

# AJR

# INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

**ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN**

W. W. Simpson

## CHECKING RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

### Silver Jubilee of the Council of Christians and Jews

*It is our privilege to publish this article by the Rev. W. W. Simpson, O.B.E., who, as General Secretary of the Council of Christians and Jews since its inception, has always been an understanding and helpful friend of the AJR. At the same time, we extend our heartiest congratulations to the Council on the occasion of its Silver Jubilee, and wish it further success in its service to a cause which is inseparably linked with our own aspirations.*

It was on Thursday, October 1, 1942, just twenty-five years ago, that a statement appeared in "The Times" under the heading, "Checking Religious Intolerance" announcing the formation of a Council of Christians and Jews. Issued by the Archbishop of Canterbury (at that time Dr. William Temple), the Moderators of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and the Free Church Federal Council, together with the then Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. H. Hertz, the statement began:

"The present German Government has consistently attempted to undermine and destroy those traditional religious and spiritual values of mankind in which it recognises its most dangerous enemies. . . . In the forefront of their efforts to create division within every community," the statement continued, "the Nazis have always placed antisemitism, which is repugnant to the moral principles common to Christianity and Judaism alike. We cannot afford to ignore the effects of the steady propagation of this evil throughout the world. It is not only a menace to the unity of every community in which it takes root, but it is the very negation of those values in which alone we believe that a new and better world can be established."

These, then, were the considerations (and they are still worth pondering) that led to the formation of the Council. Subsequent to the preparation of the statement, but before its publication, His Eminence Cardinal Hinsley, then Archbishop of Westminster, joined the Council "as a mark of his strong protest against all persecution of the Jewish people."

This year, 1967, the Council celebrates its silver jubilee, and it is natural not only to take stock of what has been achieved but also to consider whether there is any continuing need for its existence.

There are three points of particular interest about the statement just quoted. First, the date: October, 1942. This was the time at which early reports of the setting up of extermination camps in Nazi-occupied territories began to gain currency if not credence in this country. Secondly, though not apparent from the statement itself, behind the signatories was a little group of Jews and Christians who had

already been working closely together in refugee organisations and who were persuaded that more than relief was needed for the victims of antisemitism. It was imperative that something be done to eradicate its causes. The third, and perhaps the most important factor, was the recognition, again implicit rather than explicit in the statement, that however immediate and urgent the need to crush the military strength of the Nazis, then at the height of its ascendancy, the real issues at stake were of a moral and spiritual order. Antisemitism, the Archbishop of Canterbury had insisted from the outset, was, like war itself, only a symptom of deeper disorders in the body politic. It was the future of civilisation itself, and not simply the relationship between Jew and Christian, that was at stake.

#### Future of Civilisation

Today, although antisemitism is far from eradicated, it is no longer the problem it once was. The horror of the extermination camps has crystallised into symbolic memorials. Ecclesiastical assemblies have condemned an evil for whose rise and persistence they have acknowledged at least some measure of responsibility. Other "antis" have in large measure taken its place, and man's age-old search for scapegoats is temporarily satisfied by anti-colour, anti-Communist and anti-American, anti-this and anti-that demonstrations. Nevertheless, it is still the future of civilisation that is at stake. And in that situation Christians and Jews are inescapably and responsibly involved.

This involvement is of two kinds. First, it can be cogently argued that the centuries-old tragedy of their own unhappy relations, beginning with the separation of the Church from the Synagogue and continuing in the Christian persecution of Jews, and issuing in mutual fears, suspicions, recriminations, and, no less important, in mutual impoverishment, has contributed in no small measure to that collapse of moral and spiritual values of which Christians and Jews alike have become victims in this modern world. For today the Christian finds himself, like his Jewish neighbour, a member of a diaspora community, no longer the Church triumphant but the Church under duress.

In this very situation, however, as the founders of the Council of Christians and Jews recognised twenty-five years ago, lies not merely a tremendous challenge but an unprecedented opportunity to work together in mutual understanding and good will, for the reaffirmation of "those values on which alone we believe that a new and better world can be established". In this context the reaffirmation of values means more than the issuing of agreed statements. It calls for the embodiment of those values in the lives of individuals and communities. To that end, education is an indispensable means and remains, as it has been from the outset, perhaps the most important feature of the Council's programme.

There is, of course, a tremendous backlog of mutual ignorance and misunderstanding between Christians and Jews, the clearing away of which is no easy task. True, the climate is very much more propitious today than it was twenty-five years ago. But the roots lie buried deep in the subconscious of both communities. More is needed than the friendly exchange of visits between Church and Synagogue, valuable and increasing in number though these have become. Friendly contact between individuals is clearly important, but still not sufficient in itself. There are differences not merely between Christians and Jews but between Jews and Jews and between Christians and Christians to be wrestled with and accepted if full advantage is to be taken of the important areas of common ground on which it is so much easier to concentrate.

Another and perhaps even more important task is the joint exploration of our current, and common, ideological, sociological, political and economic problems. There are some in both Church and Synagogue who question the wisdom of too much consultation between Jews and Christians. They fear the consequences of what is now commonly referred to as the "dialogue." Differences, they say, may be blurred and loyalties weakened. But "dialogue" in this connection is not an end in itself. It is no mere gimmick or technique for promoting friendly relations. It is an existential necessity, an attitude to life, determined, as an International Conference of Christians and Jews held in Cambridge a year ago put it, by the "shared faith that man is created in the image of God" and that "Jews and Christians should seek through the dialogue to promote a deeper understanding of the purpose of God for His creation which should issue in greater righteousness, justice and love among men". It is, in fact, a matter of life and death, an issue upon which in sober truth the future of civilisation may well depend.

As such, of course, it calls for resources far exceeding those of the Council of Christians and Jews. Nevertheless, the experience of twenty-five years has established beyond all reasonable doubt that the Council has an important role to play, and at many different levels. Nationally it has established a position

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## Checking Religious Intolerance

Continued from page 1

for itself in a variety of fields: educationally in schools, colleges and universities, where through speakers and conferences attention is focused on problems in inter-group and inter-race relations. Through local Councils of Christians and Jews throughout London and in important provincial centres, through churches and synagogues, through its publications (the best known of which is undoubtedly its quarterly magazine, *Common Ground*), it is constantly reaching out to a wider, though still, alas, all too restricted public. Internationally, through its active role in an International Consultative Committee of Organisations for Christian-Jewish Co-operation, whose membership embraces not only European but Israeli and American members, it has played a leading part in recent years in the organisation of a series of international youth conferences in Holland, Switzerland, West Berlin and France, as well as last year's important international conference in Cambridge to which reference has already been made.

### Tension and Tragedy

Let me end by turning from the general to a particular example which in some sense symbolises the whole. This article has been written during the intervals between the sessions of an international conference of Christian and Jewish youth in Strasbourg, a city in which, as we were reminded at the opening session, there has been a Jewish community almost from time immemorial! It is a city in which the past tragedy of Jewish-Christian relations is symbolised by the well-known medieval representations of the Church and Synagogue which flank the south porch of the Cathedral. But there are reminders too of later tension and tragedy. The conference is being held in the Maison Israelite of the Cité Universitaire, and meals, kosher meals, are being served in the communal restaurant of the new Shalom Synagogue in the Rue de la Paix, built to replace the old Synagogue in the centre of the town which was destroyed by the Nazis. Outside, on the wall of the hostel, is a tablet marking the spot where Georges Wodli was tortured and assassinated by the Gestapo on April 2, 1943. Forty kilometres away, high in the Vosges, is the site of the notorious Struthof extermination camp, now a national shrine of the fight for liberty, to which we made our pilgrimage two days ago.

In this setting, with these deeply moving reminders of a tragic past, fifty young people, a fine selection of undergraduate and graduate students, the majority from Britain and Germany, Jewish and Christian among them, have been considering present trends in Germany, the history and present extent of antisemitism, Israel and the diaspora, our common heritage, and the task of reconstruction. Throughout it all the emphasis is upon youth and the responsibilities of youth. The response is most encouraging.

So much has happened. So much more remains to be done. *Sub specie aeternitatis*, twenty-five years is a period of time so infinitesimal as to be meaningless, but in the life of the Council of Christians and Jews it signifies at least something in the way of achievement and promise. It may not be for us to complete the work, but it is certain we are not free to desist from it. Nor, we trust, will those who, in twenty-five years from now, will join to celebrate not a silver but a golden jubilee!

## ANSPRUECHE EHEMALIGER OESTERREICHER

### Bundesverfassungsgericht verwirft Beschwerde eines Verfolgten

Ein fruereherer oesterreichischer Staatsangehoeriger, der in August 1938 in das Konzentrationslager Buchenwald ueberfuehrt worden war, nach seiner Entlassung im Jahre 1939 nach U.S.A. ausgewanderte und spaeter die amerikanische Staatsangehoerigkeit erwarb, hat EntschaeDIGungsansprueche als Vertriebener nach den §§ 150 ff. und als Fluechtling nach den §§ 160 ff. des BundesentschaeDIGungsgesetzes (BEG) geltend gemacht. Die Ansprueche wurden im April 1965 vom Bundesgerichtshof—ebenso wie von den Vorinstanzen—abgelehnt.

Mit der Verfassungsbeschwerde hat der Beschwerdefuehrer geltend gemacht, dass sein Ausschluss von der EntschaeDIGung als ehemaliger oesterreichischer Staatsangehoeriger die Grundrechte des Grundgesetzes fuer die Bundesrepublik Deutschland verletze. Das Bundesverfassungsgericht hat durch Entscheidung vom 21. Juni 1967 (1 BvR 323/65) die Verfassungsbeschwerde verworfen und sie als *offensichtlich unbegrueendet* bezeichnet.

Der Ausschluss des Beschwerdefuehrers als ehemaliger oesterreichischer Staatsangehoeriger beruhe auf sachlichen Erwaegungen und verletze nicht die Grundrechte. Die Bundesrepublik Deutschland habe sich in Art. 12 des Finanz- und Ausgleichsvertrags mit Oesterreich vom 27. November 1961, dem der Bundestag durch das Gesetz vom 21. August 1962 zugestimmt habe, an den Aufwendungen der Republik Oesterreich zur Abgeltung von Vermoegensverlusten politisch Verfolgter und zur Aufstockung eines Hilfsfonds mit einem Betrag von 95 Millionen DM beteiligt. Andererseits habe sich die Republik Oesterreich verpflichtet, im Rahmen ihrer Gesetze Wiedergutmachung zu leisten. Die Lage der verfolgten Oesterreicher sei mit der anderer Vertriebener nicht vergleichbar. Unter den dargelegten Umstaenden sei es nicht unsachlich und willkuerlich, wenn die Gerichte dem Beschwerdefuehrer als (ehemaligem) oesterreichischen Staatsangehoerigen keine Ansprueche nach dem BEG. zugebilligt haetten. Etwaige Ungleichheiten oder Beschraenkungen in den oesterreichischen Regelungen seien fuer die verfassungsrechtliche Beurteilung des deutschen Wiedergutmachungsrechts ohne Belang.

Der durch das BEG-Schlussgesetz vom 14. September 1965 eingefuehrte § 166c BEG. ist vom Bundesverfassungsgericht ausdruuecklich nicht beanstandet worden. Nach dieser Bestimmung finden die Vorschriften der §§ 149-166 BEG. keine Anwendung auf Verfolgte, die Staatsangehoerige eines Staates sind oder waren, zu dessen finanziellen Aufwendungen fuer Opfer der nationalsozialistischen Verfolgung die Bundesrepublik Deutschland aufgrund eines besonderen Vertrags in der Form einer ausdruuecklichen Beteiligung beitraegt, es sei denn, dass der Verfolgte diese Staatsangehoerigkeit erst nach Beendigung der Verfolgung erworben hat.

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## GERMANY TODAY

### Dr. Kiesinger's Pledge

At a meeting with American Jewish leaders at the German Embassy in Washington, Dr. Georg Kiesinger, the West German Chancellor, pledged "continued German support of Israel's efforts to achieve peace and security in the Middle East". He also promised vigorous support for Israel's request for associate membership of the Common Market. German policy in the Middle East was based on "the strong sympathy and support of the German people for Israel", said the Chancellor.

The Jewish delegation expressed appreciation of the German stand on the Middle East crisis. They also raised the question of extending Germany's statute of limitations on Nazi war crimes, due to expire on December 31, 1969, and were assured that the Cabinet would soon deal with the problem.

### Arab League in Bonn

Zoukair Kabany, head of the Arab League office in Bonn, spoke to reporters in Hamburg about the Arab States and Israel. The Arab States, he said, were agreed that all Jews who had gone to Israel since the Second World War must return to their countries of origin, otherwise no peaceful solution of the Israeli-Arab conflict was possible. All Arabs driven from their homes in Palestine must be allowed to return, and they could only do so if the Jewish immigrants went back.

### Death of the "Witch"

Ilse Koch, the "Witch of Buchenwald", who hanged herself in prison in Aichach, Southern Germany, was serving hard labour for life. She was sentenced by an allied war crimes court in 1947 for atrocities at Buchenwald, where her late husband was Commandant. A year later the sentence was reduced to four years' imprisonment but public outcry caused a retrial before a German court in 1950. Witnesses then told how Ilse Koch had prisoners flayed to use their skin for lampshades and handbags.

### N.P.D. Leader's Suicide

Otto Hess, the chief ideologist of the National Democratic Party, committed suicide at his home in Bissendorf, near Hanover. He was a former member of the Nazi Party, a district leader and propaganda speaker.

### School Teachers Indicted

The Flensburg public prosecutor has filed an indictment accusing Dr. Alfred Endrigkeit, a grammar school teacher at Buesum, Schleswig-Holstein, of defaming the memory of Jewish victims of Nazi persecution. He is alleged to have disparaged Jews and to have praised the Nazis during lessons to his pupils in 1963 and 1964.

At the beginning of last year two other teachers at the school were reprimanded for similar conduct.

### Antisemitic Paper

The July 9 issue of the *Deutsche National und Soldatenzeitung*, which was confiscated, appeared with a picture of Hitler on its front page, and comparing Hitler with Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Dayan. The complaint filed by the paper against the confiscation was dismissed by a Munich court.

Action is to be taken by the Bonn State Prosecutor against the paper's editor, Dr. Gerhard Frey, for incitement and anti-constitutional acts, referring to insulting references to world Jewry and Zionism.

### Passion Play

Herr Ernst Zwink, mayor of Oberammergau, has announced that the texts of the passion play to be staged at Oberammergau in 1970 will be mainly the same as those used in 1960 and preceding years. Plans of reform which had been discussed last year after strong public criticism, had been shelved.—(J.C.)

# HOME NEWS ANGLO-JUDAICA

## NEW LIFE PEERS

The 14 new life peers recently created include the names of Mr. Desmond Barel Hirshfield, accountant and financial adviser to the Trades Union Congress, and Mrs. Alma Birk, journalist and social reformer.

Until lately Mr. Hirshfield represented the Hampstead Synagogue on the Board of Deputies and was a member of the Council of the United Synagogue. He was the founder of the Trade Union Unity Trust, as well as of the Foundation on Automation and Employment.

Mrs. Birk is an associate editor of "Nova." The new baroness three times stood unsuccessfully as a Labour Parliamentary candidate, finally giving up her political career for journalism. Her husband, Mr. Ellis Birk, a solicitor, is also a director of the "Jewish Chronicle" and the I.P.C., which publishes the "Daily Mirror."

## PARLIAMENTARY PROMOTIONS

Among those given new appointments in Mr. Wilson's recent ministerial changes are Mr. Harold Lever and Mr. Edmund Dell. Mr. Lever has been appointed Financial Secretary to the Treasury and Mr. Dell becomes Joint Under-Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs.

## RACE BOARD APPOINTMENT

Dr. Jack E. Miller, vice-president of the Glasgow Jewish Representative Council, has been appointed a member of the Scottish Conciliation Committee set up by the Race Relations Board to investigate allegations of racial discrimination in Scotland.

## CHRISTIANS AND JEWS

"The Church and the Jewish People", a document drawn up by 22 theologians, is now being studied by the World Council of Churches. The report envisages the eventual union of the Christian Church and the Jewish people. It asserts that the separation between the Church and the Jewish people has never been an absolute one and condemns those Christians who seek to foment antisemitism.

The theologians found it impossible to give a unanimous evaluation of the formation of the State of Israel and all the events leading up to it, and therefore the report consciously avoided any further mention of Israel.

## SWASTIKAS IN BOURNEMOUTH

A number of gravestones and the prayer-house in the Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation cemetery at Boscombe were desecrated with swastikas. The prayer-house was also daubed with the words "Juden raus." A statement deploring the desecration was issued by the Bournemouth Church Council.

At the synagogue of the Brighton Hebrew Congregation, two attempts within three days were made to start fires. The police carried out investigations.

## RUSSIAN "TWINNING" OPPOSED

The London Borough of Haringey Council has deferred until December 20 arrangements for "twinning" with the Russian town of Kuibyshev. Twenty members of the council sent a letter to the Soviet Ambassador dissociating themselves from the decision.

Councillor Douglas Ding, one of the signatories of the letter, has alleged that the Jewish members, who did not like the Russian attitude to the Arab-Israeli war, played a prominent part in bringing about the council's decision. But Councillor Leonard Cohen has pointed out that there were only about half-a-dozen Jews among the 70 councillors.

## YUGOSLAV HERO IN LONDON

Dr. Miloslav Stoyadinovich and his wife were guests of the British Section of the World Jewish Congress at a luncheon at the National Liberal Club. They were on a visit to relatives in this country and have now returned to Yugoslavia.

A former Mayor of Belgrade, Dr. Stoyadinovich saved 80 Jews during the Nazi occupation. He is a recipient of the Medal of the Just, awarded by the Heroes and Martyrs Remembrance Authority of Yad Vashem. An epic poem of his, entitled "Life and Death," was recently published in Belgrade, commemorating the millions of genocide victims at the hands of the Nazis and the Croatian fascists.

## BOARD OF DEPUTIES

Alderman Michael Fidler, president of the Board of Deputies, speaking at the monthly meeting of the Council of Manchester and Salford Jews, put forward plans to strengthen the Board. He suggested the establishment of a representative council for London, visits by parties of young people to meetings of the Board, and efforts to make the work of the Deputies more interesting.

## ARTISTS AID ISRAEL

"Artists for Israel", formed during the Six-Day War to send stage and variety artists out to Israel to entertain the troops, was so successful that its efforts are to be extended. The artists and entertainers sent to Israel by the organisation, Jews and non-Jews, have given their services free.

An art exhibition of over 300 paintings and sculptures, arranged by the Union of Jewish Women, was held at the New End Gallery, and opened by Miriam Karlin, the actress. Most of the paintings and sculptures were donated by individuals, but a number were given by Jewish and non-Jewish artists. An amount of over £300 was raised for the J.P.A.

## KIDNEY ORGANISATION

A group of young people have formed the Jewish Operative Kidney Organisation (J.O.K.O.) for the purpose of raising money for kidney disease sufferers.—(J.C.)

## Aden Refugees Unemployed

Of the 80 refugees who came to London a few months ago after anti-Jewish riots in Aden, only twelve have been able to leave the Jews' Temporary Shelter in the East End. The remainder have to stay in the Shelter because they have neither accommodation nor employment. About half the group have now decided to settle in Israel. An appeal launched by the Shelter to provide assistance for the refugees has so far not raised sufficient funds.

## Teaching Aids

In the coming school year a widely used audio-visual method of language teaching, recently adapted to Hebrew, will be introduced in Britain. The new method claims to provide a knowledge of basic Hebrew with a vocabulary of 1,000 words in two to three hundred hours. It was introduced at the Jewish Agency's Hebrew seminar recently held at Cranfield in Bedfordshire, which devoted a large part of its time to lectures in modern teaching methods.

If the first courses prove successful, a course for Hebrew teachers will be held to prepare for the extension of the new system to further Hebrew centres next year.

## Religious Instruction

The Redbridge Education Committee has, at the request of the London Board for Jewish Religious Education, agreed that subject to arrangements being made by headmasters, Jewish children in schools in the Ilford and Gants Hill area may receive a separate religious education from teachers supplied by the London Board. They may possibly also take Hebrew courses.

## New Cemetery

The foundation-stone for the Western Synagogue's prayer hall in its new cemetery at Cheshunt has been laid. Over 150 years ago the synagogue's first cemetery in Fulham, which was closed about 1903, was acquired. Before that date the synagogue had opened its cemetery at Edmonton, consecrated in 1884 by Chief Rabbi Dr. Hermann Adler.

## Birmingham Consecration

A pillar in the cemetery of Beth Olom Row, Five Ways, has been consecrated by the Rev. Sidney Gold, in memory of the Jews of Birmingham buried there between 1823 and 1872, when the last interment took place. The grave of the first rabbi of the community, Isaiah Phillips (1785-1835), is in the cemetery.

## Progressive Synagogue

At a service on September 8, a new Progressive synagogue was inaugurated for Kingston and District, situated at Tudor Hall, Tudor Drive, Kingston-on-Thames.

## Manchester Appeal Success

The Israel Emergency Appeal in Manchester was officially closed at a meeting of the Manchester Zionist Central Council, where it was announced that Manchester's effort had totalled £1 million. After describing this as a wonderful achievement, the president called for new helpers for the 1968 J.P.A. appeal now starting.

## Benefactor to Cardiff Aged

On the occasion of his 75th birthday, Major Louis C. Cohen gave a lunch for the residents of the Jewish Home for the Aged at Penylan House. He also donated an amount of 1,000 guineas for the Home. Over the past 20 years Major Cohen has been a generous benefactor to the Home, of which he is a life-governor and a member of the Management and Finance Committees.

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## NEWS FROM ABROAD

### AMERICAN NEWS

#### "Little Hitler's" End

George Lincoln Rockwell, leader of America's Nazi Party, was killed by one of his former disciples in Arlington, Virginia. John C. Patler, a 29-year-old party leader, who has been charged with the murder, was expelled from the party in April for stirring up inter-party hatred between dark-skinned and blonde Nazis.

The total national membership of Rockwell's party never exceeded 125, although he had perhaps about 100 other active supporters. Rockwell gained publicity through getting himself arrested in marginal free speech demonstrations and invoking the Constitution for protection, thus gaining the support of organisations actively against him, but which stood for free speech. In August, 1962, he was deported from Britain where he was attending a meeting of the British National Socialist Movement.

Rockwell, who claimed that the Jews were conspiring to destroy him and to debase his White race, who attacked Jews and Zionists and wanted them gassed and sterilised, had of recent years concentrated his hatred more on the Negroes.

His successor is 32-year-old Matthias Koehl, who has pledged himself to fight for White power.

#### Negro Organisation Follows Arab Line

Snick the Student Non-Violent Co-ordinating Committee, one of the first to call for "Black Power," and increasingly turning to violence of late, has compared Israeli soldiers in the Gaza Strip to the Nazis at Dachau. The organisation accuses "the Zionists" of having "conquered Arab homes by terror and massacre and of having wiped out 30 Arab villages before and after they took control of the area they now call Israel." A spokesman has denied that Snick is antisemitic, saying the organisation was not interested in indicting all Jews "but only Jewish oppressors" like Israel and "those Jews in little Jew shops in the Negro ghettos."

Theodore Bikel, the folk-singer and actor, a vice-president of the American Jewish Congress, with a long record of activity in the civil rights movement, has broken with Snick. In an open letter to the organisation he objected to its anti-Israel and anti-Jewish attitude.

#### SOUTH AFRICAN U.J.A. FUNDS FROZEN

A South African Press Association statement says that money raised for Israel by South African Jewry during the Middle East crisis has not been transferred to Israel. Negotiations are continuing between the South African Government and the community. A South African Zionist Federation spokesman in Johannesburg has described as "somewhat exaggerated" a Jerusalem announcement that South African Jews had contributed £10½ million.

However, Mr. Ben Schoeman, the Deputy Prime Minister, speaking at a Jewish Guild banquet in Johannesburg, said that though Israel was no friend of South Africa, the Government would allow some of the money collected to be sent.

#### MUELLER IN ALBANIA?

According to *Schwabische Donau-Zeitung*, the West German newspaper in Ulm, former S.S. general Heinrich Mueller, last chief of the Gestapo and at one time Eichmann's superior, who has been missing since the end of the war, is living in Albania. The Ulm daily was told by someone who claimed that he helped Mueller escape to Albania from Italy in 1949, that Mueller has since been living in Tirana and a small mountain village under the name of Jergj Kovoc.

### TUNISIAN SUPPORT

President Bourguiba, in a speech to Tunisian students at Kef, near Tunis, said that the policies of the Arab States hitherto adopted had deprived them of all sympathies. The State of Israel had been recognised by both the United States and the Soviet Union with its existence challenged only by the Arab countries. In the circumstances it was useless to continue ignoring this reality and claim to wipe Israel off the map. No nation wanted to consider Israel as an aggressor. On the contrary, it was believed that it was Egypt which created the *causus belli*, said the President.

Tunisian newspapers have fully endorsed President Bourguiba's appeal to the Arab States to stop talking of wiping Israel off the map.

### GREEK COMMUNITY

A five-member committee of the Central Board of the Greek Jewish Community now replaces the previously elected board, which was dissolved by a law passed by the present Greek régime. The Jewish Central Board is the only organisation allowed to nominate its own candidates, who were then appointed by the Government. Only Jews were appointed to the new committee, as well as to the body administering heirless property.

Mr. Joseph Lovinger, chairman of the new committee, during a recent visit to London, told the "Jewish Chronicle" that there was no evidence of anti-Jewish feeling when the new Government took over power, and that there were no Jews in detention camps or under arrest.

### INDIAN FRIENDSHIP

At a meeting in Bombay of the Indo-Israel Friendship League, attended by a large crowd, Mr. Nath Pai, an Indian M.P. and leader of the Praja Socialist Party, said that it was time India proclaimed her friendship towards the people of Israel without animosity and hostility towards the Arabs.

Mr. M. R. Masani, M.P., of the Swatantra Party, said that Israel's action during the Six-Day War was necessarily defensive. Dr. V. Pandit, of the Jana Sangh Party, suggested "extending the hand of friendship to Israel."

An M.P. of the Jana Sangh Party, Major R. Singh, visited Israel to study her tactics in the Six-Day War. The Indian Army has a great deal of Russian armaments and it was Major Singh's main aim to evaluate the Russian weapons used by the Arabs to determine whether their defeat was due to the weapons or to the men who used them.

### AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN FORMER NAZI

"Tidssignal," a Swedish Left-wing newspaper, has disclosed that Dr. Gustav von Schmoller, the new West German Ambassador to Sweden, was a leading Nazi. Von Schmoller served under Reinhard Heydrich in Czechoslovakia as an occupation jurist during the Second World War. The Swedish paper revealed that at the time he wrote a thesis asserting the right of a big Power to extinguish the neutrality of a small country.

The Foreign Ministry in Bonn has stated that the Ambassador "is considering the possibility of early retirement on pension owing to ill-health." He is on sick leave in West Germany and will not return to Sweden.

### MAYOR OF AMSTERDAM

Dr. I. Samkalden, who is of Jewish parentage, has twice been Dutch Minister of Justice in the past ten years. He has now begun a six-year term of office as Mayor of Amsterdam. Previously he was professor of international relations at Leyden University.

### JEWRY IN THE EAST Anniversary of Murders

The Association of Jewish Journalists and authors in Great Britain issued a statement on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the murder of 24 leading Soviet Jewish poets and writers during the Stalin régime, drawing attention to the great loss by these deaths to Yiddish and world literature. To this day, the statement pointed out, no explanation has been given for the murders, nor has any official attempt been made to rehabilitate the writers.

#### Purge in Poland

According to reliable sources, undesirables of the Workers' (Communist) Party in Poland will be purged by changing the party card at the end of the year and not issuing new ones to them. This has been decided in order to "verify the political stand taken towards Israeli aggression".

Several hundred people have already been expelled from the party after expressions of popular discontent. They are opposed to what they consider an additional tax burden in the form of gifts to the Arab countries, ranging from steel supplies to blood plasma.

#### Czechs Disciplined

President Anton Novotny, the Czechoslovak Communist Party leader, during an address to graduates of the military academy in Prague warned the nation that the period of bargaining with liberal elements was over. He charged defiant Czechoslovak writers and liberal elements with "pacifism, recklessness and frivolity". Liberalism, he said, had spread to dangerous proportions and it was necessary to come out openly against these phenomena. The President's deputy, Mr. Jiri Hendrich, also publicly warned those "who demand the right of freedom for enemy opinions".

#### Contributions for Arab Aid

The Russian-language "Kommunist Tadzhiqistana" has reported that the "Jewish religious community" of Dushanbe, capital of the Tadjik Republic in Soviet central Asia, has made a "voluntary decision" to contribute half its annual budget to the Soviet fund for aid to the Arab countries.

Dushanbe has a community of 18,000 Jews out of a total population of 280,000. "Kommunist Tadzhiqistana" has also carried the only report of a Soviet synagogue, that in Dushanbe, holding a meeting and denouncing Israel.—(J.C.)



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Egon Larsen

## A MIXED MARRIAGE

"And how's your wife?" I asked. Bruno stared into the brandy flames of our Crêpes Suzette for awhile before answering, "Oh, thank you, quite all right".

"I'm sorry she couldn't come and have this lovely lunch with us", I said. "It must be nearly thirty years since I saw the two of you the last time in Prague".

"She never goes out", he said.

Had I dropped a brick? "I hope she's not an invalid", I ventured at last. He shook his head. "No, not at all. It's just that—I should have liked to invite you to our house, but—". He stopped again. I felt that I ought not to pursue the subject, although we were very old friends. We had first met as boys at school; we had played together, made great plans for the future, discussed the world. Bruno had been living in the same suburb of our town, in a big, then quite modern house which belonged to his parents, solid, prosperous, middle-class Jews. At 20, he had begun to build up his own business, which in fact developed out of his teenage hobby of stamp collecting. He became a dealer in rare stamps. His trade flourished, and it took him some time—until 1936—to make up his mind and emigrate. He managed to get his collections out, and started afresh in Prague. It was not too difficult for him; he still had his valuable international connections. There I met him again; he was probably one of the most prosperous refugees in Czechoslovakia.

He had married; it must have been a great love affair, or he would not have chosen a Christian girl, with his strongly Jewish background. She was blonde, pale, friendly, and rather nervous. One could see that this mixed marriage had worked out well. During the hectic days of the Czech crisis we met often; after the Munich Agreement it seemed clear to all of us that it was only a matter of time when Hitler would march into Prague, and we all tried to get out. Bruno made no effort to get a visa for England or America or France. "I'm not going to emigrate again", he said. "You're all too pessimistic. Things will work out somehow".

We warned him, insisted that he should get out with us. We had little to leave behind; but he had his collections, his business, his new roots. Besides, he might have run into trouble trying to get his valuable stamps across the border.

"And another thing", he said, "even if they come—I'm married to a non-Jewish woman. They'll leave us in peace".

That was the last I saw of him in Prague. I got out; he stayed behind. And now, nearly three decades later, I had seen his name on a fine new office building when I visited my home town again. I dropped in on him; he was very happy to renew our friendship. He was still, or again, a dealer in rare stamps, and his business was flourishing. He had invited me out for lunch to the poshest place in town, and I had to tell him what had happened to me since our Prague days. So far, he had said little about himself.

I did not ask him; some people prefer not to be reminded. But he began to tell me his story, without any prompting, over our second and third cups of coffee. It was a most extraordinary story.

When the Nazis marched into Prague there was still, during the first few weeks, a chance of slipping out by the back door; many Czechoslovakian Jews, and quite a number of refugees who had failed to get out, used it.

But Bruno refused. "I'm not going to sneak across the Polish frontier with a little suitcase", as he put it. He was promptly sent to a forced-labour unit, Jews only, to work at one of the Junkers factories in Bohemia. Conditions were so abominable that even the Gestapo intervened, in the interest not of humanity but of efficiency. His wife was left in peace in their Prague flat, and for the time being he was safe from deportation because of her. When rationing was introduced, he received the meagre *Judenration* while she got her full "Aryan" ration.

Then the leaders of the Prague Jewish community were told to draw up a list of labourers for Theresienstadt. He was put on the list, and soon found himself inside the ghetto camp. It was around that time that the Nazi authorities began to subject his wife to intensive pressure to get a divorce from him. She refused, and stood by her refusal courageously in the face of increasing threats and enticements. No one knew for sure, of course, but she had the strong feeling that if she agreed to divorce Bruno, that would have been his death sentence.

All her steadfastness, however, seemed in vain. In the autumn of 1944, Bruno was sent to Auschwitz with the last transport from Theresienstadt. When it arrived, the gassings had already stopped; they were no longer necessary to end the prisoners' lives—they died off anyway as fast as their captors could wish. "I would have died from hunger", said Bruno. "but there was still some kind of cigarette ration for us, and as I am a non-smoker I exchanged the cigarettes for food. Despite this, I was just skin and bones after a few months".

When the great exodus began, and the surviving prisoners were hurriedly transported back into the Reich, he was lucky enough to be in the camp hospital with a high temperature. "Thirty malingers had set themselves up as a terror régime over about a hundred sick people", he recalled. "The man in the bunk above mine was dying with thirst while the malingers were having a coffee and *schnaps* party only a few paces away. Another time there was a quarrel between the inmates, and one was beaten to death at the cooking stove". Bruno did not think he would survive for more than a few days. Then the Russians came.

"We were stuffed with millet until we were unable to eat any more. When I tried to chew

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## Old Acquaintances

*Obituary:* Adolf Wohlbrueck, or Anton Walbrook as he was known in this country, died at the age of 66 in Hans Albers' house at Tutzing, where he was the guest of Hansi Burg. The son of an Austrian clown, he became known for his parts in "Maskerade", directed by Willi Forst, and "La Ronde", directed by the late Max Ophuls. He came to London before the war, where he appeared in many films and on stage in "Call Me Madam" and "Wedding in Paris". For the last few years Walbrook played in theatres in Duesseldorf, Munich and Berlin. — Seventy-five-year-old Trude Hesterberg died in Munich. She started with Reinhardt in 1912 in "George Dandin" and became a star of operetta and the Haller revues. Her own cabaret, "wilde Buehne", is unforgettable. There she discovered Margo Lion, Kate Kuehl, Mehring, Ringelnatz, Paul Nikolaus, and even Brecht appeared in it. After the war she took the part of Mrs. Peachum in "Dreigroschenoper".

*This and That:* Max Lippmann, a socialist and returnee, who died some months ago, will be succeeded as director of the German Institut fuer Filmkunde in Wiesbaden by Dr. Theo Fuerstenau. During the war Dr. Fuerstenau published an antisemitic thesis against Jewish influence in the press between 1918 and 1933.—H. Budzislowski, who spent the war years in the United States, is now co-editor of the *Weltbuehne* in East Berlin, together with Carl von Ossietzky's widow. Kurt Desch of Munich will publish a "Neue Weltbuehne", to be edited probably by Bert Engelmann of the defunct German magazine, "Panorama".

*Milestones:* Kaethe Haack, Heinrich Schroth's widow, who partnered Jannings, Wegener, George and Werner Krauss on the stage and who made her screen debut in Max Mack's "Katzensteg", is 70 years of age.—Another 70th birthday is celebrated by Elisabeth Bergner, married to Dr. Paul Czinner and living in London. Born in Austria, she came to Berlin in 1922, where she played in Bronnen's "Vatermord". Bergner became famous through her numerous film and stage appearances, achieving success again in England after 1933. The playwright Barrie wrote "The Boy David" especially for her. She spent the war years in the United States, appearing in Germany again after her return to Europe.

*Home News:* Peter Galliner, formerly of the *Financial Times*, who resigned as director of Axel Springer and Ullsteins in Berlin, has become adviser to the British Printing Corp.—Sponsored by Bonn, a German ensemble will stage Kleist's "Der zerbrochene Krug" at Hammersmith Town Hall on Monday, October 30.—An exhibition of paintings by Schiele and Kirchner can be seen at the Marlborough Fine Arts, and a Kaethe Kollwitz exhibition is being held at the Whitechapel Art Gallery.—Irene Prador appeared in Robert Muller's "It's a Long Way to Transylvania" on ITV.

*Honours:* Heinrich Fischer, the editor of Karl Kraus's works, has become a Professor h.c. in Austria. During the war he worked for the B.B.C. German section.—Seventy-year-old Elisabeth Hauptmann, Brecht's faithful secretary, was elected a member of the German Academy in Frankfurt, though she lives in East Berlin.—In Munich Dr. Golo Mann, a son of Thomas Mann, received the Ludwig Thoma medal.—The Austrian Government has awarded the Silver "Ehrenzeichen" to Hertha Pauli, whose book about Sarajevo was published in London a few months ago.

PEM

## A MIXED MARRIAGE

Continued from page 5

a piece of bread, sweat poured down my body. I weighed 80 pounds when we were liberated; within a few weeks I had put on sixty more", said Bruno. The survivors were first taken to Katowice, walking when there was no transport. Then Bruno was sent back to Prague.

After a long search he found his wife; she had been expelled from their flat a long time ago. Now the tables were completely turned: He, being a KZ survivor, got extra rations; she, as a German woman living in Czechoslovakia, received only half the standard ration! They had no desire to stay in Prague, and decided to return to Bruno's home town in Germany.

It had been heavily bombed, but there was hardly a scratch on his old house—the house in the suburb that had belonged to his parents and then to him until it was expropriated by the Nazis. Being one of the first refugees to return he had no difficulty in getting it back. There was so much to do; he worked for the occupation authorities, for the Red Cross, for the tiny Jewish community. At last he felt enterprising enough to re-establish his former business; there was still a small stock of rare stamps which his wife had saved through all those years. Again he was successful. He picked up the threads of his pre-war connections, bought and sold at auctions; the big international buyers visited him, he took and furnished an impressive office. He was, within a dozen years or so, a rich man.

But something strange was happening to his wife. It had begun with her dog, of whom she was very fond. It fell ill, had to be sent to the veterinary clinic, and died. She did not believe it. "They've made a mistake", she kept saying. "It will come back". He bought her another one. Now she said that the neighbours were trying to poison the animal. She

went to the police. The detectives found no trace of the "poisoned bread" about which she kept talking. "They're in the plot too", she said. She took the dog for walks half a dozen times a day, then she stopped suddenly and refused to leave the house.

She began to fear visitors, and ripped out the doorbell wires. The caretaker, an old retainer, could not stand her constant accusations any longer and moved out, despite the difficulty of finding another home. She wanted no maid or charwomen around her. She and Bruno were now alone in a large house. She did all the housework herself, scrubbing the floors and stairs, even painting the window frames—no workers were permitted to enter the house, no delivery people were allowed to come to the door. And she never went out; Bruno had to do all the shopping.

But there was nothing to buy for her wardrobe. She had not wanted a new piece of clothing for fifteen years; she kept wearing the dirty, smelly rags that had been holed and torn by the dogs. She rather suffered toothache than go to the dentist; as a result, she had lost her front teeth. Needless to say that it was impossible to make her see a psychiatrist.

He would probably have diagnosed a schizophrenic condition, perhaps latent in youth, but surely brought into the open by the terrible years when Bruno was in Theresienstadt and Auschwitz, and when she, with an almost superhuman effort, refused to betray him. Those were the unbearable pressures under which her mind seems to have given way.

A cure might have been attempted; possibly electric shock treatment or drugs in a clinic. Or she might have been certified as insane and shut away in an institution.

"How could I do a thing like that to my wife?" said Bruno. "How could I trick her somehow into making her go into a clinic? Or, infinitely worse, how could I have her dragged away into an asylum? You see, for her

I am the only human being she trusts. It's just unthinkable for me to betray that trust. You must not forget that she was loyal to me, that she refused to give me up as her husband, and that she most likely saved my life. If she had agreed to get a divorce, they would have sent me to Auschwitz one or two years earlier. I wouldn't have survived. She stuck to me, now I stick to her. It's as simple as that".

And so, in his dead parents' big house, he lives his nightmare existence alone with a mad woman, the ghastly shell of what was once his wife. All the money he earns cannot help him. He leaves her only for a few hours a day to go to his office, to do the shopping. No domestic servants for him, no friends he can visit or invite, no holidays, no theatre or concert, just an occasional lunch with an old schoolmate or a business acquaintance. He does not complain. He is determined to see it all through till death, mercifully, parts them.

### BERLIN'S "FREIE BUEHNE"

The history of the "Freie Buehne" in Berlin (1889-1901) is described in a monograph by Geront Schley (Haude und Spencersche Verlagsbuchhandlung, Berlin, 1967). Its founders included Theodor Wolff and Maximilian Harden, both of whom, however, withdrew rather early, as well as Heinrich and Julius Hart, Otto Brahm and the publisher Samuel Fischer. It was due to this private organisation, whose productions were not subjected to censorship, that modern plays could be shown, the public performances of which were not permitted at that time.

Amongst the plays produced were works by Gerhart Hauptmann ("Vor Sonnenaufgang", "Das Friedensfest", "Die Weber"), Ibsen ("Gespenster"), Fritz Mauthner, Spielhagen, Strindberg ("Der Vater"), Tolstoi ("Macht der Finsternis") and Zola.

When Paul Schlenker, the Chairman, was called to Vienna in 1898, his place was taken by Ludwig Fulda. The production of naturalistic plays ceased and a different type of play was favoured. E.G.L.

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Herbert Freedman

## EDUCATION PROBLEMS OF THE NEW ARAB POPULATION

It is not only a matter of providing school buildings, teachers and textbooks to continue the education of 280,000 Arab pupils who, as a result of the Six-Day War, have come into the orbit of Israel administration. It is even more so a matter of persuading the 7,000 Arab teachers to forgo their anti-Israeli attitude and not to use anti-Israeli study material. While hundreds of thousands of new textbooks are being printed by the Israeli Government, the Arab teachers threaten strike action should these be forced on them. The erstwhile Speaker of the Jordanian Parliament, Achmed-el-Mizri, who now lives in a villa in occupied Nablus, declared openly: "We don't dream of introducing changes in our schools."

What is it all about? Many school books are illustrated. The cover picture on one shows an Arab soldier trampling on the Israeli flag while in the background Arab fighters storm towards the sea where Jews are drowning. . . . Wherever Jews are depicted they are caricatured in "Stuermer" style. Only Moshe Dayan appears in a recognisable likeness . . . in the process of being pierced by an Arab bayonet.

Arithmetic is being made "lively" by indoctrinated examples such as this: "Our brave fedayeen (saboteur gangs) penetrated into occupied Palestine and there killed 20 Jews. The next day our fighters again succeeded in infiltrating and killing another twelve Jews. How many Jews were killed altogether?" The story books are full of stories of little refugee children who live in misery because of the wretched Jews. Their songs are of Palestine, raped and plundered by the Jews, and to hate the Jews is an honour and an obligation.

This from a history textbook: "The Jews of today are no Semites but a mixture of all sorts of races. Already in Biblical times they were notorious for their destructive qualities. Later they were dispersed among the nations, and do not any longer form a nation there in the accepted sense. . . . In the year 1948 the Jews committed massacres among the Arabs in Palestine. The Arabs had to flee but never abandoned hope of returning to their homes

and houses. In the meantime, armed Jewish bands in occupied Palestine established a kind of State called Israel, a festering ulcer in the Arab body. A famous Roman once said: 'Carthage must be destroyed.' Like Carthage, Israel must be destroyed and has to disappear."

There are 185,000 Arab pupils on the West Bank, 26,000 of them in East Jerusalem; 95,000 are in the Gaza Strip, of whom 60,000 are in the care of Unrwa; in the Golan Heights there are no more than about 1,000 children. There were no kindergartens in the former Arab territories.

Schools on the West Bank number 950 and in the Gaza Strip 170. In Jordan, compulsory education was introduced in 1955, but enforcement has been lax and only 25 per cent of the six-year-olds actually entered school. Classes are crowded, with sometimes up to 75 pupils.

The educational problem is formidable. It can only be tackled with the co-operation of the teachers. But will that be forthcoming?

### A GREAT GERMAN-JEWISH LAWYER

#### Centenary of Justizrat Julius Magnus

The centenary of his birth on 6th September reminds us of Justizrat Julius Magnus, particularly well-known by his work as the editor of the "Juristische Wochenschrift."

Details of the last period of his life came to light with the report given by a distant relative: "Shortly before the outbreak of war, Magnus emigrated to Amsterdam. There I saw him on many occasions until the Nazis deported him via Westerbork to Theresienstadt. In Amsterdam he worked on the compilation of a multilingual lexicon. When I last saw him in the small room where the Nazis had forced him to live, he was absorbed in his studies. It was a moving spectacle."

In a way it is some comfort to know that the old man could still carry on his scholarly work until his deportation. However, his ultimate fate could not be ascertained. It can only be assumed that he perished in Theresienstadt in the early forties.

When the "Neue Juristische Wochenschrift" was created in October, 1947, the editors in the opening article undertook to carry on the tradition of the old "Juristische Wochenschrift", which had been shaped by personalities like Hachenburg and Magnus.

Some of us still remember this agile, amiable Berliner, with his Wilhelmian moustache. He was not only well-known as a lawyer but was also devoted to legal research and to the social and economic status of the legal profession. At a comparatively early stage the Berlin Law Association appointed him an honorary member, and he was also awarded honorary doctorates in law and political science. His own special fields were copyright and patenting. His "Tabellen zum internationalen Recht", published in several volumes from 1925 to 1930, are still consulted today.

Magnus also took an active part in Jewish affairs and on many occasions gave his advice to the board of the Berlin Jewish Community and to the leading Jewish organisations. He was also a member of the Association of German Friends of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

DR. E. G. LOWENTHAL

## OBITUARY

### DR. F. G. SALOMON

It is learned with regret that the dental surgeon, Dr. Fritz G. Salomon (Bath), has passed away at the age of 77. Prior to his emigration he took a leading part in the work of the organisations of dental surgeons in Germany, especially as secretary of the Berlin branch of the Wirtschaftliche Verband deutscher Zahnärzte and as editor of the Zahnärztliche Mitteilungen, published by the Reichsverband deutscher Zahnärzte.

In this country Dr. Salomon carried on his work on behalf of his colleagues. He was a founder-member and for many years hon. secretary of the Anglo-Continental Dental Society which later, in recognition of his outstanding services, made him an hon. life president. During the war and first post-war years he devoted much of his energy, experience and administrative capacity to the interests of those dental surgeons with German qualifications who were not admitted to the Foreign Dentists Register. At that time he closely co-operated with the AJR which was associated with these efforts.

After the war the professional organisations in Germany with which Dr. Salomon was previously associated re-established contacts with him.

Dr. Salomon was a member of the AJR since its inception and, as the representative of the Bristol district, was in permanent touch with London headquarters. His fighting spirit, sense of justice and unselfish devotion to the welfare of his fellow men, will be gratefully remembered by all who knew him. We extend our sincerest sympathy to his widow and the other members of his family.

### JENNY KLABIN SEGALL

The writer, Mrs. Jenny Klabin Segall, died in Sao Paulo, Brazil, at the age of 68. Mrs. Erna Feder (Berlin), widow of Dr. Ernst Feder, writes:

"Jenny Klabin Segall and her late husband, the painter and sculptor Lasar Segall, who predeceased her by ten years, played an important part in Brazilian cultural life. She was particularly instrumental in spreading the knowledge of European literature in that country. Her translations into Portuguese included works by Racine and Molière, as well as Goethe's "Faust", Part I and Act 5 of Part II."

### JAROMIR WEINBERGER

The composer Jaromir Weinberger died in Florida at the age of 71. Born in Prague, he was particularly well known for his opera, "Schwanda, der Dudelsackpfeifer".

After emigrating to America, Weinberger was unable to build up a new career for himself, and the frustrations he encountered ultimately made life unbearable for him.

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## WALTER RATHENAU

### Centenary of his Birth

Does wealth, as Victor Hugo said, add to happiness? Like Meyerbeer, Walther Rathenau came from a wealthy Berlin Jewish family but, taking into account his youth and early years, it is doubtful whether he was happy.

Born in Berlin on September 29, 1867, Walther Rathenau had to bear the fate of being the son of a genius. Emil Rathenau, the pioneer of the age of electricity in Germany, a genius of engineering and finance, was also a domineering type.

Though Walther respected his father's strong and creative personality, it was his mother Mathilde, née Nachmann, whom he dearly loved and to whom he owed his understanding of art, music and literature. Unlike his father, Walther was a highly talented artist, but he was also the equal of his father in the field of technology and business, studying physics, chemistry and philosophy at the universities of Berlin and Strasbourg. He graduated in 1889 and, though a most promising research chemist, he preferred to make his mark as a manager and organiser. After holding several important business positions, he joined his father in the management of his life's work, the A.E.G. (Allgemeine Elektrizitäts-Gesellschaft). In 1902 he became a director of the "Berliner Handelsgesellschaft" but later returned to the A.E.G. When his brother Erich died suddenly in 1903, Walther took his place beside his father, whom he had convinced of his merit. When Emil Rathenau died on June 20, 1915, Walther Rathenau became head of the A.E.G.

Walther Rathenau possessed a powerful intellect, coupled with a tremendous capacity for work. His day was crammed with business activities but at nightfall he was the visionary. Through his business life, where he became acquainted with the conditions and problems of modern society, he had a starting point as a social critic. He took to writing not only to analyse the trends of his time but also to suggest remedies for its social ills.

He was a prolific writer; apart from numerous essays he published essential books such as "Zur Kritik der Zeit" (1912) which, in the opinion of Paul Oestreich, the champion for modern education, was epoch making, and "Zur Mechanik des Geistes" (1913). His most important work, "Von kommenden Dingen", appeared during the war, in 1917, supplemented by "Die Neue Wirtschaft" (1918) and "Die Neue Gesellschaft" (1919).

Relying on his analysis of the prevailing conditions of society, Rathenau developed a programme of social reform. First of all he said that the relentless mechanisation of our technical civilisation threatens the soul of the modern working man, while on the other hand the iron rule of plutocracy keeps him in a state of extreme and painful dependence. Suffering from a conflict between intellect and soul, the modern working man must struggle hard to ward off the impact of mechanisation in order to expand the emotions of his soul.

Rathenau opposed dogmatic Marxism because it did not reject mechanisation but only tried to take advantage of it in the interests of the working class. He demanded an equalisation of property and income for moral as well as economic reasons. Furthermore, he insisted on the restriction of the right of inheritance and championed the participation of the lower classes in the fruits of higher education.

Appointed by Reich Chancellor Prince Buelow, Walther Rathenau served as assistant to the Colonial Secretary, Bernhard Dernburg, in 1907-8, accompanying him on an inspection tour of Germany's African colonies.

While the Germany of Kaiser Wilhelm II seemed to be prosperous and powerful, Walther Rathenau looked gloomily into the near future. In 1911 he wrote: "Seit Jahrzehnten hat Deutschland keine ernstere Periode durchlebt als diese. . ."

As a means of preventing the danger of war, in 1913 he recommended a European Customs Union, but when war broke out in 1914 he placed himself at his country's service and organised the supply of the German war machine with raw materials, thus enabling it to continue over four years.

On the other hand he vehemently opposed the decision of unlimited submarine warfare. When in consequence of this fatal mistake, Germany faced disaster, Rathenau made the desperate proposal of a *levée en masse* which was rejected—fortunately, as we must say today.

Walther Rathenau was critical of the Weimar Republic, which he considered a purely formalistic imitation of the Western democracies, ignoring the organic community of the people ("Volksstaat"). It has been suggested that his attitude was somehow related to the fascist conception of the State but this is wrong inasmuch as Rathenau's idea of the State is strictly orientated on religion and morality.

When Reich Chancellor Wirth appointed him Minister of Foreign Affairs on February 1, 1922, Rathenau together with Wirth, tried to convince Britain and France that only the close co-operation of all Western nations, including Germany, could guarantee the recovery of Europe, including Russia. At the Conference in Genoa in 1922 he fought for this idea. But he was afraid of Britain and France making a deal with Russia at Germany's expense and concluded the Treaty of Peace and Friendship with Soviet Russia at Rapallo on April 16, 1922, which cancelled all reciprocal demands in consequence of the war. He was hesitant of concluding this treaty, since the realisation of his grand scheme of European unity through co-operation would have been much more to his liking.

In the middle of this work for Europe's reconstruction Rathenau was assassinated by German nationalists on June 24, 1922. Later, when Stresemann succeeded in bringing Germany back into the family of nations on equal terms, he could only do so because Walther Rathenau had laid the foundations of this policy.

#### His Jewishness

Prevented by his Jewishness from playing his full role in German politics, young Walther Rathenau felt bitterly frustrated and succumbed to a feeling of racial inferiority. Under a pseudonym in Harden's "Zukunft" he published that ill-famed essay "Höre Israel" (1897), in which he appealed to his fellow-Jews to rid themselves of manners repulsive to the Christians. This essay, reprinted in a volume "Impressionen" (1902), not only outraged Jews who were proud of their Jewishness, but also played strong trump cards into the hands of the antisemites.

However, he later sincerely regretted this essay and withdrew it from circulation. A token of his endeavour to gain a positive relationship to Judaism was his essay "Staat und Judentum" (1911). Admitting that he had been denied a Jewish education in his early youth, he asserted that Judaism meant little to the Jew of his day, but expressed his satisfaction with the major accomplishments of Jews for the benefit of Germany. Furthermore, in his "Streitschrift vom Glauben" (1917), he rejected baptism on the grounds that it was contemptible to buy personal advantages at this price.

In his correspondence he identified himself more and more with Judaism which he defined as a "dogmenfreie Geistesreligion". Deeply moved by Martin Buber's "Hassidic Tales", he contacted its author, learned Hebrew, studied the Bible and interested himself in Jewish Palestine which he contemplated visiting.

When he was surrounded by a wave of hate as Germany's Foreign Minister, he asked Helmut von Gerlach in bewilderment: "Why do these people hate me so much?" The eminent publicist replied: "You are a Jew, and about to make a successful foreign policy for Germany!"

Too noble-minded to gauge an ignoble mass emotion, when the Zionist leader Kurt Blumenfeld urged him to give up his ministerial post he refused, expressing the hope that the opposition would be disarmed by his achievement. He paid with his life for this illusion.

Today his ideas have borne fruit in the United Nations, the Kennedy Round, the European Common Market and similar ventures. In particular, there is a Rathenau renaissance in the Federal Republic: his writings and letters have been republished and both West and East Germany honour the memory of a man whom a noted American historian, William Dodd, called "the greatest of ministers" Germany has known since 1918.

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## ROUND AND ABOUT

### GOLDMANN ON ZIONISM

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organisation, visited South Africa to aid the United Communal Fund and to deliver the main address at the 30th biennial conference of the South African Zionist Federation.

In his speech analysing the decline of the Zionist movement, he said this was due to the fact that the movement embodied contradictory aims and that Zionist parties were unrepresentative, tailored to pre-war European conditions and retained in power by all kinds of tricks and dodges. The future of the Zionist movement, said Dr. Goldmann, lay in becoming a radical, pace-making minority movement, leading the way in emigration to Israel. He recommended the creation of an over-all Jewish body to abolish the chaos and over-organisation of Jewish life in the diaspora and the creation of a small entity to represent the whole Jewish people *vis-à-vis* Israel.

The main ovation at the meeting in the crowded Johannesburg city hall was given to Brigadier-General Mordecai Hod, the commander of the Israeli Air Force.

### B.M.A. AWARD

The Council of the British Medical Association awarded the orthopaedic surgeon, Mr. R. H. K. Gruneberg, F.R.C.S., the 1966 Doris Odum Prize for his dissertation on the Advances in Understanding and Treatment of Psychological Disturbances Associated with Accidents and Injuries.

Mr. Gruneberg, who is senior Casualty Officer at the Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy, Fife, came to this country as a refugee from Wuppertal, Germany. He has been a member of the AJR since its inception.

We extend our sincerest congratulations to him on the occasion of this award.

### CZECH WRITERS DISCIPLINED

A "Manifesto of Czechoslovak writers to the world public", smuggled out to the West and published in the London "Sunday Times", was signed by over 300 writers, painters, film and television personnel, scholars and other intellectuals. The manifesto declared: "At the fourth congress of Czechoslovak writers in Prague on June 27 to 29, we appealed against antisemitism and racialism in the official politics of our State in its relations with Israel".

In the meantime a number of eminent writers have been expelled from the party. Another well-known writer, Ladislav Mnacko, has also been expelled and deprived of his citizenship for going to Israel in protest against his Government's support of the Arabs.

### WAR HEROES PROTEST

As a protest against the Communist attitude in the Middle East conflict, 600 Israelis returned the decorations they were awarded by the Soviet and Polish Governments for action against the Nazis during the war.

Recipients of war decorations from Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria also returned their awards.

### KLEMPERER IN LONDON

When Dr. Otto Klemperer was in London earlier this year, he went to services at the Marble Arch Synagogue. This was the first time he had prayed in a synagogue for 50 years. He was greatly impressed by the singing of the reader, Israeli-born Shmuel Lerer and, when he met him, repeatedly stressed "I am a Jew". Dr. Klemperer wrote to Mr. Lerer asking that a seat be reserved for him at the synagogue for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, when the conductor is in London for concerts.

### TRIALS AND SENTENCES

A third Auschwitz trial has opened in Frankfurt, where two former Kapos and camp inmates, Bernhard Bonits and Josef Windeck, are accused of cruelly murdering scores of fellow-prisoners.

Fifteen former S.S. men face trial in Stuttgart, charged with complicity in the Lvov concentration camps "liquidation" in the autumn of 1943.

In March last year three former S.S. men, Franz Johan Hofmann, Stefan Kruth and Helmut Schnabel, were sentenced by a Hechingen court to terms of thirteen, twelve and ten years', respectively, for their part in war crimes at concentration camps. The Karlsruhe Supreme Court has now ordered a retrial at Ulm on the grounds that one of the Hechingen judges collapsed on the day the men were sentenced and could not give the necessary attention to the proceedings.

Dr. Rueckerl, the head of the West German Central Agency for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes, stated in Stuttgart that trials of Nazi criminals would still be going on in 1975, and some would probably last beyond 1975.

## Letter to the Editor

### A STUDY ON JEWISH LIFE

#### Material Required

Sir,—I am collecting information for a study on Jewish life in post-war Germany, to be published in English and German. I should be grateful for a loan of letters or other relevant material, which will be treated confidentially, handled with care and returned as soon as possible.

Yours, etc.,

KAREN GERSHON,

Editor of "We Came as Children" (Gollancz, 1966).

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## Birthday Tributes

### ARNOLD MARLE 80

The actor and producer, Arnold Marlé, celebrated his 80th birthday on September 15. Born in Prague, he spent most of his artistic life in Germany, particularly with the Kammer-spiele in Munich (1918 to 1924) and as chief producer and principal character actor at the Deutsche Schauspielhaus in Hamburg (1924 to 1933).

In 1933 Marlé returned to Prague, where he was arrested when the Nazis occupied Czechoslovakia. Together with his wife, Lilli Freud-Marlé, he came to England shortly before the outbreak of the war.

His productions in Hamburg included first performances of renowned writers such as Carl Sternheim, Leonhard Frank, Georg Kaiser, Ferdinand Bruckner and Stefan Zweig.

Both in this country and in Germany, Arnold Marlé has taken an active interest in Jewish affairs, especially as a member of the B'nai B'rith Lodge. We extend our sincerest birthday greetings to him.

### PROFESSOR HERMANN ZONDEK 80

Professor Hermann Zondek celebrated his 80th birthday in Jerusalem. Until 1933 he was director of the Municipal Urban Hospital in Berlin, and acted as physician to many prominent statesmen and scholars. He emigrated to Palestine in 1934, where he continued his widely recognised professional activities. Professor Zondek has also taken a

leading part in the work of medical associations in Israel.

### MRS. BERTHA MARCUS 85

Mrs. Bertha Marcus (formerly Berlin and Pinne, Posen) recently celebrated her 85th birthday in Israel, where she lives in the Parents' Home, Ramath Chen.

The daughter of Rabbi Dr. Joseph Eschelbacher, she took a leading part in the work of Jewish organisations in Berlin, especially of the Juedische Frauenbund and the women's organisations of the B'nai B'rith Akiba Eger Lodge. Notwithstanding her great age, she is still full of health and vigour.

Her many friends all over the world join her family in extending their warmest birthday greetings to her.

RICHARD A. EHRlich (Boston).

### YOUTHFUL BIRTHDAY CHILD

We would fail in our duty as conscientious chroniclers if we did not record that Miss Charlotte Godfrey ("Lottchen") celebrates a round-figure birthday on October 15. She now lives in "retirement" but whether this term can be applied to her is a moot question. True, Lottchen is no longer subjected to dictation from the AJR General Secretary or any other boss. Yet her manifold interests and her extensive social life keep her as busy

as ever. Her *joie de vivre* has kept her young—may she remain young for many years to come.

### MARTIN ALTERTHUM 80

Mr. Martin Alterthum recently celebrated his 80th birthday in Israel.

Until 1933 he was a High Court judge in Dessau, and also held an appointment with the Anhalt Ministry of Justice as an expert on matters of Civil Service law. He was a Board member of the regional district of the Zionist Organisation and of the Dessau Jewish Community.

When the Nazis came to power, Martin Alterthum went to Leipzig at the request of the Zionist Organisation, to become chairman of the Zionist District Group for Central Germany. He also became a Board member of the Leipzig Jewish Community and took a leading part in retraining and immigration work during the years of persecution.

After incarceration in a concentration camp, he emigrated to Palestine in November, 1938. There he was one of the founders of the Organisation of Former German Civil Servants.

Throughout the years Mr. Alterthum has been the trusted adviser to many Jews from Germany, particularly former officials of Jewish communities.

### BOTANIST INVESTIGATES NEGEV

Professor Otto Ludwig Lange, eminent German botanist and desert cultivation expert and head of the Botanic Institute at Wuerzburg University, led a group of German experts on a ten weeks' visit to Israel. They investigated cultivation possibilities in the southern Negev.

### FAMILY EVENTS

#### Marriage

**Spitzer : Hirsch.**—The marriage took place on August 20 at Golders Green, of Frank, son of Richard and Fanny Spitzer, to Felice, elder daughter of Fritz and Oully Hirsch.

#### Deaths

**Wallach.**—On August 18, Mrs. Ida Wallach (née Hallenstein), widow of the late Justizrat Dr. Siegfried Wallach, Essen, Germany, passed away peacefully, aged 93, in Melbourne, Australia. Deeply mourned by her son and relatives.

**Lazarus.**—Miss Anna L. Lazarus (Glogau, Silesia), 1 Temple Fortune House, formerly 9 Glebe Crescent, N.W.4, passed away on July 17. Mourned by her friends.

**Steindorff.**—Mr. Eugen Jerome Steindorff, of 44 Ebrington Road, Kenton, Middlesex (formerly Berlin and Karlsbad), passed away in his 82nd year on September 14. Deeply mourned by his wife Rosl (née Muehlstein), his daughter Evelyne, son-in-law and granddaughter.

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#### Miscellaneous

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#### Personal

**ATTRACTIVE LADY**, mid-fifties, good family, half Jewish, at present living in Germany, would like to settle in England, wishes to meet cultured gentleman in secure position, view companionship/marriage. Box 866.

**WIDOWER**, mid-sixties, youthful looking, in good health and energetic, active company director of several businesses, own house, car, etc., professional background, educated, originating from Vienna, many intellectual interests—music, conversation, etc.—desires meet kind-hearted congenial lady, pref. widow in her fifties, of charm and intelligence. View marriage. Replies with recent photos requested, to be returned in strictest confidence. Box 867.

**BACHELOR**, late thirties, own house, would like to meet young woman, view marriage. Box 871.

**REFINED LADY**, early fifties (widow), with pleasant own home and car, financially independent, wishes to meet cultured, non-Orthodox gentleman to share interests in music, theatre, travelling; companionship/marriage. Box 877.

### MISSING PERSONS

#### Personal Enquiries

**Adler.**—Siegfried and Anna (née Silberstein) and their children; Alfred and Max, born in Kochlo-witz Kreis Kattowitz; Leonard (Leo), born in Kattowitz o/s. Resident at various times in Kattowitz, Breslau and Stettin.

**Silber.**—Dr. med. and wife Selma (née Adler), last known at Köln a/Rhein. Information required by their cousin, Adolf Abraham Keins, now in Israel. Replies c/o Edgar Lax, 8 Woodgrange Avenue, Kenton, Harrow, Middlesex.

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# IN MEMORIAM

## DEATH OF CHARLES JORDAN

World Jewry has suffered a great loss with the death, in Prague, of Mr. Charles H. Jordan, executive vice-chairman and director-general of the American Joint Distribution Committee, the world-wide Jewish relief organisation. His body was found in the Vltava River, in the centre of Prague, nearly four days after he had left his hotel to buy a newspaper.

Born in Philadelphia in 1908, Charles Jordan was educated mainly at the University of Berlin and at the New York and Pennsylvania Schools for Social Work, joining the staff of the "Joint" in 1941 as director for the Caribbean area. He served with the U.S. Navy from 1943 to 1945 and resumed his work for the "Joint" after the war. In 1948 he went to Paris to take charge of the committee's emigration department, which cared for the welfare of the hundreds of thousands of Jewish displaced persons in the many refugee camps in Central Europe. In 1951 he became assistant director-general and, in 1955, director-general for overseas operations, becoming executive vice-chairman of the "Joint" in 1965 upon the death of Moses Leavitt.

Jordan was co-chairman of the International Committee for World Refugee Year (1960) and chairman of the governing body of the International Council of Voluntary Agencies, and was connected with several other organisations in the field of social work.

The French Government named him a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour in 1959 in recognition of his services on behalf of refugees.

Jordan's modern approach to social work and his outstanding capacity as an organiser and negotiator particularly qualified him for the accomplishment of his manifold responsible duties. He travelled to all places where emergency situations arose in order to base measures of relief on first-hand impressions. He never considered the communities in need as objects of welfare, but always stressed the idea that, once they had been provided with the necessary means, they themselves should be encouraged to look after their own affairs. Many Jews from German-speaking countries remember with particular gratitude Jordan's work in Shanghai after the end of the war where, as Director of Far Eastern activities, he looked after their welfare and organised their re-emigration. He rendered equally effective assistance to the reconstituted Jewish community of Berlin.

The international press commented widely on the mysterious facts of this tragic death. Tributes to Mr. Jordan's memory were received from Jewish leaders and organisations throughout the world.

## A Personal Tribute

Mr. Freddy Lieberman (London) writes: Charles Jordan, or just plain "Charlie" as he was known to thousands, was my cousin. But first and foremost he was my friend.

His parents were German Jews from Berlin, who went to the States after their marriage. They settled in Philadelphia, where Charlie was born. The marriage was not a happy one and was dissolved after a few years. His mother returned to Berlin with Charles and his sister, where he went to school at the Hindenburg Gymnasium in Wilhelmsau in Wilmersdorf.

In 1933 after the advent of the Nazis he contacted his father in New York and left Germany to live in the States again as an American citizen. What is little known about Jordan is that besides his great work as a leading official of the "Joint," at his own expense he also undertook the furthering of several young people in whom he had faith and whom he always referred to as his 17 children. These he sent to universities, colleges, music academies, or, in the case of my own son, who was one of this group, to drama school in New York. Having no children of his own, he loved all his friends' children and they in turn adored him. Most of his protégés did him proud—the only reward he asked for himself. For his official work he received plenty of honours.

This completely useless and highly suspicious end to a brilliant career, which still had left so much undone, leaves an enormous gap in the hearts of his relatives and friends and in the whole of Jewry.

## ILYA EHRENBURG

With the death of Ilya Ehrenburg in Moscow at the age of 76, the Soviet Union has lost its most brilliant, and the world an outstanding, journalist.

Born in Kiev, the son of a middle-class Russian Jewish family, Ehrenburg was one of the few who survived the Stalinist purges of Jewish writers. To this day he remains a controversial figure.

After Stalin's death, from 1954 until his own end, he did all in his power to redeem his past, particularly through his autobiography, his support of young and rebellious writers and painters, and his efforts for more freedom for artists generally.

Ehrenburg often extolled his Jewish roots, his Jewish home and his Jewish mother, and praised Jewish philosophical, artistic and literary achievements. Although he had made attacks on Zionism and Israel, during the Six-Day War he signed no anti-Israeli statements and did not join in the campaign against Israel.

## ISAAC DEUTSCHER

Mr. Isaac Deutscher, the authority on Soviet and Communist affairs and author of the standard biographies of Stalin and Trotsky, who died at the age of 60 whilst on holiday in Rome, was born in Cracow of an Orthodox family of printers and publishers of Jewish religious literature, receiving a strict Orthodox upbringing. He still wore chassidic dress when he attended the Cracow University, and it was there he started writing poetry slanted towards Zionism, and translating Hebrew poets.

At the age of 19 Deutscher rebelled against his traditional background and left for Warsaw, where he joined the illegal Communist Party. He became editor of the "Literarische Tribune", a legal Yiddish publication but which represented the Communist ideology.

In 1932 he was dismissed from his post and from the party for writing articles criticising the Stalinist policy in Germany and for urging united action by the Left against Nazism. Remaining faithful until his death to Marxism, Deutscher became involved in Leon Trotsky's movement.

Just before the outbreak of the last war Deutscher came to London, where for a time he was correspondent for the Polish-Jewish (Zionist) "Nash Psheglond". Soon he had to turn to English journalism, writing for the "Economist" and later for the "Observer". He wrote for many papers both here and abroad but, for the last 20 years, his main work was the writing of books and essays, the latest of which, "The Unfinished Revolution", also dealing with the U.S.S.R., was published only recently. He was working on a biography of Lenin at the time of his death. Of late Deutscher was associated with Bertrand Russell and Jean-Paul Sartre in the anti-American international tribunal on war crimes in Vietnam.

After the Sinai-Suez campaign of 1956, Deutscher warned that the antagonism of the Israeli Government to Arab nationalism might "transform Israel from a haven of refuge into a death trap". His last essay, on the recent Arab-Israeli war published in the "New Left Review" a few days before his death, takes an even more critical attitude towards Israel.

Deutscher (the "Jewish Chronicle" writes) belonged in the category of what he himself described as "non-Jewish Jews"—Spinoza, Marx, Heine, Freud, Rosa Luxemburg, Trotsky—who still represented something that was and remained particularly Jewish. The universalism of the non-Jewish Jews attracted him whilst, although admiring the achievements of Israel, the nationalism of the Zionists repelled him.

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# THE ISRAELI SCENE

## ADVICE FROM INTERNATIONAL BUSINESSMEN

### BRITISH MOVES

The British Foreign Office has approved the sale of 18 Centurion tanks to Israel, and it is understood that this is only the first of a larger Israeli order. The sale follows British offers of arms to Jordan, which also received American Starfighters.

A Conservative Party pamphlet, published under the title of "The Middle East and Britain," gives the approval of Sir Alec Douglas-Home, the party's official spokesman on foreign affairs, to a document advocating internationalisation of the Holy Places in a united Jewish Jerusalem, and the equal division of its tourist revenues between Israel and Jordan. The publication also urges the restoration of the occupied West Bank to Jordan in return for Arab recognition, or a Great Power guarantee, of Israel's existence as a nation. These and other proposals are not official, but are "a personal contribution" by a Parliamentary study group.

### T.U.C. LEADERS' VISIT

Mr. Fred Heyday, chairman of the international committee of the Trades Union Congress, and Mr. Frank Cousins, made a three-day study visit to Israel. After their visit they presented a report on the State's current economic and political situation to the general council of the T.U.C., which was incorporated in a special statement for the annual conference.

### CHURCHILL CHAIR

Professor Moshe Jammer, president of Bar-Ilan University, was in London interviewing applicants from various British universities to engage the first holder of the Churchill memorial chair in international relations and political science. The University is seeking a preferably English but not necessarily Jewish scholar.

The Churchill Chair was established by a £100,000 donation which the British Friends of the Bar-Ilan University have undertaken to raise. The University plans that the position starts functioning at the beginning of the 1968 academic year.

### HOLY PLACES

The holy places now under Israeli control will this year be visited by some 4,000 Christian pilgrims from Britain. Between October and January next, 31 charter flights to Tel Aviv have been booked by the Catholic Association, together with a travel agency. The tours are not limited to Catholics. Last year a pilgrimage arranged by the same organisations, but limited to Jordan, attracted only 750 people.

### EMIGRATION

In 1966 only 18,000 Jews settled in Israel, fewer than in any year except 1953, when there was very little immigration. There were only 5,000 newcomers in the first six months of 1967. Now, after the Six-Day War, emigration has considerably increased. Both June and July totals almost reached last year's levels, and nearly twice as many Britons emigrated to Israel in August than in the same month last year—115 as against 60 in August, 1966.

The total number of British emigrants for the first eight months of 1967 was 356—one above the period for last year. This is in addition to over 2,000 Britons who went to Israel as volunteers. The Israeli office of the Zionist Federation has reported that 20 per cent of volunteers now returning to Britain have stated that they would like to remain in Israel and another 10 per cent are considering settling. The Jewish Agency expects that about 2,000 volunteers will decide to stay at the end of their nine months' or year's service.

Britain supplied a total of 2,020 volunteers for Israel, more than half of whom were students who are returning home for the new academic year. Of the 7,500 overseas volunteers who came to help Israel during the crisis, about 300 have decided to settle in the country. Another 200 enrolled for prolonged study at institutes of higher learning.

### REFUGEES

The Israeli Government agreed to prolong the time-limit for the repatriation of West Bank residents until September 15, "for humanitarian considerations and responding to different appeals." By August 31, when the first time-limit expired, a total of 14,000 of the 20,000 approved applicants had returned. The extension enabled the 6,000 or so affected to return.

Israel received 30,000 application forms covering about 100,000 individuals. She prepared for 3,000 refugees a day and official policy favoured the liberal readmission of former town dwellers, but regarded as undesirable former inmates of refugee camps on the West Bank. Many intending returnees obviously changed their minds.

Applications from individuals for reunification with members of their families living on the West Bank will continue to be considered by Israel.

### MOSCOW'S MODERATE LINE

In a broadcast on Moscow radio, Russia has indicated that it supports the Arab moderates who favour a political settlement with Israel. Without naming them, the broadcast implicitly condemned the Algerians and Syrians, who want a continuation of the war.

According to Lord Sieff, a leading participant at the two-day economic advisory conference recently held in Jerusalem, practical results can be expected soon arising out of the conference. The meeting was attended by 59 Jewish businessmen from 13 countries. Mr. Michael Sacher, Sir Siegmund Warburg and Mr. Charles Clore, as well as Lord Sieff, came from Britain.

From Lord Sieff's remarks to the press afterwards, it would appear that the conference advised the Israeli Government to let Israeli businessmen run their own affairs without Government meddling, and advised reducing bureaucracy and lowering production costs. They promised their assistance as individuals to induce others "to stimulate and mobilise direct investment and to organise management and marketing assistance."

The concluding statement of the conference said that the Government had committed itself to "pursue sound and expansive fiscal and monetary policies." This would mean that the Government has changed its mind about the policy of recession which it had declared it intended to continue.

Representatives of Baron Edmond de Rothschild of France informed the conference that he had decided to prepare a comprehensive scheme for further Israeli development.

### BONN TRADE AGREEMENT

A spokesman of the Foreign Ministry in Bonn has stated that no negotiations have yet taken place on renewal of the 1966 Israeli-West German trade agreement which ended in May. Arab reports that the West German Government had granted Israel another credit of 160 million DM were denied.

An Israeli Embassy spokesman said that talks had been planned for the spring and it was hoped that they would now take place in the autumn.—(J.C.)

### GOOD WILL VISIT

The first official group of Israeli students to visit West Germany made a three week's stay in Cologne. Before leaving for home the group of over 30 boys and girls expressed the view that the most important task in the field of West German-Israeli relations is "the achievement of true aims of understanding" between the two countries, not tourism or the exchange of official delegations. Young people should lead in building bridges between the two nations.

The group said they had met much good will during their visit to West Germany, but criticised the fact that many Germans, including young people, were not inclined to discuss the Nazi past or learn from it.

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