitgenossen richtet, die von Rathenaus Stellung zum Judentum häufig nur wissen, dass er der Verfasser des Aufsatzes: "Höre Israel" ist, nicht aber dass er schon 1914 offen zugegeben hat, er selbst verstehe diesen Aufsatz nicht mehr, der als Mahnung gedacht war, doch ungewollt zu einer Anklage wurde (an Wilhelm Schwaner, 17.7.1914, S.114). Ihnen sollte Rathenaus eindeutiges und wiederholtes Bekenntnis zum "Judentum" und "seiner prophetischen Verkündigung" als einer "Geistesreligion," deren Dasein "niemals abgeschlossen sein kann" (an Pastor E. Schäffer, 14.2.1920, S.362) mehr als eine interessante historische Reminiszenz bedeuten. Es ist ein Zuruf, den jüdischen Menschen daran zu erinnern, dass es von ihm allein abhängt wenn Judaismus als

Continued at foot of next column

EX-GERMAN JEWS IN THE NEWS

Captains of the Dyestuffs Industry

Dr. Herbert Levinstein, one of the leaders of the British chemical industry, who recently died at 78, was not himself a German Jew but his father Ivan was, and he worthily upheld an honourable tradition of national significance. Ivan, who founded Messrs. L. J. Levinstein and Sons, manufacturers of sulphuric acid and naphthalene, in 1865, near Manchester, may claim to have been a pioneer in the development of Britain's aniline dye industry. Its full importance was realised during the first world war after Britain had found that she had been very dependent on Germany for chemicals of all kinds, not only dyestuffs but also fertilisers and explosives. It was then that the forceful initiative displayed by Ivan Levinstein was particularly appreciated, and when the Germans began to use poison gas, it was Herbert who advised H.M. Government as to the best means of meeting the menace.

Curiously enough, there was also a German branch of Messrs. L. J. Levinstein, at Trier, under the management of Ivan's brother Gustav, who was not only a business man but also a student of Jewish affairs, mainly from the apologetic point of view. He eagerly championed the cause of the Central-Verein, and a collection of his writings appeared in Berlin in 1911 under the title "Zur Ehre des Judentums."

Gold Medal For Bruno Walter

The award of the Gold Medal of the Royal Philharmonic Society to Bruno Walter will be made at the Concert to be conducted by him with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra on May 8th next. The Gold Medal will be presented by Sir Thomas Beecham, Bart.

The Gold Medal is considered one of the greatest musical distinctions in this country. Among the recipients in recent years have been Stravinsky and Sir William Walton.

Mr. Rudolf Schwarz

Mr. Rudolf Schwarz, at present conductor of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, has been appointed to succeed Sir Malcolm Sargent as chief conductor of the B.B.C. Symphony Orchestra. He will take up his duties in September 1957.

Mr. Schwarz, who is 51, is a native of Vienna. He was appointed conductor of the Düsseldorf Opera House at the age of 18, and held the appointment until 1927. He then became principal conductor of the Karlsruhe State Theatre and a guest conductor at other centres, including Mannheim, Strasbourg, and Baden-Baden.

When Hitler came to power he was dismissed from all these appointments and from his post as musical director of the Jewish Kulturbund. He was imprisoned in the concentration camps of Auschwitz and Belsen, from which he was liberated by British troops in 1945.

In 1947 he came to Britain from Sweden and was appointed conductor of the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra.

The "Manchester Guardian" describes the appointment as "a well-deserved distinction achieved after a remarkably successful career in this country." At Bournemouth Mr. Schwarz is stated to have "won admiration for the high standard of performance that he achieved and much goodwill for his support of British music."

Dr. L. Guttmann invited to Australia

Dr. Ludwig Guttmann, O.B.E., Director of the National Spinal Injuries Centre, Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury, will be visiting Australia early in 1957, as the result of a request to the Nuffield Foundation by its Australian Advisory Committee, to advise on the setting up of spinal centres and on the vocational training of the disabled. Dr. Guttmann—who prior to his emigration lived and worked in Breslau—is a most interested member of the AJR Board.

"Geistesreligion" in seiner Jahrtausende überdauernden lebendigen Frische der Menschheit auch in Zukunft erhalten bleiben soll. Auch für die Verwirklichung der die Menschheit umspannenden Vision, die das Judentum der Welt geschenkt hat, gilt das Wort: "Wenn Ihr wollt, ist es kein Märchen."

DIASPORA IN SOUTH AMERICA

A Congress in Montevideo

The record of the recent immigrants from Central Europe in the Jewish life of South America was commended by Mr. Philip M. Klutznick, President of the B'nai B'rith, after a visit to the continent. Struck by the "astonishing development" since their arrival, Mr. Klutznick declared: "Their quick adjustment, their ability to integrate in their new homelands and to establish themselves economically, is a tribute to their own resourcefulness and to the receptivity of the nations who took them in. Jewish families who have resided in South America 20 years or less have not only acquired roots in their environment—they have given some of their own coloration to it."

As a characteristic example, Mr. Klutznick mentioned Quito, capital of Ecuador, which before 1933 had barely a *Minyan*; today there are 1,200 Jews, a large synagogue and a community centre. This, he thought, revealed the widespread programme of construction of Jewish institutions now in progress and "is a good index to the vitality of Jews in South America."

Impact of Central European Immigration

Hitherto the continental communities had little contact with each other, being separated by vast and often uncharted distances. But now the immigrants have made a move towards some sort of unity by holding, in Montevideo last July, the "First Congress of Congregations and Organisations of Central European Origin in Latin America." The Congress was attended by Ministers from five countries—Rabbis Dr. Wilhelm Schlesinger and Hanns Harf, of Buenos

Aires; Rabbis Dr. Fritz Pinkus and Dr. Heinrich Lemmler, of Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro; Rabbi Manfred Lubliner, of Santiago de Chile; Rabbi Dr. Fritz Winter, of Montevideo, and Rabbi Goldstein, of Lima.

Among Argentina's representatives were also Dr. Hardy Swarsensky, editor of the "Jüdische Wochenschau"; among Brazil's, Dr. Alfred Hischberg, editor of the "Cronica Israelita" and director of the United Israel Campaign in Sao Paulo. The largest delegation of any one country was of course that of the host, the Nueva Congregacion Israelita de Montevideo ("N.C.I.") whose chairman, Dr. Fedor Hirschlaff, presided over the Congress.

Work of Five Countries Co-ordinated

The upshot of the deliberations was the establishment of a Working Committee designed to co-ordinate activities in the various countries, more especially to arrange for a regular flow of internal information; to collect and publish material bearing on current problems; to exchange cultural and educational material; to issue appropriate school books on Jewish history, Israel, etc.; to arrange for exchange visits of young people as well as of teachers, ministers, etc. A special Working Committee of Latin American Rabbis was founded. A message of homage was sent to the spokesman and Teacher of German Jewry, Rabbi Leo Baeck. A Second Congress is to be held, again at Montevideo, in one or two years.

It so happened that the Congress coincided with the 20th anniversary of its host, the N.C.I. They began with 14 men, among whom two were prominent—Mauricio Speyer, the first President

GERMAN WOMEN IN ISRAEL

The first German Christian student was recently admitted to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Fräulein Eva Beling, 25, who enrolled for the coming term, is the daughter of a former trade instructor who was dismissed by the Nazis in 1933. (A note on the family appeared in the October 1955 issue of *AJR Information*.) Fräulein Beling will remain in Jerusalem for one year to complete a survey of "German Jewry's integration in Israel."

Another German Christian woman has been in Israel for two years as a nurse at the Malben Hospital, Nahariya. Hilda von Hippel, daughter of a Prussian officer, whose home in Görlitz was destroyed during the war, was overwhelmed by the thought of the German crimes. She had never met a Jew, but after the establishment of the State of Israel, she resolved to go there and, for her part, atone by ministering to the sick. Defying the family's resistance, she escaped from the Soviet Zone and through the good offices of Dean Hermann Maas managed to obtain a visa for Israel.

and preacher, and Georg Less, former member of the Breslau City Council and chairman of the Jewish community there. Their Minister since 1938, Gustav Roseman, left for Israel in 1950 and was succeeded by Dr. Fritz Winter who had begun his career in the Fasanenstrasse synagogue. By 1953 the Congregation had sufficiently prospered to consecrate its own communal home, and it is hoped that another one will be opened before long, as will a Home for the Aged. The N.C.I. publishes, in German, a weekly "Boletin Informativo" (editor: Georg Freund) which devoted an elaborate "Festausgabe" to the jubilee.

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NEW SYNAGOGUES IN WESTERN GERMANY

Dortmund

In the presence of many guests of honour a new Jewish Communal Centre was consecrated by Rabbi Dr. P. Holzer. In addition to numerous Jewish personalities the Prime Minister of North-Rhine-Westphalia, Fritz Steinhoff, the Protestant Superintendent, Heuner, and the Regierungspräsident of Arnsberg attended the ceremony. The Centre consists of three parts: the Synagogue, the Home for Aged (with 22 beds), and the Administrative Building.

Offenbach

The new small Synagogue at Offenbach, with a capacity of 100, stands in a beautiful garden. The Mayor and Representatives of the Catholic Church, the Protestant Church, and the Free Church congratulated the Jewish community on their new place of worship.

Munich

Fifteen families, who moved from the now closed Föhrenwald D.P. Camp to the Munich suburb of Pasing, will now have a place of worship of their own. The State and Municipal authorities were present at the opening ceremony.

Trier

Eleven years after the war and eighteen years after the destruction of the former Synagogue at the Zuckerberg, the foundation-stone of a new Synagogue was laid at the Neumarkt. The Town Council of Trier had voted for the erection of the building with an overwhelming majority and granted a financial subsidy of 80,000 D.M.

HIGH FESTIVAL SERVICES

Altogether thirty-five congregations in Western Germany held services during the High Festivals. They included not only the large cities such as Duesseldorf, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Munich, and Stuttgart but also places like Detmold, Herford, Muenster, Trier, and Wuerzburg.

CHIEF PHYSICIAN FOR HAMBURG JEWISH HOSPITAL

The Hamburg Jewish Hospital, founded by Salomon Heine, the poet's uncle, has appointed Dr. Julian Kalitzki as its new chief physician. Dr. Kalitzki, who practised in Hamburg up to 1933, lived in Haifa until 1954. The hospital, which at present is inadequately housed, will move into a new 100-bed building now under construction.

AMERICAN PAPER ON JEWS IN GERMANY

Under the heading "The Jews in Germany and Today" the well-known American periodical "Newsweek" describes the change of the structure of the Jewish population in Germany after the war as compared with pre-war German Jewry. The DPs, who now live in several Jewish communities, originate from Eastern Europe and are characterised by strong bonds with Israel and strict Jewish observance. German-born Jews who survived in Germany or returned after 1945 are faced with special problems. One returnee, a manufacturer in Stuttgart, told the author that for him there was the "gnawing call to return to what one had helped build; and that feeling that what remained to be done by our generation was to re-establish a bridge into the past. It is a gamble whose result we will not live to see."

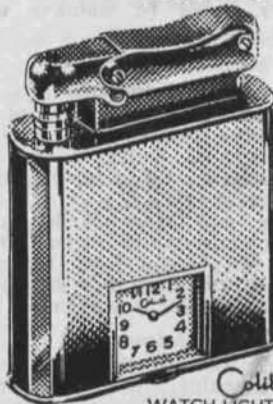
The report also claims that the instinctive tolerance on the part of the Germans is not so strange as it seems. Even the most race-conscious Nazi-sympathisers can find little target for their antisemitism. The reason, of course, is that there are so few Jews left.

LONDON VISIT OF ERNST LEMMER

Under the auspices of the Anglo-German Association Mr. Ernst Lemmer (Berlin), MdB, will give a public lecture on "The Future of Berlin," on Thursday, November 1, 6.30 p.m., at Caxton Hall, S.W.1.



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IN MEMORY OF A REFUGEE ARTIST

Julius Rosenbaum was a refugee artist who was an upright Jew in the sense this expression had in the former life our community.

He was a very gifted disciple of the French impressionists, habitué of the Parisian "ateliers" around the turn of the century, who returned to Berlin and worked for all the illustrated papers from "Scherl" to the "Wahre Jacob," a periodical of the "Vorwärts," from the "Konfektionär" to "B.Z. am Mittag" and "Ulk." There was the one thing he was stubborn about. He refused to discard his cumbersome name, which was much more than just a name, it was a confession every day of his life, was a stamp of German Jewishness. Not for him the easier life Jules Pascin had chosen when he threw off his Russian-Jewish name to be a French painter among French painters.

Julius Rosenbaum felt great responsibility towards his community. Not for him the ivory tower. He founded the "Berliner Künstlerbund" and, eager to help his fellow-artists, he spent an enormous amount of time for the "Wirtschaftliche Verband," succeeded in bringing together the "Künstlervereine" for exhibitions in the "Schloss Bellevue." After Hitler came to power, he induced the "Jüdische Gemeinde" to arrange a special "Künstlerhilfe" and all and sundry came to him to get coal and money. He attracted the attention of the Gestapo, when he organised meetings for the artist where they could discuss the possibilities of emigration. He himself helped more than one to escape.

Meanwhile he had passed his examination as a teacher for arts and crafts. He trained Jewish children for a new life, helped to occupy them, taught the children of generations of clerks and salesmen in the "Vorlehre." In these years between 1933 and 1938 he often went to his beloved Latin South, to Malcesine, and painted the eternal white roads and colourful boats and Italian houses, representing the great simple lines of a landscape, the rhythm, the dramatic clash of colours. Sometimes he painted old Biblical subjects, Joseph and his brethren, Jacob's dream, Samson, etc., some of which the Jewish Museum in Berlin acquired.

As for all Jewish artists, emigration was difficult. His versatility, his clever hands helped him to make a living (he even put glass into windows during the blitz), enjoying the colours of London at dawn and dusk, the company of his London workmates, the queer lot in the houses around Theobalds Road. He enjoyed it all with the artist's joy in all God's creatures. He became a fitter in a small factory, and he ended by having, together with his painter wife, a flourishing art school. A circle of devoted pupils exhibited as the "Belsize Group."

The fate of artists, dependent as they are on art dealers and their whims, in default of a genuine clientele of rich interested dilettanti, is utterly unpredictable, has nothing to do with genuine values, we only need remember Soutine who was starving in his garret in Paris for nine-tenths of

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Material About Theresienstadt

Dear Sir,—For the preparation of a documentary volume on Theresienstadt and a revised second edition of my book "Theresienstadt 1941-1945—Das Anlitz einer Zwangsgemeinschaft," I should be grateful for useful suggestions of all kinds and the loan of documentary material which will be conscientiously returned as soon as possible. I am looking for documents, forms, diaries, notes, reports, letters, memoirs, literary works, and pictures from Theresienstadt as well as everything concerning this camp and the deportation to and from Theresienstadt or preceding events leading to this deportation.

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his life, until suddenly his pictures were "discovered" and the cars queued before his Paris abode.

Julius Rosenbaum knew the doubtful value of what the world calls fame and, true only to himself, he went on painting after his own liking, creating his best, his strongest works in his very last years. He died after seventeen years in Hampstead. The knowledge of personalities, of events, of strata of society, of old Breslau, of Paris fifty years ago, of Berlin between the wars, gone, a mirror of our world darkened for ever.

GABRIELE TERGIT.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

BIRTH

Simmonds.—On September 9, a daughter (Gail Deborah) was born to Ruth (née Eger) and Geoffrey Simmonds, of 7 St. Clement's Road, Harrogate.

Engagement

Metzger ; Davies.—The engagement is announced between Jan Lester Davies, A.C.A., only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Davies, of 22 King's Croft Gardens, Leeds, 17, and Lottie Ellen Metzger, only daughter of Mrs. J. Metzger and the late Mr. G. M. Metzger, of 9 Cardigan Road, Leeds, 6.

Birthday

Mr. Georg Braun, of 19 Chandos Road, N.2, will celebrate his 70th birthday on October 7, 1956.

Golden Wedding

Mr. Julius and Mrs. Recha Schaul (née Bauer), of 32 Rutland Park Mansions, Willesden Green, N.W.2, announce the 50th anniversary of their marriage on October 12, 1956.

Deaths

Mr. Max Doctor, 77 years of age, born in Liegnitz, died on September 4, 1956, at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow.

Mr. Berthold Neuburger, of 23 Grey-stoke Gardens, Enfield West, Middlesex, suddenly passed away on September 11, 1956, at the age of 67. Deeply mourned by his wife, Ella (née Baum), relatives, and friends.

Mr. Bernhard Kristeller, M.P.S., of 98 Brondesbury Villas, London, N.W.6, peacefully passed away on August 9, at the age of 52. Deeply mourned by his wife, brother, relatives, and many friends.

CLASSIFIED

Situations Vacant

FULLY QUALIFIED LAWYER wanted for London lawyer's office (restitution). Applications with curriculum and references, Box 183.

SHORTHAND-TYPIST, part-time, wanted. Work could partly be done at home. Box 184.

COMPANION - HOUSEKEEPER wanted for elderly lady, Muswell Hill district. Box 186.

ASSISTANT MATRON required, preferably with nursing qualifications, for privately run Old Age Home in Manchester. Knowledge of German essential. Box 203.

FACTORY CLERK (female) wanted in Notting Hill Gate area for distribution and checking in of homework, knowledge of making up of children's garments and typing a definite advantage. Write, stating age, experience, and salary required, to Box 204.

Situations Wanted

Men

FIRST-CLASS SALES PROMOTER wants position of trust, willing to travel. Leather expert; also general export considered. Languages: French, Spanish, Italian. Box 202.

ACCOUNTANT / BOOKKEEPER, reliable, good ref., wants position of trust. Box 188.

PACKER, elderly man, who came here recently from Trieste, little knowl. of English, languages: German, Italian, Yugosl., wants full- or part-time work. Box 189.

STOCKKEEPER - DISPATCH CLERK, exp. in textile, leathers goods, and children's wear, wants suitable position. Good references. Box 190.

Women

LEDGER CLERK, no knowl. of typing, wants part-time work (4-6 hours). Box 191.

BOOKKEEPER, exp., reliable, no typing, wants full-time work. Box 192.

PART-TIME work, cooking, attending sick or invalid people, caring for children, done by reliable woman, good ref. Box 193.

MENDING, ALTERATION WORK done by experienced woman. Box 194.

SITTER-IN available for day or evening, full- or part-time. Box 195.

COACHING IN CHEMISTRY done by experienced teacher. Box 196.

HOUSEKEEPER / COOK / NURSE, 44, educated, wants daily work on 5 days. Box 200.

CHEERFUL, WELL-EDUCATED LADY would like to be a lady companion or baby-sitter for three afternoons weekly. Box 187.

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LAWYER, specialised in compensation claims, wants to share office with colleague. Box 185.

TO SHARE BUSINESS PREMISES, well equipped, first floor, dressmaker, milliner, or similar trade would be suitable. "Phone BAYswater 6005 (10 a.m.-5 p.m.).

FURNISHED ROOMS in N.W.6, 8, 3, and 11 districts wanted for business people and elderly people, mostly without breakfast or meals. A.J.R. Social Services Department, MAL. 4449.

FURN. ROOM with cooking facilities wanted against sitting-in or similar duties, prof. in Golders Green and in Orthodox hse. Box 199.

Miscellaneous

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EDUCATED LADY, former German, divorced, own nice house, would like to marry cultured gentleman of good character, could be widower with children. Box 201.

MISSING PERSONS

Personal Inquiries

Mr. Max Zucker, or a member of his family, lived before the war Neue Friedrichstrasse, Berlin, wanted by J. Steuermann, 30 Redhill Drive, Bournemouth.

Lieselotte and Hans Weile, from Zielenzig, emigrated to England 1938-39, for Mr. Martin Katz, formerly Beuthen, North Silesia, now Rivadavia 986, Bahja Blanca, Argentina.

Inquiries from AJR

Miss Inge Loewenstein, born about 1920, probably in Osnabrueck, daughter of Mrs. Rosa Loewenstein (née Oberschitzki), who came to England from Holland in 1939 as children's nurse and might have gone to Manchester. For Mrs. Kaethe van Dijk (née Isenberg), Dorpstr. 9, Winkel (N.H.).

Mr. Julius Isenberg and Mrs. Flora (née Levy), lived in Berlin, Wullenweberstr. 10, and later on probably Alt Moabit 104a, said to have emigrated from Berlin to England in 1938. For Mrs. Kaethe van Dijk (née Isenberg), Dorpstr. 9, Winkel (N.H.). **Miss Mahrer.** Was matron in a hostel for the concentration camp boys in Glasgow years ago. After she left she went to work in a kind of Jewish Home for blind people. Reply to AJR.

AJR SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Employment Agency. Due to the rise of living costs the number of people who have to take up work (especially housewives and pensioners) has increased. Some would like to work nearer to their homes because they cannot afford the fares. Several vacancies reported could not be filled because either the payment was not adequate or the working place was too far.

Our applicants include bookkeepers, home-typists, cooks, attendants for sick and invalid people, needlewomen (mending, darning, alterations), and sitters-in.

Accommodation. To cut down or save rent expenses more people would like to take rooms "au pair" or against some duties.

Visits to sick, invalid or lonely people. For this important part of our activities more voluntary helpers are required.

Library of German Books. We have a number of regular readers; other callers get books for invalid or disabled neighbours.

Consulting Hours. The consulting hours are Monday to Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. No appointments are necessary for calls during the consulting hours. Only inquiries who have to call after office hours or who need economic advice should make special appointments.

Telephone Calls. Whenever possible, inquiries should not be made over the telephone, but in writing. When telephone calls are necessary the line MAI 4449 should be used and not MAI 9096/7.

Handicraft Exhibition with articles on sale is displayed in Room No. 2. As Chanukkah starts on 29th November orders should be given soon.

AJR. CLUB
Television Set Installed

Readers will be pleased to learn that a television set has been installed in the premises of the AJR Club, 57 Eton Avenue, Swiss Cottage, London, N.W.3.

As before, the Club is open not only every afternoon from 4 to 7 p.m., from Sunday to Thursday, but also in the evening (7-10 p.m.) on Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday. Many readers who are working during the day have appreciated this possibility of spending part of their leisure time in the homely atmosphere of the Club. Any new interested friends are cordially welcome.

A Concert will be held on Sunday, October 21, at 5 p.m., with Mrs. Alice Schaeffer and Mr. Rudi Offenbach as the artists (see also advertisement in this issue).

JEWISH ART EXHIBITION

An exhibition of Contemporary Art by Jewish Artists (Painting and Sculpture) will be held at the North West London Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue, N.W.3, from November 24 to December 23, 1956. At the same time and place a series of lectures on art in all its aspects will be given by leading experts who have welcomed the idea.

H.E. The Israeli Ambassador and Madame Elath, Sir Jacob Epstein, Mr. Barnett Janner, M.P., Mr. Israel M. Sieff, Councillor E. Snowman (Hampstead), and other personalities and important Jewish organisations have shown great interest in the intended exhibition and promised their active assistance.

Three strong committees have been formed to prepare the exhibition which will be selective without denying a chance to the unrecognised Jewish artist.

More details will be published in our next issue. The address of the Secretary to the Exhibition is North West London Zion House, 57 Eton Avenue, N.W.3.

DEATH OF MR. MAX DOCTOR

Mr. Max Doctor, who died on September 4, aged 77, following a street accident, was very well known as a friend and helper among the Glasgow Refugee community. He came to this country from Liegnitz, in Silesia, where he belonged to a well-known family with a business of repute. For many years he was a respected member of the Glasgow business world. He was a faithful Brother of the B'nai B'rith Lodge, a leading member of the Society of Jewish Refugees, and he was also most helpful in the Mutual Refugees Aid Society (MRAS). He always kept in the background, speaking very little, but when he spoke it was mostly for the sake of lesser-known fellow-refugees in need. He saw them in their homes, he met them in a tearoom, had a chat with them, and, giving them an extra treat, he cheered them up.

Mr. Doctor was not in the best of health during the last few years, yet that did not prevent him from fulfilling his duties. The very sad accident, the victim of which he fell, is considered by everyone of the Glasgow Refugee community as if it had happened to a near relative and friend. His life was dedicated to helping others, he will never be forgotten by his fellow refugees.

Dr. C.R.

It is learnt with deep regret that Dr. H. A. Schlossman (Cambridge) suddenly passed away, at the age of 62. Dr. Schlossman was a leading member of the Cambridge Refugees Committee and throughout the years devoted a great amount of his time to the well-being of his fellow refugees. By his activities he also came into close contact with the AJR Local Group to which he was a most helpful friend. He will be gratefully remembered by all those who had the privilege of co-operating with him and of benefiting from his selfless services.

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