

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

Ernest Hearst

IN SEARCH OF IDENTITY

An Assessment of German Authors

Peter de Mendelssohn recently published a number of fascinating essays on the literary giants of Weimar Germany — the Mann brothers, Hesse and Gerhart Hauptmann—under the challenging title *Von deutscher Repräsentanz* (Prestel Verlag, Munchen, 1972. DM19.80).

The title immediately provokes the question whether nations can, so to speak, be represented and if so, by whom. Much time and effort can be spent in search of the national essence, a task which remained one of Thomas Mann's lifelong and most controversial preoccupations. Although ideas regarding the German identity vary, the belief in its existence is undeniable and exerted a considerable, if mostly harmful, influence.

Such concern with the national ego is not universal. The English, although justly proud of their political and intellectual achievements, approach the question of their collective identity with comparative diffidence and would be hard put to describe its salient features. If pressed they would probably opt for a political rather than an intellectual image. The national genius, it would be felt, manifested itself most brilliantly in the country's free institutions and in those heroic figures who, like Queen Elizabeth I, Drake, Nelson, Churchill, etc., defended them against the overweening ambitions of alien autocracies. Literature plays a comparatively subordinate part in the delineation of the national self-image. Whether this is due to the sheer richness and diversity of the literary heritage—Chaucer, Shakespeare, Pope, Keats, Dickens, Shaw, Joyce seem to have little in common but the language they wrote in — or to the deep-seated Anglo-Saxon contempt for intellectual achievement, remains a mute question. At any rate, England is to that mythical figure "the man in the street" far less the country of Shakespeare or whom have you, than Germany is the land of (a largely unread) Goethe and Schiller to her citizens.

Popular indifference to the arts accounts perhaps for the reluctance of British and, to a lesser degree, of French writers to indulge in metaphysical speculations about their country's ethnic peculiarities and national mission. Russian writers, whether of pre- or post-revolutionary vintage, have on the other hand always been intensely concerned with the promise and shortcomings of the national character. Indeed it was by their labours that it assumed in the eyes of Western readers its distinct and unmistakable presence. Although German fictional characters, be they Faust, Michael Kohlhaas, or Tonio Kröger, unlike

the heroes of the Russian classics, do not convey to the outside world what it considers typically German, the Germans themselves tend to regard their literary archetypes as convincing representatives of their individual and collective selves. In this sense then the validity of de Mendelssohn's challenging title has to be accepted. The more so, since each of the writers discussed, with the possible exception of Hermann Hesse, looked upon himself as a *Praeceptor Germaniae*.

Heinrich Mann admittedly with some reservations and only to the extent of articulating the rarely audible and all too readily silenced voice of Germany's liberal and democratic tradition. Heine was his idol and inspiration. When he first started out he told a friend: "Heine is the only writer measuring up to all my expectations. What splendid realism. . . . I have been trying from the very beginning to model myself on Heine, who had very little of the 'idealist' in him. . . ."

Significantly the young Hesse praised Heine in almost identical terms. Hesse, for all his incomparable gift to evoke the still half mediaeval setting and rhythm of small town life in Southern Germany, was perhaps the most radical in his complete rejection of national and of all politics for that matter. He was shocked by the obscene slaughter of the First World War and by no means convinced that Germany was the innocent victim of what Gerhart Hauptmann in a 1914 letter to Romain Rolland described as an "elemental event." Swiss born, but German by naturalisation in early childhood, Hesse out of sense of loyalty, which to him became increasingly questionable, retained his German citizenship during the war but renounced it soon afterwards. Although he welcomed the 1918 revolution, he did not believe the necessary changes could be wrought by a mere tampering with the social structure and existing conditions. "I think, I know (he once said) that the resolve to change the world will lead to war and violence and I cannot, therefore support any opposition, for I do not approve of the ultimate consequences of its challenge. What we can and ought to change is ourselves, our misfortune, our selfishness (also the intellectual one), our readiness to take offence, our lack of love and charity. All attempts to improve the world, even if inspired by the loftiest of motives, I consider useless." A view which compelled him to refrain from publicly denouncing the Nazi régime, the atom bomb or any other of the contemporary infamies, he loathed with all his heart.

Hesse's suddenly rediscovered relevance is largely based on a misreading of his views, although his critique of our technological frustrations as well as his attempts to over-

come by orgiastic ecstasies the despair of a mind always teetering at the brink of suicide, are bound to endear him to a generation which has lost all its bearings. In his detachment from existing social and political realities and his non-participation in organised efforts to guide them towards desirable goals, Hesse differs from the other writers to the point of being perhaps the unrepresentative German.

Among the major writers influencing the German literary scene throughout the first half of our century, Heinrich Mann was, without doubt, politically the most committed. His stature as a man and a writer, as de Mendelssohn is able to document, was poignantly affected by the love-hate relationship to his younger brother Thomas, whose earlier and more lasting success, must have been a constant challenge and irritant. Already as a schoolboy Heinrich rebelled against the honourably stolid and decorously acquisitive traditions of his Buddenbrook home. Three months before he died, his father instructed the executor of his will "to oppose as far as they can the inclination of my eldest son (Heinrich) to indulge in so-called literary activities. These inclinations are actuated by day-dreaming, self-gratification, a lack of consideration and also perhaps by thoughtlessness." These paternal strictures—reflecting the eternal resentment of the hard-working, well-meaning philistine against art's irreverent questioning of all assumptions go some way towards explaining the sustained fury with which Heinrich lashed out against the greed, ruthlessness and authoritarian chauvinism prevalent in imperial Germany and lustily surviving into the Weimar Republic. Unlike the outwardly more conforming Thomas, to whom the pains and imperfections of this world were rooted in the infirmities of the human condition, Heinrich believed them to be the direct result of a self-seeking, outdated and oppressive system of government.

A decade before the outbreak of the First World War, Thomas, having just prescribed in *Königliche Hoheit* "disciplined bliss" as the ultimate goal of all personal and national aspirations, was somewhat taken aback by the "liberal philosophy" expounded in Heinrich's novel *Fulvia*: "You must (he told him) feel boundlessly young and strong. Truly I would be inclined to regard liberalism as a kind of consciously achieved youthfulness, if in all probability it were not simply a sign of adult maturity." But such flattering circumlocution could not for long conceal their fundamental disagreement. While Thomas confessed his "utter indifference to the notion of political freedom," because only "decay, the specific and exceptional" could engage his attention, Heinrich, in his 1910 essay "Thought and Action" (*Geist und Tat*) inveighed against "the immense distance, which after ages of ineffectuality separated the German intelligentsia from the people." The intellectuals had, he argued, betrayed their trust "never deigning to commit their lofty passions to the meaner struggle going on

Continued on page 2, column 1

IN SEARCH OF IDENTITY

Continued from page 1

down below. Ignorant of its meaning they despised democracy, they despised parliamentary rule before it emerged as a reality and public opinion before it could manifest itself. . . . Freedom (he asserted later) enshrines the ultimate objective of all intellectual endeavour . . . freedom is progress and humanity."

The passions aroused by World War I transformed what had been private, fraternal differences into public and bitter feuding. Thomas, carried away by the tide of patriotic fervour sweeping through Europe, glorified the war, Heinrich, an inveterate opponent of the Kaiser's Germany, condemned it. In his 70-page essay *Zola*, he described how this incorruptible critic of the *Deuxième Empire* deploring his country's provocative self-confidence, had prophesied its shameful defeat. Through *Zola*, Heinrich Mann castigated the intellectual war-mongers who invested the barbarous slaughter with an aura of nobility. Thomas regarded these attacks as directed primarily against himself and in reply to his brother's "personal and inhuman excess" delivered himself of the *Reflections of Unpolitical Man*. In an effort to justify his and the German position, he construed such dichotomies as "culture and civilisation," "reason and demon," "intellect and genius," "sober brightness and clouded fate," "bourgeois propriety and heroic duty"; antonyms meant to indicate that the profundities of the German destiny were of an altogether different order than the democratic trivialities propounded by the Allies. The chief purveyor and populariser of these lesser values was the glib, shallow and plausible *Zivilisationsliterat*, an unlovable type specially invented to fit the Heinrich Mann-Zola configuration. In retrospect much of this proved untenable. Nevertheless it reflected the mood of the day just as truly as his brother's illusions about the self-generating virtues of the democratic system. "I expect much from the toppling kings (Heinrich had written in 1907) and wish they had already been shorn of their power. Their mere existence remains the biggest of all monuments to human self-degradation. How can civilised beings, how can the mind respect power that is not of the spirit?"

Such exaggerated hopes—and it is surprising he ever entertained them—were duly disappointed after the toppled kings had been succeeded by the Republic. In 1923, Heinrich Mann, by now a greatly respected popular author—actually mentioned as a potential candidate for the presidency—complained that the constitution which only wanted to liberate and humanise man, was being subverted by the old "war-mongering nationalism" and "the secret machinations of the economic Talleyrands." Nevertheless he defended the Weimar Republic to the very last, knowing that "all will be lost should nationalism in its most hideous form assume absolute power." When it did, Heinrich Mann went, like *Zola*, his *alter ego*, into voluntary exile, first to France, and after her defeat to the USA. After the war, the GDR offered the inveterate fighter for democratic rule prestigious appointments. Knowing the nature of the regime and the motives behind its invitations, he was prepared to stick out his neck. However, death (March 1950) intervened and only his ashes had to embark on the journey he had been reluctant to make.

The vicious attacks on the Weimar Republic by German conservatives finally per-

sued Thomas Mann—much to the surprise of some of his readers—to defend it. For long, he refused to admit that his support of the democratic order involved a change of attitude: "I may have altered my approach but not my thinking", and in his public address *Of the German Republic* he asked his audience to do the same. "As if the German Republic were not still the *German Reich* and indeed more so now, that it has become all our concern, than in the days when traditional power declining into vulgar theatricality had lorded it over us."

The appeal was made on an occasion of considerable national importance, the celebration of Gerhart Hauptmann's 60th birthday (October 1922). Thomas Mann called him, as he sat next to Friedrich Ebert, Weimar Germany's first president, "the people's king . . . the king of the Republic," and in doing so, he hoped to have resolved, if only metaphorically, the ancient German antinomies of spirit and power. To claim on behalf of the white-haired "prince of poets", the *Dichterstürst*, a position of such eminence may have been one of Thomas Mann's cunning ruses; for Hauptmann's name—to the bard's horror—was later fleetingly mentioned as a potential *Reichspräsident*. And why not, it is after all unlikely that poets would make worse presidents than the ageing military gentlemen of undeniable stupidity whom "realistic" citizens inevitably elect in times of trouble.

Moreover, as de Mendelssohn amusingly explains at some length, the German *Dichter* is a more exalted person than his English or French colleagues, whose languages fail to assign different values to prose and verse writers. The *Dichter* by some act of grace is endowed with an intuitive understanding of the essence of things, a quality which marks him out as the embodiment and interpreter of the nations innermost soul. To hail Hauptmann as "king of the republic," however metaphorically, was a shrewd idea; it redounded to the credit of the much abused democratic State and also allowed Thomas Mann "to alter his approach" so to speak in the footsteps of the venerated master. Nor did this proclamation lack a certain irony. For the "king of the people" tended to be their follower rather than their leader; he had welcomed the outbreak of the First World War as enthusiastically as most other European intellectuals and was no less enthusiastic about the 1918 revolution. "Not for a thousand years have the German people experienced anything of an importance remotely comparable to the events of the last days. . . . Today the people have taken their destiny into their own hands. . . . The new government can count on us. . . ."

For all his eager responses to the turning

points of history, Hauptmann, like the people he represented, was profoundly unpolitical; in the early thirties when the Weimar state fought for survival, he defended it but feebly. When Hitler seized power he acquiesced, preferring his "royal" status to the dismal penury of exile. "My father and mother are still my parents even if they make fools of themselves," he observed (March 1933) to Hedwig Fischer, his publisher's wife. To describe as folly what was so clearly destined to destroy all accepted human standards was part of that self-deceiving blindness, which he shared with the great majority of the Germans. Soon and somewhat earlier than the rest of them, he was to share their disillusionment and the agonies of defeat.

The ceremonious, personal friendship between Thomas Mann and Gerhart Hauptmann, the writer and the poet, also seemed to reflect elements of that mocking ambivalence which informs much of Mann's fiction. If he persistently offered him the nation's spiritual kingship, he also slyly and fictionally dethroned him in the *Magic Mountain* figure of the "royal stammerer," Mynheer Peeperkorn. The charismatic Dutchman of the imperious gestures and unfinished pronouncements, who overawed the two embattled intellectuals contending for the soul of the novel's uncommitted hero, resembled in many unmistakable details Gerhart Hauptmann. His commanding presence and strangely inarticulate utterance were in times of crisis not quite enough for a king, and foreshadowed the ultimate failure of the old man. By that time Thomas Mann had assumed leadership and represented consciously and conscientiously the "other Germany." His unforgiving and personal hatred of Hitler seemed also motivated by the realisation that the "people of his love" had preferred the unspeakable demagogue to him, their true representative, had opted, in the words of his brother Heinrich, not for the "spirit" but for power", however savage and short lived.

FUEL CRISIS

Effects on Communal Organisations

Despite the Government's three-day working week restrictions, communal organisations in London have continued to keep their offices open throughout the week. However, on the days when they must not use electricity, they will work only during hours of daylight and mainly without heating. Accordingly, the office of the AJR closes at 3 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. There will also be a delay in the production and despatch of AJR Information as long as the crisis persists, and readers are kindly requested to refrain from enquiries, if they do not receive their copies at the beginning of the month.

In London and the provinces, Orthodox Jews working in areas which have been allocated Thursday, Friday and Saturday as their three working days, will be able to work only one-and-a-half days a week in view of Shabbat.

Greyhound Guaranty Limited

Bankers

5 GRAFTON STREET, MAYFAIR,
LONDON, W1X 3LB

Telephone: 01-629 1208

Telex: 24637 Cables: Greyty, London, W.1

HOME NEWS

SHOOTING OF MR. J. EDWARD SIEFF

The shooting by a gunman of Mr. J. Edward Sieff, president of Marks & Spencer Ltd., at his home in Queen's Grove, St. John's Wood, has shocked not only Anglo-Jewry but the whole country, if not the whole world. Miraculously, he escaped death and is now recovered. Mr. Sieff is the son of an immigrant from Lithuania, who settled in Manchester, and a brother of the late Israel (later Lord) Sieff. Like other members of the family, he has been active in the Zionist movement since his early youth. He is an honorary vice-president of the Zionist Federation of Great Britain. Together with other leading British Jews, he visited Israel shortly after the end of the Yom Kippur War.

Articles in the national press expressed horror at the brutal crime against a widely respected personality. Commenting on it, The Daily Telegraph describes Mr. Sieff as "a public benefactor whose commercial skills have obtained for the British people, at all levels, greater benefits than were ever provided by a Government".

It was assumed that Mr. Sieff might have been the first on an Arab "death list". Shortly after the shooting, Sir Jack Cohen of Tesco told the Jewish Chronicle that a Jewish mother with three young children had been telephoned and told that she was next on the list and that Sir Jack was the third.

ANTI-ISRAELI ADVERTISEMENT

An anti-Israeli advertisement in The Guardian, inserted by Palestine Action, which asserted that Zionism was the obstacle to peace in the Middle East, was published with a letter signed by a number of Jews. Seven of them have now publicly dissociated themselves from the advertisement. Mr. Harvey Minsky, one of the complainants, said that he had not signed the original letter.

The other six sent a disclaimer letter to The Guardian admitting they had signed the original letter, but arguing that reprinted in the context of the advertisement it implied that "Zionism and the State of Israel constituted the sole obstacle to peace in the Middle East". Zionism, they said, was but one of the many obstacles to peace in the Middle East "albeit a principal factor and albeit the barrier to which we as Jews specifically address ourselves".

SILENT CHRISTIAN LEADERS?

The Birmingham Council of Christians and Jews, in a letter to the national executive, complained about the lack of support for Israel shown by non-Jewish leaders of the national council during the emergency. Except for the letter to The Times by the Rev. W. W. Simpson, the Birmingham Council states, "nothing was said publicly in the churches or in the press to give support to Israel and the Jewish people in the hour of their greatest need, when they felt completely isolated and when sympathy and help were expected from the Christian presidents of the Council of Christians and Jews".

Replying on behalf of the national council, Mr. Simpson, general secretary of the council, said that it should be appreciated that church leaders were in a difficult situation in making public pronouncements on such politically complex matters. But public silence did not mean indifference and he was certain that behind the scenes Christians at all levels had found ways of expressing their concern and sympathy.

With acknowledgement to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle.

NEW YEAR HONOURS

Lord Cohen of Birkenhead, president of the General Medical Council, has been made a Companion of Honour for services to medicine. In the Queen's New Year Honours, knighthoods also went to Mr. William Woolf Harris, chairman of the Bow Street magistrates court, for political and public services in London; Mr. Lawrence Kadoorie, for services to the community in Hong Kong; and to Mr. Jan Alfred Lewando, chairman of Carrington Viyella, for services to export.

Mr. Lewis Nathan Ross, a former secretary of the Auckland, New Zealand, Hebrew Congregation received the C.M.G., for services to commerce. The award of C.B.E. was made to Mr. Arthur Katz, deputy chairman of the Mettoy Company, for services to export. O.B.E.s were awarded to Mr. Frank Caplin, technical adviser to the board of Racal-British Communications Corporation, for services to export; Mr. Alfred Ginsberg, veterinary adviser to the New Zealand High Commission in London; Miss Daisy Deborah Hyams (Mrs. Hart), managing director of Tesco Stores (Wholesale), for services to the food trade; Miss Sylvia Alexandra Jacobs, of Westcliff-on-Sea, principal at the Board of Customs and Excise; and Mr. Frank Raphael Waley, M.C., president of the Westminster Synagogue, London, member of the advisory committee on the landscape treatment of trunk roads.

The M.B.E. went to Mrs. Nancy Abrahams, for services to the community in Wallasey; Mr. Hyman Joseph Goldring, of Belfast, for services to the Abbeyfield Society in Northern Ireland; Dr. Elizabeth Jacobs (Mrs. Burder), for services to the community of St. Marylebone; Mr. Malcolm Peters, former chairman of Associated Fashion Designers of London, for services to export; and Mr. Jacob Pinkas, pro-consul at the British Embassy in Tel Aviv.

RUSSIAN TOURIST OFFICE PICKETED

The Intourist office in Regent Street, London, was picketed by members of the Emergency Committee for Soviet Jewry. Police were called in when an argument ensued after some of the demonstrators entered the building.

In support of the Prisoners of Conscience Month, Jewish and non-Jewish pupils of schools in London and from Carmel College held an interdenominational service outside the Soviet Embassy. To mark the end of the Month, the Board of Deputies held a demonstration outside the Embassy, during which leaders of Jewish communal bodies lit candles on behalf of the prisoners and prayers were recited. The day before was observed as prisoners' Shabbat, when special prayers were recited and ministers mentioned the plight of the prisoners in their sermons.

Your House for:-

**CURTAINS, CARPETS,
FLOORCOVERINGS**

SPECIALITY

**CONTINENTAL DOWN
QUILTS**

ALSO RE-MAKES AND RE-COVERS

ESTIMATES FREE

DAWSON-LANE LIMITED

(Established 1946)

17 BRIDGE ROAD, WEMBLEY PARK

Telephone: 904 6671

Personal attention of Mr. W. Shackman.

ANGLO-JUDAICA

New Temporary Shelter Opened

The new building in Mapesbury Road, Willesden, of the Jews' Temporary Shelter, was consecrated by Chief Rabbi Jakobovits and opened by Lord Goodman. The lights were lit by a group of children from the North West London Jewish Day School, as the ceremony coincided with Chanukah. The shelter, founded nearly 90 years ago in the East End of London, is now in a large house converted with every modern facility.

During this period the shelter has looked after refugees from Tsarist Russia, from Belgium during the First World War, from the victims of Nazism, from Hungary, Aden, India, Pakistan, and from Egypt and other Arab countries. Today the shelter tries to help urgent domestic cases, provides kosher meals for needy cases in the district, and houses 20 residents.

JWB Deficit

The Jewish Welfare Board incurred a deficit of over £100,000 at the end of 1973, partly through fund-raising activities for Israel. The board has been hard hit financially since the outbreak of the Yom Kippur War. It was anticipated that, for 1974, the board could expect the doubling of its current deficit to £200,000. At least two building projects—at Egerton Road, Stamford Hill, and Broadhurst Gardens, West Hampstead—will have to be deferred for lack of funds.

Tribute to Dutch

In an address to the Bournemouth branch of the William Temple Association, Rabbi Dr. Leslie Edgar, co-chairman of the London Society of Jews and Christians, paid tribute to the courage and devotion of Dutch Christians who saved the lives of numerous Jews, especially children, during the Nazi occupation of Holland. He was pleased to see that the Dutch were still steadfast in their friendship and affection for the Jewish people and were not yielding to Arab blackmail.

Christmas Help in Hospitals and Homes

This Christmas more than 3,000 people took part in the annual Christmas hospital help scheme organised by the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women. Volunteer workers relieved hospital domestic and other staffs in about 150 hospitals and many old people's homes. Members of Jewish women's organisations, the Girl Guides and the Jewish Lads' Brigade also volunteered in this work.

As in previous years, members of the Women's Society of the Belsize Square Synagogue volunteered to relieve the staff of two Homes (Leo Baeck House and Otto Schiff House) on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Other members of the Society helped in the National Hospital and in two Homes of the Hampstead Old People's Housing Trust.

When this issue went to press, it was learned with deep regret that

DR SIEGFRIED MOSES

President of the Council of Jews from Germany and of the Leo Baeck Institute, and former State Comptroller of the State of Israel, passed away in his 87th year.

He gave guidance to the two organisations founded by the Jews from Germany since their inception, and his departure leaves a void which it will not be possible to fill.

An appreciation of his outstanding personality and of the signal services he rendered to Jewish causes during a long and full life will be published in our next issue.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Reaction against Japan

A group of visiting Japanese politicians, all members of Japan's Democratic Socialist Parties, including two MPs, were warned that there will be a strong reaction from the American public if Japan capitulates further to Arab oil blackmail. Delegates of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organisations met the group at the home of the Japanese Consul in New York. Although no mention was made of a trade boycott, it was clear that this was what was meant. The visitors were told that Japan's pro-Arab policy would prove disastrous, that it was weakening America's peace initiative and that it would lose Japan many friends in America.

New York Police Recruitment

Three Jewish officers assigned to a campaign to recruit young Jews for the New York City police report that they have so far recruited 722 candidates for the police examinations.

Of the 30,000-strong police force, only 806 are at present Jewish, which is less than 3 per cent comparing with the 24 per cent of New York's Jewish population.

Soviet Prisoner of Conscience Month

December was designated "Soviet Jewish Prisoner of Conscience Month" by Mr. Nelson Rockefeller, the Governor of New York State, and Mr. John D. Lindsay, the outgoing Mayor of New York City. The proclamations were issued to the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry, representing two million Jews in the area.

The opening of a "Women United for Soviet Jewry" meeting was signalled by the placing of 42 white roses, each representing a prisoner of conscience, on the doorstep of the Soviet Union's United Nations mission in New York.

Memorial for Munich Victims

A memorial plaque in commemoration of the victims of the massacre during the Munich Olympic games was affixed to the Memorial for the victims of Nazism at the cemetery of a Baltimore Jewish community, founded by immigrants from Central Europe.

Yeshiva University Project

In honour of its president, Dr. Samuel Belkin, Yeshiva University has launched a \$160 million (£62 million) academic development programme to mark Dr. Belkin's 30 years in the post.

At the convocation in New York where the project was announced, honorary doctorates were awarded to Senator Edward Kennedy; Professor William H. Stein, a Nobel Prize chemistry winner; and Mr. Pinhas Sapir, the Israeli Finance Minister.

B'nai B'rith Slates London

The board of governors of B'nai B'rith has cancelled London as the site of its triennial conference, due in November. The conference will probably now be held in Israel. It was stated that Britain's precipitousness in compromising her "age-old reputation for support of the oppressed" had left the organisation with no choice but to hold the conference elsewhere.

Mixed Marriages

The Rabbinic Centre and Counselling Service has made public a list of 119 Liberal rabbis performing mixed marriages. The centre has stated that about 100 other rabbis also performed mixed marriages but did not want their names publicised. Although the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the Liberal organisation, opposes the officiation of its rabbis at mixed marriage ceremonies, it has not issued an official ban on their doing so.

CHILEAN JEWRY

Political Asylum

Of the seven Chilean university graduates contesting the Home Secretary's refusal to grant them political asylum in Britain, six are Jewish. They escaped after the overthrow of the Allende régime by a military junta. Two Jewish MPs, Mr. S. Clinton Davis and Mr. David Weitzman, and also Mr. Hayim Pinner, vice-chairman of Poale Zion and executive director of the B'nai B'rith, have been active in the representations made to the Home Office by Lord Brockway and Mrs. Judith Hart.

Antisemitism Allegations

Mr. Segio Nudelstejer of the American Jewish Committee in Mexico and Central America, just returned from a visit to Chile where he met Jewish leaders, said that American and West European press reports about antisemitism in Chile are very exaggerated. The Chilean-Jewish leaders had told him that there was no antisemitism under the military régime, that all Jewish institutions were functioning, and that the Jews of Chile had confidence in the régime. It is also reported that the head of the Air Force is a Jew, Brigadier General José Berdichevsky Scher.

A recent issue of the Jewish Chronicle carries a letter from David Lehmann of Wolfson College, Cambridge. He points to the incontrovertible evidence of systematic torture and executions in Chile, giving examples of some of the many Jews among the sufferers.

Mr. Lehmann says that the statements by the Representative Committee of Chilean Jews and the last remaining rabbi in Chile that there is no evidence of a campaign against Jews no doubt reflect the feelings of many Jews, but not those of a sizeable number of them. In a situation where the numbers of dead are estimated at some 20,000 in three months, one cannot discount the possibility that such statements are motivated at least in part by fear.

MEXICAN COMMUNITIES

The Mexican Jewish communities held their first conference in Mexico City, attended by delegates from all the major communities and a number of smaller ones.

Resolutions passed at the conference included one urging the strengthening of Jewish education and another calling for closer links between the older and younger generations of Mexican Jewry.

BUENOS AIRES

Neo-Nazis Arson

Incendiary bombs were thrown into the 3,000-seat Rex Cinema in the centre of Buenos Aires during the showing of the film "Hitler: The Last Ten Days." Members of the Mazorca neo-Nazi organisation shouted "Jews to the gallows" as the cinema burned. No-one was injured and the film, which had been shown successfully, was withdrawn—telephone threats had been received before the attack. Two youths were arrested.

ISLE OF MAN

INTERNMENT 1914/18 & 1939/45

I buy envelopes and folded letter forms from these and other camps. Please send to: **PETER C. RICKENBACK**, 14 Rossllyn Hill, London, N.W.3.

UNITED NATIONS

Terrorism Debate Shelved

The General Assembly has shelved consideration of international terrorism for another year, in the face of heavy pressure from the Arabs and the Soviet Union to "erase it" from the agenda.

Dr. Shabtai Rosenne, a member of Israel's General Assembly delegation, declared that the real objective of the terrorists was to destroy Jewish aspirations. He warned the committee that "each surrender to blackmail and the demands of terrorists only increases their appetites."

The policy committee of the United Nations Association has passed a resolution expressing concern that the human rights of prisoners-of-war in the Middle East should be "safeguarded in accordance with accepted international standards and instruments, and in particular with the Third Geneva Convention". The names of all prisoners-of-war should be released immediately; the international committee of the Red Cross should be granted access to all prisoners without delay, and prisoners should not be used as hostages in any situation of negotiation, talks or settlement.

SOUTH AFRICAN BURSARIES

Mr. Morris Mauerberger, 83, provides medical bursaries worth £4,375 a year. A generous contributor to the Israel Appeal, Mr. Mauerberger introduced his medical bursaries at Cape Town University in 1961, awarding eight bursaries, each of £187.50, to medical students in their fourth year until their sixth and final year.

Among a group of recent beneficiaries who have successfully passed their final examinations are four coloured medical graduates.

SALONICA COMMUNITY MEMORIAL

A volume of its history has been sent to prominent Jews and non-Jews all over the world by the 1,200-strong membership of the Salonica Jewish community. The aim is to keep on record the community's achievements through the centuries, the origins of which have been traced to 315 BCE when the city was founded by Cassander, King of Macedon.

Before the Second World War 56,000 Jews lived in Salonica, 96 per cent of whom were murdered in Nazi concentration camps.

FRANCE

Representative Council Criticised

It is reported that tension is growing in the French Jewish community over the allegedly mild attitude of the Representative Council of French Jewry (Crif) towards the Arab threat to Israel's existence. Critics object to the moderate tone of Mr. Theo Klein, the vice-president, and Mr. Gerard Israel, a council member, who told a press conference that the community was only "astonished" that the French Government had received Libya's President Gaddafi. They feel that there should have been a far more vigorous reaction when, during Gaddafi's visit to Paris, he again called for Israel's destruction.

The amount of contributions for Israel since the outbreak of the October War is higher than in 1967, the number of contributors representing about half the total of Jewish families in France. However, the number of non-Jewish donors now is smaller than in 1967.

HOLLAND

Offending Statement Withdrawn

A Dutch Foreign Ministry spokesman told the press that "the Dutch Government considers that the Israeli presence in the occupied territories is illegal". The statement was withdrawn by the Dutch Foreign Minister, Mr. Max van der Stoep, who also reiterated that Holland had not changed her viewpoint on Middle East matters. The offending spokesman was suspended pending assignment to different duties.

Fritz Friedlander (Melbourne)

BEER-HOFMANN AND HOFMANNSTHAL

"I know exactly, there doesn't exist anyone whom I owe as much as I owe you," wrote Hugo von Hofmannsthal, on September 5, 1897, in a letter to his friend Richard Beer-Hofmann. This expression of gratitude is, on Hofmannsthal's side, an always recurrent theme in their recently published correspondence: "Hugo von Hofmannsthal, Richard Beer-Hofmann: Briefwechsel" (S. Fischer Verlag, Frankfurt am Main, 1972)". The correspondence is edited and painstakingly annotated by Eugene Weber, with the assistance of Dr. Rudolf Hirsch, after Christine Zimmer, Hofmannsthal's daughter, and Raimund von Hofmannsthal, his second son, as well as Mirjam Beer-Hofmann-Lens, his daughter, as well as Naamah Beer-Hofmann, Mirjam's younger sister, who took a warm interest in the preparation of the edition, died before the book was published.

It was in Vienna, in autumn 1890, when Beer-Hofmann first met Hofmannsthal who was a sixteen-year-old high school pupil, a prodigy, who wrote under the pen name Loris and was introduced by a leading critic, Hermann Bahr, as a new meteor at the literary sky. Although Beer-Hofmann, who worked very slowly and carefully, was still rather unknown in the literary world, the young Hofmannsthal sensed that his nearly eight years older friend was much more mature and rich in experience. Therefore, he was content to play the role of a disciple in their mutual relationship. An especially intimate exchange of views took place when both lived closely at Rodaun, near Vienna, from 1901 to 1906.

Their correspondence, covering nearly forty years, is a very instructive documentation, because it gives the reader a deep insight into the nature of two great poets. Hofmannsthal, an extrovert character, is exuberant in his appreciation of the elder friend's human qualities. He confides to him not only his private affairs, but he is also eager to avail himself of his advice in literary matters.

Beer-Hofmann, on the other hand, was shy by nature; he seems to me like Shakespeare's Brutus locking up his grievances and problems in himself. In his letters he only on rare occasions trespassed the limits of his anxiously preserved privacy. After the birth of his daughter Mirjam in September, 1897, he writes to Hofmannsthal that this event made him unassailable against the baseness of the world. Another time when, in a passing moment of despair, Hofmannsthal doubted the value of his work, Beer-Hofmann, in his letter of August 5, 1898, assures the younger friend that the purity of mind that they have in common testifies to the worthiness of their work.

But these evasions from privacy were pretty rare, and therefore Hofmannsthal gave more and more vent to the feelings that he did not mean anything to his admired friend who, he thought, could do without him. This sentiment of bitterness grew so strong in Hofmannsthal that it caused a crisis which brought his friendship with Beer-Hofmann to a breaking point. This development can only be understood against the background of their times and personal circumstances.

Beer-Hofmann and Hofmannsthal were both the only sons of well-to-do upper middle class families providing them with the means to enjoy life and to dedicate themselves to their cultural interests. There was, however,

a basic difference: Beer-Hofmann's family had remained faithful to Judaism, while the Hofmannsthal's, wealthy ennobled bankers, had left Judaism for Catholicism.

The outbreak of the First World War brought an end to their hitherto beautiful and carefree lives and they both were, as Hamlet put it, "to bear the whips and scorns of time". In April 1919, when the post-war inflation had impoverished wide circles of the Austrian people, Beer-Hofmann's magnificent drama "Jaakob's Traum" was first performed at the Vienna Burgtheater. Hofmannsthal was prevented by illness from attending the first night and, being sick and irritable, he wrote, on April 20, 1919, a fateful letter to Beer-Hofmann. He took exception to, as he said, the evil nationalistic spirit of "Jaakob's Traum", and he also raised objections to Beer-Hofmann's preceding works: the drama "Der Graf von Charolais" and the story "Der Tod Georgs".

Beer-Hofmann was taken aback by this letter and considered it as an accusation. Though he shunned letter-writing, he forced himself to write an extensive reply in which he warded off Hofmannsthal's arguments point for point. He claimed that the spirit, prevailing in "Jaakob's Traum", was a spirit of tolerance; "Graf Charolais" was written at Rodaun during the years when Hofmannsthal saw him nearly daily. Why didn't he object at that time?

On May 23, 1919, Hofmannsthal, terribly upset, answered with a long and remorseful letter of apology. He assured Beer-Hofmann in strongest terms of his affection, withdrew or, at least, modified his charges and defended his behaviour by arguing that he had only raised his objections out of a deep concern for Beer-Hofmann and his work.

Beer-Hofmann was particularly shocked by Hofmannsthal's critical attack because, when he first read "Jaakob's Traum" to him in 1918, the lofty atmosphere of the drama had appealed to Hofmannsthal. Since then, the First World War had been lost, and Hofmannsthal's mind was seized by the same anti-nationalistic pacifism, as expressed in the works by Barbusse, Leonhard Frank, Remarque, Arnold Zweig. Hofmannsthal's charge of a nationalistic spirit in "Jaakob's Traum" was in line with Alfred Kerr's statement that in this drama a Mesopotamian Widenbruch is audible. The root of the conflict is,

however, that Beer-Hofmann's mind was imbued with the Zionist ideal as propounded by Achad Ha-am and Buber, while Hofmannsthal, being completely estranged from Judaism, was deeply devoted to the Habsburg Monarchy. But did he learn to understand Beer-Hofmann's attitude?

When in 1924, Hofmannsthal's friends published a special volume in honour of his fiftieth birthday, Beer-Hofmann contributed a fragment of his still incomplete drama "Der junge David", and Hofmannsthal thanked him with these words: "In dem Fragment aus Ihrer grossen Dichtung ist auch etwas Ehrfurchtgebietendes, das einem fast den Atem benimmt. Es ist etwas wahrhaft Religiöses darin, so wie man den Sinn dieses Wortes versteht, wenn man in sich geht—wie ich in diesen Stunden. Immer kommt mir das Wort von Dostojewski in den Sinn: Wer kein Volk hat, kann auch keinen Gott haben. So haben Sie in den Tiefen Ihres scheuen und grossen Wesens Beides gesucht und Beides gefunden: Ihr Volk und Ihren Gott."

With this fine appreciation Hofmannsthal redeemed his former error of judgement; but he did much more for his esteemed friend: he always urged him in letters to overcome his inhibitions and to complete his works.

The correspondence between both great writers came to a close on a tragic note. On July 13, 1929, Franz von Hofmannsthal, the poet's elder son, took his own life, and two days later his father, mortally wounded inwardly, thanked Beer-Hofmann and his wife for their expression of sympathy. His brief note ends with the strange words: "One must understand everything." He died on the same day.

IN MEMORY OF DR. KURT BADT

Some years ago *The Times Literary Supplement* called Badt's *Constable's Clouds* the best book on Constable since *Leslie's Life*. It was published in London in 1950. The author had come to this country in 1939 as a refugee from Germany. He was born in Berlin in 1890. Together with his wife, Helen (née Arnheim), he died in Ueberlingen. His was not only a long but a rich and fruitful life. Before he left Germany, Kurt Badt lived the life of, as it were, a renaissance humanist. In 1913, he took his Ph.D. degree in Freiburg. Son of a Berlin banker, he had independent means and was able, on the shores of Lake Constance, to devote his time to his main interests: painting, sculpturing, music and philosophy. In London he worked at the Warburg Institute.

He returned to Germany in 1952. It is like a miracle that he then produced in quick succession books on art which exerted a deep influence on his German colleagues and the public. The span of his scholarship and interests is astounding. He wrote about Cézanne, van Gogh, Vermeer and eventually became the author of his monumental and authoritative *Poussin*. At the time of his death he was finishing a work on Veronese.

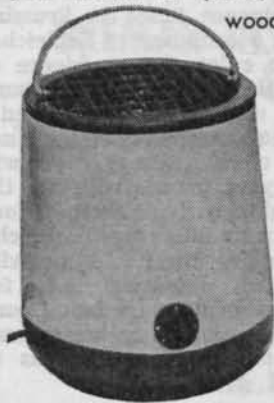
Badt did not care very much for picking out "influences" and derivations. He wanted to show, analyse and explain the creative originality, the personal achievement of the artist. He was greatly helped in this approach by the fact that he had been a painter and sculptor himself.

Towards the end of his life he was made an honorary professor at Constance University. On his 70th birthday his friends and disciples dedicated a comprehensive *Festschrift* (317pp.) to him. Obituaries in German newspapers described him as one of the most distinguished art historians of Germany.

ALFONS ROSENBERG

Does your heating cause dry air—affecting your health or piano, plants, antiques, woodwork & paintings?

As HUMIDIFIER-SPECIALISTS we shall be pleased to advise you and send you our free explanatory leaflet



THE HUMIDIFIER COMPANY
25 Bridge Road, Wembley Park, Middx.
Tel: 01-904 7603

Robert Kempner

WHEN DEMOCRACY FAILED

From Weimar to Hitler

The author of this article Dr. Robert Kempner, was chief adviser to the Police Department of the Prussian Ministry of the Interior, when the Nazis came to power. After the war, he was Deputy U.S. Chief Prosecutor at the Nuernberg Trials.

The events of the year 1933 are engraved on my memory for all time to come. Afraid for Germany's future—at the age of 34 I was not very worried about my own—I drove in my car from Lichterfelde to Berlin at 9 a.m. on January 31. The houses of the old Potsdamer Chaussee, throughout Schoeneberg, were hung with swastika flags. Judging by Radio news bulletins of the previous day, banner headlines of the evening and morning papers and the SA torchlight procession in the Wilhelmstrasse, Germany's fate was sealed: The old Reich President Paul von Hindenburg, symbol of the victory of Tannenberg, but also of the defeat of the First World War, had nominated as Reich Chancellor the same Adolf Hitler whom he had rejected only a short time before as "the Bohemian Corporal".

The new Vice-Chancellor, von Papen, a former cavalry captain and amateur rider, formally a member of the ultra-Right wing of the Centre Party, was to act as a "safeguard". He had frequently received the patronage of his rival and occasional friend, General Kurt von Schleicher, who belonged to the camarilla of the Reich President. This camarilla was a kind of secret Cabinet. Apart from Schleicher, it consisted among others of Major Oskar von Hindenburg, the Reich President's son, and Under Secretary of State Otto Meissner, who became Hitler's willing servant.

Kurt von Schleicher, a key figure in this circle, was an intelligent and crafty man. In the Reichswehr Ministry he played a decisive part in many unconstitutional measures, as in 1930 in the overthrow of the last Reich Government headed by the Social-Democrat, Hermann Mueller. He had then recommended Heinrich Bruening, the Centre Party politician, to be Mueller's successor. Under the wings of the Reich President and of Schleicher, Bruening was meant to govern by decree, i.e. in an extra-parliamentary fashion. Schleicher had Bruening under surveillance by tapping his telephone and eavesdropping on his conversations with politicians at Bismarck's old fire-place. In June 1932 the camarilla overthrew Bruening. Schleicher put Franz von Papen, the Reich President's minion, in the saddle as Reich Chancellor. Papen, too, was subsequently removed by Schleicher who then succeeded in getting himself appointed Reich Chancellor in December 1932. It was a short-lived chancellorship.

The foolish view that the world economic crisis and above all the unemployment problem had helped Hitler to power, can be refuted by the fact that though there were similar problems in other Western and Eastern countries, a Hitler-type of dictator did not come to power. In the U.S.A. Franklin D. Roosevelt solved a very much more difficult unemployment problem than the German one, and Holland, England, France, Poland and other countries did not allow a dictator like Hitler to be imposed upon them. In December, 1932, that is to say two months before the seizure of power, Hitler had lost 2,000,000 votes.

While these facts and thoughts passed through my mind on January 31, 1933, when

driving to the capital, I arrived at our Ministry at 72, Unter den Linden. Outside only a few SA-men could be seen, but what was awaiting us inside? After all, the new commissarial chief of the Prussian Ministry of the Interior was called Hermann Goering, the "Fuehrer's first paladin".

Goering was not unknown in our department because he had been involved in various investigations in connection with anti-constitutional activities, and because at one time he had approached a number of civil servants in the attempt to establish contacts for the sale of parachutes. It was this self-same Hermann Goering who now took over the strongest instrument of power in the Reich. Hitler had chosen him for this purpose because he believed in the old Bismarckian maxim: "He who holds Prussia, holds the Reich". Our Ministry of the Interior controlled the Executive in two thirds of the Reich, from Koenigsberg to Aachen, from Kiel to Breslau and Frankfurt/Main, and the Prussian Police Presidents with a police force of more than 76,000 men. This Prussian Ministry of the Interior also controlled the Oberpraesidenten, Regierungspraesidenten and Landraete. The gear-lever of power was in the Ministry of the Interior and it was Goering who was to pull it.

The number of officials in the Ministry was relatively small in comparison with what was often later on an unnecessarily inflated number of staff. Politically speaking the higher civil service in January 1933 consisted of many "non-political" officials, who tended towards the German People's Party, of numerous Papen followers, old Centre Party people, a few Democrats and the "left-over" Social-Democrats whom Herr von Papen had not yet booted out following his coup d'état on July 20, 1932. Furthermore there was a small group of turncoats and traitors who had left the democratic parties early in 1933 and had attached themselves openly or secretly to the NSDAP.

In the early days of February, 1933 Oberregierungsrat Rudolf Diels from the political department, formerly a confidant of the democratic Secretary of State, Wilhelm Abegg, achieved some prominence. Since the Prussian putsch he had been a confidant of Schleicher and now seemed to enjoy the confidence of the new "Tsar". He was constantly summoned to Goering's office downstairs. When I asked him what the news was, he was not embarrassed to tell me quite frankly: "It will be awful, many of your friends will bite the dust." This happened as early as three or four weeks before the arrests following the Reichstag fire. Before the fire Diels told me with equal bluntness that detention lists for prominent Hitler opponents were being compiled. This is why I was able to warn some political and personal friends and thus to save their lives.

In the first days of February Goering called all senior civil servants to his office, gave them a National Socialist homily and stated that nothing untoward would happen to any official who did his duty. When I returned

to my office I found, as did other colleagues, a request for me to report to the personnel officer. We were then suspended with immediate effect and forbidden to enter the Ministry. We were to be given more detailed information after further "legal" regulations. On this very day when I started on my "leave", Berlin papers reported my suspension and the creation of the new central political police department under Oberregierungsrat Diels. He was appointed the first chief of the newly founded Secret Police which became even more notorious later on under Heinrich Himmler. Twelve years later I interrogated Diels in Nuernberg. He was as talkative as in the early days. He told all.

Had we under our erstwhile Social-Democrat Prussian Ministers Carl Severing and Albert Grzesinski done our utmost to thwart Hitler's aspirations for power and thus to prevent murder and the foreseeable war?

Since 1930 Hitler and his party leaders had stated with increasing emphasis that they would fight and destroy the "Weimar State" with the utmost ruthlessness and by all means at their disposal, even illegal means. In his capacity as leader of the Parliamentary N.S.D.A.P., Dr. Wilhelm Frick, an old fighting comrade of Hitler's and later on Reich Minister of the Interior, actually stated in the Reichstag that human lives would not be a consideration during the overthrow of the then government. The facts of the treasonable enterprise and of other crimes such as murder, manslaughter, perjury, rebellion and conspiracy were clearly proven. The material was unassailable and had been very carefully collected by the Section 1A of the Berlin Police Presidium. I had participated as legal adviser in the first memorandum for Reich Chancellor Bruening with the object of obtaining a ban on the N.S.D.A.P. and also in further memoranda on the N.S.D.A.P.'s anti-Catholic intentions and certain economic aims.

In view of Bruening's reservations with regard to the Prussian demands for a ban, we laid a formal charge in August, 1930 with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecution at the Supreme Court in Leipzig on the advice of Secretary of State Abegg and with the co-operation of the Association of Republican Judges (of whose Executive Committee I was a member) and German League of Human Rights. The N.S.D.A.P. leadership was above all accused of crimes against the High Treason paragraph. At the same time we wanted to see to it that Adolf Hitler should be punished for the perjury committed on the point of legality or illegality during the so-called high treason trial of the three Ulm Reichswehr officers.

Karl August Werner, Supreme Court Director of Public Prosecution, who later on turned out to be a staunch National Socialist, bent the law and dragged out proceedings from August 28, 1930 to August 7, 1932 on the grounds of alleged investigations. On August 7, 1932, one month after Franz von Papen's appointment as Reich Chancellor, the Supreme Court Public Prosecutor stopped proceedings without giving a reason. This was von Papen's "dowry" for obtaining later negotiations with the National Socialists; in his capacity of Commissar for Prussia, he also presented as a gift the pardon of several SA murderers from Upper Silesia. This was how the attempt at getting Hitler sentenced failed. A sentence for Hitler would also have facilitated his expulsion as an undesirable alien which I had suggested on various occasions.

Prussia took further steps against the N.S.D.A.P. in co-operation with the Hesse

Continued on page 7, column 1

When Democracy Failed

Continued from page 6

Government. In 1931 the Hesse N.S.D.A.P. jurist Werner Best compiled in the so-called Boxheim documents a cruel programme for the eventuality of an assumption of power by the National Socialists. Supreme Court Public Prosecutor Werner also stopped legal proceedings in this connection with the support of the fearful and reactionary Reich Minister of Justice, Dr. Joel.

It emerges from the Reich Chancellery files that Reich Chancellor Bruening pussyfooted in this Hesse high treason affair because he did not want to jeopardise secret negotiations regarding the formation of a coalition between the Centre Party and the N.S.D.A.P. A sign of considerable political naivety!

Prussia's Warnings Unheeded

One of the last great attempts on the part of the Prussian Executive to prevent the selling-out of power to Hitler was an urgent request put forward by Otto Braun, the Prussian Premier. In a letter dated March 4, 1932, handed over by him personally to Reich Chancellor Bruening, Braun demanded energetic action against the N.S.D.A.P. He appended a 200-page memorandum with material proving the N.S.D.A.P.'s unconstitutional activities and their violations of the law. This material had been carefully compiled in the Prussian Ministry of the Interior. The legal appraisal was convincing. It would have been the duty of the Reich Government to ban the N.S.D.A.P. at long last and to order the Supreme Court Public Prosecutor's Office to institute criminal proceedings on the grounds of the many crimes committed by the National Socialist leadership corps. The truncation of the top would have led to the destruction or at least to the disintegration of the N.S.D.A.P., as struggles between the successors would have resulted.

The request made by the Prussian Premier, which would have stopped Hitler, had remained in Bruening's hands for three months without his doing anything at all against the N.S.D.A.P. Three days after Bruening's overthrow by von Papen, i.e. on June 5, 1932, Erwin Planck, the new Secretary of State in Papen's Reich Chancellery, simply filed the Prussian Premier's request with the footnote that Bruening had not instituted any action. It emerges from these files that incriminating letters written by SA-Chief Ernst Roehm which should have been submitted to Reich President von Hindenburg on the Prussian Premier's suggestion, had been destroyed by order of Bruening.

Thus the last political police attempt to stem Hitler's drive to power had failed. There remained the possibility of preventing the take-over of Prussia by Reich Commissar von Papen on July 20, 1932, by means of a general strike called by the Trade Unions and the alerting of the Prussian police force. This would also have stopped the N.S.D.A.P. But the Prussian Government could not get itself to do this. Why? Was it lethargy, inability to see the peril that threatened, fear of a civil war? Even von Papen was surprised that his coup d'état against Prussia succeeded. He confirmed this to me in Nuernberg on various occasions.

The lesson to be learned is this: Moral courage and the will to exercise power are the most important prerequisites to maintain and develop a democratic society. In this it is essential to have the supervision of the State by the citizens through the press and the mass media. In the Weimar Republic this supervision was unfortunately not sufficiently developed.

W. Rosenstock

THE BRESLAU DISTRICT

Interesting New Source Material

We owe it to the former archivist of the pre-war Breslau Jewish community, Rabbi Dr Bernhard Brillung (now lecturer of Jewish history and religion at Muenster University), that the development of the Jewish communities in the Breslau "Regierungsbezirk" has been systematically recorded from their early beginnings until 1938.*

The genesis of the book itself is symptomatic of the obstacles with which German-Jewish historiography is faced. The work was ready for publication in 1938, but when, in accordance with the rules under the Nazi dictatorship, permission for print was applied for by the publishers, it was refused by the "Reichskulturwalter" Hinkel. The reasons were not given. They are, however, easy to guess: by the mere compilation of facts the work confirmed the century-old residence of Jews in the country in which they were now considered as outcasts. Fortunately the author was able to take the manuscript with him when he emigrated.

The first part of the book describes the general history, regional distribution and economic functions of the Jews in Silesia, laying stress on the pre-emancipation period. Whilst from the Middle Ages to the 15th century there were about 50 Jewish communities and settlements in the province, the territory was almost "judenrein" during the 16th century. New Jewish communities came into being from the year 1600 onwards. The earliest of them were Zuelz in Upper Silesia and Glogau in Lower Silesia. Breslau followed later and soon became the largest Jewish community. In 1791, the total number of Jews in Silesia amounted to more than 9,000. Of these about 5,300 lived in the three great communities of Breslau (2,480), Glogau

(1,790) and Zuelz (about 1,000). The remaining 3,700 Jews were spread partly over 37 small towns (together about 1,700), with Brieg (198), Beuthen (115) and Bernstadt (100) as the largest among them, partly (about 1,900) over the villages of Upper Silesia.

The regional distribution changed when, in the course of the 19th century, the Jews were freed from the restrictions of movement. On the one hand, the Breslau community kept on growing. On the other hand, Glogau's place was taken by Liegnitz (where Jews were not admitted until 1812), and the Jews of Zuelz, who owed their right of settlement to the permission of the feudal lord, spread over other places in Upper Silesia. The trends within the Breslau Regierungsbezirk are reflected in a statistical tablet, which covers the years 1787, 1849, 1871, 1880 and 1937. In 1880, the last "normal" year of these statistics, the largest communities were, apart from Breslau (with 17,500 Jews), Brieg (422), Schweidnitz (339), Oels (330) and Waldenburg (300). There was a decline in several of the smaller places.

The second part of the book describes (in alphabetical order) the history of 47 Jewish settlements in the Breslau Regierungsbezirk. Some places had passed their prime long before 1933 but played an important part at an earlier period. This especially applies to the community of Dyhernfurth (Kreis Wohlau), which owes its origin to the permission granted in 1688 by the feudal Lord, Graf von Jaroschin, to Sabbathai b. Josef Bass of Kalisch, to establish a printing plant. This enterprise became one of the leading Hebrew printing presses and remained in business until 1834.

The book also carries lists of members of the various communities and their rabbis and officials. It is, therefore, also a mine of information from the genealogical point of view. Thus, the list of Jews in Bernstadt includes Mendel Jochem (Menachem b. Chajim) Pringsheim (resident since about 1753), the ancestor of many scholars and scientists, among them the mathematician Professor Alfred Pringsheim, the father-in-law of Thomas Mann. Another resident of Bernstadt adopted the family name of Meidner and his descendants include the painter and poet Ludwig Meidner. Until about 1812, Jews lived in the small place of Freyhan (Kreis Militsch), a feudal property. Several of their descendants adopted their forbears' place of residence as their family names. There was also an early settlement in the village of Staedtel (Kreis Namslau), the property of the Duke of Braunschweig-Oels. In 1812, the community comprised 64 families and was able to maintain a rabbi by the name of Joseph Lazarus Laqueur.

The chapter about Schweidnitz lists among the community officials A. Blumenfeld (from 1868 onwards). His son, Rudolf, became a judge, a career then rather rare among unbaptised Jews, and his grandson was the Zionist leader Kurt Blumenfeld. As the son of a Prussian official, Kurt Blumenfeld rightly described himself as a "post-assimilated" Zionist. Yet the fact that he was the grandson of a Jewish teacher and preacher shows that the family links with Jewish tradition were not as distant as one might have assumed.

* Bernhard Brillung: Die juedischen Gemeinden Mittelschlesiens. Entstehung und Geschichte. 221 pp. Kohlhammer, Stuttgart 1972.

We offer comprehensive advice on every type of domestic and commercial insurance, life assurance, house purchase finance, estate duty mitigation and pension schemes.

BREMAR INSURANCE SERVICES LIMITED

Managing Director: C. F. Flesch

Members of the Bremar Group,
International Merchant Bankers

Bremar House,

27, Sale Place,

London, W2 1PT.

*Phone: 01-262 1198 Telex: 21969 BREMARCO LDN.

BIRTHDAY TRIBUTES

HERBERT SULZBACH, 80

When the history of the German Jews, who came to this country as refugees, comes to be written, a unique place will have to be allocated to Herbert Sulzbach, who will be 80 on February 8. Whilst quite a few of the Jews from Germany had served with the German Army during the First World War or enlisted with H. M. Forces after the outbreak of World War II, Herbert Sulzbach seems to be the only one who was an officer both under the Kaiser and under the King. This in itself may be of no importance, because war service is not a decisive yardstick of a man's value but a necessary duty. What is worth mentioning in Herbert Sulzbach's case is the special meaning he gave to his activities as a British officer. Stressing his origin as a Jew from Germany, with all that entailed in losses of family members and friends, he worked for the eradication of the Nazi doctrine among the German prisoners-of-war under his charge at Featherstone Park Camp.

His achievements in this field were the starting point for a wider task: the establishing of a new relationship between Britain and Germany after the end of hostilities. Sometimes the object of these efforts is called "reconciliation". Yet this would be a misnomer, because it might imply a playing down of what had happened during the 12 years of the horror regime in Germany. Herbert Sulzbach does not take the easy way by belittling the happenings. On the contrary, he knows that only a pitiless diagnosis of the past can lead to a therapy in the present. In the same spirit he also tries helping to "overcome the past" (as far as this is humanly possible) with regard to the relationship between post-war Germany and Jewry. In all these activities he remains critical of any manifestations in German public life which may evoke the dangers of neo-Nazism or antisemitism. Conversely, he never gets tired of writing to British newspapers, whenever he thinks that an unfavourable comment on a particular German issue is unjustified.

His devotion to the idea of mutual understanding prompted Herbert Sulzbach to accept an invitation by the first ambassador of the German Federal Republic to the Court of St. James's, Dr. Schlange-Schoeningen, to join the staff of the newly established embassy. Since then, he has been an indefatigable worker at Belgrave Square, loved and respected by his superiors and his colleagues. Due to some unwritten "Lex Sulzbach" the retirement rule seems to have been lifted in his case. He receives youth groups from Germany and tells them about the English way of life. He is chairman of the "Arbeitskreis 1961", founded by a number of former refugees and German church ministers and social workers at the initiative of the late Dr. Alfred Wiener, and organises lectures for young Germans who are in this country as students, trainees and home helps. And he has, throughout the years, kept contact with the former prisoners-of-war, who hold their annual meetings in Germany under the aus-

pices of the Arbeitskreis Featherstone Park, of which he is the Hon. President.

In finding the right kind of speakers for the various organisations of which he is in charge, he benefits from his contacts with a wide range of personalities in all spheres of British life, including authors, politicians and writers. He is probably on first name terms with more well-known Englishmen than the majority of his fellow-refugees. His integration into his environment and his love of the values of his country of birth are linked with feelings of loyalty for his Jewish origin. As a recent example, we remember the dignified way in which he expressed our feelings in a radio interview after the Munich massacre during the Olympic Games. It is only natural that he has also become one of the links between the AJR and the German Embassy and has been most helpful to us on many occasions.

His appearance and vigour belie his age, and there is no better way of summing up our birthday wishes to Herbert Sulzbach than by expressing the hope that this may go on for many years to come.

W. ROSENSTOCK

HANS JAEGER, 75

On February 10, our friend Hans Jaeger will celebrate his 75th birthday. Amongst the former refugees in London, he is mainly known as the chairman of Club 1943. Yet this part of his activities can only be properly evaluated, if it is seen in the wider context of his antecedents and outlook. He had to leave Germany immediately after the Nazis had come to power because he was in extreme danger on account of his political work. His emigration, or rather flight, was, therefore, not prompted by the unchangeable incident of origin but by the active participa-

tion in the fight against the rising Nazi movement. The convictions on which his attitude was based at that time, have undergone changes in the course of the decades, or rather the protagonists of the ideology to which he felt committed, have taken a course which he could no longer follow.

Be that as it may, Hans Jaeger was, and still is, primarily a political animal. His strength is the analysis of political events, and the results of his observations are reflected in articles, some of which also appeared in 'AJR Information', as well as in innumerable talks before a variety of audiences, including English and German groups and, last but not least, German-Jewish refugees. In an unselfish way, he puts himself at the disposal of all who ask for his co-operation. This involves many sacrifices of time and health, for which we want to express our gratitude to him on this occasion. His helpfulness is all the more to be recognised as he also single-handedly edits an English language "Bulletin on German Questions", which informs English readers on events in West and East Germany and, as far as they have some bearing on present-day Germany, in other countries, and also carries book reviews on topical subjects.

The organisations which have benefited from Hans Jaeger's co-operation are numerous. Apart from other German groups in this country they include the "Arbeitskreis 1961". He is also a welcome visitor at Heinrich Stahl House, where he gives regular talks on current political events. Yet the focus of his work is Club 1943, whose chairman he has been for many years. It is no easy task to provide a programme of talks and platform discussions for a club which, with unbending regularity, meets every week, i.e. about 50 times a year. If the continuity could be maintained for three decades, it is in the first place due to the painstaking labours of their chairman, Hans Jaeger. He himself also often acts as speaker or chairman of the meetings. Yet, above all, together with his wife, he has welded the club into a closely knit community whose members look upon him as their reliable never failing friend, sharing their personal joys and sorrows. This is the best of the numerous good deeds which he has done in the course of an eventful life. In gratitude we extend our sincerest birthday wishes to Hans Jaeger.

W.R.

DR. CHARLOTTE WITTELSHOEFER 75

On February 8, Dr. Charlotte Wittelschoefer will be 75 years old. Like her husband, the late Min. Rat Fritz Wittelschoefer, she has been associated with the AJR since its inception. Yet she became an active fellow worker in her own right when Osmond House was founded and she joined the House Committee of this home. Since then, she has devoted much of her time and experience to the welfare of the residents, whom she regularly visits. Her advice at the meetings of the House Committee has always been particularly valuable because it is based on her wide-spread experience as a member of the medical profession. By her friendliness and unassuming way she has gained the affection of all who are associated with her. We wish her many happy returns of the day.

DUNBEE-COMBEX-MARX LTD.

Dunbee House
117 Great Portland Street,
London, W.1

Tel: 01-580 3264/0878 (P.B.X.)

Grams: FLEXATEX LONDON,
TELEX.

INT. TELEX 2-3540

BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

51 Belsize Square, London, N.W.3

SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

are held regularly on the Eve of Sabbath and Festivals at 6.30 p.m. and on the day at 11 a.m.

ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

BECHSTEIN STEINWAY BLUTHNER
Finest selection reconditioned PIANOS

Always interested in purchasing well-preserved instruments.

JAQUES SAMUEL PIANOS LTD.

142 Edgware Road, W.2
Tel.: 723 8818/9.

Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

VOLUNTEER SERVICES STILL CRUCIAL FOR ISRAEL

One of the crucial problems in volunteering is finding its solution, explained Dr. Eliezer Jaffe, Senior Lecturer at the Hebrew University's Baerwald School of Social Work, in a recent interview on the subject of volunteering and social service needs. Developing the means of creating long-term volunteer programmes, he continued, is not generally possible when a crisis is upon us; it must be planned for during the period of calm and normal functioning which precedes the crisis situation. During the Yom Kippur War, many agencies found they were unable to make use of the hundreds of volunteers who came to their doors, for the necessary groundwork had not yet been laid.

Many examples further substantiate this. During the war, a large number of American doctors wanted to come to Israel as volunteers to help ease the crisis in the hospitals. They would have found difficulty, however, in fitting in, both due to their own lack of familiarity with the system here and the inability of the hospitals to suddenly absorb a group of unexpected newcomers. For this reason their offer was not taken up. In contrast to this, another group of medical volunteers from America was immediately absorbed into the system and used to its fullest potential. This was a group of orthopedic surgeons who, since the Six-Day War, have been donating time each year to service in Israel's hospitals. This group, arriving shortly after the outbreak of fighting on Yom Kippur, was able to get to work immediately, being already familiar with Israeli hospitals and their routines. It's like a form of *miluim* or reserve duty, explained Dr. Jaffe, by which a citizen force is truly readied for the crisis should it arise, and it provides an example of the sort of structure that can and should be developed on a more general scale.

Among the examples of services, which came about to meet war needs but should be continued in peace-time, are the home visits made by volunteers to the handicapped and to mothers with large families, whose husbands are in the reserves or away for other reasons. Such services were initiated because of the early discharge of hospital patients when the war made it necessary to provide beds for wounded servicemen. Many of these patients needed assistance at home and home care to replace the care that would normally be provided by hospitalisation in such areas as housekeeping, food preparation, travel to and from clinics, etc.

In addition, new needs are likely to arise as a result of this war which will provide a fruitful field for the potential volunteer as well as for professional workers and Government agencies. Among these are the needs of the families of fallen or wounded soldiers for whom the Rehabilitation Division of the Ministry of Defence is beginning to plan at the present time. Many of these families will have to adjust to totally different life styles, to get job training and find work, to provide for their children, etc. Volunteers may be invaluable assistants in easing this adjustment.

The "hot line" by which emotional support is given by phone to people in crisis situations is another service that has been successful in the past and will be expanded in the future. Having a place to call for help at a moment of need, day or night, can often stem the crisis at the outset.

In all of this volunteering—whether by professional volunteers or laymen—an essential ingredient, Dr. Jaffe pointed out, is the professional back-up or anchorman who organises and services the volunteers, sees to the ongoing planning and evaluation, and keeps the system functioning on a long-term basis. Much thought is presently being applied to this aspect of volunteering by the Prime Minister's Volunteer Centre. The need for such an anchorman does not imply, however, that the interested civilian should simply wait to be called. The need for extended social services is vast, and much of the imagination, as well as the daily hard work, can come only from the potential volunteers themselves. One of the most successful services in Jerusalem to arise out of this war was established in this very way: a group of volunteers became aware of the problem faced by soldiers stationed in the Ramallah and Jericho areas in getting to and from their bases and provided a daily volunteer transport service which, to Jericho at least, still operates seven days a week.

Such innovations can be made by others as well. An individual working by himself is relatively helpless when he tries to bring about a change, but by searching out the needs, and finding or creating the organisation to meet them, he can be tremendously effective. This does not necessarily mean the setting up of national organisations; house and neighbourhood groups organised for specific purposes, speaking up at meetings, and offering ideas together with help to already established groups are also essential actions. Such activities, offered on a long-term rather than a one-time crisis basis are of utmost importance.

People should start today, concluded Dr. Jaffe, before the present crisis even draws to a close, to fit themselves into the volunteer and public action networks, so that the social machinery will be geared to absorbing them and using them well in times of crisis.

Finding a proper service network for volunteer efforts before the occurrence of war also has its implications for solving social problems. There is no need to wait for a social upheaval to bring attention to unmet needs, yet if these needs continue to be unmet, social upheaval will certainly again result, as it has after each of Israel's previous wars. Whether one volunteers to help meet the needs of large families, to help close economic gaps, to provide housing for young couples, or to change basic social policy, the time to put forth the special effort is now. Hopefully, some crises can even be prevented before they come about—and here, volunteers from abroad can do their share on an equal footing with Israelis.

ILLUSTRATED YOM KIPPUR WAR HISTORY

With the approval of the Israeli Ministry of Defence, a book presenting 200 pictures taken on the operation lines of the war will be published by Delta-France, 36 rue Etienne Marcel, Paris 2e, at a price of £5. The profits will be used for the benefit of widows and orphans of Israeli soldiers who lost their lives in the war.

PRESS REPORT ON HEINRICH STAHL HOUSE ACTIVITIES

The Hampstead and Highgate Express of November 30 carried a report of various activities at Heinrich Stahl House, initiated by one of its residents, Mrs. Luise Feistmann. "There was nothing to do, so people just drifted: they sat about most of the time, talked of their aches and pains and were only interested in the next meal," Mrs. Feistmann told the interviewer. So they started a weekly occupational therapy session, and in the past two years they have made dozens of colourful scrap books which they send to the Elfrida Rathbone Society, for distribution to schools and clubs for educationally sub-normal children. Mrs. Feistmann's second project was to be instrumental in starting a weekly class in English; people are given a subject to think about during the week and discuss at the next meeting. A third, well attended regular function is a session-cum-discussion on current affairs under the guidance of Mr. Hans Jaeger.

"It is very important," Mrs. Feistmann is quoted as saying, "for elderly people to have something to do. I suffer from arthritis, but I can forget my backache when I am working. If people sit and vegetate, it's bad for them. They need something to think about."

"JOINT'S" BIGGEST BUDGET

In its biggest budget for more than ten years, an expenditure of \$30,400,000 (about £12,160,000) was approved for overseas relief services by the annual conference of the American Joint Distribution Committee. More than £4 million has been allocated to Israel.

An amount of £2,200,000 has been allocated to Europe, £1 million of which will be spent in helping more than 18,000 Jews, mostly elderly and handicapped, in Romania and Yugoslavia. About £1,800,000 will be spent to help 41,000 deprived Jews in Arab and other Moslem countries, and a similar amount to aid more than 135,000 Jews outside the normal relief channels.

During 1973, some 385,000 men, women and children were helped at a cost of £11,840,000 ranging from a few in China to more than 100,000 in Israel and 200,000 in Western and Eastern and Moslem countries.

HOUSE OF HALLGARTEN

Specialist



Shippers

Fine Wines

Unique Liqueurs

If you enjoy wines

write for our latest free list

*which is full of fascinating
information, maps, vintage reports
and charts, descriptions, wines
for laying down*

HOUSE OF HALLGARTEN

53/79 Highgate Road, London, NW5 1RR

Choose Hallgarten—Choose Fine Wines

IN MEMORIAM

RUDOLF STEINER

DR. GIORA LOTAN (GEORG LUBINSKI)

Dr. Giora Lotan (Georg Lubinski), who died in Jerusalem at the age of 71, will be remembered by many of his contemporaries for his leading role in the Jewish youth movement in Germany before 1933. Together with Ludwig Tietz, he built up the "Reichsausschuss der jüdischen Jugendverbände", which developed from a mere federation of youth organisations into an organic entity. The establishment of the Home in Seesen and a new approach to Jewish social work, emanating from the Seesen gatherings of young people of various Jewish views had their lasting impact. In 1933, he put his widespread knowledge and experience at the disposal of the newly founded Reichsvertretung. Originating from the Jung-Juedische Wanderbund, he later emigrated to Palestine. His lasting achievement was the creation of a National Insurance system in the young State of Israel, and he was the director general of the Israel National Insurance Office from its inception until he retired in 1972. He was an outstanding administrator, and the ease with which he coped with his manifold duties earned him the respect and admiration of all who knew him. Yet even more lasting is the memory of his human qualities, his understanding of the basic problems of Jewish existence, his compassion for his fellow man, and his loyalty to his friends and former fellow workers, now spread all over the world. W.R.

LADY GUTTMANN

Lady Guttmann, wife of Sir Ludwig Guttmann, passed away on December 22, 1973, at Stoke Mandeville Hospital. She had been in a coma for 21 months after a car crash on the M4. Like her husband, Lady Guttmann (Else, née Samuel) took an active interest in Jewish affairs. We extend our sincerest sympathies to our friend Sir Ludwig and his family on the loss sustained under such tragic circumstances.

WILHELM STERNFELD

The author, journalist and organiser, Wilhelm Sternfeld, died on December 26 in his 86th year. Before the Nazis came to power, he held a position with the Gemeinnützige Siedlungs-Treuhandgesellschaft under Franz Oppenheimer. He emigrated first to Paris and from there to Prague. There, he successfully organised relief work for his fellow refugees under the auspices of the Thomas Mann-Gesellschaft. When the Nazis marched into Prague and the exodus of the exiled authors and artists, like that of the other refugees, became a life-saving operation, Sternfeld continued his work to the last possible moment and eventually escaped to this country via Poland. He resumed his work for his fellow refugees as one of the guiding spirits of the Thomas Mann Group of the Czechoslovak Trust Fund. His lasting contribution to the history of the emigration of the Nazi persecutees is the *Bibliographie der deutschen Exil-Literatur* (compiled together with Eva Tiedemann), which was published under the auspices of the *Deutsche Akademie fuer Sprache und Dichtung* in 1962 and, in a second edition, in 1970.

MISS LYDIA FREUND

Miss Lydia Freund, who died on January 4 at the age of 79, was associated with the AJR office for 27 years. As she was in charge of the subscriptions department she knew many members personally and became a trusted friend to them. By her devotion and conscientious way of working she helped to build up the organisation from small beginnings. Miss Freund spent the last years in retirement in Eleanor Rathbone House, where she passed away peacefully without any suffering. She will be gratefully remembered by all who knew her.

MRS. ELEONORE EHRLICH

It is learned with regret that Mrs. Eleonore Ehrlich passed away suddenly at Otto Schiff House at the age of 74. She was an active member of the AJR Club and before her retirement for many years served first on the staff of URO and later of the AJR.

Mr. Rudolf Steiner, the well-known German bookseller (of R. & E. Steiner), who retired five years ago, died suddenly on January 5th at the age of 70.

His life was dedicated to literature which he came to know in all its facets. Born in Munich, where he acquired the finesses of the antiquarian book trade, he moved to Berlin in the 1920s, where he became a freelance author and regular contributor to various periodicals, including the "Simplicissimus", "Ente" and "Koenigsberger Hartungsche". He also worked for the German Broadcasting, reading on several occasions his own literary contributions. In 1929 he won a competition following which his short story "Jakob Ehgluecksfurtner" was published by the Casirer Verlag in the collection "Vorstoss". The publication of further works was frustrated by subsequent political events.

After five years of emigration in Prague, Mr. Steiner came to this country, where he founded his firm R. & E. Steiner (Books). He greatly enjoyed putting his encyclopaedic knowledge of German literature to good use by advising and supplying university libraries, collectors and booksellers all over the world. The last months of his life were spent in studies of Franz Kafka, whom he had intended to honour in an essay on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of that author's death, but this was not to be. Death came to him when reading out a most beautiful poem which he had composed for New Year's celebrations. A most fitting last act to a life dedicated to literature.

HOFRAT WILHELM KRELL

Hofrat Wilhelm Krell, director of the Vienna Jewish Kultusgemeinde from 1947 and general secretary of the Federation of Jewish communities in Austria, died a few months after his retirement at the age of 71. During the war he was in several concentration camps and lost his wife and his child in Auschwitz. Hofrat Krell was also chief editor of the "Gemeinde", the organ of the Austrian Jewish communities, and took a decisive part in the establishment of the Hilfsfonds and in the erection of two Homes for the Aged in Vienna.

FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in the column Family Events are free of charge. Texts should be sent in by the 15th of the month.

Birthdays

Gluckstein.—Mr. David Gluckstein of 37, Twelve Acres, Welwyn Garden City, Herts., (formerly Kitzingen/Bayern) will celebrate his 70th birthday on February 6.

Warburg.—Mrs. Lotte Warburg of 258 Kenmure Street, Glasgow G.41, will celebrate her 85th birthday on February 5.

Death

Steiner.—Mr. Rudolf Steiner of 5, Garson House, Gloucester Terrace, London, W.2., beloved husband of Ena Steiner (née Rosenthal) died suddenly on January 5. Deeply mourned by his wife, relatives and friends.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

In order to ensure that you receive your copy of "AJR Information" regularly, please inform us immediately of any change of address.

CLASSIFIED

The charge in these columns is 15p for five words.

Situations Vacant

Women

The AJR EMPLOYMENT AGENCY needs part-time Home-helps (shopping/cooking), companions and attendants for the elderly who require personal assistance. Please telephone: 01-624 4449 for an appointment.

Situations Wanted

Women

ALTERATIONS OF DRESSES, etc., undertaken by ladies on our register. Phone: AJR Employment Agency, 01-624 4449.

WIDOW would like to baby sit or do light work/cooking 3 evenings per week, e.g. looking after elderly people. Box 372.

Miscellaneous

EDUCATED WOMAN, formerly of Berlin, would like to meet a woman to spend Easter holidays together, preferably seaside. Confidential. Please write Box 368.

STUDENT OF ORCHESTRATION urgently requires the following items: Piano, Flute, Clarinet and Classical Records. Box 370.

FOR SALE—Black Persian Lamb Paw coat, size 14-16, very good condition. Phone: 01-992 3612 after 5.00 p.m.

EXCLUSIVE FUR REPAIRS AND RESTYLING. All kinds of fur work undertaken by first-class renovator and stylist, many years' experience and best references. Phone 01-452 5867, after 5 p.m. for appointment. Mrs. F. Philipp, 44 Ellesmere Road, Dollis Hill, London. N.W.10.

Personal

INDEPENDENT intelligent lady (widow in her 60s) would like to meet gentleman in similar circumstances. Object companionship. Box 369.

LADY, young looking (40) with son and daughter, not Orthodox but concerned with Jewish problems. All my friends are married. Would like to meet gentleman in similar circumstances, under 55. Box 367.

MY FRIEND, aged 33, very nice girl holding top position with a store, would like to meet educated gentleman in good position. View to friendship/marriage. Box 371.

ATTRACTIVE JEWISH WIDOW would like to meet a cultured gentleman (not over 65) for companionship. Box 373.

MISSING PERSONS

Personal Enquiries

Russel (formerly Rosenstock).—Mr. Ernest Russel. Last known address, 60, Innes Gardens, Putney Heath, London, S.W.15, son of the late Mr. Philipp and Mrs. Elisabeth Rosenstock. Wanted by U.R.O. 183/189, Finchley Road, London, N.W.3.

AJR Enquiries

Basner.—Mrs. G. Basner, last known address: 59, Melrose Avenue, London, NW2 4LH.

Gumpel.—Mr. Herbert Gumpel, formerly of the banking firm of Gumpel & Samson, Kaiserstrasse, Bernburg/Saale, transferred in 1931/2 to a bank in Frankfurt/Oder, aged about 60. He, together with his family, emigrated to England in 1934.

Steinbock.—Mr. Sally Steinbock, last known address: 56, Gordon Avenue, Stanmore, Middlesex.

THE MIDDLE EAST

ELECTIONS

The Israel Labour Party-Mapam alignment with 51 seats again emerged as the country's largest party after the General Election. Likud will have 39 seats, National Religious Party 10, Independent Liberals 4, Aguda 5, Pro-Kremlin Communists 4 of the total of 120 seats. Labour sustained the loss of six of its previous 57 Knesset seats, with a swing of 5 per cent from Labour to the Right-wing Likud, which gained eight seats, making a total of 39 Knesset Members. The Arab vote in the villages showed a gain of more than 5 per cent for the New Communist List (Rakah), the anti-Zionist Communist Party, at the expense of the traditional lists affiliated to the Labour alignment.

HARVEST OF VOLUNTEERS

Israel's call for volunteers to help in the urgent harvesting of citrus fruit has been enthusiastically answered by Jewish university students and high school pupils. The majority of the volunteers who left Britain for Israel were university students and the others pupils of the JFS, the Hasmonean Grammar School and from Liverpool. More than 1,000 British volunteers have so far gone to Israel, for periods ranging between one and six months and more than 5,000 have arrived from various countries. A further 3,000 to 4,000 are needed for maintaining Israel's agricultural and industrial production during the peace negotiations, and for education, welfare and transport services. A one-to-two year permanent voluntary service for diaspora Jews, who will receive normal Israeli wages, has been introduced for this purpose, and 2,000 single accommodation units are being constructed for them.

KUWAIT RELEASES TERRORISTS

The five terrorists responsible for the Rome airport massacre in December were released by the ruler of Kuwait. Dr. George Habash, the leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, threatened the Kuwaiti ruler that failure to release the terrorists would result in the murder at sight of the ruler or any of his family or Government going abroad. He also exacted a £1 million contribution for his terrorist organisation.

The Italian Embassy in Kuwait has expressed to the Kuwaiti authorities the deep regret of the Italian Government at the refusal of its request for the extradition of the terrorists.

DISCRIMINATION IN SYRIA

According to reports received in Jerusalem, the Syrian Government is practising Nazi-type discrimination against the remains of the Damascus and Aleppo Jewish communities. Their identity cards have the word "Mousawi" ("Jewish") written across them in red, so that the police can identify them easily. The 4,500 or so Jews in Damascus are not allowed to move outside the ghetto without special permits. Since the October War, foreign correspondents have not been allowed to visit the ghetto.

LIBYAN REMNANTS

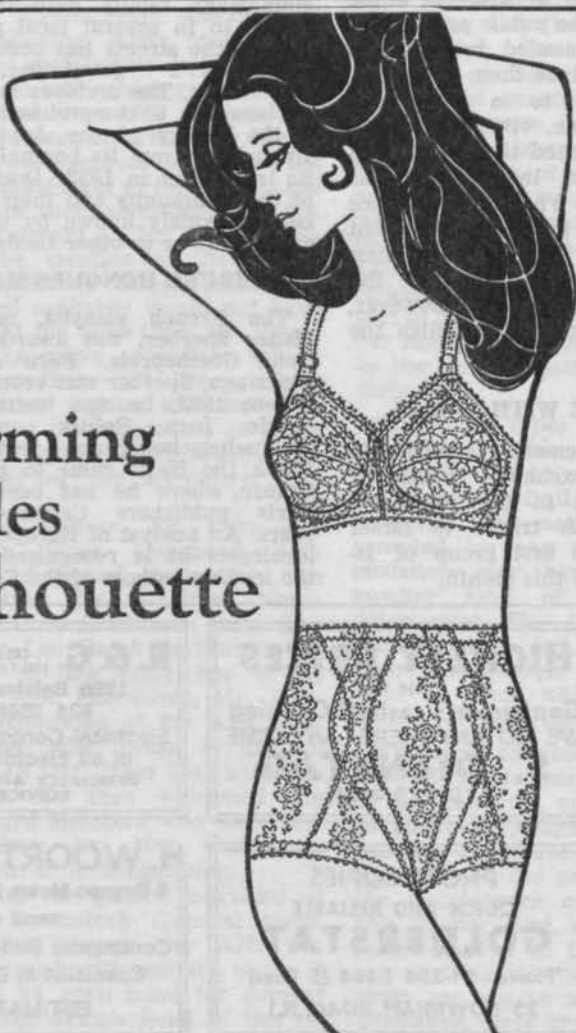
According to a Jew who escaped from the country illegally, only 25 Jews now remain in Libya. Mr. Pagani, who was smuggled out of Libya, claimed to be the first Jew to have left there since Gaddafi seized power three years ago. In 1948, there were about 30,000 Jews in the country, dwindling to some 3,000 by 1952.

PROFESSOR HUGO BERGMAN 90

Professor Hugo Bergman (Jerusalem) recently celebrated his 90th birthday. Born in Prague, where he played a leading part in the Jewish national movement from his school and student days onwards, he went to Palestine in 1920. There, from small beginnings and under adverse circumstances, he built up the Jewish National and University Library, which developed into the most important library of the Middle East. A co-founder of the Hebrew University in 1925, he was appointed Professor of Philosophy in 1928 and held the office of the University's Rector from 1936-1938. His works include monographs (in Hebrew) about Kant (1927) and Salomon Maimon (1941). He has also been closely associated with the Leo Baeck Institute since its inception.

FULDA ENDOWMENT TO JERUSALEM COLLEGE

The municipality of Fulda has donated 50,000 DM for the expansion of the Rabbinical College Kol Torah in Jerusalem. The college originates from the "Rabbinatsschule" in Fulda, which was dissolved by its founder, Rabbi Kunstadt in 1939 and transferred to Jerusalem. Several of the 300 students at the Jerusalem College are descendants of former Fulda citizens. The Mayor of Fulda, Dr. Hamberger, stressed that the donation was not to be considered as an act of compensation but prompted by the desire to maintain the links between the Rabbinical College and the city. He also recalled the contributions made by the former flourishing Jewish community to the spiritual and economic life of Fulda. The City Council has decided to affix a memorial tablet on the site of the former synagogue.



The
Performing
Miracles
by Silhouette

SELECT RESIDENTIAL PRIVATE HOTEL

Exquisite Continental Cuisine
H/c. C/h. Telephone in every room. Large Colour TV. Lounges. Lovely Large Terrace & Gardens. Very Quiet Position.

North Finchley, near Woodhouse Grammar School

MRS. M. COLDWELL
11 Fenstanton Avenue,
London, N.12
Tel.: 01-445 0061

YOUR FIGURE PROBLEMS SOLVED

... by a visit to our Salon, where ready-to-wear foundations are expertly fitted and altered if required.

Newest styles in Swim and Beachwear

Mme H. LIEBERG
871 Finchley Rd., Golders Green, N.W.11 (next to Post Office)
01-455 8673

Continental Boarding House

Well-appointed rooms, excellent food. TV. Garden. Congenial atmosphere. Reasonable rates. A permanent home for the elderly. Security and continuity of management assured by

Mrs. A. Wolff & Mrs. H. Wolff (Jnr)
3 Hemstal Road, London, NW6 2AB. Tel.: 01-624 8521

Catering with a difference

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

LONDON AND COUNTRY

Mrs. ILLY LIEBERMAN
01-937 2872

Hotel Pension ARLET

MRS. L. SCHWARZ
77 St. Gabriel's Road, London, N.W.2.
Tel.: 452 4029

Exquisitely furnished rooms for visitors and permanent guests. Central heating. TV. Radios. Garden.

SWISS COTTAGE HOTEL
4 Adamson Road,
London, N.W.3
TEL.: 01-722 2281

Beautifully appointed—all modern comforts.
1 minute from Swiss Cottage Tube Station

LUGGAGE
HANDBAGS, UMBRELLAS AND ALL LEATHER GOODS

TRAVEL GOODS

H. FUCHS
267 West End Lane, N.W.6
'Phone 435 2602

THE DORICE
Continental Cuisine—Licensed

169a Finchley Road, N.W.3
(624 6301)
PARTIES CATERED FOR

FROM THE GERMAN SCENE

NEWS FROM BERLIN

Walter Hertner (London), who was a member of the ensemble of the Berlin Juedische Kulturbund and, after his emigration, worked with the German section of the BBC, gave a recital of works by Alfred Kerr in the Berlin Jewish Communal Centre. The function was arranged to mark the 25th anniversary of Kerr's death.

A biography of the banker and entrepreneur, Hofbaurat Isaac Daniel Itzig (1750-1806), by Caroline Cauer was published by Institut fuer bankhistorische Forschung. The authoress, a descendant of I. D. Itzig, based her work on family documents and files which were preserved in German and French archives. The biography deals in detail with I. D. Itzig's efforts at building a highway from Berlin to Potsdam; the realisation of the scheme was obstructed by the antagonistic attitude of the Prussian civil servants. He was a son of the financier Daniel Itzig and, together with his brother-in-law, David Friedlaender, a founder of the Juedische Freischule (1778). The authoress pays special tribute to the former director of the Gesamtarchiv der deutschen Juden, the late Dr. Jacob Jacobson, whose knowledge and material had been of very great help to her.

The 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Theaterwissenschaftliche Institut of the Berlin University served as an opportunity to commemorate the Institute's founder, Professor Max Herrmann, who was Professor of History of Literature and Theatre from 1919 to 1933. He was deported to Theresienstadt in 1942, when he was 77 years old, and perished in the camp.

E.G.L.

HORKHEIMER'S LITERARY ESTATE

The Municipal and University Library of Frankfurt, which for some time has had under its care the literary estates of the economist Professor Dr. Friedrich Pollock (Freiburg 1894-Montagnola 1970) and the social philosopher Professor Dr. Theodor Adorno (Frankfurt 1903-Brig 1969), has now also received the literary estate of the late Professor Max Horkheimer, the sociologist. These three professors took a decisive part in the re-establishment and development of the Frankfurt Institute of Social Research.

MEMORIAL IN GOETTINGEN

In Goettingen, a memorial to the victims of Nazi persecution was consecrated on the site of the former synagogue which was burnt down during the November 1938 pogroms.

A school in Goettingen-Nikolausberg was named after Janusz Korczak, the Polish-Jewish doctor, educationist and writer, who voluntarily accompanied 200 children under his care to Treblinka and perished with them. The speakers at the opening ceremony included the Polish Ambassador to Germany, Piatkowski.

WEISSENSEE CEMETERY

The December 1973 issue of the "Nachrichtenblatt" of the Jewish communities in the German Democratic Republic carries a report about the cemetery in Berlin-Weissensee. While until a few years ago 15 employees had taken care of the site, which comprises 114,000 graves, there are now, due to retirement of some of them, only seven left. To meet the situation, several measures have been taken. Among other things, it will be necessary to reduce the number of annually renewed maintenance orders in order to look in the first place after the graves in permanent care. By an arrangement with the community, the Municipal authorities will provide machinery and labour force to keep the paths in proper condition.

The report also states that the site of the oldest Berlin Jewish cemetery in the Grosse Hamburger Strasse has been newly laid out at the expense of the municipality. The walls have been repaired and special care was taken to restore the wall on which the inscriptions of the oldest tombstones are preserved. The grave of Moses Mendelssohn has also been put into a proper condition. The cemetery was opened by the newly settled Jews in Berlin in 1672 and was in use until 1827.

The bulletin also carries a report about the cemeteries in the Potsdam and Frankfurt (Oder) districts, which are properly looked after. Special mention is made of the cemeteries of Maerkisch-Buchholz, Storkow, Muencheberg, Potsdam and Eberswalde-Finow.

PROSECUTION OF WAR CRIMES

According to a report by the Ludwigsburg Central Office for the investigation of Nazi crimes, at present 301 cases referring to an undetermined number of persons are under consideration. The number of suspects whose cases were passed on to the public prosecutors and the law courts amounted to 5,655 on December 31, 1972. As, since then, many proceedings were brought to a conclusion whereas, at the same time, other new cases have come up, it is estimated that at the end of 1973 the number of indicted persons amounted to about 4,000. The Central Office assumes that it will have to investigate about a further 1,000 crimes during the years 1974/75. Due to the lapse of time since the crimes were perpetrated, it will, however, become increasingly difficult to establish the identity of the culprits.

EXCHANGE SCHEME WITH ISRAEL

A co-operation agreement signed in Muenster allows for exchange visits of students and apprentices in the jewellery, goldsmith and silversmith trades in Israel and West Germany. The first group of Israelis is expected to arrive this month.

AUSCHWITZ MURDERERS

Willi Sawitzki, 54, a former SS sergeant, is accused by a Frankfurt war crimes court of supervising a transport of some 400 Jewish children arriving from Hungary at Auschwitz concentration camp in 1944. The children, aged between eight and 14, were burnt alive in ditches with corpses from the gas chambers, because gas supplies were short at the height of the mass murder of Jews at Auschwitz. Sawitzki was also accused of taking part in the "liquidation" of about 3,000 Gypsies at Birkenau concentration camp near Auschwitz. Alois Frey, another former SS sergeant, has also been charged with complicity in mass murder, as well as with several individual murders committed during the evacuation of one of the Auschwitz subsidiary camps. Both men are not in detention.

Sawitzki was sentenced to death by a Soviet military court in 1948 but was freed in 1956. Frey, sentenced to five years' imprisonment by a Polish court in 1948, was freed in 1953.

HEINEMANN ARCHIVES IN LUENEBURG

Appeal for Material

The City of Lueneburg has established a Fritz Heinemann-Archiv which is to collect and preserve the books, treatises and other publications of the philosopher, Professor Fritz Heinemann, who was born in Lueneburg in 1889, taught at Frankfurt University from 1930 until he was dismissed under the Nazis, and died in Oxford in 1970. The archives are also to be made available for scholarly research work. A selection from the material was shown publicly in the Lueneburg "Ratsbibliothek" on the occasion of the recent Lueneburg University Week. The Kurator of the Archives (Mr. Manfred Goeske, c.o. the Oberstadtdirektor Stadt Lueneburg, W. Germany) would welcome any help from readers who may supply information, letters, photostats, etc.

The long-standing connections of the Heinemann family with the City were referred to in several local press publications. One of the streets has been named after the philosopher's grandfather, Mr. Marcus Heinemann. The archives are also meant as a nucleus for a comprehensive documentation of the history of the Jewish community in Lueneburg from its beginnings in 1843 up to its tragic end in 1938. Quite a few members of the community and their descendants have become widely known by their achievements as scholars or in other fields.

HAMBURG HONOURS MANES SPERBER

The French essayist, novelist and poet, Manès Sperber, was awarded the 1973 Hansische Goethepreis. Born near Kolomea 68 years ago, Sperber was brought up in Vienna. Before 1933, he was lecturer at the Hochschule fuer Politik and at the Individualpsychologische Institut in Berlin. When the Nazis came to power, he fled to France, where he has been director of the Paris publishers Calman-Lévy for many years. An analyst of European society and its ideologies he is recognised today as one of the leading authors of the Continent.

JEWISH BOOKS

of all kinds, new & second-hand. Whole libraries & single volumes bought. Talesim. Bookbinding.

M. SULZBACHER

JEWISH & HEBREW BOOKS (also purchase)
4 Sneath Avenue, Golders Green Road,
London, N.W.11. Tel.: 455 1694.

B. L. WEISS

PRINTERS · STATIONERS

ST. ALBANS LANE · LONDON · NW11

Telephone: 01-458 3220

HIGHEST PRICES

paid for
Gentlemen's cast-off Clothing
WE GO ANYWHERE, ANY TIME
S. DIENSTAG
(01-272 4484)

R. & G. (ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS) LTD.

199b Belsize Road, N.W.6
624 2646/328 2646
Electrical Contractors & Stockists
of all Electrical Appliances
OFFICIALLY APPOINTED HOOVER
SERVICE DEALERS

HANS PREISS

International Booksellers
LIMITED
14 Bury Place, London, W.C.1
405 4941

MADE-TO-MEASURE

Double knit Jersey wool and washable
drip-dry coats, dresses, suits and trouser-
suits. Outside our speciality. From £5.25p.
Inclusive material. Also customers' own
material made up.

'Phone: 01-459 5817

Mrs. L. Rudolfer.

PHOTOCOPIES

QUICK AND RELIABLE

GOLDERSTAT

'Phone: 01-254 5464 (5 lines)

25 DOWNHAM ROAD, N.1

H. WOORTMAN & SON

8 Baynes Mews, Hampstead, N.W.3
'Phone 435 3974

Continental Builder and Decorator
Specialist in Dry Rot Repairs

ESTIMATES FREE