

ISSUED BY THE
ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

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PROTECTION AGAINST GROUP ATROCITIES

The Genocide Convention

In connection with the neo-Nazi occurrences Sir Barnett Janner, M.P., President of the Board of Deputies, initiated a debate in the House of Commons some time ago on the question of Great Britain's accession to the Genocide Convention, the international agreement against group murder, in the course of which the Government representative stated that "the difficulties involved are such that the United Kingdom should not accede to it".

What then is the purport of the Genocide Convention and for what reasons was the British Government moved to refrain from acceding to this international convention?

The Second World War influenced profoundly the development and features of international criminal law. Where plain martial law is concerned there were already international treaties and rules of common law. On the other hand, efforts to treat crimes against humanity as acts particularly subject to criminal law are of more recent date. Experiences during the Nazi period led to the making of genocide, or group murder, an act particularly subject to criminal law.

Characteristic of genocide is that the offender tries to destroy a social group as such and that by his actions single persons suffer injury, not as individuals, but as members of a group, whereby subjective group hatred is the impelling factor. Three different species of group destruction may be distinguished: physical group murder consists in the physical destruction of the group. Biological group murder consists in destroying the power to propagate, by prevention of birth or by child deportation. Finally, there is cultural genocide, effecting the ruin of the group's cultural foundations, language, religion and cultural traditions. To this belongs, too, group destruction by disruption, deportation, etc., in so far as the aim of such measures is to prevent the survival of the group.

Resolution of United Nations

The Plenary Session of the United Nations stated in a resolution of December 11th, 1946, that "genocide is a crime under international law, contrary to the spirit and aims of the United Nations and condemned by the civilised world" and on December 9th, 1948, it adopted the Convention on Genocide unanimously and without abstentions.

It is worth noting that even at that time the British delegate made a statement regarding a possible reservation "concerning the right of granting asylum and the need of a future study of the Convention in so far as British criminal law was concerned". That was 14 years ago.

In the Convention, which describes genocide as a "crime under international law, whether committed in time of peace or in time of war", the contracting parties bind themselves to prevent and punish this crime (Article 1). The discussion on this Article included its legal validity, and the representatives of Great Britain and the United States took the view that resolutions of the Plenary Session were by no means mandatory, but were "simply declaratory statements". In his Commentary on this Convention Nehemiah Robinson writes: "The basic position is whether this statement implies that genocide is an international crime in general or for the signatories only," and he notes further: "Increasingly there is a wider

acceptance of rules applied first only among several nations and gradually becoming recognised principles of international law."

To avoid difficulties arising from the interpretation of a general concept, a list of acts was given in Article 2 which fall within the meaning of genocide if they are committed with the purpose of destroying a national, ethnic, racial or religious group in its entirety or in part. The following come within this category: killing members of the group, causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group, deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part, imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group, forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

Punishable Acts

"According to Article 3 of the Convention the following acts are penal: genocide, conspiracy to commit genocide, direct and public incitement to commit genocide, attempt to commit genocide, complicity in genocide. On this Article the British and Polish representatives declared expressly: "Incitement is punishable generally regardless of the results."

Under Article 4 persons who commit genocide or any of the acts mentioned in Article 3 shall be punished "whether they are constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials or private individuals". This gave rise naturally to a discussion of the appeal made by an offender on the grounds of orders received from superiors, which played so great a part in war crime cases. Opinions were divided on this. Nehemiah Robinson's view is that intent implies initiative, and therefore ordinarily it would seem that no intent could be ascribed to persons merely fulfilling superior orders, however "superior orders would not be a justification in those cases where the guilty party was not only a tool of his superior, but participated in the 'conspiracy to commit genocide'".

The contracting parties bind themselves, so far as their constitutions permit, to enact the necessary legislation to give effect to the provisions of the present Convention. On the part of the Norwegian, Canadian and Australian Governments this Article was interpreted to mean that additional legislation is requisite only in States where the existing criminal law is inadequate for the prosecution of all the acts subject to punishment in the Convention. Otherwise the Convention contains no express obligation for "uniformed legislation". To date only very few States have deemed it necessary to supplement their criminal laws accordingly, viz.: Israel, the German Federal Republic and Denmark.

The crucial weakness of the Convention lies obviously in the provision concerning legal procedure that determines which court is competent to handle charges of genocide. In Article 6 it is said that criminal procedure shall be conducted "by a competent tribunal of the State in the territory of which the act was committed", or "by such international penal tribunal as may have jurisdiction with respect to those Contracting Parties which shall have accepted its jurisdiction". This Article is a somewhat unhappy compromise between those who, like the Soviet Union, protested

against any reference to international jurisdiction, and those who—as did Great Britain, France and Holland—sponsored the appeal to an international court, whether the International Court of Justice or a special international high court for dealing with acts of genocide. The latter took their stand on the fact that genocide could rarely be committed without the participation and tolerance of the State and therefore it would be, as the representative of the Philippines formulated it, paradoxical to leave punishment to the same State. On the other hand, it may safely be assumed that those who oppose international jurisdiction on this matter would also not accept the jurisdiction of a high court of this kind. Exertions for the establishment of an international criminal high court have been fruitless up to the present. Therefore, this 6th Article of the Convention diminishes the practical significance of the Genocide Convention.

According to Article 9, merely disputes between the Contracting Parties relating to the interpretation, application or fulfilment of the Convention, including those relating to the responsibility of the State for genocide, are to come before the International Court of Justice.

According to Article 8 appeal may be made to the competent bodies of the United Nations for appropriate measures for the prevention and suppression of acts of genocide.

However, the article which gave rise to the refusal of the British Government to accede to the Convention is Article No. 7, which states that "genocide shall not be considered as political crimes for the purpose of extradition" and the Contracting Parties bind themselves in these cases "to grant extradition in accordance with their laws and treaties in force".

Debate In House of Commons

As was explained in the House of Commons by Mr. Peter Thomas, the Joint Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in reference to this article, the decisive question is: "Would it be necessary, if the United Kingdom decided to become a party to the Convention, to amend the Extradition Act, 1870, to provide that an offence of genocide should not be regarded as an offence of a political character and by so doing to limit the traditional right of this country to grant political asylum?" As against this, Sir Barnett Janner declared: "There is no question about its being a crime. If it is a crime and is so acknowledged to be and condemned accordingly, how can the Government be heard to say that if the crime of genocide is committed, there is a political reason for avoiding extradition? I do not understand this argument," and he asks the House: "How can we expect those 65 nations—including our own closest allies and friends and intimate connections—to regard us with anything but disrespect when we do not accept what they have accepted, and what their legal authorities obviously have told them is in order, but, instead, make some kind of legal excuse?"

And though in its statement the British Government allays fears by saying that "the perpetrator could and would be punished under the ordinary criminal law", the statements made by the Home Secretary, Mr. H. Brooke, on the occasion of the proceedings against Colin Jordan have shown only too plainly that law and legal practice by no means adequately cover actions which are the subject of the Genocide Convention and that recent occurrences make the accession of Great Britain to the Genocide Convention, with all its consequences, seem urgently necessary.

FROM THE GERMAN AND AUSTRIAN SCENES

BERLIN COMMUNITY CHAIRMAN 50

Mr. Heinz Galinski, Chairman of the Berlin Jewish Community, recently celebrated his 50th birthday. As a survivor of the Auschwitz concentration camp he was one of those who took a leading part in the reconstruction of Jewish life in post-war Germany. He has served the Berlin community first as a member of its Repraesentant-ensammlung and, later on, as its Chairman. He is also Chairman of the Directorium of the Zentralrat of the Jews in Germany. To mark the occasion, a reception was held in the Fasanenstrasse Community Centre. Tributes were paid to him by representatives of Jewish organisations, of the municipality of Berlin, the churches and the trade unions. Mr. Bruno Woyda (London), Hon. Secretary of the Council of Jews from Germany, conveyed the greetings of the former German Jews and thanked Mr. Galinski for his devoted and untiring work in the interests of Jewry and Judaism.

RABBI DR. PRINZ VISITS BERLIN

Rabbi Dr. Joachim Prinz (New Jersey) recently paid a visit to Berlin and addressed members of the community at a service at Pestalozzistrasse Synagogue.

PLEDGE AT BELSEN

Five hundred young West Berliners recently gathered at the site of the former Bergen-Belsen concentration camp and pledged themselves to work for peace and human good. The occasion was the national Day of Mourning, in which the country commemorated the dead of both world wars and the victims of Nazi persecution.

"RESERVED FOR GERMAN VICTIMS"

German Ex-Servicemen and "war victims" withdrew from a remembrance day service at Lueneburg because the ceremony included commemoration of the victims of Nazi persecution. The Chairman of the ceremonies, a former Nazi colonel, declared that the day's remembrance was "reserved for the dead German soldiers and the victims of Allied air raids only". It was not, he said, an occasion for commemorating Jews or other former inmates of concentration camps.—(J.C.)

COLOGNE DONATION TO ISRAEL

The Cologne Municipal Council has for the second year donated more than £2,000 for the promotion of Israeli educational institutions and to help Israeli students.

BAN ON SHECHITA DEMANDED

Dr. Hermann Stolting, President of the German League for the Protection of Animals, told a meeting in Munster that the society would never abandon its demand for a ban on shechita. He stated that his opposition to shechita had nothing to do with antisemitism or Nazi doctrines, but was solely based on his wish to prevent unnecessary cruelty to animals. Dr. Stolting revealed that his organisation hoped to reach a compromise settlement on the issue in the near future, following negotiations with some 2,000 Orthodox German Jews.—(J.C.)

WEST-GERMAN MOVE AGAINST V.V.N. CRITICISED

Labour M.P.s in Britain have added their voice to the many protests in West Germany and elsewhere against Dr. Adenauer's attempt to outlaw the Association of Victims of the Nazi Régime (V.V.N.). The West German Government's legal move to get this body in West Germany banned, opened with a court case in West Berlin.

Dr. Barnet Stross and Mr. Shinwell were among the Members who protested, cabling to Dr. Adenauer: "Further persecution of anti-fascists is disturbing to world democratic opinion".

A committee for the defence of the organisation has been set up in Frankfurt/Main. It includes leading churchmen like Pastor Niemoller.

TRIALS

The biggest trial ever to be heard by a West German court will be held at Frankfurt, when 28 ex-Nazi officers will be charged with responsibility for the murder of hundreds of thousands of prisoners, Jews and non-Jews, at Auschwitz.

Preliminary court proceedings against Richard Baer, the last commandant of Auschwitz, who was caught in North Germany only a few years ago, and 27 members of the S.S. and Gestapo personnel of the camp, have recently been concluded. The official indictment will probably be filed soon but a date for the hearing has not yet been fixed. Thirteen of the accused are in custody. Nine others, for whose arrest warrants were issued, are still free because of ill-health.

The prosecutor has also demanded the opening of preliminary proceedings against 17 other former Nazi officials at Auschwitz who were only recently traced and they will be tried at a later date. The prosecutor stressed that several hundred former members of the Nazi personnel at Auschwitz were still being sought by the police, including the camp doctor, Josef Mengele.

Martin Fellenz, a former S.S. officer, is on trial in Flensburg charged with the murder of 40,000 Jews in the Cracow region during the war. He was arrested in June, 1960, after visiting Hayes and Harlington, Middlesex, as an official representative of Schleswig, where he had been a member of the Town Council and business manager of a bakery.

The trial of 13 former S.S. and Nazi policemen charged with the murder of some 170,000 Jews at the Nazi extermination camp of Chelmno in Poland opened in Bonn. The principal defendant is Gustav Laars, accused of killing about 100,000 Jews in mobile gas chambers.

Oscar Waltke, a former S.S. and Gestapo officer, was found guilty by a jury in Hanover of complicity in the murder of 70 Jews and was sentenced to eight years' hard labour. The Presiding Judge said there was insufficient evidence to prove beyond doubt that Waltke was responsible for the killing of members of the Jewish Council of Lemberg and other mass executions.

During the trial at Coblenz of twelve former S.S. officers accused of murdering thousands of Jews and others in the Minsk region, two former S.S. judges stationed at Minsk gave evidence. Both are working as lawyers in northern Germany.—(J.C.)

LAWYERS' SHARE IN NAZI CRIMES

In his concluding address at the German Jurists' Meeting (Deutscher Juristentag) in Hanover, Professor Dr. E. Friesenhahn, President of the Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe, recalled the attitude of lawyers under the Nazi régime. "Did not quite a few among us act according to the rule: 'Order is order, and paragraph is paragraph', instead of asking 'What is right'?" "If those of us who then held public offices had said 'No', we would perhaps have been spared the shame which overcomes us when we think of the place which overshadows our meeting venue: Bergen Belsen". Referring to the recent investigations of the records of judges and prosecutors, Professor Friesenhahn stressed that theirs was a great office and that they must pay for each breach of its standards.

NO PENSION FOR SCHLEGELBERGER

The Administrative High Court in Lueneburg ruled that the former Secretary of State and acting Minister of Justice, Professor Dr. F. Schlegelberger, was not entitled to a pension. The Court's President stated that Schlegelberger had participated in measures connected with the so-called "final solution of the Jewish question." It is expected that Schlegelberger will lodge an appeal with the Federal Administrative Court.

CHIEF PROSECUTOR SUSPENDED

Dr. Karl Kolb, Chief Prosecutor in Wuerzburg, has been suspended from his post following allegations that he was a judge of a Nazi special court in Kalish, Poland, which handed down "terror sentences". Only a few days earlier Kolb had asked the East German authorities to hand over incriminating material in their possession about the suspended President of the local Administrative Court, Dr. Schiedermaier, who was a Nazi judge in Norway.

GRANTS FOR NAZI VICTIMS FROM AUSTRIA

Damage to Occupation and Vocational Education

The Austrian Assistance Funds (Hilfsfonds) has issued an announcement calling on victims of Fascist and Nazi persecution from Austria to apply to the Fund (address: Taborstrasse 2-6, Vienna II) for grants on account of

- damage to occupation,
- damage caused by break of vocational education or interruption of such education lasting at least 3½ years.

The DEADLINE for submitting applications is OCTOBER 31, 1963. Application forms with explanatory notes are available from the United Restitution Office (London) Ltd., Austrian Desk, 183/189 Finchley Road, London, N.W.3, and from the Consular Department of the Austrian Embassy, 18 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1.

The Assistance Fund will accord 9,000 A.S. in the case of damage to occupation and 6,000 A.S. in the case of damage to education. It is envisaged that the moneys available will suffice to provide additional grants of an amount not yet known for damage to occupation. Widows of persons who suffered damage to occupation will be eligible to obtain the grant in their place.

Eligible to apply for grants are former residents of Austria who were either Austrian nationals in March 1938 or were resident there for a period of at least 10 years.

Persons who are at present Austrian nationals will only be accorded the grants if they should not obtain compensation for diminution of income or damage to occupation on the basis of the provisions of the Austrian Victims' Welfare Law. In order to avoid a situation in which potential claimants, i.e., present Austrian nationals living abroad, may fail to obtain any payments, it is recommended that they make their application to the Assistance Fund while also applying to the "Amt der Wiener Landesregierung", Magistrats-Abteilung 12, Vienna I, for compensation on the basis of the Austrian Victims' Welfare Law.

PROSECUTION OF AUSTRIAN WAR CRIMINALS

The Federation of Jewish Communities in Austria has submitted a memorandum to the Austrian Ministry of Justice requesting the amendment of the Austrian Penal Code in a way which makes it possible to prosecute crimes against humanity until 1965. Under the present legislation, such crimes cannot be prosecuted if 20 years have elapsed since they were committed. This means that many criminals who are traced only now cannot be punished for the crimes they committed from 1939 onwards. The same would apply to culprits who will be found in future as the result of the systematic efforts of the Central Office for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes in Ludwigsburg (Germany). To meet the situation, the Germans have enacted an amendment to their Penal Code, by which the 20 years' period of expiration commences not at the date at which the crime was committed, but on June 8, 1945, when the German administration of justice started to function again. The memorandum requests an amendment on the same lines for Austria.

NOVEMBER POGROMS REMEMBERED IN AUSTRIA

To mark the 24th anniversary of the pogroms in November, 1938, 500 Jews, led by the Israel Ambassador to Austria and by the Vice-President of the Vienna Jewish community, held a meeting at Horn cemetery.

Jewish tombstones at Horn cemetery have been desecrated by neo-Nazis on four occasions during the last year.

"OPERATION ATONEMENT"

Twelve young Germans are helping to build a new Jewish community centre near Lyons. They are volunteers for the West German Evangelical Church's "Operation Sign of Atonement". The cost of the centre is being met by the Hesse State Government, Hesse towns and the Berlin Senate.

HOME NEWS ANGLO-JUDAICA

COLIN JORDAN'S APPEAL FAILS

The Court of Criminal Appeal refused leave to appeal against the conviction and sentences at the Old Bailey on Colin Jordan, leader of the National Socialist Movement, and John Tyndall, his deputy. It also refused applications for legal aid.

On October 15, Mr. Justice Barry, sentenced Jordan and Tyndall to nine and six months respectively under Section Two of the Public Order Act, 1936 for their part in organising and equipping Spearhead in such a way as to arouse reasonable apprehension that it was being organised for the purpose of using or displaying force in promoting a political object. Two other members of the organisation, Denis Pirie and Roland Kerr-Ritchie, each received three months' imprisonment but did not appeal.

The "People," the Sunday paper, reported in a special article written by Mr. J. Nichols, who joined the movement to obtain information, that Jordan planned to give British Jews three months to leave the country when he and his National Socialist Movement were "in control". "Those that stay after that will be forced to work for the community and, when we no longer have any use for them, they will be removed".—(J.C.)

FREE SPEECH TV PROGRAMME

Pictures showing Nazi brutalities in the Warsaw Ghetto, gas chambers and the wartime persecution of the Jews, as well as an interview with Colin Jordan, were shown on B.B.C. television recently in "Spotlight", a current affairs programme for schools.

The programme examined the subject of free speech and took as its point of departure the disturbances at fascist meetings in Britain. The narrator posed the question: "Even if what the fascists say is unpopular have they not the right to say it?"

"RACE PREJUDICE AND EDUCATION"

Speaking at a conference on race relations organised by the National Council for Civil Liberties, Dr. Cyril Bibby, author of "Race Prejudice and Education", said that one of the fundamental things in education against racialism is to ensure that people get their facts straight.

Dr. Bibby contended that there was no such thing as "race". Historically, the real root of racial prejudice was sexual. There was always the basic question of whether white people would like their daughters to marry a coloured person.

Similarly, by no criterion were Jews a race. There were a religio-cultural group. There were Jews of various colours. Possibly people were able to recognise Jews in Britain because Jews belonged characteristically in appearance to two groups—those of Spanish and Portuguese origin and those from Eastern Europe. But that did not make the Jews a racial group.

The main purpose of the conference was to elicit support from representatives of all sections of the British community for the Council's plea to Parliament to introduce legislation banning racial discrimination in all its forms.

Among those present were members of trade unions, M.P.s and representatives of the Communist Party, the Yellow Star Movement, the World Jewish Congress and the Association of Jewish Ex-Service Men and Women.—(J.C.)

SOBLEN: ISRAEL CRITICISED

Mr. Sydney Silverman, M.P., strongly criticised Israel for the treatment accorded to Dr. Robert Soblen, who committed suicide after being convicted in America on an espionage charge.

Speaking in a debate in the House of Commons on the aliens regulations, he declared: "I feel personally humiliated by what the Israeli authorities did to him. A country whose great glory was that no one claiming to be a Jew would go to its shores and be turned away, turned him away, hustled him away overnight into the custody of a U.S.A. marshal, and the pitiful excuse given afterwards was that he had landed with a false passport and had committed an offence against the immigration laws of Israel.

"I do not want to say too much, but if the present citizens or inhabitants of Israel who arrived there in contravention of the immigration laws were to be hustled out, the country would lose 65 per cent of its population overnight. I am glad to know that public opinion in Israel is censorious, and rightly censorious, of what was done."

HALF MILLION SIGN ANTI-RACE-HATE PETITION

The anti-race-hate petition, signed by nearly half a million people all over Britain and Northern Ireland in less than three months, has been presented to Parliament by representatives of the three parties.

The petition forms arrived in 15 bundles tied up in green, blue and red tape, and were handed over to three M.P.s by representatives of five organisations, including the Rev. Bill Sargent, vicar of Holy Trinity, Dalston, and other officials of his Yellow Star Movement which initiated the petition. They were supported by Mr. Martin Ennals, National Secretary of the National Council for Civil Liberties, and leading representatives of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen, and the London Anti-Fascist Committee.

CHIEF RABBI ADVOCATES NON-VIOLENCE

Addressing the thousands of Jewish Ex-Service Men and Women attending the reunion and rally at Hammersmith, the Chief Rabbi denounced the use of violence as an answer to neo-Nazi violence or provocation.

The best means of minimising prejudice, said Dr. Brodie, was through the enlightenment afforded by education. He declared that any legislative measure whose object it was to restrain those who advocate racialism must be supported.

Mr. Edmund L. de Rothschild, National President of Ajex, remarked that "to say it cannot happen here is too complacent".

In Germany, he pointed out, only 27 men started the movement which led to the holocaust in Europe.—(J.C.)

TRADE UNION LEADER ON ISRAEL

At a function attended by members of the T.U.C. General Council Mr. George Woodcock, General Secretary of the T.U.C., reported on his recent visit to Histadrut, the Israeli Trade Union. It was the first time that the leadership of the British trade union movement had come together at a meeting entirely dedicated to the State of Israel and her Labour movement.

Remembrance Parade

Three thousand five hundred British Jewish ex-Service Men and Women, including former refugee members of H.M. Forces, as well as a contingent from France, marched along Whitehall to the Cenotaph for the annual remembrance service and parade organised by the Association of Jewish ex-Service Men and Women.

The parade created a stirring impression on hundreds of sightseers lining the route.

Shechita

The demands for a Bill banning shechita brought up in the Commons have been dropped after it was pointed out that, in the present situation, such a move might be misinterpreted as antisemitism.

United Synagogue's New President

Sir Isaac Wolfson has been elected President of the United Synagogue. He succeeds the retiring President, the Hon. Ewen E. S. Montagu, and becomes the ninth President of the most powerful synagogal body in Anglo-Jewry.

Archbishop on Tolerance

The danger of confusing indifference with tolerance was stressed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Michael Ramsay, when he delivered the tenth annual Sir Robert Waley Cohen Memorial Lecture. The title of his lecture, held under the auspices of the Council of Christians and Jews, was "The Crisis of Human Freedom".

The Archbishop, a Joint President of the Council, said it must be emphasised that indifference was not a virtue and that it was not tolerance, and people had to be made aware of the distinction. "The truly tolerant man reveres those processes whereby he has reached his own convictions and so reveres the same processes in others".

Tolerance alone could not serve as an alternative to racialism, said the Archbishop. It could allow a man to claim a different theory or different politics from one's own. But to allow a black man to live in one's community was not simply a matter of allowing his opinions but of allowing him.

Hampstead's Community Centre

At a reception which followed the laying of the foundation-stone for the £125,000 project on the site adjoining the Hampstead Synagogue, it was announced that 93 per cent of the cost of the new community centre has already been collected or promised.

Mr. Henry Brooke and the Mayor and Mayoress of Hampstead were among the many distinguished guests present at the ceremony.

Debt to Artists

At a symposium on "The Artist and the Anglo-Jewish Community" held by the B'nai B'rith First Lodge of England, it was suggested the Anglo-Jewish community could do much more to encourage its artists, poets and writers.

The participants were Danny Abse, the poet; Josef Herman, the Polish-born painter; and Bernard Kops, the playwright.

Princess Margaret Visits Maccabi

In spite of the heavy fog, Princess Margaret and her husband, Lord Snowdon, paid a visit to Maccabi House on December 6 on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of British Maccabi. She was presented with a loyal address. The President, Mr. Pierre Gildesgame, stressed they were especially appreciative of the fact that she had attended the function in spite of the inclement weather.

Delinquency Decreasing

The number of delinquent Jewish boys at the Park House School, Peper Harow, has dropped to an average of only six during the past few years.

Park House is nominally a Jewish school, but the school is filled to capacity with boys of almost every other denomination. It holds 106 boys.

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NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Jewish Senators and Congressmen

Among the newly elected members of the American Senate and of the House of Representatives are three Jewish Senators and nine Jewish Congressmen. The Senators are Jacob K. Javits (Republican, New York), Ernest Gruening (Democrat, Alaska) and Abraham A. Ribicoff (Democrat, Connecticut). The Jewish Congressmen are Seymour Halpern, Emanuel Celler, Leonard Farbstein, Abraham Multer, Jacob H. Gilbert, Benjamin S. Rosenthal, Samuel Friedman, Hermann Toll and Charles S. Joelson; with the exception of Seymour Halpern (Republican) all of them are Democrats.

Clergymen Appeal to Krushev

In a cable to Mr. Krushev, a group of 46 prominent Protestant, Catholic and Jewish clergymen in the U.S. urged the Russian Government to halt the discriminatory treatment of Jews. They claimed that while most other denominations were permitted "bare necessities for religious practice, the almost 3,000,000 Russian Jews were denied minimal rights conceded to adherents of other religions."

DENMARK

Preparations for 150th Anniversary

The 150th anniversary in 1964 of the Danish decree giving Jews complete equality with other citizens, is to be marked by the publication of a massive historical survey of Jewish life in Denmark. Historians and others are to contribute chapters on all aspects of the Jewish contribution to Danish life.

Forest in Israel

King Frederik IX of Denmark is expected to give his official approval shortly to the planting of a forest in Israel in his name. The project is sponsored by the Jewish community of the American State of New Jersey. The forest is being planted "to commemorate the heroic deeds of the people of Denmark on behalf of the Jewish people in 1943".

GOTHENBURG'S COMMUNAL CENTRE

Special ceremonies were held when Gothenburg's Jewish community centre was inaugurated. Apart from the opening, there was a service in the city's Great Synagogue and a banquet in the evening. Guests included the Governor of Gothenburg, representatives of all Swedish Jewish communities and the city's Jewish leaders. The new centre has cost nearly £119,000, made up of contributions from the Claims Conference, a grant from the Swedish Government, local fund-raising and loans.—(J.C.)

DUTCH STUDENTS SUSPENDED

Sixteen members of the Amsterdam Students' Corporation were suspended from the city's university for their part in "excesses" which occurred during student initiation ceremonies. These included antisemitic remarks made to two Jewish candidates for initiation.

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ARGENTINA

Neo-Nazi Youth

Members of the neo-Nazi youth organisation, Tacuara went on a rampage in several districts of Buenos Aires, attacking Jewish shops, breaking windows and causing general disorder. The police made 24 arrests, most of them teenagers.

Other Tacuara members attacked a Jewish school, but were themselves attacked and several of them were handed over to the police.

Reports "Exaggerated"

Professor Paul Link, formerly of Buenos Aires, told a meeting of the Anglo-Israeli Cultural Association in London that Argentinians are a liberal people and are no more antisemitic than the British. Antisemitic acts of a handful of youngsters (many of whom were sons of ex-Nazi officers) had been wildly exaggerated by reports in the Press, he said. The few fascists in Argentina were no more significant than the supporters of Mosley who committed similar acts in Britain. Neither was it true to call Argentina a haven for war criminals, for there were "as many war criminals in Britain or the United States as there are in Argentina".

There were about 470,000 Jews in Argentina but, declared Professor Link, nevertheless, the Argentine community was on the decline because of the country's impoverished economic situation.

Front Against Antisemitism

A large section of influential Argentine opinion has declared support for the newly formed United Front Against Antisemitism.

With the declared aim of fighting antisemitism in all its forms, the new group has the backing of all the major political parties, many of the trade unions and organisations of students and writers.

RUSSIA

Further Trials

A trial of some fifty persons was held before the Supreme Court of the Moldavian Republic in Kishinev. Of these, forty had Jewish names. Four Jews were sentenced to death and were shot soon afterwards.

The four accused were found guilty of "speculation in foreign currency and gold coins". Two other Jews were sentenced to twelve and six years' imprisonment respectively. The property of all the accused was confiscated. A number of the accused were found not guilty.

In a trial by the Ukrainian Military Court in Lvov, one Jew was sentenced to death and three other Jews to terms of imprisonment ranging from eleven to 15 years.

A recent issue of the Bulletin of the International Commission of Jurists declares that the "number of Jewish names found among those condemned to death is strikingly high, while there appear to be disproportionately high sentences passed on Jewish persons compared with others". The "signs of racial overtones" in the present prosecutions, it is stated, "has given cause to very broad concern throughout the world."—(J.C.)

Jewish Scientists

According to official statistics published in Moscow, there were, in 1961, 36,173 Jewish scientists working in Russian industry, agriculture and, especially, engaged in research work in all branches of Russian science, including atomic development.

Compared with official figures issued in 1960, the number of Jewish scientists increased by 2,644 in the twelve-month period.

It appears that Jews, as in 1960, continue to occupy third place among scientists after Russians and Ukrainians.—(J.C.)

ANTISEMITIC TRACTS

Neo-Nazi and antisemitic propaganda is apparently reaching New Zealand from Australia. "Truth", a mass circulation New Zealand weekly, has reported the receipt of material from an Australian who, it says, receives assistance from the British National Socialist movement, the American Nazi Party and the World Union of Free Enterprise National Socialists.—(J.C.)

RUDOLF SLANSKY REHABILITATION?

According to reports from Prague, 47 senior officials, former members of the secret police and the Ministry of Justice, have been dismissed from their posts. This is in connection with the trial and sentence of Rudolf Slansky ten years ago. A prosecutor and one of the "People's Judges" who took part in the trial are themselves expected to face trial.

Slansky, the former General Secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, and a group of other high-ranking Jewish officials, were tried in 1952, sentenced to death and executed.

The dismissals are believed to presage the rehabilitation of Slansky and other victims of the purges carried on during the period. The families of some of the victims are reported to have been informed that a State pension will be paid to them as compensation for the injustice committed by the "former followers of the personality cult".

The charges against Slansky and several of the other accused included the carrying on of "criminal" Zionist activities.—(J.C.)

WHO IS A JEW?

A Jerusalem High Court Decision

The High Court of Justice in Jerusalem has ruled that the Law of Return, enacted in 1950 to establish the right of every Jew to settle in Israel and to acquire Israeli citizenship on his arrival, only applies to persons who claim the Jewish faith and do not adhere to any other religion. It therefore rejected the application of Oswald Rufeisen, who was converted to Christianity in 1942 and has resided in the Carmelite Monastery of Haifa since 1959, to be recognised as a Jew within the terms of the Law of Return. The Court stated that Rufeisen, now "Father Daniel", has to apply for Israeli citizenship by naturalisation, as can any of the other 48,000 Christians in the country.

The Court President recalled that, during the war, Father Daniel had risked his life to save Jews in Poland. However, he went on, "the personal merits of Rufeisen are irrelevant here. The question is whether he can be regarded as a Jew, and this we must answer negatively."

FRENCH NAZI FOUND

Jacques Vasseur, a Frenchman who worked for the Nazi police during the occupation, and was directly responsible for the deportation and murder of hundreds of Jews and underground fighters, has been accidentally discovered in his mother's house near Lille. He had been hidden in the attic since he was condemned to death 17 years ago. He will be retried.

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Egon Larsen

KURFUERSTENDAMM NOSTALGIA

A Newspaperman Recalls the 'Twenties

Nostalgia is fashionable now in Germany. What we, who were in Berlin in the 'twenties, had always suspected: that we had witnessed Germany's most concentrated cultural period—seems to be confirmed now by a spate of memoirs telling the young ones of the post-Nazi generation what they missed. Max Krell, Dramaturg in Weimar, editor in Munich, literary director with Ullstein in Berlin, was so much part of that period that his book* is bound to make interesting reading merely on the strength of the innumerable famous people he met professionally and socially. And the majority of the great names of which Krell, the non-Jew, writes, were Jews.

Here we find the authentic atmosphere of the old Café des Westens before World War I, populated by people like Emanuel Lasker, Leonhard Frank, Paul Lindau, Carl Sternheim, Salomon Friedländer-Mynona, Franz Blei. In Bavaria Krell meets an unsuccessful banker from Prague who calls himself Meyrink (the story of the creation of his "Golem" is good anecdotic stuff) and witnesses the Räterepublik with 25-year-old Toller as its Minister of War and General. Here, Maximilian Harden makes his appearance as a speaker on the eve of the revolution and pleads for a new, spiritual Germany.

Writers and Artists

The Ullstein saga is greatly enriched by Krell's inside stories of the five brothers and their various publications. In Krell's office Egon Erwin Kisch speaks of his adventures; Wassermann discusses the Hau case before turning it into his novel, "Der Fall Maurizius"; a man who introduces himself by his private name and official title, Oberförster Perlmann, reveals himself as Ossip Dymow; Else Lasker-Schüler "drops in" from time to time; Ludwig Wolff and Vicki Baum create the new type of quality serial novel for the "Berliner Illustrierte"; Moritz Seeler speaks about his latest film ideas. What a cavalcade of writers and artists—a glittering scene which was blacked out, almost overnight, in January, 1933. Soon, hardly any of the people who had made Berlin the centre of European culture in that period remained in town—or, for that matter, alive. Krell himself stayed on for a few years, trying to keep the Nazi tide out of Ullstein; but eventually he had to give up and emigrated to Florence, where he spent the war years, and died there a few months ago.

It is an enjoyable, nostalgic, often fascinating book, illustrated with many good photographs, and it is a pity that it could have been a lot better. Krell is not a good writer; he writes the antiquated "journalese" of the evening papers, peppers his reminiscences with improbable dialogue, dramatises his documentary evidence; worst of all, his book is riddled with mistakes, from wrongly-spelt names—Kreissler, MacMillan—and titles—"Men and Mices"—to erroneous figures; according to him, Masaryk died in 1935, and the legal irresponsibility paragraph is 45 instead of 51. Perhaps his most disconcerting habit is that of revealing the names of the people he describes, as a would-be dramatic effect, only two or three dozen lines after beginning to write about them. This age-old journalistic trick recurs scores of times. I don't think an English publisher would have let the book appear with these mistakes and annoying features; but then, English publishers have editors, and German ones believe they can save the money for such literary watchdogs. On his last but one page Krell writes: "Our well-organised archives and libraries keep every sheet of printed paper; all we have to do is look up the references. But we have not got the time to do so." I wish he had tried to find the time; it would have made his book much more valuable.

* Max Krell: Das alles gab es einmal. Heinrich Scheffler, Frankfurt. DM. 19.80.

But there is another, more persistent thought that comes to mind. Our adversaries told the world that the Kurfürstendamm culture was made and run by Jews. At the time, most of us hotly denied that allegation. But I think it was one of the Nazi lies that contained more than a kernel of truth. Yes, it was Jews who lifted the Berlin of the 'twenties to its stature as a cultural metropolis, and we might just as well be proud of it. To put it bluntly: there is no better proof of the German-Jewish cultural genius than the comparative barrenness of the present-day, Jewless, cultural scene of Germany.

SPOTLIGHT ON HAMBURG

Erich Lüth, the Director of Hamburg's State Press Office, is a 60-year-old, well-known journalist with a blameless record. He has made a name for himself as the promoter of Peace with Israel movement and of the boycott movement against Veit Harlan, who directed the "Jud Süß" film. When Hitler came to power Lüth resigned from the Hamburg Senate and was chased out of the editorial office of his newspaper. But he remained in Germany, an uncompromising observer of the havoc which the Nazis wreaked in every field of German culture.

The two booklets which Lüth has recently published, "Zeitungsstadt Hamburg" and "Hamburger Theater 1933-45", are therefore of special interest. The first one is the reprint of a discourse held at the Institut für publizistische Bildungsarbeit (under the chairmanship of Professor Emil Dovifat, whose panegyrics on Hitler seem to have been forgiven and forgotten). Hamburg, with its world-wide connections, was indeed the birthplace of some of the earliest Continental journals, and in 1828 Saphir said that it was Germany's "zeitungsreichste Stadt". Here, Gabriel Riesser fought for Jewish emancipation with his periodical *Der Jude* ("printed by permission of His Majesty the King of Denmark"), and that most liberal of censors, Karl Sieveking, actually advised the publisher Campe on the best way to keep out of trouble with his Heine editions. Here, Lassalle published his Socialist journals, until Bismarck clamped down on them.

Lüth gives an admirable potted history of the great Hamburg papers—*Fremdenblatt*, *Anzeiger*, *Nachrichten*, *Volkszeitung*, *Echo*, *Tageblatt*—and their fates under Hitler. However, I should have preferred a more critical attitude towards Hamburg's post-war journals; Lüth does not go beyond listing their circulations and the names of their editors (some of whom have not very clean records, nor are their journalistic policies free from the desire to pander to the basest instincts of a mass readership). Somewhat ambiguously, Lüth ends with the sentence: "All criticism is valid only when it gets its response from the critical mind of the well-informed and thinking reader".

The booklet on Hamburg's theatre under Hitler, sponsored by the University, is so lavishly produced and brilliantly illustrated that it looks almost like a *Festschrift*. Considering that it recalls the saddest chapter in German theatrical history, one wonders if all this labour and expense would not have been worthy of a more constructive cause. Still, it is an interesting record. We read about the good fight which men like Arnold Marlé and Justin Steinfeld put up; about Oskar Fritz Schuh's gala performances before Hitler and Goebbels and Richard Strauss's officious "Heil Hitler" (reproduced in facsimile). And we learn of innumerable acts of kindness and sympathy towards the Jewish artists before they were driven into exile or sent to the extermination camps.

E.L.

Old Acquaintances

U.S.A.: Georg Froeschel, who is scripting "Charlemagne" for M.G.M., introduced Fritz Massary as guest of honour at "Club 1933" in Los Angeles.—Seventy-nine-year-old Julius Berstl has completed his new novel, "Der Teufel schlaeft nie," in New York.—Norbert Schiller, Werner Klemperer and Ursula Thiess will be in an episode of "77 Sunset Strip" on TV.—Susan Kohner will play in Thornton Wilder's "The Pullman Car" at New York's Circle-in-the-Square Theatre.—Billy Wilder is producing and directing "Irma la Douce," with Jack Lemmon and Shirley MacLaine.

Home News: Franz Waxman recently conducted for the first time in London at the Royal Festival Hall. The Berlin-born musician wrote the scores for many Hollywood films; his latest composition "Joshua" was presented at this year's Music Festival in Los Angeles.—Martin Miller, who ten years ago played in the first night of "The Mousetrap," will be in "Incident at Midnight."—Anton Difrting, currently in "Out of Bounds" at the Wyndham, will also appear in "Incident at Midnight."—Ken Adam designed the scenes for "Sodom and Gomorrah."—Brecht-Weill's "Mahagonny" will be produced at Sadler's Wells on January 14.—Granada will televise an adaptation by Erwin Piscator and the late Alfred Neumann of "War and Peace."

News from Everywhere: The city of Mannheim awarded the Schiller Prize (10,000 D.M.) to Elisabeth Bergner.—Wanda Rotha will star on Berlin's TV in Cartier's production of "That Lady" and will also appear at Vienna's Josefstadt.—Lotte Lehmann co-directed "Der Rosenkavalier" at New York's Metropolitan and also appeared in a radio interview with Maria Jeritza.

Milestones: Dr. Ludwig Lewin, co-founder of Berlin's Lessing Hochschule, became 75 last month. He is director of a mental hospital in New York and also has a guest house in Ascona.—Austrian playwright Max Mell, of "Apostel-spiel" fame and a friend of von Hofmannsthal, turned 80 years of age.

Germany: Anton Walbrook is on tour with Heidemarie Hatheyer in Molnar's "Leibgardist".—Arno Assman will succeed O. F. Schuh as director of Cologne's theatre.—Hans Jaray has acquired the TV rights of Wesker's "Tag fuer Tag".—Egon Jameson, of London, lectured in West Germany on "Hasst England Europa?"—Gruendgens successfully produced "Don Carlos" in Hamburg, himself taking the part of Philip.—Roma Bahn starred in Duerrenmatt's "Besuch einer alten Dame" in Wilhelmshaven.—Lucie Mannheim and Dieter Borsche will be in Anouilh's "Die Grotte", directed by E. Piscator, at Berlin's Volksbuehne.—Walter Gropius has become an honorary citizen of Berlin.—At Berlin's Jewish community centre Curt Bois introduced an evening in memory of the late Joseph Schmidt who died 20 years ago.

A Life on Record: Robert Stolz, who will visit Israel in January to conduct concerts, has recorded the story of his life under the title of "Amadeo". He recalls his early days in Graz and Bruenn, how he conducted the first "Merry Widow" production in Vienna, went bankrupt in his own theatre and his best years in Berlin. The second half of that L.P. is a declaration of love to his wife Einzi. On another record, "Electrola", are the composer's numerous evergreens from "Servus du", "Salome" (lately revived as "Romeo"), "Klingelfee" and "Adieu, du kleiner Gardeoffizier" to "Two Hearts".

Obituary: The 72-year-old Hamburg-born sculptor, Paul Henle, has died as the result of drowning; he lived in Hampstead.—Script-writer Georg C. Klaren has died in Sawbridge-worth, near London. Together with the late H. Juttke he wrote many German scripts and directed the film version of "Wozzeck" with Kurt Meisel shortly after the war in Berlin.—Walter Schwab, who wrote a book on Nazism under the pen-name "Verrina," has died in Berlin at the age of 81.

PEM

Fritz Friedlander

FROM MARX TO HITLER

Centenary of Werner Sombart's Birth

Der Mensch hat, im Gegensatz zum Tier, eine Fülle gegensätzlicher Triebe und Impulse in sich grossgezüchtet.
—Nietzsche: "Der Wille zur Macht."

Why did Werner Sombart's book, "Die Juden und das Wirtschaftsleben" cause a sensation when it first appeared in 1911?

Certainly it was first of all the personality of the author which attracted attention. Werner Sombart, born on January 19th, 1863, in Ermsleben am Harz, was a brilliant, colourful and highly talented political economy scientist in the Germany of Wilhelm II. He was not only a fascinating lecturer—from 1890 to 1906 at the Breslau and then at the Berlin University—but also possessed an immense capacity for work: after his initial treatise "Die römische Campagna" (1888) appeared his monumental study "Der moderne Kapitalismus" (1902) and, as a supplement, "Die deutsche Volkswirtschaft im 19 Jahrhundert" (1903). He was, too, an esteemed contributor to the "Archiv für Soziale Gesetzgebung und Statistik", edited by Heinrich Braun.

However, he made himself a name especially on account of his book "Sozialismus und soziale Bewegung" (1896), in which—and still more in "Das Lebenswerk von Karl Marx" (1909)—he showed a strong leaning to the Marxist doctrine, an unusual attitude for a Prussian university scholar, and one which barred him from access to full professorship.

Jews and Modern Capitalism

Therefore his comprehensive book "Die Juden und das Wirtschaftsleben" (1911) met with great expectation, all the more as its author had already lectured about this most topical subject. While, some years ago, Max Weber in his epoch-making study "Die protestantische Ethik und der Geist des Kapitalismus" (1904-05) had claimed that the Anglo-Saxon Puritanism, practised in everyday life, had produced modern capitalism, Sombart now set out to prove that the growth of the modern Western capitalistic mind had mainly to be attributed to the Jewish people in the Diaspora, and he asserted in this respect:

"Wie die Sonne geht Israel über Europa, wo es hinkommt, spriesst neues Leben empor, von wo es fortzieht, da modert alles, was bisher geblüht hat."

Relying on an immense, though not always sound source material, Sombart tried to prove that Jewish business men had been numerously represented at the Leipzig fairs and had secured a big portion of the Levantine trade; that they had also been the first to come into the market with grain, wool, flax, manufactured goods of the textile industry, colonial products like sugar, tobacco, etc. This process, according to Sombart, was not restricted to Europe: modern America was, to a large extent, also shaped by the Jewish mentality.

This outstanding success in business was, in Sombart's view, achieved on account of the peculiarity of the Jewish mind: its original nomadism, its realism and rationalism, i.e., sense of "tachlis", its instinct for purposefulness.

Rejected by Critics

Sombart's vastly exaggerated theory was rejected by a number of most competent critics. Noted

Jewish theologians like Moses Hoffmann, Julius Guttman and Max Eschebacher, demonstrated that the way Sombart had interpreted Jewish religion and ethics in support of his theory did not stand the test. Franz Oppenheimer emphasised that the Jews did not import the capitalistic spirit but, on the contrary, during their wanderings sought access to those areas in which economic life was already developing in the direction of modern capitalism.

Prominent non-Jewish scholars, like Felix Rachfahl and Lujo Brentano, also rejected Sombart's book. The latter, one of the greatest masters in the field of political economy, parried Sombart's basic thesis with the statement that capitalism was born in ancient Babylon, where the exiled Jewish people by chance became acquainted with it. Finally, Brentano summed up Sombart's book in one devastating sentence: "Das ganze Buch ist zuchtlos, und von einem zuchtlosen Buche gilt dasselbe wie von einem zuchtlosen Weibe." Perhaps this was too hard; anyhow Ludwig Feuchtwanger, from the lively discussion of Sombart's book, drew the conclusion: "Sombarts Hauptthese über den jüdischen Anteil an der Entstehung des Kapitalismus ist heute allgemein aufgegeben."

Why did Sombart's "Die Juden und das Wirtschaftsleben", though it was practically unanimously rejected by the scholarly critics, exercise a strong influence on the general public, in particular on the contemporary German, and why was it quoted time and again?

It did so because the antisemites found it most suitable to cloak their bogy of financial world domination by the "international Jew" with an apparently "scientific" material and, of course, they did not hesitate to use Sombart's prestige for their sinister ends. However, was Sombart's interpretation of the role of the Jews in the economic history of the West only misused, or did it really place trump cards in the hands of the antisemites?

Turn to the Swastika

When excessive German nationalism grew stronger and stronger, Sombart revealed the ambiguity of his mind and began to burn the idols that he had worshipped and to worship the idols that he had burned: he changed the originally pro-Marxist tenor of his "Sozialismus und soziale Bewegung" into a violently anti-Marxist outburst. Therefore the Marxist thinker Hermann Heller, a Jew, noted among other things as the author of "Europa und der Faschismus", charged him with ideological apostasy.

Ultimately, after Hitler's seizure of power Sombart, who until then liked to pose as an undaunted intellectual fighter, made haste to insinuate himself with the all powerful ruler: in 1934 he published his book "Deutscher Sozialismus", in which he approved of the expulsion of the Jews from the cultural and economic life of Germany, with reference to his previous thesis that the Jews had to be considered the bearers of the fateful spirit and practice of modern capitalism. He renounced what he had formerly said in favour of the Jews.

Did Sombart, however, actually undergo a sudden change of mind? This is, indeed, open to question.

Why, we may ask, did the young Sombart, in the era of Wilhelm, sympathise with the Marxist doctrine, but did not dare join the Social Democratic Movement? On the one hand he was shrewd enough to realise that the future might belong to this movement and that, therefore, it might pay him to flirt with it. On the other hand he realised, too, that the militaristic and nationalistic forces were still predominant in Imperial Germany and that, therefore, he might be wise to side with them: For this reason he supported Wilhelm II's imperialistic tendencies: his naval as well as his colonial and world trade policies.

Furthermore, he confided to his trusted friends, Heinrich and Lily Braun that, in his view, if the Socialists came to power they could only keep themselves in the saddle if they had the energy to represent the cause of the strong (cf. Lily Braun: "Memoiren einer Sozialistin"). In this respect he anticipated, *mutatis mutandis*, a concept of Hitler's, Stalin's and Mussolini's future eras of dictatorship—a concept rooted in the system of thought of Nietzsche, Sorel, Pareto and Marx.

In consequence of his enthusiasm for "the cause of the strong" Sombart declared after the outbreak of the First World War in 1914: "German militarism is the most complete union between Potsdam and Weimar, it is Beethoven in the trenches." He plunged into a war propaganda, unworthy of a social scientist of his calibre: in his brochure "Händler und Helden" (1915) he tried to play off the "noble and heroic" German idealism against the "greedy and profiteering" English materialism.

No Splendid Isolation

After the war was lost he soon realised that the Socialists of the Weimar Republic had not the energy "to represent the cause of the strong", and when Hitler came to power he was eager to jump on to the bandwagon. To secure a front seat, he wrote "Deutscher Sozialismus", but it was unfortunate for him that the Nazis had neither forgotten nor forgiven his former predilection for the Marxist doctrine. They let him know that his way of thinking was still "static", i.e., lacking in understanding of what they called "politische Führungswirtschaft", a system of self-supporting economy, striving for independence from overseas raw materials by using substitutes ("deutsche Werkstoffe") in the interest of a massive rearmament. Certainly, Sombart, as an expert, knew that this Nazi experiment was bound to result either in economic chaos or in a war at the risk of catastrophe. The old scholar still lived to see his last work—the sociological study "Vom Menschen" (1938)—disregarded in a Germany preparing for war. When he died in Berlin on May 18th, 1941, he was at least spared the experience again of the failure of militarism which, in his eye, was "Beethoven in the trenches". A man who was always available for the highest bidder was gone.

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FOCUS ON FRANCE

Geneva Conference on Jewish Refugees

A map of France lies before us; it is enlivened by a mass of practically up-to-the-minute statistical information. Against the names of each of some 60 towns, apart from main centres like Paris and Marseilles, two figures have been inscribed, one in blue the other in black. They indicate the Jewish population of these towns five years ago and the amount of increase since then. The total result shows that there were about 350,000 Jews in France in 1957, whereas today the figure far exceeds 500,000. Thus, overnight as it were, France has become the largest Jewish community in Europe. Up till now Great Britain, with 450,000 Jews, stood at the head of the list. The reason for the rapid increase in France, with the grave difficulties and many problems that this has caused, is mainly due, as has been known for months and officially recognised as such, to the stream of refugees from Algeria, which has far exceeded that from other North African territories, such as Morocco and Tunisia. In all there are about 180,000 refugees to be reckoned with, whether they are classified as repatriates or newcomers. The problem of their gradual integration in the cultural and social sense can best be gauged by anyone who has had personal experience of the process of absorption of other Jewish refugee groups over the last twenty-five years.

United Action of European Jewry

The problems of this latest tragic Jewish migration were predominant in the convention of the Standing Conference on Jewish Community Services, the third conference of this kind, held in Geneva at the beginning of November. This Inter-European organisation, whose establishment was, to a high extent though not entirely, due to the benevolent assistance of the American Joint Distribution Committee (A.J.D.C.), received delegates from communities, community associations and leading welfare bodies in 14 countries. In all there were about 150 people present, from Oslo to Athens, and from London and Amsterdam to Rome and Belgrade. Naturally the French delegation was by far the strongest and the most active in committee and discussion; in addition there were several French-speaking observers from Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria. For the first time (and they were specially welcomed) representatives attended from the 1,500-2,000-strong Jewish community in Madrid, and from the community in Helsinki, the Finnish capital. This visibly demonstrated their feeling of spiritual linkage with the Standing Conference, and the latter's European framework was thereby demonstrably extended and consolidated.

The Geneva conference, under the chairmanship of Dr. Astorre Mayer (Milan), Chairman of the Standing Conference, was also a step forward in that it was the first to be freed from the patronage of the Joint. It was more than a symbolic gesture when Charles H. Jordan (Geneva), General Director of the A.J.D.C., ceremoniously handed over the presidential gavel of office to Dr. Mayer. In his welcoming address to the delegates Mayer even went so far as to express the hope that in time to come the Standing Conference might participate with the Joint in its Jewish social endeavours in other parts of the world; and this should require the Joint in some measure for the initial assistance that it had provided.

This self-reliance, which inaugurates a new phase in the post-war co-operation between the Joint and the Jewish communities in Western Europe, reflects the re-emerging initiative of these communities in the fields of welfare, health and education. At the same time such efforts indicate a marked upsurge in Jewish life generally. Edward M. M. Warburg (New York), President of the Joint, emphasised in his short welcoming address the significance of the fact that the stronger Jewish groups in Western Europe were coming to the aid of those so heavily pressed in France. American Jewry, which was largely derived from Jewish refugees from Europe, would continue its efforts to help the French Jewish communities.

Very close attention was needed to absorb the

mass of material produced to illustrate developments, facts and problems. The word "report" appeared no less than a dozen times on the carefully prepared agenda, which was punctiliously adhered to. Nevertheless, time was allowed for stimulating, revealing and constructive discussion. An informative yet moving film about novel methods of training Jewish social workers at the Paul Baerwald School in Jerusalem was also shown. The second evening was reserved for a reception given by Jordan and his colleagues.

Relief Work of C.B.F. and "Joint"

After the welcoming addresses Oscar Joseph (London) presented his report in a dual presidential capacity, first, about the developing activity of the still young International Council on Jewish Social and Welfare Services, which was principally aimed at co-operating in an advisory capacity with certain agencies of U.N.O. Then he spoke about the work of the Central British Fund (C.B.F.) which during the previous twelve months had substantially supported the relief work in France. To increase overseas relief work as well as to continue work for refugees in the United Kingdom, an appeal for £250,000 had been launched by the C.B.F.

Jordan was programmed to give a global report and did, in fact, undertake a broad survey, not limited to any particular aspect, of the activities in the field of Jewish social work. Although he also spoke of finance, as indeed he had to, his survey was characterised by a broad human approach. But for the existence of the Standing Conference, Jordan stressed, sufficient help could not have been provided for the Jewish refugees from North Africa. In the present year the Joint has expended alone \$3 million on help for these refugee groups. Further on in his report Jordan declared that the emergency affecting Algerian Jewry could by no means be considered past, and he singled out for special praise the self-sacrifice of French Jewry. He described the care for the aged and handicapped in Israel, which accounted for the largest item in the Joint's budget, as well as that for Jews in Persia and those still living in North African territories. Finally, he touched on the A.J.D.C.'s work in other parts of the world. His remarks were considerably amplified by Max A. Braude (Geneva), Director of the World Ort Union, and James P. Rice (New York), mainly responsible for the United Hias Service, chiefly on the question of technical training (especially in France) and in respect of certain migration movements (from Cuba, North Africa, France). Victor Girmounsky (London), Director of the Jewish Colonisation Association (I.C.A.), which is active in many countries, was able to report, *inter alia*, that there were still 2,000 Jewish families on I.C.A. estates in the Argentine.

One whole afternoon was devoted to the situation of the Jews in France and North African territories. In Claude Kelman (Paris), Vice-President of the F.S.J.U. (Fonds Social Juif Unifié), Julien Samuel (Paris), Executive Director of this Central French Jewish Relief Organisation, and Maitre I. Chouraki, President of the Oran (Algeria) community, the Standing Conference found informed and judicious experts on questions arising as a result of the emergency. Kelman's noteworthy analysis, which was mainly concerned with spiritual, religious and educational matters, culminated in the conclusion that the sad events in North Africa would probably lead to an enrichment of Jewish life in France. But a prerequisite of this was that educational demands

should receive top priority. Kelman was impressed by the attitude of Jews in other European countries who had evinced great solidarity in this matter. Samuel described the Jewish communities in France, not as undeveloped, but rather insufficiently equipped to absorb the stream of newcomers. He listed the necessities by name: accommodation, schools, synagogues, rabbis, youth leaders.

Heinz Galinski (Berlin), Chairman of the Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle der Juden in Deutschland, proposed the establishment of a general consolidated Jewish Emergency Fund. He explained that the Jews of West Germany (including West Berlin) had provided 200,000 marks as a contribution towards the relief of Algerian refugees. This announcement prompted declarations from all the delegates of other countries about the achievements already realised or to be expected from their organisations and communities.

Organisation and Finances

Since the present situation of the Jews in France occupied a great part of the annual conference, reports on the current work of the Standing Conference were in the first instance relegated to the committees, but even here the results of events in North Africa naturally played a part. In place of Dr. Barnett Stross (London), a Member of the British House of Commons, the report of the committee on health matters was presented by Dr. L. Molnar (A.J.D.C., Geneva). Maitre Theo Klein (Paris) spoke for the committee dealing with communal and youth centres, as well as holiday camps. Jozef Komkommer (Antwerp) acted as rapporteur for the study group on questions of fund-raising. Kelman reported on the procurement, training and status of senior Jewish administrative officers, teachers, social workers, etc. The writer of this article presented the recommendations of the committee that had been given the task of considering the future form of the three language (English, French, German) quarterly bulletin "Exchange," issued by the Standing Conference. Joan Stibel, Joint Secretary of the Central British Fund, London, explained the aims of the committee to be established for securing co-operation between senior officials of organisations; and in his report Jules Braunschvig (Paris) represented the view of the study group on "Jewish cultural matters".

The Chairman, Dr. Mayer, announced that this year's William J. Shroder Memorial Prize of the American Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds had been awarded to the Standing Conference "in recognition of its exceptional accomplishments in the field of international social work".



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Birthday Tributes

ZUM 80. GEBURTSTAGE VON RABBINER DR. ARTHUR LOEWENSTAMM

Am 20. Dezember vollendete Rabbiner Dr. Arthur Loewenstamm, ein hervorragender Vertreter der letzten Rabbinergeneration in Deutschland, in London sein achtzigstes Lebensjahr. Anlässlich dieses feierlichen Tage gedenken seiner die Mitglieder seiner einstigen Gemeinde, nun über die ganze Erde verstreut, seine Schüler und seine Kollegen in Herzlichkeit und wünschen ihm ungezählte gute Jahre in Gesundheit und in Frische des Geistes.

Er ist 1882 in Ratibor geboren, der Sohn eines frommen jüdischen Hauses, und ein Schüler des Jüdisch-Theologischen Seminars in Breslau geworden. Hier war er ein Jünger von Israel Levy, dem Meister der modernen Talmudforschung, von Marcus Brann, dem hervorragenden Historiker des Judentums, und von Saul Horowitz, dem grossen Talmudisten und Religionsphilosophen. Von ihnen lernend wurde er heimisch in der weiten Welt des jüdischen Wissens. Auf dem Seminar gewann er auch Hattorath Horaah, die Autorisation als Rabbiner. Streng gesetzestreu in einer Lebensführung und dabei frei im Geist studierte er auf der Universität Breslau Philosophie. In Erlangen promovierte er mit einer Dissertation über das System von Hermann Lotze, dem führenden deutschen Philosophen in der Mitte des neunzehnten Jahrhunderts. Jüdisches Wissen und Philosophie sind in ihm eng mit einander verbunden geblieben. Es ist ein Ausdruck seines inneren Lebens, dass sein Beitrag zu der Festschrift zum 75 jährigen Bestehen des Breslauer Seminars eine Untersuchung über Hugo Grotius gewesen ist, den Vater des modernen Völkerrechts vor dreihundert Jahren.

Achtundzwanzig Jahre lang ist er in Deutschland Rabbiner gewesen, zuerst sechs Jahre lang, 1911-1917, in seiner oberschlesischen Heimat, in Pless, als einer der Nachfolger seines Lehrers Marcus Brann, und nachher in Spandau, bis die Verfolgung der Hitlerzeit auch seiner Wirksam-

keit ein Ende mit Schrecken brachte. Spandau war eine Mittelgemeinde, Unterricht, Gottesdienst und Fürsorge nahmen seine Kraft in Anspruch, und er wirkte auch in den kleineren Gemeinden der Umgebung. Aber zur gleichen Zeit eröffnete sich ihm dort ein weiteres Arbeitsfeld. Er war ja nahe bei Berlin und konnte sich damit seinen Anteil an dem jüdischen Leben der Reichshauptstadt schaffen. Vor Allem war er in dem Orden B'nai Berith tätig. Der Höhepunkt seiner Wirksamkeit dort war das Jahr, in dem er Präsident der Berthold Auerbach Loge, der grössten Loge im Deutschen District, war. Tätig auf so vielen Gebieten hat er das deutsche Judentum gut kennen gelernt. Ein Zeugnis dafür hat 1929 seine Abhandlung über die Soziologie des Ordens in der Festschrift zu dessen fünfzigjährigen Bestehen geliefert.

Seine rabbinischen Wirksamkeit fand ihr gewaltsames Ende als der Pogrom über die deutsche Judenheit hereinbrach. Auch die Synagoge in Spandau wurde in Brand gesteckt, und er selber hat das schauerliche KZ Sachsenhausen erlitten. Dann hat er mit seiner Familie Zuflucht in England gefunden. Fast im letzten Augenblick, wenige Monate vor dem Ausbruch des Weltkrieges, ist er hierher gekommen. Er hatte das Glück, auch jetzt seinen Platz zu finden. Nach schweren Jahren wurde er der Director of Studies bei der Society for Jewish Study. Er hat das grosse Vortrags- und Unterrichtswerk der Gesellschaft entworfen und geleitet und war tätig in ihrem Seminar, diesem Brennpunkt geistigen jüdischen Lebens in den Vierzigern und bis zum Ende der fünfziger Jahre. Dann sind auch für ihn, den hohen Siebziger die Jahre des stillen Lebens, Denkens und Forschens gekommen, getrübt durch einen schweren Schlag, den Tod seiner Frau vor zehn Jahren, und verschönt durch die Liebe von Kindern und Enkeln.

Er hat immer einen herzlichen Anteil an den Menschen genommen, mit denen das Leben ihn zusammengeführt hat, vor Allem ist er mit seinen Schülern von einst bis auf diesen Tag in Verbindung geblieben. Einige von ihnen sind selber Rabbiner geworden. So nehmen auch sie herzlichen Anteil an seinem grossen Tage, diesem Höhepunkt seines langen Lebens. Rückblickend auf Jahrzehnte werden sie ihm sagen, darf er selber sich sagen, dass sein Wirken nicht vergeblich geblieben, dass es Saat und Ernte gewesen ist.

DR. MAX ESCHELBACHER.

ALEX BEIN 60

Not all great men of history have been fortunate in finding a competent biographer. Theodor Herzl, who had to undergo so many disappointments during his prematurely shortened life, was at least favoured in this respect. For the biography which Dr. Alex Bein, who will be 60 on January 21st, published about him in 1934 was soon acknowledged as a standard work on its subject. Originally written in German, the author's mother tongue, it was translated into several languages. After Adolf Friedemann, the chronicler of the Zionist movement, had already pioneered the way by a description of Herzl's life, Bein was the first to write a comprehensive and full-length biography, drawing on all available source material. After a careful study he wrote the manuscript, as he told me, in a couple of months. Later attempts in this field could not surpass his work.

When Alex Bein published this biography he had only entered his thirties. He was born on January 21st, 1903, at Steinach a.d. Saale; he studied history at the Berlin University, where he was a pupil of the famous historian Friedrich Meinecke, under whose guidance he graduated with a thesis on Alexander Hamilton's political ideas. Meinecke, who appreciated the young doctor's eminent talents, procured him an appointment as a staff member of the Potsdam Deutsches Reichsarchiv; to the best of my knowledge he was the only Jew holding such position. In 1933, Bein, a devoted Zionist, left Germany for Jewish Pal-

tine, where he became Assistant Director of the Central Zionist Archives and also a guest lecturer at the Hebrew University. He supplemented his Herzl biography with a special study "Herzl and Dreyfus" and, in co-operation with Georg Herlitz, with an edition of Herzl's letters. After the foundation of the State of Israel, he was appointed State Archivist. Apart from his official duties, he is at present working on a book about modern antisemitism and its place in the history of the Jewish question.

Alex Bein is not only a truly great scholar who also keeps in touch with current developments, but is a man of many cultural interests as well. In the spacious study of his Jerusalem flat is a fine grand piano, for Dr. Bein is a passionate lover of classical music, and hardly any concert takes place in Jerusalem which he and his wife, Betty, do not attend. We wish him many more years of scholarly and cultural activity.

F.F.

MRS. THERESE FREIMANN 80

Mrs. Therese Freimann recently celebrated her 80th birthday in New York. She was born in Frankfurt/Main, the daughter of Rabbi Markus Horowitz; one of her brothers was the late Mr. Abraham Horowitz, who played a leading part in the work of the AJR. She embarked on Jewish welfare work in her home town at an early age, especially in the field of care for adolescents and, as a disciple of Bertha Pappenheim, for young women in need of special attention. She continued her social work after her emigration to the U.S. in 1939. There she was particularly constructive in helping the new arrivals. Realising that, at that first stage of immigration, the women often had to be the breadwinners of the family, she eased their lot by founding kindergartens which looked after the children while the mothers had to work. The first kindergarten was established in 1940, and three further kindergartens followed soon. At the same time, Mrs. Freimann is an active member of the Beth Abraham Home, the "Blue Card" organisation, and the Co-operative Council of Jewish Welfare Organisations. We extend our grateful and cordial congratulations to Mrs. Freimann.

PROFESSOR DR. MAX BORN 80

The Nobel Prize Winner for Physics, Professor Dr. Max Born, recently celebrated his 80th birthday. He was Professor at Goettingen from 1921-1933. When the Nazis came to power, he took up appointments at the Universities of Cambridge and, later on, of Edinburgh. During that time, he was also Chairman of the Emergency Society of German Scholars in Exile (London). Professor Born now lives in retirement in Bad Pyrmont (Germany).

RUDOLF STEINER 60

The well-known bookseller Rudolf Steiner (of R. & E. Steiner) will celebrate his 60th birthday on January 31. He started his career as a bookseller in his home town of Munich. In the 'twenties he went to Berlin where he became a free-lance author and regular contributor to various periodicals, including the "Simplissimus", "Ente", and "Hamburger Echo". He also worked for the German broadcasting. In 1929 he won a competition and his short story, "Jakob Ehgluecksfurtner", was published by Cassirer Verlag in the collection "Vorstoss". At the end of 1932 the same publishers accepted his novel "Ein einzelner Mensch"; however, the subsequent events made the publication impossible. Mr. Steiner went to Prague in 1934 from where he escaped under great difficulties when the Nazis occupied Czechoslovakia. He came to England in 1939. After having worked with a London publishing firm for several years he founded his own firm in 1947; his clients include university libraries, collectors and booksellers all over the world. We sincerely wish Mr. Steiner many happy and successful years to come.



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Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

ISRAELIS AND GERMANS

The discussions about Israel's relations with Germany and the Germans, started by the recent visit of Dr. Eugen Gerstenmaier, President of the Bundestag, has not yet ended and, probably, will not end for a long time to come. The situation is not only complicated but confused, and the confusion cuts right across the political parties. As an example: the mayor of Ramat Gan, Mr. Krinitzky, a prominent member of the Liberal Party, who prevented the municipal orchestra from a concert tour in the Bundesrepublik, was severely reproved in the party Press by a Liberal member of the Knesset, Mr. Benno Cohn.

Dr. Gerstenmaier was an official guest, yet his Israeli colleague, President of the Knesset, Kadish Luz, did not receive him in Parliament but yielded to the pressure of certain groups and welcomed him only in his home at Daganiah.

Prime Minister Ben-Gurion had his picture taken together with the visitor from Germany during their long and cordial talk but President Ben-Zvi, at his reception for Dr. Gerstenmaier, refrained from the customary photographic nicety, in consideration of the sensitive feelings of large parts of the population.

Dr. Gerstenmaier's Lecture in Jerusalem

Dr. Gerstenmaier showed a deep understanding for this cleavage and, indeed, one could not wish for a better representative of "the other Germany". His lecture at the Hebrew University greatly impressed the crowded auditorium of professors, students, high civil servants and other intellectuals. With lucidity, dignity and tact did he tackle the subject of his talk "Metamorphosis of the Germans?" without taking notice of the

shoutings and singings of a small group of youngsters who were staging a noisy demonstration outside the building, commanded partly by the Communists, partly by the right-wing "Herut". A similar attempt had already failed at his arrival at Lod airport. But for the threat of demonstrations, the German visitor would almost certainly have postponed his visit because of the "Spiegel" crisis. But after so many threats and warnings he felt it would be improper not to come as arranged, lest his absence be interpreted as yielding to pressure which, in turn, might be embarrassing to the Israel authorities.

The inquiry about their feelings towards Germany which "Jerusalem Post" arranged among students of the Hebrew University, resulted in a contradictory picture. From the extreme demand to reject all payments of restitution and reparation and to shun any contact whatsoever, to the genuine desire to stretch out a hand to the German youth which was not involved in the past—there were all shades of opinions and reactions. On the whole, young Sephardi and Oriental Jews who had not suffered from the Nazis and not met any German in their lives, were more inimical than boys and girls from German-Jewish families or Western-European backgrounds. "Jerusalem Post" added editorially: "We do not have to resort to an intellectual and political vacuum to forget the past, and we should be able to consider our relations with the Germany of the future on their merits, remembering the past, but also not forgetting the present."

However, the present, too, does not make it quite easy for the Israeli to find a natural and unprejudiced approach to Germany—for hundreds

of West Germany's citizens, technicians, scientists, military advisers, are in Cairo busily working for the destruction of Israel. "It is very difficult to accept the explanation, which can also be heard from Israeli spokesmen, that it is not 'Germany' that is helping Abdul Nasser to build rockets, but only 'Germans,'" comments the Hebrew daily "Ha'aretz".

The German-language paper "Yedioth Hada-shoth" is even more outspoken: "The Egyptian dictator whose rockets threaten us with death and destruction, could never have reached this position without the Stuttgart physicist Dr. Saenger and his numerous colleagues from Western Germany who likewise offered their services to Abdul Nasser. . . . It is doubtful whether the authorities in Bonn should not have been able to prevent this scandal. But leaving this aside—if the Other Germany really dominated public opinion in the Bundesrepublik it would have been impossible for Saenger, Krug, Pilz and the others to accept even the most tempting offers by Nasser, instead of preparing the annihilation of Israel."

Indeed, just those Israelis who want to create a link with the new Germany, ask themselves: why did the German Press not strongly denounce those German rocket builders in Cairo? Where, so they ask themselves, are the protest meetings of the trade unions, of the students organisations, where are the interpellations in the Bundestag, where are the warnings and appeals of the churches, of the writers, of the intellectuals?

Dr. Gerstenmaier, in his lecture in Jerusalem, raised the controversial question "Did we really not know what happened to the Jews?" He was referring to the past. As to the present, there is not even a controversy—the Germans in Cairo prepare openly for another slaughter of Jews, and nobody in Germany will have the excuse of saying that he did not know. It is this renewed indifference that stands in the way of a rapprochement between Israelis and the new Germany.

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Tuesday, January 15

Prof. NORMAN BENTWICH
"SOCIOLOGICAL SITUATION IN
THE MIDDLE EAST"

Tuesday, January 22

The Rev. CHAIM PEARL, M.A., Ph.D.:
"SOCIOLOGICAL-RELIGIOUS SITUATION
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OBITUARY

DR. ERNST RACHWALSKY

Farewell to a Friend

Dr. Ernst Rachwalsky died recently in his 74th year, to the great grief of his large family, many friends and patients. After his postgraduate training in hospitals and clinics in Berlin and Königsberg, he practised in Berlin as a physician and specialist of gastric diseases. He emigrated to England in 1937, and after his qualifying examination, built up a large practice in Upper Wimpole Street.

Ernst Rachwalsky was a powerful, upright personality who combined sound knowledge and clinical judgment with the gift of inspiring confidence. His skill in practice will be sorely missed. He was a true friend to many, and found plenty of time for services to his colleagues, both in illness and in health. He bore his own illness with great courage, knowing the prognosis, but refusing to be discouraged. He continued with his work until the last moment, often in pain and discomfort, but never letting his friends and patients notice this.

Ernst Rachwalsky was a man of wide interests. His garden he made into a place of beauty. He liked nature, mountains and travelling, and we made many journeys together. He was also a well-known stamp collector. He gave his services to the AJR Board and to the Old Age Homes, and was revered as a friend by people in need. By his death our community has lost an excellent doctor and a kind and generous man. The world is poorer for his passing.

H.S.

Tribute From Otto Hirsch House

A few minutes' walk from Kew Gardens lies the Otto Hirsch House, one of our Homes for Old Aged People. If you enter the main gate you are greeted by large stretches of lawn and flower beds with beautiful roses and evergreen shrubs of all kinds, a pleasure to our visitors and our residents; but the man who planted all this beauty will never see it again.

On November 21st our dear friend—Dr. Ernst Rachwalsky—left us for ever. Right from the beginning he became a member of our House Committee, and a very active one. In spite of his failing health he regularly attended our meet-

ings and gave most useful advice. The characteristic of Dr. Ernst Rachwalsky was the human touch well known to his patients and especially to our residents.

In an enterprise like ours difficult situations are unavoidable but Dr. Rachwalsky always overcame them with his common sense and his humanity. To us on the House Committee his loss opens a wide gap in our organisation, not easily to be closed.

We had to say goodbye for ever to him but we shall always remember him as one of our best friends. *Requiescat in Pace.*

WALTER DUX.

DR. ALFRED A. LOESER

Dr. Alfred Loeser, the well-known London gynaecologist, passed away on November 30th. He was born in Nimptsch, Silesia, the son of Dr. Nathan Loeser, the local County Medical Officer of Health, and studied medicine at Freiburg and Breslau. For four years he worked as assistant to the celebrated Professor Morgenroth at the Charité (Berlin). With the advent of World War I, Loeser joined a Prussian regiment as an officer in the Medical Service. After being wounded he returned to his old hospital, the Charité, where he spent the next four years. He was then appointed Director of the gynaecological and obstetric departments of the Jewish and Hufeland Hospitals in Berlin, and, through his diagnostic and operative skill, soon acquired a large and influential practice. In addition to this, Loeser maintained his interest in research which was to lead eventually to his outstanding work on cancer. He managed to combine a busy professional and social life with the publication of nearly ninety clinical and scientific papers.

Dr. Loeser came to England in 1934 and after requalifying in Edinburgh settled in London in consultant practice. His international reputation soon secured him a considerable practice and his extensive experience and practical skill were widely sought and utilised. His chief surgical interest was in plastic reconstruction for sterility and there are many children who would never have been born but for his operative dexterity. Loeser's chief claim to fame, however, is his work

on the treatment of cancer. He had always been interested in the antagonistic relation between the different hormones and, as he believed that cancer of the breast is due to an excessive production of the female hormone in the body, he suggested that administration of the male hormone was the logical treatment for these cases. He persisted in this in spite of much opposition and lived to see his theory vindicated and his method universally adopted. It is not a cure, and he was the first to stress this, but it has lengthened the lives and relieved the misery of thousands of afflicted women.

Dr. Loeser was a man of handsome appearance, complete integrity and was much respected by his colleagues and much loved by his patients. He was widely read and fond of music and the arts. He married, while still an assistant, Susannah Courant, of Breslau, herself the daughter of a gynaecologist. She became his constant and loving helpmate through all his vicissitudes and made his home a centre of personal and social happiness. It is ironic that a happy companionship of thirty years should have ended a year ago with her death from the same disease to the cure of which he had devoted his life. He leaves two daughters, one a doctor and the other a well-known cellist.

DR. SELMAR SPIER

Dr. Selmar Spier (Ramot Hashavim) passed away recently. He was 69 years old. He was the scion of a well-known Frankfurt family and practised in his home town until 1934, when he emigrated to Palestine to become a settler in Ramat Hashavim. After the foundation of the Leo Baeck Institute he was the Secretary of the Institute's Jerusalem Centre from 1955 to 1958. At the request of U.R.O. he went to Frankfurt in 1958 and worked at the office there until 1962. During that time he also published his memoirs under the heading: "Vor 1914—Erinnerungen an Frankfurt, geschrieben in Israel", a book which at the same time is a vivid and important contribution to the history of Frankfurt Jewry of his generation. During the last period of his life he was working on the second part of these recollections. The death of this capable and unassuming man is a great loss to the organisations with which he was associated and to the many friends he leaves all over the world. We extend our sincerest sympathy to his family.

FAMILY EVENTS

Birthdays

Heimann.—Mrs. Frieda Heimann, 65 Eton Avenue, London, N.W.3, will celebrate her 75th birthday on January 9th, 1963.

Death

Bergmann.—Dr. Curt Bergmann, lawyer and notary (formerly Dresden) (England 1938-1948) passed away on November 28th, 1962, in Berlin after a long illness, aged 76 years. Deeply mourned by his wife (Berlin, West-Zehlendorf, 10 Bogotastrasse) and his relatives and friends.

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BUSINESS COUPLE travelling to Israel end of January for several months would take on commissions. 'Phone PRI. 7468 or write Box 179.

WOULD ANYBODY who knows something about the will of the late Mr. Herman Ascher please communicate with HAMPstead 7088.

Personal

REFINED WIDOW, lonely, mid-60s, independent means, wants to meet non-orthodox cultured gentleman 65-72. Object friendship or matrimony. Strictly confidential. Box 33160, Urbach International Advertising Ltd., 23 Lyndhurst Road, London, N.W.3.

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MISSING PERSONS

Mannheimer.—Relatives of the late Mrs. Natalia Mannheimer (née Schendel) born July 12th, 1879, in Strzelno/Mogilno, Poland, daughter of Juliusz Schendel and Rozalia (née Pincus), wanted as heirs by Otto Wilfert, Inselsbergstr. 18, 623 Frankfurt-Höchst.

Enquiries by AJR

Adler.—Mrs. Gertrud Adler, widow of the late Hans Siegfried Adler, who passed away December 2nd, 1959, last known address 78 Canfield Gardens, London, N.W.6.

Arndt.—Mr. Willy Arndt, whose mother was née Bieber, wanted by relatives in La Paz. Mr. Arndt emigrated to England in 1938, lived for some time after the war in Frankfurt/Main but returned to England later on.

Weiss.—Mr. Gerhard Weiss, born 1902/04 in Zabrze (Hindenburg), Upper Silesia, came to England in 1939 (formerly of Gleiwitz Wilhelmstr.), last known address in England, Kitchener Camp, Hut 37/1, Richborough, near Sandwich, Kent, profession machinist, wanted by relatives in Poland.

ANGLO-GERMAN LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION

LECTURE BY

Professor Otto Kahn-Freund

(Professor of English Law at the London School of Economics)

on

"Problems of Harmonising the Legal Systems Within the Common Market"

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1963, at 8 p.m. at the German Institute, 51 Princes Gate, Exhibition Road, London, S.W.7.

GUESTS WELCOME.

BERLIN SCHOOL REMEMBERS ITS JEWISH TEACHER

The memory of Professor Dr. Leo Fernbach who taught at the Luisenstaedische Oberrealschule (later Realgymnasium) in Berlin was honoured in several issues of the circular published by the Association of former pupils of that school. In July, 1958, Dr. Karl Graefe, who later on became a teacher at the school, wrote:

"Jeder ehemalige 'Loreaner', der den Vorzug gehabt hat, Herrn Prof. Fernbach zu seinem Lehrer zu haben, wird mit Entsetzen und aller tiefster Erschuetterung die Nachricht gelesen haben, dass er mit seinen Angehoerigen in einem nationalsozialistischen Vernichtungslager auf fuerchterliche Weise ermordet worden ist. Dass dieser verdiente Wissenschaftler, Lehrer und Erzieher, der viele Hunderte junger Deutscher zu klar denkenden, gewissenhaften, pflichtgetreuen Angehoerigen ihrer Volksgemeinschaft erzogen hat, nach einem arbeitsreichen, mit unendlichem Fleisse erfuellten Leben als alter Mann so sterben musste, bleibt fuer jeden, der sich in einer fuerchterlichen Zeit Herz und Gemuet bewahrt hat, unfassbar. Ich erinnere mich noch gern als Physiker seiner trefflichen Untersuchung ueber 'Die Geige als akustisches Instrument', und viele kennen seine gute und sorgfaeltige Bearbeitung des Werkes von Adolf Streckfuss '500 Jahre Berliner Geschichte'. Gewiss war er fuer viele kein einfacher Lehrer, er war streng und in Dingen des klaren Denkens und der peinlich zuverlaessigen Arbeit unerbittlich, aber gerade diese Eigenschaften erfuelten seine dankbaren Schueler mit der Versicherung, ihn nicht zu vergessen; ich verspreche das und werde es halten."

In a further tribute, published in April, 1961, Dr. Erwin Hansen-Schmidt (now Stockholm) wrote:

"Gern habe ich gesehen, dass Sie die Mitteilungen ueber Prof. Fernbachs trauriges Ende zur Kenntnis der grossen 'LORE'-Gemeinde gebracht haben. Alle wissen nun, wie in seinem Falle 'der Dank des Vaterlandes' fuer jahrzehntelange treue Pflichterfuellung ausgesehen hat. Solche Informationen sind notwendig, weil es noch immer eine Menge Ahnungsloser gibt, die nicht glauben wollen, was vorgefallen ist, weil sie es als anstaendige Menschen fuer undenkbar halten. Hier erfahren sie nun, wie einem, den wir alle gut kannten, mitgespielt worden ist. Am Gedenktage von Jena und Auerstaedt, am 14. Oktober, 1942, wurden Prof. Dr. Leo Fernbach (geb. 18.1.1859 in Berlin), seine Frau Amalie

Fernbach geb Guttman (geb. 7.6.1858), und ihr Sohn Dr. Hans Fernbach (geb. 10.8.93), zuletzt wohnhaft Berlin-Friedenau, Wilhelmshoehrer Str. 24, mit dem dritten grossen Alterstransport nach Theresienstadt deportiert.—'Die Obengenannten haben sich bis zum heutigen Tage nicht zurueckgemeldet', heisst es in dem offiziellen Bescheid vom 19.1.60, den ich erhalten habe."

Frau Anneliese Krappe (daughter of one of the school's directors) adds that as far as she knows, the two daughters and the second son of Prof. Fernbach had to suffer the same fate as their parents and their brother.

AJR Information received the tributes quoted above from Mr. L. Felix (18 Wallwood Road, Leytonstone, London, E.11), who would be grateful if any former pupils of the L.O.R.-L.R.G. would get in touch with him.

WAR ORPHANS RESCUE

A fully documented history of the work of the Commission on the Status of Jewish War Orphans in Europe is to be published shortly. The book will recall what the Chief Rabbi, the Chairman of the Commission, described as "a wonderful chapter in the story of rescue work".

The decision to publish the book was taken at the first meeting of the Commission to be held since 1954. Dr. Brodie who presided, said: "It has been felt for a long time that the activities carried out under the auspices of the Commission should be recorded in order that there should be a visible reminder of the evil consequences of the Nazi persecution and also of the heroic and magnificent efforts on the part of the Commission and other organisations to save 'a brand plucked from the fire.'"—(J.C.)

AJR MANCHESTER

To satisfy the demand of the long waiting list for the Old Age Home in Manchester (Morris Feinman Home) another nearby property has been purchased and will be converted into an annexe, thus adding 14 single rooms to the accommodation of 46 residents in the main building. The scheme is being implemented with the help of the Allocations Committee of the Central British Fund. The Administering Committee of the Manchester Home consists of committee members of the local AJR branch.

LEO BAECK INSTITUTE LECTURE

The next lecture under the auspices of the Friends of the Leo Baeck Institute will be held on Thursday, 17th January, at 8 p.m. at the Wiener Library, 4 Devonshire Street, W.1. Mr. S. S. Prawer, M.A., Ph.D., Litt.D., Senior Lecturer in German, University of Birmingham, will speak on "Jewish Contributions to German Lyric Poetry".

CALL TO U.N. ON ANTISEMITISM

The World Jewish Congress, at the close of its recent special two-day conference in London, issued a call to the United Nations, democratic Governments and religious and humanitarian organisations throughout the world, to take energetic measures against the international Nazi-fascist conspiracy and its local manifestation.

A resolution, adopted by the 60 delegates from 15 European countries, declared that Nazi and fascist groups were exploiting antisemitism as a weapon directed not only against the Jews but also against democracy.

The aim of the conference was to assess the composition, character and financial sources of the various neo-Nazi and fascist groups and the extent to which they were already linked. In Europe alone there have been 23 international conferences of fascist and Nazi groups within the last few years. There are already eleven international groups in existence, including two international youth organisations.

NEO-NAZIS MEET

Neo-Nazi youth groups, although small in number, are becoming increasingly active.

Recently about 300 representatives of neo-Nazi youth groups from Germany, Austria and emigré communities of Rumanians, Hungarians, Bulgarians and Czechs met in Passau under the guidance of Arthur Erhardt, publisher of the German neo-Nazi monthly "Nation Europa", and H. Suendermann, formerly deputy Nazi Press chief.

A group calling itself "Junges Europa" also convened another meeting of young neo-Nazis at Goslar. The group is said to comprise fascist youth organisations in several European countries and South Africa.

The neo-Nazi German Freedom Party, which was formed early in 1962, following a split in the extremist German Reich Party, held its first national rally in Düsseldorf, with delegates from all parts of Western Germany attending.—(J.C.)

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CULTURAL NEWS

NOBEL PRIZE FOR JEW FROM AUSTRIA

This year's Nobel Prize for chemistry has been jointly awarded to two scientists working in the Medical Research Council's Unit for Molecular Biology at Cambridge, Dr. Max Perutz and Dr. John Kendrew. Dr. Perutz, the Director of the Unit, was born in Austria. He came to England as a research student in 1936, after taking a degree in chemistry in Vienna. When the Nazis occupied Austria, he could not return to his home country and stayed here as a refugee. "The Ministry of Labour was very strict", he said in an interview published in the *Sunday Times*, and at one time it looked as if he would have to go to America. However, with the help of a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation it became possible for him to continue his research work, and during the war he was given the opportunity of dedicating his knowledge to the war effort. Since 1947, he has worked under the auspices of the Medical Research Council.

IGOR OISTRAKH IN ISRAEL

Igor Oistrakh, the Russian violinist, was accorded a tremendous welcome when he performed with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra at his first concert in the Mann Auditorium at Tel Aviv.

Under the patronage of the Soviet Ambassador, Mr. Mikhail Bodroy, the concert was attended by Cabinet Ministers and diplomatic representatives. The hall was packed and Oistrakh was greeted with long and loud applause when he appeared on the platform.

B.M.A.'s TRIBUTE TO DERMATOLOGIST

The dermatologist, Dr. Frederick William Jacobson, passed away in Jamaica, aged 68. He was born in Germany and, prior to his emigration, worked with the Charité and the Rudolph Virchow Hospital. He came to Great Britain in 1934 and, after having obtained his qualifications in this country, was associated with the London Jewish Hospital; he was also a part-time consultant dermatologist to the L.C.C. After having served with the R.A.M.C. during the war, he left for Jamaica in 1947, where he later on became an associate lecturer and consultant at the University of the West Indies and its teaching hospital. In an obituary, published in the *British Medical Journal* of November 24, tribute is especially paid to his outstanding teaching qualities. "This dependable, honest, compassionate, argumentative, enthusiastic man (the *Journal* writes) was a true friend to all who merited his friendship. The large congregation of colleagues, students, friends and patients at his funeral was evidence of their esteem."

AWARD FOR AMERICAN PHYSICIST

Dr. Edward Teller, the American-Jewish physicist and Nobel Prize winner, has won the U.S.A. Atomic Energy Commission's Enrico Fermi Award for 1962. He has been chosen for his contributions to chemical and nuclear physics, for his leadership in the mononuclear research and "for his efforts to strengthen national security". Dr. Teller, a native of Hungary, went to the U.S.A. in the 'thirties. He is often referred to as "the father of the hydrogen bomb".—(J.C.)

EINSTEIN "REHABILITATED"

A special volume devoted to Professor Albert Einstein, author of the theory of relativity and entitled "Einstein", has been written by Professor Boris Kuznetsov, one of the leading scientists in the U.S.S.R. This contrasts sharply with the boycott of Einstein which has been maintained for years in Soviet writing.

Professor Kuznetsov's book, of which 25,000 copies were published, was sold out within a few hours. A second volume is to be produced shortly, to contain new material supplied by Professor Otto Nathan, Einstein's best friend.

HEBREW IN RUSSIA

The works of about a dozen Hebrew writers, many of them living and writing in Israel, are to be published in Russian translation in a new anthology of Jewish poetry to be issued by the Moscow State Publishing House.

DEATH OF DR. KARL SCHWARTZ

The art historian, Dr. Karl Schwartz passed away in Tel Aviv at the age of 77. Prior to his emigration in 1933, he was for several years Director of the Berlin Jewish Museum. His works include a book on "Jews in Art" (published 1928).

FRENCH PRIZE

Anna Langfus, a Polish-born Jewish writer, has been awarded France's major literary award, the Goncourt Prize, for her book "Baggage of Sand". It describes the loneliness of a Jewish woman who has lost her entire family in the catastrophe.

The awards means the elevation of the book to the rank of best-seller in France and all French-speaking territories.

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