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MAIda Vale 4449 (Employment Agency and Social Services Dept.)Office and Consulting Hours:
Monday to Thursday 10 a.m.—1 p.m. 3—6 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m.—1 p.m.**'DIE UNBEWAELTIGTE VERGANGENHEIT'****A Past Not Yet Faced**

During the last few weeks several trials before German criminal courts have revealed the crimes committed by the henchmen of the National Socialist régime, at which the imagination of a sane person boggles. In Ulm a number of German police officers, a lawyer and a clerk are the defendants in an action for the murder of five thousand Lithuanian Jews. The principal defendant's slogan was "Erst mach' dei Sach', dann trink und lach'". What were the duties after which it was his custom to laugh and drink? Witnesses have testified that they consisted in having had the Jewish men shot in batches of 200, and the women as well, whereas the little children were clubbed to death.

In Bayreuth, the "Arrestverwalter" of the Buchenwald concentration camp, Martin Sommer, stood his trial, to which we refer on page 2. Scenes of unrest in the court were reported when visitors, listening to the recital of unspeakable acts of brutality, shouted "Hang the brute". On the other hand, the counsel for the defence regretted that the past had been dug up; the inmates of concentration camps, so he said, had been criminals anyway. Commentaries in the leading papers in strong and dignified language condemned the system that had made such acts possible.

The remarkable fact in the Sommer trial was that the most incriminating statements against the defendant came from former S.S. men. Inmates of the camp also appeared, among them a Jewish witness, who mentioned one of the S.S. camp doctors as having murdered more people by injections in one week than had Sommer in his whole career. This doctor was allowed to practise at Munich, until recently, when he fled to Egypt after his name had come up in the trial. (See page 2.)

The few names mentioned in the Bayreuth and Ulm trials represent a numerically large category of persons who were ordinary citizens before Hitler's day then became mass murderers, and are now submerged in German society as "respectable citizens". Around many a German "Stammtisch" sit people like Sommer, and there is more than one doctor now vaccinating school children, having put aside the syringe with which he administered lethal injections until fourteen years ago.

The German Conscience

Whether the German public will now change the attitude of indifference it has generally shown to the Nazi crimes, cannot be easily prophesied. One would only too willingly believe that these deeds revealed in a trial before a German court have not only shocked the German man in the street but have also awakened his conscience. After all, this time the defendant had not to answer charges for the murder of millions—a deed which the human mind can hardly visualise. Sommer, originally accused of the torture and murder of about 150 people, was sentenced for the murder

of "only" 25. The brutal and wilful killing of 25 persons, described in all its gruesome details in the trial, can be grasped by the human mind. On another similar occasion hopes were entertained that the German people would, as one man, turn away from a party and its leader who identified themselves with an act of brutal murder: decent people were shocked when they learned from a German court trial at the end of 1932 that National Socialists at Potempa (Upper Silesia) had trampled to death a political opponent. Yet a few weeks after Hitler had sent his notorious telegram to the Potempa murderers, the reins of German government were handed over to him.

We are near enough to the German scene to know some of the stereotyped reactions to revelations of this kind: that the crimes revealed in Nuernberg were, if true at all, committed by a lunatic fringe of society; that there may have been some outrages such as have occurred in other countries as well, and to single them out was Allied propaganda; that to churn up the past was in nobody's interest—certainly not in that of the German people—and that it was unpatriotic and almost treasonable to wash one's dirty linen in public.

Beyond these popular responses to occasional press reports or trials, one has been aware of even more dangerous trends: attempts to whitewash the perpetrators of the crimes or the system "which, you must admit, was not as black as many painted it, viz., the Auto-bahnen". Such attempts, in the true scapegoat manner, are usually coupled with attacks against compensation to Nazi victims.

"Death is my Profession"

The German public has had an object lesson in the Bayreuth and Ulm trials, and will have a further one in the forthcoming trial of the murderers of Sachsenhausen. It has learnt from the medical expert in Bayreuth that the defendant was not to be considered a sadist—a statement which is hard to believe. Some months ago the novel of a French writer, Robert Merlé, "La mort est mon métier", appeared in the Eastern sector of Berlin. The book, originally published by the leading French publishing institute, did not find a publisher in Western Germany. The author attempts to interpret the foulest deeds of brutality psychologically. His hero is the former commandant of Auschwitz, whose autobiographical notes, together with the minutes of his trial in Warsaw, form the factual basis of the novel. This commandant—responsible for the mechanical destruction of hundreds of thousands of innocent human beings—is not described as a monster, but as an ordinary soldier type, who from his early youth was accustomed to obey instructions and orders blindly. The author's accusation is brought not against the man, but against the system which transformed its adherents into robots carrying out any piece of work like machines, even if that work was the killing of millions of human beings.

In our opinion it is tantamount to condoning the Nazi system if its former criminal adherents are allowed to go scot free; if German medical societies permit mass murderers in the white coats of doctors to practise as if what happened only thirteen to fifteen years ago had never occurred at all, and if they are accepted as respectable citizens of society. (The German medical profession, by the way, had to learn from the British Medical Association how a professional body ought to have reacted to members who revealed their true character in their former positions as concentration camp torturers.)

Man's Most Degrading Action

In an article in the London *Observer* of July 13, written on the Darwin centenary, the distinguished English novelist, C. P. Snow said: "The mass slaughter of the concentration camps was both the most awful and the most degrading set of actions that men have done so far. This set of actions was ordered and controlled by abnormally wicked men, if you like, but down the line the orders were carried out by thousands of people like the rest of us, civil servants, soldiers, engineers, all brought up in an advanced Western and Christian society." Similar views are held by distinguished Germans who have been trying to make the German people aware of the true nature of their National Socialist past. They are of the opinion that the German public must be confronted with the most shameful and dreadful chapter of German history. Sometimes these men, who are guided by the highest ethical principles, men of the calibre of Professor Franz Boehm, are maliciously condemned by German writers for trying to play the rôle of *præceptores Germaniae*.

What is missing in German public opinion is recognition of the fact not that a handful of criminals committed atrocious deeds, but that these deeds were a direct consequence of the Nazi teachings and of the mental attitude of its leaders. It is embarrassing for the individual to admit that he was connected, in one way or another, with such a system, or benefited from it. And yet he cannot be spared the obligation to overcome the past by facing it squarely. The Nobel Prize Winner, Hermann Hesse, at the suggestion of a German youth organisation, recently addressed a letter to the youth of Germany in which he said: "It is incumbent on the youth of Germany to realise the causes of the ignominy which National Socialism and, above all, its massacre of the Jews, have brought on Germany, and it is the duty of German youth to reject the faults of character and the false thinking of that generation and its leaders. Whoever in Germany continues to repeat Hitlerite or anti-Semitic slogans, is an enemy of his Fatherland."

The National Socialist past is not yet faced and "bewaeltigt", the term so aptly used by Professor Boehm. Lame excuses and evasions such as we have quoted above are, in fact, worse than any escapism. They imply the discarding of all responsibility, and are a symptom of an attitude irreconcilable with the will to eradicate the evil system, root and branch.

H.R.

SHADOWS OF THE PAST

LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR "BUTCHER OF BUCHENWALD"

Martin Sommer, a former Buchenwald concentration camp S.S. guard, was found guilty of murdering Jewish prisoners, and was sentenced to life imprisonment by the Bayreuth Criminal Court.

Witnesses included the Director of the Press Office of the City of Munich, Josef Ackermann, who was a clerk in the camp's pathological institute and who told the court that if an inmate did not raise his cap, Sommer would beat him with a stick or a horse whip. Many prisoners died as a result of this.

Other witnesses testified that Sommer obtained phials of poison from the camp chemist, and that several dead bodies showed traces of injection needles.

Sommer has lodged an appeal against the sentence. The trial was given considerable publicity in the German press, and aroused feelings of horror in the German public.

BUCHENWALD DOCTOR'S ESCAPE

Dr. Hans Eisele, formerly a doctor at Buchenwald concentration camp, who is wanted by the West German police, has escaped to Cairo.

It is expected that the West German authorities will apply for his extradition, but there is no extradition agreement between the Federal Republic and Egypt. It is believed, moreover, that Eisele has applied for political asylum in Egypt. In Germany he is required to stand trial for alleged complicity in a large number of murders at Buchenwald.

Eisele's crimes were repeatedly mentioned during the trial of Martin Sommer at Bayreuth. In 1945 Eisele was sentenced to death, but this was commuted to life imprisonment. In 1953 he was released from Landsberg prison. He was given 4,000 DM. as compensation for "war losses" and a loan of 25,000 DM. from the Bavarian Government in order to re-establish himself as a doctor and he built up a thriving practice in Munich.

Eisele's escape must be seen against the background of at least 130,000 former S.S. men living in Western Germany. Probably more than 20,000 of them are living under false names in order to avoid charges being brought against them. The S.S. is a useful sort of "club" and looks after its own and Eisele, a former Sturmfuhrer, knew how to use it.

GAULEITER KOCH TRIAL

Koch, former Gauleiter of East Prussia and Kommissar for occupied Ukraine, was handed over to Poland some years ago. His trial had to be postponed again and again because of ill-health. Now it is reported from Warsaw that Polish doctors have decided that Koch is fit to be tried. He is charged with murdering 72,000 Poles. Whilst he was a Kommissar four million people are stated to have been killed in Poland and the Ukraine.

NAZI PROPAGANDA

The *Ring*, organ of the Verband ehemaliger Internierter und Entnazifizierungsgeschädigter, now makes thinly veiled Nazi propaganda. When the Vice-President of the Bundestag, Professor Carlo Schmid, accepted the Jerusalem University's invitation to give a series of lectures in French, the *Ring* commented: "Perhaps this invitation is a sign of thanks for the universal profession of guilt towards the Communist East." (In Warsaw Schmid had recently condemned German crimes.) "Jerusalem, however, does not need such a confession, for there they are convinced anyway. Yet it might seem useful for a rise in reparation payments."

The *Ring* states that the suggestion that the Nazis themselves had set fire to the Reichstag is "ridiculous and without foundation".

The cult of Anne Frank is dismissed as a publicity manoeuvre by the city of Amsterdam and as a means of kindling hatred against Germany.

DEUTSCHE GEMEINSCHAFT

When the Deutsche Gemeinschaft held its congress at Nuernberg, its periodical, *Deutsche Gemeinschaft*, explained why Nuernberg was chosen: "During the Third Reich, Nuernberg had experienced the whole power and glory of a strong Germany. Therefore the bloodthirsty tribunal of the victors had taken its seat there in order to triumph not over National-Socialism of the Hitler brand—oh no—but over everything German. They did it with the cheap and lying methods of mental sadism and Pharisaic smugness."

The congress sent greetings to President Nasser. August Haussleiter was unanimously re-elected as Chairman. A resolution was passed condemning any restitution payments.

The new Mayor of Rothenburg-ob-der-Tauber is a member of the Gemeinschaft.

EX-NAZIS IN THE SOVIET ZONE

The Investigation Committee of the Association of Free Jurists has published the names of 75 former members of the NSDAP, who now hold leading posts in the Soviet Zone.

According to this publication, 29 members of the Volkskammer (the East German parliament) were former Nazis. It is stated that the Minister for Chemical Industries, Winkler; Steidle for Health; his deputy, Dr. Parchmin, and the Deputy Minister for the Production of Machines, Wunderlich, are former Pgs. The Chairman of the Committee of Justice of the Volkskammer, Dallmann, was the Nazi student leader in the Gau Thuringia and the President of the Supreme Court, Schumann, was a member of the NSDAP. The pamphlet mentions further leading journalists who were Pgs. At the same time it points out that this publication does not intend to justify the staffing of the offices of the Federal Republic.

PENSION FOR GAULEITER'S WIDOW

The Court at Nuernberg sentenced the Bavarian State to pay widow's and orphan's pensions to the widow and the daughter of Karl Holz, former Gauleiter of Franken. The Court maintained that Holz was killed in military action, and that his ideas were immaterial.

FORMER GESTAPO OFFICIAL COMMITS SUICIDE

In the course of the trial at Ulm against members of the Tilsit Einsatz Kommando, the Mainz Criminal Police Inspector Artur Genath—a former Gestapo official—was arrested in the court room. He was charged by the State Attorney with giving false testimony under oath and for having threatened witnesses. Two witnesses accused him of beating prisoners and of participating in the mass killing of Jews. After his arrest, Genath committed suicide in his prison cell.

SCHLUETER'S CASE

Three years ago Schlueter had to resign as Minister of Education in the Land Lower Saxony under pressure from democratic public opinion. Now, his publishing firm, Goettinger Verlagsanstalt, has published a book, "Die grosse Hetze", purporting to give all the details of the event.

DOENITZ ACCOUNTS

Former Grand Admiral Doenitz has published an account of the days when he acted as the successor of Hitler. The article was published by the Munich illustrated *Quick* under the title "I Give an Account".

AUSTRIAN YOUTH

The Heimattreue Jugend in Wien Meidling has founded a Sturmjugend-Kameradschaft which they have named "Major Walter Novotny". Novotny, one of the most successful members of Hitler's Luftwaffe, was killed in action. The youth organisation mounts a guard of honour at Novotny's grave and wear the uniform of the Third Reich.

SOUND ADVICE TO INDEMNIFICATION CLAIMANTS

In the last two issues of the legal monthly *Rechtsprechung zum Wiedergutmachungsrecht* (June 1958, p. 209 and July 1958, p. 247) "Sagittarius" makes some topical and useful suggestions.

He points out that, apart from the clearly-defined priorities of the German Indemnification Law regarding old age, illness, need and waiting period, there are other priorities which the claimant can himself create. The first is that of a fully-prepared claim. Persons who, by thorough and careful preparation of their claims, save the authorities much time, also save time for other claimants and thereby acquire moral priority. A further justification for priority is willingness to conclude an amicable settlement and to renounce the right to fight the legal battle to the bitter end. By resolving to sacrifice uncertain chances for definite, though more limited prospects, and thus speeding up the litigation machinery, a claimant also deserves consideration for priority.

"Sagittarius" further stresses the fact that it is just during the court's vacation that claimants travel to Germany and visit the courts, often in the company of their lawyers. He asks what object can be achieved if a claimant monopolises the valuable time of the indemnification authorities by putting questions to them which could, or should, have been explained by their lawyers at home. It is, however, utterly inadmissible if the purpose of the joint visit to the authority is to find out what is still lacking for the claim to be successful. Persons claiming a professional knowledge of indemnification procedure should know whether an indemnification claim is valid or not. Those not having such knowledge should abstain from representing claims.

Furthermore, it would be well if the refugee organisations would advise their members in good time before the start of the holiday season, that it would be in the interest not only of individuals but also of persecutees in general if they strictly avoided visits to the indemnification offices. It is quite sufficient if lawyers take the trouble to go to the courts during the holiday season, but claimants should not waste energy filling up the ante rooms of the offices every summer and turning them into *salles des pas perdus*.

F.G.

GERMANY AND ISRAEL

NAHUM GOLDMANN LECTURES AT FRANKFURT UNIVERSITY

Dr. Nahum Goldmann lectured on problems of the Middle East to a large audience of German professors and students at Frankfurt University. It was his first public talk in Germany since 1932. Dr. Goldmann said that he was deeply moved again to be speaking in Frankfurt, the city where he had spent many happy years of his childhood.

He stated that lasting peace between Israel and the Arabs was possible only if the Great Powers joined in guaranteeing Middle East stability. The conflict between East and West benefited only aggressive Arab nationalism and if the Great Powers would recognise the reciprocal relations inherent in their influence on the Middle East, the Arabs would no longer be able to play one side against the other and would then have to recognise Israel. He declared that the unity of Arab States should be furthered and that this would be beneficial to Israel since, as long as they were in conflict, they would merely vie with one another in their hostility towards Israel.

OLLENHAUER ON GERMAN-ISRAEL RELATIONS

In an interview with the representative of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Mr. Erich Ollenhauer, leader of the SPD, stated that he had repeatedly called for diplomatic relations to be established between Israel and the German Federal Republic, and that this would be beneficial to both countries. He expressed the view that the Federal Republic had missed a most favourable opportunity of bringing this about. He also regretted the statement made by Minister Shaeffer some time ago. Every remark of this kind, he felt, was bound to lead to a further increase of anti-Semitism.

Lucie Schachne

CARE FOR THE AGED

"Leo Baeck House" read the small black letters on the two lamps at the entrance to the drive. This is the only indication that the spacious house and beautiful garden in Bishops Avenue is not the usual family residence in one of London's most attractive suburbs on the fringe of lovely Kenwood. Here the song of a nightingale can be heard despite the proximity of an industrial background.

Two old ladies, who were just about to go for a walk, had left the front door open, so I slipped in. There was no formality in this house anyway. It did not take me long to realise that, though no longer the home of one family, the house has completely preserved its original character, in spite of its new purpose. The panelled hall, with its wide staircase, leads the visitor to an atmosphere of quiet privacy and retreat. There are thirty-seven rooms, thirty-two of which are single and the remainder double, some of which will be allocated to married couples.

Whilst the communal rooms are in the original house, most of the bed-sitting rooms are in the new two-storied wing especially designed for the purpose it now serves. All the rooms are comfortably furnished, but some of the residents have added their own personal pieces. Everywhere the colours are bright and contemporary, but very discreetly so (no espresso-café style here). A corner curtained off in each room conceals the wash basin and built-in cupboards, and adds to the comfort of the occupier—just one instance of the imaginative way in which the architect, Mr. Bernard Engle, has solved the problem of space. Though all the rooms are basically similar, each one of them, even after only a short time of occupation, shows the individuality of the inhabitant. Everything possible has been anticipated for the residents of Leo Baeck House to allow them as much privacy as life in a community will allow. On both floors of the annexe, accessible by a lift, are small kitchens where tea can be prepared for private visitors, and there are extra rooms for washing and drying personal laundry at any time. There is a telephone on every floor, with enough outgoing lines to avoid waiting.

I think the two dining-rooms are simply delightful. Not too big, overlooking the garden, and furnished with small formica-topped tables, they make a background for a large family gathering. The three lounges are also most attractive. In one a large library is housed, the contents of which have been donated by several patrons, and it is extensively used. I know that gramophone records and a piano would also be welcome.

A Daily Routine

When I first visited Leo Baeck House, the new "family" was still growing, as only half of the residents had moved in then. But it was quite obvious that a daily routine had already been established and everybody was finding his or her own place. Those who desire to give a helping hand with any domestic duties are welcome to do so. The modern kitchen, which provided me with an excellent meal, seems, in all its sparkling newness, a most pleasant place to work in. Surely it will not be long before experts in the various domestic fields will emerge, and each member of this old-young community will make his or her own contribution to the pattern of daily life.

The staff, headed by a trained matron, a nurse, and a housekeeper, live in very comfortable quarters. All of them do their best to create that atmosphere of care and security which is so essential for the well-being of aged people.

The majority of the residents are women, and the doyenne is a lady of ninety-four. Strong-

minded and mentally alert, with an amazing memory, she is most popular and still makes herself useful by doing little jobs here and there. Her children now live in all the four corners of the world and only one of her daughters is in London. It was just recently that Mrs. X thought that she was really "getting on" and needed more attention during the day whilst her daughter was at work.

Mrs. Y, by far Mrs. X's junior at the age of eighty, lived entirely on her own after she had lost her husband. None of her children are in this country and there was, in fact, nobody adequately to care for her. Leo Baeck House was the solution of her problems. The same applies to Mr. Z, an old gentleman originally from Cologne. He could no longer cope with daily life after the death of his wife had left him alone. "Since I have come to this place I have found my feet again", he said the other day.

Obviously the individual background differs in each case. Many of the residents lost their families during the tragic events of the Hitler period. But there is one important factor com-



Photo: Erich Auerbach

View of Leo Baeck House, with some of the residents.

mon to them all: they were uprooted at a time of their lives when it was too late to strike new roots in another country. It is this common fate which has brought them all to the three Homes which are now operating. One would like to think that living together with those who have shared the same background in the past is a good defence against loneliness. Leo Baeck House, like Otto Schiff House, which has been in existence for three years, has filled an important gap in our community.

This also goes for Otto Hirsch House, the third of the Homes now operating. At the time of my visit preparations were still being made for its opening. Only a few minutes from lovely Kew Gardens, future residents of Otto Hirsch House will be very fortunate indeed. Formerly a little suburban hotel with a friendly façade and a newly-grown front lawn, this house also has its own characteristics, though it will, of course, be run on the same lines as its sister

Homes in Hampstead. A new wing has been added to the building, and today Otto Hirsch House can offer accommodation to approximately the same number of people as does Leo Baeck House. There is one difference, however; special facilities are also provided for those who are in need of extra attention, and there will be sufficient staff to help them with their difficulties. As in the other two Homes, a doctor will pay regular visits, and a little surgery has been provided for that purpose.

When I was there all the staff members were busy getting the Home ship-shape. Comfortable armchairs for the bed-sitting rooms were just being unloaded. Here, too, most of the rooms are single, and the architect, Mr. K. M. Winch, has done his best to provide all possible comfort for the residents. I admired the taste shown in the common-rooms, and the colour schemes which had been chosen. One of these rooms has already been designated as a television room, and I trust that the hope of a television set will come to fruition in the near future.

How the Homes are Run

The initial expenditure for the three Homes was covered by funds from the heirless German-Jewish property, administered by a joint committee of the leading relief organisations, under the auspices of the Central British Fund. Matters concerning the general policy of the running of the Homes, are dealt with by a Management Committee, which consists of representatives of the Central British Fund and the AJR. Questions arising out of the day-to-day work are dealt with by house committees set up for each of the Homes, which meet regularly and whose members are in constant touch with the Matrons concerned. Each member is responsible for special tasks, e.g., staff problems, expenditure, contacts with residents, outings, etc.

Eligibility for admission to a Home depends on whether the applicant needs care and attention which cannot otherwise be obtained. There were, however, more applicants falling under this category than there are vacancies, so that only the most urgent cases could be accepted.

Where neither the residents themselves nor their relatives are in a position to pay the full maintenance rate, a contribution up to a certain amount may be made by the County Council local authorities, and the balance is met out of the heirless German-Jewish property funds. Every admission has to be finally approved by the local authorities. Due to the increasing number of persons who have received compensation payments, the proportion of self-paying guests has grown in the course of time.

The residents in all the Homes are refugees from Germany, Austria and Hungary. I am told that the average age is eighty. After a stormy life they have finally found a haven.

Experience has shown that, in some cases, a furnished room or a place in a boarding house was no longer the solution for their physical needs and personal problems. Many of them had put up a brave fight for their independence, but age, of necessity, finally put a stop to it.

Coming away from the warm and friendly atmosphere of the Homes into less sheltered regions of our metropolis, I felt sure that none of the old people would regret their coming to live there. They will not be in institutions, but have all found a real home.

ROBERT STANGE

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WORDS AND DEEDS BEHIND A VEIL

The publication of Oskar Loerke's "Tagebuecher" (Deutsche Akademie fuer Sprache und Dichtung, Lambert Schneider Verlag, Heidelberg), of "Chronik von Gerhart Hauptmanns Leben und Schaffen", by C. F. W. Behl and Felix A. Voigt (Bergstadt Verlag Wilh. Gottl. Korn, Muenchen), and of the late Paul Fechter's magnum opus "Das Europaeische Drama" (Bibliographisches Institut, Mannheim), conjured up memories of my last days spent in Germany. It was at the time the synagogues were burning and I had to look through the files of the publishing firm. S. Fischer, and make a selection of letters from authors to that great publisher, which his widow intended to edit. It was my last job in Germany, but nothing came of it; perhaps because Frau Hedwig Fischer left soon after for Sweden; perhaps because the whole arrangement was only made to give me some sort of employment. A suspicion of the latter kind is not altogether without foundation; indeed, the late Kaethe Dorsch did something rather similar in commissioning me to catalogue her library.

When I sorted out the S. Fischer correspondence in the office of Karl Korn—now an editor of the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*—Oskar Loerke came to visit him once or twice a week. No greater contrast was possible than that of the two men. Not in their outlook: both were anti-Nazis, and although I cannot remember having talked about politics with them, both felt, at least in my presence, safe enough not to disguise their feelings. But Korn, tall and robust, was like a pilot full of the will to live and skilful in weathering the storm, and he imparted some of his strength to those listening to him. Loerke, however, was made of less stern stuff. He was already suffering from heart trouble and he died three years later of a broken heart. He looked like a man suffering to the depth of his soul. He felt what President Heuss has called a "collective shame", and the expression on his face reflected this sentiment so strongly that those conversing with him would have preferred to keep silent about the events of the day. He was too full of human sympathy to bury his head in the sand, and yet he always seemed to be afraid, as if anticipating more news of evil.

Declaration of Loyalty

Loerke has no blot on his character, but he blamed himself for signing a declaration of loyalty to the "Reichskanzler" (not to the "Fuehrer", by the way) in the interest of the firm and urged to do so by S. Fischer himself. The publisher felt particularly vulnerable, owing to the large number of Jewish authors whose books he printed. So was his reader Loerke, though he was then no longer the secretary of the "Dichterakademie". The question arises, which we (through some Freudian oblivion) often fail to ask ourselves and to answer in all honesty: how many of our community would have stood the test, had we not been threatened and excluded from the outset? All the greater is the homage we must pay to Loerke, who was constrained by this comparatively unimportant lapse to state in his will: "All my friends know that I have not betrayed anything sacred on earth." Hardest to bear was the misunderstanding of those friends of his who had emigrated—

"Jedwedes blutgefuegte Reich
Sinkt ein, dem Maulwurfshuegel gleich.
Jedwedes lichtgeborne Wort
Wirkt durch das Dunkel fort und fort."

These posthumous verses are the burden of Loerke's "Tagebuecher", which he wrote without any thought or intention of publication between 1903 and 1939. The last six years are bundled together under the heading "Jahre des Unheils". Though all the diaries have documentary value, this is most evident in the last section. The diaries give us invaluable facts about the development of the poet, one of the few genuine contemporary German lyricists; about his inward and outward struggles in his calling; about the literary hustle and bustle of his time and his way of earning a living. When at last he obtained a secure, but poorly paid position—Sammy Fischer could be very businesslike, not to say miserly—it prevented

him at the same time from serving his muse. Everything he did was done with the greatest care and bore the mark of distinction, from a publisher's blurb to a model essay, correction of the literary style of other authors (amongst whom were many famous names), and translations. And we enjoy his vivid impressions and sound judgment of many contemporaries, of the Hauptmanns, for example, and the Manns, Rathenau, Liebermann, Doebelin, Julius Levin, Orlik and Wilhelm Lehmann, Stehr and François Poncet, Stucken, Walter von Molo, Benn, Wilhelm von Scholz and many others. In this lovingly edited selection from his "Tagebuecher" Hermann Kasack has erected a living monument to his friend.

The Right Perspective

Gerhart Hauptmann was more openly exposed than Oskar Loerke. His public utterances and his outward compliance carried more weight in the world. By their book Hugo F. Koenigsgarten and C. F. W. Behl have done much to dispel the resentment these caused, and the lavishly illustrated "Chronik" helps us to see things in their right perspective. As early as July 1933 Hauptmann said to Dr. Behl: "My epoch begins in 1870 and ends with the Reichstag fire." But in the same year he attended the "Tag der Deutschen Kunst" and publicly approved Germany's exodus from the League of Nations. His other voice was heard at the burial of his friend Max Pinkus: "Man hat den Tod des koeniglichen Juden nicht oeffentlich bekannt gemacht, weil unter den heutigen Umstaenden die Stadt (Neustadt), die ihm unendlich viel verdankt, an seinem Begraebnis nicht haette teilnehmen koennen. . . . Das uralte Schicksal der Juden hat, so scheint es, Ewigkeit, also Unsterblichkeit. . . . Ich fuehle, dass es in seiner ewigen Gegenwart unter allen Voelkerschicksalen das erhabenste, das groesste und furchtbarste ist. So standen wir alle unter seiner nackten, unwidersprechlichen, duesteren Weihe." At S. Fischer's funeral Hauptmann shed tears and the obituary he wrote contained the words:—"Er ist nun dort, wo es weder Voelker noch Parteien, weder eine innere noch eine aeuessere babylonische Sprachverirrung gibt, in einem Reich, in das wir einst alle, ohne Ausnahme, nachfolgen." In 1937, in Salzburg, he visited such a "persona ingrata" as Zuckmayer, and in 1938 Dr. Behl witnessed his reaction to the news of the burning of the synagogues. The régime tolerated and even tried to bribe him. Baldur von Schirach presented him with the ring of honour of the city of Vienna on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Hitler sent him a telegram and a vase, but public celebrations were only allowed on condition that the 80th birthday of the Teutonic bard, Adolf Bartels, was also celebrated.

The "Chronik" contains, of course, much more than this. It gives information indispensable to any student of Hauptmann's work, from his almost legendary early period onwards. Many of his greatest works matured in his last period, among them the tetralogy "Die Atriden", the mediæval play on the Inquisition, "Magnus Garbe", already begun as if prophetically in 1914, and the epic "Der grosse Traum" (C. Bertelsmann Verlag, Guetersloh), which by his wish was buried with him. Was it because he had to withdraw so intensely into his inner life that he reached

another peak of his work during his last thirteen years?

The second volume of Paul Fechter's "Das europaeische Drama" contains the first valuation of the complete dramatic *oeuvre* of Hauptmann that has been made. The third volume was concluded just before the author died and will come out this summer. Thus Paul Fechter has been able to wipe out the ignominy of his "Dichtung der Deutschen" (1932). This was by no means a bad book, but when it was published, I fully agreed with Julius Bab's criticism in the *C. V. Zeitung*: "Voelkisch fuer Kulturmenschen". What Bab and I overlooked was the danger of such a publication in the situation that obtained in 1932—quite apart from Fechter's treatment of some living writers who did not fit into his scheme. It was also most dangerous for the author himself, for in all subsequent editions Fechter, personally an upright man with a lot of *bonhomie*, had to adjust his book to the requirements of the opinions then current. He was a controversial figure. His heart was on the side of Rudolf Pechel and Ernst Klein, with whom he published the *Deutsche Rundschau* and the *Deutsche Zukunft* respectively. There he spoke his mind, though in a veiled manner, and continued to print articles by Jewish authors until the enactment of the Nuremberg Laws deprived him of the last legal excuse for doing so. And yet he allowed the words of Romain Rolland's General Quesnel to be applied to himself: "Disgrace my name", without being able to add, as could the hero of "The Wolves": "But our country has been saved".

Years of "Adjustment"

Even in a well-disposed reader like myself, who knew his good points and appreciated him as a fine dramatic critic, the suspicion arose that the absence of portraits of Bergner, Kortner and of productions by Reinhardt and Jessner in the first volume of "Das europaeische Drama" might perhaps be attributed to the years of "adjustment". But the second volume belied this suspicion. Fechter is the first to produce a history of the drama as "Geist und Kultur im Spiegel des Theaters". The first volume leads from baroque to naturalism, the second from naturalism to expressionism, and the last will deal with the twentieth century, with Sartre, Anouilh, Cocteau, Wilder, Miller, Williams, Priestley, Osborne, Wouk and other playwrights of the present time.

Fechter does not observe a strictly chronological order in telling his story. He classifies the plays according to the period in which they became effective on the European stage. Thus, for instance, the ancient tragedies are not mentioned until they have been transformed by the French, or performed in Germany. He deals with the interaction of social and economic life, describing the effect of historic events, the pictorial arts, science and philosophy on the work of the dramatists and how their work in its turn expressed the thought and mentality of their time.

The work makes fascinating and nostalgic reading. Older readers will encounter names and works of authors, now in part forgotten, who were a cultural force in our lives and who contributed to the development of our personalities. At the same time it will be a stimulus for the younger generation, informing them what the theatre really was and, perhaps, what it may once again be.

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"LITTLE PIECES OF HISTORY"

Israeli Stamps

On the tenth anniversary of Israel's coming into existence it is appropriate to review the events of the last decade—but who likes reading mere history? The difficulty is soon overcome. Israel, in the few years since its foundation, has issued "Pieces of History" that speak more graphically than words—her stamps! Each stamp is in effect a page of history of a unique kind, tying the present to the glorious past, and serving as an inspiration to a great future.

In 1948 the Mandatory Postal Authorities had departed without any formal handing-over of office, and even during those perilous days, when the new State was fighting for its very life, the Jewish Interim Government realised the need to continue some form of Postal Service. No postage stamps were available so that, as a temporary measure, stocks of existing K.K.L. labels were handstamped with the Hebrew word *Doar* (Post) and were used for postal purposes. Meanwhile, provisional postage stamps were hurriedly printed on any available presses. At that date no decision had yet been made as to the name of the new State. The stamps therefore bore the two Hebrew words "*Doar Ivri*" (Hebrew Post) and their equivalent in Arabic, as well as a denomination, but not the name of the country. They depicted coins of the ancient Hebrew Kings and Liberators, the Hasmoneans and Maccabees, a most appropriate symbol of sovereignty. Thus was born Israel's first postage stamp.

Richness of Design

Since then, successive issues have surpassed each other in their richness of symbolic and historical design and motif, and have aroused tremendous enthusiasm among collectors of all nations, both Jews and Gentiles. It is of interest to note that in 1952 an association was formed of lovers of the postal history of the Holy Land, "The British Association of Palestine-Israel Philatelists," which now has hundreds of members in all parts of the world. The London Section meets monthly at 9, Upper Wimpole Street, W.1.

Children as well as adults look forward eagerly to forthcoming issues of Israel's stamps, to the benefit of the State's economy, and the knowledge of this dual benefit enhances the pleasure and pride we derive from buying these little "pieces of history".

The 1948 (5707) Jewish Festival stamps bear the "Flying Scroll" seal of the kings of Judea, a link with the historic past. The 1949 "Jerusalem" stamp shows a picture of the Israeli "Burma Road", built under great difficulties during the Israeli-Arab War, to relieve the embattled and surrounded Holy City. The famous "Well of Petach Tiquah" appears on a stamp issued in 1949 to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the foundation of that settlement, just as a much later issue reminds us of the settlement by Russian Bilu immigrants at a similar period.

Israel's gallant Army, Navy, and Air Force are

not forgotten. Their badges are depicted on the 1949 Festival Stamps, as is also the "Menorah", which is associated with the ancient Jewish "Freedom Fighters", the great predecessors of the modern partisans and guerrillas. The "Ingathering of the Exiles" is graphically portrayed on two stamps issued for Israel's second Independence Day 1950.

Ancient and modern achievements are constantly pictured, for example, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, or the beautiful mosaics that were located at Beit Alfa and whose designs were used in the first Air Mail issue as well as on other stamps; or the Lulaf and Esrog (1951), which in turn give way to the "Runner" on the third Maccabiah stamp of 1950. Tel Aviv, the first wholly Jewish city, is found on a stamp to commemorate its 40th anniversary.

"Ancient and Modern"

Israel's stamps, while often portraying scenes of historical interest, as frequently pay tribute to the development of the country since the first immigrants arrived towards the end of the nineteenth century. The term "Ancient and Modern" certainly applies to Israel's choice of stamp designs and motifs. They are distinguished by a delightful unorthodoxy, that makes a refreshing change from the constant repetition which too often characterises the stamps of so many countries in these days of "mass production".

Biblical scenes and subjects abound. Some examples are the Torah and doves on the Festival issue of 1951, and the fruits mentioned in the Bible, the fig, pomegranate, nuts, etc. This theme is particularly noticeable on most of the Festival issues. When we see Joshua's spies carrying a giant bunch of grapes, musicians using instruments mentioned in the Bible, or the emblems of the Twelve Tribes, it is like reading pages of the Holy Book.

It is difficult to single out the most attractive design on an Israeli stamp. Perhaps pride of place must go to the "Menorah" stamp of 1952. The central design is a giant "Menorah", that most ancient of Jewish symbols, surrounded by twelve shields containing the traditional emblems of the tribes. The predominating colour is a pleasant shade of blue. All in all, a most impressive and delightful picture of what a stamp should look like, and full of dignity.

Dr. Weizmann, the first President, Baron Edmond de Rothschild, the great Jewish benefactor, Maimonides, the great Hebrew scholar and physician, Dr. Herzl, the pioneer Zionist, and Professor Albert Einstein, all have a place in the Israeli stamp gallery. Is it any wonder that *Bapip* (The British Association of Palestine-Israel Philatelists) numbers its members, young and old, in hundreds all over the world?

Seeing is believing—and Israel's stamps are thus an important means of learning her history and of understanding her right to a great heritage.

B. A. REMINGTON

(Jt. Hon. Secretary, British Association of Palestine-Israel Philatelists).

ANGLO-JUDAICA

Deputies and Zionists

The new Board of Deputies re-elected as its President Mr. Barnett Janner, M.P., President of the British Zionist Federation. He is also Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee. At its last session the 456 Deputies represented 257 synagogues and 25 institutions.

Faithful to an old humanitarian tradition, the Board, at its first meeting, passed a special resolution appealing to the Rumanian Government to help in reuniting Jewish families by removing all obstacles to aliyah. A plea to the same effect was made on behalf of the Anglo-Jewish Association.

A warning that the Board must not appear too closely associated with one faction—the Zionists—was voiced by *The Jewish Chronicle*, which suggested that "the Board is perhaps not as respected generally as it used to be" because "so-called 'non-Zionists' are frozen out".

Orthodox Dissidents

A virtual charge that the Board is "no longer independent but under the English Zionist Federation" was raised by the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations. Resentment was expressed at the Board's failure to act on behalf of the Orthodox demonstrators in Jerusalem, and to reprove certain British newspapers which had published adverse comments on the Neturei Karta. Though the Union will continue to send delegates, it will not take part in any of the Board's activities, and a scheme is afoot to establish a separate Jewish Religious Defence Committee.

Some of the frenzy of Israel's "Kulturkampf" was revealed in London when a Mizrachi meeting, described as one of the rowdiest Jewish mass meetings ever held, was broken up by partisans of anti-Zionist orthodoxy.

Hillel House in Oxford

There is to be a Hillel House in Oxford to provide students with a new synagogue and improved facilities for kosher meals. At present conditions are such, it was said by Professor Sir Isaiah Berlin, that students worship and dine in squalid and uncivilised surroundings which could only be described as "a shame and a horror".

The tendency to go abroad, once prevalent among ministers, has decreased. Deploping their unwillingness to transfer to distant congregations, the Chief Rabbi said many Jewish communities in the Commonwealth lack ministers and the problem is becoming alarming.

Jewish-Christian Ideal of Brotherhood

The community of Jewish and Christian ideals was stressed by the Chief Rabbi in a message to the Archbishop of Canterbury on the occasion of the Lambeth Conference. In his reply, Dr. Fisher was pleased to note that "between the Jewish community and ourselves there is such mutual understanding and a true sense of brotherhood in God".

When the 150th anniversary of organised Jewry in Edinburgh was celebrated, the fact that the founders had been refugees drew a proud boast that the Scottish people had never disgraced themselves by persecuting the Jews who came to their shores in search of freedom.

The Central British Fund for Jewish Relief and Rehabilitation, which began its career 25 years ago as the Central British Fund for German Jewry, distributed £7,000,000 before and during the war. Since the war a further £1,750,000 has been raised for relief and rehabilitation on the Continent, in Israel and for the care of refugees in this country.

The intensely anti-Semitic League of Empire Loyalists which advertises itself by staging stunts and hoaxes at public meetings, suffered a reverse when a number of its own malcontents set up a new National Labour Party which is, incidentally, just as anti-Semitic.

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BIRTHDAY TRIBUTES

JEANETTE WOLFF 70

A great number of distinguished people from many walks of life gathered in the "Casino" of the Berlin Jewish Hospital to express their heartfelt good wishes to Jeanette Wolff, on the occasion of her 70th birthday. It is no wonder that she has so many well-wishers. Mrs. Wolff is a member of the Bundestag, of the Berlin Abgeordnetenhaus, of the Executive of the Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle of the Jews in Germany and, last but not least, she is Chairman of the Repraesentantenversammlung of the Jewish community. Heinz Galinski spoke on behalf of the community, Jupp Braun on behalf of the SPD (Mrs. Wolff's Party), Siegfried Aufhaeuser on behalf of the trade unions, Franz Neumann on behalf of her Socialist fellow-workers and Joachim Lipschitz spoke as a close friend.

Deputy Ullmann and the Federal Minister Ernst Lemmer added their good wishes on behalf of the FDP and the CDU.

Otto Zarek once said of Jeanette Wolff that the Bible and Bebel had formed her philosophy.

DR. MARIE-ELISABETH LUEDERS 80

In the days of the Weimar Republic when the German middle class could not be won over to the liberal and democratic ideal, there existed a small but undaunted group of true liberals who formed the Demokratische Partei, later the Staatspartei. This political group was, of course, unthinkable without the present Federal President, but Dr. Marie-Elisabeth Lueders was also one of the moving spirits. Now she can again play her part in the democratic development of her country: she is the "mother" of the Bundestag. When she turned 80 years of age recently, the Lord Mayor of Berlin at a ceremony in the name of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies gave her the Freedom of the City. During the same ceremony the Chairman of the Jewish community, Mr. H. Galinski, presented Dr. Lueders with the book "Israel—Staat der Hoffnung", on behalf of the Juedischer Frauenbund.

SENATOR DR. P. HERTZ 70

In the Weimar Republic Dr. Paul Hertz was the leading financial expert of the parliamentary party of the SPD in the Reichstag. At one time he was thought of as the future Minister of Finance. Although he was brought up in the Bronx, he studied in Munich and Tuebingen and became an ardent Socialist early in his life. He was a courageous fighter for his ideas in the Berlin City Council and in the Reichstag. After the war he returned from America to his beloved Berlin, where he is now Senator for Economic Affairs. On the occasion of his 76th birthday, Heins Galinski sent him a message of congratulation on behalf of the Jewish community (to which Hertz does not belong). The Federal President awarded him the Great Cross of the Federal Order of Merit and the Ernst Reuter Medal in silver was awarded by the Berlin Senate.

PROFESSOR M. BONN 85

Professor Moritz Bonn, who recently turned 85, is not only a great scholar. He was an excellent administrator and a courageous fighter for liberalism. The public in Germany knew him especially as the last pre-Nazi Rector of the Berlin Handelshochschule and as a regular contributor to the *Berliner Tageblatt*.

The famous economist started his career with a compendious work on Ireland. In 1933 he came to this country—Anglo-Saxon countries had always been very much on his mind—and in London he taught at the London School of Economics. In "Wandering Scholar" he gave a fascinating history of his life.

CLARA SAMUEL 80

Mrs. Clara Samuel (formerly Elberfeld) recently celebrated her 80th birthday in Israel. In Germany, she had taken an active part in the work of the Jewish Women's Association, and she also founded the Jewish Adoption Centre. She came to England prior to her emigration to Israel, and took an interest in the work of the AJR in Cambridge.

RABBI ISRAEL NOBEL 80

Halberstadt was the seat of Jewish orthodoxy in Germany. It was here that Israel Nobel's formative years were spent under the guidance of his father, Rabbi Joseph Nobel. In 1906 Israel Nobel became a rabbi at Filehne, later at Schneidemuhl and eventually he was called to Berlin. In 1938 he went to Palestine, where, in Jerusalem-Katamon, he has just celebrated his 80th birthday.

EVA STEIN 75

In Dresden Eva Stein, the widow of Rabbi Dr. Leopold Stein, took a most active part in the life of the Jewish community. Her activities embraced an advisory office on careers, interest in the Jewish girls' hostel, the U.O.B.B. and a kindergarten. During the Nazi régime she was a tower of strength for all who were in trouble and she would not leave her community until the outbreak of the war. She has just turned 75 in Tel Aviv.

DANIEL FEILCHENFELD 90

Justice and religion have been the guiding stars in the life of Justizrat Daniel Feilchenfeld. As a lawyer in Berlin he served his fellow-men because he was a true servant of his Jewish religion. He grew up in a religious atmosphere as his father was the rabbi of Schwerin. Now in Israel, where he has reached the ripe old age of 90, he is finishing his book "Gedanken der Bibel".

WALTER GROPIUS 75

The architect, Walter Gropius, who was, until 1933, associated with the Bauhaus movement in Dessau and was forced to leave Germany when the Nazis came into power, recently celebrated his 75th birthday in the United States.

PREDIGER GLUECK 70

Prediger Leo Glueck, a Minister of the Berlin Jewish community, has turned 70. He was born in Ungrisch-Brod in Moravia. He studied at the Seminary at Breslau and officiated at Nakel, Bromber and Kolberg. He returned to Germany in 1949.

Letter to the Editor

THEODOR KRAMERS RUECKKEHR

Professor Zohns Behauptung, Theodor Kramer sei "unter etwas mysterioesen Umstaenden nach Wien zurueckgekehrt" (AJR Information, Juni, 1958), veranlasst mich als seinen Reisebegleiter festzustellen, dass er am 26. September 1957 von Virginia Water zum Londoner Flughafen fuhr und von dort nach Wien flog, wo er von Freunden und Funktionaeren des oesterreichischen Unterrichtsministeriums empfangen und in einer Pension untergebracht wurde, deren Inhaberin sich des kranken Dichters freundlich annahm.

Die oesterreichische Regierung hatte Kramer eine Ehrenpension zuerkannt, die ihm eine materiell sorgenfreie Existenz ermoeglichen sollte; das oesterreichische Kultur-Institut in London hatte die fuer die Uebersiedlung erforderlichen Schritte entweder selbst unternommen oder tatkraeftig gefoerdert. Die feierliche Verleihung des Preises der Stadt Wien fuer Dichtkunst 1958 am 17. Mai wurde zu einer Gedenkstunde.

Ihr,

F. L. Brassloff.

27, Russell Gardens,
London, N.W.11.

Hierzu schreibt Prof. Zohn:

"Die 'mysterioesen Umstaende' entsprachen, wie es scheint, eher Kramers Geisteszustand als den Tatsachen. Der Dichter schrieb mir naemlich einige Monate vor seinem Ableben, dass er eines Tages in Wien aufgewacht sei und ihm an die ersten Tage dort jede Erinnerung fehle. Dr. Brassloffs Berichtung ist mir umso willkommener, als ich weiss, dass er viele Jahre lang einer der treuesten und verstaendnisvollsten Freunde Kramers gewesen ist.—Dr. Harry Zohn, Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass., U.S.A."

Old Acquaintances

The 8th "Berlinale":—Next to the hotel in Bleibtreustrasse where I stayed during the 8th International Film Festival in Berlin there is a little shop selling souvenirs and junk jewellery. Its owner, a large man with a tremendous beard, is Jack Bilbo, who used to run an art gallery off Haymarket in London and was afterwards the owner of a restaurant in Paris. He now again calls himself by his real name, Baruch, and is back in the land of his birth. He became famous 25 years ago by writing his memoirs "I was Al Capone's Bodyguard".

For ten days, during the Film Festival, Berlin was again as it used to be—a meeting place of the world. Film people from many countries gathered there. The prize for the best German film of the year again went to a returnee, Robert Siodmark, who started 30 years ago as the director of "Menschen am Sonntag". His new picture, "Nachts wenn der Teufel kam", is courageous and wonderful. The only new German film shown at the "Berlinale" was a remake of "Maedchen in Uniform", this time with Lilli Palmer and young Romy Schneider, Magda's daughter. Artur Brauner, the brave producer who is responsible for that picture, wants to do Lion Feuchtwanger's "Jud Sues" next, as an answer to Veit Harlan's anti-Semitic film. He hopes to get O. W. Fischer for the lead. Fischer is so famous now in Germany and abroad, that he has made an agreement with the authorities to pay only 15 per cent income tax for one year. Consequently, he will star in more than ten films this year.

A Brave Man:—German author Manfred Hausmann left the Deutsche Akademie fuer Sprache und Dichtung when the late Thomas Mann became an honorary member. In his letter of resignation he objected to Mann's "anti-German attitude" during the war; Hausmann didn't want to remain a member of the Academy which so honoured the world-famous writer. At the time its President, H. Kassack, made no comment and did not even publish Hausmann's letter. Only now has ex-Nazi Kurt Ziesel produced Hausmann's reasons. Ernst Schnabel has resigned from the association in protest. Schnabel was intendant of Hamburg's radio station and is author of the book "Anne Frank—Portrait of Courage" published by S. Fischer, all royalties of which go to charity. Of course Schnabel is correct in resigning from the Academy. There is only one question unanswered: what will the other members do now?

News from Everywhere:—Dorothea Gofurt, wife of the scenario editor F. Gofurt, has written a comedy, in collaboration with Diana Morgan, entitled "Your Obedient Servant", which will be produced in London's West End.—Oscar Homolka took part in Orson Welles' film "Don Quichotte", independently produced in Mexico.—Georg Froeschel is scripting "The Wernherr von Braun Story" for F. A. Mainz in Hollywood.—Franz Waxman, the Berlin-born composer of film music, is to marry Lela Fierle in Venice.—Dr. Ernst Feder, formerly on the staff of the *Berliner Tageblatt*, has returned from South America to settle in Berlin.—Former Ufa producer, G. Stapenhorst, who was in Switzerland during the war, has celebrated his 75th birthday in Munich.—Peter Illing has gone to Greece to act in "The Angry Hill".—Heinrich Fraenkel is working on a Goebbels' biography for Heinemann in London.

Obituaries:—Raoul Aslan, the uncrowned king of Vienna's Burg, died near Attersee, at the age of 71. Ten thousand people attended his funeral. Born in Salonika, he was director of the Burg after the end of the war.—Carl Boese who once directed "Der Golem" with Paul Wegener and was one of Germany's busiest producers, died in Berlin at the age of 70.—Albrecht Graf Montgelas died in Munich at the age of 70. He was the London correspondent of the *Vossische Zeitung* and was interned in England during the war.—Choreographer Rudolf von Laban who was working in industry in the last few years, has died in England. He was 79 years old.—Music critic Max Graf, father of opera producer Herbert Graf, has died in Vienna at the age of 85. During the Hitler years he lived in the States.

PEM

IN MEMORIAM

TRIBUTES TO THE LATE J. L. FEUCHTWANGER

The death of Jakob L. Feuchtwanger, due to a heart attack on July 14th in London at the age of 66, has brought grief to a large community. The Council of Jews from Germany and the Leo Baeck Charitable Trust mourn the death of a colleague who was deeply devoted to his duties. The Association of Jewish Refugees has lost in him a member of its Board and of its Committee for Homes for the Aged, who did not know what it was to spare himself, but who was at the disposal of the management literally day and night and wore himself out in welfare work for the aged.

Jakob Feuchtwanger was a descendant of the old and famous Munich family of merchants, bankers and members of the professions. On the occasion of the eighth centenary of the city of Munich a book appeared there on the history of the Munich Jewish community. Several of the writers bear the name Feuchtwanger and in many chapters the contributions of this family, which originally came from Fuerth, in the interests of the Jewish and non-Jewish communities are mentioned. The Feuchtwanger bank in Munich would have celebrated its 100th anniversary last year, had its activities not been interrupted by the events in Germany.

Following the family tradition, Jakob Feuchtwanger adhered to orthodox Judaism. He was one of the London founders of the Golders Green Synagogue, which he also represented on the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

Remote from party strife, he was a man of calmness and serenity, whose religious inspiration was discernible in the intensity and gravity with which he fulfilled his social and communal tasks. He was filled with a deep sense of responsibility. It was noticeable how, on the occasion of a decision and particularly when help was in question, he always searched his mind to know if his decision had been a truly just one. If it is of the essence of religion that those who practise it are fundamentally good, and if the Jewish religion is characteristically a religion of works, then we have all had before us in Jakob Feuchtwanger the model of a deeply religious Jew.

The memory of Jakob Feuchtwanger will be gratefully remembered by all who had the good fortune to collaborate with him in the organisations in which former German Jews are carrying on their tradition. Secher Zadick Lwrocho.

Hans Reichmann

Mr. H. Blumenau, Chairman of the Otto Schiff House Committee, on which the late Mr. J. L. Feuchtwanger so ably served since its inception, writes the following tribute:

"In my last letter to Mr. Feuchtwanger, which failed to reach him in time, I wrote: 'It does not happen very often that one forms new friendships at our advancing age. It happened in our case.' I am only one of the many who claimed to be his friend.

"His faculty for friendship was unique. I am sure he made no conscious effort to achieve it. He was just himself, a man of able integrity, warm-hearted and tolerant, devoted to his work and utterly modest.

"We knew him well at Otto Schiff House. He worked with us on the House Committee, and helped us to steer the Home to safety through difficult times. It was due to his tact and understanding that no friction ever arose between the inmates of different shades of religious opinion.

"He accepted, as his special function, the work of the Treasurer, but never limited himself to that work alone. Whenever he saw a person in need—materially or otherwise—he helped. To help others appeared to be the purpose of his life; his work at the Otto Schiff House was only one of the many duties he carried out, all in order to assist those who were unable to fend for themselves.

"In the name of the old people, the staff, and the members of the House Committee, I express our deepest sympathy to his family, thanking Mrs. Feuchtwanger in particular for never grudging her husband the time he devoted to his work with us."

SIEGFRIED LEHMANN

Siegfried Lehmann, whose recent death in Israel has shocked a large circle of friends all over the world, was perhaps the most remarkable representative of a characteristic development in German Jewry during and after the First World War. When the young generation was overtaken by stirring experiences—war, revolutions, contact with foreign peoples and especially encounter with Eastern Jews—many of the children of well-to-do bourgeois families attained a completely new outlook. Not only was Jewish feeling intensified, but under the impact of new ideas and under the influence of such East European trends as the Russian Narodniki, some of the most intelligent and most idealistic of the youth decided to "go to the people", to live with the poor, improve their social conditions and bring some happiness into their lives.

This new kind of social work found its first realisation in the "Jüdisches Volksheim" in the Berlin Dragonerstrasse. Siegfried Lehmann was the undisputed leader, but there were in this circle many men and women of equal ability and devotion, like Gertrude Welkanow (Weil), Werner Senator, Ludwig Strauss, Dora Weigert (Strauss), Grete Pinner (Turnowski) and many others. It was a decisive stage in the great metamorphosis of a whole group of young Jews. From the Dragonerstrasse Lehmann's way led to Kovno, where he organised an exemplary Jewish orphanage according to modern ideas.

When it became clear that the days of Jewish autonomy in Lithuania were numbered, he conceived the idea of transferring the whole institution to Palestine. It seemed sheer madness, but with unrelenting idealism and obstinacy he overcame the innumerable difficulties—psychological, political, financial. This was the birth of the Children's Village Ben Shemen which he built with the help of a circle of friends in Germany and in other countries. It is one of the most fascinating pedagogical experiments of modern times and its success was entirely due to his ingenuity and leadership. When the catastrophe overcame German Jewry in 1933, Ben Shemen was one of the obvious places to absorb Jewish children from Germany. With the help of men like Werner Senator and George Landauer and under the benevolent patronage of Henrietta Szold, Ben Shemen was considerably expanded and thousands of Central European children were educated there in a unique atmosphere of humanity and Jewish idealism.

Lehmann was also an indefatigable explorer of fundamental pedagogical and religious problems, on which he wrote a book and many essays. He was always eager to introduce improvements and to examine every new situation on its own merits. And there were many problems, especially since Ben Shemen had to adapt itself to the psychology of many different kinds of pupils. Although suffering from angina pectoris since 1940, Lehmann remained active until the end of his life. His biography would be an enlightening chapter on the intellectual and social history of German Jewry in the twentieth century.

Robert Weltsch

KARL ARNOLD

Karl Arnold, Prime Minister of the Land North-Rhine-Westphalia from 1947 to 1956, recently died at the age of 57.

As a leader of the Christian Labour Movement before the Nazis came into power, he was always a staunch anti-Nazi and was arrested on July 20th, 1944. In 1946 he was appointed Mayor of Dusseldorf and it was on his initiative that a plaque was placed on the site of the Dusseldorf Synagogue, burnt down during the November pogroms.

In his fight for humanity, freedom and justice he always showed great sympathy and understanding for the newly built up Jewish communities in Germany.

FRIEDRICH THIEBERGER

Dr. Friedrich Thieberger, died in Jerusalem last month just before his 70th birthday. He was a member of the Jerusalem Board of the Leo Baeck Institute, and his last work was the preparation of Leo Baeck's "Wesen des Judentums" for translation into Hebrew.

Amongst his works, which may be of special interest to our readers, we would mention: "Juedisches Fest, Juedischer Brauch" (Juedischer Verlag, Berlin, 1936), a guide to the Jewish way of life; "Die Glauben stufen des Judentums" (Spemann, 1952), a guide to Jewish thought, and "The Great Rabbi Loew of Prague" (East and West, London), which deals with a special chapter of Jewish history and mysticism.

Thieberger came from a famous family of rabbis in Bohemia. He was very active in the B'nai B'rith movement and edited its organ in Bohemia and later in Palestine. He was a man of great learning, clear thought and diction and was profoundly religious and a true humanist.

MENO LISSAUER

Mr. Meno Lissauer, President of the Board of Associated Metals and Minerals Corporation, died in New York at the age of 78. Born in Luebeck, he was the founder of the leading metal industries firm in Cologne, M. Lissauer and Co., which was transferred to Holland in 1937 and to the United States in 1941.

Mr. Lissauer was a member of the Board of the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe, and also held various other offices in Jewish life.

HANS EHRENBERG

All who have read Franz Rosenzweig's letters will remember the correspondence between Rosenzweig and his cousin Professor Hans Ehrenberg. This was one of the rare disputations between Judaism and Christianity worthy of the subject. And something else was remarkable! Ehrenberg became a Christian out of a deep-felt conviction. He never forgot the soil from which his new faith had sprung. Thus he stressed the common features of the two religions. He recently died in Heidelberg, and will be remembered for a long time as a Protestant Minister, as a thinker and scholar, but most of all as a true *homo religiosus*.

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LEO BAECK INSTITUTE

AMERICAN JEWS ON GERMAN JEWRY

The impact on present-day Jewry of the work of the Leo Baeck Institute was reaffirmed in two statements recently made by prominent American-Jewish scholars. Dr. Samuel H. Dresner, editor of the quarterly *Conservative Judaism*, organ of the Rabbinical Assembly of America, referring to the Institute's Year Book, writes:

"I do not think that I am exaggerating when I say that I know of no other single volume which for two years in succession has produced such a wealth of material. I am convinced that this series, if it continues for any length of time, will present in a profound and comprehensive manner for the first time (I emphasise the word *first*) the life of the German Jew to the American-Jewish audience. The American Jew has a distorted view of German Judaism and, although he is not aware of it, is actually closer to German Judaism in terms of the similar challenges of Western society which he faces than can be imagined. . . ."

Dr. Simon Greenberg, a leading member of the faculty of the Jewish Theological Society, wrote of the Year Book:

"I cannot tell you how greatly I am impressed by these two volumes and how deeply I feel the wrong that had been committed by so many of us against the German-Jewish community. I don't believe we appreciated the extraordinary spiritual and intellectual vitality of this numerically small group which for generations had been sorely tempted to merge with its environment. They made invaluable contributions of the first order to all aspects of Jewish life and thought, right to the very end, and the least that can now be done is what the Leo Baeck Institute is doing, namely, make a permanent record of their achievements available to future generations."

Jews from Germany will greatly help the endeavours of the Institute if they join the Society of Friends of the Leo Baeck Institute. All members receive the Year Book free of charge. Details are available from the Secretary, 8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3.

WORK OF THE L.B.I.

The publication of the Year Book, essential as it is, is only one aspect of the Institute's work. Books on special subjects, such as Hannah Ahrendt's on Rahel Varnhagen (see July issue), have also been published or are planned under the auspices of the Institute, and bulletins with shorter but no less important contributions are sent at intervals to all members of the Society of Friends of the Leo Baeck Institute.

The latest bulletin, No. 2/3, has recently been circulated, and a further issue will soon be ready. Whilst the Year Book is published in English, the bulletins appear in German.

The impressive 100-page bulletin No. 2/3 carries an illuminating essay by Hans Tramer, entitled "Uber Deutsch-Juedisches Dichtertum", based on facts so far unknown to the general public, wherein the author analyses the different reactions to their Jewishness of German-Jewish poets.

Amongst other contributions, the bulletin contains extracts in German from essays published in the Year Book, articles on certain aspects of German-Jewish history, and announcements concerning the current activities of the Institute. Thus the issue of the bulletins serves two purposes: they help preserve the German-Jewish heritage and, at the same time, forge a link between the members of the Society of Friends of the L.B.I.

PRESIDENT HEUSS VISITS L.B.I.

On the occasion of his recent visit to the United States, Federal President Theodor Heuss paid a visit to the Leo Baeck Institute in New York. He was welcomed by the Institute's Vice-President, Dr. Fritz Bamberger, who referred to the valuable records of books and documents on German-Jewish history displayed in the Institute's premises.

President Heuss recalled the relationship that he and his late wife had had with Leo Baeck, whom he had met on several occasions after the war. The past German-Jewish symbiosis of the period up to 1933 had resulted in unique achievements, he said.

PERSONALIA

BUBER IN COLOGNE

In the big hall of the Guerzenich, 1,200 people listened to Martin Buber's lecture on "Zuege des altisraelitischen Gottesbildes". The day before he had addressed the remnants of the Jewish community which so often had been his host before the great catastrophe. On the evening of the same day the Lord Mayor of Cologne, Burauen, gave a party aboard the steamship "Koeln" in honour of the guest from Jerusalem. The head of the Israeli mission, Dr. Shinnar, representatives of the Jewish community, the Association for Christian-Jewish Co-Operation and of the press were present.

Buber was asked many questions. To the question what the world needed most today, he answered: "Friendship, there is no cheaper way. . . ."

The foundation of a "Bibliothek zur Erforschung der deutsch-juedischen Verhaeltnisse" was revealed at the party. Among the founders of the "Bibliothek" are the writers Heinrich Boell, Karl Keller, Wilhelm Unger and Paul Schallueck.

LENIN PRIZE FOR ARNOLD ZWEIG

Arnold Zweig, who is in the Soviet Zone, received the International Lenin Prize for his endeavours to promote peace between the nations.

WELSH LITERARY AWARD FOR GERMAN-JEWISH DOCTOR

Dr. W. K. Bernfeld, who was born in Leipzig where he took his medical degree in 1931, is a man of many talents. Apart from his work in the specialist service of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board, he is an accomplished flautist and has considerable knowledge of the Welsh language and history. To add to these accomplishments, his essay entitled "The Historical Significance of the Early Christian Monuments in Wales" was one of the prize-winning essays in the "D. E. Evans Annual Essay Prize" recently awarded by the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire.

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FROM MY DIARY

Immigrants Build a New Synagogue

Whilst in this country there are many congregations of various religious opinions which, to some degree, owe their establishment to the initiative of Jews from Germany, the New Liberal Jewish Congregation is in a special position. This congregation was founded twenty years ago exclusively by German Jews, with the express object of giving the new arrivals the same religious facilities to which they had been accustomed in Germany.

The consecration of the new and beautiful synagogue building on June 28 was, therefore, not only a milestone in the history of the congregation but was also an event of importance for our community as a whole. It testifies to the spiritual and organisational strength of Jews from Germany. Though a certain proportion of the expenditure was covered by the Jewish Trust Corporation from the proceeds of the heirless German-Jewish property, and by the Jewish Claims Conference from German reparations payments, most of the money was raised by the members of the congregation themselves.

The hall of the synagogue, which has a seating capacity of 300, can also be easily converted into a meeting hall and sub-divided into smaller rooms. It has been most suitably designed, both from the practical and from the aesthetic aspect, by H. J. Reifenberg, who, incidentally, was also the architect for the Otto Schiff Old Age Home at Netherhall Gardens.

Our thoughts go back to the days when, only a few steps from the present building, the congregation was housed in a few rooms in a private house at Buckland Crescent. Under the spiritual leadership of Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger and Cantor M. Davidsohn, both of whom recently retired, the membership has now grown to 1,500.

The changes which have occurred in the course of time are not only marked by the growth of

the congregation. There is also a change-over from German to English of that part of the service which is conducted in the vernacular and, above all, the number of members of the younger generation was conspicuous in the audience.

The Hon. Lily H. Montagu, Cantor J. Dollinger, and Rabbi J. Kokotek officiated. Rabbi Kokotek rightly pointed out, in his consecration sermon, that the two decades of being a "refugee" congregation had now come to an end, and that now the congregation had become part and parcel of Anglo-Jewry, but, at the same time, retaining the spiritual values of its German-Jewish background.

An organic process—the blending of the past with the present—has just entered a new phase in the history of the congregation.

Meeting Young Germans

When we meet a German we are by instinct inclined to ask ourselves how he behaved when the Nazis were in power. We may easily overlook the fact that those among them who are now in their late twenties were children under the Nazi régime and could thus have had no active part in what occurred. Certainly, during their school and Hitler Youth days they, too, may have been inculcated with the Nazi doctrine unless, as happened in a number of instances, they came from homes in which, for political or religious reasons, there were anti-Nazi feelings, though such feelings might not have been strong enough to manifest themselves in active resistance.

Be that as it may, many of these young people have a genuine desire to learn how the crimes of the Hitler régime became possible. Most of them have hardly met a Jew in their lives. Many of them, therefore, welcome the opportunity to obtain information on the Jewish subject and to have a frank exchange of views.

One such opportunity recently arose when, under the auspices of the Evangelische Akademie in Loccum (Germany), about twenty young people paid a visit to England and, one afternoon, met in the Wiener Library. They wanted to hear about the emigration of the Jews from Germany and, especially, about the position of those who had found a new home in this country.

The questions asked after the introductory report revealed a genuine desire to become acquainted with this aspect of the events after 1933. They wanted to know whether and to what extent those German Jews who had left their country of birth as adults, had adjusted themselves economically and culturally to their new environment, and they also asked about the attitude of the children of the German-Jewish emigrants. Some of the young people went even further and wanted to learn about the political and cultural position of the Jews under the Weimar Republic, and what the causes were of the downfall of the Republic.

Compared with similar discussions before 1933, one striking difference has to be taken into account: the main task at present is not to convince and to persuade, but to bring home facts not known to these young people. Thus functions of such a nature do not have the apologetic character which they sometimes assumed in former times.

There has also been another significant change. As the number of Jews in Germany is at present comparatively small, and as hardly any of them play a part in German public life, the problem of the relationship between non-Jews and Jews inside Germany has receded and the need for information is based on different grounds—to obtain an undistorted picture of German history between 1933 and 1945, and to learn from this history that the persecution of the small minority of German Jews was followed by persecution of other groups and was the starting point for the catastrophe of the Second World War.

NARRATOR

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Births

Singer. On June 19th, twin daughters, Ann Debora and Helen Jane, to Hanna (née Cohn) and Peter Singer, 27 Cornbury Rd., Edgware, Middx.

Deaths

Mr. Ivor (Isidor) Haas (formerly of Mainz), 15 Embassy House, West End Lane, London, N.W.6, passed away on July 11th, at the age of 76, after a prolonged illness. Deeply mourned by his sister, Mrs. Martha Meyer, and family, 7 Moser St., Tel Aviv, Israel.

Loewensberg, Else (née Frank), 11 Adamson Road, London, N.W.3, passed away peacefully on July 10. Deeply mourned by her sister, Laura Bendheim.

Rosenberg, Tilly our beloved sister and friend, died suddenly on July 17. Margot Rosenbaum (25a Belsize Park Gardens, London, N.W.3), Henri Alexander, Otto Kitzinger.

Salomon, Kaete (née Kaufmann), 123 Dartmouth Road, London, N.W.2, passed away July 20. Deeply mourned by her family and friends.

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MISSING PERSONS

Enquiries by AJR

Mrs. Judith Hada (née Rosengarten), born 29.11.1918.

Erika Riesenfeld, formerly of Breslau, believed to have arrived in England in 1939 with children's transport.

Max Theodor Cosmann, born 10.4.1884 in Mainz, died in concentration camp. Persons who knew him are sought for restitution purposes. 'Phone MAI. 4449.

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SOME BOOK REVIEWS

EXILE AND RETURN

The German word "elend" means e-lend—outside one's own country. Many of the men and women who were driven from Germany were indeed "elend", waiting abroad until the day of return would dawn for them. This was particularly true for Dr. Werner Milch. He was of Jewish origin but, as far as I know, had been baptised at birth. He loved Germany with all his heart, and had an almost fanatical devotion to his home province of Silesia.

Yet, exile or not, in England, where he arrived in 1939 (shortly after a stay in a Nazi concentration camp), he continued with his usual compulsive activity. He was available for everybody who needed his counsel or material help. He lectured on German literature. Here he wrote, amongst other things, an essay on Hofmannsthal and was a never-tiring member of the G.E.R. (German Education Reconstruction). It was there that we first met—a meeting which was followed by innumerable others—planning and discussing the future of post-Nazi German youth, working at a series of pamphlets on all aspects of the German educational system and preparing a European reader for German schools. Nothing can describe his activities better than the French phrase: *il se multiplia*.

Catholic Curiosity

There was a catholic curiosity in Werner Milch that made him a delightful raconteur, but at the same time he had a restlessness which was sometimes disquieting—perhaps a sign of the illness which had been so seriously aggravated by his sojourn in a concentration camp, and which eventually caused his early death in 1950 at the age of 47.

Fate had sublimely chosen the moment of his departure from this earth. It granted him the return to his country, and other dreams nourished throughout his life were realised. At last he was given the Chair for German literature in Marburg University (his native Breslau was by then out of reach). Undergraduates flocked to his lectures, for he was an ardent German and yet untainted by Nazi connections. Furthermore, the students

sensed that there was no ivory tower detachment in his love for German literature. It came to life in his lectures, because he had gone through some of the conflicts which are the stuff of fiction.

In his essays* this same closeness to real life is evident. For this reason they are so readable and are of interest to all lovers of German literature. How pathetic and touching that authors from Silesia take pride of place in his works: Christian Garve; von Sallet; von Stein, the son of the famous Frau von Stein who lived in Silesia most of his life; and Milch's own discovery, Daniel von Czepko, the "Herder" of the seventeenth century. It is a pity that Milch, a profound student of Silesian mysticism, has not dealt with Angelus Silesius. But there is an essay on Gerhart Hauptmann, whom he came to know intimately after 1933, at a time when Milch had retired to a little place in the vicinity of Schreiberhau.

The "Portuguese"

I was especially intrigued by the profile of Anton Edmund Wollheim da Fonseca, who liked to be taken as a Portuguese grandee and paraded his devout catholicism. His father had been the Jewish "Lotteriekollekteur" Wollheim in Breslau, where the "Portuguese" was born in 1810, and Caesar Wollheim, who founded the famous Breslau shipping company, was his cousin. He himself had more than a touch of genius. He knew 32 languages, lead an adventurous life and wrote and translated a whole library. I wonder if somebody, stimulated by Milch's engrossing profile, will be lead to read Wollheim's autobiography consisting of six volumes?

Milch would have been untrue to himself if contemporary literature had not attracted his attention. His book includes an essay on Rudolf Alexander Schroeder and one on Thomas Mann's "Doktor Faustus". The last piece, "Ueber nachfaschistisches Denken", is a penetrating analysis of the works and thoughts of Ernst Juenger and Gottfried Benn. It shows how Milch gained in stature towards the end of his life, and the loss suffered by German studies owing to his untimely death.

A. Rosenberg

* Werner Milch: "Kleine Schriften zur Literatur- und Geistesgeschichte." Mit einem Nachwort von Max Rychner herausgegeben von Gerhard Burkhardt. Deutsche Akademie fuer Sprache und Dichtung. Verlag Lambert Schneider, Heidelberg/Darmstadt 1957. 280 Seiten. DM 15.

TWO DOCUMENTARIES

It may be considered a healthy symptom that two leading publishing firms in Germany have brought out publications of documents of the Third Reich.*

For us, the victims, the facts reaffirmed by the documents are more or less known. Yet the position is different for many German readers. Some of them have to be reminded of the crimes which were committed in the name of Germany, because they tend either to forget or to belittle them owing to a sense of guilt. Both books are obtainable at reasonable prices, and it is to be hoped that they will serve a useful purpose.

The persecution and extermination of the Jews is dealt with by both authors in special chapters. The notorious Wannsee Protocol of January 20th, 1942, reflecting the decisions of the leading Government and Gestapo officials on the "final solution", are quoted in detail. Departing from the original policy of emigration, the Protocol stated: "Eviction of the Jews to the East has become a further means of solving the Jewish question. Jews still capable of working should be used for road building. In the course of time", the Protocol cynically goes on, "the majority of them will be eliminated by natural causes."

The Commandant of Auschwitz concentration camp estimated that at least 2½ million persons were gassed in the camp, and that a further half million died of starvation and illness. On the other hand, there were also objections against this policy by high-ranking Nazis, as one document concerning Gauleiter Kube reveals.

Hofer in "Der Nationalsozialismus" also deals with other aspects of the terror régime, including Nazi militarism, the Party's attitude to Christianity and the resistance movement.

Walter Anger's "Das Dritte Reich in Dokumenten" is equally valuable and informative. Anger approaches the subject chronologically, starting with the impact of the Versailles Treaty and the difficulties of the Weimar Republic. He deals with the Nazi policy during 1933 up to the end of the war. The chapter on the anti-Jewish measures includes quotations from Hitler's "Mein Kampf", and leads up to the findings of the Nuremberg trials, according to which six million Jews were killed by the Nazis.

W. Rosenstock

* "Der Nationalsozialismus", by Walther Hofer, DM. 3.30, published by Fischer Bucherei. "Das Dritte Reich in Dokumenten", by Walter Anger, DM. 9.80 and DM. 7.50, published by Europäische Verlagsanstalt GmbH.

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JEWISH NEWS

MINDEN'S NEW SYNAGOGUE

Many people from far and near, simple folk and leading personalities, came to Minden to attend the opening ceremony for the new synagogue. Among the guests were the Minister of Education in North Rhine-Westphalia, Professor Luchtenberg; a member of the Israeli mission, N. Palgi; Dr. Gutfeld, Tel Aviv, and Regierungspraesident Dr. Galle. Rabbi Dr. Holzer had come from London specially to preach the sermon. The chairman of the community, Emil Samuel, received the Federal Cross of Merit First Class.

NEW SYNAGOGUE IN GELSENKIRCHEN

The new synagogue at Gelsenkirchen was inaugurated on June 29th. In 1933 the Jewish community had 1,400 members, now there are about 120, among them 20 children.

Professor Luchtenberg presented the Chairman of the Jewish community, Kurt Neuwald, with the Federal Order of Merit First Class.

JUEDISCHE KULTURGESELLSCHAFT

Well-known Jewish personalities in Munich founded a Juedische Kulturgesellschaft which is outside all Jewish political groups of the city. Its aims are: the encouragement of Jewish cultural activities and the fostering of Jewish-German cultural relations with the inclusion of cultural exchanges with Israel.

BROADCAST ON JEWISH MUSICIAN

A lecture entitled "6½ Octaves Instead of 2½" was recently given by Dr. W. von Einsiedel over the Hessische, Norddeutsche and Bayrische Rundfunk. This lecture dealt with the work of Alfred Wolfsohn, now a music teacher in London, formerly of Berlin. Experts regard Mr. Wolfsohn's work as a revolution in the history of the human voice.

FOR JEWISH TOURISTS IN ROME

The Eternal City now has a special service for tours of the Jewish antiquities of Rome. The address: Giacove Palombo, Grand Hotel, Rome. Telephone: 225-210.

AMERICAN-JEWISH LEADERS MEET PRESIDENT HEUSS

On the occasion of his visit to New York, President Heuss expressed a desire to meet American-Jewish leaders in order to have a frank discussion with them of the problems created by the Nazi régime. Among those present was the Chairman of the Board of the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe.

Whilst, due to his constitutional position, the President did not feel entitled to make a statement on restitution and indemnification for press release, Senator Jacob K. Javits, who was present, said that he believed that the meeting would prove "very salutary for relations between the Jewish groups represented and the German people".

JEWIS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

According to Dr. Rudolf Iltis, editor of the Prague Jewish monthly *Vestnik*, there are at present 20,000 Jews in Czechoslovakia: 9,000 are in Bohemia and Moravia and the rest are in Slovakia. The largest Jewish communities are Prague (5,000) and Bratislava (3,000).

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