

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

TASKS OLD AND NEW

AJR Board Meeting

The widespread current activities of the AJR and its constant embarkations on new ventures became evident again at this year's Board Meeting, held on Sunday, January 29, at Hannah Karminski House and attended by more than 70 delegates. The Chairman, Mr. C. T. Marx, in opening the Meeting, expressed his pleasure that there was such a splendid turnout and was particularly glad to see a number of people who had been able to come from the Provinces. He congratulated Mrs. Ruth Wolf, from Birmingham on behalf of the AJR on the award of an MBE in the New Year Honours. Turning to the business of the day, he explained the order of the Agenda: firstly, in that the meeting was held in the afternoon as a more convenient time for provincial members, and secondly, that as only two formal reports were to be given, there would be more time for general discussion.

Dr. W. Rosenstock, Director of the AJR, referring to the 45th anniversary of Hitler's seizure of power, stated that a number of recent incidents indicated the danger of a rising *Right-wing extremism in Germany*. The Council of Jews from Germany, as the representative body of Jews from Germany all over the world, had therefore expressed its concern about these trends in a letter to the Federal Minister of the Interior. In his reply, the Minister stated that there had been an increase of incidents and prosecutions in 1976 and 1977 but that the *Right-wing extremists* were split into many small groups and represented no serious general danger. Dr. Rosenstock also referred to some recent publications inside and outside Germany about the *Holocaust*, some of which were to be regarded as important source material, whereas others were on the border of documentation and fiction.

In the field of *restitution and compensation* it had always to be kept in mind that the individual and global payments made by the Federal Republic so far amounted to the impressive sum of 50,000 Million DM, to which about 30,000 Million DM of pensions and other payments due in the course of the next years have to be added. He stated that in his view there was no danger of a deterioration of the laws in force but that, on the other hand, it was unlikely there would be any improvements (though these would be justified in certain fields.) The United Restitution Organisation, founded at the initiative of the Council of Jews from Germany and originally financed by the major Jewish relief organisations, had still to continue its work (albeit at a reduced scale) and was now mainly occupied with claims under the social insurance and *Lastenausgleich* legislations.

Turning to the domestic scene, the speaker first dealt with the danger from the anti-Israel extreme Left, especially at the universities; according to recent reports it appeared that these activities were on the decline. On the

other hand, there was the very serious danger from the *National Front* which was a menace not only to ethnic minority groups but beyond this to the foundations of democracy. Whilst the AJR was now in the first place a welfare organisation, it could, as the representative body of victims of racialism and totalitarianism, not stand aloof. It followed the guidance of the Board of Deputies which had recently become a co-founder of the "*Interfaith and all party Committee for racial justice*" at which leading non-Jewish and Jewish personalities were represented. The first rally of the Committee would be held on Thursday, March 2, 1978, at 7.30 at the Central Hall, Westminster.

In his work as editor of *AJR Information* the speaker had for some time had the benefit of the invaluable co-operation of Mrs. Margot Pottlitzer. Apart from keeping members informed on current events, the journal also served as an indispensable link between headquarters and supporters of the organisation. Beyond this, it had, in the course of time, become source material for research workers on contemporary history; quite a few university libraries were subscribers and, following up a suggestion submitted by our Board member Dr. Gabriele Tergit, a systematic approach to all interested universities and research libraries was intended.

The AJR had continued its co-operation with social authorities and a number of Jewish and inter-denominational organisations. The speaker reported that, in succession to the late Mr Werner M. Behr, he had been co-opted to the Grants Committee of the British Academy in charge of the "Thank you Britain" Fund. Recently, a British Society of Friends of Yad Vashem, the Memorial of the Holocaust near Jerusalem, had been created; it was one of its objects to collect the names of as many victims as possible to be enshrined in the Hall of Names. (Forms are obtainable from the Board of Deputies, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London WC1.) The Speaker appealed for the co-operation of all members who would thus help to keep alive the memory of their nearest ones.

Mrs. S. R. Taussig, the General Secretary, reported that there was still a *membership* of some 4,000 and a number of new members in the Newcastle area had been welcomed. She asked for names and addresses of any people who would like to join, particularly from the Provinces. Keeping up with members' changes of address, reminding them that their contribution was due, sometimes several times, was a full-time job in itself. Because of constant efforts in this direction, our income had increased—by just about the sum necessary to meet the new tripled rent of our premises in Fairfax Mansions—but certainly not enough to meet all the other expenses which have increased as everyone else's.

Maintenance of the Old Age Homes was likely to be a heavy cost in the coming year—the *purpose-built Homes* were now well past the first flush of youth and the old buildings need constant and very expensive repair. Per capita payments by Local Authorities had increased considerably but nevertheless, the overall cost would probably always exceed the income. This cost was the responsibility of the CBF but their funds were not inexhaustible and we might have to be prepared to play our part in maintaining the Homes which would be needed by our people for many years to come, and must husband funds for this purpose.

Maintenance of our *own properties* was also a heavy drain on resources. But it is well spent because the houses served many purposes so well—the residential rooms, the AJR Club, the meeting hall, which was also a meeting place for many other organisations and the frozen Kosher Meals-on-Wheels service which sends out about 900 meals per month.

The demands on the *Social Services Department* had remained unchanged. Financial aid was seldom required but bereavement, loneliness and depression affect a large circle within our community. The *Homehelp Service* worked well within its limitation. New helpers were recruited to replace those who had retired and on an average there were about 35 helpers available for shopping, cooking and companionship for the elderly. Unfortunately, none of them was prepared to travel long distances which meant that assistance could not always be supplied even though there were enough people wanting jobs. In spite of these difficulties it had been possible again to send homehelp in 136 cases. Resident homehelp had not been available for a long time and all that could be done was to refer applicants to Domestic Agencies and to give them advice about advertising.

Mrs. Taussig reported that in the *Old Age Homes* was a steady turnover of residents and waiting periods for admission were not so long as they once were. It was evident that there was considerable misunderstanding about our ability to place people quickly in a Home and the situation needed some clarification. Firstly, and this was of overriding importance, the prospective resident must go voluntarily. There was no power in this country which could force a person into a Home against his will, even if the refusal meant that dozens of people were involved in trying to give the necessary care and support and innumerable insoluble problems arose. Secondly, the applicant had to be visited at home by a social worker of the AJR who had the very responsible task of assessing the circumstances and family relationships and generally obtaining a background against which needs could be set. This process might take several visits or interviews and a number of ancillary problems often arose which had to be dealt with. The applicant might be worried about her house or flat, about the disposition of her possessions, what she could take with her, how to arrange her finances and so on. And this was only the preliminary

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TASKS OLD AND NEW

Continued from page 1

ary! There followed the medical reports, seeing the Homes, further interviews, approval by the Management Committee and the Local Authorities, and when all this was done there might be no vacancy. Sometimes applicants were waiting desperately and sometimes, in fact quite often, when a vacancy occurred, they put the whole thing off for months, sometimes for years, when the process had to be started again, if not from square one at least from square two.

It had been emphasised many times how much longer people waited before deciding to go into a Home and the increasing age of admission. As a token of the splendid care they received in the Homes, the increasing age of departure should also be noted.

In *Osmond House*, however, the problem was very great. There were always people waiting for admission, they were by definition all urgent and many required too much care for the Home to give them. This was a tragic and so far insoluble problem. Our attention was directed more and more to the necessity for a solution and Mrs Taussig hoped that we would find a way of looking after the very old and frail.

The Old Age Homes Department liaised constantly with hospitals and Local Authority social workers as well as private individuals and had an excellent relationship with all these people.

Referring to her report of last year, Mrs. Taussig said that there was a need to house younger members of our community; people who were without family or friends and who were at present badly housed in bed-sits which were all too often old, shabby, cold, dirty, inconvenient, insanitary and expensive and sometimes subjected to harassment. We have now purchased a handsome detached house in Finchley which would, on two floors, accommodate some nine or ten single people and a warden in warm, pleasant, clean and comfortable bed-sits, not unfortunately with private baths and toilets but with very ample provisions of them, cooking facilities and water in all rooms, clothes washer and drier, frozen meals supplies, a garden and even a conservatory with a vine. It was hoped that the house would be in occupation in time for the residents to enjoy the summer in the garden. The age group for whom the house was intended—about 50 to 70 years old—was much neglected.

A few lucky people had been allocated a flat in *Eleanor Rathbone House*—still an average of about one a year. This building, which was originally intended to be self-supporting, was now also running at a loss. There were, of course, with 48 single and 6 double flats, often problems—social, financial and health. These were solved as far as possible and our volunteer workers and staff co-operated constantly in dealing with them.

With the seven rooms in *Marie Baneth House* in Golders Green, and seven rooms in *Hannah Karminski House*, where people live comfortably and in security, these houses gave us a nucleus of reasonable accommodation in which we could house single people.

In the ensuing discussion, Dr. F. H. Kroch, CBE, gave greetings from Manchester members to the Board. He reported that the *Morris Feinmann Home* was full and that the finances were sound but agreed with remarks of the General Secretary that expenses in maintaining properties were now very heavy.

Mr. L. Spiro, Hon. Treasurer of the AJR, emphasised that funds from the Allocations Committee of the CBF out of the heirless Jew-

ish property in Germany would not last long enough to maintain the Homes as long as they were needed. He paid tribute to Mr. E. A. Lomnitz and his great gift to obtain monies for the *AJR Charitable Trust* and to advise people to leave bequests for the Trust in their wills. He stressed that it was up to the Board members to reach a wider public and to persuade them to contribute to the work of the AJR and to the *AJR Charitable Trust*.

Dr. F. E. Falk, Vice-Chairman of the AJR, explained several beneficial developments in the field of *taxability of payments to Nazi victims*, which had been reported in "AJR Information". He especially stressed that the ruling according to which certain social insurance payments were entirely exempt from taxation referred not only to recipients who had been expelled from territories annexed by the Germans in 1938 and 1939, but to all persons who had made their payments in territories outside the Federal Republic and Berlin (East and West). In practice, in a few cases, difficulties in implementing the new rule were experienced. The Technical Division of the Inland Revenue had promised the AJR to help in such cases. Payments arising from contributions in the territory of the Federal Republic or Berlin (East and West) were, according to the Finance Act 1974, Section 22, Subsection 2, liable to 50 per cent taxation.

Mrs. Margaret Jacoby, Chairman of the *AJR Club*, reported about the activities of the Club during the last year, which included a large party in the Hall of Belsize Square Synagogue on the occasion of her 95th birthday and a most successful Bazaar, the proceeds of which were allocated to the Ahava Children's Home in Israel, the Gertrud Schachne Fund and the Margaret Jacoby-Orgler Fund.

Other subjects raised during the discussion included the use of the assets of the *AJR Charitable Trust*. It was stated that, as far as they were not represented by the houses already owned by the Trust most of the free assets would be needed for the building work of the newly acquired house in Finchley as well as for the maintenance of the other houses.

The lively discussion re-affirmed the recognition of the AJR as a solidly founded organisation and the widespread interest in its increasingly important constructive work.

THE WORD "JEW" IN THE DICTIONARY

Mr. Marcus Shloimovitz who has for many years tried to eradicate derogatory definitions of the word "Jew" from dictionaries, has issued a writ against the Attorney-General, Mr. Samuel Silkin, asking him to state the grounds for his refusal to allow Mr Shloimovitz to proceed against the Hamlyn group of publishers under the Race Relations Act in order to stop them from including such derogatory definitions in their Encyclopaedic World Dictionary.

RECORD AID BY "JOINT"

At its annual convention the American Joint Distribution Committee allocated a record amount of £23 million for overseas relief in 1978. £3½ million will be spent on aid to Jews from the Soviet Union, but much of this expenditure will be reimbursed by the US Government. Israel will receive £5,235,000, the Jewish communities in Western Europe, in Romania and Yugoslavia will each receive over £2 million. An earlier decision to phase out aid to France will not be adhered to, because a large part of the funds raised in France go to Israel, and many local needs are left unsatisfied. Of some 120,000 Jewish children in France, only 20,000 are receiving Jewish education.

NEW COMMITTEE FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

Rally on March 2

To fight against racism, an "Interfaith and All-Party Committee for Racial Justice" was recently founded. Its sponsors include leading non-Jewish and Jewish personalities from all walks of life. The headquarters are at Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London, WC1H 0EP (Telephone: 01-387 3952). Under the slogan: "Stand up and be counted", the Committee will hold a "Rally for Racial Justice" with prominent speakers on Thursday, March 2, at 7.30, at the Central Hall, Westminster, Storey's Gate, S.W.1. We regret that our February issue was already published when this important function was arranged but we hope that this edition will reach its readers in time to enable them to attend the rally in spite of the short notice.

JEWISH BOOK WEEK 1978

March 6-12

The lectures of this year's Jewish Book Week will be held during the week Monday, March 6 to Sunday, March 12 (with the exception of Friday and Saturday), at Adolf Tuck Hall, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London, WC1.

The Opening Meeting on Monday, one of the sponsoring organisations of which is the AJR, will be a Symposium on "Three Features of Jerusalem", with Art Kutcher, Jonathan Webber and Dr. Walter Zander as the participants and Mr. Eric Moonman, MP, in the Chair. The subject of the Tuesday Meeting will be "Israel—Politics and Literature". On Wednesday, Sylva Darel, broadcaster and author of "A Sparrow in the Snow", will speak on "Israel through Russian Eyes". The problem of "The Israeli Writer and the Jew" will be dealt with on Thursday by Leon Yudkin (Lecturer in Modern Hebrew Literature, University of Manchester), when Lord Weidenfeld will be in the Chair. On Sunday, Rabbi Lionel Blue will speak on "The Lord of Hosts in Suburbia".

All lectures commence at 8 p.m. It is hoped that, in view of the particularly stimulating programme, they will be attended by many of our members.

There will also be an Exhibition and Sale of Judaica and Hebraica on Monday, at 7 p.m., Tuesday to Thursday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and on Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Prominent authors will be attending and will sign copies of their books.

Details about further functions for school-children, students, ladies, senior citizens, etc., may be obtained from: Mr. David Hackner, Jewish Book Council, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London, WC1H 0EP. Telephone 01-387 3081.

BEN URI'S VENTURE A SUCCESS

Wolf Mankowitz's play "The Irish Hebrew Lesson", which opened the season of Jewish plays at the Almost Free Theatre in Rupert Street, London, attracted full houses particularly during the two Sunday performances. The 45-minute play, which was first seen on TV some time ago, shows an old Jewish immigrant from Lithuania sheltering a young IRA man from the Black and Tans in the 'twenties and disguising him as a Cheder student. The play's artistic director was Ed Berman, and the parts of the Jew and the Irishman were beautifully acted by Leonard Fenton and Patrick Drury.

The play has been transferred to the Shaw Theatre, and this certainly heralds well for the attempts of the new Theatre venture of the Ben Uri Gallery. Further productions in the series include plays by Alan Silcoo, Micheline Wandor and Laurence Collinson. (See advertisement on page 5.)

YIDDISH THEATRE IN PARIS

The Committee for the Revival of the Yiddish Language and Culture has opened a European Yiddish Theatre at the Yves Tondic Theatre. Its first performances of plays by Sholem Asch, Sholem Aleichem and Aaron Schulmann were acclaimed by a distinguished audience.

HOME NEWS

Anglo-Judaica

CHURCH AGAINST NATIONAL FRONT

At a communal meeting in Birmingham, Professor John Hick, professor of theology at Birmingham University, said the church was speaking out with unmistakable clarity against the many manifestations of racial discrimination in Birmingham and elsewhere. He spoke of "bricks through windows, petrol bombs, the daubing of walls with insults with racial overtones and the infiltration into schools." Mr. Maurice Ludmer, editor of "Searchlight," said we were faced with a menace parallel to that of the Nazis in the 1930s. Like the Nazis, the NF based its attacks on the concept of superior and inferior races and could change its targets at will.

N.F. MEN SENTENCED

Four National Front members were fined between £75 and £200 and one of them was sent to prison for six months for having caused an affray at a public meeting of the National Council for Civil Liberties at Manchester University's Institute of Science and Technology. A coachload of NF supporters drove up from Merseyside to attend and about 40 people broke up the meeting, shouting: "Filth like you should be exterminated — Jewish maggot!" As the police and director of public prosecutions refused to bring a case against the offenders, the university privately brought the prosecution.

NATIONAL FRONT PUPIL SUSPENDED

A pupil of St. Joseph's College, a Roman Catholic school in Ipswich, has been suspended for distributing National Front propaganda.

NO JEWISH DATES IN 1978 DIARIES

The printers of most diaries used in Britain, Charles Letts and Co. Ltd., have this year omitted all Jewish dates from their diaries in order to enable them to be sent to Middle East countries. In answer to a complaint by a customer, the managing director stated that, after requests from customers sending diaries to trading partners in the Middle East, any mention of Israel and of Jewish festivals had been omitted where the final destination of the diaries could not be determined.

CHURCH LEADERS' VISIT TO ISRAEL

At the invitation of the Holy Land Pilgrimage Advisory Service, a delegation of high-ranking church leaders paid a visit to Israel. The party was led jointly by Canon Peter Schneider, secretary of consultants to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York on Interfaith Relations, and the Rev. Peter Jennings, general secretary of the Council of Christians and Jews.

JUBILEE SCROLL FROM JERUSALEM

Rabbi Benzion Lopian, director of the Jerusalem Academy of Jewish Studies, presented the Queen with a scroll containing an address and announced the endowment of a Silver Jubilee Scholarship Fund. The address states that the founders and senior fellows of the Academy come from Britain. It has a staff of 20 teachers and 150 students. Courses are conducted in Hebrew, English, Russian, French and Spanish. The Chief Rabbi, Dr. Jakobovits, the Emeritus Chief Rabbi, Sir Israel Brodie, the British Ambassador to Israel, Mr. J. C. M. Mason and Professor Sir Ernst Chain are among the signatories of the address.

With acknowledgement to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle.

PLEAS FOR THE PERSECUTED

A delegation from the Board of Deputies paid two visits to the Argentinian Embassy in London to plead for the release from military detention of Mr. Jacobo Timmermann, one of the most prominent members of the Buenos Aires Jewish community. He is the founder and editor of the newspaper "L'Opinione" and was arrested in April, 1977 and held incommunicado since then. He was suspected of association with a Left-wing terror group and with a Jewish banker supposed to have financed them and was subsequently killed in an air-crash. Mr. Timmermann is also accused of having won control of the newspaper by the use of illegal funds. During his interrogation, he was questioned about his Zionist activities. Argentinian Jewish organisations maintain that he was arrested during a campaign against the violent anti-semitic propaganda by extremists of the Right and Left under the guise of anti-Zionism.

A group of MPs has written to the Nobel Institute in Oslo recommending the Soviet dissidents who are monitoring the effects of the Helsinki agreement, for the 1978 Peace Prize. Amongst the signatories are Mr. Jeremy Thorpe (Liberal), Mr. Michael Stewart (Labour) and Mr. Peter Walker (Conservative).

Celebrities' Petition

Officials at the London Soviet Embassy refused to accept a petition with 300,000 signatures, calling for the release of the Moscow mathematician, Anatoly Shcharansky. It was presented on Mr. Shcharansky's 30th birthday by Dame Peggy Ashcroft and Mr. Lee Montague, the actors, Sister Margaret Sheppard of the Order of the Sisters of Sion, Mr. Hugh Dykes, chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Committee for the Release of Soviet Jewry and Mrs. June Jacobs, chairman of the National Council for Soviet Jewry.

WOLFSON GENEROSITY

The Trustees of the British Museum have received a £125,000 gift from the Wolfson Foundation for the re-organisation and exhibition of its large reserve collections of classical sculptures and inscriptions. New exhibition rooms, called Wolfson Galleries, will be opened in 1980 as the most important addition to the Museum's display areas since the opening of the Duveen Gallery in 1962.

Another £125,000 was donated to the Nightingale House Home for Aged Jews to build a wing for the rehabilitation of physically handicapped elderly people.

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Women in the United Synagogue

Chief Rabbi, Dr. Jakobovits, and the Board of the United Synagogue, have changed the United Synagogue Act by allowing women to serve on synagogue councils on matters of education, youth, culture, etc. They will, however, continue to be excluded from all matters affecting the conduct of religious services. In this context, the London Board for Shechita barred the appointment of Mrs. Ruth Winston-Fox who had been nominated to represent the United Synagogue on the Board. It subsequently amended its constitution by adding that only male persons were eligible. Since 1976, however, there has been a woman member of the Liverpool Shechita Board, Miss Raie Dolovitz, who also represents it on the National Council of Shechita Boards.

Jewish Mayor for Brighton

Brighton hotel owner, Alfred Feld, will be Brighton's second Jewish mayor when he takes office in May. He came to the town as a bandleader and has owned the Norfolk Hotel for the last 25 years. He has served on the local council as a Conservative member for 14 years and is president of the Hotels Association.

Jewish Day Schools

At a B'nai B'rith symposium on Jewish education Dr. E. S. Conway said that in 1954, some 4,000 pupils attended 23 Jewish day schools including primary schools. In 1977 there were 57 Jewish day schools with nearly 13,000 pupils.

New Synagogue at Solihull

The Chief Rabbi, Dr. Immanuel Jakobovits, consecrated the new Solihull and District Hebrew Congregation Synagogue, built on land leased to the congregation by a community of Franciscan friars. The hall will be enlarged and ancillary rooms will be added when funds become available.

New Post for Dublin Dayan

After almost 40 years of service as Dayan in Dublin, Mr. Z. Alony has accepted a position as Rosh Beth Din to the Federation of Synagogues in London. At a farewell party, the Chief Rabbi of Ireland, Dr. Isaac Cohen, presented him with an inscribed silver tray on behalf of the Association of Jewish Clergy and Teachers of Ireland. The staff of Mountjoy Prison, at which the dayan was chaplain, gave him a wallet as a parting gift.

10p Rent for Abattoir

Dublin Corporation has granted a 99-year lease, at a nominal rent of 10p per year, to the General Board of Shechita in Eire for the continued use of the local abattoir previously used by the Jewish community. The rest of the abattoir has been closed down. The Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has complained that the Jewish community had not responded to its demands for "more humane" pre-stunning in ritual slaughter, as the present methods involved unnecessary cruelty. Dr. Isaac Cohen, Chief Rabbi of Ireland, stated that pre-stunning could be less humane than the Jewish method, as the animals quickly lost consciousness through loss of blood.

Kosher Haggis

At the annual Jewish Burns supper, the "Address to the Immortal Bard" was given by Malcolm Rifkind, MP for Pentlands. The Haggis which was served to the participants was kosher.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Rabbi Teaches at Catholic College

Rabbi Harold S. White who has acted as chaplain to some 1,000 Jewish students among the 11,000 students of the Roman Catholic Georgetown University, has joined the teaching staff as a full-time professor. His job is to lecture on theological problems and on the Bible, and to hold interdenominational study circles.

Soviet Jews in the United States

In the first nine months of 1977, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (Hias) has helped some 6,400 Jews from Soviet Russia. Of them, 5,600 settled in the United States, 270 in Canada, 315 in Australia, 143 in Western Europe and 15 in Latin America.

The organisation was recently investigated by a House of Representatives sub-committee which concluded there was no proof that Hias had put pressure on Soviet Jewish emigrants in Vienna to go to the U.S. rather than Israel. The sub-committee's chairman said they had interviewed more than 170 new arrivals in Vienna. All of them had made up their minds about their final destination before they ever arrived at the Vienna reception centre.

Circumcision at Government expense

Medicaid, the federal medical aid programme in New York State, has agreed to pay for the circumcision of newly arriving uncircumcised Soviet Jews, after specially altering its rules.

War over the telephone

In Houston, Texas, District Judge Richard Millard prohibited the playing of tapes over the telephone which proclaim a "Whites' War against Jews and Negroes". They were played to people dialling a special number rented by the American Nazi Party.

Woman Counsellor at Israeli Embassy

A new post as counsellor for women's affairs has been created at the Washington Israeli Embassy for Mrs. Tamar Avidar-Eldar who has previously been editor of the women's section of the Tel Aviv paper "Maariv". She was then known as Mrs. Avidar-Ettinger, but, in accordance with Israeli Foreign Office regulations, she had to Hebraise her name when she was appointed to Washington. Her husband, Amos Ettinger, a T.V. producer and poet, and their eight-year-old son are also in Washington. Mr. Ettinger is preparing a Hebrew-language programme for New York T.V. to be shown on Israel's 30th Independence Day in May. His wife will travel in America, addressing Jewish women and telling them about life in Israel, and explaining its economic, social and cultural problems.

Jewish Woman Astronaut

Twenty-eight-year-old Miss Judith Resnik, of Redondo Beach, California, one of the six women chosen for astronaut training, is the daughter of a Palestinian-born Jew who came to the United States as a teenager. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in electrical engineering and works for the Xerox Company. She speaks Hebrew and went to a Hebrew high school.

Nazi March sanctioned

The Illinois Supreme Court has refused an application by the "Survivors of the Holocaust" organisation to ban a projected Nazi march through Skokie, Illinois, which has a total Jewish population of 30,000 of whom 7,000 are survivors of Nazi concentration camps. The court stated in its ruling: "The display of swastikas, offensive though the memories they recall may be, is symbolic political speech intended to convey to the public the belief of those who display them." It fell therefore under the First Amendment to the Constitution which guaranteed freedom of speech.

Death of Yiddish Paper

The oldest Yiddish paper in the United States, the "Freie Arbeiterstimme", founded in 1889, has closed down because of financial difficulties due to a dwindling readership.

Cairo Envoy in Synagogue

Mr. Ghorbal, the Egyptian Ambassador to the United States, delivered a 25-minute sermon to 300 congregants at Manhattan Reform Synagogue. He had been invited by the president and the rabbi of the synagogue and said that President Sadat knew that he was attending the service. In his sermon he said the "beautiful foundations of peace" must not be thrown away. Mr. Ghorbal also invited Rabbi Schindler, chairman of the Presidents of Major American Jewish Organisations, to visit Cairo.

HISTORY OF CANADIAN JEWRY

The first periodical for the history of the Jews in Canada was recently founded by the Canadian Jewish Historical Society. The editor is Dr. Jonathan V. Plaut, rabbi in Windsor (Ontario), the son of Rabbi Dr. jur. W. Gunther Plaut (Toronto) and a grandson of Jonas Plaut (1880-1948), for many years director of the Auerbachsche Waisenhaus in Berlin.—EGL

JEWISH ANGER AT SOUTH AFRICAN T.V.

Jewish listeners and viewers in South Africa have protested against anti-Jewish and anti-Israel bias in transmissions by South African Radio and T.V. In one T.V. programme, P.L.O. representatives denied Israel's right to exist and said the P.L.O. could only achieve its aims by force. A recorded B.B.C. radio feature was said to reveal that "the B.B.C. is notorious for its lack of objectivity in matters appertaining to the Middle East."

THE P.L.O. IN SOUTH AMERICA

In spite of representations by Middle East ambassadors, the Chilean Government has refused the request of the Palestine Liberation Organisation to open an office in Santiago, the capital of Chile.

A "Venezuelan Committee of Solidarity with the Struggle of the Arab-Palestine People" has opened a violent anti-Zionist and anti-semitic campaign. Hitherto, Venezuela has been relatively free from racial propaganda.

ANTISEMITISM RAMPANT IN FRANCE

A wave of antisemitic incidents has been spreading through France, since the rabbi of Dijon, Dr. Soban received a death threat last December. In Marseilles and Toulon, young men appeared wearing T-shirts with the words: "If you are hungry, put a Jew in the oven". In Paris, the offices of the Federation of Jewish Societies in the Jewish Quarter were damaged by a bomb. Telephone calls by members of the so-called French section of the "International Odessa Organisation" and former members of the Waffen S.S. said that the organisation had decided "to condemn to death members of the Jewish community linked with international Communism and Judaism". Extra police protection has been accorded to the Israeli Embassy, the Jewish Agency, and the offices of the Fonds Social Juif.

During a two-day colloquium at the Sorbonne, organised by the Centre for Jewish Contemporary Documentation and chaired by Baron Alain de Rothschild, all the speakers deplored the vicious methods adopted by the modern antisemites and warned against the dangers to the State and public order. The president of the Association of Former French-Jewish Deportees called for a Paris street to be named in memory of the Jewish fighters of the Warsaw ghetto.

MALTA'S PREMIER ATTACKS JEWISH DOCTORS

According to a statement by Lord Fisher, president of the Board of Deputies, Dom Mintoff, Prime Minister of Malta, has said: "We know that there are Jewish doctors inciting against us in London because they know that we support the Arab cause". There has been a prolonged dispute between the Maltese Medical Association and the Government, and the local doctors have refused to work. Many doctors have been recruited from abroad to man emergency hospital services on the island, among them Libyans, Czechs, Pakistanis and "doctors of the P.L.O."

TOP JOBS IN GREECE

Two Jews have been appointed to high positions in the Greek State administration. Mr. Raphael Moisis has been made deputy governor of the National Bank for Industrial Development, and Dr. David Sarfati has been appointed director-general of the Ministry of Social Services.

JEWISH EDUCATION MINISTER IN HOLLAND

Forty-seven-year-old Professor Arie Pais, of the economics department of Amsterdam University, has been appointed Holland's first Jewish Minister of Education in a coalition Government of Christian and Liberal parties. He is a member of the Society for Jewish Science and History.

JEWISH COMMANDER IN GIBRALTAR

Lieutenant-Commander Mesod Massias has been promoted to the rank of commander and appointed head of the Royal Navy Reserve headquarters in Gibraltar. In peace-time this is a part-time appointment and Commander Massias works as an engineer for the Gibraltar Government.

MINISTER RESIGNS ISRAEL SOCIETY

The new Swiss Foreign Secretary, Pierre Aubert, has resigned the presidency of the Swiss-Israeli Society for which he had been attacked before his appointment. He had publicly declared at the time that he was by no means anti-Arab.

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THE MENDELSSOHN JUBILEE EDITION

In one year's time, on September 6, 1979, the 250th anniversary of the birth of Moses Mendelssohn (Dessau 1729 — Berlin 1786) will be celebrated. It is to be hoped that, like the 200th anniversary of the philosopher in 1929, the event will be taken notice of by the world of scholarship and research, Jewish and non-Jewish alike. Fifty years ago he was commemorated by meetings, exhibitions and publications.

Today, neither the personality nor the impact of Mendelssohn's work have fallen into oblivion. On the contrary, one feels tempted to state that the urge to assess his many-sided philosophical-theological thinking, linked with problems of general and cultural politics, has been on the increase. Thus, in the United States, Eva Jospe translated a selection of Mendelssohn's work under the auspices of the B'nai B'rith Lodges, with an introduction by Dr. Alfred Jospe (formerly rabbi in Schneidemuehl and Berlin).

In the course of the past years, the publication of a new Jubilee edition of Mendelssohn's Collected Works has been launched (published by Friedrich Frommann-Verlag Guenther Holzboog, Stuttgart-Bad Cannstatt). Its nucleus is the Jubilee issue, which was commenced in 1929. At that time, the Akademie fuer die Wissenschaft des Judentums and the Gesellschaft zur Foerderung der Wissenschaft des Judentums resolved to publish a comprehensive collection with critical annotations of Mendelssohn's works and letters. However, of the 16 volumes envisaged, only seven appeared under the editorship of the Berlin Professors Ismar Elbogen, Julius Guttman and Eugen Mittwoch, in co-operation with Dr. Fritz Bamberger, Dr. Haim Borodianski, Dr. Simon Rawidowicz, Dr. Bruno Strauss and Dr. Leo Strauss. The ascent of the Nazi régime made the completion of the work impossible. The original volumes produced until 1938 are no longer available in the

original, but reprints of most of them have been produced.

Like these reprints, the completion of the Jubilee Edition is considered indispensable in the world of scholarship. The "new" Edition will, however, comprise 20 instead of 16 volumes, because in the course of the past 40-50 years, new material has become available. The editor is Dr. Alexander Altmann, since 1959 Professor of Jewish Religious Philosophy at Brandeis University (before Rabbi in Berlin and Manchester). He is regarded today as the international authority in the field of Moses Mendelssohn research and particularly well known by his biography, "Moses Mendelssohn — A Biographical Study" (The Littman Library of Jewish Civilisation, Kegan & Paul, London 1973), reviewed in the May 1974 issue of "AJR Information". Professor Altmann's close assistants are Dr. Hajim Bar-Dyan (Borodianski), Jerusalem, Rabbi Simon Lauer, St. Gallen, Professor Dr. Leo Strauss (who died in the U.S. in 1973) and a number of other expert scholars. So far, the following volumes, some of them reprints, others newly produced works have been published: Vol 1 and 2.2 and 3: Schriften zur Philosophie und Aesthetik; Vol. 7: Schriften zum Judentum; Vol. 14: Hebraeische Schriften I; Vol. 9: Hebraeische Schriften III (Briefwechsel). Other volumes are in preparation; the price per volume amounts to DM 18.-.

The first attempt at publishing Mendelssohn's works, letters and unpublished manuscripts was made as far back as 1843/5 by his grandson Benjamin (Georg) Mendelssohn (1814-1874), Professor of Geography in Bonn. It comprised seven volumes. However, valuable as this first edition was, it does not live up to present-day standards. This is additional reason for looking forward to the completion of the "new" and first complete edition.

F. L. Brassloff

AUSTRIAN JEWRY REMEMBERED

In comparison with the Federal Republic of Germany, Austria still lags behind in giving due attention to the role played by its Jewish community and to its tragic fate; the more laudable is the research conducted on the academic level by some devoted scholars and efforts aimed at breaking through a wall of convenient forgetfulness.

Particularly praiseworthy in this connection is a skilfully and expertly arranged exhibition which endeavours to enlighten viewers, especially members of the young generation, on the persecution of Austrian Jewry in the Nazi era and its historical background; it has been shown in several cities. A documented and illustrated catalogue makes the exhibits better understandable; two surveys provide information in depth on how antisemitism prepared the way to the catastrophic "final solution".

"The Way to the Catastrophe"

The documentation and the essays have been published within the series of "Studia Judaica Austriaca" of the association "Jüdisches Museum in Eisenstadt", under the heading "Der gelbe Stern in Oesterreich" (Publishers: Edition Rötzer, Eisenstadt; 1977). Professor Kurt Schubert traces "The Way to the Catastrophe" from antisemitic writings in Germany and Austria which opposed the emancipation of the Jews on religious and social grounds; Dr. Jonny Moser describes Jewish-Gentile relations in Austria in the period 1938-1945, with particular emphasis on the political situation in the country, where hostile sentiments against the Jewish elements traditionally played a much greater part than in the German Reich. The study also refers to such aspects of the Austrian political scene as the moves of radical Jewish nationalists demanding minority status for the Jews—an attitude favoured by antisemites—and to the use of demagogic anti-Jewish propaganda by the Social Democratic Party machinery. Dr. Moser shows remarkably sympathetic understanding for the "assimilationist" spokesmen of the majority of Austrian Jewry at the time.

Among the many Jewish intellectuals who served devotedly the cause of democracy and socialism in Austria, but earned all too little recognition, was Dr. David Josef Bach. Henriette Kotlan-Werner, a non-Jewish exile, who knew the Jewish refugee Bach well during his last years in London, produced an understanding and well-balanced assessment of his life and achievements: "Kunst und Volk: David Josef Bach, 1874-1947". (Europaverlag, Vienna 1977, a monograph within the series "Materialien zur Arbeiterbewegung" of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institut für Geschichte der Arbeiterbewegung). David Bach played a leading part in the sphere of workers' education in Austria, by bringing culture, especially classical and modern music, to the masses; by many articles and reviews; and by building up an organisation which provided access to the theatres and concerts for the members of the working class. His opponents frequently referred sneeringly to his Jewish extraction which—like most Austrian-Jewish intellectuals—he tended to ignore. Mrs. Kotlan-Werner's study is a timely reminder that David Bach belongs to those Jews who would deserve a niche in Austria's cultural history.

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CHRISTOPHER ISHERWOOD IN BERLIN

When, in June, 1940, on our escape from France I arrived in this country and joined the Pioneer Corps, a comrade and friend of mine gave me Christopher Isherwood's novel "Goodbye to Berlin" to read. The book had appeared a year before, in 1939. Since then, it has become, through stage- and screen-adaptations ("I am a Camera" and "Cabaret") one of his best-known and most famous books. At my first reading of it, I fell completely under its spell. It seemed to evoke and capture the very atmosphere and essence of that tragically darkening, twilight and yet so captivating air of our life in Berlin in the last years of the Weimar Republic. Now, having read Isherwood's autobiography "Christopher and his Kind, 1929-1939" (Eyre Methuen £4.95) I think I can better understand the enchantment, the almost magic effect "Goodbye to Berlin" had on me as on so many others at the time.

Christopher Isherwood went to Berlin in 1929, at the age of 25, not for political reasons although he shared the strong Left-wing outlook of his generation; he went there for very personal reasons. It was the love of his own sex, for German boys which attracted him to Berlin. At the same time, this love made him feel that in Berlin and Germany he would find himself, his innermost self, freed from the conventions and inhibitions against which he had to struggle in his own country.

"When the German passport official", he writes, "asked him the purpose of his journey, he could have truthfully replied I am looking for my homeland and I've come to find out if this is it".

Was it that? Isherwood speaks with the utmost frankness of his many and various sexual adventures, the often fleeting, sometimes lasting relationships in which he got entangled and involved. On his arrival in Berlin, he found a room in a house next-door to Professor Magnus Hirschfeld's "Institut fuer Sexualwissenschaft" in the Tiergarten. The house belonged to a sister of the professor who at that time was a rather controversial

figure and for whom Isherwood finds very kind and appreciative words. His sister let furnished rooms in her house:

"Christopher's room looked down into an interior courtyard; that was why it was dark and cheap. On one wall of this courtyard Hirschfeld had caused to be printed in gothic lettering a stanza by Goethe:

Seele des Menschen,
Wie gleichst du dem Wasser!
Schicksal des Menschen,
Wie gleichst du dem Wind!

Never before in his life had Christopher had a room with a view of a poem... Just as changes in the light make trees look different, so Christopher's varying moods made the poem speak in different tones of voice; joyful, cynical, tragic. But always, whatever his mood, it reminded him: You are in Germany. The featureless walls of the courtyard, the neutral puddles of rainwater on its floor, the patch of international sky above it—all were made utterly German by the presence of these German words".

I quote this passage because it seems to explain to me the enchantment of "Goodbye to Berlin", the reality and the "mythos" of that city as Isherwood described it in his book and resuscitates them in his autobiography. Or, in other words and to use mythological language: Isherwood, the poet and writer, transfigured his "Venus", the Goddess of his physical and sexual love, into "Eros", the God of enhanced and spiritualised love.

For us, one of the most important, interesting and outstanding characters in Isherwood's novel "Goodbye to Berlin" is Bernhard Landauer. "The original of Bernhard Landauer", writes Isherwood in his autobiography, "was Wilfrid Israel". And in his acknowledgments he thanks Werner and Susanne Rosenstock, the editor of this paper and his wife, "for giving me information about the life of Wilfrid Israel".

He devotes several pages to discussing the portrait he gave of Bernhard Landauer in "Goodbye to Berlin" and to revising his judgment in the light and with the insight of his later and maturer thoughts and of the information he received not only from Werner and Susanne Rosenstock but also from the autobiography "World within Worlds" of his friend, the writer Stephen Spender. These pages make fascinating reading and it is more than worth while to quote from them "in extenso" (although, for the sake of space, with some regrettable omissions):

"Wilfrid did help to run a department store founded by his own family. It was one of the biggest in Berlin.

Wilfrid was tall, pale, dark-eyed, soft-spoken, precise in speech, a smiler who seldom laughed. He looked young for his

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age. When Christopher met him in 1931, he was thirty-two years old.

As Bernhard in the novel, his profile is described as 'overcivilised, finely drawn, beaky...' Again and again, Bernhard is presented as being tired, apathetic... When Isherwood asks him if he thinks there will be a Nazi putsch or a Communist revolution, he answers that the question seems to him 'a little trivial.' He produces a letter from a fanatical anti-semitic, threatening him with death, and remarks that he gets three or four such letters a week. Isherwood exclaims: 'Surely you'll tell the police?' Bernhard smiles another of his tired smiles: 'My existence is not of such vital importance to myself or to others that the forces of the Law should be called upon to protect me...'

I am quite sure that these aspects of Bernhard's character weren't invented; that they were founded on Christopher's observation of Wilfrid in real life. But a very different Wilfrid appears in "World within Worlds". Stephen Spender tells how, when the two of them were walking together on Ruegen Island, during a summer holiday in 1932, Wilfrid surprised him,

by outlining a plan of action for the Jews when Hitler seized Germany—an event which he seemed to anticipate as certain. The Jews, he said, should close their businesses and go out into the streets, remaining there, as a protest, and refusing to go home even if the Storm Troopers fired on them. It was only such a united action, within a hopeless situation, which would arouse the conscience of the world.

This was no mere theoretical talk. Less than a year later, when Hitler came to power, Wilfrid began to show himself capable of great courage and firmness of purpose. Wilfrid's mother had been English and he himself had been born in England. He was a British subject and could therefore leave Germany and settle in England whenever he chose to do so. Instead, he chose to remain in Berlin for six more years. As it became increasingly clear that no concerted action could be taken against the Nazis by the Jews or any other group, Wilfrid concentrated on more limited objectives, including the defence of the department store itself, for as long as that might be possible.

continued on page 7

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CHRISTOPHER ISHERWOOD IN BERLIN

(continued from previous page)

The store, like all other Jewish stores, was boycotted from time to time. Wilfrid himself was threatened, arrested, cross-examined and (I have heard) temporarily imprisoned. Nevertheless, though repeatedly ordered to do so, he refused to dismiss his Jewish employees. He even refused to placate the authorities by making the token gesture of flying the swastika flag over the store building. Meanwhile, he worked to arrange the emigration of as many Jews as possible to foreign countries. A Jew could often be released from a concentration camp on condition that he emigrated immediately. But someone else would have to find the money for this because his own property would have been confiscated already. At length in 1939, the firm of Israel was taken over by non-Jews; it was the last of its kind to change hands. Wilfrid thus lost most of his power to help others. Just before the outbreak of war, his friends persuaded him to leave for England...

Then why is this aspect of Wilfrid left out of the portrait of Bernhard? Even though the novel had to end in 1933 with "Isherwood's" departure from Berlin, there could have been a final scene with Bernhard in which his future attitude to the Nazis is foreshown; in which, perhaps, "Isherwood" realises that he has misunderstood and underestimated Bernhard from the beginning, and feels guilty.

Instead... The story of Bernhard Landauer ends with the news of Bernhard's death. "Isherwood" overhears two men talking about it in a restaurant in Prague, in the spring of 1933, just after he himself has left Germany for good. One of them read in a newspaper that Bernhard had died of heart failure and both take it for granted that he has really been killed by the Nazis...

"The Nazis did kill him in the end—but that, one can almost say, was by accident.

Having settled in England, Wilfrid devoted himself to helping his fellow refugees. After the French defeat, many of them were temporarily interned. When Wilfrid visited the internment camps he used to say "this is where I ought to be, too". But, as a British subject, he was free. He enlisted in the Civil Defence.

By 1943, there were many Jews who had escaped from Germany and Austria and found their way to Spain and Portugal. In March of that year, Wilfrid flew to Portugal to arrange for some of the younger refugees to emigrate to Palestine. Within two months, he had done this. On June 1, he boarded a plane to fly back to London. Among his fellow-passengers was the famous actor Leslie Howard. Over the Bay of Biscay, three hundred miles off Cap Finisterre, their plane met eight Nazi fighters. It is almost certain that the fighters came upon them by chance, while returning from an unsuccessful attempt to locate two of their own U-boats. Unarmed airliners flying between Lisbon and London were very seldom attacked, though they often carried important people. But, on this occasion, the Nazis had some reason to suspect that Churchill himself might be on board; they knew that he would be flying back from a conference in Algiers at about that time. There were no survivors.

No less thought-provoking is another passage in Isherwood's book:

"On January 30, President Hindenburg

appointed Hitler to be the new chancellor of Germany. A huge torchlight procession of singing Nazis celebrated this triumph of backstairs intrigue and manipulation of the gaga old president. Christopher wrote to Stephen: 'As you will have seen, we are having a new government, with Charlie Chaplin and Father Christmas in the ministry. All words fail.'

By Father Christmas, Christopher may have meant either Hindenburg himself or Alfred Hugenberg, the Nationalist Party leader, Hitler's temporary ally. Hugenberg was then nearly seventy, so he qualified for the role... Christopher, like other optimistic well-wishers, kept repeating that this appointment was a blessing in disguise; Hitler would now have to cope with the economic mess, he would reveal himself as an incompetent windbag, he would be forced to resign and the Nazis would be forever discredited.

I don't blame Christopher the amateur observer for his lack of foresight. I do condemn Christopher the novelist for not having taken a psychological interest, long before this, in the members of the Nazi high command. Even as late as 1932, it would have been possible for him to meet them personally. Goebbels, the party propagandist, was obliged to make himself available to the foreign press. And it wasn't too difficult to arrange interviews with Goering or even Hitler. Christopher wasn't Jewish, he belonged to the Nazis' favourite foreign race, he spoke German fluently, he was a writer and could easily have been accepted as a freelance journalist whom they might hope to convert to their philosophy... What inhibited him? His principles? His inertia? Neither is an excuse. He missed what would surely have been one of the most memorable experiences of his Berlin life.

On February 27, the Nazis caused the Reichstag building to be set on fire. Then, accusing the Communists of having done it as a signal for an uprising, they declared a state of emergency and began making mass arrests. 'Charlie Chaplin' had ceased to be funny.

Alas, he had indeed. But Christopher Isherwood was by no means the only one to have recognised it too late. There were many of us who had made the same fatal mistake of seeing, for too long a time, merely a comic figure in Hitler.

Shortly after Hitler's seizure of power Isherwood left Berlin. He had now, for several years, been one of the lodgers of "Fraulein Schroeder", a typical Berliner landlady, one of the most humorous, often hilarious, often touching figures in Isherwood's "Goodbye to Berlin". Her real name was Fraulein Thureau, and when Isherwood took leave of her, she had this to say to him:

"I'm sure I don't know what makes you want to leave Berlin all of a sudden, like this,' Fräulein Thureau told Christopher sadly, with perfect sincerity. She, who had voted Communist—because of Christopher's urging—in the November 1932 elections, now called Hitler 'Der Fuehrer' when she talked to the porter's wife. After all, like millions of others, she had to go on living in Germany and making the best of it, no matter who was in power. She would remain what she essentially was; a sweet, muddled victim of her rulers—guilty only

by association with them—no more and no less of a Nazi than she had been a Communist".

In February 1952, Isherwood returned to Berlin on a short visit, for the first time since the war. The person of "Heinz" whom he mentions in the following passage, was one of the German boys with whom he had formed one of his most intimate, sometimes blissful, more often stormy and unhappy relationships in the pre-war years:

"With Heinz and Heinz's wife, he went to see Fräulein Thureau. She was still living on the Nollendorfstrasse, but in a much smaller flat. There were smashed buildings along the familiar street and most of the house fronts were pitted by bomb fragments and eaten by decay. Christopher hadn't announced his arrival in advance, and now he felt suddenly afraid that the shock of seeing him might upset her. He asked Heinz and his wife to go upstairs ahead of him. Standing back in the shadows of the staircase, he listened to Heinz greeting Fräulein Thureau and then starting to break the news... When Christopher appeared, she uttered a tremendous scream, a scream worthy of Tristan and Isolde, equally appropriate for death or bliss. It must have been heard all over the building.

As was to be expected, she was now enthusiastically pro-American; the Nollendorfstrasse was in the American occupation sector. Her feelings towards the Russians were mixed. She spoke of their politics with conventional disapproval and of their sexual appetites with grudging respect. Immediately after the war's end, she had met many Russian soldiers. 'Every time I went out on the street they'd be after me' she told Christopher, with a certain complacency. 'So I used to screw up my eyes—like this—and make a hump on my back, and limp. You ought to have seen me, Herr Issyvoo. Then even those Russians didn't want me any more. I looked like a regular old hag!' She looked better now, in her seventies, than she had in her fifties—despite all she had been through. Christopher asked her about the bombing. 'Oh, the last year was terrible! We were in the cellar nearly all the time. We used to hold each other in our arms and say at least we'd all die together. I can tell you, Herr Issyvoo, we prayed so much we got quite religious!'

When they said goodbye, Fräulein Thureau gave him the brass dolphin clockstand, holding a clock on its tail, which is described in 'Goodbye to Berlin' and about which Isherwood asks himself: 'What becomes of such things? How could they ever be destroyed?' A prophetic comment—for a bomb-blast had hurled it across the room and only slightly scratched its green marble base. It stands ticking away on my desk, as good as new, while I write these words."

I find this one of the most moving passages of Christopher Isherwood's autobiography.

PROFESSOR MAX BORN'S MEMOIRS

The first part of the literary estate of the atom physicist and Nobel Prize laureate Max Born (Breslau 1882 - Goettingen 1970), who lived in England as a refugee from 1933 to 1954, was acquired from his heirs in this country by the Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz. The material includes the manuscript of Born's memoirs "My Life and My Views", published 1968 in New York, and his correspondence with a wide range of well-known personalities.—E.G.L.

MISCELLANEOUS

RELIGION AND HOMOSEXUALITY

At Leo Baeck College, the Association for Pastoral Care and Counselling held a conference on "Religion and Homosexuality" attended by about 40 clergy and lay people. Rabbi Hugo Gryn of the West London Synagogue said the Bible or the Talmud did not give much relevant help, but Rev. Dr. Levy, former minister of the Hampstead Synagogue, said the answer was celibacy. If a person felt that he was not normal, he must impose a very rigid self-discipline on himself. Rabbi Mariner of the North-Western Reform Synagogue said the Jewish community had a responsibility to work to include homosexuals, otherwise they might be lost to Judaism.

RED CROSS ESTABLISHES HOLOCAUST TRUTH

The International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva has publicly refuted neo-Nazi propaganda denying that there had been a Holocaust. It had increasingly received letters from people who wanted confirmation that Germany was the victim of a smear campaign after the Second World War and that the Nazis had not murdered six million Jews. In its statement the committee said that the false propaganda was essentially nurtured by the controversy about statistics wrongly attributed to the Red Cross and distorted or truncated quotations from its reports about its activities during the war.

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DR. HANS TUCH 90

Dr. Hans Tuch, for many years Director of the Berlin Office of the Jewish Restitution Successor Organisation (JRSO), recently celebrated his 90th birthday in Switzerland, where he now lives in retirement. An outstanding jurist, he was a judge at the Berlin "Kammergericht" until he was dismissed in 1933. He came to this country as a refugee and, like many immigrants of his background, bravely adjusted his life to the changed circumstances. When, few years after the war, JRSO was founded to take charge of the recovery of heirless, unclaimed and communal former Jewish property, Dr. Tuch was appointed deputy head and, in 1955, Director of the Berlin office. In this capacity he had to conduct many difficult negotiations and court proceedings, and if ultimately substantial assets were recovered, it is, to a high degree, due to his expertise and energy. As the proceeds from these assets are used for the benefit of Jewish victims of Nazi persecution and their institutions, our community owes him a deep debt of gratitude. We extend our sincerest congratulations to Dr. Tuch who, by his kindness and human understanding, has endeared himself to all who know him.

ILLUSTRATED JERUSALEM ATLAS

The latest in Martin Gilbert's very successful series of historical atlases deals with the fascinating theme of the history of Jerusalem through the ages. Full details of Christian, Moslem and Jewish connections with the city are illustrated in a series of 66 maps, all drawn specially for this book. Opposite each map is a page of photographs, including many never before published, and drawn from an enormous range of British, Arab and Israeli archives. For anyone concerned with understanding the news in the Middle East, and the depth of historical and religious tradition which encompasses Jerusalem, this atlas is essential reading. Martin Gilbert is a Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, and the Official Biographer of Sir Winston Churchill.

* Martin Gilbert: Jerusalem—Illustrated History Atlas. 128 pp, 66 maps, 117 photographs. Published by Board of Deputies of British Jews, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London, W.C.1. £2.50 (Hardback), £1.50 (Softback).

TRIPS TO EGYPT

London travel firms are at the moment preparing for Jewish tourists to visit Egypt. Under the name "Shalom Tours" they will be organised as nine-night escorted tours with visits to Luxor, Cairo and possibly Aswan. Price about £300. In Cairo, a kosher hotel is to be opened.

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PRIZE FOR FILM ON CAMPS

During the festival of short films at Plovdiv, Bulgaria, the "National Front Prize" was awarded to the film "The Transports for the Death Camps have not yet Departed". It shows Nazi preparations for the deportation of Bulgarian Jews against the resistance of the Bulgarian Government. Before the war, 50,000 Jews lived in Bulgaria, now there are about 6,000 left. Many emigrated to Israel after 1948.

A JEWISH "LANDESHAUPTMANN"

Johann Caspari 90

The former Social Democratic politician and high official, Johann Caspari, celebrated his 90th birthday in San Francisco on February 10. He started his career as director of the Youth Department of the Berlin borough of Neukoelln and later became "Landeshauptmann" of the "Grenzmark" province. Under the danger of arrest, he escaped in 1933 and finally found refuge in the United States. There, he started as a factory worker and later became professor of German language. EGL

TWO UNSUNG HEROES

Two Berlin citizens, 70-year-old Georgette Gruschke and 78-year-old Anton Sketlownik, received the Federal Order of Merit from President Scheel in recognition of their sacrifices in rescuing Jews from the Nazis. Mrs. Gruschke hid and supported the writer, Martin Wasservogel, from 1943-45, and when her husband, who was a soldier, heard that the Gestapo was looking for Wasservogel, she helped him to escape by providing him with false papers. All this became known when she recently sent some writings by Wasservogel to the Jewish community. Anton Sketlownik had sheltered three Jewish people after 1942.



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THE ISRAELI SCENE

TEN YEARS' TELEVISION

Television in Israel recently celebrated its tenth birthday. It was late to arrive, because Ben-Gurion was against it and later because of economic circumstances. After the Six-Day War, it was introduced, mainly as a means of propaganda for the one million Arabs who lived in Israel. Originally there were to be three hours of programmes in Arabic every night, followed by one hour in Hebrew. Now there are 4½ hours in Hebrew and 90 minutes in Arabic. Many Hebrew programmes have Arabic sub-titles and vice versa. Only 40 per cent of the programmes, mostly English and American films, are of foreign origin.

KING JUAN CARLOS FOR RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL

Rabbi Yossef, the Sephardi Chief Rabbi of Israel paid a nine-day visit to Spain and was received in audience by King Juan Carlos who indicated that favourable political developments in the Middle East would enable him to recommend an early establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel. The King praised Israel's achievements in desert reclamation and lauded the "wisdom of the Jews" in general, according to the Chief Rabbi. During his stay, he attended the opening of the first full-time Jewish school in Spain since the expulsion of Jews in 1492.

ORTHODOX ENVOY FOR U.N.

Professor Yehuda Blum, of the Hebrew University, who is known for his strong Orthodox and Right-wing views, will succeed Mr. Chaim Herzog as Israel's representative with the United Nations in New York.

HOME FOR BEGIN IN SINAI

A moshav (village) in occupied Sinai has accepted Prime Minister Begin and his family as members of the settlement and provided a house for them.

INFORMANTS FOR TERRORISTS EXPOSED

Two journalists, the Cypriot Pashalis, and the German-Israeli, Hans Lebrecht, will have to face trial for supplying Palestinian terror organisations with material endangering the security of the State. Lebrecht has for many years been on the central committee of the Israeli Communist Party and a correspondent for the East German official paper, "Neues Deutschland," as well as the Paris Communist "Humanité."

STRIKERS THREATEN TO SINK SHIPS

Striking Israeli seamen from some 50 vessels have announced that they will sink their ships rather than allow the shipping companies to sell them and disband the Israeli Merchant Marine. Shipping companies have had to charter dozens of foreign vessels to keep trade going throughout the strike.

ORGANISED CRIME ALARMING

A Government-appointed inquiry commission has found that there exists a criminal underworld in Israel which is controlled by some 20 "bosses". Their assets amount to about £271 million, part of which are invested in legitimate enterprises, whilst the rest is used for smuggling, drug trafficking and prostitution. Branches in European cities, including London, are used for the sale of stolen diamonds and smuggled drugs. Protection money is being extorted from Israeli restaurants and night clubs. Owners who do not pay have their premises burnt down.

TRADE WITH BRITAIN

Mr. Stanley Clinton Davis addressed the Anglo-Israel Chamber of Commerce during a recent visit to Israel and stated that Britain bought more goods from Israel than from any other country except America and West Germany. Israel, in turn, was Britain's most important market after Saudi Arabia and Iran. He added that whilst the Government opposed and deplored the Arab boycott, it could not compel U.K. companies to trade or to forgo trade in particular markets.

SLUM CLEARANCE

British expertise is to aid a programme of slum clearance in Israel involving 45,000 families. The Housing Minister, Mr. Gideon Pratt, visited Britain to consult with his British counterpart, Mr. Reginald Freeson, and senior Israeli officials will follow to study various housing programmes.

HIGH SCHOOL FOR MAALOT

A £135,000 grant from the British J.I.A.'s Kol Nidre Appeal has helped a group of 15 Orthodox teachers from Haifa to establish a religious high school at Maalot in Galilee, where an Arab terrorist attack in 1974 ended in the murder of 20 schoolchildren. Hitherto the growth of the town was restricted by the fact that children had to be sent to Naharia and Haifa after primary education.

JEWISH PLEA FOR PALESTINIANS

Mr. Elie Eliachar, honorary president of the Israeli Council for Peace with the Palestinians, visited London to promote a book about his philosophy of Israeli and Palestinian co-existence by Philip Gillon. He is a former deputy mayor of Jerusalem, a member of the first two Knessets and of Ben-Gurion's Supreme Defence Council and has urged Mr. Begin to "amaze the world by becoming the first Israeli leader to grant the Palestinians the right of self-determination and to exist as an independent people". Mr. Eliachar who is 79, says that he is kept active by his determination to spread the message of Jewish-Arab rapprochement. The only hope for both Israelis and Palestinians was that they should co-exist in two separate, sovereign and secure States.

ISRAELI PROFESSOR LECTURES IN EGYPT

During the Cairo peace talks, Israeli Professor Amos Perlmutter was invited to lecture at the Egyptian Staff College in Cairo. Among his audience were a number of generals and other high-ranking officers.

PRIVATE LETTERS FROM EGYPT

In spite of the fact that there has not been a mutual agreement on postal communications, private letters from Egypt have arrived in Israel for the first time in 30 years.

NO MORE HOSTILE BROADCASTS

The Egyptian State Radio has discontinued its regular anti-Israel broadcasts. Radio Cairo has reduced its broadcasts in Hebrew to two hours per night.

ISRAEL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

After a Brussels meeting of PR professionals from eight Western European countries, it was decided to adopt a more aggressive report to public relations regarding Israel in this country. Mr. Christopher Tugendhat, one of the British Commissioners at the European Community, gave a reception at which many topical questions were discussed.

PIANO FACTORY PLANNED

At the moment members of Kfar Daniel, a moshav near Lod airport, are at Milton Keynes to be trained by Kemble & Co., the piano manufacturers, because after an agreement with the company, the moshav will soon start the manufacture of pianos in Israel for the home market and for export. Initially most of the parts will come from Britain and be assembled in Israel. The first pianos will be available this summer.

RETURN OF ART TREASURES TO IRAQ?

The Israel Museum in Jerusalem has stated that it is prepared to negotiate with the Iraq authorities about the return of Mesopotamian art treasures it possesses, as soon as normal relations between the two countries exist.

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NEWS FROM GERMANY

A GERMAN TV DOCUMENTARY

The Jewish Old Age Home near Paris

Under the heading "Die Vergessenen—Ein juedisches Altersheim in Frankreich", the Westdeutsche Rundfunk (Cologne) recently showed an impressive documentary film about the Home for elderly Jewish refugees in Limours near Paris. The acquisition of the Home (originally a small chateau and adapted to its new requirements) was made possible about 20 years ago with the generous financial aid of the Bonn Parliament and especially the personal furtherance of Professor Carlo Schmid, then Vice-President of the Parliament. The residents of the Home are elderly people who have suffered persecution, internment and often cruel treatment in concentration camps. They went through a period of constant fear, and most of them have lost their nearest ones in the Holocaust. All this became evident in the interviews which were shown on the screen. The film also gave an impression of the beautiful location and the modest but homely interior of the building.

Limours is administered by the organisation of Nazi victims from Central Europe in France, La Solidarité (Paris), whose active Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Ruth Fabian, gave a vivid description of the Home and of the social and psychological situation of the residents. The main speaker at the 20th anniversary celebration under the chairmanship of Dr. Erwin Neu, was Carlo Schmid, who paid special tribute to the devoted work of Mrs. Fabian.

It was the object of the film to make the

German viewers aware of the persecution (now sometimes unfortunately doubted or belittled) endured by the helpless Jews in Nazi Germany and, later, in Nazi occupied France. This object, exemplified by the small group of survivors accommodated in Limours, has certainly been achieved.

E. G. LOWENTHAL (Berlin)

BURNING QUESTIONS

The Munich Administrative Court has decided that five of the six army cadets who were dismissed for a symbolic "Jew-burning" when they were under the influence of alcohol, have been wrongly discharged from the Army. The Federal Army will have to supply proof that they have endangered its reputation, but meanwhile they remain suspended from active service.

At a secondary school in Wesseling, near Bonn, two boys wrote "Jew" on a large cardboard effigy of a man, painted a yellow star on its chest and burnt it, singing Nazi songs in the school playgrounds. The boys, aged 14 and 15, said they were not motivated by antisemitism. The incident was sharply condemned by the pupils' self-governing organisation.

NAZI RELICS GOOD BUSINESS

A firm of antique dealers in Munich run by Graf Klenau and his wife, have just sent out a catalogue for an impending auction which lists S.A. drums and standards, priced at DM 1,300, N.S. periodicals, steel helmets, and water colours by Julius Streicher (DM 1,000) and two yellow stars (DM 310).

MARTIN BUBER YEAR IN GERMANY

This year's functions of the German Co-ordinating Council of Societies for Christian-Jewish Co-operation will be held under the motto: "Martin Buber—Dialogue Today". The Buber-Rosenzweig Medal, annually awarded during Brotherhood Week will be bestowed on Dr. Grete Schaefer (Goettingen), author of a standard work on Buber and editor of his three-volume correspondence, and on Dr. Albrecht Goes (Stuttgart), pastor and writer, with whom Buber was closely associated for many years.

The work of Martin Buber will be dealt with during the year in more than 2,000 functions through the Federal Republic and in West Berlin. These will include meetings under the auspices of the local societies of the Co-ordinating Council for Christian-Jewish Co-operation as well as seminars in conjunction with institutes for adult education. Furthermore, with the assistance of the Hebrew University, the Federation will hold a Buber Exhibition in Worms in the autumn. The International Council of Christians and Jews, to which the German Co-ordinating Council is affiliated, will transfer its headquarters to Germany and expects that the Martin Buber House in Heppenheim, since 1976 classified as an historical building, will be made available for accommodating the new offices. Lastly, as readers will have seen from our February issue, the Federal postal authorities have issued a special Martin Buber stamp.

FINED FOR PRINTING NAZI POSTERS

The merchant Lothar Hartung, who owns a German Armed Forces Museum, was fined about £1,200 for selling reprints of original Nazi posters.

FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in the column Family Events are free of charge; any voluntary donation would, however, be appreciated. Texts should be sent in by 15th of the month.

Deaths

Fischbein.—Robert Fischbein of 14 Fitzroy Court, Littlehampton, Sussex, passed away on January 29, aged 94. Devoted husband of Luise, father of Ellen and beloved grandfather and great-grandfather.

Goldenberg.—My dear wife, Gert-rud Goldenberg, passed away peacefully after a long illness which she endured patiently. I shall miss her very much. Jack Goldenberg.

Handel.—Alfred D. Handel, Los Angeles, California, formerly London, Hampstead, Frogna, passed away on February 3. Sadly missed by all his relatives and friends.

Hohenberg.—Frederick Hohenberg passed away peacefully on January 21. Deeply mourned by his loving wife Mizzi (Maria), brothers, sisters and his many friends.

Plaut.—Dr. Hubert Curt Plaut (formerly Berlin) of 40 The Tracery, Banstead, Surrey, died suddenly on January 18, aged 88. He is mourned by his wife Ilse (née Behrend), son Rudolf, daughter Anneliese Moss, sister Dr. Rahel Liebeschuetz, son and daughter-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Tietz.—Gerhard Leonhard Tietz died peacefully in his sleep on February 9. Deeply mourned by his beloved wife Bella, daughters Tamara and Vera and family.

CLASSIFIED

The charge in these columns is 25p for five words plus 20p for advertisements under a Box No.

Situations Vacant

WE WOULD WELCOME to hear from more ladies who would be willing to shop and cook for an elderly person in their neighbourhood on a temporary or permanent basis. Current rate of pay £1.25 per hour. We also need ladies who would be prepared to sleep out for shorter or longer periods. No nursing duties. Rate of pay between £3 and £5 per night. Please ring Mrs. M. Casson, 01-624 4449, AJR Employment, for appointment.

Miscellaneous

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MIDDLE-AGED ATTRACTIVE widow, own business, semi-retired, independent means, seeks company of cultured, tall, fit gentleman, no ties, free time, around 60. Phone number please. Box 713.

LIVELY CHEERFUL WIDOW, presentable, wide interests indoor and outdoor, would like to meet similar man in his fifties with sense of humour living in Central London, for enjoyable relationship. Maybe holidays in summer. Box 711.

INTELLIGENT, ATTRACTIVE widow, 50, happy disposition, living N.W. London seeks gentleman friend. Box 715.

NEAR RELATIVE OF MINE, widow, 52 years, independent, refined and attractive, music-loving, would like to meet intelligent, unattached gentleman. View to friendship, maybe marriage. Box 712.

LADY, 65, of independent means and with nice home would like to meet another lady of integrity and same age for friendship and holidays. Box 714.

RETIRED WIDOW, independent, no children, comfortable home, is seeking a retired widower for friendly companionship. London area. When replying, please give telephone number. Box 710.

INFORMATION REQUIRED

Personal Enquiries

Gebhard—Steinberg.—In connection with German research work on the late Professor Dr. Albert Gebhard, one of the draftsmen of the German Civil Code, any information about his daughter Gabriele Steinberg-Montfort (née Gebhard), the heiress of his literary estate, who emigrated to England and is supposed to have lived in Sevenoaks, would be appreciated by Mr. Anthony Newton, Solicitor, 22 Fitzjohns Avenue, London NW3 5NB Tel.: 01-794 9696.

Roeder—Hireston.—Hilda Hireston (née Roeder), daughter of the late Dr. Richard and Hedwig Roeder, who emigrated to Palestine, supposed to live in Manchester. Address wanted by Federal German Consulate, Norwich House, 8-12 Water Street, Liverpool L2 8TA.

Steinberg.—Edgar Steinberg, born 9.5.1912, last known address in Germany Weisstrasse 4, Plauen i. Vogtland, is believed to have emigrated to the UK in 1936 and to have lived in Manchester. Will readers who can give information please write to Erich Beyer, Bartingallee 20, 1 Berlin 21.

Mecklenburg.—Thea Mecklenburg, formerly Berlin-Westend, Tannenbergallee (Westend-Lyzeum) is wanted by Christine von Kohl, 1050 Vienna V, Stollberggasse 21.

Wolfe.—Mac E. Wolfe, last known address (about 1948) 11 Inverness Terrace, Bayswater, London W2 is wanted by Hannah Cahn (née Gutenstein), 2072 Prosser Avenue, Los Angeles, California. 90025.

AJR Enquiries

Demuth.—Mrs. L. Demuth. Last known address 45 Linden Lea, London, N2 8ST.

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OBITUARY

PROFESSOR BERTHOLD SIMONSOHN

The sudden death of Professor Dr. Berthold Simonsohn in Frankfurt at the age of 65, has deprived the Jewish community in the Federal Republic of one of its widely recognised personalities. Having obtained his legal doctorate in Halle in 1934, he worked in German Jewish welfare offices in Halle and Hamburg and subsequently survived the concentration camps Auschwitz, Theresienstadt and Sachsenhausen. In Theresienstadt he became a member of Leo Baeck's inner circle and met his future wife and collaborator. After their liberation, they both studied social sciences in Prague and Zurich before returning to Germany. In 1951, he founded the *Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle der Juden in Deutschland*, the central welfare agency of the survivors and became its first director. Ten years later, he was appointed a professor at Frankfurt University and helped to establish the institute for social and remedial pedagogics and adult education. At the same time, he occupied leading positions in Jewish organisations. He was especially attracted to the work of the Hebrew University as a member of its Board of Governors and of the German Society of Friends of the Hebrew University.

RUDOLF KUESTERMEIER

The journalist, Rudolf Kuestermeier, died in Tel Aviv at the age of 74. An active Social Democrat since his student days, he continued his political activities after the Nazis had come to power. In 1934 he was sentenced to ten years' penal servitude and after the end of this period transferred to several concentration camps. When his health was restored, he was appointed by the British occupation authorities editor of the daily "Die Welt". Together with Erich Lueth, he was also one of the initiators of the "Peace with Israel" movement. In 1957 he went to Israel as correspondent to the German Press Agency (DPA) and the North-West German Broadcasting Corporation. The fact that he kept his residence in Israel also after his retirement ten years ago testifies to his deep attachment to the country. As a freelancer, he continued writing, broadcasting and lecturing. An uncompromising anti-Nazi German, who sacrificed his freedom and health to his convictions and who later helped to build bridges between post-Nazi Germany and Israel, he will be remembered by all who knew him and his work with gratitude and admiration.

GEORG STREAT

It is learned with regret that Mr. G. Streat, who was actively associated with the AJR for many years, recently died at the age of 67. He originally lived in Manchester and at that time, when the membership administration was still carried out on a local basis, was a most conscientious and reliable Hon. Secretary of the group. After his removal to London, he became a member of the AJR Board and, in this capacity, regularly attended its meetings. A kind and helpful man, he will be remembered with gratitude by all who knew him. We extend our sincerest sympathies to his wife and the other members of his family.

HAROLD ABRAHAMS

Harold Abrahams, the British and international athletics champion, administrator and professional commentator on sport, has died at the age of 78. He was the first European, the only Briton, and the only Jew to have won the 100 metres gold medal at the 1924 Olympic Games in Paris. After breaking a leg in 1925, he retired from active sport and became a B.B.C. sports commentator. He was a qualified barrister, but did not practise. In 1957 he was appointed C.B.E. for his work as secretary to the National Parks Commission. Though, as a conscious Jew, he detested the Nazis, he refused to boycott the 1936 Olympiad in Berlin and international meetings between Britain and Germany.

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THEATRE AND CULTURE

ADELE REIFENBERG 85

Israel. Theatre and dramatic art flourished during a very mild winter when bathing in open-air swimming-pools was possible in January (and the writer of this column did!) "Eugen Onegin", as well as Puccini's "Butterfly" and "Bohème" were sell-outs at the Tel Aviv Opera House which also catered for the lighter vein with Lehar's "Land of Smiles". These works were also shown at Haifa where the Municipal theatre had its own production of Arthur Miller's "All my Son's". The "Glass Menagerie" by Tennessee Williams is the success of the season at the theatre in Beersheba. Ephraim Kishon's 1953 play "His Friend at Court", given by the Habimah, Tel Aviv, seems set for another triumphant run as it deals humoristically with the aspects of over-efficient bureaucracy.

New York. William Gibson's documentary play "Golda", described as being a number of episodes in the life of the remarkable woman who contributed so much to the shaping of Israel's history, could not possibly fail to attract, and Anne Bancroft playing a so much older woman, shoulders bent, leg bandaged, showed idealistic devotion. Apparently not a particularly good play, but superbly acted, and the subject adored by the audience.

Thomas Mann on German TV. The "Buddenbrooks" by Thomas Mann, is being presented on Television by Hessischer Rundfunk as a serial in ten parts with Martin Benrath and Ruth Lewerik as Konsul Buddenbrook and his wife.

60 years ago Austrians were grieved by the death of their greatest-ever comedian Alexander Girardi (1850-1918). Girardi excelled in his presentation of the good-hearted and simple

minded, his Austrian dialect was genuine and full of appeal, his Raimund and Nestroy performances became legendary. Towards the end of his career, he was a celebrated member of the Vienna Burgtheater where only after the Second World War a worthy successor for his roles was found in Josef Meinrad, who has now been a "Burg" actor for over 30 years, and who recently played Frosch in the "Fledermaus" at London's Covent Garden.

Birthdays. Werner Hinz, Berlin-born stage and film actor, member of the Schauspielhaus Hamburg since 1955, is 75; during recent years he made some very successful guest appearances in Vienna, notably as King Philip in Schiller's "Don Carlos", and in the title role of Zuckmayer's "Hauptmann von Köpenick". S.B.

Ludwig Meidner Represented at Exhibition

The exhibition "Cityscape 1910-39" at the Royal Academy includes a great number of paintings, graphics and photographs from German cities of the period which should be of special interest to AJR readers. They include a painting "Apocalyptic Town", painted in 1913 by Ludwig Meidner which anticipates the horrors of modern warfare with the town collapsing in complete chaos.

Celebrity Guild of Great Britain

Many personages in the film and entertainment world attended the inaugural party of the Celebrities Guild of Great Britain at the Europa Hotel, London, which, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Ella Glazer, is to assist its sponsor, the Central British Fund and other Jewish causes. Once or twice a year it will promote charity functions which will enable entertainers to co-operate with leading communal figures to assist those who are in need of help.

On March 3, the painter, Adele Reifenberg, will celebrate her 85th birthday. A pupil of Lovis Corinth and, later, of Max Beckmann, she built up a reputation for herself in Germany and was fortunate enough to continue her creative work after she and her late husband, the painter Julius Rosenbaum, were forced to emigrate. The success of many exhibitions in this country re-affirmed her artistic gifts. When, on the occasion of her 80th birthday, a retrospective exhibition of her works was opened by the Mayor of Camden, tribute was also paid to her in this journal. Now, another lustrum has passed but, fortunately, Adele Reifenberg is still active in her field. On behalf of the numerous friends she has within our community, we extend to her our heartfelt congratulations.

Letter to the Editor

PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH

Request for Material

Sir,—Would any readers be willing to let me have details of personal fears and anxieties in connection with a book I am preparing on the subject?

A description of fears (past and present), however apparently irrational, together with information on the effect they have had on your life in general, would be of invaluable assistance.

In addition, if you have managed to overcome any of your fears, an outline of how this was achieved would be most helpful. If a personal interview would be preferred, we would be only too happy to arrange this.

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