

# AJR INFORMATION

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The present Governments of Russia and South Africa do not have much in common, in fact they fiercely denounce each other, but on one thing they are agreed: both tell us we must not interfere in their 'internal affairs', by which they mean we must not criticise the persecution of dissidents or Apartheid's denial of rights.

The claim for Soviet Jews to be allowed to emigrate, is dismissed as 'unjustifiable interference'. Emigration of Jews was a matter to be determined solely by Soviet laws (it is said) and could not be dictated by other countries. Yet this is a right firmly based on the Helsinki Accords of

The Nazis furiously denounced the mere thought of any 'interference in German domestic affairs'. If American Jewish organisations were urging their own and other Governments to break off diplomatic relations with Germany, this was said to be 'an impertinence of world-wide dimensions, trying to turn the countries of the world into agents of the Jews threatened in their position of overwhelming power, regardless as to the most important interests involved' (Alfred Rosenberg). The German Jews, pitifully, also opposed any 'interference in inner-German affairs' as that would be 'a threat to German Jewry's political and economic security'.

a crushing reply at the famous Mansion House protest meeting where Cardinal Manning cited 'laws larger than any Russian legislation, laws which are equally binding in London and in Moscow – the laws of humanity, of nature, of God – which are the foundations of all other laws, and if in any legislation these are violated, the whole commonwealth of civilised men would instantly acquire a right to speak out aloud'.

So far as Soviet Russia is concerned, it surely is ominous that so many Jews should be wanting to leave – they would not if they were unharassed – and it is no good denying charges of antisemitism (e.g. in the press) as was done by the Soviet Communist Party's international propaganda chief, Leonid Zamyatin, who sought to condone offensive antisemitic cartoons by claiming that 'in our free society there can be satirical cartoons against Russians and against any nationality'. One would not wish to embarrass him by wondering what might happen to a 'satirical cartoon' about Mr Gorbachev (or himself) but when the Nazi crimes were discovered during the war, the then President of the Soviet Academy made the very valid point that at the beginning of that terrible story were 'stupid antisemitic jokes in the beer halls of Munich' – which differed from the Soviet ones in that they at least were not condoned by the authorities. It will be well to remember (as another Soviet Academician remarked at the time) that antisemitic activities of any kind can never be regarded as an internal affair, but inasmuch as toleration of them reveals a 'blunted social conscience', they must promptly arouse and abundantly justify critical interest, concern and 'interference'.

## 'INTERFERENCE IN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS'

### When Human Rights are Violated

1975 which were signed by 35 countries including Russia, and individual human beings are expressly permitted to invoke them. The sorry fate of those inside Russia who insist on these rights – not only Jews but also members of other ethnic groups, e.g. Germans – shows what happens to those who dare exercise their rights – rights which, being considered human in a universal sense, are supposed to be enforceable by international agreement. If the Helsinki Accords do not mean this, they do not mean anything.

Similarly, the South African Government regards the treatment of the non-white majority of its population as a domestic affair in which no 'meddling interference' is to be tolerated. South Africa, they claim, is a sovereign nation and no country could dictate how they should run their affairs. We are to keep quiet when millions are manifestly denied what is their due.

The argument is not of course a new one; it can be traced far back into history, but some of its darkest days occurred at the beginning of the Nazi regime in 1933. At that time when the organised persecution of the Jews set in on Boycott Day, international action was considered but rejected.

The British Government too would have no truck with any 'unwarrantable interference', disclaiming 'any special right to intervene with regard to German subjects who are of the Jewish race'; it would not be 'in the interests of the Jews themselves'.

It was not until the persecution constantly kept up grew into the nation-wide pogrom of November 1938 that a British Home Secretary realised— 'How can a question remain exclusively domestic when it involves scores of thousands of men, women and children, destitute and penniless, seeking admission into other countries?'

The case was put with even greater force and in universal terms by the then Soviet Foreign Minister Litvinov who, in July 1936, demanded that 'an end be made of the situation wherein pleas of sovereignty and constitutional formalities are an obstacle to the performance of international obligations.'

On this sensible ground, violations of human rights, especially when committed against clear-cut 'international obligations' à la Helsinki can never be defended. When the specious argument of 'interference' was brought up by the pogromist Government of the Tsar 100 years ago, it received

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## THE NOVEMBER 1938 POGROM

### Remarkable Reactions inside Nazi Germany

The nation-wide pogrom which the Nazi Government organized in November 1938 has often been described. But while the action is broadly familiar, not all the reactions are, particularly those inside Germany. We know the report of the British Consul-General in Cologne who found 'amongst the masses of Germans who have nothing at stake . . . a certain amount of Schadenfreude ("Joy in mischief")'. On the other hand, the British Consul-General at Frankfurt wrote home that 'if the Government of Germany depended on the suffrage of the people, those in power and responsible for the outrages would be swept away by a storm of indignation if not put up against a wall and shot'.

This particular impression is confirmed by none other than the Nazis themselves. Party papers at the time furiously denounced those 'carpers, unimaginative boors and false prophets who solemnly lift their fingers to tell us that "this Jew business" won't pay us in the long run', and as late as six weeks after the pogrom it is found 'rather strange that one should constantly come across people who keep pitying the "persecuted Jews"'. The SS paper *Das Schwarze Korps* considered these 'scum of grousers' to be 'even worse than the Jews' - if only because 'they were everywhere'.

Of course, those nonconformist voices could be raised only in private. Yet one was actually heard in public. It was a voice veiled, speaking in parables, yet for all that unmistakably inspired by prophecy. While the Nazis jeered, saying: 'The God of the Jews no longer rules over Germany'. A Christian journal, the *Allgemeine Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirchen-Zeitung*, published, on November 18, 1938, an editorial characteristically entitled: 'Of the End of the World', reproving those who after the Munich blackmail and the pogrom had been 'high with exultation': 'People before the Flood also were high with exultation (the Protestant paper wrote), but then the Flood came and did away with them all. Mankind is being blinded with false joy. Those who can look deeper will see the signs of death - nations wading in the blood of new wars, truth laid in chains, justice with broken limbs lying in the gutter'.

#### A Jewish Protest

Unfortunately the name of that inspired writer is not known. He would deserve to rank among the Hebrew prophets. But what is perhaps no less remarkable is that even Jews in Germany then dared to make a kind of protest - in their own pitifully limited way. The Berlin *Jüdisches Nachrichtenblatt* of December 1938 reviewed a film called *Chicago* which had been licensed for showing at the *Jüdische Filmbühne*. In the course of this review, the film story was summarised as follows: 'A town is on fire, while the fire brigade is standing by, doing nothing. All engines are in position, the ladders are ready, so are the hoses, but no hand stirs to apply them. The men wait for a command, but it never comes. Not until the town is reduced to dust and ashes, are orders given. The fire brigade goes home. A malicious invention, this? (the Jewish paper asked). A nasty fairy tale? No. It's the truth and it happened in Hollywood'. The Nazi censor did not notice the allusion to a burning issue nearer home. (Herbert Freedman tells the story in his book *Jüdisches Theater in Nazi-Deutschland*, Tübingen 1964.)

The November pogrom, presented as an act of savagery 'unparalleled since the Middle Ages', also figured in the TV *Pillar of Fire* programme (5 October) which dealt with the birth of Israel 1937-39: the sufferings of the Jews and the struggle in Palestine. The gates to all free countries were shown to have been barred; we lived through 'the days of anguish' when 'the Jews in No Man's Land' waited for 'the world's pity'. Neville Chamberlain appeared as the dupe of Hitler who soon was heard threatening the extermination of the Jews, while America had sympathy in words but would not admit more refugees. Inge Deutschkron, the German-Jewish writer, spoke of her experience at the US Embassy in Berlin.

Meanwhile Britain did what she could to keep Jews out of Palestine, and the cruel policy was

explained by the then Colonial Secretary, M. MacDonald: they would have liked to do better but had to be realists; as the Jews had no choice but to back Britain, concessions had to be made to the Arabs whose allegiance was uncertain. Such is the morality of politics which, alas, is by definition infested with hypocrisy and cynicism. The terrible story was occasionally reduced to ridicule by interspersing silly scenes of the *Fiddler on the Roof* type.

C.A.

## War Crimes Trials

### Should they be continued?

*A member of our organisation who wishes to remain unnamed has sent us the following communication which seems sufficiently controversial to merit consideration, and we invite comments.*

From time to time, as in the present case of John Demjanjuk, the Ukrainian accused of 'war crimes' (which, being part of the Final Solution, are in fact crimes against humanity), the question is raised whether trials on these charges so long after the crimes were committed should still be held as it must appear doubtful whether they will achieve their object of vindicating justice. The question seems to me reasonable on the following grounds.

Obviously no one in any way involved in these crimes should be allowed to escape retribution. They must be put on trial before a court of law which would be subject to the strict rules of judicial procedure, i.e., evidence must be produced that will ensure not corroboration of the generally established facts (e.g. the horrors at Treblinka) but conviction of the particular individual. Now much if not most of the relevant evidence will have to be provided by witnesses, the fast declining number of survivors, who in turn will rely on their memory. How reliable can that memory expect to be after all these years? We can barely give an exact account of things (e.g. road accidents) that happened the day before yesterday - how much less of things that happened 40-odd years ago.

#### Counterproductive

The result as likely as not will be that conflicting, perhaps contradictory and often incomplete evidence will fail to convince the judge that the particular charge has been proved beyond all possible doubt, and inevitably, by the rule that when in doubt judgment must favour the accused, there will be an acquittal.

Such a verdict in turn will result in suspicion being cast on the court, and so far from retribution having been obtained, more resentment will have been created. The accused who may well be the criminal but could not be proved to be will now be able to sport the halo of aggrieved innocence. A counterproductive trial will have defeated the ends of justice. On these considerations, I would plead for 'war crimes' trials à la Demjanjuk to be now discontinued.



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## BIBLIOGRAPHIA JUDAICA

### The Jewish Stake in German Cultural History

The *Archiv Bibliographia Judaica* was founded 20 years ago in Frankfurt am Main with a view to making a comprehensive record, both biographical and bibliographical, of the Jewish contribution to German cultural history. It is the only existing archive to have collected systematically facts and dates from the time of Moses Mendelssohn's first published works (1750) to the end of the Nazi era. Being the basis for a biographical bibliography, it enables a general picture to be formed of almost two hundred years of this particular aspect of German-Jewish life.

Altogether, some 150,000 names have been collected, and for every single author the following information has been recorded: confirmation of Jewish origin, biographical summary and bibliography of works. So far, the results of these labours have appeared in two name catalogues (A-K and L-R; Campus Verlag, Frankfurt am Main 1981, 1984). A third name catalogue (S-Z) and a supplementary volume are in preparation. A further projected volume will contain detailed articles on all those authors who have played a significant role in the development of German cultural history.

Since 1983 the Archive has been open to users and is much frequented. Written and telephone enquiries are received daily. Many visitors have described the Archive as a veritable treasure trove.

#### Forgotten Artists and Scientists

The Archive holds regular exhibitions, lectures and readings. The first such event was an exhibition, in May 1983, of the works of the sculptor, painter and writer, Johannes Ilmari Auerbach, long active in France under the name Joannès Ilmari, but now forgotten in both France and Germany. One of the aims of the Archive is in fact to re-establish once distinguished but now forgotten artists and scientists. So far there have been exhibitions on the poet Walther Heymann; the sexologist and writer Felix A. Theilhaber; the physician and psychologist Professor Arthur Kronfeld; the man of letters Samuel Lublinski, and the philologist Fritz Mauthner. Another exhibition was devoted to 'Forgotten Jewish Authors in Exile'.

How is such an organisation financed? In the initial stages, the German Research Foundation (*Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*), Bonn, paid the salaries of the head of the Archive and three assistants, but since then it has not proved possible to put the continuing work on a sound financial footing. Today the Archive relies predominantly on members' fees and charitable contributions and on the work of voluntary staff. It is in desperate need of generous support if it is not to close in the foreseeable future.

A token of support was received two years ago when the Archive was allowed some accommodation within the Frankfurt University complex. It was not very much, according to the *Frankfurter*

*Rundschau* which thought that the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, having been founded 70 years ago by 'a well-to-do Jewish liberal bourgeoisie', might have done better, but the fact was (it was said) the University seemed 'not interested' in this kind of restitution. Little was done to enable students to acquire the sort of knowledge which the Archive, and more especially its director, Frau Renate Heuer, was labouring to make widely available.

#### S. FISCHER CELEBRATION

The centenary of the S. Fischer Verlag (see our last issue) was celebrated at a function organised by its present director, Frau Monika Schoeller, at the Frankfurt *Schauspielhaus*. Speeches were delivered by the founder's son-in-law, Dr Gottfried Bermann Fischer, and Professor Golo Mann, the son of Thomas.

In its report of the occasion which was described as of 'foremost importance in terms of cultural history', the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* noted the 'surprising fact' that nothing was said about S. Fischer having been a Jew and that his 'achievement may well stand for the Jewish contribution to the spiritual life of our people - a contribution which, for embarrassing reasons, will not be continued beyond this century'.

## FORMER AUSTRIAN JEWS IN ISRAEL

The story of 'Israeli Citizens of Austrian Descent' is being explored by an Israeli and an Austrian scholar. The Israeli is Professor Dr. Otto Kulka, of the Hebrew University; the Austrian Professor Dr. Erika Weinzierl, of Vienna University's Institute for Contemporary History. The project is backed by the Austrian Society for Research into the History of Austrian Emigration since 1934.

It is hoped to obtain replies to 10,000 questionnaires, of which so far 2,500 have produced good results. There have also been a large number of interviews with distinguished former Austrian Jews. Among them are Teddy Kollek, Mayor of Jerusalem for the past 20 years; Josua Blau, President of the Academy for the Hebrew Language; Israel Katz, Minister of Social Affairs. Professor Kulka is concerned also with the influence of marginal Jews such as Gustav Mahler whose music is very popular in Israel, and the philosopher Otto Weininger whose short life (1880-1903) inspired a very successful drama by the Israeli playwright Josua Sobol.

The literary estate of the Austrian Jewish writer Leo Perutz (1882-1957), author of *Das Gasthaus zur Kartätsche*, *Der Marques de Bolibar* and *Der Meister des Jüngsten Tages*, has been acquired by the German Library, Frankfurt am Main, for its *Exilarchiv*. Perutz whose books were burnt in 1933 emigrated to Palestine.

#### Changes in Neo-Nazi Ideology

About 23,500 people in West Germany can be described as Right-wing extremists of whom no more than 1,400 can be called neo-Nazis, says the latest annual report by the Bonn Government's Office for the Protection of the Constitution. Only about 220 of the neo-Nazis appear to be militant. During 1985, the number of neo-Nazi groups fell from 34 to 29.

At the same time, the report indicated, the ideology of neo-Nazism has changed: 'The idol of German neo-Nazis was until a few years ago still undeviatingly Adolf Hitler. But after the two terrorists Oddfried Hepp and Walter Kexel, in the summer of 1982, published their pamphlet *Farewell to Hitlerism*, the number of voices accusing Hitler of betraying National Socialism by making it bourgeois and pro-capitalist, has grown.' These latest neo-Nazis present themselves as national or social revolutionaries, Left-wing nationalists or Right-wing socialists (says the report). They have adopted as their new heroes the brothers Gregor and Otto Strasser and Ernst Roehm, so-called radical Nazis. Gregor Strasser and Roehm were murdered by Hitler in the 'Night of the Long Knives' in June 1934. Otto Strasser escaped first to Czechoslovakia, then to Canada and returned in 1955 (he died in Munich in 1974).

According to the *Times* Bonn Correspondent, the ideological change in neo-Nazism is causing some concern to the West German police because it could make neo-Nazis ready to cooperate with Left-wing extremists. Both share views on U.S. 'imperialism' and Israel.

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## MUSICIAN WITH DISHARMONIES

### A Biography of Herbert von Karajan

The biographer of a prominent living person is faced with special problems. It is only too easy, when dealing with controversial issues, to tread on the toes of other living people, let alone on those of the book's subject. Roger Vaughan's study of Karajan (*Herbert von Karajan: A Biographical Portrait*. Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1986. £12.95) owes its existence to his editorship of the periodical *The Yacht*, which caught Karajan's interest and brought about personal contact, resulting in the conductor's suggestion of Vaughan as his biographer, granting him the necessary facilities. The fact that Vaughan is no musician proves no obstacle, while his American nationality enables him to approach with a degree of detachment and equanimity the controversial issue of Karajan's political record.

The portrait offered by a skilled journalist, able to maintain the reader's interest throughout, is of a man obsessed with his art and an unshakeable belief in his own genius. He knows all his scores from memory and prefers to conduct with closed eyes. His enormous self-confidence generates the characteristic ruthlessness evident in the conflict with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, but also in his dealings with his fellow-musicians, and it is also responsible for his decision to join the Nazi party at an early stage in his career (the exact date is still under discussion).

Yet it seems that Karajan is not a political animal and had no enthusiasm for Nazism. His second wife whom he married in 1942(!) was quarter-Jewish. His political stance was decided by considerations of career, and his career did in fact benefit from the removal of Walter, Klemperer, Kleiber and Toscanini, leaving only Furtwängler as a serious rival.

#### Furtwängler's Jealousy

As is well known, Furtwängler disliked Karajan intensely, and his jealousy delayed Karajan's career decisively. It is rather strange that Furtwängler's attitude during the Nazi period, although less exposed than Karajan's, prevented Furtwängler's acceptance in the U.S.A. after 1945, while Karajan soon toured the States with the Berlin Philharmonic with remarkable success and the result that he became Furtwängler's successor, being appointed for life. Thanks to Walter Legge, he also established his fame in London. He also spent some time as the Director of the Vienna Opera and worked at La Scala,

Milan. Yet his main glory rests on his work with the Berlin Philharmonic, which he made a perfect instrument of his interpretations, achieving a reputation which is unequalled this side of the Atlantic.

Unlike Bruno Walter and Furtwängler, Karajan shows no interest in philosophy. He is rather a 20th century man, keen on technical progress, especially its effect on music. As methods of recording improved, he remade many of his records to make use of new techniques. He owns a jet plane which he pilots himself, as he does a helicopter, and he owns a yacht. Thus, he is hardly the romantic artist in an ivory tower.

Like some of his colleagues, he is also engaged in opera production. Not satisfied with the experimental style practised at Bayreuth since the war, he favours a more realistic manner, based rather on the composer's directions. To give himself the opportunities, he takes complete charge of the Salzburg Easter Festival. The book provides detailed descriptions of typical rehearsals. Before starting on these, Karajan makes a complete recording with the same cast in the previous year. This enables the cast to save their voices and concentrate on the acting. Although Karajan uses his private financial resources for such projects, he has also secured a good deal of

public money and thus provoked criticism.

It is characteristic that Karajan declined to discuss his political record with his American biographer, unwilling to explain or even make excuses. The reader is at liberty to draw his own conclusions, but not everybody will be prepared to ignore the undeniable unique achievements of one of the century's most towering interpreters of music.

### FORCED LABOURERS for Dynamit-Nobel TO REGISTER CLAIMS

Jewish victims of Nazi persecution who worked as forced labourers in factories of Dynamit-Nobel or *Verwerchemie* are reminded that the deadline for the registration of claims is December 31, 1986. Claims are to be filed with Compensation Treuhand, Grunenburgweg 119, 6000 Frankfurt, West Germany. They should contain factual information concerning the time, place, and circumstances surrounding forced labour for Dynamit-Nobel or *Verwerchemie*.

The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference) recently obtained from Dynamit-Nobel a payment of DM 5 million for distribution to Jewish concentration camp inmates who were forced to work for Dynamit-Nobel or *Verwerchemie* during World War II.

For a previous more detailed announcement see AJR INFORMATION, July 1986.

Ludwig B. Levy

### A REFUGEE IN BARCELONA Reminiscences of the Spanish Civil War

This year, being the 50th anniversary of the Spanish Civil War, brings back memories to me of the time I spent there as a German Jewish refugee.

I was eleven years old in the summer of 1936 when my father brought my sister and me to Barcelona to live with my uncle's family who had emigrated to Spain a few years earlier. Little did we suspect that our lives would, within weeks, be disrupted by the outbreak of the civil war. I can recall the almost continuous gunfire which we could hear, and the lorries with armed men which could be seen in the streets. I also remember the churches being ransacked to be converted into crude emergency hospitals.

To a boy of eleven this all seemed an exciting adventure, a view not shared by my aunt and uncle. We avoided going out into the street as much as possible, though under the circumstances life seemed to continue for us fairly normally for a time. Barcelona was during this early part of the war in the hands of the government forces and did not fall until nearly the end of the revolution.

Though we had little contact with any Spanish Jews, I know the community was large enough to have its own synagogue. We were friendly with other Jewish refugees from Germany who had already put down roots in Barcelona, and I know

that at least some remained throughout the Civil War and the subsequent Franco regime to lead peaceful and relatively prosperous lives to this day. Because initially my knowledge of the Spanish language did not go much beyond 'si', 'no' and 'muchas gracias', somewhat sparse for sparkling conversation, I attended the Swiss school. There was also a German school, but this was reputed to be filled with the children of German Nazi families, and not considered to be a suitable place for a nice Jewish boy.

After three months it was decided that we would leave Spain and we sailed to Genoa on a ship which had been especially sent by the German government to evacuate all their nationals from Barcelona. We strongly suspected that we were the only Jewish passengers on a ship chock-a-block with Nazis. I still remember when, shortly before docking, all passengers were assembled on deck for their names to be called through a loud hailer. My aunt was getting more and more worried about the possible reaction when my name 'Levy' would come to be called, and was greatly relieved when instead we heard the words 'Mrs. Prager and children'. I am still grateful for the understanding shown by this ship's officer.

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There is so much to see at present that it is difficult to know where to begin. Pride of place must, however, go to the landscapes at the National Gallery (until 23 November). Entitled *Dutch Landscape: The Early Years*, this exhibition comprises over 140 paintings, prints and drawings drawn from collections in Europe and America. This was a glorious period in Western Art and fine works of all the great names are included – Bril, the Breughels, Elsheimer, Bol, Van Goyen, Salomon van Ruisdael and his namesake Jacob van Ruisdael, Ostade, Rembrandt, to name but a few. There is a very good illustrated catalogue containing several highly illuminating and important essays.

More landscapes can be seen at the Courtauld Institute Galleries (until 30 November) where 'The Northern Landscape' is on display after its successful showing in New York earlier in the year. This exhibition of Flemish, Dutch and British drawings and watercolours is drawn from the Institute's own collection and covers a wide field, including many of the artists being shown at the National Gallery, as well as British artists, such as Richard Wilson, Francis Towne, Gainsborough and many others. A superb catalogue by Dennis Farr and William Bradford is available at the exhibition.

An exhibition of about sixty works by Erich Wolfsfeld (1885–1956), a painter whose reputation has only now become re-established, is being held at Somerville & Simpson Ltd, in association with Caroline Stroude, 11 Savile Row, London W1, (19 November – 12 December). Wolfsfeld, formerly a professor at the Berlin Academy, came to England in 1939. During his lifetime here he exhibited regularly at the Royal Academy and his work has also been shown in Sheffield, Derby and London.

### Czech prints

There are no less than three exhibitions to be seen at the British Museum: *Czechoslovak Prints from 1900 to 1970*, *Prints by Jean Morin* (both until 11 January 1987), and *Contemporary Japanese Prints* (until 26 October). Coupled with the Czech prints there is an exhibition of Czech Book Illustration arranged by the British Library.

The Czech prints come from the National Gallery in Prague and show the achievements of a relatively unknown school. Of particular interest are the works of Josef Capek (1887–1945), brother of the well-known novelist; he died in Bergen Belsen after five and a half years in concentration camps. Another victim was Vojtech Preissig (1873–1944); he was in the Resistance during the war, arrested in 1941 and died in Dachau. Emil Filla (1882–1953), an artist strongly under the influence of Picasso, issued in the late 'thirties a series of works, later known as *Boje a*

Art Notes by Alice Schwab

## Autumn Viewings

*Zapasy 'Fights and Struggles'*, of which the first three prints were entitled *Nazism*. He was immediately arrested after the invasion of Czechoslovakia and spent six years in concentration camps. Released in broken health in 1945, he died in 1953.

So much has already been written about the Picasso Sketchbooks at the Royal Academy (until 19 November) that there is no need to say more than that this is an exhibition not to be missed. These private albums give a detailed insight into the development and creativity of one of the greatest artists of modern times. The catalogue, published by Thames & Hudson, is priced at £36, but a special paperback edition is available at the exhibition (price £16.90).

One of the 'Gallery Artists' of the Osborne Gallery, 21 Grosvenor Street, W1, is David Gryn, son of Rabbi Hugo Gryn of the West London Synagogue. David had three pictures in the gallery's recent mixed exhibition, including *Rabbi with Torah* and *Three Rabbis Chanting* (prices

£750 and £250 respectively). It is understood that he will be holding a one-man exhibition next year.

Hugo (Puck) Dachinger (b.1908) studied art in Leipzig and worked on the Continent in the advertising field until his emigration. After a period of internment he worked as a designer but continued to draw and paint. His work, spanning almost fifty years, has recently been shown at the John Denham Gallery, 50 Mill Lane, N.W.6.

Rabindranath Tagore (1861–1941) achieved fame as a philosopher and writer; his paintings are less well-known. Without any formal training he started painting in 1928 at the age of 67 and produced over two thousand works before his death in 1941. An exhibition of his paintings and drawings was recently held at the Barbican Art Gallery (until 5 October), where there was also an exhibition of the photographs of W. Eugene Smith (until 19 October). From 6 November the Barbican will be holding a large exhibition of the work of David Roberts (1796–1864). Roberts is well-known for his views of Palestine and many of these will feature in the exhibition.

The City Museum and Art Gallery, Bristol, has recently held an exhibition, organised by the Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations, Stuttgart, of German woodcuts from the Expressionist period to the present day. The exhibition had previously been shown in Manchester.

S.B.'s Column

### Jedermann for Everyone

Hugo von Hofmannsthal's mystery play 'Everyman' (*Jedermann*) has been performed in Salzburg ever since the annual festival was initiated, and notable actors, from Moissi and Paul Hartmann to Attila Hoerbiger and Curt Juergens, personified the symbolism of the rich man's life and death. Maximilian Schell, predecessor of the present protagonist Klaus Maria Brandauer (of Mephisto fame) has just published *Fragmente zu Jedermann* (Basilius Verlag, Basel), a book richly illustrated with over 100 coloured photographs which is highly artistic and deals with the *Jedermann* part in retrospect, analysing the play and its main figure as conceived by Max Reinhardt and developed over more than six decades.

### People in the News

Yehudi Menuhin received the Moses Mendelssohn award of the city of Berlin; this prize is awarded bi-annually for the 'promotion of tolerance between races, nations and religions'. Wolfgang Stresemann, who was *Intendant* of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra for many years, reminded the audience that Menuhin had been the first Jewish musician to advocate reconciliation with Berlin after the second world war. In 1946 he was invited by the US Military Government in Berlin, and in 1947 he played in East Berlin for the benefit of the Jewish survivors there.

The Austrian musicologist Marcel Prawy, called 'Mister Music', a great personal friend of Leonard Bernstein and author of the standard work 'The Vienna Opera' (published 1976 by Mold in Vienna, Munich and Zürich) received the 1986 international 'opereetta prize' in Trieste. The

jury stated that Prawy had been instrumental in introducing and fostering the art form 'Musical' in many European countries.

Tragic news about Hilde Güden, the lovely Austrian and international soprano whose voice delighted opera fans everywhere and who was pronounced the finest *Fledermaus* Adele. The popular singer and teacher, now aged 71, is partially paralysed after two strokes and lives in the vicinity of Vienna isolated and a shadow of her former self.

Berthold Brecht, whose works figure among 'Tops of dramatic pops' every year, is at present leading with the number of revivals of his plays on the German-speaking stage. Oldenberg and Trier revived the *Kaukasischer Kreidekreis*; Puntilla appeared at the Schauspielhaus, Zürich, whilst the Vienna Burgtheater has *Mutter Courage* and a mixed Brecht-evening on its programme.

### Birthdays and Obituary

Sir Frederick Ashton, an aristocrat in the world of ballet, creator of his own inimitable style of masterly choreography and symbol of Britain's art of dancing, celebrated his 80th birthday. Michael Jary, German hit-song composer whose songs of the Forties and Fifties are still whistled and recorded, is also 80. British film actor Trevor Howard is 70.

The Munich-born actress *Dorothea Neff*, for decades a faithful member of the Vienna Volkstheater, a noble actress who bore the blindness of late years with fortitude, has died at the age of 83.

\*

This is S.B.'s last column this year. He will be back again in January 1987.

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## A place where you feel you belong

Everything, they say, has two sides but the Day Centre appears to be an exception to the rule. I have been there several times (writes an 'occasional visitor') and I have talked to different people trying to coax them into some sort of critical comment ('yes but'), suggesting perhaps an improvement here, a change there, but with no success: they all, rather remarkably, had nothing but praise. I really feel a bit like those smooth and phoney TV salesmen, but for once it is a fact: all the people at the Day Centre had found what they were looking for—a well organised service which was not mechanical or bureaucratic, but allowed for interest to be taken in each human being.

This is in fact the great point that was made time and again—there is that congenial atmosphere in which you not only can meet old friends but also make new ones. It was so easy, so informal, so different from other Centres they had known, and they had shopped around quite a bit. They knew the places where people will ask: How are you? but never stay to listen. Here it was an atmosphere where you felt that's where you belong, where you are among your own. Many had been living in their flats or houses, but here they found the company that we all need to relieve the loneliness which many experience in varying degrees.

Many went out of their way to commend the helpful spirit of the ladies who look after them. The lunch was good, yes, and so was the entertainment for which almost invariably generous credit was given to the indefatigable Hans Freund, but the most important thing were the helpers, the volunteers. I cannot mention them all by name but all knew of Sandra Randall, the organiser, and I confess I was much taken by the intriguing smiles of the two who received me, carefully checking my credentials, as I did not appear to be a 'regular'. I will remember those smiles, and when I come back again, I shall look out for them.

## DAY CENTRE

### PROGRAMME FOR NOVEMBER

As usual our morning's activities include Keep Fit; Various Card Games; Scrabble; Chess; Bingo; Discussion Group; Art Class.

*The afternoon entertainment is as follows:*

Wednesday, 5th	Piano Recital by Alice Sommer
Thursday, 6th	Piano Duet & Songs with Sheila Games & Daphne Lewis
Wednesday, 12th	The London Ladies Choir
Thursday, 13th	'Words & Music' with Estello Maier
Wednesday, 19th	'Musical Entertainment' with Henry Gross & Friends
Thursday, 20th	'Music Appreciation' with Phillip Moss.
Wednesday 26th	Hans Freund & Sarah Aaronson
Thursday, 27th	Tea Dance & Cabaret

Irene White

## A Special Social Service

### LIBRARY OF TAPES FOR THE HOUSE-BOUND

About a year ago I started a Tape Library. The request came from the house-bound people I was visiting. Many of them told me they used to come to the services but now these old legs of theirs refused to co-operate. That gave me the idea to bring the services into their own home on tapes, and from there it snowballed to a great variety of subjects.

There are now about 100 different tapes and 300 duplicates, covering the following topics: Light Music, Opera, Religious Subjects, Poems and Talks, Lectures (including a series on 'Cities of Exile'), Cabaret and Tuesday Circle and AJR Entertainment. We have famous singers like Gigli, Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, Paul Robeson, etc. Our lectures are given by rabbis, professors, reporters, teachers, magistrates, doctors, altogether people in every walk of life.

Most of the house-bound people like to walk down memory lane. So Richard Tauber, Fritzi

occasional entertainment on tapes at Osmond and Leo Baeck House in The Bishops Avenue. I also tape live entertainment at the AJR Day Centre, the Tuesday Circle or any other function.

For any detailed information please write to me at 122 Sunningfields Road, Hendon, N.W.4 4RE.

### A Tricky Bridge Problem

It is a well known fact that Bridge is a very popular pastime for AJR members. Every Wednesday and Thursday there are several tables in full swing at our AJR Day Centre.

Here is a tricky problem for enthusiasts. Post the solution to AJR Bridge Problem, 8 Fairfax Mansions, London NW3 6LA.

S. A Q 2  
H. A K Q  
D. A K  
C. 6 5 4 3 2

		N.		
S. K 10 9 8 7 6				S. J
H. 8 7 6 5 4 3 2				H. NONE
D. NONE	W.			D. Q J 10 9 8 7
C. NONE				C. K J 10 9 8 7
		S.		

S. 5 4 3  
H. J 10 9  
D. 6 5 4 3 2  
C. A Q

The contract is 4 no trumps. West leads five of hearts. South has to make ten tricks against any defence. Answer and winner will be published next month.

### AJR Club

On Sunday, 27 November, at 3.30 p.m. an 'Afternoon of Music' will be presented by 'Our Grandchildren' under the direction of Hans Freund. Entrance fee 40p including tea. The function will be held at Hannah Karminski House, 9 Adamson Road, N.W.3.

Our visit to Westminster Abbey, conducted by Eva Woodman-Brandt, will take place on Wednesday, 5 November. We shall meet at 11 a.m. sharp outside the Abbey bookshop which is next to the Abbey entrance.

## AJR in ACTION

Massary, Claire Waldof and Hans Moser are in great demand.

The tapes can be switched on or off as it suits the individual; one can repeatedly listen, skip passages or ignore them, should the telephone ring or in cases of other interruptions, there is a handy pause switch.

About five months ago I started reading *AJR Information* onto tapes for my blind friends. These tapes go to them, by courtesy of the Post Office, free of charge—as far as Australia. There are four of us reading, and we hope that our voices are pleasing; the same voices all the time would have been rather monotonous. We introduce ourselves by our first names only. It is our privilege to do this job once a month, and the listeners' circle is widening steadily. I give the

### YOUNG MUSICIANS' CONCERT AT HEINRICH STAHL

On Sunday, 21 September, a group of three pupils aged 14–16 from Bancroft's School visited Heinrich Stahl House to give a musical entertainment.

Zoë Mather, Heather Loebel and Catherine Farndon presented a programme of music for violin, piano, oboe and flute, including works by Kreisler, Schumann, Fauré and Handel, which was obviously enjoyed greatly by the residents. Many were clearly moved by the dedication of the girls, and by the enjoyment they themselves communicated in playing for the residents.

John Dunston, who arranged the visit in co-operation with the Matron, hopes that this will be the first of a series of visits by young musicians to Heinrich Stahl House. The next visit by pupils from the school will be on Sunday afternoon, 16 November.

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## Refugees' Contribution to Science, Technology

The important role of émigrés in science and technology is described in the September 1986 issue of the journal *Physics in Technology* by Dr Paul Hoch, Principal Fellow and Head of the Science Policy and Innovation Research Unit at Warwick University. He refers in particular to the contribution made by refugees in the development of nuclear reactors in America where scholars like Enrico Fermi and Eugene Wigner were able to combine the theoretical knowledge they had gained in Europe with the immense technical know-how and high-powered equipment available in America. In Britain too a large number of the key nuclear scientists (and also the technologists at Harwell) were refugees.

As a Senior Fellow in Britain on the International Project on the History and Impact of Solid-State Physics, Hoch was particularly struck by the frequency with which the founding fathers of this field turned out to be émigrés from Germany or other Nazi-occupied countries who came to Britain or America in the 1930s or '40s. In Britain key figures would include Hans Bethe, Max Born, Herbert Froehlich, Dennis Gabor, Rudolf Peierls and Franz Simon.

Hoch points out that a decisive factor in the British decision to develop an atomic bomb was the memo about its feasibility written by Peierls and another émigré, Otto Frisch – which interestingly paralleled a similar effort by Einstein and Leo Szilard in America.

In Britain, the key biochemical émigrés were undoubtedly the discoverer of the oxidation cycle within the cell, Hans Krebs, and the co-developer

of penicillin, Ernst Chain. Biophysics was heavily centred in Bernard Katz's group at University College, London.

Hoch states reasons for the importance of émigrés and expatriates in some key technological areas. Firstly, in most disciplines, continental European scholarship (particularly in the German language) was still pre-eminent right down to the Nazi dismissals of 1933.

Secondly, central European émigrés had to synthesise the approaches of their native and adopted cultures. This quite often involved them in combining different national approaches, of which the most important turned out to be the synthesis of 'German' theory with 'Anglo-American' empiricism.

Thirdly, in order to obtain academic posts in Britain and America, especially in the depressed conditions of the 1930s, refugees often had to sidestep the established disciplinary hierarchies. Quite often they found themselves in interdisciplinary areas for which they had, or developed, unique qualifications. In this way they could frequently avoid the charge that their appointment was excluding a native applicant.

Something similar happened in the social sciences, though it was not quite as successful. Here Hoch mentions the Austrian Jews Oskar Morgenstern, Karl Deutsch and Paul Lazarsfeld. More recently, the most successful British practitioner of the synthesis of statistics and sociology has been another refugee, the present Master of Wadham College, Oxford, Claus Moser.

## 'Tradition of Hospitality Well Rewarded'

Under this headline, the *Times* art critic describes the contribution made by Jewish refugee artists to British national life revealed at the Camden 'Art in Exile' exhibition (which was discussed in our September issue). In the course of his review, Mr. John Russell Taylor cites such artists as Martin Bloch, Arthur Segal and Jankel Adler as well as 'the unstoppable Richard Ziegler still going strong at 95', also 'those like Fred Uhlman and Josef Herman, who became so much fixtures of the British art scene that we have hardly considered them as exiles at all'.

Taylor goes on: 'It is curious to learn, for instance, quite how many of our leading photographers in the Thirties and Forties were exiles, more or less disguised. Who would have thought it, for instance, of someone with such an impeccably English name as Edith Tudor-Hart – which proves to be the married name of Wolf Sutschitzky's sister? And who knew, or remembered, the German origins of John Gay, Felix Man, Tim Gidal or K. (Kurt) Hutton, all of whom are shown to advantage in this exhibition – as well as Bill Brandt, who is not included'.

Then there are those photographers and other related graphic artists like John Heartfield and Laszlo Moholy-Nagy, who might be considered 'more important in changing British sensibilities than that of any of the grander painters and sculptors: certainly their work was largely instrumental in revolutionizing British photo-journalism and all our received ideas about the necessary relationship of picture to print'.



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## Letters to the Editor

**RESCUE AT FRENCH-SWISS FRONTIER**

Sir - During the second World War, between 1941 and 1944, when France was occupied by the Germans, a large number of Jews, adults and children, tried to flee to Switzerland. In many cases, the escape routes lay across the frontier region of Annemasse, in the Haute Savoie. Successful rescue attempts were made by Christian clergy whose houses along the frontier provided sanctuary for the fugitives, e.g. in Veigy, Douvaine (Abbé Rosay) and in Collonges-sous-Salève (Abbé Jolivet). Father Louis Faure and his brethren in the Order of St François de Sales saved many hundreds of refugees across the garden wall of the Catholic 'St François' school in Ville-la-Grand near Annemasse, which was directly on the Swiss border. It was also thanks to these priests that many of those sent back to the frontier were enabled to live underground in France and so escaped deportation by the Germans.

These acts of human kindness must never be allowed to be forgotten. Some of these men gave their lives to help us refugees (Abbé Rosay, Father Faure). Israel is prepared to honour their memory by awarding them the Medal of the Righteous, but further evidence would be helpful.

We are now appealing for more names and accounts of escapes into Switzerland. Who can testify? Who was saved thanks to the efforts of the brave and righteous people mentioned or, for that matter, others in Switzerland? Who has relatives or friends who were so saved? We would like to hear from them. Please write to us soon.

Herbert Herz                      Hanna Meyer-Moses  
rue Liotard 63                      Ringstrasse 37  
CH-1203 Geneva                      CH-5620 Bremgarten  
Switzerland                      Switzerland

**BOOK ON 'CHILDREN OF REFUGEES'**

Sir - As a daughter of refugees I have recently begun to realise just how great an effect this has had on my life. All my attitudes, views, prejudices and general lifestyle, I feel, can be accounted for by the fact that I am a first generation British woman and there is a definite problem in being a child of refugees for one has no clear conception of where one's roots are, of historical background and thus of a future life.

As a result of such emotions, I am now writing a book on the effect that the Holocaust has had on the Children of Refugees in all aspects of their lives. I wish to interview people - both men and women - to talk to me, quite informally, as part of the book. (Naturally all information will be confidential and all names, places etc. changed for publication.)

Should you be interested in contacting me, please either write or ring me at any time.

JACKY DORFFMAN (Ms)

26 Shirehall Gardens                      Tel: 01 202 6188  
London NW4

**S. FISCHER AND FRANZ KAFKA**

Sir - I don't think Samuel Fischer, the founder of the S. Fischer Verlag, can be called 'a Czech Jew'. As far as I remember, he was born in a town called in Hungarian *Liptos Sz. Niklos* (which roughly means 'Holy Nicholas of Liptos') in a part of Hungary called *after 1918* Slovakia. At the time of S.F.'s birth, even the word 'Slovakia' was unknown. Consequently, he was neither a Slovak nor a Hungarian Jew but a Jew from Hungary.

As regards Kafka, it is not (as Samuel Wolf writes) a 'hideous error calling him Austrian'. After all, he was an Austrian citizen up to 1918 and then, until his death, a Czechoslovak citizen. When 'he was growing up' (born in 1883), there

was no situation of 'Jews of Czechoslovakia' to consider as even this name was not coined until 1918. I would call Kafka 'a German Jew from Prague'.

J.W. BRUEGEL

21 Connaught Drive  
N.W. 11

**CARTOONS BY VICKY**

Sir - The Centre for the Study of Cartoons and Caricature, at the Library, The University, Canterbury, Kent, is assisting the National Portrait Gallery in preparing an exhibition of drawings and cartoons by the late Vicky Weisz. May I ask any one of your readers who might possess Vicky cartoons and/or drawings to get in touch with me at the University Library, Canterbury CT2 7NY.

LIZ OTTAWAY (Ms)

Research Assistant

**A TRIBUTE**

Dear Mr Aronsfeld, Or may I call you Julius, as I understand you are known in religious circles? I would like to tell you how much I have enjoyed the last two issues of AJR INFORMATION. The sombre inward-looking preoccupation with the past and with present-day persecution has been replaced by a lighter touch and with a leaven of information and humour of a kind that was badly needed. I would like you to know that I am not alone in my appraisal and am particularly impressed that this change has come about under an editor who is, chronologically speaking, no longer young.

RICHARD TAIT

Ham Glebe, Church Road  
Ham, Richmond, Surrey

\*

*A number of letters have unavoidably  
been held up*

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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

**Leibel:**—Mrs. Martha Leibel of 307 Vivian Court, Maida Vale, W9, celebrated her 80th birthday on 4 October. The AJR Club extends its warmest congratulations and very best wishes to her, a Hostess over many years and one of its most loyal, most popular members.

**Schwab:**—Mrs. Kaethe Schwab, née Stern, of 78 Audley Road, Hendon, London NW4, formerly Chemnitz/

Saxony and Leicester, will be celebrating her 90th birthday on 17 November 1986. Her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and many other relatives and friends wish her many more years of happiness and good health.

## Engagement

**Morland-Benedyk:**—Both parents are delighted to announce the engagement of Karen, daughter of Ingrid and Henry L. Morland, of Wembley, Middlesex, to Martin, younger son of Pamela and George Benedyk, of Southport, Lancs.

## Deaths

**Aston:**—Mrs. Lenke Aston (née Schwartz) passed away on 26 September, aged 85 years. A charitable lady who had many friends in the AJR.

**Dienemann:**—Erna Charlotte Dienemann, of Wyndham House, Oxford, widow of the late Dr. Alfred Dienemann, passed away on 5 October at the age of 87. Will be much mourned and missed by her daughter Ursula and her son William Wolfgang, their families and her friends.

**Guttmann:**—The AJR Club mourns the death of one of its oldest, most venerable members Mrs. Sidonie Guttmann and wishes to express its deepest sympathy to her devoted son Karl-Heinz.

**Kenley:**—Willi Kenley (Katzky) beloved and loving husband and uncle passed away peacefully after a short illness on 8 October. Sadly missed by his wife Erna, nephew Oliver, niece Vivienne and families.

**Phillipson:**—Dr. Johanna C. Phillipson died peacefully on 13 July in her 100th year, in an Old People's Home in Cambridge.

**Rauchwerger:**—Nicholas Rauchwerger, of Hull, Humberside, was killed by a car on a pedestrian crossing on 12 September. His tragic loss is deeply mourned by his wife, son, daughter, stepsons and all his family.

**Stein:**—Gerard Erwin Stein F.R.C.S., late E. N. T. Surgeon, died peacefully at his home aged 70 on 2 September 1986 after a long and cruel illness courageously borne. Deeply mourned by his wife Lore, his family, many friends, colleagues and patients.

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Gerard Stein will be held on 27 November 1986 at 6.30 pm at the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, 28 St. John's Wood Road, London NW8. It would be much appreciated if people attending the service would arrive at least 15 minutes before it is due to start.

## CLASSIFIED

The charge in these columns is 50p for five words plus £1.00 for advertisements under a Box No. To save administrative costs, please enclose payment with the text of your advertisement.

## Miscellaneous

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## Information Required

**PERL.** Would anyone knowing the whereabouts of Mrs. (?) Irmgard née Perl, formerly of Plauen/VOGTL., last known address in 1958, Haifa, contact Marion Ferguson, née Goldberg, 2 Plas-Y-Goed, Lake Road, East Cardiff.

**ANSCHLUSS.** Historian seeks eyewitness accounts of the Anschluss for a collection to be published in 1988. Any responses gratefully received. Robert Knight, 10 Hever Place, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7QP.

I am writing some articles on the Liberal Organisations in Czechoslovakia and should be grateful if former members of the following organisations, who are able to provide information, would contact me: Lese und Redehalle Deutscher Studenten in Prag, Schlaraffia und Deutscher Turnkreis in der Tschechoslovakei. Dr. Robert Fox, 8 Dragon Street, Petersfield GU31 4SL.

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## Obituaries

## DR GERARD STEIN

Dr Gerard Erwin Stein FRCS, the distinguished ear, nose and throat specialist, who died in September aged 70, came from Breslau after he had taken the liberty of phoning Downing College, Cambridge, telling them that he had just passed his *Abitur* and could he please be admitted to study medicine. The answer, miraculously, was yes. Sadly, his parents were unable to follow and did not survive. He completed his studies at Westminster Hospital in 1940 and subsequently helped in looking after wounded German prisoners of war. There he met his wife Lore, then a medical student, now a GP as well as a member of the AJR Executive and Chairman of the Osmond House Committee. Apart from being a Consultant at a number of hospitals, he ran a busy private practice in Harley Street.

He was a great lover of music, especially opera, and in his Consulting Room saw (even before he could hear) many famous and not yet famous singers. Another great interest was Freemasonry where he reached high office. About 15 years ago he started building bridges with German Freemasons and organised many trips to the continent as well as return visits to this country.

A Memorial service will be held at the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, St John's Wood, on 27 November at 6.30 p.m.

\*

*Fred Bernstein* who died at the age of 82 was a well-known doctor in North London. He was born in Kassel and studied medicine at Göttingen, Freiburg and Munich. As a member of the KC Jewish students' society, he made many lifelong friendships. Like his father, he specialised in dermatology but a successful academic career was interrupted in 1933. In this country he requalified, and his practice in Finchley attracted many refugees among his patients; he also practised dermatology at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington. During the war he served in the N. African and Central Mediterranean forces as a skin specialist, with the rank of Major.

The distinguished musicologist and critic Hans Keller, who died last year aged 66, left estate valued at £199,510.

## DR. CHARLOTTE WOLFF

The Danzig-born psychiatrist who died aged 88 settled in England in 1936. She worked in a Berlin family planning clinic when she was, in 1933, arrested as a 'spy' but managed to escape to Paris where she met Aldous Huxley, the English author, and his wife who both shared her interest in hand analysis as a way of interpreting character. The Huxleys helped her to come to London where she was introduced to a wider circle of writers including T. S. Eliot and Virginia Woolf, also to Thomas Mann. During the war she worked with Julian Huxley at experiments in the London Zoo.

She was a pioneer in the study of gesture and her publications include *The Human Hand* (1942), *A Psychology of Gesture* (1945) and *The Hand in Psychological Diagnosis* (1952). As a campaigner for sexual freedom, she wrote two books, *Love among Women* (1971) and *Bisexuality* which, like a novel *An Older Love* (1976), traced the springs of lesbianism. In May of this year she published an authoritative portrait of Magnus Hirschfeld, the well-known German-Jewish sexual reformer. Her autobiography is contained in *On the Way to Myself* (1969) and *Hindsight* (1980).

## DR RUDOLF FLESCH

Austrian-born Dr Rudolf Flesch who died at Dobbs Ferry, New York, aged 75, was an authority on literacy and phonetic training. By way of determined campaigns over many years he sought to create a more general awareness of the unscientific manner in which reading is taught. His 1955 book *Why Johnny Can't Read* was followed 26 years later by *Why Johnny Still Can't Read: A New Look at the Scandal of our Schools*. He originally studied law at Vienna University and left for the United States in 1938. In addition to his Austrian law degree, he gained a doctorate in library science at Columbia University. His first book *The Art of Plain Talk* appeared in 1946.

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## November Programme

Wednesday, 5 November

Leo Baeck Memorial Lecture  
Rabbi Dr. Jonathan Sacks on  
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Wednesday, 19 November

'From Berlin to Broadway - The Two  
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A REFUGEE'S SALON LITTÉRAIRE  
IN PARIS

Those who are not in the book trade are unlikely to know much about Martin Flinker who died earlier this year, aged 91. He was the owner of a famous bookshop in Paris, and his contribution to the cause of German-French understanding was rewarded in 1973 with a membership in the Legion of Honour. He was not really a Frenchman though but an Austrian Jew who began his career in 1920 when he established the *Buchhandlung am Kärntner* in Vienna. After the Anschluss, he fled first to Switzerland, then to France, then to Tangiers. At the end of the war he returned to Paris where his old-world *Librairie* soon became a rendez-vous of students of German literature. By 1950 it was so well known that Dr Adenauer paid a visit to this *Salon littéraire*.

With the ambition of making his mark in the literary world, Flinker issued several almanacs carrying contributions from French and German authors, and his best known book is a *Festschrift* entitled *Hommage de la France à Thomas Mann*, on the author's 80th birthday. In fact he became quite a specialist on Thomas Mann. Already in Vienna his first literary almanac had contained unpublished writings of Thomas Mann as well as Werfel and Schnitzler, and among his later essays one suggests that solitude was the *leitmotif* of the whole of Mann's work, while another described a last visit to the author shortly before his death at Zurich in 1955.

ELSE LASKER-SCHÜLER PORTRAIT  
RETURNED

A portrait of Else Lasker-Schüler, the poetess, painted by Jankel Adler in 1924 and removed in 1937 as 'degenerate art' from the local museum, has returned to the Van-der-Heydt Museum of Wuppertal, her native city. The Museum had bought it from a Paris collector at the price of DM 120,000 (ca £40,000). The portrait had been stored by the Nazis in a Berlin depot though nothing is known as to how it came to be taken to France. It was discovered during preparations for an Adler retrospective in Düsseldorf, Israel and Poland. In Beersheva a street has been named after the poetess.

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At their first AGM, D.J.R. became the  
**ASSOCIATION OF CHILDREN OF JEWISH REFUGEES**

The Descendants of Jewish Refugees (DJR) have changed their name to Association of Children of Jewish Refugees (ACJR). This was one of the decisions taken at their first AGM held on 20 September at Hannah Karminski House. John Dunston, in the chair, recounted the story of what could be termed their 'parent' organisation, the AJR, which was established in July 1941. For the members of ACJR too, Judaism was 'a determining factor in their outlook on life', and all of them felt the bond arising naturally from their common background.

**Membership nearly 100**

In the course of the year, many people had come to discover when and how each other's parents had found a refuge in this country; perhaps the greatest discovery was that we were talking to people who understood by no means always the case with Jews who did not share our particular heritage.

A Steering Group had organised a variety of events during the year, and membership had

grown to nearly 100. Presentations were made to Mrs. Lilly Allen who had taken the initiative in launching DJR, and to Caroline Salinger, the organiser since then, who gave a full account of the year's activities. There were many plans for the coming months, and it was hoped that members would continue to enjoy the warm and friendly atmosphere generated at our gatherings.

There was wide discussion of various points in the new Constitution which was then adopted.

Daniel Levy moved the election of John Dunston as chairman of the ACJR. Both motions were carried, and the names of those elected are *Chairman: John Dunston; Vice-Chairman: Caroline Salinger; Admin. Secretary: Anne Salinger; Membership Secretary: Malcolm Wald; Treasurer: Daniel Levy; Committee: Eve Allen, Steven Derby, Colin Dunston, Ian Rosmarin, Liz Rosney, Susan Shiffman.*

Anyone in their 20s or 30s, single, interested in joining this active social group and whose parents came to this country as refugees, should phone 01-579 9906 for further details.

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