

AJR INFORMATION

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TAKING NEW PATHS

Lively AGM Looks Forward

Nothing, it seems, can keep them away. The day had been miserably rainy and the wet had soaked into the evening. But come they did, and filled the Hannah Karminski hall. The well-known speaker's subject was original and promising, and the promise was fulfilled.

The Chairman, Mr. C. T. Marx, opened the proceedings by reminding the audience that last year's theme had been a report on the future of the AJR, and that the forward-looking impetus would dominate the meeting and carry on into the coming year.

The Homes were working well, but needed new facilities. The AJR was in the process of becoming more of a social welfare organisation and was reaching out to the needy, uprooted and lonely in the community. The AJR had been computerised.

The Executive Committee has set up two working parties of new, younger members. One is studying the establishment of a Day Centre.

AJR Information, he continued, pursued its function of binding the community together and maintaining communication between members. The Self Aid Concert had been a complete sell-out last year and it could happen again this year.

The Wiener Library Endowment Appeal had been supported and promoted by the AJR with excellent results.

Mr. Marx then called on Mr. Ludwig Spiro, the Hon. Treasurer, to present his report.

Discussing the balance sheet and accounts to 31 December 1984, Mr. Spiro said that there were no major changes compared to 1983. The year showed a gain of £293, compared to £436 in 1983. There had been greater expenditure and there had been staff increases, though there had been a marked reduction in the cost of producing *AJR Information*, the cumulative benefit from the change of printers back in 1983.

The income from members' contributions including covenants, had risen from £64,755 in



Peter Oppenheimer

1982 to £67,309 in 1983, and to £72,483 in 1984. Our costs had risen from £102,566 in 1983 to £116,677 in 1984. The subvention by the Charitable Trust had risen from £49,450 in 1982 to £57,450 in 1983 and to £61,960 in 1984.

The membership figures are encouraging. Though we lost 178 members in 1984, we gained 247 new ones, and if we take the 17 months to May 1985, there is a net gain of 89.

The computer gives us much better information and tells us in which direction we should expend our efforts. We are also using a sticker on our

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AJR HONOURS TWO MEMBERS

It was announced at the annual general meeting that on the occasion of their retirement from the executive committee after many years of distinguished service Dr. F. E. Falk and Mr. C. F. Flesch have been appointed honorary Vice Presidents of the Association.

Frank Falk has been a member of the executive committee since 1952, a record period of service not likely to be equalled. An accountant, he was the Honorary Treasurer of the Association for many years, placing his professional talents at the disposal not only of the Association as a whole, but also of members individually. His advice on matters of restitution and compensation has always been, and continues to be, widely sought. For the last seven years he was Vice Chairman of the Association.

Carl Flesch, whose seventy-fifth birthday was recorded in our last issue, has always interested himself particularly in the activities of Self Aid of Refugees, of which he was chairman for some years. From their very inception he took a major part in the organization of the Self Aid concerts which have grown into the most important annual event in the refugee social calendar whose proceeds make a helpful contribution to our welfare funds. To this he brought a deep love of music, extensive personal contacts with musicians, and a wide knowledge of organizing musical functions. In his professional life of an insurance broker he has, like Dr. Falk, been an invaluable adviser both to the Association and individual members.

It is our hope that both our new honorary vice presidents will continue to take an active interest in our affairs and partake in our functions for many years to come, as Mr. Alfred Dresel, our honorary president, still avidly follows all our doings.

Our honorary member, Dr. Werner Rosenstock, surely known either personally, or at least by name, to every member also now retires from the executive committee but we can be sure that our Association will ever remain an inalienable part of his life.

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reminders saying: *Kindly note that we must aim at a minimum contribution of £15 per annum.*

Mr. Spiro then reported on our activities, including the Trust and Self Aid. The social service department helped with domestics in 142 cases, and has on its register 123 helpers. The Self Aid Concert is scheduled for 10 November and will have the celebrated Cohen Trio performing. 137 persons visited the office seeking employment, but only a third of these could be helped in the current economic circumstances.

The AJR club is thriving under its new chairman, Mrs. Lotte Saenger, while the president remains the active and indefatigable Mrs. Margaret Jacoby, who is now 103! Meals-on-wheels carries on under Mrs. Anderman, as does the Luncheon Club at Hannah Karminski House. The new Luncheon Club at Eleanor Rathbone House is used by 25 of the 54 residents.

In the Homes Department there has been a major change with the retirement of Mrs. Margot Williams, who looked after it with such vigour, devotion and success. It has been taken over by Mrs. Ruth Finestone without a hitch to impede its continued smooth operation. There is a waiting list of 326 unprocessed applicants and 136 have been processed and are waiting—a total waiting list of 462.

In 1984 there were 45 admissions, and 18 in 1985. Builders have just started extensions to Heinrich Stahl and Osmond Houses which will provide 25 additional beds for the former and 16 new rooms for the seriously handicapped in the latter; this is being done with help from the Housing Corporation. Life expectancy in the Homes is greater than for people living alone.

The AJR has taken an active part in the Wiener Library Endowment Appeal, through *AJR Information* and a letter campaign. Much of the credit for the success of the appeal must go to our member Mr. Victor Ross, formerly of Reader's Digest, whose remarkable skills made it work.

Among the changes he had mentioned the retirement of Mrs. Williams, and of Mrs. Oettinger, whose careful nursing of the membership list had been a hard act to follow. The Chairman had referred to the retirement at 75 rule for Executive members. It was important for the AJR to go on for at least another 15 years to care for those in need.

Thus the two new social workers, Mr. Wolf and Mrs. Evans are surveying the field in North London, finding the hundreds in need waiting to be discovered. There have already been 126 visits, and that is only the tip of the iceberg.

We tell them how to help themselves by using the welfare system, or assist them with visits to the doctor or dentist, or to seek out the Citizens Advice Bureau. Mrs. Matus has moved from social work to recruiting and organising volunteers, and there are now over 60 active volunteers, in the field and visiting the Homes, giving the social contact needed by the old and lonely.

We have an AJR subcommittee on forward planning which is staffed by younger members and children of members. Led by Richard Tait, they are making good progress with the Day Centre project. Premises are now being sought, they have attracted potential donors and finance, and we know that there are at least 500 people to use it.

The new DHSS regulations reducing the subventions in the Homes may require a further

£140 per resident, he said, speaking as CBF Allocations Committee Chairman.

He then told the remarkable story which is the first item on page 3 of this issue, and held it up as an example, and emphasised the value of legacies. Mr. Spiro concluded with a tribute to the energy and drive of the Administrator, Mrs. Lydia Lassman, who had put great effort into forging an effective team for the AJR.

The Chairman, Mr. Marx, then thanked Mr. Spiro for the enormous amount of time and effort he had put into the Association.

The accounts were then adopted. Dr. Falk, the Vice Chairman proposed Mr. Marx for Chairman, and he was duly re-elected.

Mr. Marx then announced the retirement from the Executive under the 75 age rule of Dr. Falk, Mr. Flesch and Dr. Rosenstock (see page 1).

Mr. Spiro was re-elected Hon. Treasurer, and the re-elected Executive comprised Ruth Anderman, O. E. Franklyn, Katia Gould, Max Kochmann, Arnold Horwell, H. Rothenberg and Dr. Lore Stein.

Mrs. Lassman made a special point of expressing thanks for Mr. Spiro's selfless and consistent help on a daily basis.

Speaker's spell

The Chairman then introduced the evening's speaker, Peter Oppenheimer: Oxford economics don, frequent radio and television commentator, and now on a two-year secondment from academic life as Chief Economist to the Shell Group involved with forward planning. Mr. Marx took special pleasure in welcoming such a distinguished representative of the second generation, born in Britain and an outstanding example of the community's integration in the country. His choice of subject would reflect our growing interest in the wider world.

Mr. Oppenheimer began with a gracious allusion to the ambiance of the meeting and his growing up in Ilfracombe, in Devon, wondering what went on in the grown-ups' Pioneer Corps, in which his father had served: now he knew...

He then turned to the subject of his talk, 'Choosing the Future: Planning Techniques in a Large Corporation'. His object was to give us an insight into how a vast corporation like Shell goes about choosing alternative pathways into the future. But first he said a word about the Jewish background of Shell, which had been founded in 1833 as a small shop in the East End by Marcus Samuel, who imported decorative seashells from the Far East. By the mid-eighteen-eighties his sons Marcus and Samuel Samuel were selling kerosene in the Far East, in 1890 bought their first tanker, and in 1907 merged with Royal Dutch Shell.

It is still a partnership of two companies (with Shell transport holding 40% and Royal Dutch 60%) run by a committee of eight, four from each side, making decisions by unanimity. These decisions involve enormous investments and have to be made in very long-term strategic terms.

To help them make informed and effective decisions, and to convey them to their many subsidiary operating companies all over the world, the Shell Group has a think-tank and that is where Mr. Oppenheimer is working as Chief Economist. At the moment, the oil industry is marking time since it has ceased to be a growth industry, because total world demand for oil in WOCA (the world outside the communist areas) is 15% below its

peak in 1980—then it was 52 million barrels a day, and it is now 46 million.

In these circumstances, it is the function of Mr. Oppenheimer's planning group to produce scenarios of future development, alternate possible roads to the future. They have to foresee, to the best of their abilities, first, how the world will develop in the next twenty, or even fifty years, and secondly, how the position of their own company will develop.

He emphasised that these were not *forecasts*, which every intelligent businessman makes, but *scenarios*, descriptions of what could happen, with the *quality* of change more important than (but also of course including) quantitative changes in supply and demand. The world is uncertain, but not everything is uncertain: one can be sure that the population will increase, and that there will be technological advance, for example.

The point about scenarios is that there will always be more than one, and they like to keep it to two because if there are three, the executive will invariably choose the middle one—and it becomes a forecast!

The whole point is to keep the decision-makers' minds open to the differing possibilities, so that when the challenge of change faces them, they can react in the best-informed and most flexible manner. It is a *frame of mind* the scenario-makers want to create. They want to set the terms of reference for coping with change.

The scenarists take various factors into account: specific facts such as the OPEC drop in oil production from 31.7 million barrels per day in 1980 to 16 million in 1985. And the more general factors such as the shift in economic growth from the 'old' industrialised countries to the newly industrialised countries (NICs) in the Pacific (Japan, Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong); the world debt issue threatening Latin America, which undermines the world banking system; the slow growth of the European economies because of labour rigidity in adjusting to new technology and artificially inflated wages (3 to 4% rises in Europe compared to under 1% in the U.S., which nevertheless has a serious deficit problem despite its excellent growth).

The prospects, as foreseen in some scenarios, are of a very competitive energy market, with no likelihood of the energy shortage so recently predicted by gloomy, ill-informed prophets. In one scenario for the year 2050—yes, they think that far ahead—there will be at least as much oil and gas as there is now, they will be more processed than now and will come from more expensive sources (tar-sands, etc.), conventional fuels will be processed in unconventional ways, and there will be intense competition in fuels and prices. Mr. Oppenheimer assured us that our children and our grandchildren will be cosy and warm.

Mr. Frank Odell, member of the AJR Executive Committee, thanked Mr. Oppenheimer for a witty and incisive talk full of fascinating insights and information, reminding him how the name is linked to distinction in atomic physics (Robert), painting (Max and Moritz) the diamond industry (Sirs Ernest and Harry), medicine/economics, (Dr. Franz) and many others—so that he was pleased to recall that he had been an Oppenheimer once too!

The Chairman, Mr. Marx, closed the proceedings with renewed thanks to the speaker and to the staff and the honorary officers who served the AJR.

HOME NEWS

MUNIFICENT GIFT

The AJR Charitable Trust has received a most munificent gift from an anonymous donor, "a member of one of the families involved in the opposition to Hitler before and during the war, many of whom were executed"; she is now 90. The donation was of jewellery which was auctioned at Christie's and realised a sum of over £90,000.

The lady, who lives in Germany, had originally approached the Dean of Canterbury, The Very Reverend Victor de Waal. He consulted Mr William W. Simpson OBE, Honorary Vice-President of The International Council of Christians and Jews, who suggested the AJR as a beneficiary, since the donor wanted the proceeds to go to help surviving Jewish refugees, particularly from Germany and Austria.

The Trustees of the AJR Charitable Trust have expressed their heartfelt thanks for this most generous gift to the anonymous donor, and to the Dean of Canterbury and Mr. Simpson.

ORT TRAINS ROBOTICISTS

Some three years ago the experience of Lord Young as President of British ORT, coupled with his position as head of the Manpower Services Commission, led to the establishment of a centre for robotics training. Sited in part of Westfield College and another Finchley Road building, the school provides robotic literacy to industrialists, school-teachers and college tutors.

Funds for this enterprise come jointly from ORT and the MSC, whilst the teachers' training course is financed by the Harry & Abe Sherman Foundation and the Charles Wolfson Trust. ORT's technical department in London is directed by an Israeli, Dan Sharon.

Today's robots are scarcely the android figures of science fiction, but are rather computer-controlled automatic tools and instruments. The original idea for them came from an Englishman, but as in other cases it was an American who developed the idea into reality. But the ORT/MS venture hopes to put robotics into British sixth-form teaching and to open further training centres around the country.

AWARD FOR MR. JANNER

Greville Janner, MP, outgoing President of the Board of Deputies, has been honoured for his services to Christian-Jewish relations by receiving the Sir Sigmund Sternberg award for 1985. Mr. Janner intends to present the £1,000 prize to the Janner Kibbutz in Galilee, named after his late father.

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HISTORIC ARCHIVE FIND

A thrilling find for the historian Martin Gilbert came after he had asked the Royal Archives about dates of Edward VII's visit to Jerusalem as Prince of Wales. In response he received not just a simple date but information on the whereabouts and availability of the diary of the visit, which took place in 1862. The archive also uncovered letters and diaries connected with King George V's journey to the city—which also took place before his accession, in 1882. Photographs were found at both Windsor and Sandringham which have been used to illustrate Mr Gilbert's recently-published "Jerusalem: rebirth of a city".

RELIEF WORKERS' REUNION

The first civilian Jewish relief worker to enter Bergen-Belsen after the camp's liberation, Jane Levy, arranged a reunion lunch in May for her former colleagues. Also present was Mrs Kitty Hart, an Auschwitz survivor who met Mrs. Levy while working as an interpreter for Displaced Persons. Mrs. Levy, the wife of Sydney Levy of St. John's Wood, afterwards went with her guests to the Belsen reunion arranged by Rabbi Isaac Levy, former chaplain in BAOR who was present in the camp immediately after it had been liberated by British forces.

PROTEST AT "CAMP" SHIRTS

A shop in Exeter evoked a protest from the city's small Jewish community when it displayed shirts imitating concentration camp uniform, down to various coloured triangles and the Yellow Star. The shop manager refused to consider taking these offensive goods off sale. Later the shop window was broken by persons unknown. Similar shirts have been found to be on sale in London.

Eventually, the owner of both shops expressed regret that what had been intended as an anti-Nazi statement had been misconstrued. The shirts are no longer on sale.

Though the Exeter community is small indeed, it retains its Synagogue—dating from 1764—and burial ground.

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A CENTURY OF SHELTERING

For one hundred years the Jews' Temporary Shelter, founded by Hermann Landau in 1885, has been welcoming incoming Jews, protecting them from exploitation and giving them a short period of security before they go on their way. Only those able to pay are charged anything for these services. In the early years, the Shelter, backed by wealthy British Jews, dealt mainly with the refugees from Eastern Europe, providing Yiddish speakers to negotiate with prospective employers to avoid any cheating of the helpless immigrants. Sometimes JTS employees had to fend off Christian missionaries who had learned Yiddish in order to lure Eastern Jews away from their co-religionists.

Between the World Wars the Jews' Temporary Shelter often welcomed refugees from Nazism and in later years Hungarian Jews after the Revolution of 1956 or Czechs after the Prague Spring of 1968, right up to today's Middle Eastern immigrants and transmigrants. The Shelter, now established in Willesden (earlier, of course, it was sited near the London Docks), does not cater only for refugees—it will accept any Jew in genuine need and often takes in people in difficulty who have been recommended by Jewish charities. Generous donations and bequests, coupled with wise investment, mean that it no longer has to appeal to the public for funds. By means of a Day Centre, it also extends its lifeline to the household of the Willesden neighbourhood.

45 AID SOCIETY AND THE FALASHAS

At the annual dinner and ball of the 45 Aid Society, the chairman Ben Helfgott announced that the Society would help in the rehabilitation of Ethiopians in Israel. He pointed out that the members of the 45 Aid Society were also famished when they arrived in Britain as survivors of the death camps who had been helped to emigrate by the Central British Fund.

EMERGENCY CALL BROUGHT TRAGIC END

Berlin-born Dr Eva Glickman, aged 54, died tragically when answering an emergency call. On arrival at the scene, she found a woman dead of head injuries and she herself was then attacked with a hammer, sustaining injuries from which she shortly afterwards died. A man suffering from a drug overdose was questioned by police. Dr Glickman came as a pre-war refugee to this country with her mother. After studying medicine, she practised as a doctor in Leytonstone.

SNOOKER HELPS JBS

Dennis Taylor, the new world snooker champion, made his first public appearance after his sensational World Championship victory over Steve Davis at a tournament organised by the Jewish Blind Society. Other top names involved were Ray Reardon and Jimmy White. The event raised £10,000 for the JBS.

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Poet of the Hidden Truth

H. G. Adler is 75

"When I was transported, together with my wife, to Theresienstadt at the beginning of February, 1942, I suffered the typical *Einlieferungsschock* and lost all confidence in myself," wrote Professor H. G. Adler, who completed his 75th year on July 2nd. "It took about six weeks to get over it, and I perceived my future task in two forms: 'If you survive all this, which is doubtful,' I told myself, 'you will bear witness to your experiences, not as a personal account of what happened to you, but scientifically. But you will also recreate your experiences in artistic form—starting now!' By this twofold resolution, I think I managed to survive 32 months at Theresienstadt and a further six months in other concentration camps physically and, above all, morally. My scientific work and my poetry, based on perception and understanding, have helped me to save myself."

Here we have our friend H. G. Adler in the round: a poet who overcame the terror of years of KZ life—after Theresienstadt, Buchenwald, Auschwitz, Langenstein-Zwieberge—and created a wealth of poetic and scientific works.

His most important books in the latter category are of permanent historical, sociological and psychological value for all who write about that period of organized mass murder in the midst of modern Europe, and who try to understand and explain it. One of Professor Adler's book titles sums it all up: *Die verheimlichte Wahrheit*, the truth which the gaolers and executioners as well as their masters tried to hide from their own compatriots and the world.

Regarded as the most important of Adler's works is *Der verwaltete Mensch*, a unique study of human beings deprived of their basic right of freedom by a soulless, barbaric administrative machinery. Apart from this and his other scientific books, Adler's poetry volumes, essays and stories are of outstanding quality and fascinate the reader. His own favourites, however, are his two novels, *Eine Reise* and *Panorama*.

He was born in Prague, where he obtained his Dr.phil. in 1935, and where he returned after the liberation of the KZ survivors. In 1947 he and his wife, who is an accomplished sculptor, moved to London. He has received many prizes and medals,



H. G. Adler

the West Berlin Pedagogical Academy made him an honorary Doctor, and Austria's Federal President bestowed on him the title Professor. On his 75th birthday he was awarded the *Grosses Verdienstkreuz* of the German Federal Republic, as well as the Austrian *Ehrenkreuz für Wissenschaft und Kunst*.

In 1973, the PEN Centre of German-speaking Writers Abroad elected him President, thus enriching the prestige of this international association of exiled German authors. After working for 12 years at this post he had to resign recently for health reasons; but all of us who are grateful for H. G. Adler's achievements sincerely hope that he still has many fruitful years before him. E. L.

C. C. ARONSFELD 75

Caesar Aronsfeld's 75th birthday which he will celebrate on July 15, will be his first free of day-to-day duties after more than four decades of constructive work for the benefit of the Jewish community. He started his career as Assistant Director of the Wiener Library when it was transferred from Holland to this country in 1939. He thus had a decisive part in building up this highly essential institute.

His activities also included the editorship of the "Wiener Library Bulletin". In 1966 he joined the Institute of Jewish Affairs and became editor of two important periodicals published under its auspices, "Patterns of Prejudice", a quarterly, and "Christian-Jewish Relations", which appears three times a year. Both journals excel by their high level and also testify to the widespread knowledge of Caesar Aronsfeld. As Senior Research Worker he also wrote a number of papers on vital current problems, including an assessment of the Holocaust. After 19 years of service he retired on June 30.

These few biographical data can only indicate a section of his achievements. As an accomplished journalist he has a wide range of articles to his credit, quite a few of which appeared in this journal. Biographical evaluations, historical data about the immigration of German Jews in the past century, and personal reminiscences are among his favourite themes. He is also an untiring writer of "Letters to the Editor" to the "Jewish Chronicle" and other papers; there he always displays the courage of his convictions, which sometimes run

against current trends. For some years he also helped in the preparation of "AJR Information" and took charge of its "Anglo-Judaica" column. Thus we have added reason to extend our sincerest birthday greetings to him. We wish him happiness in his retirement, which, we are sure, will be marked by continued devotion to tasks near to his heart. W. R.

GERMAN PRESIDENT'S REFLECTIONS

A special session of the Bonn Parliament commemorating the 40th anniversary of the end of the war in Europe was addressed by President Richard Weizsäcker. After calling his hearers to remember the dead and in particular the six million Jews who died in the concentration camps, the President referred to Hitler's "abysmal hatred" of Jews and his conversion of the whole people into the tool of that hatred. He went on:

"There is hardly a nation whose history is free of guilty involvement in war and violence. Yet the murder of the Jewish people is unparalleled throughout history. . . . Every German could have shared what their Jewish fellow-citizens had to suffer, from cold indifference to rooted intolerance and on to open hatred. Who could have been easy in their mind after the burning of synagogues, the plundering, the stigma of the Jewish star, the abrogation of rights, the incessant violation of human dignity? . . ."

"But in truth the crime was supported by all too many—including my own generation, young, not interested in future plans or the unrolling of events—who tried *not* to comprehend what was happening. . . ."

"There is no such thing as guilt or innocence of a whole people. Guilt, like innocence, is individual, not collective. Anyone who lived consciously through that time must silently consider their own involvement. By far the majority of our population were at that time children or not even born. . . . But their forebears have left them a heavy inheritance.

"All of us, guilty or not, young or old, must accept the past. . . . Young and old can and must help each other to understand why it is vitally important to keep this memory alert. It is not a question of overcoming the past: in any case, that is impossible. . . . But whoever closes his eyes to the past is blind to the present . . . becomes susceptible to new infection. The Jewish people remember and will always remember. We seek reconciliation . . ."

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ROYAL PROMISE FULFILLED

Among the many anniversaries of 1985, it may be remembered that this year marks the tercentenary of the death of Charles II. Of all English kings, Charles and Richard III must surely give rise to the most conflicting opinions. But on one point there can be no doubt: in an age when religious warfare was more than just a memory, Charles II was one of the most tolerant of monarchs. Cromwell had allowed Jews back into England but at the Restoration of 1660 they still had no formal permission to live in the country. Merchants of the day regarded them with rigid antisemitism and the King might have been expected to cancel rather than ratify the decision of his predecessor in government.

After an attempt by a nobleman to extort money from the Jewish community in return for an approach by him to Charles, the Jewish leaders went to the monarch themselves. In her "King Charles II", the historian Antonia Fraser quotes a letter giving the result of this bold act. Rabbi Jacob Sasportas wrote: "... we are free to practice our own true religion ... Two nobles ... approached us purporting to have been given authority over our persona and property ... We appraised the King, who chucked and spat at the business; and a written statement was issued from him, duly signed, affirming that no untoward measures had been or would be initiated against us, and that [the Jews] should not look to any protector other than His Majesty: during the continuance of whose lifetime they need feel no trepidation because of any sect that might oppose them ...".

In this way, Charles was fulfilling a promise he had made to Amsterdam Jews in the days of his exile. In return for a loan by them, he had said, "When God shall restore us ... we shall extend that protection to them which they can reasonably expect and abate that rigour of the law which is against them in our several dominions ...". In 1664, Jews trading in England were granted formal permission by Order in Council to live in this country. In many cases they were endenizenated (or quasi-naturalised), so that "in good King Charles's golden days" the Anglo-Jewish community flourished as never before.

FRANKFURT SCHOOL ARCHIVES

The Frankfurt School of Critical Theory is to be remembered by the Hamburg Foundation for the Promotion of Science and Art when it establishes a Theodor W. Adorno Archive later this year. The documents will be kept in Frankfurt, together with the papers of Rolf Tiedemann, Max Horkheimer, Friedrich Pollock and Herbert Marcuse, all held by the Frankfurt University Library. It is expected that the Leo Löwenthal Archive will also be housed in the city.

HONOUR FOR SPRINGER

Axel Springer, the West German publisher, has received the gold medal of Israeli newspaper publishers. Prime Minister Shimon Peres ranked Herr Springer as second only to Konrad Adenauer in promoting good relations between West Germany and Israel.

COLOGNE CITIZENS SOUGHT

Eyewitnesses of Jewish life in Cologne, particularly those who remember Jewish schools and institutes, are sought by Irene Corbach, Hochwinkel 79, D-5000 Köln 80, West Germany.

WIDE RESPONSE TO BERLIN SHOW

In May, the Exhibition "Persecution and Resistance in the Tiergarten District", first shown in the Tiergarten Town Hall and reported in our March issue, was displayed with many additional items in the Jewish Communal Centre in the Fasanenstrasse. At the opening meeting on May 2, the 40th anniversary of the capitulation of Berlin, addresses were delivered by the chairman of the Community, Heinz Galinski, the Member of Parliament, Peter Kittelmann, and the organiser of the Exhibition, Heiko Roskamp. All speakers stressed the importance of this venture, especially for the young generation, and it is gratifying that there has been a wide response throughout the month. The Exhibition was closed on May 31 but transfers to other German cities and may also go to places abroad.

Concern expressed

Special importance has to be attributed to the 165-page catalogue, which is not just an adjunct to the Exhibition but a work of history in its own right. In his introduction Heinz Galinski welcomes the Exhibition but also expresses his concern about neo-Nazi youth organisations such as the "Viking-Jugend". This organisation, as the editor of the catalogue, Heiko Roskamp, relates, also sent a threatening letter to a woman when it became known that she had courageously given shelter to a Jewess.

The publication also carries an impressive preface by the Governing Mayor of Berlin, Eberhard Diepgen, and the text of the address delivered by the present writer at the opening at the Tiergarten Town Hall.

To all members of the A.J.R. Premises for Day Centre

The A.J.R. intends to set up a Day Centre for use by members, many of whom suffer increasingly from loneliness.

This project will in no way affect or supplant the existing facilities offered by the A.J.R. such as the A.J.R. Club, Luncheon Club, Meals-on-Wheels, etc.

A sub-committee of the A.J.R. Executive is actively engaged in carrying out the preparatory work and its first task is to find premises or a suitable site.

This is how you can help

You may know of premises of any kind (empty houses, school buildings, assembly halls, small industrial buildings or warehouses, empty public houses, etc.) or even vacant land, in North West London within a radius of, say, 3 miles from Swiss Cottage or Golders Green. Even a large house would be of interest, as this would enable the A.J.R. to combine the Day Centre with other activities of the organisation.

If you know of any such premises or land, please inform Mrs Lydia Lassman at the AJR either by writing or by telephone (624 9096).

The historic, sociological and demographic details pertaining to the subject are reliably compiled by Heiko Roskamp. The number of Jews in the Tiergarten district amounted to 12,000 in 1933, when altogether 160,000 Jews lived in Berlin, and to 5,000 in 1939. The resistance of Socialist groups and Church communities is recorded in texts and pictures. Much space is dedicated to anti-Jewish measures in general and to the fate of individual Jews who were deported or went into hiding. The memories of former inhabitants of the district will be revived by photos of buildings, such as the Levetzowstrasse Synagogue, the Friedrichs-Werdersche Gymnasium, and a dilapidated house in the Cuxhavener Strasse, which served as a "Judenhaus" and which survived the war as the only building in the street until it was demolished a few years ago. There are also references to the Jewish doctors at the Moabit Hospital and to former residents, e.g. Gabriele Tergit, Walter Benjamin and Nelly Sachs. An episode of the K.C. fraternity, which met in the Englische Strasse, in its fight against antisemitism is also recalled.

The book, which is more than a local chronicle and of wider general interest, has been produced as volume 8 of the series "Staetten der Geschichte Berlins" and is obtainable from "Edition Hentrich", Albrechtstrasse 112, D-1000 Berlin 41 (Steglitz), DM 25,-. WERNER ROSENSTOCK

SOVIET WRITER USED "WARBURG" FORGERY

Once again a long-discredited pamphlet has been exploited, this time by the Soviet antisemite Lev Korneyev, to bolster allegations that Jewish bankers lent thousands of dollars to finance Hitler four years before his accession to power. The booklet in question is "De Geldbronnen van het National-Socialisme: Drie Gesprekken met Hitler" purporting to be the work of Sidney Warburg, translated by J. G. Schoup and published in Amsterdam in 1933. It tells how Sidney Warburg, a partner in Warburg & Co., an American banking house, met Hitler in 1929 and offered him US banking support. Warburg's own contribution of \$10,000 was to be channelled through Mendelssohn & Co. in Amsterdam. Immediately upon its appearance, the pamphlet was challenged by the Amsterdam bankers Warburg & Co., who pointed out that there was no such person as Sidney Warburg and that the author did not refer to the American bank by its correct name. The Dutch publishers thereupon withdrew the publication. The London-based Institute of Jewish Affairs has carried out researches into the allegations made by "De Geldbronnen" and has concluded that the whole story was an invention by Schoup. Nevertheless, similar allegations have continued to appear in varying forms over the intervening years.

LONG-TERM US GENEALOGIST

Many people enjoy working out their family trees, but Ernest G. Saxonhouse seems to have done a particularly thorough job in tracing his lineage back to King David via Hillel and Rashi. More recently the Saxonhouse family line runs from Cracow and Hamburg to New York.

Malik Brought To Life Again

The revival of anything connected with the Weimar era in present-day Western Germany, which seemed to be just a passing nostalgic phase, is still in full swing. Their wish to "read all about it" is now being satisfied by a number of new publishing houses which specialise in reviving literature of the 1920s and early 1930s, and in digging up banned or unpublished works by exiled writers. One of these enterprises even revives a publisher's name that had been most influential in those days, the *Malik Verlag*.

The original one was founded in 1917 by the two sons of the Jewish Socialist writer Herzfeld—one of them romanticised his name to Wieland Herzfelde while the other anglicised himself to John Heartfield as a protest against the war-time slogan "Gott strafe England".

Both were pioneers of the eccentric Dada movement. Also associated with the new venture were the leading anti-militarist cartoonist George Grosz and the Jewish poetess Else Lasker-Schüler. It was her romantic story *Der Malik*, so called after a medieval Muslim philosopher, which the group chose as the name of their *Verlag*.

It grew, throughout the Weimar era, into a leading publishing house, particularly by making German readers familiar with the new American and Russian writers, from Upton Sinclair and John Dos Passos to Isaac Babel and Ilya Ehrenburg. The Nazi regime put an end, of course, to the *Malik Verlag*, driving its team into exile or killing them in concentration camps, and burning their books.

Italian's initiative

Strangely enough, it was an Italian from a family of musicians, Giuseppe De Siati, who had the idea of reviving the *Malik Verlag*. However, he is practically a German—born in 1946 in Landsberg am Lech, where his mother had to break her journey from Berlin to Italy for this urgent purpose.

A few years ago he discovered that the most important member of the old *Malik* team was still alive: Wieland Herzfelde, living in East Berlin, now approaching his 89th year, and prominent enough to cross the Wall to West Berlin without any trouble. And it was there that the *Neue Malik Verlag* was born, assisted by a few young friends who threw their own money into the kitty, and with Herzfelde's blessing.

By refugees

Among its first dozen books published so far, three show clearly what the *Neue Malik* is aiming at. They are all by refugees. Else Lasker-Schüler's "*Malik*" has been attractively reprinted with her own delicate drawings. "*Pest über Paris*" by Bruno Jasienski, a Polish emigrant who died in France before the war, is an imaginative utopian novel, though perhaps too much *agitprop* for today's literary taste.

But the third is of special interest for us: "*Ein Mann liest Zeitung*" by Justin Steinfeld from Hamburg, who lived and died in his English exile. De Siati traced the manuscript of a novel which

Steinfeld had left, about the life and fate of a typical Jewish businessman who could not believe that his world would come to an end under the Nazis—alas, one of too many.



Wieland Herzfelde (left), founder of the original firm, being greeted by the *Neue Malik* re-founder, Giuseppe De Siati.

Quite a number of books by authors whose names, De Siati believes, ought to be known, are lined up for production under the new imprint, and he is aware that the job won't be easy. "The only recognisable concept on the book market," he writes, "is that of making money. It subjects publishers to the trend of printing as many titles as possible in the hope of fast sales. . . . Authors are today only the producers of a commodity which, marketed in the spring, is already out of date in the autumn, due to be remaindered. . . . For us, however, good literature has to be of an enlightening, critical character, contributing to the documentation and discussion of our times: literature in search of the truth." EGON LARSEN

AUSTRIAN FACSIMILE SCROLL

A unique facsimile manuscript has been issued by a Graz publishing house—an illuminated Book of Esther in scroll form, taken from an 18th-century original. The facsimile is mounted on linen and provided with rollers and a case. An accompanying commentary has been written by Michael Kaniel and Bezalel Narkiss. The total price is 3,300 Austrian Schillings.

HOHBURG'S CEMETERY REGISTER

A complete register of graves in the Jewish cemetery at Hohburg-Diersburg has recently been prepared for the Hohburg authorities. Naftali Bar-Giora Bamberger of Jerusalem has listed the names of those buried, recorded Hebrew inscriptions on the gravestones and drawn up a detailed plan of the cemetery. The register may be inspected at Hohburg town hall.

NEW SYNAGOGUE FOR LYONS

"Brotherhood Synagogue", begun by a group of young Germans in Villeurbanne, Lyons, was recently consecrated in the presence of the Chief Rabbi of France. Another participant was the French Defence Minister, who is also of Mayor of Villeurbanne.

RICHARD LICHTHEIM'S CENTENARY

1985 is the centenary year of Richard Lichtheim, one of Germany's foremost Zionists in the post-Herzl period. Born in 1885 into an assimilated Berlin family, he was attracted to the Zionist movement in his student days and in 1911 he became editor of "Die Welt", the paper founded by Theodor Herzl. He was entrusted with several important tasks by the "Engeres Aktions-Comitee" (the forerunner of the Zionist Executive) and in 1913 was sent as Zionist representative to Turkey, where he worked at the level of international diplomacy. At that time, Turkey governed Palestine and Lichtheim was able to use his international contacts to gain aid and sympathy for the Jews of the region.

From 1921 to 1923 Richard Lichtheim was on the Zionist Executive in London, but left in protest against proposals to relax its conditions of membership. He continued his work for the movement and the outbreak of the Second World War found him in Geneva as organiser of the 21st Zionist Congress. At his own suggestion, the Zionist Executive used him as a listening-post to transmit information from the heart of Nazi-dominated Europe. In contact with Jewish resistance groups and the Red Cross, Richard Lichtheim was able to help refugees and Jewish prisoners of war in German hands, but his reports to the Zionist Executive became ever more depressing as the war went on. In 1940 he had said, "If Hitler should succeed in overrunning Europe, Zionism would become pointless, because no Jew would be left alive". Now he helplessly saw his earlier warnings becoming reality and help arriving all too late.

Return to Jerusalem

In 1946, Richard Lichtheim returned to Jerusalem. No suitable official post was available for him and he lived a somewhat withdrawn life. His "Geschichte des deutschen Zionismus" appeared in German in 1954 and his history of world Zionism was also published in that year. Lichtheim's original revisionist stance mellowed in the years before his death in 1963. His memoirs, entitled "Rückkehr" were published in German by the Leo Baeck Institute seven years later. Unfortunately, they do not extend to the end of the First World War although unpublished manuscripts dealing with his work in Geneva are thought to be extant. It would be good to know more at firsthand of the man warmly praised by Ben Gurion for his "energy of spirit".

His son was George Lichtheim, the distinguished journalist and historian of ideas, sometime editor of "The Twentieth Century", an important journal in its time, and author of "Marxism: A Critical Study", and "A History of Europe in the 20th Century".

SOUTH BADEN SYNAGOGUE RESTORED

One of the few German synagogues which was not destroyed in 1938 is that of Sulzburg in Breisgau. The local authorities have recently spent 1.7 million DM on restoring it to its former beauty. Although the synagogue is not used regularly, occasional services—for example, a memorial meeting for Jewish victims of Nazism—are still held there.

CRUSADING JOURNALIST

Egon Erwin Kisch Centenary

A book and film have recently appeared on Alfred Redl, the Austro-Hungarian colonel who committed suicide just before the outbreak of the First World War after it was discovered that he was a Russian agent. Yet few reviewers outside Austria remembered that the whole story came to light through the "rasende Reporter" Egon Erwin Kisch.

The suicide was supposed to be kept a dead secret: but Kisch stumbled upon the story on the night of Redl's death. His quick intelligence pieced out the gaps—but his paper could not print such a sensation on a mere hypothesis. So Kisch out of his own head wrote a denial "from the highest circles" and this was printed. The next day, Redl's spying was talked of everywhere and the secret was at an end.

Egon Erwin Kisch was born just a century ago in the Old City of Prague, where he grew up familiar both with low life and literary circles. Though not an observant Jew, he wrote a great deal about Jews, including his book "Geschichte aus sieben Ghettos". In every sense, he was a life-long professional journalist. But his commitment to communism over many years meant that his writing was tinged with dogma and in some quarters undervalued. On the other hand, those more sympathetic to his views felt that it was these very political opinions which enabled him to produce high quality investigative journalism. He himself believed that a reporter should not take sides but be as impartial as possible. Yet Kisch, so valiant in the hunt after miscarriages of justice in Austro-Hungary and in Germany, remained silent as Stalin's show trials began to unfold.

However, Kisch moved away from the Stalinist position, although he never openly expressed his disillusionment. He took part in the Spanish Civil War, out of conviction that Fascism must be fought everywhere. But about that time, Alfred Kantorowicz heard him say, "Woe unto us, if we conquer". After this period, Egon Erwin Kisch no longer wrote as a committed communist.

He spent the years of exile in Mexico but returned to Prague after 1945; over this period he continued to write—"Entdeckungen in Mexiko" and "Karl Marx in Karlsbad" come from his time of exile and return—but no longer seemed able to muster the same commitment he had shown in earlier years.

Still today, in his centenary year and nearly 40 years after his death in 1948, Kisch's books and journalism—the most fleeting of art-forms—are reprinted both in Western and in Eastern Europe. Literary critics passionately debate whether this "rushing reporter" was really a writer of fine literature. Only those who continue to buy, read and enjoy his works can give the true verdict on this outstanding figure of investigative journalism.

DIARY OF ESCAPE PRESENTED

A formal presentation of a diary written in German, Italian and Hebrew was recently made to the Holocaust Museum of Kibbutz Lohamei Hage'taot. The book records the experiences of a number of children who in 1942 fled to Italy from Germany. Most of them survived and found their way to Israel. The diary was discovered 40 years ago near Bologna but the finder, himself a Holocaust survivor, kept it locked away until now.

ZENTRALE STELLE PRAISED

As the leadership of the Central Authority for Elucidation of Nazi Crimes at Ludwigsburg passed recently from Dr. Adalbert Rückerl to Dr Alfred Streim, an assessment of the organisation's work was made by Stuttgart Justice Minister Heinz Eyrich. Since, as he pointed out, an ever-increasing number of Germans know the Third Reich only through their history books, the Zentrale Stelle in Ludwigsburg performs an irreplaceable function as a "source of information for the darkest period of our history". Although the passage of time prevented every single crime being laid at the door of its perpetrator, yet the Zentrale Stelle continually provided the material for detailed investigation. It had, he said, set the standard for the Federal Republic in facing up to the National Socialist past.

DR. GERTRUDE BROWN

Dr. Gertrude Brown, nee Rosenthal, died recently in London. She was already established as a dental surgeon when she left her native Berlin, and with great perseverance re-established herself in Britain. She helped many friends to leave Germany in the thirties. She is survived by her husband James, to whom we extend our sympathy.

JOCELYN BABER

Mrs Jocelyn Baber, whose story of help to refugees was told in AJR Information, June 1985, died in Devon just before the article appeared in print. She was 81. Immediately before her death, Mrs Baber had learnt that publishers were interested in her memoirs and it is hoped that these will eventually be published.



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OBITUARIES

HANS LAMM

It is learned with regret that Dr. Hans Lamm, President of the Munich Jewish Community, died after a short serious illness at the age of 71. He was one of those communal workers in Germany who had personal contacts with emigrated former German Jews. His own life story is marked by a continuity: the city in which he resided was also his city of birth. In between, he lived and worked as a refugee in the United States. Before he went there, he studied law and journalism in Munich in 1932/33 and also attended the *Hochschule fuer die Wissenschaft des Judentums* in 1937/8. After the war he went to Germany as representative of the American Jewish Conference. It was during this stay in Germany that he wrote his doctoral thesis on the internal and external development of German Jewry during the Third Reich (1951), the first methodical work on this subject. After some time in the U.S. during the subsequent years he finally returned to Germany in 1955. He was put in charge of the cultural activities of the *Zentralrat* of the Jews in Germany and later, from 1960-79 served as Department Head of the Munich *Volks-hochschule*. In 1970, he was elected president of the Jewish Community, an office he held until his death. His numerous other offices included membership of the *Direktorium* of the *Zentralrat*, of the Board of the Council for Christian-Jewish Co-operation, the German-Israel Society and the Bavarian *Rundfunk*, to quote only some examples.

His capacity for giving guidance in Jewish and general affairs was linked to productive work in

the intellectual sphere. A collection of selected articles from 1933-1983 together with a detailed bibliography bears witness to this (*Hans Lamm, Deutsch-Juedischer Publizist, K. G. Saur, 280 pp.*). It begins with a critical assessment of the Jewish Youth Movement (written on 15.1.1933) and ends with an evaluation of Jakob Wassermann on the 50th anniversary of his death in December 1983. The volume carries essays on cultural subjects, profiles of personalities and critical interpretations of current events. Covering the harvest of half-a-century's constructive work, it testifies to Hans Lamm's wide range of knowledge as well as to his gifts as a highly refined stylist.

Hans Lamm's death leaves a widely felt gap in the various organisations in Germany with which he was associated. It is also a sad loss for his numerous friends in other countries, last but not least in England, which he visited on many occasions.

WERNER ROSENSTOCK

HON. TERENCE PRITTIE, MBE

Terence Prittie, who died recently at the age of 71, was my oldest and one of my greatest friends. I first met him in 1950, when I had gone to Frankfurt, my home town, for the first private meeting with my German ex-POWs, and he was the German correspondent for the Manchester Guardian, as it then was. We became fast friends and shared the same interests and ideals, such as reconciliation.

He was a staunch fighter for justice and against generalisation and prejudice. His work had two main centres, though it may sound paradoxical: Israel, and the new Germany of 1949.

Terence Prittie wrote 19 books and worked for the Manchester Guardian in Germany (Berlin, Bonn, Düsseldorf) from 1946 to 1961. He visited Israel every year, and his firm was, characteristically, called 'Britain and Israel'. He lectured on (and for) Israel all over the UK, USA and Australia. In Germany he was a frequent guest on Werner Höfer's Sunday morning televised political discussion programme 'Frühschoppen'. In Israel he knew Golda Meir well.

He wrote a biography of Levi Eshkol, an excellent general survey called 'Israel', and 'Whose Jerusalem?'. In one of his letters to me, when he was already very ill, he wrote '... and Israel just now needs me.'

His positive attitude to the Federal Republic of Germany is underlined by the fact that he was the first British author to write about 'Germans Against Hitler', in 1965, which was not only about the July Plot, but also the Scholls and the Rote Kapelle.

He also wrote biographies of Konrad Adenauer, Willy Brandt and the 'Velvet Chancellors'. His last book was 'My Germans, 1933-83'. It starts with his stay in Germany in 1933 and his revulsion from antisemitism.

In 1940 he was taken prisoner near Calais and became famous for his six escape attempts from German POW camps. He was a younger son of the Irish Lord Dunalley and was educated at Stowe and Oxford.

In 1971 he was awarded the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany for his great endeavours in making the British understand that there is a new Germany.

He was a great sponsor of my Featherstone Park ex-POWs Association.

Terence Prittie will be remembered as a fighter for freedom and justice and as an eloquent and persuasive advocate of Israel.

HERBERT SULZBACH

SAMUEL KESSLER

Samuel (Sally) Kessler has died at the age of 73. Born in Cologne, as a young man he joined the Reichsbanner Schwarz-Rot-Gold and became involved with trade union work, as well as Jewish sporting activity. One of the leaders of Bar Kochba, after its dissolution in 1933 Sally Kessler took a similar part in Sportclub Hakoah. During the war years, he was sent to the Warsaw Ghetto and to various concentration camps but, surviving the years of persecution, he returned to Cologne to find the Jewish community virtually destroyed. Mr. Kessler became active in rebuilding his native city's community as well as taking a leading part in municipal politics. He was a member of numerous committees in the Jewish community and in 1956 was appointed its business manager, a task he pursued with the greatest energy.

Sally Kessler worked, too, for the whole German-Jewish community as a member of the Central Welfare Board and his name was respected throughout the Federal Republic. Perhaps his most personal achievement came when, harking back to the interests of his youth, he was involved in the re-creation of a German-Jewish sporting association, the Federal German 'Makkabi', where his pre-war experience was of the greatest value.

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DEGAS AS A PRINTMAKER

One of the differences between an oil painting or watercolour and a print is that in a painting we can only see the finished work of the artist and cannot tell how his ideas developed in the course of his work. This is not so with a print, for the artist frequently keeps on working at his plate until he eventually achieves the desired effect. The printed stages in this process are known as "states" and are recognised works of art in their own right.

Edgar Degas (1834-1917) is renowned as one of the great French Impressionist painters, but his activities as a printmaker are not so well-known. It was not until the sale of his studio effects in 1918 that nearly four hundred of his prints came to light. The present exhibition "Edgar Degas: Painter as Printmaker" at the Hayward Gallery (until 7 July) demonstrates his enormous skill as an etcher and lithographer. Many of the exhibits are shown in several states, each a picture in itself, but of absorbing interest to those concerned with the process of artistic development.

The accompanying monumental catalogue by Sue Welsh Reed and Barbara Steen Shapiro is an important work and must inevitably take its place as the standard reference work on the subject. An illustrated catalogue of the monotypes, with a foreword by R. B. Kitaj is also available.

Concurrently at the Hayward Gallery is "A Journey through Contemporary Art with Nigel Greenwood". Greenwood is a London gallery director and the exhibits are his personal selection, including works by Francis Bacon, Henry Moore, Richard Long, Gilbert and George, and many others. This is the seventh Hayward Annual Exhibition and very attractive it is, too.

In 1956 the Anglo-Jewish community celebrated the tercentenary of their return to England with, among other events, a major exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum. Now it is the turn of the Huguenots, the French followers of John Calvin, who were forced to flee their own country and migrated to England exactly three hundred years ago. This important event (two out of every three Englishmen alive today claim to have Huguenot blood in their veins) is being fittingly



Degas: Self-Portrait

celebrated by a major exhibition: "The Quiet Conquest 1685-1985" at the Museum of London (until 31 October). For those of us who are sometimes sectarian in our outlook, this exhibition will come as a revelation and enjoyable surprise.

Alice Schwab

BOOKSHELF

Everyone is curious about doctors and Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy's *Doctors* (Weidenfeld, £10.95) goes far to satisfy that curiosity. He has talked at length to all kinds of doctors the length and breadth of the country, and reports (using pseudonyms of course) about their lives and practices, their strange and varied experiences. It is odd to see oneself from the other end of the telescope—or should one say stethoscope. Patients are peculiar, but so are doctors, and the proof is here. It is particularly interesting to learn about the health care available before the NHS, in the thirties and early forties, from older doctors. In a sense, this is one great gossip, and a fascinating one.

Quite apart from her close involvement with three geniuses—Nietzsche, Rilke and Freud—*Lou Andreas-Salomé* (by Angela Livingstone. Gordon Fraser, £18.50) was a remarkable woman in herself and this is an admirable biography, written with sympathy and understanding, not only of the woman in her time, but also of her writings and ideas. Mrs. Livingstone has something illuminating to say about almost every aspect of Lou's life and work, and says it well and clearly. Warmly recommended.

A collection of papers from an academic symposium can seem—well, strictly for academics—but not so with *Paths & Labyrinths: Nine Papers from a Kafka Symposium*, edited by J. P. Stern and J. J. White, published by the University of London's Institute of Germanic Studies at £6.95 in connection with the centenary of Kafka's birth. The subjects are diverse, but the quality of the contributions is so high that one is left with the impression of an integrated book, even when views differ, as they must. Anthony Storr probes Kafka's 'Sense of Identity' sensitively, while Edward Timms, emphasising that Kafka is first and foremost a great writer, uses his Freudian hypothesis about the extended metaphors of *Ein Landarzt* to illuminate the writings rather than the life. We only have space left to mention Ritchie Robertson's exceptionally well-informed and insightful piece on Kafka's Zionism, and Prof. Stern's profound essay on Kafka's last story, *Josefine die Sängerin*. This book should really have appeared in one of the big literary publishing houses, so that it could reach the wider public it so richly deserves.

Our member Kaete Jacoby has published a charming tri-lingual booklet of verse appropriately called *Poésies/Poems/Gedichte* (available from the author at £2, 4 Hogarth Court, North End, London, N.W.3). One can only admire Miss Jacoby's facility in the three languages—there is an amusing one about her passion for *Choux à la Crème*—and several are translated into the other two languages. And yet, with a few rare exceptions, real poetry is tied to the subtleties of one's native language, and we see that here in the excellent German poems. This booklet is quite a performance by a near-octogenarian.

The Liberal Jewish Synagogue of St. John's Wood has published posthumously a booklet by Rabbi Dr. Leslie I. Edgar, *Some Memories of My Ministry*. He tells the eventful story of the struggle of Liberal Judaism for recognition, and his work in helping Dr Mattuck to bring German Jews to Britain; there is a moving tribute to Leo Baeck. It is a footnote to recent Anglo-Jewish history, and was seen through the press by Rabbi John Rayner.

REFUSENIK PROFESSOR'S AWARD

Professor Alexander Lerner, recently seen in a television programme on refuseniks, is joint recipient of the annual award for services to Soviet Jewry given by the All-Party Parliamentary Committee for the Release of Soviet Jewry. Professor Lerner is regarded by his fellow-refuseniks as the "father" of the Moscow community. Also honoured by the award is Mrs Nan Greifer, editor of the digest "Jews in the USSR".

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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

Klein:—Bernard Klein celebrated his 80th birthday on 16 June. 12 Wood Top Avenue, Rochdale OL11 4BD.

Fabian:—Katherine (Kate) Fabian. Congratulations on reaching the fine age of 95 on 26 April at Mapesbury Lodge. With all love, Stephany, Rina, Eric.

Acknowledgment

Heartiest thanks for the congratulations and for the generous donations to my Fund, the beautiful flowers and the charming hundreds of birthday cards. In gratitude, the 103-year-old Margaret Jacoby.

Wedding

Elias-Shikiar:—The wedding took place on 2 June in Tel Aviv of Eric Michael, son of Stephany Elias and the late Edward Elias, London, and Rina, daughter of Viki and Haim Shikiar, Tel Aviv.




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Deaths

Friedmann:—Frieda G. Friedmann died peacefully in Leo Baeck House on May 19 in her 94th year, deeply mourned by her children.

Keller:—Otto Keller passed away on 8 June 1985 after a long illness, in his 81st year. Deeply mourned by his wife, sisters, brothers, relatives and friends.

Nebel:—Mr. E. Nebel, of 36 Cavendish Road NW6 7XP, died shortly after his 90th birthday.

Posen:—Eva Ruth Posen (née Pollnow) died on 16 March 1985. Deeply mourned by her husband Eli, children and friends.

Rosenthal:—Rudolf (Udo) Rosenthal, formerly Gleiwitz. Our dear brother, uncle and cousin died on 19 May. May his pure soul rest in peace.

Schrecker:—Leonie Schrecker, aged 93, died peacefully in Osmond House on 4 June.

Simonsohn:—Herbert Simonsohn, born in Hamburg 3 August 1905, died in Walvis Bay/Namibia, on 9 May 1985. Dear husband of Bertie, father of Margo and Peggy, grandfather of seven, great-grandfather of four, dear brother of Trude Frankenburg and Emma Simonsohn.

The AJR Club mourns the death of its members Otto Dutch and Emma Levi.

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THEATRE AND CULTURE

The Viennese Theatre tradition. The traditional theatre remains firmly rooted in this very culture-minded capital, where the state-run theatres (Burg, State Opera, Volksooper, Akademietheater) maintain large state-subsidised ensembles, and where no less than 26 fringe stages (2 of them English-speaking) add to the colour and variety they present. Amid these extremes, the Vienna "Josefstadt" has kept its position as a showplace without experiments, faithful to the Max Reinhardt heritage, playing for 11 months per year with its own subsidiary (the Kammerspiele). The "Josefstadt" proudly points at its 15,000 subscribers and intensifies its elegance off stage by its magnificent foyer where ornate ceilings and carefully preserved decor are based on pre-1918 taste and design. For the forthcoming season, works by Bernard Shaw, Gerhart Hauptmann, Lessing and Horvath are announced, as well as some well-recognised successes by Kesselring ("Arsenic and Old Lace") and Erich Kaestner ("Das lebenslaengliche Kind.")

Tit-Bits. Actress *Joan Collins*, recently particularly prominent by her TV-appearances in the serial "Dynasty", has acquired the film rights of Ariana Stassinopoulos's biography "Maria Callas, The Woman Behind the Legend", and will probably play the role of the famous opera diva herself. *Curt Bois* has provided entertainment for his numerous friends by his autobiography "So schlecht war mir noch nie", written in collaboration with Wolfgang Deischel, published by Athenaeum-Verlag, Berlin.

Birthdays. Actor, producer and radio favourite *Hans Thimig* is 85 years old; the Berlin actor *Walter Richter* who also had successes in Zürich

and Munich, attained the age of 80. *Inge Meysel*, lovingly called "Mother of German TV", is 75, and so is *Hans Hartleb*, director and opera producer, who worked in Berlin, Munich, Essen (his home town) and Frankfurt. *Giulietta Simionato*, the unforgotten mezzo soprano, had her 75th birthday. *Orson Welles*, whom theatre and film circles call the "enfant terrible" of the world of entertainment, celebrated his 70th birthday.

Obituary. The American music world mourns opera composer *Roger Sessions*, who has died at the age of 88. His opera "Montezuma" had its world premiere at the Deutsche Oper, Berlin, in 1964. The actor *George Pravda* has died in London. He was 68 years old. Pravda was Czech-born and had built up a career in Britain, notably on radio and television. *Wolfram Humpferdinck*, son of the celebrated composer of "Hänsel and Gretel" fame, himself a producer, and, later on, Intendant of the opera house in Kiel, has died, aged 92. S. B.

GHETTO OPERA PERFORMED

Forty years to the day from the liberation of Theresienstadt, the opera "The Emperor of Atlantis" received its British première at the Imperial War Museum in a performance by Musica Viva of Morley College. The work was written by Viktor Ullman (a pupil of Schoenberg) in Theresienstadt, in collaboration with Peter Kien, also an inmate. When the camp commandant discovered the theme of the opera, he sent both men to their deaths in Auschwitz. "The Emperor of Atlantis" has received one earlier performance, in Holland in 1975.

BOMBAY CENTENARY

Bombay's Knesset Elisha Synagogue has recently celebrated its centenary. The President of India, Giani Zail Singh, spoke in praise of the Indian Jewish community and a message was sent from Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, as well as congratulations from Israel and Jews throughout the world. A major exhibition of Judaica, including a model of Solomon's Temple, was a particular feature of the celebrations.

ISRAELI REPORTER IN USSR

For the first time since 1967, an Israeli television reporter has been granted permission to work in the Soviet Union. David Witstrum's first report from Moscow was on Soviet ceremonies commemorating the defeat of Nazi Germany.

CANETTI'S COMING UK PUBLICATION

Elias Canetti, of Hampstead and Zürich, who in 1981 won the Nobel Prize for Literature, has agreed that André Deutsch shall publish his works in Britain.

Born in Bulgaria, but writing in German, Canetti has had only very little of his *oeuvre* published in this country. He has refused to allow any UK issue for 10 years, apparently because of British apathy towards his work. The author's 1946 novel "Auto-da-Fé", though acclaimed world-wide, sold under 3,000 copies in the UK throughout the sixties.

Elias Canetti immigrated to Britain in 1939. His three-volume autobiography, with its depiction of European culture between the wars, has already caused a sensation in German-speaking Europe and is currently being published in the US. It has been called one of the century's outstanding memoirs.

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