

# AJR INFORMATION

THE ERNEST FOULKES STORY

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£1 (To non-members)

Max Sulzbacher

## SOME REMARKABLE PARALLELS

### The Huguenot Experience

The current exhibition at the Museum of London (until 31st October) traces the flight of some 40,000 Huguenots (French Protestants) to England and their contributions to life in this country.

At first this story may have no particular interest for Jewish refugees from Germany but on further reflection this exhibition provides remarkable parallels to our own situation.

Let us start with the situation in France in the 17th Century. The Huguenots had been granted freedom of worship by the Edict of Nantes in 1598. If we are looking for a parallel to satisfy those of us who like round numbers we could say that a similar significant date for the emancipation of the Jews in Germany was the year of revolutions, i.e. 1848 some 250 years later.

The subsequent persecution of the Huguenots was a religious one which gathered force in the 1660s and by the early 1680s they were refused admission to public office and dismissed from positions of authority. Also some 300 of their churches were destroyed. The reigning monarch at the time was Louis XIV who, of course, was no Hitler but nevertheless was or rather became a religious bigot. He was influenced by Madame de Maintenon, who was first his mistress and after the death of the queen became his second wife.

He was also one of the most autocratic rulers of his age—*L'etat c'est moi!* In 1685, under pressure from the clergy, he revoked the Edict of Nantes thereby cancelling the religious freedom of the Huguenots and forbidding them to hold their services in any public or private house. Again, the striking parallel is the Nuremberg Laws some 250 years later which were deemed to have revoked emancipation "at a stroke".

The persecution of the Hugenots was, of course, a religious one but they were able to escape this persecution by converting to the dominant faith, Catholicism. There is no parallel with the

racial persecution of the Jews as conversion in Germany under Hitler was of no avail. Turning back to the Huguenots there were some 200,000 to 250,000 (the numbers are remarkably similar) who left France although the great majority remained and abjured their faith.

The exhibition is concerned with the 40,000 to 50,000 Huguenots who fled to England (again, similar figures). Such escape carried great risks and many thousands who were caught were condemned to the galleys. Incidentally the term "refugee" was first coined at that time.

Some Huguenots had already settled in England since the 1650s and they assisted their brethren in their time of need. Large numbers of Huguenots settled in the Spitalfields and Soho districts of London which "resounded to the hum of French conversation". (In our case read Swiss Cottage and Hampstead).

The major part of the exhibition is devoted to the specific Huguenot contribution to various aspects of science, art, medicine, trade, finance and manufacture, etc. They were dominant in the silk and fashion trade which had a distinct French flavour. (Is there a parallel here?).

Examples are given of their contribution to banking—7 of the original 24 founder directors of the Bank of England established in 1694 were Huguenots. An Act of General Naturalization was passed in 1709 against strong native opposition and many served in the British Army fighting against Catholic France.

Initially there were some 28 churches in London where the services were conducted in French. By 1750 however, they had been absorbed by the native Protestant Church and French was no longer spoken by the next generation. Only their

*continued on p. 2*

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## HUGUENOT EXPERIENCE

names in their original or anglicised forms remained to remind them of their French origin. Again the parallel with our own community is quite apparent nearly 50 years after our arrival in this country and requires little elaboration.

Two interesting footnotes remain. It was a German Jew, Giacomo Meyerbeer, who wrote the well-known opera "Les Huguenots" describing their persecution.

And it was not until 1885 that the Huguenot Society was founded to perpetuate the memory of their ancestors. Will we see the founding of a similar society in 2135 to perpetuate our memory?

## LEADING AUTHORS' PLANS

The Third Reich and its consequences continue to provide themes for leading German authors, 15 of whom have recently been asked for details of their present work. Several of them are writing about the effect of National Socialism on individual lives.

Peter Härtling's current novel is told in the person of a German Jew who had dealings with Eichmann, escaped by a hairsbreadth, emigrated to Palestine and returned to Germany in 1947. His basic theme is that history can only be understood through individual example.

The realisation that Germans still know too little about their Jewish fellow-citizens inspired Wolf Dietrich Schnurre to write about two Jewish families in today's Berlin, to be published shortly under the title "Levin and Guttman". An adaptation of the work will also be seen on television. Moreover, Schnurre is working on a dialogue presentation of events in the life of Walter Benjamin.

## Rejected thesis

Stress will be laid on the professors who rejected Benjamin's thesis (later published as "Ursprung des deutschen Trauerspiels") because they did not understand it.

"Ein Schloss in Schlesien" [A Castle in Silesia] is the title of Horst Bienek's forthcoming novel on resistance in the Third Reich, particularly the "Kreisauer Kreis" up to 20 July 1944.

Hilda Spiel is also taking the war years as her background in re-writing her film script "Anna und Anna". Another book of hers is to appear in English, describing Viennese culture from 1886 to 1938.

The question of heroism and hero-worship occupies Martin Gregor-Dellin, whose book is entitled "What is Greatness? Seven Germans and a German Problem": it consists of essays on major figures from Martin Luther to Thomas Mann.

Heinrich Böll was engaged on a book for young people when he died in July, but his main work was about today's social realities in Bonn, though it was a fictional Bonn.

Other writers who are completing new works, editing compilations or re-issuing former works are Elfriede Jelinek, Friederike Mayröcker, Hubert Fichte, Martin Walser, Ingeborg Drewitz, Sarah Kirsch, Gabriele Wohmann and Horst Krüger.

## THE ERNEST FOULKES STORY

In April this year the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities presented Ernest Foulkes with the Gold Medallion, "for Scientific Achievements in Israel", newly created by the Israeli Government. Behind this honour lies a success story perhaps better known in scientific and medical circles than among the general public.

Born in Frankfurt in 1902, Ernest Foulkes obtained a doctorate in engineering at the Technische Hochschule, Berlin and began to build a career in factory planning. In 1936 he came to this country as a refugee and formed a small company manufacturing machine tools. After the war, with the encouragement of the Ministry of Health, he began to specialise in the production of laboratory equipment, in particular a complete range of centrifuges incorporating many novel and original ideas.



Dr Ernest M. Foulkes C.B.E.

His firm, for instance, was the first in this country to build refrigeration into centrifuges thereby opening up new possibilities for the diagnosis and treatment of blood disorders. The name and trade mark "M.S.E." soon became known as a world leader in its field and the company exported to most countries with such success that in 1966 it was among the first to receive the Queen's Award to Industry for Export Achievements.

In 1972, in order to safeguard the continuity of his work and the future and security of his employees—by now numbering about 1,000—Ernest Foulkes negotiated the sale of his firm to the well-known Fisons Group. This enabled him to realise a plan which had been near to his heart for some time: to form, and endow with a very substantial sum, a foundation, the Foulkes Foundation, "to conduct, further, and promote medical research".

His experience had given him particular insight into the growing interrelation between the applied biological sciences and medical education and research. He became especially intrigued by the infinite possibilities offered by bio-technology for the development and advance of medical science.

Every year since it was formed, the Foundation has been granting a number of fellowships to successful applicants who went through a stringent selection test conducted with the help of a panel of eminent members of the medical profession.

In 1978, in recognition of his work, Ernest Foulkes was made a CBE. In 1982, impressed by Israel's strong post-graduate educational programme, he decided to extend the Foundation's work to that country and to start a pilot scheme under the auspices of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities. This proved an outstanding success and received its recognition by the gift of the Gold Medallion. All signs are that the Foundation will continue to prosper and expand for the benefit of medical science. Continuity is safeguarded by the fact that Ernest Foulkes's daughter, Maureen Hajdu, is the Foundation's Registrar and one of the trustees.

His commercial and philanthropic achievements have not spoiled him. He and his wife Senta—his constant inspiration and support—have remained a couple with cultured tastes, a wide circle of friends and a very harmonious family life. In August this year they will celebrate their golden wedding. We wish them both very many more years of happiness and successful activity.

C. F. FLESCH

## GEORG SCHLESINGER CHAIR

Dr. Ehud Lenz, Professor at the Haifa Technion, has just been appointed to the newly-created Georg Schlesinger Chair of Production Engineering in Berlin. The Georg Schlesinger Chair was endowed in 1984 by the Berlin Senate for Science and Research and commemorates the first holder of the Chair for Machine Tools at the Technical University in Berlin-Charlottenburg, who had to leave Germany in 1933 because he was a Jew. Georg Schlesinger was involved in the foundation of the Technion in Haifa, and his former pupil, Prof. Kurrein, continued there the tradition of the Machine Tools Institute.

## A MAJOR GERMAN CRITIC

The writer and literary critic Marcel Reich-Ranicki celebrated his 65th birthday in June this year. For over ten years he has headed the literary department of the "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung" and has over the same period been honorary professor of rhetoric at Tübingen University, as well as publishing a number of books.

Of Polish origin, Marcel Reich-Ranicki grew up in Berlin, but in 1938 he was deported back to Poland. In the years 1940-43 he was forced to live in the Warsaw Ghetto, but managed to escape and lived underground in Warsaw for the rest of the war. After the end of the war, he worked in a publishing house and later began to write on his own account. However, in 1953 he was officially forbidden to publish anything, a ban which lasted for about eighteen months.

In 1958, Reich-Ranicki left Poland for West Germany where he built up a reputation for "laying down the law" in literary criticism during his 13 years with "Die Zeit".

# HOME NEWS

## Y OF AN ESSEX COMMUNITY

A ceremony took place in Colchester when the city celebrated eight centuries of presence there. The Mayor and Mayoress, of Colchester and many other promoters of the area attended the service in the District Synagogue. They were as were living in Colchester in the days of Issac and Abraham were mentioned in the financial needs of the community. A researcher, Dr. David Stephenson, has that by royal decree the Colchester act as moneylenders. By 1221, how- Jewish community was thought to be the poorest in the country.

ings relating to the mediaeval Jewish remain in the city, but there is one ue record of their presence: in 1227, a facial made a thumbnail sketch in the manuscript, depicting one Aaron who before the court. This is one of only a r of existing mediaeval portraits of

1950s, the figures for Jews living in ave steadily grown, augmented by a Jewish students at nearby Essex Colchester Public Library is to mount a of Jewish life this autumn.

## DISTINCTION FOR HANS FEIBUSCH

Hans Feibusch, 86, was awarded an etorate of literature by Dr. Robert Archbishop of Canterbury. Under a law of Henry VIII, the Archbishop of has the authority to confer what are nybeth degrees. The artist was born in d came to this country as a refugee in many he was a regular and notable the Berlin "Sezession" and in 1931 the Prussian Great State Prize. He is ly active and has concentrated on r the past 10 years. Next year his rankfurt, will pay tribute to him with ppective exhibition.

## HAPPY CENTENARY

on in Hampstead Synagogue was the the hundredth birthday of Frederick heim-born Mr. Stokes, a former Fritz Hallgarten, attends synagogue whatever the weather. He was given us and heard the Reverend Issac ended tribute to him in his sermon. n and many other friends were not ng the tributes and congratulations an important "birthday boy".

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## HARRIS HOUSE TV PROGRAMME

Standing in front of the Harris House Building are some of the German and Austrian refugee girls who had spent a year in 1938/39 at the hostel in Stockport, Lancs. A diary they had kept at the time turned up in a jumble sale and Yorkshire Television brought ten of them back—from Britain, America and Israel—forty-seven years later for a moving reunion which was shown on ITV on 2 July. Those shown above, from left to right, are: Mrs. Judy Ruben (née Jutta Schulz), Margot Barnes (née Brauer), Clare Karp (née Shapiro), Gina Gerson (née Bauer), Frieda Allon (née Beer) and the matron, Mrs. Margaret Stone. Gina Gerson, from Birmingham (originally from Vienna), provided the main narrative link, which was all the more effective for its restraint and tact.

## NF STUDENT'S ARTICLE

Patrick Harrington, the National Front student at the centre of the recent North London Polytechnic disturbances, has appeared in "Nationalism Today" as joint author of an article denying the Holocaust. Harrington, writing with Tom Acton, declares that the recent case of Ernst Zundel, convicted in Canada of supplying antisemitic propaganda, "has made millions seriously question the Holocaust myth... a millstone around the neck of racial nationalists for 40 years."

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## EXCITING SELF AID CONCERT

We can look forward to the Self Aid Concert on November 10 with special pleasure. First, the players, the Cohen Trio, father, mother and son.

Raymond Cohen, the violinist, was the first winner of the Carl Flesch International Violin Competition, and has gone on to establish an international reputation. He was leader of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra for many years and has been guest leader of the Philharmonia, the London Symphony and the BBC Symphony orchestras. He plays a 1703 Stradivarius.

His wife Anthya Rael began her career in her native South Africa, making her debut in a Mozart concerto at the age of nine. After coming to England and marrying here, she has played concertos and has given recitals with her husband all over the world.

Their son Robert, now 26, has emerged in recent years as a 'master cellist', as a much sought-after virtuoso on the international concert circuit. He made his debut at the age of 12 playing one of the Boccherini concerti at the Festival Hall, went on to win many prizes in various competitions, has appeared with Claudio Abbado, Riccardo Muti, Antal Dorati, Neville Marriner, Simon Rattle and many others, and is recording major works in the cello repertoire. He plays a 1692 Stradivarius.

Secondly, the music. These three superb musicians will be combining to play two of the great masterpieces of the piano trio repertoire, works which combine a marvellous structure with lovely melody: Beethoven's 'Archduke' Trio, op. 97, and Schubert's B-flat, op. 99. It will be a treat and an occasion no one will want to miss.

## MOCATTA LIBRARY

Although the Mocatta Library has been housed in University College, London, for the past 80 years, it is little known to the general public and finds itself suffering from lack of funds to provide new acquisitions and an adequate staff. The Mocatta Library, one of the most valuable Anglo-Jewish collections, was bequeathed by Frederick David Mocatta to the Jewish Historical Society of England in 1905.

Although partly destroyed by an air-raid in 1940, the Mocatta Library retains its Lucien Wolf and Flavius Josephus collections and now also includes Judaica from the Guildhall library, as well as a number of private collections. It is highly regarded by scholars and the librarian of University College hopes that the Anglo-Jewish community will give it more support in future.

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Prof. S. S. Praver

### FROM RHINE TO THAMES

The distinguished Oxford don, Prof. S. S. Praver, was recently awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of his native city, Cologne. Prof. Praver left Cologne with his family in 1939, when he was a boy of 14, under the pressure of the Nazi regime, and the University of Cologne was paying tribute to a native son who had gone on in England to become one of the world's great Germanists. In his encomium the Dean of the Cologne University Philosophy Department emphasised the value of Prof. Praver's earlier work on Mörke and Heine, and his two more recent major books which have become standard works from their publication, 'Karl Marx and World Literature' and 'Heine's Jewish Comedy' (reviewed in our July 1984 issue). They were honouring an outstandingly brilliant scholar who was born in Cologne, but was forced to emigrate and couldn't fulfill his wish to study in the city. Prof. Praver's lecture was called 'From the Rhine to the Thames—the Experiences, Maxims and Reflections of a Cologne-Jewish Literary Scholar', in which he sketched impressions of his childhood in Cologne and of life in Britain, as well as describing the scholarly principles on which his work is based.

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### VALESKA BUCHHOLZ HONOURED

A medal for the Righteous Gentile has been awarded posthumously by Yad Vashem to Mrs. Valeska Buchholz (nee König) of Berlin. She was caretaker of a block of flats and hid a Jewish couple (Alfred and Dinah Brieger) from March 1943, the eve of their scheduled deportation, till November, when the building was bombed out. The couple found another hiding place and survived the war. Mrs. Buchholz had been a nanny in a Jewish family before that family emigrated to Britain and after the war followed them (they are AJR members) to England.

At one time she worked for Mrs. Margaret Jacoby, who would take her to AJR Club meetings. One of the reasons for the delay in the award was Mrs. Buchholz's own modesty and reluctance, always saying, 'Don't fuss, anyone would have done it'. She died in 1970, aged 74.

### FRITZ HEINEMANN REMEMBERED

The philosopher Fritz Heinemann (1889–1970), distinguished interpreter and critic of existentialism, who came to Britain in 1939 and became an Oxford don, has just had the Reading Room of the municipal library in Lüneburg, where he was born and educated, named after him. The dedication of the Fritz Heinemann Reading Room was also in memory of the 100 Jews who had lived in Lüneburg and had not survived the Holocaust. The ceremony, which included the unveiling of a photograph and plaque in the Reading Room, was attended by the philosopher's son and daughter-in-law, AJR members Franz and Mrs. Heinemann. It was followed by a talk by Shalom Ben-Chorin of Jerusalem attended by an audience of some 200 non-Jews, who later participated in a lively discussion.

### WOLFF TAKEOVER

Berg Publishers Ltd. (the firm run by Dr. Marion Berghahn, author of the excellent book on the German-Jewish Refugees), have taken over the well-known publisher Oswald Wolff Ltd. The Oswald Wolff list will be produced, marketed and distributed by Berg Publishers. However, Mrs. Ilse Wolff will continue to develop the list (in consultation with Berg, whose Board she joins) under the imprint Oswald Wolff Books, and will be available at her home address: 8 Circus Lodge, Circus Road, London, NW8 9JL. Orders and business correspondence should be sent to Berg Publishers, 24 Binswood Avenue, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV32 5SQ.

### IN SEARCH OF RECONCILIATION

The problems of reconciliation between Jews and Germans were dealt with at a meeting under the auspices of the Protestant "Gemeindeakademie" in Mettmann (Rhineland). The speaker, Dr. Heinz Kremer, Professor of Theology in Duisburg, pointed out that without the gestures of goodwill made on the part of Jews, nothing would have been achieved in this field. The address was preceded by a film taken last year by the Westdeutsche Rundfunk on the site of the former German P.O.W. camp, Featherstone Park, depicting a reunion of the former education officer, Captain Herbert Sulzbach, and a former prisoner, Judge (ret.) Kurt Ranisch-Schwedersky.

### CHAIRMAN'S 103rd BIRTHDAY PARTY

It was a very special occasion when, on 2nd the AJR Club celebrated its Chairman's Margaret Jacoby's, 103rd birthday. The Hannah Karminski House was full to capacity and a loudspeaker transmitted the proceedings the overflow at the Club Room upstairs.

Well over a hundred members gathered to pay tribute to their dearly loved Chairman. Her active interest in the Club remains undiminished. A number of her wellwishers have expressed their kindness and concern for the past almost 30 years during which she had made the Club their second home.

*Ihr Meisterwerk, das ist der Club,  
in dem wir heute feiern,*

and

*ihr Laecheln macht uns alle froh,*

*ihr Gruss, so freundlich, ebenso,*

*wie man's zusammenfasse,*

*sie ist ganz grosse Klasse—*

these few lines on Mrs. Jacoby from a 1981 which the present Vice-Chairman Mrs. Saenger, quoted in her introductory words much to the point.



The address was given by Dr. Frank Falk, Vice-President of the AJR. His warm, moving congratulations and appreciation "Mother Courage, Mother Lover" were followed by a lively, informative account of Mrs. Jacoby's many achievements, first in Germany and then in this country.

Of the hundreds of birthday congratulations Dr. Falk quoted Dr. Richard von Weizsäcker, the West-German President's, telegram expressing good wishes and appreciation, and a congratulatory message from Buckingham Palace explaining that it is not the Queen's custom to send congratulations between a 100th and 105th birthday, but that a card containing good wishes for a happy day.

The next item on the programme was a song by the Club's soprano friend Katinka. Her beautiful voice and the charm of her performance have time and again been enjoyed by the Club members.

Mrs. Jacoby's speech, delivered with a glance at any notes, was a joy, radiating warmth and pleasure.

In a happy and cheerful atmosphere then served, Club member Mrs. Marth recited a poem by Hoffman von Fallersleben and the party ended.

Rumour has it that Mrs. Jacoby, the lady of 103, proceeded to various other parties a few hours later. Lesser mortals, on that afternoon, might have felt they would never see her again. Not so Mrs. Jacoby.

## ANNELY JUDA'S 25TH

Annely Juda—Juda Rowan Galleries have found such an important niche in the London art scene that it is difficult to believe that they have always been there. Yet it is only twenty-five years since the Annely Juda Gallery was opened.

To match this distinguished milestone, a major exhibition "Early Twentieth Century Masterpieces" is being held from September to December. The exhibition is in three parts: "The Seventies" (September/October), "The Eighties" (October/November), and "The Nineties" (November/December).

The exhibitions will show many of the early twentieth century avant-garde masterpieces that have previously been shown in the Galleries, as well as the work of contemporary artists. A 400-page illustrated catalogue, including important works by Professor Norbert Lynton, Bryan Keston, Marina Vaizey and Waldemar Janzon, will be published in connection with the exhibition.



At Annely-Juda's Show

Photography is an art form that has achieved widespread recognition over the years. One of the first examples of photo-reportage was Felix S. Steiner in Freiburg-im-Breisgau. He studied art in Munich, but changed to photography and worked for many German magazines and newspapers with his photographs. Disliking the political climate, he left Germany in 1934 and came to London where he supplied pictures and illustrations to Weekly Illustrated and then to the Post. An exhibition of his work is being held at the Museum of London (to 25 August). At the Museum it is worth looking at the painting "Acquired David Bomberg painting" which is on view in the city of London" which is on view in the Museum's modern gallery.

An exhibition of some importance at the Annely Juda Gallery, 28 Bruton Street, W1, was entitled "The Paper" by Herbert Bayer. Bayer, born in 1900 and now living in Colorado, was one of the renowned tutors of the Bauhaus school of functionalism (Sachlichkeit), he was a pioneer in the use of sans serif letters and in 1925 gave up the use of capital letters. His watercolours and drawings by Adele Reifensberg will be on show at the Annely Juda Gallery, 2 Lambolle Road, London W1 from 4 to 8 September.

An interesting Picture Fair at the Ben Uri, where you can get a picture according to the drawing, will be held this year on 20 September. A large choice of pictures is being shown and everybody will have a chance to see the original work.

## FRANCIS BACON

A painter of violence and horror—an artist who unlocks the values of feelings, these are only a couple of the descriptions applied to Francis Bacon, one of the very few British artists of modern times with a truly international reputation.

The present exhibition of his work at the Tate Gallery (until 18 August) comprises some one hundred and twenty paintings, most executed during the last twenty years and selected by the artist himself in association with the Tate Gallery. The exhibition is arranged so as to depict the development of his art and on entry one is immediately confronted with his "Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion". This was painted in 1944 and is in the gallery's permanent collection.

Bacon was then thirty-five years old, and this is the earliest work he is prepared to acknowledge. It has no message (must a painting have a message?), but simply depicts raw human emotions—the reality of the inner mind. And, as has been pointed out elsewhere, it was painted before the horrors of the concentration camps were known publicly.

Bacon sees violence in the world, but also tenderness, as expressed in some of his portraits.

From London the exhibition will go to the Staatsgalerie, Stuttgart and then to the Nationalgalerie, Berlin.

Each year the Royal Academicians and their Associates have the daunting task of selecting the pictures to be shown at their Annual Summer Exhibition (until 25 August) at Burlington House, Piccadilly. This year more than fifteen thousand works were submitted, a twenty-five percent increase on 1984. With an intensive effort spread over three weeks, the Selection Committee managed to reduce the total—and these form the exhibition now on display.

As a general impression the exhibition seems more cheerful than in previous years, as a result perhaps of better hanging and display or because the general tone reflects the current move away from abstraction, especially among the younger artists.

Alice Schwab

## WALLENBERG'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND

The figure of Raoul Wallenberg the hero, the man who rescued tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews in Budapest and who was silenced by the Soviet occupiers—others he saved, himself he could not save—is well-known. Someone who can give a deeper picture is Kay Meyer, now living in London, who had been a friend of Raoul Wallenberg's since 1926.

Their first meeting was as schoolboys in Denmark, when a group of other Scandinavian children visited Kay's school and the two boys struck up a friendship. Later came a period when they drifted apart: Raoul was studying architecture in Chicago, then went to South America and about this time spent a period in the Haifa branch of his family's bank. He always acknowledged and was proud of the fact that he was one-eighth Jewish.

In 1943, Kay Meyer was transported with other Danish Jews to Sweden to escape the clutches of the Nazis. He regained contact with his Swedish friend and Wallenberg took him on as a partner in his export-import business, in which a Hungarian Jew was also active. It was about this time that the young Swede was asked to travel to Budapest as a go-between for the American State Department, Sweden and Hungary, a voyage from which he never returned.

## GERMAN COURT BALANCES ISSUES

Leni Riefenstahl, now age 82, has since the war brought at least fifty court actions against anyone alleging that she believed and believes in Nazism. Frau Riefenstahl was famous during the Hitler years for her direction of films like "Triumph of the Will" and "Olympiade", respectively celebrating a Nuremberg Party Rally and the 1936 Olympics.

Her latest action, brought before a Freiburg court, was an attempt to prevent a documentary film directed by Nina Gladitz, "Time of Darkness, Time of Silence", from putting forward allegations that she had exploited gypsies from the Austrian concentration camp of Maxglan in her film "Tiefeland". The court ruled that, while there was no firm evidence that she had forced the gypsies to work for her, Frau Riefenstahl had been unable to disprove the charge and that therefore Nina Gladitz's film could be shown. However, one important accusation must be deleted: that she had promised the gypsies immunity from deportation to a death camp if they appeared in "Tiefeland".

## IMPORTANT LONDON CONFERENCE

The Institute of Jewish Studies, University College, London, and the Oxford Institute for Post-Graduate Hebrew Studies joined in organising an important two-day conference held recently in London. Scholars from the USA and Israel discussed with their British colleagues the theme of "Assimilation and Community in European Jewry, 1815-1881". Most participants denied that Jewish emancipation must inevitably lead to full assimilation: but there was spirited debate on the structures of modern Jewry, whether they depended on the traditional forms of Judaism, or whether they represented a true alternative to tradition and auto-emancipation. The conference has been described as the most extensive ever held in Britain on the subject of modern Jewish history.

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## Wagner's Jewish Problem

Richard Wagner was not only one of the greatest 19th-century composers but also arguably the most controversial among the great masters, not only on account of the revolutionary innovations in his works but also because of his notorious personality defects. He did not facilitate his long but ultimately triumphant struggle for recognition by becoming one of the protagonists of modern antisemitism.

This fact has always been notorious but it has acquired an unexpected virulence through events which occurred half a century after the composer's death (in 1883), and for the extent of which he can hardly be held directly responsible.

The Wagner literature is immense. A book which concentrates on Wagner's antisemitism could easily yield to the temptations of sensational journalism engulfing the works themselves, librettos and music—examples exist! But a study which is published by the Leo Baeck Institute and whose author is a Professor of History at the Hebrew University (*Jacob Katz: Richard Wagner, Vorbote des Antisemitismus*, Jüdischer Verlag, Athenäum, Königstein/Taunus) may be expected to steer free of such risks. These expectations are not disappointed and it never departs from the very highest scholarly level.

The author charts the course of Wagner's attitude to the Jews from his early years to the end of his life and establishes the interesting fact that until 1850, when he first published his antisemitic essay "Judaism in Music" (in the "Neue Zeitschrift für Musik"), there is hardly any evidence of anti-Jewish utterances. Well versed in the history of German Jewry, Professor Katz points at the literary influences to which the composer may have been exposed.

He lists here Karl Marx's 1844 anti-Jewish treatise "Die Judenfrage". Wagner had taken part in the 1848 revolution and had subsequently been exiled from Germany for many years. It was at the beginning of his exile that he published his essay "Judaism in Music" under a pen-name.

### Against emancipation

Katz shows that Wagner's critical views on Jewish emancipation were not incompatible with those of other representatives of German "liberalism", such as proponents of the movement "Junges Deutschland", e.g. Gutzkow and Laube to whom Wagner felt close at the time. The problem under discussion was Jewish emancipation, which Wagner claims once to have favoured; its progress now began to provide antagonism for reasons which in all but name may be described as racial.

To what extent the piled-up resentment of Wagner's antisemitic turn in 1850 had its roots in his somewhat uneasy relations with Mendelssohn and his position as a protégé of Meyerbeer is debatable. Professor Katz suggests that Wagner objected violently to being regarded as a follower of Meyerbeer, whose works he had come to detest at this juncture.

This included a denial and negative evaluation

of what Meyerbeer had done for him personally. The comments about Mendelssohn are less vicious and not lacking in a certain degree of respect, but it is significant that, at this time, the fact of Mendelssohn's baptism made no difference, likewise in the case of Heine, although Börne is treated more mildly.

Wagner's first wife, Minna, wrote to him "...als Du mir jenen Aufsatz vorlesen wolltest, worin Du ganze Geschlechter verschmähest, die Dir doch im Grunde Liebes gethan"... This would indicate that her husband's anti-Jewish turn rather surprised her. It was different with Cosima, who fully shared each of his prejudices.

The essay was published under a pseudonym, although its author's name did not remain a secret for long. It generated a vicious circle. Whenever Wagner met with hostile criticism or with obstacles, he tended to ascribe this to Jewish influence and retaliation, and this caused a stiffening of his anti-Jewish obsession.

### Some of his friends...

Defenders of Wagner have often pointed to the fact that he did not object to having Jewish friends and collaborators, notably the pianist Karl Tausig, the writer Heinrich Porges and the conductor Hermann Levi, son of a rabbi. The neurotic young Russian-Jewish pianist, Joseph Rubinstein, who was possessed by Jewish self-hatred, became a member of Wagner's household and had to play the master's scores to him.

In 1869, the year in which Jewish emancipation in Germany was fully established, Wagner had his essay republished, this time under his full name. Further anti-Jewish writings of his appeared in the "Bayreuther Blätter" edited by the antisemitic Wolzogen, but admitting Jewish authors like Porges and Joseph Rubinstein. Even so, Wagner declined to give public support, when asked, to the new antisemitic movement and its discriminatory petitions to the Reichstag, possibly on account of Angelo Neumann, the Jewish impresario who was about to produce Wagner's works, including the "Ring".

The 1882 Bayreuth premiere of "Parsifal", for which King Ludwig II lent the Munich Royal orchestra on condition that it played under its conductor Hermann Levi, created new problems. For the first time, Wagner took refuge in religious scruples and, in a most offensive manner, tried to bring about Levi's baptism before the performance of this "Christian" sacred drama. Levi's refusal was eventually respected.

Professor Katz's stance modestly and rigidly excludes the musicological aspect. He thus makes no reference to the potency of Wagner's music which has held Jewish interpreters from Levi to Solti and Barenboim under its spell, including conductors like Mahler, Walter, Klemperer and others.

"And Hitler?" asked the late Deryck Cooke, who made the performing version of Mahler's unfinished Tenth Symphony. In his book on the "Ring" ("I saw The World End", 1979), he

answered: "We should bewail the fact Wagner, one of the greatest minds the world ever known, came eventually to be afflicted by a psychological disease of racialism, but we surely be more charitable to the creator of so profoundly human dramas *The Ring*, *Tristan*, *Mastersingers* and *Parsifal*, who was responsible for no one's death, than to the man who had million Jews murdered".

Professors Katz draws a different conclusion. He emphasises Wagner's non-involvement in antisemitic actions but states:

"Wagner's name became a central symbol of an anti-Jewish movement and later a banner of an extermination campaign... thus the judgement of history is in no way based on the hindsight of a historian but rather emerges from the true understanding of his words and deeds. Wagner sits in judgment over Wagner, and he can acquit himself".

As musicians and music lovers, and with regard to Wagner's works, we may well agree with Cooke. Yet as historians, we must accept Professor Katz's verdict.

### A SPECIAL RUBY WEDDING

This year Norman and Gina Turgel are returning to the place where their marriage was celebrated 40 years ago. But this is no ordinary sentimental journey to the past—for Gina Goldfarb Cracow was a Belsen inmate and Norman Turgel was one of the British soldiers who liberated the camp.

Gina's father, a woollen merchant, died during the war. She and the rest of her family were driven into Cracow Ghetto when the Nazis came. Her brothers were shot there. Then they were sent into Plaszow camp, where a sister was murdered. Two more brothers died in Poland before the mother and her remaining sister were sent to Auschwitz. The sister was killed in a "medical experiment". On one occasion, Gina and her mother found themselves in what she now believes to have been a gas chamber. For some reason, gas came through the vents and they were sent on a winter "death march" from Auschwitz to Belsen.

Norman and Gina met in the hospital collections of the camp and that the troops were stunned by what they saw that for two days did not even arrest the SS personnel but proud that he, a Jewish soldier, arrested their commandant Josef Kramer, later hanged for war crimes. Meeting Gina was a wonderful experience for him amid the dreadful sights, smells and sounds of Belsen concentration camp.

After a little mutual suspicion, the two people quickly fell in love and he proposed eight days after the Liberation. Gina's mother worried that this unknown British soldier might not be serious, but Rabbi Leslie Hardman, Jewish Army Chaplain in Belsen, was soon to reassure her. In October 1945, her daughter married to Norman Turgel in Lübeck, Saxony, by Mr. Hardman.

Like Mr. Hardman, who cannot but mention the burial services he conducted over thousands of corpses, some people find the return to the site of Belsen too painful a template. But the Turgels wish to render a fitting homage to the dead, to show how they and their mutual love have survived.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

**Sisters Painted**

I have just read the article by Alice Schwab "Renoir and Rosenthal" in your issue of April 1985. With regard to the Renoir portrait, of the three daughters of Count Louis Cahen d'Anvers (recently exhibited in Paris), the following information might be of interest to your

the art collector and publisher Charles Dendon who recommended Renoir to Count Louis Cahen d'Anvers first painted the oldest of the sisters, Yvonne, in 1880, when she was eight years old. In 1881, he then painted the double portrait of Yvonne (7) and Alice (5). The title of the painting, "Pink and Blue", is derived from their names: Yvonne wearing the blue dress. The painting was completed in the garden of the home in the rue Bassano in Paris.

Renoir then painted Albert Cahen d'Anvers, the younger brother, for which work he was paid five months late and less than half the count disliked the portrait. In a letter to Charles Dendon, Renoir expressed his dissatisfaction: "As for the 1,500 francs from the Cahens, I am not going to sue the Cahens". In fact, the work was retained by the family and is now in their home in Paris.

Yvonne and Alice, the sisters Cahen d'Anvers were killed during the Second World War, along with their mother, by the Germans in both world wars. Yvonne was born in 1872, married Count Moise de Forceville, and became the mother of Nissim, an aviator who, as a member of the French Air Force, was shot down in battle in 1917. A beautiful museum established by his father, in Paris, bears his name as a memorial.



His sister, Louise-Beatrice became Mme. Leon Reinach and had two children. The entire family was arrested by the Gestapo in 1942. Deported from Drancy, Mme. Reinach was murdered in Auschwitz in 1944.

Elisabeth Cahen d'Anvers married the Count de Forceville. During the Second World War, both she and her niece Colette's husband, Armand de Dampierre, were active in the French Underground. Mme. de Forceville was arrested, taken to

Drancy and then deported to Auschwitz, where she died in March 1944.

Irene survived the tragedies and died in 1963, at the age of 91. The third sister, Alice, married Major-General Sir Charles Townshend and died in 1957 at the age of 82. Robert Cahen d'Anvers, older brother of the three sisters, was the father of Yvonne (1899-1977) who became the wife of Anthony de Rothschild (1887-1961), a first cousin of Walter Lionel, second Lord Rothschild, and like him a great-grandson of Nathan Mayer Rothschild, first head of the English house.

Mrs. Townshend became the grandmother of Arnauld de Borchgrave, distinguished journalist and former senior editor of *Newsweek*, recently appointed chief editor of the *Washington Times* in our nation's capital.

During the years when most countries selected great paintings to be illustrated on their postage stamps, all three daughters of Count Louis Cahen d'Anvers appeared on stamps of Arab countries: Irene's portrait is shown on a stamp of the then Kathiri State of Seiyun (in the former Aden Protectorate) in 1967, as did the double portrait, which was also shown on a stamp of the Kingdom of Yemen during the same year. Mme. Elisabeth de Forceville thus joined the few Jewish victims of the Holocaust who have appeared on postage stamps. P.O. Box 7978 JOHN HENRY RICHTER Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107, USA

**DEAD SEA SCROLLS IN PARIS**

For the first time the Dead Scrolls have been shown in one of the world's capitals other than Jerusalem. They were displayed as part of a summer Paris exhibition entitled "From the Bible to our days: 3,000 years of art" which was opened in June by President Mitterand. Other exhibits included the first printed Hebrew map, dated 1631.

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# OBITUARIES

## HERBERT SULZBACH, OBE

With the death of Herbert Sulzbach, OBE, on July 5 at the age of 91, our community has lost one of its most colourful and best known personalities. His life for the past 40 years was centred on unrelenting efforts at Anglo-German and German-Jewish reconciliation. Both objectives called for devotion, courage and patience. Relying on his own experience as a German Jew who had found refuge in this country, he fought for his ideals to the end of his life. The last public manifestation of his credo was his obituary for his close friend, Terence Prittie, published in last month's issue of this journal. Both men worked from different angles for the same goals.

Herbert Sulzbach was born in Frankfurt/Main. His father, Emil Sulzbach, was a partner in the old established banking firm of Gebrueder Sulzbach and a munificent supporter of musical activities in his home town. When the First World War broke out, Herbert joined the forces as a volunteer; in 1916 he became a lieutenant and in 1918 he was awarded the Iron Cross 1st class. "It is a strange feeling to write about Armistice Day (he wrote in the Daily Telegraph on November 11, 1978), because in the meantime, 41 years ago, I had to flee my country for which I had fought with enthusiasm and faith".

Like many of his fellow refugees, he joined the British Army after the outbreak of the Second World War. This step was to have a lasting impact on him. With the rank of captain, he became education officer of German POW camps, first in

Comrie, where he had to face ardent, aggressive Nazis, and later at Featherstone Park, a camp for officers. The personal relationship with his former charges persisted after the war. It resulted in the foundation in 1960 of the Featherstone Park Association, which held annual meetings with well-known British and German speakers and of which Herbert Sulzbach was the Hon. President.



At the reception in the Federal German Embassy in honour of the 90th birthday of Herbert Sulzbach OBE, with Mr. Sulzbach on the right, the Ambassador Rüdiger von Wechmar and his wife in the centre, and Dr. Werner Rosenstock on the left.

Having been involved in two wars between Germany and Britain, first, as he would put it, under the Kaiser and then under the King, he was driven by the urge to work for a lasting Anglo-German understanding. Endowed with the gift of establishing personal contacts with people of various walks of life, he was on first-name terms with more English public figures than many other former refugees. Whenever happenings in post-war Germany threatened to blur the image of his country of origin, he would try to avert generalisations, which he considered as dangerous as generalisations levelled against the Jews. Sometimes it was felt that he went too far in his defence. On the other hand, he often raised his voice against antisemitic and neo-Nazi incidents in Germany.

## Stressed Jewish origin

By stressing his Jewish origin he gave special weight to his work for reconciliation. In one of the last conversations we had he expressed the view that, so far, insufficient attention had been paid to the fact that Jews had been among the first who tried to help in the reconstruction of Germany after the end of hostilities, mentioning as examples Victor Gollancz and Dr. Alfred Wiener. The dialogue between him and one of the leaders of the Featherstone Park Association, filmed last year and referred to in this issue, is a further case in point. His frequently appeared on British TV and radio, without deserting his Frankfurt accent, and was appreciated for his clarity and upright attitude.

He was associated with the German Embassy, which he joined with a British passport in 1951 and served it as cultural officer until his retirement in 1981 at the age of 87. On many occasions he acted as a personal link between the Embassy and the A.J.R. His activities did not cease on his retirement. Up to the end he conducted a wide-

spread correspondence and remained in pe contact with his numerous friends and acq ances. His work was recognised by the aw the Federal German Grand Cross of Merit and the appointment as OBE (1982); he w awarded the European Cross of Peace Association of French and German Veter World War II (1978).

When a reception was held at the G Embassy in honour of his 90th birthday, he his speech with the words: "Fate has been g me." Indeed, his was a full and worthwh and will be greatly missed by those who kne and experienced his personal loyalty.

WERNER ROSENSTOCK

## LOTTE LOWENTHAL

Dr. Lotte Lowenthal, who died suddenly age of 76 while on a visit to the continent, a wide circle of friends in this country and a She was born in Berlin and spent her for years in the German-Jewish youth movem student of economics, she obtained a Class doctorate. When the Nazis came to she emigrated to France, and from there country in 1938. Here she held position librarian, first with The Observer, later w Wiener Library and, at the end of her caree the Overseas Development Institute. Aft retirement, she devoted part of her spare t lonely or disabled persons, sometimes intr to her by the AJR Social Services Depart Free of false sentimentality, she did this wo matter of course, which made her vol services particularly valuable.

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### MISCHA SPOLIANSKY

Mischa Spoliansky, the film and theatre composer, died recently at the age of 86. Born in Russia into a musical family, he was educated in Germany where he settled with his family after the 1917 Revolution. Early in her career he wrote songs for Marlene Dietrich, who was a schoolfriend of his wife, and when the celebrated actress visited Britain she would often stay with the Spolianskys. Spoliansky wrote the music for several Max Reinhardt productions and by the late-twenties/early-thirties had become a prominent figure on the Berlin musical scene. With the advent of Nazism he came to Britain with his young family and settled here. He then wrote the scores for many British and American films, among them 'Sanders of the River', 'The Ghost Goes West', and 'King Solomon's Mines'.

### BARONESS HORNSBY-SMITH

Baroness Hornsby-Smith died recently at the age of 71. She interested herself in politics whilst still a schoolgirl and, as Patricia Hornsby-Smith, had a long and distinguished career in the House of Commons. She was created a DBE in 1963 and a life peer in 1974.

But it is her wartime activities in the Ministry of Economic Warfare that are of particular interest to us. The department's responsibilities included the support of underground activities in enemy territories and the Special Operations Executive (SOE). It had its own sources of intelligence and, as principal private secretary to the Minister, Lord Selborne, the early intimations of Nazi atrocities passed through her hands. In a memorable address to the 1979 anniversary meeting to commemorate the Warsaw Uprising she described most movingly the incredulity greeting the reports, which she herself had typed, of tyranny and wholesale murder. They were dismissed as unreliable or exaggerated, and it took time for the press to establish, and the public to accept, these stories of speakable horror. She concluded with a plea to all who believe in human rights, Jew and Gentile, black and white, to stand up united against tyranny whether of the left or of the right.

In her later years she was the tireless chairman of the appeal committee of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council for Research into which work she put all the resources of her charming and dynamic personality. C.T.M.

### WALTER FLIESS

Walter Fliess, founder of the famous Vega vegetarian restaurant, died recently at the age of 84 in Surrey. For him, his vegetarianism went with his socialism, and his first enterprise was set up by him and his wife Jenny in their Cologne flat to feed their socialist friends. This led to a small restaurant in the Beethoven Strasse, and then to a large one in the Hohe Strasse—this last in 1932. When Hitler seized power six months later, Fliess learned he was no. 17 on the Gestapo list, sent Jenny to England to join relatives and their daughter Sonia to Switzerland, and after hiding underground, Walter joined them at the end of 1933. In 1934 they opened their London Vega at the corner of Panton and Whitcomb Streets, and it became the best known vegetarian restaurant in town. Among their famous customers were Sir Michael and Lady Redgrave, and during the war, Sir Stafford Cripps, who would be served in the office to avoid attracting attention to himself. Fliess was one of those sent to Australia on the 'Dunera', from which he returned to the Vega. When it was bombed one morning, the staff cleaned up and still managed to serve lunch on time, with a sign saying: 'More Open than Usual!! After the war he served as economics officer, with the rank of Lt. Col., with the occupying forces in Wiesbaden. He and his wife Jenny wrote the frequently-reprinted Penguin 'Modern Vegetarian Cookery'.



*The Secret by Felix Nussbaum*

### FELIX NUSSBAUM A REDISCOVERED ARTIST

There has recently come into my hands a magnificent book "Felix Nussbaum, Leben und Werke" by Peter Junk and Wendelin Zimmer, published by Dumont Buchverlag Köln—Rasch Verlag Bramsche. Nussbaum, son of a prosperous metal merchant in Osnabrück, devoted himself to art from an early age. He was a good artist and won much acclaim, but representative of that generation of artists of the first half of the twentieth century which is now almost forgotten.

These artists did not follow the expressionism of their predecessors, but sought their own means of expression in the reality of their environment. The cultural policies of National Socialism hindered their real development and their own ideology was overcome by the burgeoning abstract movement of the post-war years. Nussbaum had taken refuge in Belgium, but he was deported and murdered in Auschwitz at the age of 40.

The book is profusely illustrated, not only with Nussbaum's own work, but with comparisons of

the work of contemporary artists with whom he was associated or who influenced him. In essence, the book is not only a history of Nussbaum, but of the whole artistic era in which he lived. The Kulturgeschichtliches Museum, Osnabrück possesses the most comprehensive collection of Nussbaum's surviving works. A.S.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### ILEA Pack

Sir,—Thank you for drawing the attention of your readers to the ILEA Holocaust Teaching Material in your June issue.

The material was in fact launched at the end of June at the National Film Theatre in the presence of the press, educationists and other guests from organisations across the London area.

The package, which was compiled by Shirley Murgraff, a London teacher, in conjunction with the ILEA Centre for Learning Resources, is aimed primarily at children from thirteen upwards and for teacher training.

It consists of three video films. The first is an excellent lecture by Clive Lawton at an ILEA Teachers Centre, explaining why and how the Holocaust should be taught. The second one, aimed at young teenagers, was made at the Auschwitz Exhibition which was held in the East End of London in 1983. The last one is of children asking questions of survivors, which are touchingly and simply answered by Rabbi Hugo Gryn, Marcia Segall and Ben Helfgott.

The rest of the material is in a folder containing pictures, copies of documents and a wealth of background notes. The thirty page booklet, "A Teachers' Guide to the Auschwitz Material", deals partly with the videos and accompanies them.

It is gratifying that ILEA will at last introduce this material as part of their anti-racist teaching policy and it is hoped that history and R.E. teachers will integrate it into their curricula.

The package is on sale to teachers and schools outside the ILEA area and readers with children or grandchildren at secondary schools may like to draw the attention of head teachers, teachers of history and R.E. to it. The material would also be of great value to religious schools and post-barmitzva classes.

The package is on sale at the Centre for Learning Resources, (4th Floor Order Department), 275, Kennington Lane, SE11 5QZ.

The price for the pack is £2.70; the teachers' booklet costs £2.00 and the video cassettes cost £25.00. ILEA schools and colleges can hire the cassettes for £5.00 per year.

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### HAMBURG'S FIRST FREEWOMAN

The first Freewoman of the City of Hamburg is the actress and theatrical director Ida Ehre, who in 1945 founded the Kammerspiele in Hamburg. Mrs. Ehre is now aged 88.

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## FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in this column are free of charge, but voluntary donations would be appreciated. Texts should reach us by the 10th of the preceding month.

## Birthdays

**Schweig:**—Dr. Bruno Schweig, of 18 West Heath Drive, London N.W.11, will celebrate his 95th birthday on 19 August. An outstanding expert on the production of mirrors, he acted as a research worker and consultant in this field throughout his professional life and, among other publications, wrote a book on the subject which appeared when he was already 81 years old. He still undertakes frequent journeys abroad and, when at home, is a widely interested host to his numerous friends. They wish him undiminished health and vigour for many years to come.

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## Engagement

**Strauss/Ragol-Levy:** "My beloved is mine and I am his". Edwin, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Strauss to Sally Rebecca, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Ragol-Levy.

## Deaths

**Berger:**—Edith Helen Berger of Whitefield, Manchester, beloved daughter of Eva and Herbert Maass of Didsbury, Manchester (formerly Berlin) died suddenly on 1 July 1985. Deeply mourned by them, her husband Martin and their children, her sister Joan, relatives and numerous friends.

**Demant:**—Dr. Moritz Demant passed away on 11 June, shortly before his 85th birthday. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

**Hochfeld:**—Elsie Hochfeld (née Hahlo), born 6 April 1903 in Oldenburg i.O., died on 9 June 1985 after a short illness, having devoted her life to the love and care of her family, friends and many strangers. She was loved by all who were in contact with her and is sadly missed, especially by her son Wilfred Hockfield, her daughter Ruth Krook and by me, Herbert Hochfeld. Any donations in her memory to the Marie Curie Memorial Fund, please.

**Joseph:**—Keith Joseph, on Wednesday 12 June, aged 73 years, after eighteen weeks of suffering in hospital. Sadly missed by his wife Edith, daughter Marion, son-in-law Stephen, grand-daughter Nicola, relatives and friends. May his dear soul rest in peace.

**Ruder:**—Izak Ruder passed away peacefully on 14 May. Deeply mourned by his wife Alice, his brother Simon and his family in Cleveland, Ohio, USA.

## CLASSIFIED

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**CHARLOTTENSTRASSE — BERLIN.** Does anyone remember a jewellers shop in this street about the turn of the century? Researchers into family tree would be helped if I could trace the name of this shop. Please contact Hiller, 5 Broughton Gardens, Shepherds Hill, London N6 5RS.

**LANG.** Any information on my grandparents Max Rudolf Lang and

Jenny (née Oppenheimer), Berlin who committed suicide 1940 London, please write to Michel Lang, Sigmaringenstrasse 26, W Berlin 31.

**NAUMANN.** Gesucht werden Nachfahren/Freunde von Franz Naumann, geb. Joel, frühere Labischin. Box 1069.

## DOSIO KOFFLER

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**The Situation of Jewish Dentists in the Reich** is the title of the thesis I am writing for my doctorate. I am anxious to contact dentists, oral surgeons and oral hygienists who have experience of those dentists, or their relatives who emigrated from Germany, as well as libraries and archives with material on the subject. Dr. Wilhelm Depmer, Bachstrasse 133, D-2000 Hamburg 76, West Germany.

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**LOOKING FOR DESCENDENTS OF AND INFORMATION ABOUT Alexanders** (surname) from Lobsens. Alexanders include Jakob Alexander (1811-1893), his wife and their daughter Jenny (1837-1902). Jenny married Joseph Hermann and died in Berlin. Please contact: Dr Peter Stern Bucky, 5 Zion Road, Apt. 2002, Fort Lee, NJ 07024, USA (201-869-6422).

**Ich bin ein junger Historiker**, 29 Jahre alt. Ich habe meine Doktorarbeit über das Schicksal der Juden im nördlichen Regierungsbezirk Minden während der Nazi-Zeit geschrieben. Um das Thema wirklich angemessen bearbeiten zu können, möchte ich mit allen jüdischen Menschen sprechen, die jene Zeit in den Kreisen Wiedenbrück, Halle, Bielefeld, Herford, Minden und Lübbecke gelebt haben. Die Gespräche sind für mich sehr wichtig. Ich bitte Sie herzlich, mir zu schreiben.  
**Joachim Maynert, Raiffeisenstrasse 2, 4970 Bad Oeynhausen 9, West Germany.**

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# THEATRE AND CULTURE

**Centenaries.** This year, being the jubilee year for Handel, Bach and Scarlatti, may have pushed the celebrations for masters of operetta and musical somewhat into the background. Nevertheless, composers in the field of light music have also made their mark: such an example is *Jerome Kern* who was born 100 years ago. His many popular works include "Music in the Air", "Roberta" and "Showboat". In Germany, 1885-born *Eduard Künnecke* is remembered for his operetta "Glückliche Reise" but, above all, for "Der Vetter aus Dingsda" from which the song "Ich bin nur ein armer Wandergesell" has become an international evergreen, recorded by Richard Tauber and still frequently heard.

**Israeli Theatre on Tour.** The Municipal Theatre, Haifa, took two plays on an extended tour of Germany, and visited Cologne, Wiesbaden, Stuttgart, Duesseldorf and Frankfurt. The plays were "Ghetto" (reviewed in this column in our June 1985 issue) and "Weiningers Nacht" (both by Joshua Sobol.) The latter play deals with events leading to the suicide of Otto Weininger in 1903 when he could not come to terms with his Jewishness. He was a mere 24 years old, unable to cope with the dilemma. Critics called the play a mirror of the early part of this century, the Vienna of Herzl and Lueger; audiences were enthralled, saddened and shocked.

**"Väter und Söhne".** A new television film of that name is being produced on location at the Starnbergersee in Bavaria. It tells the story of the chemical concern I. G. Farben before and during the Nazi regime in Germany. The rôle of a Jewish banker who played a big part in financing the firm

and was to meet his fate under the new rulers has been given to *Martin Benrath*, a versatile actor who, as a pillar of strength at the Duesseldorf Schauspielhaus, has attained great prominence.

**Birthdays.** The Austrian Theatre Museum is preparing an exhibition, dedicated to the great dancer and choreographer *Rosalie Chladek* on the occasion of her 80th birthday. She was born in Brno and was a teacher at the Vienna Music Academy from 1952 to 1970. Bulgarian-born author *Elias Canetti*, also 80, was given honorary citizenship by the city of Vienna. *Sir Peter Pears*, the tenor, who was instrumental in bringing the Aldeburgh Festival into the limelight and popularized Benjamin Britten's music, celebrated his 75th birthday. *Jean Anouilh*, the prolific French dramatist, is also 75 years old. *Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau*, the German baritone whose appearances in Britain have always been welcome and culminated in his singing at the inauguration of the new Coventry Cathedral in 1962, is 60. S. B.

lift the spirits of the dying and the survivors with music hall routines and old jokes. (There is historical basis for such a troupe.) The grotesque contrasts inherent in the situation are brilliantly expressed in the design of the sets and the atmospheric evocation of a ruined, decaying, anarchic world.

But Barnes's text will not sustain the long hours and his conventional, fashionably radical message ('every joke should be a revolution') has no bones of human insight or drama. Anthony Sher brings vitality to the role of the itinerant priest, and there is fun from the stammering comic, the two one-legged brothers who dance and a blind juggler. However, the one powerful and convincing character is the Avignon Pope, Clement VI, a ruthless, eloquent, machiavellian and stalinoid figure who dominates the stage none other does, almost as though that was what the author's feelings were truly engaged. After the plague subsides the Pope has the troupe killed, which is a mechanical way of ending the play. It is as if the author, in a kind of ideological despair, had chucked the whole world out with its evil. M

## MECKAUER PRIZE TO WRITERS LIBRARY

The Walter Meckauer Medallion has been awarded this year to the Exile Literature Archive of the Deutsche Bibliothek in Frankfurt/M. The Archive, which for the last 35 years has been collecting all material relating to the German language writers driven abroad by the Nazis, was founded by Werner Berthold, and since his retirement, is headed by Brita Eckert. The previous winners of the award were the German Judaica Library of Cologne, and the N.Y. 'wee 'Aufbau'.

## PLAGUE ON ALL HOUSES

*Red Noses* by Peter Barnes. Directed by Terry Hands. Designed by Farrah. Music by Stephen Deutsch. Royal Shakespeare Company in repertory at the Barbican.

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