

INFORMATION

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ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

Hans Jaeger

GERMANY AFTER THE ELECTIONS

In the following article, Hans Jaeger, an expert on German affairs, describes the background of the German elections and the consequences of their results. As far as he comments on party-political issues, his evaluations solely reflect his own views.—The Ed.

On 30th January, 40 years have passed since Hitler came to power and one of the most sombre chapters of history started. It is not incidental that this date comes to mind when setting out to assess the results of the elections in the German Federal Republic on November 19 last. The gradual process of healing has reached a new stage. This did not fail to have its effect on world opinion. Though quite a few people had already made their peace with Germany long before, and though even more had somehow come to terms with Germany, albeit with certain reservations, now a break-through could be noticed also among those who had simply ignored Germany or persevered in their hardened attitude, who had rejected reconciliation and even differentiation, thinking in static terms and believing in an incorrigibility and immutability of "the" Germans. After the elections, however, one could hear spontaneous remarks like "now I can cope with the past" or "now my mind is at rest" or "now I stop harbouring hostile feelings".

Of course, this is emotional too. Without wishing to minimise positive aspects of the election results, it must be stressed that feelings of euphoria and changes from one extreme to the other would be equally out of place. Political luck is capricious and unstable, and so is political opinion. Everything depends on the ability of using the opportunity, living up to expectations, maintaining popularity, keeping conflicting and centrifugal trends together, and never resting on laurels of self-complacency.

After the parliamentary motion of censure against the "Ostpolitik" had failed in April, the atmosphere was marred by pessimism and poisoned by distrust and disunity. When members of the Bundestag crossed the floor to such an extent that both camps had the same number of seats (a unique case in the history of parliamentary rule), with just one vote missing to keep or to achieve the majority, at once the suspicion of some "manipulation" arose. Of course, this could not be proved, and in view of the complex issue of the "Ostvertraege" it might be argued that some deputies felt themselves in a real dilemma. Yet, for the onlooker, it was an ugly picture. Huge protest demonstrations against the vote of censure, even in relatively small Bonn, seemed to forebode stormy days. The reaction was quick. Whilst the demonstrators, hardened by experience, suspected the worst kind of Fascism, the opposition retorted that Communism was not far away. The accents for the campaign were set. Exaggerations seemed to dominate the scene. When the Chancellor, in a dignified way, defended his position and met waves of hostility and fury,

someone who had not been able to get rid of generalisations and sweeping statements exclaimed: "The Germans do not deserve this man!"

There was pessimism on both sides. For some time, the SPD was on the defence. The opposition concentrated in its campaign on the economic situation, inflation, the "case" of Minister Schiller, and broken promises of reforms. Yet they were pessimistic too. Their leader, Barzel, who had been elected by the parliamentary group, was not popular among the rank and file, and had no mass appeal. Qualities like a certain intelligence in debate and quickness of wit are just not sufficient. What he said had not the human approach. It was "too cheap", as even a leading man of the CDU admitted. Besides, he felt insecure. He was only tolerated by Strauss who acted like a demon behind the scene. Allegedly, Strauss had talked Barzel into the risky experiment of the motion of censure. He was like a bulldozer in the campaign which deterred many people (though not in Bavaria). Barzel did not very much touch the subject of the Ostvertraege. After a long campaign against them, the party had abstained from voting simply to preserve its unity. In this way it had lost its authenticity. After a fierce propaganda against the treaties there was no excuse whatsoever for abstention. The party's attitude was painfully reminiscent of the trick of the German Nationals in the twenties during the discussion of the Young Plan, when the Chairman, Bazille, sent a telegram from his sick bed: "If acceptance secure, then reject". Now it was a new version. The CDU could not risk leaving the decision to the individual deputies because too many would have voted with the Government. Therefore, party discipline was imposed by the same people who had hastened to justify the right of crossing the floor as an expression of freedom of conscience.

Thus, Barzel's polemics concentrated on inflation. He ignored that it was partly imported from the USA via the Euro-Dollar, that it had something to do with full employment and was the price for it, that lack of manpower had to push up wages, and that strong buying power was bound to drive up prices. This applies to all industrial nations, including those with rightist governments. The resignation of the Minister of Economics and Finance, Schiller, was played up, although an event of this kind is nothing extraordinary in other countries. Besides, Schiller had only been out-voted after attempts to build him golden bridges had failed. There was no need for his resignation, neither from office nor from the party. The CDU tried to win him as the saviour from inflation. This was also very "cheap", as they

had before belittled his merits in fighting recession and blamed him for inflation all the time.

Slogans like that these would be the last free elections and that the Government tolerated left extremism and was responsible even for the Bader-Meinhoff band, did not improve the situation. When Strauss even dared to describe the bestowal of the Nobel Prize for literature on Heinrich Boell as a manoeuvre of party politics to help the SPD, it only caused laughter and disgust.

The poll, with 91.2 per cent was a record. The SPD, with 17.2 million became the strongest party (45.9 per cent). They had an increase by 3.1 million (3.2 per cent). One has to bear in mind that the number of those entitled to vote had risen by 2.7 million (as the age was lowered to 18 years, apart from the natural increase), and that, due to the record participation, the total was even higher by 4.2 million. The FDP increased its vote by 1.2 million (2.6 per cent). With 271 to 225 seats, the coalition obtained a comfortable majority of 46. The gains of the FDP came to many as a surprise, but they were predicted weeks before the election. They were, however, not obtained at the expense of the SPD. CDU/CSU, with 16.8 million, had also gains, but they were smaller than those of the coalition (only 1.6 million), and, in view of the higher poll, the percentage was 44.8 (a decrease by 1.3 per cent). Even these numerical gains were mostly due to the loss of the National Democrats of 1.2 million; with 207,000 votes, they do not mean very much. This means a shift to the right, especially for the CSU, which took care that the CDU followed. The Communists got only 114,000 votes (0.3 per cent). If one breaks up the figures according to the Laender, the SPD is for the first time stronger than the CDU in Lower Saxony, Schleswig-Holstein and even Saarland. CDU/CSU is stronger than the coalition in Bavaria and Baden-Wuerttemberg, and still stronger than the SPD in Rhineland-Palatinate.

What were the consequences of the election results? Of course, the FDP made its claim as a coalition partner who had gained strength, and any talk about the development of a two-party system, i.e. SPD and CDU to the exclusion of the FDP was silenced automatically. The FDP got five portfolios instead of three. They conquered the Ministry of Economics. Helmut Schmidt (SPD), whose appointment to the Super Ministry of Economics and Finance had been described as provisional, stayed. He had, however, to give up Economics. He keeps Finance, but he took care that some functions were shifted from Economics to Finance so that he remains the man at the wheel. This is why the FDP was compensated by a fifth portfolio, whilst they originally had only expected an increase from three to four. The arrangement was preceded by long and difficult negotiations, but although the FDP stood its ground there was no conflict. The

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GERMANY AFTER THE ELECTIONS

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opposition tried to play this up. Of course, the FDP differs from the SPD in its views on economic and social matters, especially about taxation, co-determination and similar issues. This may produce differences in the future. On the other hand, the FDP team is now really progressive. The candidates were sifted, and the risk of deputies crossing the floor has been reduced considerably. Strauss had speculated to win the FDP as a coalition partner and to isolate the SPD. This hope has now become futile.

The most remarkable change is the re-organisation of the Chancellery, which Horst Ehmke had transformed into a state within the state, with portfolios en miniature. Ehmke was transferred to the Ministry of Research and Technology which was divided so that Klaus v. Dohnanyi, son of a victim of the 20th July 1944, can concentrate on education and science. The Chancellery will have only a Secretary of State.

There is only one woman in the Cabinet: Katharina Focke (SPD), who replaced Kaethe Stobel in the Ministry of Health and Youth. To compensate for the reduced number of women in the Bundestag, Anemarie Renger (SPD), former secretary of the late Kurt Schumacher, became the first female President of the Bundestag.

This survey would not be complete if we did not record certain moments of tension. Within his own party, the Chancellor lashed out against a faction of rightists (allegedly they call themselves Erler Circle, after the late SPD leader Erler), who wanted to form a group of their own and conducted separate negotiations. He also lashed out against some leftists who, afraid that the FDP might push the whole party to the right, grumbled about the concessions made to the coalition partner. He told the Young Socialists and their friends that unity was the main thing and that everything else was suicidal.

The CDU and the CSU are much less united. A break between the two was avoided, though some CDU left wingers would not have felt sorry about it. Yet Strauss enforced equal rights for the CSU in spite of the discrepancy in strength between the two partners: 3½ to 1. For the time being, he dropped the idea of extending the CSU over the whole Federal area, a step which in turn would have resulted in the creation of a CDU branch in Bavaria too. He even tolerated Barzel, who was re-elected in order to avoid a new upheaval. This will, however, not go on for four years, and the concentration of several offices in his person will also be reduced. In the background one sees Gerhard Schroeder and the Premiers of Schleswig-Holstein, Stoltenberg, former director of Krupp, and of Rhineland-Palatinate,

Kohl, who has also the confidence of the left wingers, the trade unionists whom Strauss dislikes tremendously, and of others who secretly want a positive Ostpolitik too.

The situation is different inside the SPD. Willy Brandt has one advantage which the SPD never had in the Weimar period, when the party was directed almost exclusively from the right with the exception of Saxony and Thuringia. Yet a party which is not homogeneous cannot be kept together from the vantage point of one of its wings. Willy Brandt is a man of the centre, unlike Friedrich Ebert, Noske, and Wels. He can talk to the rightists and, what is especially important, he can talk to the Young Socialists too. He does not do it in the haughty manner which is no longer accepted by the youth. He listens to their complaints and wishes. He shows them what is unrealistic, and he can warn them of dangers. There are political neighbours to the left of the SPD who might appear alluring because they seem to agree with the party about many things, e.g. social issues, foreign policy and the danger of Fascism, but who aim at the hegemony and, if they came to power, would do the exact opposite: repress the trade unions, stifle freedom of expression, "harmonise" culture, and follow dictates. Willy Brandt can, from the centre, forestall these dangers and prevent a second Weimar.

NEW YEAR HONOURS

Award for Dr. F. H. Kroch

Our congratulations to recipients of the recent New Year Honours have in the first place to go out to Dr. F. H. Kroch (Manchester) who was awarded a CBE. From small beginnings in 1937 he developed his chemical company, Lankro Chemicals, into a multi-million pound concern. Yet success has not changed his modest personality. Nor has the respect he gained in public life, which was only recently expressed by the award of the Hon. M.Sc. of Manchester University, diminished his devotion to the well-being of his fellow refugees. He was one of those enterprising AJR leaders in the provinces, who founded the first Home for elderly refugees, Morris Feinmann Home, at a time, when the assets from the restituted German Jewish property were not yet available, and he has been a trustee of the Home ever since. His vision of the wider issues involved is coupled with an unsurpassable interest in the problems of every individual resident of the Home. Dr. Kroch is a member of the AJR Board and also one of the three AJR representatives on the Allocations Committee, by which the recovered German Jewish assets are administered.

Another AJR member, whose name is included in the Honours List is the industrialist Mr. Peter Black of Keighley (Yorks), who was awarded an OBE; as his brother, Mr. P. Shields (a Board member of the AJR), has

held the same award for some years, this is probably the first case among the former refugees, in which two members of the same family have been honoured in this way.

The two newly created Knights Commanders of the Order of the Bath (KCB), Professor Hermann Bondi, FRS, and Professor Claus Adolf Moser, CBE, came to this country as refugees. Professor Bondi, who was born in Vienna in 1919, is chief scientific adviser to the Ministry of Defence. On his mother's side, he is a descendant of the Hirsch family of Harbards (Hirsch-Kupfer). Professor Moser, who was born in Berlin in 1922, is director of the central statistical office and head of the government statistical service.

An OBE was awarded to the industrialist Mr. Arthur Hubert (St. Annes), of Tom Martin Metals Group, a great benefactor of institutions of Jewish learning, and to Mr. Peter Konstam, consultant surgeon Orkney hospitals, whose father was the founder of Sanatorium Kohnstamm in Koenigstein (Taunus).

Mannheim-born Sir Robert Mayer, the 93-year-old philanthropist, has been made a member of the exclusive Order of the Companions of Honour, for services to music. Sir Robert came to this country in 1896. During the First World War whilst serving in the British Army he played music to the troops in hospitals. He began to arrange children's concerts in 1923 and, two years later, started concerts for schools in the East End. Now he is campaigning for more concert halls outside London.

Mr. Isidore Jack Lyons, the Leeds industrialist and philanthropist, has been knighted for public and charitable services to the arts. He gave £200,000 towards the cost of a theatre at the Royal Academy of Music and large sums to York and other universities to establish music departments and provide facilities. Other new Knights Bachelor include Mr. Stanley Marks Krusin, second parliamentary counsel, and Councillor Harry Livermore, former Lord Mayor of Liverpool, for services to the arts on Merseyside. Mr. Paul Strasser of New South Wales has also been knighted for services to the building industry and to charity.

Mr. John Gordon Liverman, departmental secretary, Department of Trade and Industry has been made a Companion of the Order of the Bath (CB). Those who have been awarded the CBE include Mr. Alfred Deutsch, technical director, Thorn Electrical Industries; Mr. Leander Grunberg of Glasgow, superintendent, National Engineering Laboratory, Department of Trade and Industry; Mr. Bernat Klein of Galashiels, textile designer; Mr. Leslie Barnett Prince, a former joint chairman of the Jewish Refugees Committee, for public services in the City of London.

Ex-Ajex chairman Major Herbert Samek, has been awarded the OBE for services to the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women. During the Second World War he helped feed starving Jews in Rangoon and assisted them to rebuild their synagogue. Other recipients of the OBE include Mr. Isaac Sclar of Glasgow, chairman, James Scott and Company Engineering Group; Professor Julius Stone of Sydney University, for services to the law.

The MBE has been awarded to the Rev. Saul Amias, a founder and minister of the Edgware Synagogue; Miss Corrine Bellow, head of information services, Tate Gallery, London; Mr. Isidor Gold, senior executive assistant, London Transport Executive; Mr. Alfred Kashket, chairman, Kashket and Partners (uniform manufacturers); Mr. Vladimir Rubinstein, head of reception department, BBC monitoring service.

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HOME NEWS

MR. WILSON'S SUPPORT

During Mr. Harold Wilson's visit to Israel, he expressed his views on Britain's vote against Israel in the Middle East debate in the United Nations General Assembly. Addressing the Israel Labour Party's central committee in Tel Aviv, he said that the resolution was "a major change" in the foreign policy of the British Conservative Government. The resolution approved by the General Assembly demanded Israel's total withdrawal from the territories occupied during the 1967 Six-Day War before peace was achieved. This stand, said Mr. Wilson, represented a change from the policy outlined in the Security Council Resolution 242 of November, 1967, which was formulated by Britain and provided for a "withdrawal from territories" while at the same time paying regard to Israel's security needs. Mr. Wilson compared Britain's stand in the recent General Assembly debate with that at Munich in 1938, and declared that such an attitude could endanger Israel's integrity and even existence.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, who were in Israel visiting their son, Giles, who is working in a kibbutz, were the guests of Mrs. Golda Meir during their week's stay.

Mr. Christopher Mayhew, MP, chairman of the Labour Middle East Council, who objected to Mr. Wilson's visit even before it took place, has described the Labour leader's statements as "extraordinary" and contrary to official party policy.

MONDAY CLUB BRANCH PREJUDICE

The Monday Club decided to disband its West Middlesex branch because 70 of the branch members had worked to support the National Front candidate in the Uxbridge by-election.

One of the reasons given for the disbandment was "an underlying racial prejudice in the basic thinking of the National Front of a type which is unacceptable to the principles of the Monday Club".

EFFORTS FOR SOVIET JEWRY

Oxford's newly established inter-denominational action committee for the release of Soviet Jewry numbers among its patrons the Bishop of Oxford, the Rt. Rev. Kenneth Woolcombe, Lord Blake, provost of Queen's College, and the Rev. Dr. Dennis Nineham, warden of Keeble College. The patrons also include Professor C. A. Coulson, Professor Sir Alfred Ayer, Lord Segal of Wytham, and Sir Frederick Dainton.

Dr. M. Yudkin and Mr. E. Borowski head the committee, which will concern itself particularly with Jewish academics whose emigration from the Soviet Union is hindered by the Russian "education tax".

At a recent meeting of the Oxford Union, a resolution was unanimously accepted calling on the Soviet Government to release Professor Benjamin Levich, of Moscow.

President Podgorny of Russia was approached by the All-Party Parliamentary Committee for the Release of Soviet Jewry for amnesty for Jewish prisoners of conscience on the 50th anniversary of the USSR.

DECREASE OF EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL

In the past three years British emigration to Israel has steadily declined. Statistics indicate that the decrease for 1973 will be about 15 per cent compared with 1972.

Mr. Moshe Baram, head of the Government coalition parties in the Israeli Parliament, paid a five-day visit to Britain to assist in the work of the Jewish Agency's immigration department. The department states that Mr. Baram is only the first of many Israeli public figures who will be helping to promote aliya from Britain. Mr. Baram said he would like British emigration to Israel to reach at least 5,000 annually—it has not exceeded 2,000 in any one year.

CONTACTS WITH "THIRD WORLD" COUNTRIES

The World Jewish Congress has established an African and Asian affairs department, whose major aim it is to create a fundamental understanding of the Jewish people by the countries of the Third World. The WJC will try to promote a positive image of the Jews to counter the antisemitic stereotypes suggested by Arab, Russian and Chinese propaganda. The department will not work through governments but on a "people-to-people basis". Its programme is orientated towards the Third World countries, including Japan and China but excepting Egypt and Yugoslavia.

Mr. Marcus Enfield, the new department's first director, is to organise a task force of young Jews to form a "friendship corps" prepared to work for several months in the countries concerned. A panel of Jewish and non-Jewish lecturers will be set up.

Jewish communities in Western countries will also be asked to establish contact with visitors or resident representatives of the Third World countries, to invite them to their meetings, introduce them to the Jewish way of life and discuss with them topics of mutual interest.

ALLEGED RACIALISM IN MARGATE

Members of the Jewish community living in East Kent have been upset by an alleged racial action by a Margate Sunday school teacher. The incident, which was given prominence in the local newspaper, occurred because of an alphabetic history of the Bible which was hung in the parish hall of Holy Trinity Church, Margate. Giving a definition for each of the letters, under "G" it stated: "Gentiles who were hated by the Jews".

Mr. John Morris, a Broadstairs Jew, who saw the words while attending a meeting in the hall of the church, expressed shock that this kind of racial prejudice and hatred was being taught to children. Mr. Shirley Moss, secretary of the Margate congregation, was "very concerned" at the statement and said the least that could be expected was an apology from the vicar, the Rev. Simon Crawley.

Mr. Crawley said the words had been written by a Sunday school teacher and had been removed following complaints and, as far as he was concerned, the matter was now finished.

NEW JUDGE

Mr. Morris Finer, QC, has been appointed a High Court Judge, and has been assigned to the family division. For many years Mr. Finer was a leader-writer on the London Evening Standard, and he is an authority on company law. The London School of Economics, of which he is a former student, honoured him two years ago by electing him vice-chairman.

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ANGLO-JUDAICA

Women Call for Equality

A petition signed by one million Jewish women calls on rabbinical authorities throughout the world to alleviate the frustrations and hardships caused by certain Jewish laws relating to marriage, divorce and inheritance.

At a meeting held by the Anglo-Jewish Association at London's B'nai B'rith Hillel House, Mrs. Alfred Rubens presented a paper on the problems facing women in Jewish law. A detailed analysis of the problems which she gave had, she said, received high priority in the deliberations of the International Council.

Baroness Birk on Birth Control

Baroness Birk, who has ended her term of office as chairman of the Health Education Council, was the second Jewess to head the HEC (Lady Serota was the first). In an interview with the Jewish Chronicle Lady Birk criticised Sir Keith Joseph's proposals for free birth control. Sir Keith's plans, she declared, did not go nearly far enough. Since she had become chairman of the council in 1969 she had been working for a comprehensive free contraceptive service for married and unmarried men and women. Only a free service under the NHS would effectively reduce abortions and the number of illegitimate children and unplanned babies.

Lady Birk believed that many Catholic doctors were taking an elastic view of contraception to avoid the—to them—greater horror of abortion. Jewish doctors, she explained, had no inhibitions about abortions and Jewish ministers interpret danger to the health of the mother in a wider way than Catholics. Lady Birk thought that sex education in Britain was "antiquated". Sex was a part of living and should go right through a school's educational system and should include morals, ethics, religion and other subjects.

Top Guide

Believed to be the first time a Jewess has held the post, Mrs. Jessica Blooman, of Stanmore, has been appointed deputy commissioner of the Girl Guides movement. Mrs. Blooman, who is 51, has been connected with the Girl Guides since the age of nine. In addition, she is one of the four regional training officers in the probation service.

Hackney Synagogue 75

A special service to mark the 75th anniversary of Hackney Synagogue was conducted by its minister for the past 40 years, the Rev. Dr. Barnett Joseph, assisted by the Rev. J. Klein. Those present included the deputy mayor and mayoress of Hackney, representatives of local Christian churches and of other synagogues in the area, and Mr. Clinton Davis, MP for Hackney Central.

At a reception following the service Mr. Davis criticised those Jews who joined with chauvinistic elements who would not extend a welcome to the Asians. Those Jews he emphasised, should think back to the early days, and also to the Nazi Holocaust and the present tyranny in Russia.

Liverpool Community Centre

The Liverpool Jewish Youth Centre in Childwall is now to be known as the Liverpool Jewish Youth and Community Centre. The building has for long not been utilised to its full capacity and, during the past twelve months, various communal organisations have made increasing use of the centre. It was decided to allocate a part of the building for use as a community centre, and the work of adapting that section for the purpose has begun. Lecture and committee rooms, a lounge and a wide range of social facilities are to be provided. The new community centre is expected to be ready by March.

With acknowledgement to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Women's Petition to Russia

To mark the 24th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, American Jewish women's groups rallied at the United Nations. There they petitioned the Soviet authorities to allow Jews in the USSR their full rights to practise their culture and religion. The petition also asked that all Jews who wished to emigrate should be allowed to do so.

The demonstration was one of several held to call attention not only to the plight of Soviet Jews but to the persecution of Jews in Syria.

Israel's representative at the UN, Mr. Yosef Tekoah, marked the Human Rights anniversary by presenting a letter to Dr. Kurt Waldheim, the UN Secretary-General, from 239 Soviet Jews in Moscow, Minsk, Vilnius, Novosibirsk, Leningrad, Kishinev, Kharkov and Riga, protesting against the Soviet authorities' refusal to allow the signatories to leave the USSR for Israel.

Democratic Party Chairman

The new national chairman of the American Democratic Party is Mr. Robert Strauss, a Dallas lawyer active in Jewish community life. Mr. Strauss's father had emigrated from Germany before his birth in 1918. His mother's family had been in Texas since the middle of the 19th century.

Mr. Strauss worked as an investigator for the Federal Bureau of Investigation after graduating from Texas University law school.

After becoming a prosperous businessman in Dallas, he was made treasurer of the Democratic Party and put the party on a sound financial basis.

As the Democratic Party Chairman, Mr. Strauss is the *de facto* head of the party until the next national elections.

Mourning for Truman

In tribute to former President Harry S. Truman, flags throughout Israel flew at half-mast. President Shazar, in a message of condolence to President Nixon recalled that Mr. Truman's sincere friendship and understanding had been of "central importance during some of the most critical moments in Israel's struggle for nationhood". Mr. David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first Prime Minister, warmly praised Mr. Truman for his sympathetic attitude to Zionism and the revived State of Israel. At the memorial service in Washington, President Shazar represented Israel.

As Mr. Truman lay dying in a Kansas City hospital, the Judaic Heritage Society of America named him as the 1972 recipient of the "Man of the Year" award. A large advertisement in the New York Times explained that Mr. Truman was the first world leader to extend recognition to the new State of Israel at its birth on May 15, 1948.

Protestants Invite Negro Antisemite

Despite the protests of the American Jewish Committee, B'nai B'rith's Anti-Defamation League and other major Jewish bodies, the National Council of Churches invited the playwright and poet Lamumu Baraka (formerly known as Le Roi Jones) to deliver the keynote address at the Protestant organisation's triennial general assembly in Dallas, Texas.

Baraka's writings include many antisemitic references. He recently led a drive in the steering committee of the National Black Political Caucus, an American Negro group, to impose a resolution calling for Israel's dissolution.

After the assembly Baraka denied that he was antisemitic, saying that in his poetry he also criticises "Niggers, Polacks, Italians and Anglo-Saxons in addition to Jews".

SOUTH AFRICA

Loyalty of Jews

A sermon by Rabbi Bernard Casper, Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregation of Johannesburg and of the South African Federation of Synagogues, was relayed by the South African Broadcasting Corporation. Rabbi Casper was replying to a series of articles appearing in the Johannesburg Afrikaans Nationalist newspaper, Die Vaderland, about "The Jew in South Africa". The articles posed such questions as "is the Jew 100 per cent loyal to South Africa?"

It was true that the experience of the Jews has been enriched by their contacts with other peoples and other cultures, said Rabbi Casper. But it was equally true that the Jews had made very great contributions to whichever country they had lived in. The fact that they wanted to keep their identity and religion did not affect their loyalty to their respective countries.

The sermon followed a revelation in Die Vaderland that the Afrikaner Broederbond secret society, to which the Prime Minister and Cabinet Ministers belonged, had ordered an inquiry in 1969 into the "Jewish problem".

Deputies Criticised

The South African Jewish Board of Deputies has again been criticised by the National Jewish Students' Association in South Africa. Referring to the board's "refusal to react to injustices and immoral actions" in the country, the association declared that it would take action itself. The association pointed out that during the board's national congress, its delegation walked out because its resolution calling on the conference to condemn all forms of discrimination based on race, colour or religion, was defeated and replaced by one more moderate proposed by the board. The board said the students' statement, "should react to injustices and immoral actions in South Africa."

DUTCH RIGHTS FOR WOMEN

For the first time in the history of the Jewish community in Holland, the all-male council of the Bussum community near Amsterdam unanimously decided to allow Orthodox women to become eligible for membership. Rabbi Eliezer Berlinger, the Chief Rabbi of Utrecht, said that he did not see any objection to granting passive suffrage to women.

Amsterdam's two Ashkenazi rabbis have challenged the Chief Rabbi's ruling, saying that their decision, based on halachic services, rules out the possibility of having women sit on the board of the Nederlands Israelitische Hofsynagoge. The statement also pointed out that, in the whole of Britain, no women sit on the boards of congregations affiliated to the United Synagogue.

Rabbi Berlinger's religious authority operates in the whole of Holland except for Amsterdam, Rotterdam and The Hague, which have their own Chief Rabbis.

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FRANCE

Jews and General Elections

The vote of France's 550,000 Jews in the General Elections at the beginning of March may prove decisive in some areas. Recent public opinion polls in France have shown a swing away from the Government towards the Socialists. The pro-Arab Middle East policy of the present Gaullist-dominated Government is disliked by many French Jews.

The Jewish vote could be decisive in between ten and 15 Paris constituencies. In Marseilles, Nice and Toulouse the concentration of Jews and their voting could also tip the balance. The number of constituencies altogether involved is about 25.

It is expected that France's Jewish vote will be divided among the Socialists (who have formed an electoral alliance with the Communists) and the Centrists, all of whom are openly pro-Israel. There is a relatively small but solid group of pro-Communist Jews in France.

Jewish National Conference

The national conference of Crif, the Representative Council of French Jewry, held in Paris was attended by some 400 delegates. The conference approved a resolution aiming at integrating the different elements of the community which have arrived in the country in successive stages. Crif will also intensify its fight against anti-Zionism — regarded as a cover for antisemitism — and against Arab propaganda and terrorism. The organisation will fight the French Government's "systematic attitude of hostility" to Israel and "attributing guilt" to Israel.

Professor Adolph Steg, the president of Crif, declared that every effort must be made to rid Franco-Israeli relations of their bitterness. He also emphasised that the position of underprivileged Sephardi Jews in Israel was a problem for all Jews throughout the world.

The conference which received a report from Mrs. Esther Markish, the widow of the Soviet-Yiddish poet, Peretz Markish, discussed the situation of Soviet Jews.

AUSTRALIAN ELECTIONS

In the recent Australian General Election, three Jewish MPs were returned to the Federal Parliament in Canberra. They are all members of the Labour Party, which has formed the new Government under Mr. Gough Whitlam after being in opposition for 23 years. The new Minister of Environment and Conservation, Dr Moss Cass, is the first Jew who is a full member of the Australian Cabinet.

Three National Socialist Party candidates received only 814 votes out of a total electoral roll in three constituencies of 178,555.

MEMORIAL FOR MUNICH VICTIMS

In the Olympic Village where the eleven Israeli Olympic sportsmen murdered by Arab terrorists in Munich stayed, a plaque was unveiled in their memory.

Representatives of Bavarian public institutions and of the West German Jewish community attended the dedication. Also present were the Israeli Ambassador to West Germany, the Minister, President of the Bavarian State Government and the presidents of the West German and the Israeli Olympic committees.

CHAGALL FOR RUSSIA?

Marc Chagall, the 85-year-old Russian-born French Jewish artist, is reported to have been invited by the Soviet Government on more than one occasion to visit the Soviet Union.

Mrs. Ekaterina Furtseva, the Soviet Minister for Cultural Affairs, during a recent visit to Paris invited Marc Chagall to visit Moscow. He is reported to have replied that he would do so if an exhibition of his works was opened there.

Chagall, who was born in Vitebsk, left Russia in 1922.

Nelly Engel

CHAIM NACHMAN BIALIK

Some Personal Reminiscences

Only once in my life had I the privilege of meeting the greatest modern Hebrew poet the centenary of whose birth in January was celebrated all over the world and particularly in Israel. Chaim Nachman Bialik wrote his lyrical and epic work in Hebrew already in his native Russia, thus belonging to the circle of writers who promoted the miracle of turning the Hebrew language from a language of scholars into the living language of the Jewish people. Of course, nobody could have foreseen that one day even the verses he wrote at the turn of the century would be loved and learned and recited by innumerable schoolchildren in the Land of Israel.

Yet the achievement of Bialik, which I learned to know and admire on my first visit to Palestine in the year 1933 is not reflected in any of his books. It lives only in the memory of those who experienced it, and it can only be saved from oblivion by their faithful record.

Bialik emigrated to Palestine at the beginning of the twenties and chose Tel Aviv as his residence. It was in this city that he created an institution which—as Professor Ernst Simon expressed it—contained so much of the tradition of rabbinical Judaism and, at the same time, so much of the pulsation of the newly awoken Jewish life in Palestine that it had the power to safeguard the central sanctuary of the Jewish people, the celebration of the Shabbat. Bialik called this institution "Oneg Shabbat", a name familiar in Jewish history and yet, in this case, meaning something new, something original.

Oneg Shabbat in Tel Aviv

Bialik's Oneg Shabbat was celebrated in the Ohel Shem, the Tent of Shem, which is said to have been the name of the first place of study of the Torah. The simple, large, white-washed hall could hardly bear comparison with the lecture halls which are now to be found all over Israel, beautifully designed, with perfect acoustics and comfortable seating. Yet there was something sublime and indescribably moving in the mere fact that the hard working pioneers of those days had built this edifice for the purpose of rejoicing only, of rejoicing in the holiness of the Shabbat. The hall had a capacity of about 1,500, and admittance was free.

Generally, the programme of Bialik's Oneg Shabbat consisted of a serious lecture which occupied the Shabbat afternoon and which was followed by the *Havdalah*, the ceremony of parting from the Shabbat and welcoming the new working week.

When I entered the hall early in the afternoon all the wooden chairs seemed already occupied. Yet being a guest from abroad, which in those days was quite a distinction, I and the friend who introduced me were allocated seats in the first row.

On the raised platform stood an oblong table around which the notables of Tel Aviv were seated. The place in the middle was reserved for Bialik. Beside the table stood a lectern for the guest speaker. On this particular Shabbat, a professor of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem was to give a talk on "The Comparison between Hebrew and Arabic Grammar". The lecturer as well as the audience were awaiting the arrival of Bialik.

It was a bright afternoon. To while away the time somebody started chanting a Shabbat song, a *zemirah*, the whole audience joining in. There followed another song and another, and the Shabbat-feeling of these songs embraced the waiting audience. At last, Bialik arrived and as a mark of greeting and reverence everybody rose.

His outward appearance was not particularly impressive. Of medium height and stocky—he was then 61 years old—his features seemed rather those of a well-to-do merchant than of a poet. Was I disappointed? Only as long as he did not speak, as long as I could not look directly into his eyes. His mouth and his eyes expressed the whole charm of his artistic personality.

Before taking his seat, he shook hands with some of the people he knew, among others with my friend Miryam Ben Gavriel who then introduced me to him as a guest from abroad. He went on to the platform, said a few words of welcome and introduced the speaker. For more than an hour the audience listened attentively to his scholarly performance, of which I understood very little.

While the professor spoke, the sun was beginning to sink, dusk was gathering and suddenly, as it happens in these zones, night set in, it was completely dark, the lecture came to an end, the Shabbat was gone.

Havdalah Blessing

Now Bialik rose for the *Havdalah*, the blessing between Shabbat and week-day. The braided candle was lit and its flare was the only sparkling point in the darkness of the hall. When in his prayer Bialik came to the word "or", light, all the electric lamps lit up and from a box in the right-hand corner a most garish Star of David (the gift of an American admirer) appeared in brilliant colours. The sudden light threw its spell upon the audience. But on the platform Bialik continued to perform the ritual of the *Havdalah*. He extinguished the candle light in the wine spilled into a saucer. Then, instead of the customary spice-box, he seized a bunch of beautiful red carnations, took in the aroma of the flowers as if it were the essence of the scent of exotic spices emanating from

a spice-box and let his neighbours have a sniff. He descended from the platform, walked directly towards me and, with the words "Gut Woch", handed the lovely nosegay to me. Before I could say a word of thanks he was gone and my first and only meeting with the great poet had come to an end.

I remained in Tel Aviv as the guest of a family of genuine Chaluzim. David and Sara Uri had come from Vienna where they had interrupted their studies to go to Palestine and to participate in the founding of the first Kibbutz, Daganah Alef. Later David became a chicken expert for the whole country, and the family had to move to Tel Aviv. They had three children aged 6, 8 and 11.

After my return from the Ohel Shem I had put my flowers into a vase, and next morning they adorned the breakfast table. When I told my hosts of my experiences of the previous day and mentioned that the flowers on the table were a present I had received from Chaim Nachman Bialik, the children became extremely agitated. They jumped from their seats, looked at me as if I were an extraordinary human being. "Our great poet gave you these flowers personally? Could you not let us have at least one carnation each, so that we may press it and keep it as a memento for ever?" It did not take long and many more children came in, as the news of the flowers spread in the neighbourhood, and they all asked me for a carnation which had passed through the hands of Bialik. I thought in my heart: Blessed is the people whose children cherish their poets so much.

The esteem and love which Bialik enjoyed among the people was demonstrated again in the following year, when the poet was lying desperately sick in his house in Tel Aviv. That house stood in a wide square in the inner city. During the time of his illness, no car was allowed to pass the square, so as not to disturb his peace. He died in 1934, only 62 years old.

JEWISH STUDIES INSTITUTE

Nearly 1,500 graduates from all over the world have attended the six-month study courses of the International Graduate Centre in Arad, which was founded five years ago. They were given the opportunity to spend almost half-a-year in a relatively carefree environment learning Hebrew, studying a variety of Jewish subjects, touring the country and even working for ten days on a kibbutz or moshav. After they leave Arad, the students start working in their professions for another six months. At the end of the year, many of them return home, having had a very valuable educational experience. Many stay on in Israel, some to settle permanently. Courses start four times a year (January, April, July and October). Cost (including round trip transportation) is £160 from London. Further information may be obtained from: World Union of Jewish Students Institute, Arad, Israel.

SPREADING BIBLICAL KNOWLEDGE

The World Jewish Bible Society (Jerusalem) has embarked on two new ventures. It has launched a new quarterly bulletin (in English), "Dor le-Dor", containing scholarly articles written in a non-technical style. The feature article in the autumn 1972 issue is an interpretation of the book of Jonah by President Shazar. The Society also published a Triennial Tenach Study Calendar, which covers the 929 chapters of the Tenach in a suggested sequence. The reading of the same chapter wherever Jews reside will, it is expected, symbolise the unity of world Jewry. Inquiries are to be addressed to: the World Jewish Bible Society, 9 Brenner Street, POB 7024, Jerusalem, Israel.

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FOUR STAGES IN YOUNG BUBER'S LIFE

Publication of Correspondence

On February 8, Martin Buber would have been 95.

Martin Buber kept all the letters he received over nearly 70 years in orderly files. In spite of the many disturbances and dislocations he, in common with all of us, had to undergo in that stormy period, he was fortunate enough to be able to rescue all his letters and other papers. After his death, Buber's entire exemplary archives were transferred to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, where they are kept in a special room under the faithful and able supervision of Margot Cohn, Buber's secretary during the last years of his life. She certainly played a part in building up this invaluable collection, which is now at the disposal of students from all parts of the world.

The existence of these archives has made possible the publication of a selection of Buber's correspondence. Unfortunately, however, this publication must be limited by the fact that, although almost all of the letters to Buber are preserved, many of his own letters—until a late age mainly written in his own fine and painstaking handwriting—are missing. No copies were kept and drafts were made only in exceptional cases. Thus the editors of the publication are dependent on the retrieval of letters from recipients, many of whom are no longer alive or whose papers were lost. In view of such difficulties it is surprising that so many letters dating back more than 50 years could be traced.

The first volume of Buber's Correspondence* covers the period from 1897 to 1918 that is, roughly:

(a) The time of Buber's first active participation in the Zionist Organisation, when he was for some time editor of *Die Welt*, the Viennese Zionist weekly founded by Herzl as the organ of the movement and (1901) a member of the so-called Democratic Fraction, or briefly "Fraction" to which the angry young men of predominantly cultural interest belonged, including Chaim Weizmann, Berthold Feiwel, Leo Motzkin and E. M. Lilien.

(b) The period of Buber's temporary withdrawal from public life and his devotion to literary work, including the preparation of his Chassidic writings.

(c) Buber's emergence as a public speaker pointing the way to the bewildered, and as an interpreter of the essence of Judaism.

(d) The First World War and the creation of the monthly journal, *Der Jude*.

This schematic division for the moment omits Buber's other activities—his editorship of the series of "sociological" monographs, *Die Gesellschaft*, his many contacts with non-Jewish intellectuals, and his interest in the lives and teachings of mystics.

* Martin Buber: "Briefwechsel aus sieben Jahrzehnten." Band I: 1897-1918. Mit einem Geleitwort von Ernst Simon und einem biographischen Abriss als Einleitung von Grete Schaefer. Verlag Lambert Schneider, Heidelberg 1972. 606 s. Subscriptionspreis DM 55.

In the present volume, Buber's first period of intensive Zionist work is mainly illustrated by his correspondence with the other pre-eminent member of the Democratic "Fraction", Chaim Weizmann. This period is also extensively covered in the complete edition of Weizmann's letters, of which three volumes (up to 1904) have already appeared (Ed. Meyer Weisgal, Oxford University Press). Weizmann's letters are, however, only published in English translation (and in Hebrew in Israel), although they were originally written in German. Also, some of the letters of Weizmann's correspondents are only summarised in short footnotes. An entirely different practice is adopted in the Buber volume, where not only his own letters appear but also those he received. Thus, in many cases the relationship between Buber and his correspondents comes into focus in the form of a dialogue—certainly a method more congenial to Buber. Weizmann's original—German—letters, with their inimitable and untranslatable style, are only to be found in the Buber volume.

These letters refer mainly to the, then, hectic propaganda of the "Fraction" and—apart from the opposition to Herzl and his abortive East African projects—to two topics: the establishment of a Jewish university (mainly for the expatriate Russian Jewish students); and the creation of a Jewish monthly of high standing, to be representative of Jewish creativity and intellectual power.

These two projects did not materialise in 1904, but it is noteworthy that, at that time, it was regarded as self-evident that the periodical had to be in German, and also that the only criterion for the choice of contributors had to be their distinction and not their views about Judaism or their party affiliation. The periodical's name and its prospective editor were decided: *Der Jude*, edited by Martin Buber. Actually, it started

publication in Germany in 1916 under quite different circumstances, when Weizmann was in England, on the other side of the trenches, no longer having any connection with the paper.

Buber himself had abandoned all these plans, as he told Weizmann in a letter of congratulation on his wedding in 1906. He was now entering a stage (outlined above as (b)) of introspection and of seeking expression in literary work. For some time he lived in Florence, outside the Zionist party circle, devoting himself to the study of Chassidism and to the editorship of *Die Gesellschaft*, of which 40 volumes appeared. It must suffice to mention only some names of contributors—actual or potential—to this series: Hermann Stehr, Hugo von Hofmannsthal, Gustav Landauer, Franz Oppenheimer, Georg Simmel, Ellen Key (*Die Frauenbewegung*), Karl Wolfskehl, Fritz Mauthner, Lou Andreas-Salomé (who wrote the volume on eroticism in the series), Rudolf Pannwitz, Rudolf Kassner, Werner Sombart, Eduard Bernstein. Buber himself was by no means uncritical of some of the essays which appeared in the series.

After his first Chassidic book, "The Tales of Rabbi Nachman" (of Bratislav) was published in 1906, most of his correspondence dealt with that book and with the "Legend of Baal Shem" which followed in 1908.

Buber was, at this time, also engaged in the general study of mysticism, sharing with Gustav Landauer his interest in Meister Eckhardt. The fruit of this pre-occupation was his book, "Ekstatische Konfessionen" (published by Eugen Diederichs, 1909), a collection of documents of mystical experience by individuals all over the globe through many centuries. Another product of this stage was "Reden und Gleichnisse des Tschuang-Tse". These years before the First World War were a time of wide expansion of Buber's interests and studies beyond the Jewish world. But he never lost sight of the inner relationship between Jewish and other phenomena, strengthening his conviction of the necessity for a synthesis of Judaism and humanity generally.

This conviction predestined his role as a teacher of those who had not found the way, and when the call came to him (in a letter from Leo Hermann, printed in the Correspondence) he went to Prague to give his first Lecture on Judaism in January 1909. In the following years two other Lectures followed, published in 1913 as "Drei Reden über das Judentum".

The new relationship formed from this time with a circle of young Jews, mainly Zionists dissatisfied with mere party bustle, is reflected in the Correspondence. The letters are concerned with the tracing of a way to a deeper understanding of what being a Jew really means, the fostering of cultural interests and finally the problem of *Erneuerung* and *Verwirklichung* (two of Buber's key words) in personal life. True, only a few really lived up to these tenets, but the problems connected therewith, both from the cultural and practical aspects, were the subject of lively discussion. Outstanding correspondents were such men as Hugo Bergmann, Hans Kohn and others of the students' association, Bar Kochba of Prague, as well as

Continued on Page 7, Column 1

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Arnold Zweig, Max Brod, Ludwig Strauss, Gerhard Scholem, Elijah Rapoport. This circle was roughly the same as that on whose behalf the Bar Kochba published the book, "Vom Judentum" (1913), edited by Hans Kohn under Buber's guidance.

Another—though abortive—idea at that time was the establishment of a Jewish educational institution (*Land-erziehungsheim*). To this end in 1913 Buber, together with Erich Kahler and Arthur Salz, invited a distinguished gathering to a conference in Berlin. Men of the calibre of Moritz Heimann and Walter Rathenau were interested in the project, but it did not materialise.

A new chapter—(d)—began with the outbreak of war in 1914. This put an end to many earlier plans, such as the somewhat curious and unrealistic idea of an international community consisting of men who regarded themselves as the true leaders of a better world — a programme which earned the derision of Richard Dehmel. It soon exploded when the war brought people back to reality and national differences proved stronger than abstract ideals. There was also a temporary estrangement between Buber and his closest friend, Landauer, who was disgusted by some of Buber's statements which Landauer, and others, interpreted as a defence of Wilhelmian imperialism and as approval of the war.

Later in the war Buber devoted himself to the journal, *Der Jude*, which was started in April, 1916. This organ of Jewish and Zionist opinion now seemed even more essential as a large part of Eastern Europe, with its immense Jewish population, had temporarily come under German domination. The future of Eastern Jewry and, therefore, the whole complicated world-wide Jewish question, became the direct concern of German Jewry, especially whilst most people in Central Europe believed in a German victory.

Buber was an ideal editor. His letters show how he tried to attract contributors to his periodical, suggesting themes and discussing the essence of the problems. Here is a galaxy of Jews, old and young, who Buber thought had something of substance to say in the then existing situation. *Der Jude* for some years became a unique intellectual centre. In the course of this correspondence an increasing number of young people turned to Buber for guidance and advice in their own confusion and here, more than anywhere else, is revealed Buber's deep understanding and response to others problems.

The next stage, after the war when Buber again appeared on the political tribune within Zionism, is beyond the present volume, which ends in 1918. The volume is, however, in so far of special importance, as it deals with and explains a period totally foreign to a generation for whom the First World War is in the distant past.

A most valuable addition to the volume are the letters produced in facsimile: nine by Buber and twelve by, among others, Theodor Herzl, Gustav Landauer, Leonhard Ragaz, Franz Kafka, Franz Werfel, Else Lasker-Schueler and, finally (1918), Leo Baeck. These facsimiles are a mine of stimulation for graphologists.

The instructive introductions by Ernst Simon and Grete Schaeder deserve mention. Together with Rafael Buber, Margot Cohn and Gabriel Stern, they are responsible for the selection of the letters and for their careful annotation. Special praise is due to Grete Schaeder, who is responsible for the main burden of editing.

Erich Gottgetreu (Jerusalem)

WHEN THE NAZIS WANTED TO SELL HEINE

A correspondence recently traced among the papers of an internationally known historian of literature who now lives in Israel, reveals that the Nazis tried to sell one of the most famous Heine monuments to America—against cash. The correspondence starts with a letter by a New York lawyer dated December 18, 1934, to the Director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art of New York. For many years, the lawyer states on behalf of his German clients, the monument concerned stood in the garden of the "Achilleion", the Corfu villa of the Empress Elizabeth of Austria, an ardent admirer of the poet. The monument was the work of the Danish sculptor Louis Hasselried. "After the assassination of the Empress", the letter continues, "the villa was acquired by Emperor William II who sold the monument to the city of Hamburg, from where Heine originated". (In fact, Heine spent only a few years in Hamburg, where, fortunately for posterity, his attempts at settling down as a businessman failed.)

The letter goes on: "The statue remained in Hamburg until 1933. When the new régime came to power in Germany, it was listed among those works of art which were earmarked for destruction (any publicity of this intention would be undesirable). However, so far, friends of Heine's were able to keep the statue in custody. They have now obtained the Government's permission to have it transferred to the United States. The price proposed by the Government amounts to DM 100,000 to which the costs for packing and transport would have to be added".

The ensuing letters show that neither the Metropolitan Museum of Art nor any other circles in the U.S.A. were inclined to strengthen the finances of Nazi Germany by buying the monument. New York anyhow had already its own Heine monument since 1897, a 19-foot Lorelei sculpture by Ernst Gustav Herter, an immigrant expelled from Germany. This sculpture also had a history. It had first been offered to the city of Düsseldorf which, however, suddenly discovered that it had no suitable site for it, then to Mainz, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Berlin and Paris. Finally it was acquired by the Arion Saengerbund, one of the leading German male choirs in the U.S.A., and erected in the Bronx.

In the meantime, the monument which Emperor Wilhelm, in keeping with his hostility to Heine, had evicted from Corfu, had to endure many displacements before the Nazi Government unsuccessfully tried to convert it into hard currency. It was not bought by the city of Hamburg, as the New York lawyer claimed, but by a successor of the Heine publisher Campe who, in turn, offered it to the city as a gift. Yet the senators declined for two reasons. Firstly, they said there was no suitable site and secondly they expressed the view that, if they wished to have a statue, they could afford a new monument and would not put up with the "used" one from Corfu. Subsequently, Campe placed "his" monument on private ground; however, after several defacements by pre-Nazi rowdies, he hid it behind a wooden fence.

It was only in the 'twenties that Max Brauer, then Mayor of Altona, saw to it that a monument was erected in Donnerpark, and the city of Hamburg, gradually changing its attitude, bought a "new" monument by Lederer, and a very beautiful one at that, which took its place

in a park in Barmbeck. I do not know what has happened to it, but I still remember its unveiling ceremony in 1926.

As far as the "Elizabethan" Heine Monument is concerned, it was ultimately bought by the city of Toulon with which a French married member of the Campe family had connections. There, on the shores of the Mediterranean, it may still be seen today.

GERMAN HEINE CELEBRATIONS

Exhibition in Hamburg

To mark the 175th anniversary of Heine's birth, the Free City of Hamburg has opened an exhibition in the so-called Rathausdiele of the Hamburg Town Hall. It displays biographical and historical material and marks the most important stages of Heine's creative life. Some exhibits relating to the — sometimes futile — attempts at the erection of Heine monuments, including a telegram by Alfred Kerr to the Hamburg Senate of 1909. In his opening address, Mayor Peter Schulz expressed the hope that the exhibition would help to promote a better understanding of the poet, politician and journalist. It was Heine's aim, the Mayor stressed, to make people aware of dangerous political symptoms, to debunk grandiloquent idealistic gestures, and to mirror to the self-complacent the plight of the weak and the suppressed.

The Mayor also announced that Hamburg has pledged its financial support for the production of a comprehensive edition of Heine's works. Altogether the City will contribute DM 370,000 to the total costs which are assessed at DM 3.3 million. The other financial sponsors are the City of Düsseldorf, the Land Northrhine - Westphalia, the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (Bad Godesberg) and the publishers Hoffmann and Campe.

Material about the history of the Heine Monuments in Hamburg has been compiled by Regierungsdirektor Martin Peters on behalf of the Hamburg Cultural Office, depicting in a self-critical way the reactions of Germans in general and Hamburgers in particular to the suggestion of erecting a Heine monument.

E.G.L.

President Heinemann in Düsseldorf

President Gustav Heinemann of West Germany attended the presentation of Düsseldorf City Council's first Heinrich Heine prize to the German-born author, Carl Zuckmayer, on the 175th anniversary of Heine's birth. The prize of £2,750 will be awarded every three years.

The controversy over plans to build monuments to Heinrich Heine showed the intolerant reaction of many Germans of rank and higher learning when someone dared to hold a mirror to their faces, said President Heinemann. Emphasising his support for the plan to rename Düsseldorf University in memory of Heine, the President said he believed that the real motives of the opponents of the scheme were not being mentioned publicly.

Anniversary Stamp

The 175th anniversary of Heinrich Heine's birth was marked by a special stamp issued by the West German Ministry of Posts. A series of public ceremonies were also held in different parts of East Germany. The main celebration was held in East Berlin, sponsored by the East German Government, where Heine was described as "a determined revolutionary democrat" who had contributed to "the paving of the road" towards Marxism.

TRIBUTE TO A POLYHISTOR

In Memory of Dr. Reinhold Regensburger

Dr. Reinhold Regensburger (Cambridge) passed away last December at the age of 81. Born in Frankfurt, he was brought up in Berlin and, after the completion of his studies, became a judge. Having lost his position under the Nazis, he emigrated to this country and settled down in Cambridge, attracted by the academic distinction of that city.

Regensburger was certainly the most learned man I have ever met in a long life. His thirst for knowledge was unique and unquenchable. When still in Berlin, he took part in Professor Strecker's Seminar on Latin Literature of the Middle Ages, and when in Rome many years later, he enjoyed the company of the late Eduard Fraenkel, Emeritus Professor of Latin in Oxford and one of the leading classical scholars of his time.

During the Second World War he was given the modest chance of serving as acting sub-Librarian at Trinity College (Cambridge). He also assisted Dr. David Diringer, a Fellow of University College, Cambridge, in editing his magnificent volume, "The Illuminated Book—Its History and Production" (Faber and Faber, 1967).

Regensburger was a great traveller, too, a connoisseur of Italian art and architecture, familiar also with the Near East and conversant with many languages. In 1966, he spent more than three weeks in Istanbul, an indefatigable sightseer, who left few mosques unvisited. After his return to East Anglia, he was kind enough to send me a typescript of more than 30 pages, entitled "Constantinopolitanische Reise 1966 — Dem Gedächtnis Sinans gewidmet". Who was Sinan? I did not know, but he did. He lived in the 16th century and, according to our traveller, was the greatest architect of Turkey. One episode in the travelogue may be quoted as an example of Regensburger's exquisite learning. He reports about a meeting with an

old man who seemed to know the Arabic Koran by heart and recited it, but he did so with a certain Turkish accent, pronouncing Arabic vowels like inverted vowels, sounds like "Oe" and "Ue" which do not exist in Arabic but in Turkish—and in German too. Few travellers to the Near East could have found out such niceties but my polyglot friend was able to do so.

Regensburger was the owner of an immense library. His house in Coleridge Road contained thousands of books in many languages. Now, the Library of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem will receive these treasures as this noble-minded man's bequest.

W. MOREL.

RABBI DR. SIEGFRIED KLEIN

90th Anniversary of his Birth

The recent 90th anniversary of the birth of Dr. Siegfried Klein, Rabbi in Düsseldorf from 1919 to 1941, brings to mind one of those Jewish communal leaders who voluntarily stayed with their flock and perished at the hands of the Nazis. Born in Reydt, Siegfried Klein studied in Berlin at the Hochschule fuer die Wissenschaft des Judentums and the university. During the first World War he served with the fighting forces and later as Field Rabbi. In 1919 he received a "call" to the Düsseldorf community. During his term of office he took a particular interest in youth education and was one of the founders, and for some time chairman, of the Verband der Juedischen Jugendvereine Deutschlands ("Neutraler Verband"). In 1939, he remained in Düsseldorf as the only rabbi of the community until, in 1942, he and his wife were deported to Litzmannstadt. There his wife, a daughter of Gewerberat Emil Plotke (Berlin), died in 1942. He himself was transported to Auschwitz in Autumn 1944, when he was already a very sick man, and perished in the camp.

E.G.L.

Letter to the Editor

MEMORIAL FOR CZECH ANTI-NAZI

Sir,—So far your publication has not mentioned the death of Dr. B. G. Kratovil, late ambassador of Czechoslovakia to the Court of St. James's and to India. Dr. Kratovil, who survived the war in various German prisons, always took a great interest in Jewish affairs and did a great deal to help Jewish refugees generally, and those from Czechoslovakia particularly, during his tenure of office and even later, when he had resigned after the Communist coup in Czechoslovakia. His activities have been honoured by an entry in the Golden Book of the J.N.F.

Boha, as he was known to his friends, was a man who had the courage of his convictions and lived up to it. After his resignation he earned his living as a salesman for office stationery and later by helping out in a coffee bar. He never complained and, in spite of the very strained financial circumstances, always tried to help wherever help was needed. He has deserved the gratitude of his Jewish countrymen, and I and some friends have decided to honour his memory by a permanent memorial to be erected in Israel. The form which this will take will depend on the funds we shall be able to raise.

I should be grateful if you made the scheme known to our members. Anybody who wishes to contribute to the memorial should send his contribution to me.

47 Swains Lane,
London, N.6.

Yours, etc.,

(Dr.) K. PASSER.

CHRISTMAS VOLUNTEERS IN AJR HOMES

As in the past years, members of the Women's Society of the Belsize Park Synagogue did relief work in several Homes on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Altogether, eleven ladies had volunteered this year, most of them for Osmond House, and some for Leo Baeck House. They did some housework and helped in the dining rooms and kitchens, and with feeding some of the residents. Another group of members of the Women's Society relieved the non-Jewish domestic staff in the National Hospital, Queen Square, on the day of their Christmas Party.

On December 31 and New Year's Day, Osmond House had the benefit of the help of members of the League of Jewish Women, Hampstead Garden Suburb Branch.

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NEUE ERHOEHUNG DER ENTSCHAEDIGUNGSRENTEN

Im Anschluss an den in der letzten Nummer hierüber erschienenen Artikel werden nachstehend zahlenmässige Beispiele für die einzelnen Rentengruppen gegeben. Bei den besonders berechneten Renten, für deren Höhe die persönlichen und wirtschaftlichen Verhältnisse der Rentenberechtigten eine Rolle spielen, wird auch die nunmehrige Erhöhung des Freibetrages sonstiger Einkünfte des Rentenberechtigten von bisher DM 250.—auf DM 300.—in einzelnen Fällen zu einer Rentenerhöhung führen können.

I. BERUFSSCHADENSRENTEN

1. Früher selbständig Tätige

Lebensalter am 1.10.1953	bis 35 Jahre DM	bis 45 Jahre DM	über 45 Jahre DM	bis 50 Jahre DM	über 50 Jahre DM
(a) Einfacher Dienst					
ab 1.1.71	288	462	545		
ab 1.1.72	314	502	591		
(b) Mittlerer Dienst					
ab 1.1.71	341	586	710		
ab 1.1.72	372	635	767		
(c) Gehobener Dienst					
ab 1.1.71	446	758	914		
ab 1.1.72	485	818	984		
(d) Höherer Dienst*					
ab 1.1.71	470	870	1.173		
ab 1.1.72	502	919	1.235		

* Beim höheren Dienst wird zwischen 4 (statt 3) Altersgruppen unterschieden.

Die Höchstrente, welche ab 1.1.1971 DM 1.309 betrug, ist für die Zeit ab 1.1.1972 auf DM 1.374 erhöht worden, also um 5%.

2. Früher unselbständig Tätige

Diese Rente wird nach einem Bruchteil der (seinerzeit nicht gewählten) Kapitalentschädigung errechnet. Hier erfolgt die Erhöhung in der Weise, dass die ab 1.1.1971, also gegenwärtig zahlbaren Renten, falls sie nicht mehr als DM 900 betragen, um weitere 8% erhöht werden, die Rentenbeträge von mehr als DM 900 jedoch nur um 5%, mindestens jedoch um monatlich DM 72. Die vorerwähnte Höchstgrenze von DM 1.374 darf auch bei diesen Renten nicht überschritten werden.

3. Vertriebene deutscher Volkszugehörigkeit

Bei den Vertriebenen deutscher Volkszugehörigkeit aus Gebieten, die am 31.12.1937 nicht zum Deutschen Reich gehört haben, besteht bekanntlich eine Sonderregelung. Bei ihnen ist die Berufsschadensrente, die ab 1.1.1971 DM 356 betrug, für die Zeit ab 1.1.1972 auf DM 384 erhöht worden, die entsprechende Berufsschadenswitwenrente von DM 271 auf monatlich DM 293.

II. RENTEN FUER GESUNDHEITSSCHADEN

Hier können, weil die Berechnung der allgemeinen Rente nur im Einzelfall möglich ist, nur die Mindestrenten angegeben werden. Sie betragen:

Bei Erwerbsminderung	ab 1.1.71 DM	ab 1.1.72 DM
bis 39%	209	226
bis 49%	262	283
bis 59%	315	340
bis 69%	365	394
bis 79%	418	451
80% und mehr	521	563

Die sog. Altersmindestrente (Par. 32 Abs. 2 BEG), die seit dem 1.1.1971 DM 485 betrug, ist für die Zeit ab 1.1.1972 auf DM 524 erhöht worden.

III. WITWENRENTEN BEI SCHADEN AM LEBEN

Die monatlichen Vollrenten (bei einem Hundertsatz von 100%, welcher im Einzelfall gekürzt werden kann), sind wie folgt erhöht:

Einstufung	ab 1.1.71 DM	ab 1.1.72 DM
Einfacher Dienst	448	486
Mittlerer Dienst	584	631
Gehobener Dienst	800	861
Höherer Dienst	1.139	1.199

Die Witwenmindestrente ist von DM 418 auf DM 451 erhöht. Die Elternrente für einen Elternteil ist die Hälfte der vorstehend angegebenen Beträge.

Erschöpfende Angaben über die Berechnung im Einzelfall können hier nicht gemacht werden. Da aber die Beamten die Berechnung aufgrund der amtlichen Tabellen vornehmen, werden Rückfragen bei den Rechtsberatern der Rentenempfänger nur bei erheblichen Abweichungen von den vorstehend angegebenen Zahlen zweckmässig sein.

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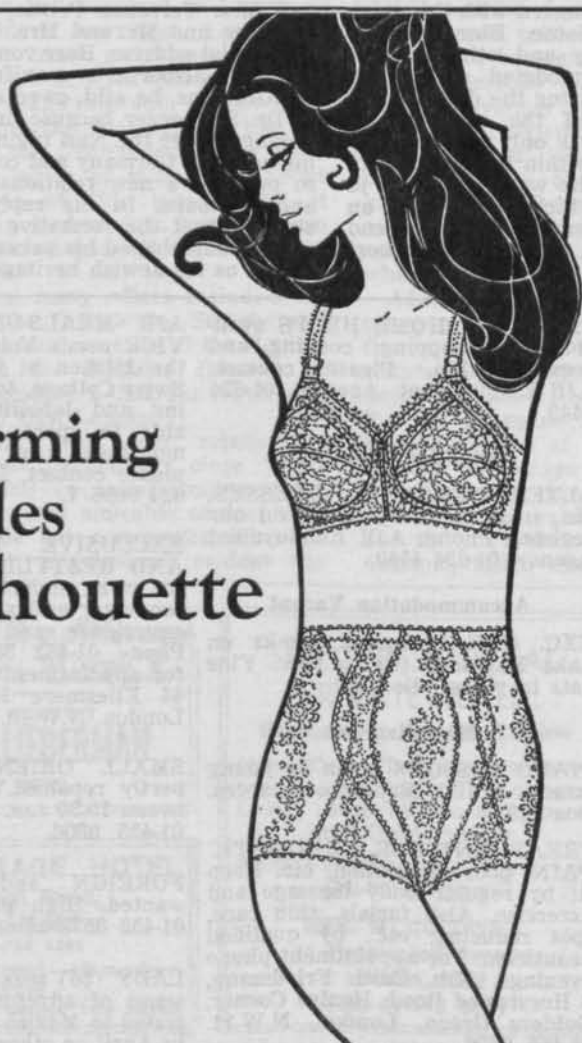
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BIRTHDAY TRIBUTES

DR. ERNST KATZENSTEIN 75

Jews from Germany all over the world are indebted to Dr. Ernst Katzenstein (Frankfurt), who will celebrate his 75th birthday on February 11. As Director of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany ("Claims Conference") he has, for many years, safeguarded the interests of the Jewish victims of Nazi persecution in the field of restitution and compensation. Those who benefit from German payments do not always realise that the laws and regulations on which these payments are based are, more often than not, the result of complicated negotiations between the German authorities and the representatives of the victims. Even now, as the major part of the legislation has come to its conclusion, there are still spheres which call for amendments. Above all, there is a constant need to keep a watchful eye on the proper implementation of the existing laws. For the accomplishment of all these tasks one could not wish for a better spokesman than Dr. Katzenstein, whose knowledge and experience as a lawyer are coupled with the natural gifts of a skilful negotiator. Whenever one reads any of his numerous memoranda and applications, one is struck by their conciseness and lucidity. He attends to the details without losing sight of the wider issues involved. All this equally applies to his work as honorary secretary of the "Beratungsausschuss" for the pension claims of former Jewish communal officials.

Dr. Katzenstein's professional career started in Hameln, where he practised as a lawyer until 1933. He then emigrated to Palestine where he resumed his legal activities after having obtained his qualifications both in that country and at the English bar. A few years after the war, he agreed to go to Germany under the auspices of the then newly established Jewish Restitution Successor Organisation (JRSO). This arrangement was meant to last for a limited number of years. Yet, in the course of time, Dr. Katzenstein's services, first with JRSO and later with the Claims Conference, became indispensable.

In carrying out his work far from Israel,

which has become his homeland, Dr. Katzenstein is also guided by his strong commitment as a Jew, having been an active Zionist since his student days, when he joined the KJV. As a most amiable personality, he has endeared himself to all those who have come close to him in the course of their work. We wish Dr. Katzenstein many more years of undiminished health and vigour.

W.R.

WILHELM STERNFELD 85

Wilhelm Sternfeld, of 2 Cleve House, Cleve Road, London, N.W.6, will be 85 on February 1. Although himself an immigrant from Nazi Germany, he devoted his life to the help of writers and artists from Central Europe, who had come to Britain as refugees. With intensive activity, he mobilised assistance from Germany and finally, together with E. Tiedemann, in 1962 compiled the "Bibliographie der deutschen Exil-Literatur", the second edition of which was published in 1970.

Having done so much for others, Wilhelm Sternfeld certainly deserves the gratitude and good wishes of the many he has helped, and also a general recognition and admiration for his imperturbable effort.

ERNA PINNER

MR. HERBERT HIRSCH, 75

It is learned only now that Mr. Herbert Hirsch recently celebrated his 75th birthday. He has been actively associated with Jewish and in particular, Zionist, causes for 60 years both in Germany, where he was also a member of the KJV, and in this country. Herbert Hirsch takes a leading part in the work of the Theodor Herzl Society and, for many years, served as its chairman. Closely connected with this work is his care for Zion House, Eton Avenue, where the Herzl Society and other Zionist organisations are accommodated and which owes its establishment during the difficult war years to the initiative of the new arrivals from the Continent. It was only natural that, in view of his standing within the community of the former refugees, he was also asked to join the AJR Board of which he has been an interested member for many years. We extend our sincerest birthday wishes to Herbert Hirsch.

HONOURS FOR RABBI SALZBERGER

To mark the 90th birthday of Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger, the AJR Executive planted 90 trees in the Leo Baeck Memorial Forest in Israel. The certificate was presented to Dr. Salzberger by the AJR Chairman, Mr. A. S. Dresel, on the occasion of a reception at Hannah Karminski House arranged by the AJR and attended by AJR honorary officers and many other friends of Dr. Salzberger. In his address, Mr. Dresel paid tribute to Dr. Salzberger's signal services to Judaism and Jewry and especially thanked him for his work for the Homes to which he paid regular visits.

The City of Frankfurt expressed its feelings of respect and gratitude to Dr. and Mrs. Salzberger by the presentation of an engraved silver plate and an artistically designed china bowl, which were handed over to them in the name of the Mayor of Frankfurt by Mr. R. Schneider, a member of the AJR Executive, who had already been associated with the work of Dr. Salzberger in the pre-1933 years in Frankfurt.

In his usual vigour, which belies his age, Dr. Salzberger *extempore* replied to the two speakers, re-affirming his personal bonds with the objects and activities of the AJR of which he had been a board member since its inception.

Dr. Salzberger and his devoted wife, who celebrated her 80th birthday a short while ago, had asked their friends to refrain from personal presents and to contribute the monetary equivalent instead for the benefit of less fortunate fellow refugees. With the gifts thus received together with an initial endowment by Dr. and Mrs. Salzberger, a "Georg and Charlotte Salzberger Fund" has been established under the auspices of the AJR Charitable Trust. At the time of going to press the Fund had passed the £1,000 mark.

The last of the various birthday celebrations in honour of Dr. Salzberger was a fish luncheon in the German Embassy on the invitation of the Ambassador and Frau von Hase. The guests included the Rev. W. W. Simpson (General Secretary, Council of Christians and Jews), Mr. and Mrs. Terrence Prittie, Mr. and Mrs. H. Sulzbach and Mr. and Mrs. W. Rosenstock. In his cordial address, Herr von Hase paid tribute to Dr. Salzberger's manifold achievements. All Germans, he said, owed a debt of gratitude to Dr. Salzberger because, in spite of the happenings under the Nazi régime, he had not lost his belief in Germany and courageously helped to promote a new relationship between Jews and Germans. In his reply, Dr. Salzberger stressed that the formative forces of German culture had shaped his personality to the same extent as his Jewish heritage.

FAMILY EVENTS

Birthdays

The AJR Club sends warmest congratulations to Mrs. Alice Bieber who celebrated her 95th birthday on December 25, 1972.

Cohn.—Mr. Karl R. Cohn, of 30 The Grove, Finchley, London, N.3, celebrated his 75th birthday on January 24.

Marriage

Reed-Gilbert. — David Reed, only son of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Reed, of 97 Cairnfield Avenue, London, N.W.2, to Ruth Gilbert, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. Gilbert, of 131 Holmleigh Road, London, N.16, on March 4, at the Belsize Square Synagogue, at 3.00 p.m.

Deaths

Heilborn.—Mr. Fritz Heilborn of 58 High Ash Crescent, Leeds 17, passed away peacefully on December 14, 1972, aged 78. Deeply mourned by his wife, Bertha, his son, Frank, daughter-in-law, Pat, and grandson, Benjamin (Australia) and many friends.

Kallmann.—Mrs. Olga Kallmann, of New York (formerly Berlin) died in London on January 4. Deeply mourned by her children.

Steiner.—My dearest twin brother, Friedrich (Fred) Steiner, died suddenly on January 13, shortly before our 70th birthday. He will be missed for ever by all who knew him, his relatives and friends.—Rudolf and Ena Steiner (née Rosenthal), 5 Garson House, Gloucester Terrace, London, W.2.

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IN MEMORIAM

LADY HENRIQUES

Lady Henriques, who recently died at the age of 83, was one of the most colourful personalities among the Jewish communal workers in this country. Her organisational gifts were coupled with artistic accomplishments in the field of music and painting. However, what made her own and her late husband's, Sir Basil Henriques, services particularly conspicuous was the fact that they lived up to their vocations without any reservations. They spent their lives in the East End of London as residential wardens of the Bernhard Baron Settlement, forfeiting the comfortable surroundings of the middle and upper class districts from which they stemmed.

There are various circumstances due to which Jews from Germany have special reasons for mourning the departure of Lady Henriques. Though born and bred in this country, she was of German Jewish stock, and she was proud of it. Her grandfather was the famous orientalist, Louis Loewe, who hailed from Upper Silesia. She herself spent some time before the First World War in Breslau to train as a pianist. She not only spoke an idiomatic German but also understood the mentality of people of our background. It was therefore a happy choice that, when the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad was founded during the last war, she was appointed head of the German Department. In this capacity, she went to Germany after the end of hostilities and rendered signal services to the survivors of the Holocaust. There were, at that time, two distinct groups: the D.P.s in the camps (mainly of Eastern origin) and the few German Jews in the towns who had survived in hiding or as partners of mixed marriages. Lady Henriques managed to create some understanding between these two groups whose interests were sometimes conflicting and, at the same time, she became instrumental in the re-establishment of the *Gemeinden*. Some years ago, she gave a series of radio talks about her reminiscences of this period, and it would be a fitting memorial to her, and also a service to historiography, if the text were now published.

Lady Henriques' many offices included the chairmanship of the British Ose Society, and she was also a Council member of the Central British Fund. In the Birthday Honours of 1971, she was appointed a CBE for services to the community in East London.

Throughout the years, her relationship with the AJR was particularly close. There was an affinity and an understanding which went beyond the usual amicable contact with personages outside our community. The last occasion on which this became evident was

a letter she wrote to the AJR last September. It was a Rosh Hashanah message, and as we usually did not exchange greetings at the High Festivals, the letter was, perhaps, subconsciously prompted by some premonition and the desire to put her appreciation to our efforts on record. For this reason it appears appropriate to conclude this tribute to the memory of Rose Henriques with her own words, which reflect the feelings of mutual regard. The letter reads as follows:

"First of all I would like to wish everybody at the AJR a happy New Year, and I want to add to this my sincere admiration for the way you all keep the AJR Information full of interesting and exciting news. Yet it remains a 'cosy' family journal, apart from containing so much stimulating and informative literature and biography. I know how difficult it is to keep up such a standard as you have achieved for so many years.

"I have many times cut out paragraphs to send to people who would be interested, and they are always very grateful to receive whatever tit-bits of news I send them.

"May you all have a healthy and happy year and may AJR Information carry on for many years at its present standard".

W.R.

DR. RAFAEL EDELMANN

Dr. Rafael Edelman, until his retirement in 1970 Head of the Jewish Department of the Royal Library, Copenhagen and Director of Jewish Studies at Copenhagen University, has died in Israel shortly before his 71st birthday. Born in Latvia in 1902 he was a young child when his family fled from Czarist persecution and settled in Denmark. After leaving school, he went to Berlin to attend the *Rabbinerseminar* and subsequently studied at Bonn University under Prof. Paul Kahle, the eminent Oriental scholar, whose Assistant he became. In 1933, he returned to Copenhagen to take charge of the newly established Jewish Department of the Royal Library. Like the majority of Danish Jews he and his family escaped to Sweden in 1943 when threatened by deportation.

After the war, he greatly enlarged the scope of his Department by assembling all the material salvaged from the liberated countries, thus giving Copenhagen the most important collection of Judaica in post-war Europe. In connection with this he founded the Association of Libraries of Hebraica and Judaica in Europe and also organised training courses for Jewish librarians. He was responsible for exhibitions of the Library's Jewish treasures in Paris, Strasbourg, Cologne, Milan and New York. His services

found recognition from the King of Denmark, who honoured him with a medal.

Dr. Edelman's numerous publications—in Danish, English and German—include above all important contributions to the early history of synagogue liturgy, e.g., *Bestimmung, Heimat und Alter der synagogalen Poesie* (1932) and *Zur Fruehgeschichte des Machzor* (1934). He compiled a catalogue of Hebrew *incunabula* and edited the *Corpus Codicum Hebraicorum Medii Aevi*. Among his last publications was an essay "Das Judentum" in *Handbuch der Religionsgeschichte*, a work of Danish scholars published in Germany (Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht).

His wife Elisabeth, née Levi, was the daughter of a highly respected lawyer from Altona. They met at Bonn University where she studied German literature under Oskar Walzel. She became his Assistant at the Copenhagen Library and published, in Danish, a little book on the Jewish Holydays. She died a year before him in Jerusalem where they had settled after retirement.

A renowned scholar, Rafael Edelman remained a pious Orthodox Jew. His amiable personality and his genuine modesty earned him the respect and affection of all who knew him. In this, and in his devotion to his work, he was the prototype of a noble Jewish man of learning.

H. W. FREYHAN.

DR. ERIC GOULD

Dr. Eric L. M. Gould has passed away after a short, serious illness. Having had to interrupt his legal career he came to this country prior to the war and, being a singularly kindhearted man, always took a keen part in helping his fellow refugees. He has for many years been a member of the AJR Board whose meetings he attended most regularly and where he frequently contributed to the discussions. He also was the chairman of the London branch of the F.W.V. students fraternity and a vice-chairman and trustee of the Ex-Service (1943) Association. In all these organisations his devoted services will be sadly missed. His many friends in the AJR extend their sincerest sympathy to his wife and his family.

DR. ADOLPH ASCH

Dr. Adolph Asch, who died at Otto Hirsch House some time ago at the age of 91, was well known in Berlin as a lawyer and author of several legal standard works. Throughout his life, he was also active in Jewish affairs, especially under the auspices of the K.C. fraternity. He published a history of the K.C. in 1964 and at the great age of 90 contributed an article about the Jewish question to the periodical of the German Students Association. Also those who considered some of his views as superseded by the events since 1933 were bound to respect the courage with which he put forward his convictions. When his strength started to fail, this veteran champion of German Jewry was given all the comfort possible in a Home established by and for members of our community.

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WHAT MADE THEM JOIN THE SPIES?

Israeli Jews Accused of Treason

Israel's "New Left" has suffered a heavy blow. The espionage and sabotage affair which shocked the public, has left an ugly mark on the outer Socialist fringe. Israel is a conformist society and everyone deviating from the set line, is *eo ipso*, considered with suspicion; what once used to be the party of Zionist-Socialist pioneering, the Israel Labour Party, has long become the conservative centre, flanked by the nationalistic Gahal and the no less nationalistic Religious Bloc. True, Mapam—represented by two ministers in the Government—from time to time utters something which might be interpreted as independent thought, but when it boils down to matters of practical politics, the party only too often foregoes its principles for the sake of the fleshpots of the coalition.

Of the four Jews, indicted for suspected membership with an Arab-Jewish espionage and sabotage ring, two may be called "typical" representatives of the "New Left". Ehud Adiv, born 26 years ago in the Mapam-affiliated kibbutz Gan Shmuel, near Haifa, is a quintessential Sabra—tall, athletic, a former paratrooper, now a university student and league basketball player. His parents, intellectual Labour Zionists, were among the founders of the kibbutz in 1927. Of the 200 kibbutz families, some lost their sons and husbands in the wars and the fighting between the wars, several of them killed by the very Syrians Ehud is alleged to have been working for.

Cohn-Bendit's Influence

The people of Gan Shmuel thrive on ideology and strive to find a way to live in peace with the Arabs. "We don't believe that Israel can live for ever as an island in a sea of Arab enmity", said one member. Ehud was brought up in this ideology. He completed his army service in 1966 with the rank of corporal. Prior to the Six-Day War, he was recalled and was with the paratroopers who broke into the Old City of Jerusalem through the Lions' Gate. Of his unit of 30, only six survived unhurt. According to his mother, he came back "a different person", broken by so much bloodshed.

After 1967, Ehud turned progressively Left, and became a member of *Siah* (Israeli New Left), which basically is a Zionist group, maintaining that Zionist socialism, if prepared for a peace without annexations, could find its place within a socialist Middle East. It boasts no more than 300 members, mostly university people and high school students in Tel Aviv. Soon, however, Ehud quitted *Siah* for the more extreme *Matzpen*. This organisation comprises

Jews as well as Arabs who deny the *raison d'être* of a Jewish State which stands in the way of a world revolution, and some of its members living abroad have been vociferous in their anti-Zionist propaganda.

Yet the travels of Ehud Adiv had not come to an end. He left *Matzpen* for one of its still more radical splinter groups, the Maoist "Revolutionary Communist Alliance", and when even this was not sufficiently revolutionary he founded the "Red Flag" group. While *Matzpen* rejects terror, "Red Flag" accepts the right of the Arabs for terrorist action and agrees with their fighting methods. To which extent the visit to Gan Shmuel of the "Red Danny" (Danny Cohn-Bendit), a leader of France's student revolt in 1968, influenced him, remains a matter for speculation.

What made Ehud continuously move into a Leftish direction? Some suggest that he was pushed more and more to the extreme as a reaction to the rigidity of political thinking in Israel and its complete lack of understanding for anything that does not toe the line.

Nearest to him was Dan Vered, the only son of a well-to-do family in Ramat Gan. Dan emulated the extremist philosophies that are in vogue throughout the West. He was a brilliant student at Tel Aviv University, with a sense of intellectual arrogance, almost of being a superman, and became a convert to the credo of "permanent revolution" while attending an American university. Dan, three years senior to Ehud, is a more complicated figure. He had an outstanding academic career and graduated in the United States with a first-class degree. From other Sabras he differs in so far as he did not serve in the army, to which some sources attribute his original sense of alienation from Israel society. He made his first contact with the radical Left in the U.S.A. and apparently returned to Israel a convinced revolutionary which led him, via *Matzpen* and his meeting with Cohn-Bendit, to the extreme Left. Last October, he married after he had succeeded in concealing his anti-Israel views from his colleagues and pupils at the Ort high school in Kfar Saba where he teaches mathematics.

"In the light of Israel reality, Danny's fables of world revolution, of total destruction in order to build from the beginning, did not sound very beguiling", writes "Jerusalem Post". "Even the Baader-Meinhof group in Germany did not propose to dismember Germany. . . . Yet in their own way, the four accused Jews may have hoped to create a Middle East in which Jews and Arabs would

live together freely, without nation-states to preserve their interests or their identities."

Should the charges be proven, it would not be for the first time that Jews have collaborated with the enemies of the State for ideological reasons. In the late 1920s and early '30s, Jewish communists aligned themselves with the notorious Mufti gangs which set out to destroy the Jewish community. Other instances of ideological treason that have become known since the State was established, were in the service of the Soviet Union, such as the case of Israel Beer who held the rank of Brigadier in the Israel Army.

The defection of the young leftists was a welcome opportunity for starting a witch-hunt against all "outsiders". Seldom in such a short time were so many generalisations made because of so few. The "trial-by-press" in publishing all the details before the suspects were found guilty, only contributed to the outburst of mass-hysteria.

"Shearim", the organ of Poale Agudat Yisrael—to quote only one example—wrote: "The espionage network is a continuation of the path followed by the extreme Jewish Left among the Jewish community in this country. The public background that breeds Jewish terrorism is undoubtedly Mapam in whose kibbutzim leftish groups flourish. Parts of them serve Arab terrorism among the Jewish community, and also support its propaganda and espionage in Europe. The Jewish public will look upon the leaders of Mapam as providing the basic reason for the deterioration of Jewish youth".

Jointly with the orthodox ultra-nationalists, the secular ultra-nationalists embarked on a vicious and vitriolic attack on Mapam. The matter took such an embarrassing turn and was so much used for party politics and positioning for the forthcoming election campaign, that Golda Meir felt herself bound to declare: "My heart is dull with pain through the acts of these young men . . . but we must bear in mind that this case is an exception and it is a crime to cast shame on the Mapam movement because one of its sons has been implicated".

DEATH OF A SCHOLAR

Dr. E. D. Goldschmidt (Jerusalem)

The Hebrew scholar, Dr. Ernst Daniel Goldschmidt, died in Jerusalem at the age of 77. Before he went to Palestine, he was a librarian at the Prussian State Library. In 1936, he started work in the same capacity with the National and University Library in Jerusalem. Dr. Goldschmidt became particularly well known to the wider Jewish public by his Pessach Haggada edition, which appeared in the Schocken book series and excelled by its annotations and comments. His main work was the two volume *Machsor* (Jerusalem 1970) sponsored by the Leo Baeck Institute, for which he had carried out research in many libraries all over the world.

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