

AJR

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

AFTER THE ELECTIONS

The results of the Parliamentary elections will be evaluated by everybody according to his political views and his economic and occupational position. To some extent the particular stratum of society to which he belongs will also come in. However, there is no need for a specific Jewish approach, and the question "Is it good for the Jews?" does not arise. There has been no Jewish issue and no "Jewish vote". If a candidate happened to be a Jew, this did not necessarily mean that he attracted Jewish votes on this score. On the other hand some Jewish candidates in constituencies with a comparatively large Jewish population hinted at their Jewish affiliations in their election addresses.

Jews had a free choice between all parties. In this respect the position in this country is healthier than it was in Germany, where the Right-wing parties were either overtly antisemitic or at least biased against the Jews. The choice of the Jews in Germany was, therefore, restricted to the parties left of the "Zentrum", with the effect that, though the percentage of Jews in the total population was negligible, these parties were decried as "Judenparteien". The complexity of the situation under the Weimar Republic came to mind again only a few months ago, when a detailed and comprehensive work on the subject, "Entscheidungs-jahr 1932", was published under the auspices of the Leo Baeck Institute. The freedom of choice the Jews have in this country indicates the high degree of emancipation they enjoy. On the other hand, it cannot be denied that the proportion of Jewish candidates in the Conservative Party was smaller than in the other parties. It is, however, outside the scope of this article to try to assess whether this is accidental or attributable to specific reasons.

The newly elected Parliament will have 40 Jewish members, the highest number ever attained. Yet, apart from the statistical aspect, this figure is of no Jewish relevance. The members represent their constituencies, and it so happens that quite a few constituencies which returned Jewish members have a very sparse Jewish population. If, at the same time, Jewish Parliamentarians identify themselves with their community it only increases the esteem in which they are held. Conversely, we know of at least one case in a previous election where the electorate resented that a baptised Jew over-stressed his loyalty to the Church of England.

In its "Election Special" of March 25, the "Jewish Chronicle" published replies by the three party leaders to a number of questions which were considered of special interest to Jewish citizens. It is significant that of the eight questions only one

(dealing with the effectiveness of the Race Relations Act) referred to the position of Jews in this country. The other seven questions were focused on Israel and Britain's policy in the Middle East. This again indicates a difference between the position of the Jews in Britain and in pre-war Germany. In Germany, pro-Zionist non-Jewish politicians were sometimes suspected by Jews of being in sympathy with Zionism because they considered the Jews as members of an "alien" nation who should not have the same rights as the majority population. In this country, a sympathetic attitude to Israel is regarded as an indication of a pro-Jewish attitude in general. Probably one of the main reasons for the different approach in Britain is the wider and less exclusive conception of the State which enables or even encourages minorities to retain their group loyalties.

It would be wrong if we tried to belittle the blemishes, and almost each issue of this journal has to report some anti-semitic incidents. Nevertheless, it can be stated that, on the whole, Jews in this country have attained an equilibrium in the political sphere. However, this does not to the same extent apply to their social position. By a strange coincidence one day after the election the "Weekend Telegraph" published an issue which was dedicated to the subject of "Jews in Britain". The cover shows the picture of a widely recognised, though controversial, Anglo-Jewish spiritual leader. Yet without wishing to appear hyper-sensitive, one feels tempted to ask why it should not have been possible to select a photo which depicts him in a less unfavourable and less provocative way.

The issue carries articles by two Jewish authors, Gerda Charles and Chaim Bermant, as well as by David Pryce-Jones and Kingsley Martin. The essay by Gerda Charles lays stress on the negative aspects of Jewish society in Britain, describing, amongst others, the *nouveaux riches*, their pastimes in kosher hotels and their shallow activities in Jewish organisations and committees. Such frankness in a national paper is certainly preferable to apologetic glorifications. Yet the question remains whether the more pleasant aspects are really as scarce as would appear from this article. After all, there are also Jews for whom financial security has served as the basis for an upgrade development in the cultural sphere, just it is was in Germany from the second "emancipated" generation onwards. That the spectrum of Anglo-Jewry is much wider than one is led to believe by Gerda Charles' article emanates from Chaim Bermant's six portraits of British Jews.

David Pryce-Jones deals with the prob-

lems of Jewish suburbia and also with neo-Orthodox trends in the younger generation. Kingsley Martin claims that the only disabilities to which Jews are still subjected are the quota system of most public schools, the restrictive practices of teaching hospitals and the exclusion from many suburban golf clubs, the last one being "a differentiation which is not likely to worry any of my Jewish friends". He advocates inter-marriage without distinction of race, colour and creed, and regrets the exclusiveness to be met amongst the Jews. He attributes it to the experience through which Jews in Germany had to go in spite of their assimilation. "If I were a Jew", he writes, "the example would prevent my easily accepting the arguments in favour of assimilation". This raises a question of direct importance to our community. If Kingsley Martin's thesis were correct, the ratio of inter-marriage amongst Jews from Germany should be lower than amongst indigenous Jewish families, where according to David Pryce-Jones, one in six children marries outside the faith. However, although exact statistics do not exist, it appears that the ratio amongst refugee families is not lower but probably even higher. The reasons may be manifold, though escapism is certainly not among them. There was already an increase of mixed marriages amongst German Jews prior to their emigration, and it appears that the process was accelerated after the destruction of a large and homogeneous Jewish society in Germany. It would be welcomed if readers contributed their own observations on this vital subject.

The changes which we underwent as a group and as individuals in the course of the past three decades call for an evaluation under many aspects. To some extent they are the subject of a film, "Sie kamen nach London", which was recently shown to an invited audience comprising mainly AJR Executive and Board Members and members of the AJR Club.* The film was produced by Gerald Sharp and Egon Larsen for the Bavarian Rundfunk. It includes, *inter alia*, interviews with refugee authors, artists, artisans and businessmen, and also features the Wiener Library and Leo Baeck House. All persons interviewed state that they have found a new home in England and would not return to Germany where, as one of them puts it, the Jewish friends they had left behind were murdered and the former Christian friends joined the Party. Some also refer to the new opportunities they have found as writers and translators, being equally at home in the cultural spheres of Germany, the country of their birth, and England, the country of their adoption.

The film is basically a success story.

Continued on page 2, column 1

* In case another performance can be arranged for, an announcement will be published in "AJR Information".

GERMANY TODAY

POLITICAL EXTREMISTS

Herr Kai-Uwe von Hassel, the West German Defence Minister, told students in Mainz that he was alarmed by the activities of Right-wing political extremists in the Federal Republic. He called on the students to fight extremist tendencies in their schools, warning that experience had shown that the younger generation was very susceptible to such influences.

The Central Council of Jews in Germany has demanded that recent antisemitic incidents should not be minimised. Something that was causing considerable damage to the reign of democratic law should not be dismissed as mere rowdyism, childish pranks or the result of drunken excesses.

WARNING ON NAZIS

Dr. Richard Jaeger, the Federal Minister of Justice, declared during an interview in Cologne that West Germany must not tolerate the glorification of the Nazi régime or the minimising of the Nazi persecution of the Jews. The Minister made a plea for the retention of Article 93 of the penal code which provides punishment for anti-constitutional propaganda in the Federal Republic. It was intolerable, he said, that a hate campaign conducted by individuals should be disregarded and left unpunished. This Article which, together with other parts of the penal code, is now under study for possible revision, was a great help in controlling Right-wing extremists and antisemitic propagandists, said Dr. Jaeger. It had also been of assistance in the fight against the import of neo-Nazi and antisemitic ideas from abroad.

ANTISEMITIC LEAFLETS

Antisemitic leaflets again appeared in Frankfurt recently. Similar leaflets were distributed in the city at the end of last year, signed by the "German Resistance Movement Against National Suppression and Anti-German Agitation".

After the Elections

Continued from page 1

This is certainly in accordance with the actual position of most of the refugees who were young enough to build up their lives anew in this country. However, the performance also met with certain criticism. Some viewers felt that the reference to the initial difficulties had been inadequate and also pointed out that there were quite a few whose lives had been broken beyond repair and that the tragic happenings had left their indelible marks on everybody. The film, these critics said, might give German viewers the impression that, after all, their former fellow-citizens had not fared so badly, and thus, inadvertently, help to ease their consciences. Others expressed the view that at least one outstanding scholar or scientist should also have been shown in order to make the Germans aware of the loss they have sustained as a result of the Nazi policy.

These objections, some of which cancel each other out, only show that it is very difficult, if not impossible, to give a full and balanced picture in a short film like this. It has also to be realised that failure does not lend itself as easily to portrayal as success. A stronger emphasis of the tragic aspects and the specifically Jewish character of the catastrophe would certainly have been desirable. Yet these are matters of degree. In principle the film can be regarded as a valuable contribution to the record of our history during the past thirty years.

W.R.

SUCCESSSES OF N.P.D.

The extreme Right-wing National Democratic Party (N.P.D.) which obtained a total of 103 seats in the Bavarian municipal elections received twice as many votes in the recent Hamburg Parliamentary elections as it had obtained in that city on the occasion of the Federal Parliamentary elections in September last. Their percentage rose from 1.8 in September to 3.9. The number of votes (36,643) was however not sufficient for a seat in the Hamburg Parliament. Leading politicians in Hamburg expressed concern at the increase of the N.P.D.

At a press conference in Bonn, leaders of the N.P.D. refuted charges by other politicians that they belong to the neo-Nazi sector of German politics. Replying to questions by the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency regarding the fact that prominent former Nazis held high positions in the N.P.D. they declared that this was also true of other parties. They added that "traitors"—those who had co-operated with other countries during the war—had no place in the N.P.D. Asked why they had laid wreaths on the graves of former war criminals they stated that this was not meant as an identification with the war criminals but with those who were executed "by error". In conclusion, the N.P.D. leaders said they expected to win sufficient votes to enter the Bundestag in 1969.

YAD VASHEM MEDAL FOR COURAGEOUS GERMANS

Four Germans have been awarded the Yad Vashem Medal designed for non-Jews who, at the risk of their lives, helped persecuted Jews when the Nazis were in power. They are Dr. Gertrud Luckner, Propst D. Heinrich Grueber, Praelat Dr. Hermann Maas and Werner Krumme. Dr. Luckner has been associated with the German Caritas organisation since 1933. After the outbreak of war she organised the Kirchliche Kriegshilfsstelle and was in touch with Jewish organisations in Berlin and other towns. She was arrested in 1943 on a train journey, when she wanted to bring relief to needy Jews in Berlin, and deported to the Ravensbrueck Concentration Camp, where she stayed up to the end of the war. Propst Grueber, a leading member of the Confessional Church, assisted Jews and "non-Aryan" Christians and was in constant contact with the Reichsvertretung. Praelat Dr. Maas (Heidelberg) was also a member of the Confessional Church; at the age of 67, he was deported to a Labour Camp in France. Werner Krumme and his wife were arrested in Breslau in 1942, because they had co-operated with members of the French Resistance Movement in Silesian labour camps and assisted Jews to escape. They were brought to Auschwitz, where Frau Krumme was gassed.

The medals were handed over by the Israeli Ambassador, A. Ben-Natan, in a ceremony held in Duesseldorf.

EXTRADITION AGREED

The Ghanaian Government has agreed to extradite Dr. Horst Schumann to West Germany. He is wanted on charges of crimes against Jews at Auschwitz during the war. Dr. Schumann has been working as a doctor in a remote village in Ghana.

Argentina's Federal Court of Appeals confirmed an order for the extradition to West Germany of Dr. Gerhard Bohne, who fled in 1963 while undergoing interrogation pending trial. Bohne is charged with complicity in the deaths of 15,000 "mental" or "deformed" patients as part of Hitler's "mercy killing" programme. His extradition was requested by the West German court of Limburg-Lahn in October, 1963.

SENTENCES

The East German Supreme Court in East Berlin sentenced Dr. Horst Fischer to death by guillotine. He was found guilty of selecting between 55,000 and 75,000 prisoners for gassing at Auschwitz concentration camp. The former Nazi S.S. doctor appealed for clemency to Herr Walter Ulbricht, chairman of the East German Council of State. Fischer was found near Frankfurt-on-Oder, in East Germany, last summer after practising for 20 years since the war as a country doctor.

Adolf Harnischmacher, a former S.S. lieutenant, was in Frankfurt sentenced to four years' imprisonment on charges of complicity in the killing of 178 Jews near the West Russian town of Mogilev between December, 1941, and the summer of 1942. The time Harnischmacher spent on remand before his trial was deducted from his sentence and he was freed.

PROCEEDINGS DROPPED

According to the findings of the Flensburg prosecutor, statements to pupils by two teachers at a grammar school in the town of Buesum were not defamatory of the dead nor an incitement to hatred of the Jews. Proceedings have been dropped against the teachers, Kurt Fleischhauer and Frau Gertrud Besecke. Inquiries were opened after pupils had complained.

RECONCILIATION DESIRED

Dr. Rainer Barzel, the newly elected first deputy chairman of the governing Christian Party, told his party's annual conference at Bonn that Germany's international standing and the prospects for German reunification depended upon the extent of German reconciliation with the French, Jewish and Polish peoples.

Israel, he said, was prepared to start a new and constructive phase of relations, "and we want this, too". More important than reparations was the mental attitude, the understanding of each other, the common outlook for the future. Diplomatic ties with Israel and friendship with the Arab peoples did not exclude each other.

"ALLGEMEINE" CHANGES NAME

The "Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland" (Duesseldorf) which recently celebrated the 20th anniversary of its foundation has changed its name into "Allgemeine unabhaengige juedische Wochenzeitung."

Feuchtwanger (London) Ltd.

Bankers

BASILDON HOUSE, 7-11 MOORGATE, E.C.2

Telephone: METropolitan 8151

Representing:

I. L. FEUCHTWANGER BANK LTD.

FEUCHTWANGER

CORPORATION

TEL AVIV : JERUSALEM : HAIFA

60 EAST 42nd ST., NEW YORK, 17, N.Y.

HOME NEWS

ANGLO-JUDAICA

BEN-GURION IN LONDON

During Mr. David Ben-Gurion's visit here, the former Israeli Premier attended several functions. His address at the London Hilton Hotel dinner of the J.P.A. helped to bring in a further £265,000, so that the total now stands at £1,910,000 towards this year's target of £3 million.

Aldus Books gave a reception in honour of Mr. Ben-Gurion just before the publication of his book "The Jews in Their Land." The author described the book as the first about the Jewish people in Israel, the continuous history of their settlements there, from pre-Biblical times to the present day. He is now working on the history of Israel over the past 95 years. When finished in five years' time, when he will be 85, he plans to write his autobiography.

During a telerecorded interview on BBC-1, Mr. Ben-Gurion expressed disappointment that the number of Jews from the Western countries who had settled in Israel was so small.

When he arrived at London Airport, Mr. Ben-Gurion said that peace between Israel and the Arab States would come when the United States, Russia and a united Europe came closer to each other.

ZIONIST CONFERENCE

The 65th annual conference of the Zionist Federation was held in London. Dr. S. Levenberg stressed the need for a British initiative for a four-power agreement to halt the arms race in the Middle East and for direct Arab-Israeli negotiations. A resolution was passed declaring alarm at the growth of nationalistic forces in Germany.

Mr. Rehavam Amir, director of the Jewish Agency's education department in Jerusalem, said that the threat of Jewish spiritual annihilation was no less real today than had been the danger of physical extermination 25 years ago, even though it was less apparent. The only way to stop the danger was by intensified Jewish and Hebrew education.

PASSOVER BROADCAST

Speaking on the BBC Home Service during the annual pre-Passover broadcast, Dayan Dr. M. Lew made reference to Jews "who are prevented from celebrating Passover in the traditional manner and unable to live their lives in accordance with the dictates of their faith."

CARDINAL HEENAN'S WARNING

The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, Dr. John Heenan, addressed the 23rd annual meeting of the Council of Christians and Jews. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Michael Ramsey, was both host and chairman.

Dr. Heenan gave a grim reminder to the Council that its watchword ought to be not only charity but also vigilance. "After the horrors committed against the Jews in Christian countries in our own time," he said, "we can no longer say that it cannot happen here and we cannot be sure that it cannot happen again." He advised the Council to continue with its educational programme for the young and with its dialogues among representatives from various faiths.

Presenting the annual report, the chairman of the executive committee, the Archdeacon of Oxford, the Venerable C. Witton-Davies, referred to those who believed that "in these better days" the 24-year-old Council was now rendered redundant. Recalling the recent manifestations of antisemitism and the attacks on synagogues, the Archdeacon said that there was a continuing need for the work of the Council.

The Haham, Dr. S. Gaon, said that the Council at its inception had been rather on the defensive. Today it should move on to the offensive by demonstrating Christian-Jewish co-operation in promoting the concept of man created in the image of God.

JEWISH M.P.s

The General Election returned 40 Jewish Members to Parliament, 38 on the Government benches and two on the Conservative. One woman, Mrs. Renée Short, is among the Jewish Labour Members. All Jewish M.P.s who sought re-election were returned and six new ones were elected.

According to the swing to Labour, all 18 Jewish Liberal candidates were defeated. All five Jewish Communists lost their deposits, as did the seven Right-wing candidates.

Mr. Emanuel Shinwell, after his 15th election campaign, is still the doyen of Jewish parliamentarians. Other veterans in age and parliamentary experience are Mr. George Strauss, Sir Barnett Janner and Mr. Sidney Silverman.

In Mr. Harold Wilson's reconstructed Government Mr. John Diamond retains his post as Chief Secretary to the Treasury. Mr. Austen Albu is still Minister of State, Department of Economic Affairs. Mr. John Silkin, a Junior Whip since 1964, was appointed the Government's Deputy Chief Whip. Mr. Edmund Dell, M.P. for Birkenhead, has been appointed Joint Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry of Technology.

FASCIST BOOKS

The Britons Publishing Company, specialising in fascist and antisemitic literature, includes among its publications the notorious "Protocols of the Elders of Zion", a booklet "Why Are the Jews Hated?" and biographies of well-known fascists and Nazi leaders. It has now been admitted to full membership of the Publishers' Association. A spokesman for the Publishers' Association has confirmed that he and his colleagues were aware of the works published. But there were no grounds for refusing their application for membership. Although their books were not to everyone's taste, they could not exclude people simply because they did not like their books. There were no legal grounds on which the company could be excluded. If it was found now that they were guilty under the terms of the Race Relations Act, then they would be expelled.

The spokesman added that the character of Britons Publishing Company had undergone a change recently, their latest catalogue listing books which were rather anti-freemason than antisemitic. The Wiener Library stated, however, that the company was still publishing antisemitic literature.

ARSONISTS FREED

Four supporters of Colin Jordan's National Socialist Movement who started fires at London synagogues were convicted. Because they were said to be penitent the judge passed a short sentence.

It was stated that it would cost £120,000 to rebuild the Kilburn Synagogue and that the damage caused by all the fires was about £170,000. Since the arrest of these men and that of another gang of fire-raisers led by a National Socialist Movement member named Hughes, London synagogue fires have ceased. The culprits have in every case been dealt with, Hughes being sentenced in January to five years' imprisonment.

Two of the culprits blamed Colin Jordan and his wife for encouraging them.

CONVICTED OF STABBING INCIDENT

Nine youths, aged about 15, were convicted at the Old Bailey for taking part in an incident when a Yeshiva student and another young man in North London were stabbed last December. Five were sentenced to six months at a detention centre, two received three months' detention and two were placed on probation for two years.

SWASTIKAS

The Golders Green Crematorium was daubed with swastikas and antisemitic slogans. A police spokesman stated that this was probably the work of hooligans.

Jewish Hospital

Lord Cohen of Birkenhead was the guest of honour at the London Jewish Hospital Medical Society's 37th annual dinner, of which society he is past president. The building project of the London Jewish Hospital recently received £65,000 from the Wolfson Foundation so that, as Dr. Jascha Rabinowitch, the present president, stated, "We will soon have a hospital worthy of its patients, its doctors and the Anglo-Jewish community".

New Home for Aged

The 59 residents of the Jewish Welfare Board's new home for the aged at Ballards Lane, Finchley, have settled into their new surroundings. Half the building is devoted to the accommodation of 31 elderly people needing care and attention. The rest has been built to provide flatlets for those who want private quarters, tenants paying up to £4 10s. a week rental, excluding rates. The home has a large communal dining room, a therapy section and two comfortable lounges. The flat tenants are encouraged to mix at all times with the other inmates. The majority of the 59 residents are well into their 70s and many are over 80.

The project cost £210,000, over £160,000 of which was donated by two benefactors. This accounts for the fact that the two sections of the home are to be known respectively as Shine House and Rubens House. The balance was raised from public contributions. The new home is expected to lose about £4,000 a year and a committee has been set up to raise this deficit.

Unmarried Mothers

During 1965, 81 cases were dealt with by the Jewish Welfare Board, compared with 73 in the previous year. The number of illegitimate babies was 60 and there was an increase in the number of Jewish unmarried mothers who sought the help of the Board. Most of these were between 20 and 30 though some were as young as 15.

The Rev. Raymond Apple, minister of the Hampstead Synagogue and Chairman of the Jewish Marriage Education Council's youth committee, has called on the council to give teenagers "a clear and positive picture of traditional morality". In the council's annual report Mr. Apple wrote of the film "Learning to Live", which presented the facts of life "frankly, naturally and accurately, in an idiom acceptable to young people". Pre-marital chastity, said Mr. Apple, had become such a debating point over the past few years yet, until now, few voices had been raised to present the Jewish point of view to club members and other young people.

Coventry's Tribute

The Lord Mayor of Coventry entertained to dinner a representative gathering of members of the community "in recognition of the contribution over the years to the city's life made by its Jewish citizens". This was an event unique in the annals of the city of Coventry and of the Jewish community. Paying tribute to the Jewish community, Alderman G. E. Hodgkinson said its members had brought to the city fine qualities of skills and craftsmanship. Mr. M. L. Hyam, secretary of the congregation, said that the Jewish community were happily integrated into the full and active life of the city. But they were just as proud of their Jewish faith as they were of their British citizenship. The congregation presented a silver menorah to the city.

Civic Appointments

Alderman Hyman Appleby Leon is to be installed as Mayor of the London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames.

Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Segal, of Kirkella, are to be the next Sheriff and Sheriff's Lady of Hull.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Iron Cross Fad

In California members of the Hell's Angels motor-cycle club started a fad by using the Iron Cross to decorate their black leather jackets. These motor-cyclists, when they invade a small town, often act like Nazi storm-troopers.

Now copies of Germany's old Iron Cross medal, bearing the date 1914 and a "W" for Kaiser Wilhelm, are selling in shops across the country. They can be bought as earrings or as large black crosses to be hung around the neck, and a smaller version has been incorporated in a ring.

Contract to Slave-Labour Firm

The protest is growing against the granting of a large contract for machine-guns to the West German Rheinmetall Company, which used slave labour during the Nazi period and is the only major German firm which has refused to pay even token compensation to survivors.

In a letter to President Johnson the Synagogue Council of America has expressed "incredulity and profound chagrin" that a firm such as Rheinmetall could be considered for an American arms contract. It calls the President's attention to the fact that three of the five directors of the company are former members of the Nazi party.

UNITED NATIONS

War Crimes Resolution

A resolution was adopted by the United Nations Human Rights Commission calling upon itself to prepare a convention outlawing statutes of limitation for war crimes and crimes against humanity. The resolution was to be given "the highest priority".

CANADIAN IMMIGRATION

In Ottawa a joint delegation of the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services submitted a plea to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. The delegation asked that any changes in Canada's Immigration Act should not disturb that feature of her policy which provides for the reunion of families. If changes were made in the regulations in the interests of efficiency, Canada's corresponding duty to discharge her universal moral obligations would be substantially hampered, said the members of the delegation.

INDIAN HONOURS

Two Indian Jews received awards in India's Republic Day Honours. Dr. Jerusha Jhirad, a leading gynaecologist and social worker, was awarded the Padma Shri. Rear-Admiral Benjamin Abraham Samson, the Flag Officer commanding the Indian Navy, received the Distinguished Service Medal, Class I, for "distinguished service of a most exceptional order".

AUSTRALIA

The headmaster of Sydney Boys' High School has denied charges of antisemitic activities at the school. The Minister of Education has, however, asked that a report on the matter be submitted. The charges, made in protests to the Jewish Board of Deputies, received wide publicity in the Australian press. Some of the 90 Jewish boys at the school were said to have been beaten by other pupils, called derogatory names and told that they were not wanted at the school. It was also alleged that swastikas had appeared in the school. The Board of Deputies' public relations committee is looking into the charges.

Four swastikas and the words "Down with Christ killers" were painted on one of the walls of the North Shore Synagogue in Sydney. Police opened inquiries.

GREEK CLAIMS

About 8,000 applications were submitted to the Greek courts by Greek-born Jews for compensation from the money allocated to Greece by the West German Government for victims of Nazi persecution during the Second World War. Greek Jews are estimated to have received about £1,380,000, representing 14 per cent of all compensation so far awarded. A total of 60,000 applications were considered by the Greek courts. Of the sum paid out, 9 per cent was paid to Greek-born Jews now living in Israel and the rest to those living in Greece or other countries.

BELGIAN RESISTANCE MOVEMENT

The Belgian Government has decided to commission a written record of the resistance movement as a result of allegations heard during the trial on war crimes charges in Vienna in December of Robert Jan Verbelen, the former Belgian S.S. officer, who was acquitted. A group of former Jewish resistance fighters in Liège expressed the hope that the official record of the Belgian resistance movement will include an important section on the persecution of the Jews and their contribution to the opposition to the Germans.

M. Roger Katz, president of the Jewish resistance fighters' organisation, has stated that Jews were incorporated in the Belgian resistance movement during the Second World War and that there were no separate Jewish units. Many Jewish leaders maintain, however, that Jews took a more active role in the resistance.

NETHERLANDS

Jewish Emigrants

Mr. J. H. Couzy, a Dutch Liberal M.P., has drawn the attention of the Minister of Defence to an official announcement of the Ministry in an issue of *Nieuw Israelitisch Weekblad*, the Dutch-Jewish weekly. In this, the Jewish Army chaplain told Jewish young men who were waiting for call-up that he was organising a meeting at Arnhem, where an official of the Ministry of Defence would give information on emigration possibilities to Israel before or during their military service in Holland.

Mr. Couzy asked the Minister to agree that it is not the task of his Ministry "to promote the emigration of young men of military age".

Germans at Anne Frank House

The Anne Frank Foundation has invited a number of municipal, religious and educational leaders in West Germany to attend a conference on "The Germans and the attitude of the Dutch" to be organised in Amsterdam on June 4 and 5. The director of the foundation has said that the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam should not be regarded as a monument of anti-German hatred.

BECHSTEIN STEINWAY BLUTHNER

Finest selection reconditioned PIANOS.

Part exchange. Deferred terms.

JAQUES SAMUEL PIANOS LTD.

2 Park West Place, Marble Arch, W.2

Tel.: PAD. 8818/9

AUTHORISED BECHSTEIN RETAILERS

SOVIET RUSSIA

Passover Services

Moscow's Central Synagogue was crowded with about 1,000 worshippers at the start of the Passover celebrations. People who could not get inside stood in the entrance and in the street. There were reasonable supplies of matzot in the capital and other major centres. Members of the foreign colony attended the Seder at the Israeli Embassy, conducted by the newly appointed Ambassador, Mr. Katriel Katz.

Hundreds of people also attended services at two other synagogues in the Moscow suburbs.

European Rabbis' Resolution

The standing committee of the Conference of European Rabbis, at its half-yearly meeting in Paris, passed a resolution which expressed "appreciation of the changes, albeit of a token nature" in the Soviet attitude, but pointed out that "the rights granted to other religious and nationality groups in Russia" were still largely withheld from the Jews. It pleaded for the restoration to Soviet Jews of "the rights to which they are entitled."

Attack on Zionism

A new Russian book entitled "The Building of Communism and the Removal of Religious Remnants", declares that Zionism "is not only the enemy of the people of all countries but also of the Jewish workers". The book states that the task of Zionism is to divert the attention of Jewish workers from the ideas of Socialism, from the general revolutionary struggle of the proletariat, from the struggle of the nations for freedom and a happy future.

POLAND

Cracow Exhibition

The Cracow Historical Museum in Poland has issued a guide outlining the history of the city's Old Synagogue from the early Middle Ages to the Nazi occupation and the present day. A documentary record is also given of 1,000 years of Jewish life in Poland. An exhibition of photographs and paintings showing the development of the Jewish community in Poland during this period is being organised at the Old Synagogue by the museum director for the celebration of Poland's millennium as a sovereign State.

Cultural Union Elections

At the fifth congress of Polish Jews held in Warsaw recently, Ida Kaminska the actress, and Mr. David Slobodkin, head of Ort in Poland, were elected to the executive council of the Cultural and Social Union of Polish Jews. The President of the Union, Mr. Leib Domb, and the vice-president, Mr. Hersh Smolar, who is editor of the Warsaw Yiddish paper "Folks-Sztyme," were re-elected.

Monument to Victims

The Polish authorities, in answer to an appeal from the Jewish community, have agreed to allocate about £62,800 to renovate the monument to the victims of Nazism in the Jewish cemetery in Plotsk. An initial donation of nearly £9,000 was made by the Social and Cultural Union of Polish Jews in Warsaw.

SARAJEVO ANNIVERSARY

The 400th anniversary of the settlement of Sephardi Jews in Bosnia will be celebrated next October by the Jewish community in Sarajevo in Yugoslavia. It is planned to invite representatives of all Sephardi and other Jewish organisations from all over the world.

The community made a gift to the city of one of the two Sarajevo synagogues, which is now the "Djuro Djakovic Workers' University." The city commemorated the event with the installation in the former synagogue of a memorial in the form of a large menorah dedicated to the "enormous sacrifices" made during the Second World War by Yugoslav Jewry. The dedication ceremony was attended by Communist Party leaders among others.

Your House for:—

**CURTAINS, CARPETS, LINO,
UPHOLSTERY**

SPECIALITY

**CONTINENTAL DOWN
QUILTS!**

ALSO RE-MAKES AND RE-COVERS
ESTIMATES FREE

DAWSON-LANE LIMITED

17 BRIDGE ROAD, WEMBLEY PARK

Telephone: ARN. 6671

Personal attention of Mr. W. Shackman.

JEWISH BOOK WEEK 1966

"Anglo-Jewry is not a book-loving community, and where literary interests are concerned, poetry is usually relegated to the bottom", said Mr. Henry Shaw in his introductory remarks to one of the lectures given during Book Week in March. Dr. George Webber was of a different opinion: "I am not in despair about the future of Anglo-Jewry when on the third night of Jewish Book Week we can muster an audience of well over a hundred people to hear a lecture on poetry."

Be this as it may, the improbably small number of visitors (let alone buyers of books) to the Adolph Tuck Hall while the exhibition was held, seemed to confirm the rather more pessimistic view. Let it be said, however—all those who merely had the good intention of going there missed a rare opportunity. The great wealth of books with Jewish themes, most of them recent publications and including attractive paperbacks, was highly stimulating. Titles ranged from children's books to historical and philosophical topics.

One of the most interesting features was the subject which the World Jewish Congress (British Section) had chosen for their "Leitmotiv". Following the reawakened interest in poetry and basing the theme for their exhibition "on the belief that too little is known about Jewish poets of our time and, indeed, of the past 100 years" their stand, organised by Dr. Elisabeth Eppler, displayed some 80 odd volumes of poetry of the last century. Hebrew and Russian, English, Hungarian, in fact almost every European language was represented and, last but not least, of course Yiddish. German speaking visitors could meet many an old acquaintance like Else Lasker-Schueler, Arno Nadel, Margarete Susman, Ernst Toller and Erich Muehsam, and also had an opportunity of being introduced to a number of post-war poets whose names are not so well known as yet. There was Paul Celan with "Mohn und Gedächtnis", Gertrud Kolmar's "Das Lyrische Werk" and the "Warngedichte" by Erich Fried.

In connection with this collection Dr. Meir Gertner's lecture—illustrated by the recital of some outstanding poems in Yiddish and

English—on "The Jewish Image in Jewish Poetry" highlighted the occasion. The lecturer showed how far Jewish poets had not only turned to the Bible for inspiration but had also used, again and again, Biblical images and characters when concerned with the treatment of secular themes.

Thus "Hiob" by Nelly Sachs was the symbol of suffering man, Jewish and universal alike, and at the same time the victim of the greatest malaise of our time, "Einsamkeit", in the existentialist sense of the word. Similarly, the poetess drew on Biblical figures like Cain when exposing the universal scourge of mankind: war.

Interpreting some of the German-Jewish poets in their contemporary setting, the lecturer brought to light interesting aspects. While Richard Beer-Hofmann's "Schlaflied fuer Miriam" in some way marked the beginning of the return to the traditions of the Jews as a people, Else Lasker-Schueler and Karl Wolfskehl, both in their own way, had to grapple with the paradoxical Jewish situation of finding themselves linked with German culture and at the same time rooted in the Jewish past. Nelly Sachs, at the end of this cycle, the poetess of the holocaust, had somehow found the symbiosis by giving her suffering as a Jewess the ultimate expression of the universal. LUCIE SCHACHNE.

IN MEMORY OF ERWIN PISCATOR

With the death of 72-year-old Erwin Piscator, after an operation in Starnberg, the last of the theatre directors who made Berlin the world's artistic capital in the 'twenties is gone. Born in a little village near Wetzlar, he first studied philosophy and art history in Marburg. In 1920 he created a political theatre, the "Proletarisches Theater" in Berlin.

Piscator could fulfil all his ambitions when he put on his own productions at Berlin's Theater am Nollendorfplatz with the financial backing of Tilla Durieux. His production of Ernst Toller's "Hoppla, wir leben" as a Left-wing revue was enormously successful, especially with the younger generation and the critics. With the direction of "Der brave Soldat Schwejk", starring Max Pallenberg, Piscator reached the peak of his career. But eventually his experiment flopped and he went bankrupt.

In 1933 he went to Russia and produced his sole film, "Die Fischer von St. Barbara", which has only now been shown. Disappointed with Communism, Piscator went to Paris and later to New York, where he started his famous "Dramatic Workshop". Tennessee Williams, Arthur Miller and Marlon Brando were amongst his pupils. But with his interest still in politics, he left his school to his wife, Maria Ley, and returned to Europe. Unknown to a new generation he had to make a fresh start. In Zürich he directed Ustinov's "Love of Four Colonels". His first post-war production in Berlin, an adaptation of "Krieg und Frieden", was a failure, and he had to wander as a guest director from one theatre to another. At last, in 1963, he became director of Berlin's Volksbuehne, where he found a home again. There he gave Rolf Hochhuth, Peter Weiss and recently Guenther Grass their first opportunities.

No mention is made in all the long obituaries written after his sudden death of the empty years from 1951, when he returned from the States, until 1962. Only his successes are remembered. His name will not be forgotten when the history of the German theatre between the two wars is written. PEM.

Old Acquaintances

Germany: Lucie Mannheim, O. E. Hasse and Heidemarie Hatheyer appear in Wilder's "Wir sind noch einmal davongekommen" in Hamburg.—Wolfgang Wilhelm, formerly of London, produced "Hinter der Leinwand" on Bavarian TV.—Albert Lieven is in "The Moon is Blue" at Munich's kleine Komödie.—In Bremen Peter Zadek will direct Osborne's "A Patriot for Me" in a German adaptation by Maximilian Schell, who took the leading part in London.—Carl Ebert will produce Stravinsky's "The Rake's Progress" at Berlin's State Opera.—Samy Molcho, the Israeli mime, is directing Gogol's "Spieler" in Darmstadt.—Tilla Durieux, Leni Marenbach and Lina Carstens are to appear in Hay's "Haben" at Berlin's Volksbuehne.—Rudolf Platte received this year's "Kunstpreis" from the City of Berlin.—Edward Rothe produced "The Chalk Garden" and "Tod eines Mitbuergers" on German TV.

Austria: Paul Hoffmann is to succeed Ernest Haeussermann as director of Vienna's Burg. Kurt Meisel, Theo Lingen's son-in-law, will be his deputy.—Stella Kadmon presented Bruckner's "Rassen" at her Theater der Courage.—W. Liebeneiner will produce "Czardasfuerstin" at Vienna's Volksoper.—Heinrich Schnitzler will direct, at the Josefstadt, "Michaelerplatz", a one-act play by the drama critic, Piero Rismondo.—Curd Juergens will script, produce and take the lead in a new film, "Lieb Vaterland magst ruhig sein".

U.S.A.: Dolly Haas topped the bill at New York's Community Center when Erich Juhn presented a cabaret featuring Olga Fabian, Theo Goetz, Fritz Spielmann and others.—A musical version of the famous "Blue Angel" was produced on Broadway for a brief three nights. Theodore Bikel was in the Jannings part.—Dr. H. Steinitz succeeds the late Dr. Manfred George as editor of "Aufbau". Ludwig Wronkow is executive editor.—Fritzi Massary celebrated her 84th birthday in Palm Springs.

Milestones: Georg Froeschel, author of "Die Geliebte Roswolskys", who has scripted for M.G.M. in Hollywood for 25 years, has turned 75.—Boleslaw Barlog, director of the Schiller and the Schlosspark-Theater, the two most important theatres in Berlin, is 60 years of age.—Ludwig Berger celebrated his 50th anniversary as a producer by directing "Sommer-nachtstraum" in Mainz where, in March, 1916, he started his career with "Viel Laerm um Nichts".—Curt Bois, the comedian, who returned to Berlin from the States after the war, celebrated his 65th birthday.

Obituary: Else Staudinger, the 76-year-old widow of the former German parliamentarian and founder of the "American Council for Emigrés in the Professions", has died in New York.—The post-war director of Hebbel Theater, Oscar Ingenohl, has died in Berlin at the age of 79.—Ludwig Benninghoff, 75-year-old lector of S. Fischer and of Hamburg's Schauspielhaus, has died in Hamburg.

Home News: Michael Rittermann has been invited to appear in "Die Ermittlung" and "Kaethchen von Heilbronn" in Braunschweig.—Oskar Homolka will visit this country to act together with his wife, in Strindberg's "Totentanz" in Guildford.—Karel Stepanek visited Berlin to appear in Ernst Neubach's film, "Sperrbezirk", directed by Will Tremper.—Alfred H. Unger will take part in the B.B.C. TV series, "The Lost Peace".—Dr. Hans Scherer will retire as Head of the Press Department of the German Embassy.

PEM

MEMO

Next time see
PELTOURS
first

Peltoours offer you a comprehensive, dependable travel service for all Rail, Steamship and Air bookings at the official rate. No additional booking charge.
* Personal service is our pleasure.

PELTOURS
29 DUKE ST. LONDON W.1.
WELbeck 9943/7

Hans Jaeger

ENIGMA GERMANY

The question of "how it could happen" will occupy the minds of many people for a long time to come. Inside Germany research on the causes of the relapse into the barbarism of the Nazi régime is not very popular. This is bad enough. Yet it would be even more depressing if the world outside Germany had not reacted to the events with horror. An analysis of the causes is not only important for the sake of historical truth, but also necessary as a safeguard against a recurrence.

The difference of the reactions inside and outside Germany also has its psychological effects. The more those inside Germany try to evade the issue or to minimise or excuse the facts, the more insistent those outside become. Thus the mutual tension steadily grows. If the truth had been accepted generally with moral courage, the whole debate would have gradually subsided. However, the insistence on the acceptance of the truth must not lead to a stigmatisation of the German nation as a whole. Nothing would be more pernicious than an attitude which leaves no hope for the future. Young Germans certainly cannot run away from history by declaring that they had nothing to do with the deeds of their parents, but their burden should not be made too heavy, otherwise despair and inferiority feelings might turn into new hatred.

These introductory remarks are necessary if we wish to find the right approach to a recently published book.* The author, in the preface, dissociates himself from those who regard the catastrophe just as an "unsolved riddle", as if National Socialism had sprung from nothing. Such an anti-historical approach, he states, ignores what even many Germans

* Jonas Lesser: *Germany—The Symbol and the Deed*. Thomas Yosseloff, New York-London. 601 pp. 50s.

have written about the ideological precursors of Hitler. At the same time the author warns against those who are digging in the wrong places by putting the blame on movements of their own hatred, such as the French Revolution or the democratic system which allegedly made the uprise of totalitarian tyranny possible.

Defining his line of approach Lesser writes: "This is not a book of hatred, nor does it intend to arouse or renew hatred. It is a dispassionate appraisal of German history and mentality . . ." (page 20). He quotes Walter Goetz, according to whom "it is not the historian's task to treat a misunderstood past with reverence, but to explore it mercilessly".

Like Bracher, Lesser lists Nietzsche and Spengler among the spiritual ancestors of Nazism, though they would have disagreed with many of its manifestations. Nietzsche, for example, would certainly have disliked the movement because of its plebeian set-up, neither was he nationalistic nor antisemitic. And yet he contributed much more to Nazism than his besotted admirers would care to admit.

The first chapters of the book deal with Christian antisemitism which, in the author's view, is at the root of Nazism. To endorse his thesis he quotes, apart from the Rev. Dr. James Parkes, Professor H. Gollwitzer who stated that racial antisemitism was preceded by Christian antisemitism.

It can certainly not be denied that antisemitism has always been an integral part of Christianity. This became evident again only recently at the Council in Rome, when Pope Paul VI, following the line of John XXIII, tried to break with the past. It seems almost unbelievable that the responsibility for the death of one man (quite apart from the details of the trial and the execution in the Roman style) should be placed not only on a whole nation but also on all following generations. It seems equally unbelievable that a Church which preaches love believed in a curse imposed on a whole nation. And yet the suggestion to break with this doctrine met with bitter resistance and was accepted only as a result of a compromise and after considerable struggle. The opponents have by no means given up the battle and it is certainly no accident that, in several countries, they are in line with political Right-wing extremists. On the other hand, it has to be recognised that at last a change has been achieved and that German Cardinals, especially Cardinal Bea, had a great share in it.

In his evaluation of Christian antisemitism, Lesser extensively deals with Luther who was originally well disposed to the Jews but later completely reversed. In the author's view, the influence which Luther's teachings, not only in the theological sphere, had on Nazism was particularly strong. It was, therefore, no accident that the anti-Nazi Confessional Church completely broke with this aspect of Lutherism.

The central subject of the book is the alleged connection between Christian antisemitism and Nazism. It is certainly true that in the Middle Ages, especially during and shortly after the Crusades, Christian antisemitism resulted in the expulsion of the Jews from many countries, not only from Germany. However, later the problem became much more complex. In some countries Christian antisemitism led to short-term explosions (e.g., the Dreyfus trial in France) or to preju-

dices and social taboos. However, a violent antisemitism only existed in a limited number of Roman Catholic countries such as Poland, Slovakia (not Bohemia), and, to a certain extent, also Austria, Hungary, Lithuania and later Bavaria; it manifested itself in pogroms in countries of the Greek Orthodox Church, Russia and Rumania.

In Germany the Catholic Church—in a minority position—showed little antisemitism. Under the Nazis hundreds of rural priests, even in Bavaria, were in concentration camps; the present writer can testify to this as he attended the liberation celebration in Dachau. In Italy a great number of priests fought with the Resistance.

It is certainly true that Christian antisemitism contributed to the growth of Nazism. As Germany was supposed to be a Christian State, the old resentments and prejudices could be used for propaganda purposes. But it must be remembered that, especially among the Protestants, Church affiliations, were often merely nominal, and that the proportion of genuine Christians was comparatively small.

Catholics were won over by the Concordate, which both contractual parties considered as an act of diplomacy rather than a matter of principle, and by the appeal to nationalism. Nevertheless, broadly speaking, there was more resistance in Catholic than in Protestant parts of Germany. In the Protestant Church many members of the "liberal" wing denied the divinity of Jesus. For them it was easy to make a compromise by regarding Jesus as an "Aryan", and they went over to Nazism as so-called German Christians. They stood between the Orthodox section (Confessional Church) which opposed Nazism and those who made their peace with "paganism" in the "Deutsche Glaubensbewegung".

The followers of the "Deutsche Glaubensbewegung" included, if not the majority, the "élite" (if this word is appropriate) of the Nazi Party, e.g., Himmler and Ribbentrop. However, their pagan (or rather non-Christian) antisemitism was completely different from Christian antisemitism. It was in accordance with the Nazi creed because it aimed at the restoration of the Nordic religion. The "Deutsche Glaubensbewegung" hated

With the Compliments of

DICK & GOLDSCHMIDT

LTD

London W.1



HALLGARTEN SELECTION

KING SOLOMON WINES

The Israel wines
for all occasions

Dry and Sweet White, Red and Rosé

10/- per bottle

Ask for them at your wine merchant and
favourite restaurant. Full information and
details of stockists from sole importers:

S F & O HALLGARTEN, 1 CRUTCHED FRIARS
LONDON EC3. ROYAL 9718

ENIGMA GERMANY

Continued from page 6

Christianity as a religion of pity and weakness (in this respect following Nietzsche) and as a stumbling block to the propagation of total war. It was not interested in religion or religious motivations, in the person of Christ and the reasons of his death, but solely in the "racial" aspect. Accordingly, unlike the Catholic Lueger in Vienna and the Protestant Pastor Stoecker in Berlin, it did not exempt from hatred Jews who had become baptised but, like Schoenerer and other precursors of Hitler in Austria and Jung in Bohemia, directed itself against all persons of Jewish origin. This decisive difference between "Christian" and "pagan" antisemitism is ignored by Lesser, as it is by many other contemporary authors.

The explosion of antisemitism in Germany can, therefore, not be attributed to Christian antisemitism only. Otherwise it would have happened in the first place in countries with much stronger Christian leanings, e.g., Catholic countries which had cultivated Christian antisemitism or other Protestant countries which were influenced by Luther.

Lesser himself rightly states that the ideological starting point of Nazism was Fichte's philosophy. Following up the development from Fichte onwards, he stresses the Protestant roots of Nazism although, if his basic thesis of Christian antisemitism as the cause were right, he would have to put the main blame on Catholicism as the older branch of Christianity.

In his chapter on German antisemitism Lesser refers to the impact of Treitschke, Lagarde and Langbehn, but also gives credit to those Germans who fought against the evil. His chapter about Romanticism is particularly

significant. It deals with Klages (who, by the way, had quite a few Jewish admirers) and Bachofen, as well as with the prophets of irrationalism. A special chapter is dedicated to Wagner, Nietzsche and H. S. Chamberlain. He also stresses the share of Hegel's philosophy with its deification of the State, and he recalls literary seducers such as Beumelburg, Juenger (who, surprisingly, found many admirers in Great Britain), Wilhelm Stapel and the members of the Tat-Kreis. He also evaluates the position of Edgar Jung, whose case is very complex. While he agreed with Hitler's rejection of the democratic system, he later attacked the Nazis from an aristocratic point of view by drafting Papen's famous speech in Marburg. This almost cost him his life in 1934. It is interesting that Lesser defends Stefan George though he is aware of the fact that George's followers were completely divided.

The second part of the book deals with the Third Reich, especially with the atrocities against the Slav nations and the Jews. In conclusion the author expresses his views on the post-war mentality inside and outside Germany.

It is quite unavoidable that a book on such a wide subject cannot give full answers to all questions involved. Why did it happen in 1933 and not at an earlier stage of German history? Why did the Germans follow their seducers whereas other countries did not? The common answer is that they were politically immature. Agreed, but why were they immature?

The religious explanation is not sufficient. Nationalism, megalomania, lack of mental balance, self-centredness, national self-pity and inferiority complexes—all these characteristics had their bearing, but even they cannot be the only reasons. Other countries, too, had their "traumas", their manifestations of nationalism and national selfishness. Further investigations will also have to deal with the social aspects involved and, above all, with the burning question of whether Nazism or Fascism might raise its head again in Germany or any other country.

Whilst in the historical part the author also does justice to those Germans who warned against the imminent danger, his assessment of the post-war mentality only deals with the negative aspects without reference to the counter-forces. Thus the book gives no hope. This is a pity and also in contrast to the author's more balanced assessment of the past.

Of course it is impossible to cover all aspects of the complex problem in one single book. Yet this does not diminish the value of Lesser's work as an important contribution to the search for the reasons of the catastrophe. He gives tremendous food for thought—but the enigma remains.

NEWS IN BRIEF

POPE PIUS XII

The Vatican has published a second volume of letters from Pope Pius XII, with the aim of confounding those who condemn his silence over the wartime massacre of the Jews by the Nazis. There seems to be no new material in this book concerning his attitude to the Nazi genocide of the Jews. References to the attitude of the Roman Catholic Church and of the Pope himself to the Jewish problem are very scanty.

The third and last volume of Vatican documents on "Pius XII and the Second World War" is expected to be published before the end of the year. The first volume appeared last December. Some Vatican sources have reported that it will deal very fully with the Jewish question.

CATHOLIC CONDEMNATION

Five Catholic organisations in Argentina at a press conference in Buenos Aires issued a declaration condemning antisemitism and any kind of discrimination in the Soviet Union. The President of the anti-Communist Latin American Front praised the Jewish contribution to world civilisation and the miracle fulfilled by the formation of the State of Israel. Speakers said that the Argentine people were against any form of racial and religious persecution, and that Soviet antisemitism was a natural consequence of a dictatorial régime.

PASSION PLAYS UNCHANGED

The traditionalist forces in the South Bavarian town of Oberammergau have maintained their supremacy over more liberal groups who have been demanding a revision of the Roman Catholic passion plays performed there every ten years.

The traditionalists deny that the Oberammergau passion plays are antisemitic.

Telephone : WHItehall 6074

Cable : Fulgomet, London

FULGO METALS LTD.

**CRAIGS COURT HOUSE
25 WHITEHALL
LONDON, S.W.1**

Non-Ferrous Metals in Ingots
or Semi-Finished

Gorta Radiovision Service

(Member R.T.R.A.)

13 Frogna! Parade,
Finchley Road, N.W.3

SALES

REPAIRS

Agents for Bush, Pye, Philips, Ferranti,
Grundig, etc.

Television Rentals from 8/- Per Week

Mr. Gort will always be pleased to
advise you.

(HAM. 8635)

With
Compliments

**VELVET-FIT
CORSETRY**

31/33 Hornsey Rd.,
London, N.7.

ZUM 90. GEBURTSTAG VON ISMAR FREUND

"Ich habe den begreiflichen Wunsch, die literarischen Schätze, die ich hierher gerettet habe, der Oeffentlichkeit nutzbar zu machen. . ." Was meinte Ismar Freund mit dieser Bemerkung, enthalten in einem Brief, den er im Sommer 1954 aus Jerusalem schrieb?

Schon lange vor 1939, als er von Berlin nach Palaestina uebersiedelte, hatte er, der Dr. jur. mit der Rabbinerqualifikation, der Historiker und Kirchenrechtler, begonnen, Material zur Emanzipationsgeschichte der deutschen, vor allem der preussischen Juden zu sammeln, zu bearbeiten und zu veröffentlichen. Der erste Niederschlag seiner Forschungen war sein bereits 1912 erschienenenes Quellenwerk "Die Emanzipation der Juden in Preussen". Zeit seines Lebens, in jüngeren Jahren wie nach seinem Uebertritt in den Ruhestand und auch in der Emigration, beschaeftigte sich Dr. Freund mit dieser historisch wichtigen Materie; fuer sie bildeten die Akten insbesondere des Geheimen Staatsarchivs in Berlin-Dahlem eine unerschöpfliche Fundgrube. Als er 1953 zum ersten Mal wieder, besuchsweise, nach Deutschland kam, konnte er von der von ihm vorgenommenen Auswertung seiner reichen Archivbestaende berichten; er hatte sie inzwischen der Hebraeischen Universitaet in Jerusalem anvertraut. Und die Frage draengte sich dem damals 77 jaehrigen auf, ob hier wohl noch einmal Moeglichkeiten fuer quellenmaessig belegte Veroeffentlichungen in deutscher Sprache bestueden.

In Haltung und Ausdruck, in Sprache und Gebaerde war er der Mann mit der Kampfnatur geblieben, als den wir ihn in turbulenten Tagen Anfang 1939 in seiner Grunewaldwohnung in Berlin zuletzt gesehen hatten: ein intensiv Taetiger, der nach wie vor seinen vielseitigen, fundierten Interessen lebte und—neue hinzugewonnen hatte. Waehrend des Zweiten Weltkrieges hatte er rechtswissenschaftliche Arbeiten ueber das britische Palaestinamandat verfasst. Spaeter aeusserte er sich gutachtlich zu Fragen der israelischen Verfassung.

Eindringliche Beharrlichkeit war fuer Ismar Freund charakteristisch, eine Eigentuemlichkeit, die ihm waehrend seiner Berliner Amtszeit (die schon 1902 begann), als er von 1920 bis 1931 Hauptamtliches Vorstandsmitglied der Juedischen Gemeinde war, zuweilen heftige Anfeindungen einbrachte.

Bereits im Jahre 1920 war Freund vom DIGB, dem Deutsch-Israelitischen Gemeindebund, mit der Schaffung der Verfassung einer oeffentlich-rechtlichen Gesamtorganisation des deutschen Judentums betraut worden. Ein Jahr danach brachte er sie fast zur einstimmigen Annahme. Als die Erlangung der staatlichen Anerkennung fuer diesen Reichsverband auf Schwierigkeiten stiess, rief er, indem er den Vorstand der Berliner Juedischen Gemeinde fuer diesen Plan gewann, den Preussischen Landesverband juedischer Gemeinden ins Leben.

Aber seine Aktivitaet blieb nie auf den Sektor von Gemeindeorganisation und Gemeindepolitik beschaenkt. Seit 1905 dozierte er Staatskirchenrecht und Rechtsgeschichte an der Hochschule fuer die Wissenschaft des Judentums. Zeitweilig gab er das Berliner Juedische Gemeindeblatt heraus. Er sprach, auch in seiner Eigenschaft als Hauptvorstandsmitglied des Central-Vereins, viele Jahre in zahlreichen juedischen und all-gemein-oeffentlichen Veranstaltungen. Und er—schrieb: Buecher ("Die Rechtsstellung der Juden im preussischen Volksschulrecht, 1908; Staat, Kirche und Judentum in Preussen", 1911; "Die Rechtsstellung der Synagogengemeinden in Preussen und die Reichsverfassung", 1926; "Die Bedeutung der Trennung von Staat und Kirche", 1919), Beitrage fuer Handbuecher, hunderte von Artikeln in der juedischen Presse.

Ismar Freund war am 11. April 1876 in Breslau geboren, der Stadt, an der er spaeter Universitaet und Juedisch-Theologisches Seminar absolvierte. In diesen Tagen haette er seinen 90. Geburtstag begehen koennen. Er ist am 21. Februar 1956 in Jerusalem gestorben.

E. G. LOWENTHAL.

WALTER MEHRING 70

"Gestern W. M.—Heute Pem—Morgen schon Methusalem", schrieb Walter Mehring mir anlaesslich eines runden Geburtstags. Und nun ist er selbst am 29. April 70 Jahre alt geworden. In Ascona, wohl in der fuefften Station seiner Wanderungen.

Als Sohn von Sigmar Mehring, dem Villon—und Verlaine—Uebersetzer, in Berlin geboren, begann er mit reimlosen Gedichten in Herwarth Waldens "Sturm". Im "Schall und Rauch", dem Keller-Kabarett im "Grossen Schauspielhaus", entdeckte man ihn als den "Baenkelsaenger vom Alexanderplatz". Seine ironisch-aggressiven Chansons im Tempo der erratischen Zeit wurden von Paul Graetz und Mady Christians und vielen andern gesungen. Dazwischen fand er Zeit, George Grosz zu entdecken und jenen "Seemannschoral" ("In Hamburg an der Elbe gleich hinter dem Ocean") zu schreiben, der laengst ein deutsches Volkslied geworden ist. Damals schon lebte er halb in Paris und war Freund Kurt Tucholskys. Piscator inszenierte seinen "Kaufmann von Berlin", ein Warnung vor der drohenden Katastrophe.

Ueber Wien und Paris, wo ihn Einmarsch respektive Krieg ueberraschten, ging er nach den Vereinigten Staaten. Dort schrieb er jene grossartige Literaturgeschichte einer verlorenen Kultur, "Die verlorene Bibliothek", die auch in Englisch erschienen ist. Mehring ist ein Dichter wie Trakl, die Lasker-Schueier und Werfel, und nicht nur ein Berliner Eckensteher oder Pariser Gamin, der den Ton der Zeit in Versen gestaltet. Er selbst moechte vielleicht mehr als Literaturhistoriker gelten. Ausserdem ist er ein sprachliches Chamaeleon, wie man an seinen "Muellers; Chronik einer deutschen Sippe", einer Parodie auf Hitlers Rassen-Theorie, erkennen kann.

Eine Zeitlang hat er versucht, wieder in Deutschland zu leben; aber die Heimat war ihm zur Fremde geworden. Seine alten und neuen Werke sind erschienen, jedoch viel zu wenig gelesen und beachtet, worueber der geborene Pessimist am Lago Maggiore an seinem Siebzigsten sicherlich nur laecheln wird.

PEM.



GORDONA MANUFACTURING CO LIMITED, 35-38 STONEY STREET, NOTTINGHAM TELEPHONE: NOTTINGHAM 31148

GRANGE TRAVEL SERVICE LTD.

59 COLDHARBOUR LANE, HAYES, MIDDLESEX

Tel.: HAYes 5517-9. Cables: Grange, Hayes, Middx.

Under the personal supervision of
MR. J. G. J. BARON, M.T.A.I., DIRECTOR & GENERAL MANAGER

ALWAYS AT YOUR PERSONAL SERVICE

FOR ALL TRAVEL, TOURS, CAR BOOKINGS AND INSURANCE,
AIR AND RAIL TICKETS, HOTEL RESERVATIONS, TRAVELLERS'
CHEQUES & FOREIGN CURRENCIES, SIGHTSEEING & EXCURSIONS,
THEATRE TICKETS, AGENTS FOR ALL TOUR OPERATORS.

TOURS TO ISRAEL A SPECIALITY

AJR CHARITABLE TRUST

These are the ways in which you
can help:

CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER
COVENANT

GIFTS IN YOUR LIFETIME
A BEQUEST IN YOUR WILL

Space donated by
TRADE CUTTERS LIMITED,
Britannia Works, 25 St. Pancras Way,
N.W.1.

LUGGAGE REPAIRS

Large selection of all types of travel goods,
especially Air Travel Cases.
All travel goods repaired.
Old trunks and cases bought.
FAIRFIELD & FUCHS
267 West End Lane, N.W.6

'Phone HAMPstead 2602

R. & G. (ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS) LTD.

199b Belsize Road, N.W.6
MA1. 2646/KIL. 2646

Electrical Contractors & Stockists
of all Electrical Appliances.
OFFICIALLY APPOINTED HOOPER
SERVICE DEALERS

INQUEST ON AN INQUEST

Press Comments on the Book "Entscheidungsjahr 1932"

Under the auspices of the Leo Baeck Institute, a symposium on the Jews in Germany during the last phase of the Weimar Republic was published last year. A review appeared in the August 1965 issue of this journal.

The book, "Entscheidungsjahr 1932", edited by Werner E. Mosse and Arnold Paucker, carries 14 treatises and essays and is sub-divided into five main chapters: Facts about the Jews in Germany; Antisemitism; Attitude of the Churches and Political Parties to the Jewish Question; Reaction of the Jews; Public Discussions on the Jewish Question.

The publication has met with widespread interest, and a second edition is being prepared at present. Among the numerous press reviews, those published in Germany, especially as far as they were written by non-Jews, are of particular interest because they reflect the present attitude in Germany to the problem. Most reviewers agree that the book is of the utmost historiographical value and indispensable for any research work on the subject. Some of the reviewers are particularly impressed by the objective, scholarly approach even of those authors who were themselves victims of Nazism. One of the reviews calls this objectivity "painful", and expresses doubts as to whether it is desirable at all that a problem of this kind is analysed in such a detached way without any moral judgement being passed.

Many reviews give prominence to the article by Arnold Paucker on Jewish defence (including the work of the C.V.), which

carries much hitherto unpublished material. However, as the Jewish reviewer in the "Politische Vierteljahrsschrift", Eleonore Sterling, states with resignation, contrary to the Negroes in the U.S.A., the Jews in Germany were left to themselves and had no effective help outside their ranks. "Geist und Tat", attributes this state of affairs to the fact that those parties which strongly rejected antisemitism did not consider it as an isolated phenomenon, but as the symptom of a much wider attack directed against the Weimar Republic. They therefore did not base their anti-Nazi activities on the specific Jewish aspect.

The "Frankfurter Rundschau" describes it as a symbolical coincidence that a book which deals with the end of an epoch in Germany appears in the same year in which new relations between Jerusalem and Bonn, between Jews and Germans, were opened.

The Roman Catholic "Freiburger Rundbrief", quoting from an article in the book, admits that Catholics were not immune to antisemitism. The "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung", like several other papers, pays special tribute to the excellent concluding chapter by Robert Weltsch.

Many papers stress the topicality of the book as a warning against future developments; "Videant Consules", writes one of them. That such a warning is not unwarranted is borne out by the opening remarks of the review in the "Spiegel" which quotes the following replies of high school pupils to a

recent opinion poll; "During the period of unemployment the Jews lived on the fat of the land, whereas the German people were starving; they dominated 36 per cent of economic life; they considered Germany after 1918 as their paradise."

The mentality of many people in post-war Germany is strongly criticised in the review published in *Wort und Tat*, the journal of the Evangelical Free Churches. There are still quite a few, the paper writes, in whose view the Third Reich was initially a good thing and only distorted by the excesses of the later years, which were anyhow not known to the man in the street. People of this kind like to refer to the successes of the Nazis, e.g., the settlement of the unemployment question, the prohibition of "Schmutz und Schund" or the building of the Autobahnen. The reviewer expresses the hope that "Entscheidungsjahr 1932" may help to eliminate such dangerous misinterpretations of the Nazi period.

MAYOR BRANDT MEETS AMERICAN LEADER

Herr Willy Brandt, the chief burgomaster of West Berlin, had a meeting with Dr. John Slawson, the executive vice-president of the American Jewish Committee. Dr. Slawson was the main speaker at a conference in West Berlin of West German educationists concerned for the promotion of political and civic education and international understanding.

Commenting on the gains by the National Democrat Party in Bavaria and the report on neo-Nazism of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Herr Brandt stated that, while recent antisemitic and neo-Nazi developments in Western Germany should not be exaggerated, they certainly could not be disregarded. The major political parties should pay more attention to the problem than they had until now.



little X
by
Silhouette

Corsets Silhouette Ltd. 84 Baker St, London, W.1

CAN LIFE ASSURANCE BEAT INFLATION?

Yes—for instance if linked with Unit Trusts. But which (if any) of the many schemes on offer is the best in **your** case? For unbiased advice, just fill in the coupon below and send to:

THE SASSERATH ALFRED GROUP LTD.

(Life and Pensions Department)

19/21 Mortimer Street, London, W.1

Please advise me without obligation on various Life Assurance Schemes linked with Unit Trusts.

NAME.....
(Block letters, please)

ADDRESS

Telephone No.

A MEMBER FIRM OF ALLIED INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.

Z.1

IN MEMORIAM

MRS. EDITH FEIG

It is learned with deep regret that Mrs. Edith Feig passed away on April 10. She was an interested member of the AJR since its inception and took an active part in the Richmond local activities of the AJR during the war and first post-war years. However, contacts with her became particularly close when, in 1958, Otto Hirsch House in Kew was established and she became a member of its House Committee. Her special responsibility was the arrangement of functions and outings for the residents. Yet, beyond this, she constantly took a deep interest in the personal well-being of the residents and became their trusted, understanding and helpful friend. She had her heart in the work for the Home. This became particularly noticeable during the last period of her life, when, in spite of her failing health, she continued to discharge the duties she had voluntarily taken upon herself. Only a few weeks before she died she made a special effort to visit the Home on the occasion of a function, with the Mayor of Richmond as the guest of honour. A highly educated and warm-hearted personality, she will be sadly missed by her colleagues on the House Committee and by the residents and staff of the Home. We extend our sincerest sympathies to her husband, our friend, Mr. Julius J. Feig, and to the other members of her family.

MARIE ELISABETH LUEDERS

Marie Elisabeth Lueders, one of the best known textile store in the Borough of her 88th year. Until 1933, she was a Democratic Member of the Reichstag. When the Nazis came to power, she was barred from public work and also spent several months in prison. She resumed her political activities after the war, and was a member of the Bundestag until 1961. Marie Elisabeth Lueders was also a leading fighter for the rights of women and did spadework in the field of social policy.

RABBI DR. ALBERT KAHLBERG

Rabbi Dr. Albert Kahlberg passed away in Hamburg on February 19 at the age of 82. He was Rabbi in Halle from 1911 to 1938 and emigrated to Goeteborg, where he officiated until 1963. He spent the last years of his life in Hamburg.

DR. KARL KOENIG

Dr. Karl Koenig, who recently died at the age of 63, was the founder of the Camphill movement within which many schools and communities for the mentally handicapped are now flourishing. A physician in Vienna and follower of Rudolf Steiner, Dr. Koenig came to this country in 1938. He started a school for children in need of special care at Camphill House, near Aberdeen, and from this modest beginning schools as well as villages for adults have grown in Britain and many other countries. In its obituary, "The Times" pays tribute to Dr. Koenig's dynamic personality, energy and passionate devotion.

DR. MARTIN MEYER

Dr. Martin Meyer recently died in Haifa in his 88th year. Born in Luebeck, he later practised as a lawyer in that city. He was a member of the K.C. since his student days and also actively associated with the work of the Luebeck Jewish community and the Zionist and B'nai B'rith movements.

RABBI DR. HEINRICH COHN

Rabbi Dr. Heinrich (Chaim) Cohn died in London at the age of 77. Prior to his emigration, he was well known in Berlin as rabbi of the Lessingstrasse Synagogue in the Hansaviertel. In this country, he first lived in Dorking and later in London, where, by his knowledge and human kindness, he gathered many followers and friends around him. He was also an interested member of the AJR. Dr. Cohn was the son of the Rabbi of Basle, the late Dr. A. Cohn.

LEO ADLER

Mr. Leo Adler who, prior to his emigration in 1938, for three decades served the Stuttgart Jewish community as Oberkantor and Hauptlehrer, died in New York in his 82nd year. In the U.S.A. he took a leading part in the work of the Organisation of the Jews from Wuerttemberg. He also wrote a treatise on the history of the Israelitische Oberrat Wuerttemberg, which was published in the Year Book V (1960) of the Leo Baeck Institute.

DR. WALTER GORDON

The physician, Dr. Walter Gordon (formerly Hildesheim), died in his 82nd year. In this country he was for many years Geriatric Physician at St. Mary's Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds. He also lent us his expert advice, when the plans for Osmond House were being prepared. Dr. Gordon was an interested member of the AJR since its inception. We extend our sincerest sympathy to his widow and children.

MRS. ISABELLA WEISZ

It is learned with regret that Vicky's mother, Mrs. Isabella Weisz, suddenly died of cancer. Paying tribute to her, one of her friends writes: "Mrs. Weisz was a most wonderful mother and a generous hostess to a wide circle of friends. She was not only a great personality, but also endowed with a fine sense of humour. She will be sadly missed by her surviving children, Oscar and Elisabeth, and her many friends."

SHOLEM ASCH PUBLICATIONS

Ever since he visited Moscow in 1927 Sholem Asch, the great Yiddish novelist, was banned and ostracised in the Soviet Union, after he criticised the U.S.S.R.'s attitude to its Jews. Previous to that he was one of the most popular Jewish writers among intellectuals in the Soviet Union, both Jews and non-Jews.

Now the Russian bibliographical weekly, "New Books in the U.S.S.R.", is reissuing the late author's writings. Introducing the volume "Men and Gods", the weekly extolls Asch as a major writer of many progressive works.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birthdays

Braun.—Mrs. Elise Braun (formerly Liegnitz, Shanghai), of 19 Chandos Road, London, N.2, celebrated her 80th birthday on April 20.

Heymann.—Mrs. Ella Heymann (formerly Hamburg), widow of Dr. Hans Heymann, now at 10 Western Road, Sutton, Surrey, will celebrate her 70th birthday on May 6.

Stern.—Mr. Ludwig Stern (formerly Osnabrück), 94 Hodford Road, London, N.W.11, will celebrate his 90th birthday on May 8.

Miss F. Gordon and Mrs. H. Wilker.—The AJR Club extends its sincerest congratulations to its two hostesses on the occasion of their 70th birthday.

CLASSIFIED

The charge in these columns is 3s. for five words.

Situations Vacant

Women

N. W. LONDON. Home and income for single lady. Two charming furnished rooms, cooking facilities, modern luxury flat, in return part-time help one lady, partially disabled. Hours and salary by arrangement. Box 700.

Situations Wanted

Men

BACHELOR, 46, experienced textiles sales representative, home and overseas, experienced also as manager/buyer menswear, good appearance, versatile, requires position, own car available. Box 703.

Women

BOOKKEEPER/WAGES CLERK, elderly, seeks part-time work 3 times per week, approx. 20 hours per week. Box 702.

Accommodation Vacant

BRIGHT, WELL - FURNISHED ROOM, West End Lane, N.W.6, near buses/underground, suit prof./business lady or gentleman. Box 704.

LUTON. Widow, Continental, has comfortable accommodation for elderly gentleman. Box 706.

WELL-FURNISHED ROOM, all conveniences, telephone, reasonable rent, suit lady. Box 708.

For Sale

SINGER SEWING MACHINE with motor, table model, excellent condition. Box 701.

Miscellaneous

ENJOY YOUR DRIVE in a Humber Hawk (chauffeur driven). Phone: Townshend Car Hire, PRImrose 4071.

SUPERFLUOUS HAIR removed safely and permanently by experienced Physiotherapist and Electrologist. Mrs. Dutch, D.R.E., R.M.T., 239 Willesden Lane, N.W.2. Phone WILlesden 1849.

Voluntary Helpers Required

VOLUNTARY HELPERS required to visit lonely, disabled people. AJR Social Services Department, MAIda Vale 4449.

AJR Attendance Service

WOMEN available to care for sick people and invalids, as companions and sitters-in: non-residential. Phone MAIda Vale 4449.

AJR Needlewomen Service

WOMEN available for alterations, mending, handicrafts. Phone MAIda Vale 4449.

Personal

LONELY LADY, 48, independent means, nice home, car driver, interested in art, music, walks and travel, would like to meet companion to share free time. Box 705.

WOULD LIKE TO HEAR from gentleman, good character, possibly widower up to late 50s, for lady friend late 30s, professional, very attractive, kind disposition, with school-child and own modern home; some means; confidence assured. Box 707.

MISSING PERSONS

Personal Enquiries

Rudolph.—Mrs. Adeline Rudolph, last known address 14 Pine Street, London, E.C.1. Sought by Mr. Otto Hamburger, Hai Tung Engineering Co., Limited, 24/30 Gillingham Street, London, S.W.1. Phone: VICToria 0266/7.

Enquiries by AJR

Brueckmann.—Miss Alice Brueckmann (formerly Berlin), last known address 5 Gloucester Walk, London, W.8.

Schlüsselberg.—Heinrich Schlüsselberg, born November, 1931, last known address 1 New Cottages, Colingbourne, Marlborough.

Enquiries by URO

The following persons, whose last known addresses are mentioned in each case, are sought: **Julian Gross,** 21 Banbury Road, Alkington, Middleton, Lancs.; **Ernst Joachim Sicher,** 17 St. Antony's Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7; **Mrs. Else Bukofzer,** 65 Lancaster Grove, London, N.W.3. Replies should be sent to URO, 183/189 Finchley Road, London, N.W.3.

H. KAUFMANN

Painting & Decorating
Specialising in
High-class Interior Decorating
201 Wembley Hill Road,
Wembley, Middx. (ARNoId 5525)

Round and About

SEDER CELEBRATIONS

AJR Club

It gave an additional satisfaction to all members of the A.J.R. Club that this year its second Seder could be held in their own home, Hannah Karminski House.

To enter the hall with its festive lights, the flowers and candles on the table, and to find their names on a card, with seating arrangements thoughtfully made, was in itself a promising beginning for the almost eighty guests. But there is more to it than that. Over the years, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the club, Mrs. Margaret Jacoby and Mrs. Gertrude Schachne, have succeeded in moulding this club into a family circle, and it was thus a family which celebrated Pesach.

Mr. C. H. Guttmann gave the Seder in a very special and greatly appreciated way. There was not just a reading of the Hebrew text of the Hagada, but the Pesach story was told and explained, giving a deeper insight into the religious and historical significance of the festival and its meaning for us today. Nine-year-old Lynn Robinson pleased everyone by saying the "Ma-nishtanoh", as hardly anybody had expected a child to be present among the "not-so-young!"

Combined with an excellent meal, this Seder night brought back happy memories to many a member, to which Miss Rosenfeld gave expression in her moving poem. She remembered her father presiding over the Seder table, but she also remembered the years of loneliness which she and many members of the club had experienced, and then gave expression to the happy feeling of "belonging", of being able to celebrate at long last a "Family Seder" again.

When Mrs. Wilker thanked Mrs. Jacoby for all she had done to make this Seder such a happy occasion, she spoke for everybody present.

D.S.

Old Age Homes

All Homes had Seder celebrations, and special thanks are due to those committee members, residents and friends who conducted the services. At Otto Schiff House the Seder was given by Mr. L. Braun and Mr. K. Fraser, at Heinrich Stahl House by Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger and Mr. F. L. Rosenthal, at Leo Baeck House by Mr. E. S. Baum and Rabbi Dr. Salzberger, at Otto Hirsch House by Dr. E. Sommer and Mr. C. Aronsfeld, and at Osmond House by Mr. F. L. Rosenthal.

VICTIMS OF HOLOCAUST REMEMBERED

An Impressive London Gathering

The traditional annual Commemoration Meeting for the Six Million Jewish Martyrs was held on April 17, the 23rd Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. The Theatre Royal, considerably larger than the venue of previous years, was filled to capacity. The customary proceedings were modified in so far as the first part consisted of the performance of a play, "Dr. Korczak and the Children," excellently rendered by the Cameo Players. Its subject, most fittingly chosen and based on historical facts, is the story of a Jewish doctor in charge of the Jewish orphanage in Warsaw who voluntarily accompanies "his" children into the extermination camp. The author is a German, Erwin Sylvanus.

The second part was introduced by Yiddish songs (Martin Lawrence) and a Yiddish recitation (Julian Gould). The main speaker was The Rt. Hon. Sir Edward Boyle, M.P., and addresses were also delivered by His Honour Neville J. Laski, Q.C., Mr. Harry Landy, Mr. Reginald Freeson, M.P. and Dr. S. A. Miller; Mr. Leon Feit, vice-chairman of the Polish Jewish Ex-Servicemen Association, presided. It was particularly gratifying that the speakers did not restrict their addresses to the remembrance of the past but laid stress on the message which the sufferings of the heroes and martyrs should carry for ourselves. Some speakers referred to recent antisemitic incidents in this country and abroad and warned against indolence and leniency which ultimately might again result in the destruction of democracy. They also stressed the inseparable connection between all manifestations of group hatred, whether they were directed against Jews, coloured people or other minorities.

DAY CENTRE AT ETON AVENUE

The new premises of the Leo Baeck Day Centre for the Over-Sixties at 57 Eton Avenue, Swiss Cottage, were officially opened by Councillor Samuel Fisher, Mayor of Camden. The opening also marked the fifth birthday of the centre, whose 250 or so members meet four afternoons a week. The Leo Baeck Men's Lodge and the Leo Baeck Women's Lodge support the centre, and the Borough of Camden subsidise the serving of kosher meals and provide transport for housebound members. The evening concluded with a performance by the Old People's Singers, under the direction of Johanna Metzger, accompanied by her husband, Paul Lichtenstern.

PROFESSOR ALEXANDER ALTMANN 60

Rabbi Dr. Alexander Altmann, Professor of Jewish Philosophy at Brandeis University, recently celebrated his 60th birthday. He was rabbi of the Berlin Jewish Community from 1932 to 1938 and Communal Rabbi of Manchester from 1938 until 1959, when he accepted his present university appointment. During his residence in England, Dr. Altmann was also a member of the AJR Board. He has retained his active interest in the specific tasks of the Jews from Germany after his re-emigration, especially as a Board Member of the Leo Baeck Institute in New York, and as a contributor to the Leo Baeck Year Book. By his achievements as a rabbi, teacher, scholar and author he has added lustre to our community. We wish Professor Altmann many years of further constructive and successful work.

SIGMUND WELTLINGER 80

Mr. Sigmund Weltlinger, "Stadtaeltester" of Berlin and Chairman of the Berlin Society for Christian-Jewish Co-operation, recently became 80. He survived the war underground. After the liberation he was one of the founders of the re-established Jewish community, and also became a member of the West-Berlin Senate and "Referent fuer juedische Angelegenheiten" of the Municipality.

CONSECRATION OF MAINZ SYNAGOGUE

The new synagogue in Mainz—an extension of the Betsaal in the Community building—was consecrated recently by Landesrabbiner Dr. I. E. Lichtigfeld (Frankfurt). In his memorial address, Rabbi Professor Dr. Ernst Roth recalled the historical role of the old Mainz community, which in the Middle Ages was the focus of Rabbinism in Central and Western Europe. The Mayor of Mainz, J. Fuchs, and the Chairman of the Federation of Rheinland-Pfalz Communities, L. Baer, also spoke.

The Mainz community now has 131 members, as against 3,000 before 1933.

WOLFFENSTEINDAMM IN STEGLITZ

To honour the founder of a former well-known textile store in the Borough of Steglitz a new street which communicates Birkbuschstrasse and Hindenburgdamm was named after Moses Wolfenstein. The official ceremony took place during Brotherhood Week in the presence of Moses Wolfenstein's emigrated son and grandson who were the guests of the Borough. The Mayor of Steglitz, Hoefler, recalled Wolfenstein's contribution to the development of the suburb of Steglitz. Moses Wolfenstein was also the founder of the Steglitz Jewish congregation.

Catering with a difference

Foods of all nations for formal or informal occasions—in your own home or any venue.

Free consultations—please 'phone

Mrs. ILLY LIEBERMAN

WESTern 2872

Hotel Pension ARLET

MRS. L. SCHWARZ
LONDON, N.W.2 Tel.: GLA. 4029
Exquisitely furnished rooms for visitors and permanent guests.
Central heating, TV, Radios, Garden.

Do you want comfort and every convenience, First-Class Accommodation

room with own bath, excellent Continental food, TV lounge, gardens?
Mrs. A. WOLFF,
3 Hemstal Road, N.W.6
(MAI. 8521)

BISHOPS BOURNE HOTEL

KINGSGATE, BROADSTAIRS
THANET 61938

Situated 3 minutes from the sea.
Tennis, golf, etc. Zotofoam pine & seaweed baths.
Massage & osteopathy. Special diets.
Ideal for complete relaxation.

SIMAR HOUSE

The private Continental Hotel

10-12 Herbert Road
BOURNEMOUTH WEST

As always, the House with the home-like atmosphere and its beautiful gardens.

CENTRALLY HEATED

Open the whole year
DIETS on request

Within easy reach of Sea and Town Centre

Mrs. MARGOT SMITH
'Phone: Westbourne 64176

THE DORICE

Continental Cuisine—Licensed

169a Finchley Road, N.W.3
(MAI. 6301)

PARTIES CATERED FOR

The Exclusive Salon de Corseterie

Mme H. LIEBERG

871 FINCHLEY ROAD, N.W.11

'Phone: SPEdwell 8673

Ready-made and to measure.

Newest shades in hosiery.

EXPERT & QUALIFIED FITTERS

'THE HOUSE ON THE HILL'

Nursery and Kindergarten

5 NETHERHALL GARDENS, N.W.3

Prospectus from the Principal, HAM. 1662

OUTSTANDING

Cold Buffet Specialist

Any venue—parties up to 30.
Complete satisfaction guaranteed.

'Phone: GLAdstone 3893
between 9 and 11 a.m.

On our retirement we wish to thank all our guests for patronising our Hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Schreiber,
9 Church Road, Southbourne,
Bournemouth.

THE ISRAELI SCENE

REPARATIONS COMPLETED

On March 31 the Reparations Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the State of Israel, signed in 1952, was completed.

In documents published by the West German Government to mark the completion of the agreement, it was emphasised that there was no connection between the reparations pact and the economic talks proceeding between the two sides.

The documents state that Israel has received goods and services worth about £216 million under the reparations agreement during the past 14 years and another approximately £94½ million in oil supplied to Israel by Britain.

Dr. Konrad Adenauer, writing in *Die Welt*, the Hamburg daily paper, recalled his statement during the ratification debate in the West German Parliament in March, 1953. Then he emphasised the "grave and holy duty of the German people to aid the victims of Nazi persecution". Completion of the agreement and the establishment of diplomatic relations did not mean, however, that the subject had been "cleared up". He called on the German people to improve relations with Israel in the same spirit in which the Federal Government had ratified the treaty with the Jewish State.

Several West German newspapers have emphasised the importance of past German help for the development of the Jewish State and have said that the German money has been well invested. The murder of millions of innocent people could never be repaid, but a new phase in German-Jewish relations was now beginning.

HOME FOR AUSTRIAN IMMIGRANTS

On March 28, a home for elderly immigrants from Austria was opened in Ramat Chen, near Tel Aviv. It has been named after the outstanding Jewish social worker of Vienna, Anitta Mueller-Cohen, who died in Israel a few years ago. The funds for the erection of the home derived from the heirless Jewish property in Austria, and the guests from abroad included personalities who had taken a leading part in the establishment and administration of these funds, Dr. C. Kapralik (London), Regierungsrat W. Krell (Director of the Vienna Kultusgemeinde) and Dr. George Weiss (Executive Director of the "Sammelstellen" for heirless property).

The ceremony was opened by recitals, rendered by Oberkantor Benjamin Unger (Tel Aviv, formerly Vienna). The Austrian Ambassador, Dr. Walter Peinsipp, conveyed the good wishes of his Government and paid tribute to the memory of Anitta Mueller-Cohen. Dr. C. Kapralik recalled the efforts by which the heirless Jewish property had ultimately become available, last but not least due to the spadework of the late Dr. G. Landauer, Dr. Nehemia Robinson and Dr. F. R. Bienenfeld. Addresses were also delivered by Deputy Mayor Melamedowitsch in the name of the municipality of Ramat Chen, Dr. I. Klaber, and Regierungsrat Krell. Judge Dr. Josef M. Lamm, Chairman of the Council of Jews from Austria, presided and expressed special thanks to the architects, Yehuda Lavie and Lotte Cohn, and to Ing. Zvi Kraemer of the Irgun Oley Merkaz Europa.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENTS

Mr. Dmitri Chuvakhin, the Russian Ambassador to Israel, at a private dinner expressed his love for the people of Israel. He said he was favourably impressed by them and that he valued their achievements.

The previous day, Mr. Chuvakhin attended a luncheon of the Israel section of the World Jewish Congress in Tel Aviv, where he criticised Israel's leaders for their refusal to discuss nuclear disarmament as a question separate from general disarmament and peace.

CONCERTS BY OISTRAKH

David Oistrakh, the Russian violinist, gave eleven concerts in Israel. At a luncheon in his honour in Tel Aviv he said how happy he was to visit Israel, a country of which he knew so much and of which so much is heard. He praised Mr. Chuvakhin, the Soviet Ambassador, for helping to increase cultural exchanges between Israel and the Soviet Union.

DOUBLE TAXATION AGREEMENT WITH GERMANY

The Bundestag has adopted a law covering the double taxation agreements between West Germany and Israel which were signed nearly four years ago. The newly adopted law expresses the readiness of the Federal Republic to support Israel's desire for foreign private investments. It is understood it contains a number of favourable regulations which exceed the usual terms of double taxation agreements.

DR. MOSES AUERBACH 85

The rabbi and educationalist, Dr. Moses Auerbach, recently celebrated his 85th birthday in Tel Aviv.

BRASSIERES, CORSETS AND CORSELETS

All made to measure

MRS. A. MAYER

'Phone No.: SPE. 1451

HIGHEST PRICES

paid for

Gentlemen's cast-off Clothing,

Suitcases, Trunks, etc.

WE GO ANYWHERE, ANY TIME

S. DIENSTAG

(HAMpstead 0748)

PHOTOCOPIES

QUICK and RELIABLE

GOLDERSTAT

25 Downham Road, N.1

'Phone: CLIssold 5464 (5 lines)

54 Golders Gardens, N.W.11

'Phone: SPEdwell 5643

WILLIAM MERROW EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

We have on our books several experienced GERMAN/ENGLISH SECRETARIES

who seek interesting permanent positions.

42 WOBURN PLACE, LONDON, W.C.1

'Phone MUSEum 1487, MONarch 7282

JEWISH BOOKS

of all kinds, new and second-hand. Whole Libraries and Single Volumes bought. Taleisim, Bookbinding.

M. SULZBACHER

JEWISH & HEBREW BOOKS (also purchase)

4 Sneath Avenue, Golders Green Rd., London, N.W.11. Tel.: SPE. 1694

RABENSTEIN Ltd.

Kosher Butchers, Poulterers and Sausage Manufacturers

Under supervision of the Beth Din

Wholesalers and Retailers of first-class

Continental Sausages

Daily Deliveries

11 Fairhazel Gardens, N.W.6

'Phone: MAI. 3224 and MAI. 9236

DEUTSCHE BUECHER

Aus allen Wissensgebieten, Bibliophile und Erstausgaben, Autographen, illustrierte Werke

STETS GESUCHT!

R. & E. STEINER (BOOKS)

5 Garson House, Gloucester

Terrace, London, W.2

Tel.: AMBassador 1564

LIBRIS

Wir interessieren uns auch für Ihre mitgebrachten deutschen Bücher und Autographen

LIBRIS (LONDON) LTD.

38a BOUNDARY ROAD, LONDON, N.W.8

Director: Dr. J. Suschitzky

'Phone: MAI. 3030

The WIGMORE LAUNDRY Ltd.

CONTINENTAL LAUNDRY SPECIALISTS

Most London Districts Served

SHE. 4575 brings us by radio

Write or 'phone the Manager,

24-hour telephone service

MR. E. HEARN, 1 STRONSA ROAD, LONDON, W.12



Egg Mundels, Egg Farfals, Potato Crisps, Vanilla Sugar, Bondi's White Acid. Obtainable from Grocers and Stores.

VESOP PRODUCTS LTD.

498 Hornsey Rd., London, N.19

'Phone ARChway 2457