

AJR INFORMATION

Volume XLI No. 9, September 1986

£2 (to non-members)

WINDS OF CHANGE

New Perspectives at the Annual General Meeting

The challenge of change was distinctly felt at the AJR's A.G.M. held on 17 July in the crowded Margaret Jacoby Hall of Hannah Karminski House. The Restitution age as it were was past and now a new *parsha* was read in our affairs.

Mr. C. T. Marx, the chairman who presided opened the proceedings by asking for a minute's silence in memory of members who had died during the year: Hans Casparius, Lisl Dunston, Ruth Flesch, Alice Goldberger, Hans Keller, Heinz Kiewe, Hermann Lehman, Lotte Lowenthal, Trude Oettinger, Herbert Sulzbach.

Mr. Marx then drew attention to the change in the proceedings in that the agenda had been published in the June issue of AJR INFORMATION. This had been done to keep members informed well in advance and to leave more time for discussion. He underlined the importance of members' subscriptions. He stated that unless members rallied and agreed to pay higher subscriptions, consideration might have to be given to the idea of a fixed membership fee.

The point of more general change came over clearly in the report of the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Ludwig Spiro, who explained that the AJR's work was now mainly concerned with social service for the elderly, attending to their needs which involved manifold activities not least regular visits to them – a most essential service which was by no means as easy as perhaps it sounded.

Two Problems

The AJR was struggling with two problems – the first financial. This of course had always been present. In 1978, for example, income was £55,000 and expenditure £58,000; now, in 1985, with a membership virtually unchanged, the respective figures were £65,000 and £150,000. Perhaps the fault lay with an imperfect public relations system. Quite probably, many members did not know what the organisation is doing; if they did, they would feel called upon to do something. As it is, the AJR Trust has helped to some extent; help is also being received from

legacies, but a great deal more is required to close the gap, and all our friends were urged to remember the AJR in their wills. As for the subscriptions, they barely covered the cost of producing the monthly journal, and it was hoped that a demand for a more realistic amount as well as for bigger donations would be favourably received.

But there was also a problem in human terms (the speaker went on). If we were to take proper care of our elderly people, the most essential thing obviously must be to maintain regular contact with them. This could only be done by volunteers coming forward who understand the elementary duty and discharge it as a privilege. Unfortunately, repeated appeals had failed to attract enough volunteers. At one of the Homes in The Bishop's Avenue, one third of the residents never had a visitor and many had nobody from outside to talk to. All those able to render this

service were urged to contact Mrs. Sylvia Matus, who is coordinating this part of the AJR's work.

Perhaps the most important event during the past year was the opening of the Day Centre. It was at present at the Belsize Square Synagogue and thanks were due to the Synagogue's management for their help. Much credit was due to the AJR administrative officer, Mrs. Lydia Lassman, and the lady directly in charge, Mrs. Sandra Randall, who between them ensure the smooth running of the Centre on two days of the week. Many people derive great pleasure from the varied and stimulating programmes.

Before very long, further progress would be made by the Day Centre moving into a home of its own. With the generous support of the Balint Charitable Trust (see page 6), a property had been bought in Cleve Road, West Hampstead, and it was now in process of being adapted to our requirements; it was likely to be ready for occupation next spring.

Another gratifying feature in the year's record was the Government's decision entirely to free from income tax the pensions received by German and Austrian victims of Nazi persecution.

continued overleaf

THE ANNUAL CONCERT

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(in conjunction with AJR)

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GERMANIA JUDAICA

Cologne's Institute of German-Jewish History

In 1959, some Cologne citizens joined together for the establishment of a library to deal with the history of German Jewry. A moving spirit was Heinrich Böll who, twenty-five years later, was to say: 'The reason for founding the library was doubly distressing: first was the Nazi annihilation of European Jewry, then the increasingly clear realisation . . . that the understanding of . . . what in fact was history was growing not stronger but weaker.' And so the twofold task of *Germania Judaica* was firmly established; to preserve the knowledge of German Jewish culture and to provide a source of information about antisemitism and Nazi crimes against Jews.

Through this library, Jewish history and culture may be shown as an integral part of German history and culture without rejecting its specifically Jewish elements. Where Jewish traditions are in danger of disappearance, there is all the greater need for information from the printed page. However, within the past twelve months, the founder-members Heinrich Böll and Wilhelm Unger have both died, a painful reminder that the founding generation is passing away and that their work of enlightenment must now be taken up by successors.

Germania Judaica is incorporated as a private company, which means that for many years the financial position has been difficult. Nevertheless, by her careful acquisitions policy, the director of the library up to 1984, Dr. Jutta Bohnke-Kollwitz, brought its holdings up to 35,000 works, including rare and valuable books and periodicals. One quarter of all titles are gifts, often by authors who have used the library's resources. Growing financial support was obtained from the city of Cologne and the *Land North-Rhine/Westphalia*; 90 per cent of the budget is derived from their grants. Moreover, in 1979 the city provided new premises without asking for any payment. The institute is now housed in the modern building of Cologne's Central Library.

Rising Number of Users

Connection with a public library has led to a steep rise in the number of users. Loans increased from 2,349 in 1978 to 5,510 in 1980 (after the move) and 8,637 in 1985. In addition, thousands of visitors come every year for research in rare books and periodicals though antisemitism may be used only by accredited scholars.

The main collection relates to the history of German-speaking Jews since the Emancipation. An important section is that dealing with Nazi persecution; it includes several hundred accounts by survivors. Additional fields of interest are the history of antisemitism, Zionism and Palestine/Israel.

A notable feature of the library consists of over 500 local and regional studies of German-Jewish history. This is the fastest-growing section, since so many towns, villages and districts are preparing a record of their Jewish inhabitants. Most important also is the periodicals collection with

nearly 600 titles ranging from century-old publications to over 100 current journals.

Readers come from near and far, mainly as students or academics. Recent foreign visitors have included the Lord Mayor of London and two groups of Israeli teachers. School parties, too, are welcomed. Not infrequently, visitors arrive almost by accident; intending to use the Central Library they wander into the adjoining *Germania Judaica* premises, find there material which interests them and so become new regular users.

Germania Judaica does not regard library work as its sole task, but provides information for anyone interested in Jewish themes. Letter and telephone enquiries arrive daily from the media, from publishers, theatre and film directors and

many others. Research students often need detailed advice, including indications of other archives which may prove helpful or work already carried out in their field. Accordingly, it is essential for the institute to maintain international contacts. The present Director of the library, Dr. Monika Richarz, takes a particular interest in this aspect of its work. Its bulletin of work in progress, *Arbeitsinformationen* (the 13th edition was published in April 1986, containing a record of over 700 such projects being carried out in 13 different countries) is based on questionnaires sent out with the help of the Leo Baeck Institute, which also helped to finance the printing of this very large edition.

Even all this does not represent all the work carried out by *Germania Judaica*: for example, last year it played host to the touring exhibition '50 years of *Aufbau*' (the New York Jewish refugee publication) and simultaneously showed samples of its own exile literature holdings. Other exhibitions in Germany were materially helped by the loan of books.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Continued from Front Page

This development was mainly due to the AJR and, in particular, the persistent and dedicated efforts of our taxation expert, Dr. F. E. Falk, whose notable achievement was rewarded by a prolonged round of applause. It might not be inappropriate for members to show their gratitude by earmarking some of the tax benefit for further support to the AJR.

A special tribute was paid to Mrs. Ruth Finestone who handles the AJR responsibility for the admission procedure for the Homes of the CBF Residential Care and Housing Association. A well deserved tribute was paid also to Mrs. Ruth Neushul for organising the Self Aid Concert - work she had done despite the fact that she was now retired from all social work; the Concert of course is a vital source of artistic enjoyment as well as material support for Self Aid. Much appreciation was expressed of the successful contribution made by Mr. C. C. Aronsfeld, the present editor of *AJR INFORMATION*, who had come to the aid of the Association at short notice. The accounts were then proposed and adopted.

In the course of the discussion, Dr. Lore Stein spoke of the 'watershed' that had been reached in AJR affairs. For this, members would wish to be grateful to the Executive, especially Mr. Spiro, who had shown great vision. He had been the first to launch the idea of a Day Centre, and she hoped we would long continue to have the benefit of his enthusiasm.

Mrs. F. Rom expressed appreciation of the Day Centre's work and immediately made a donation of £50 towards it.

In a reply to a question as to the age limit for sheltered accommodation, it was stated that people in sheltered accommodation must be able to shop and generally look after themselves. This was the reason why 75 was the general age limit, though each case was considered on its merits.

Dr. A. Horwell spoke about the AJR Club with its services to 60-70 people and more especially

about its chairman, Mrs. Margaret Jacoby who, at the age of 104, was still very much in charge.

The discussion closed with expressions of thanks for the sterling work, especially by the staff and volunteers all of whom were giving wholehearted support to the various activities of AJR.

Dr. Falk moved the re-election of Mr. Theo Marx as chairman of the AJR, thanking him for his devotion and expense in effort and time. Mr. Marx then moved the re-election of all members of the Executive. Both motions were carried.

Great expectations were fulfilled by the guest speaker, Professor Heinz Wolff, who gave a very entertaining illustrated talk on 'A Holiday in Space' assuming five nights in a space station in the year 2080. The problem of how to deal with weightlessness was graphically explained with the aid of slides, showing the effect of the experience on a human being. Though forecasts of this kind have a knack of missing the unexpected, Professor Wolff made it all seem great fun even if (or perhaps because) the scientific details were, quite literally, high above the heads of most of the audience. His lively and witty presentation conveyed much of his enthusiasm and optimism, although he admitted a holiday in space might as yet be available only to the relatively well off. He did not touch upon the question whether survivors of this kind of holiday might need another, more conventional one, to recuperate, say in Eastbourne or Bad Kissingen.

As for the argument that this sort of research was a waste of effort and money while there were so many things needed on earth, he thought there had always been urgent needs, but explorers had never been deterred by them. It was not a matter of either-or, but of two separate ventures attempted by different interest groups. Questions were answered by the speaker promptly and with abundant confidence in a promising future in space.

Dr. Horwell gave a vote of thanks.

THEY HELPED TO RELIEVE HUMAN SUFFERING

I. Sir Ernest Chain

'Tall oaks from little acorns grow.' In the summer of 1928 Alexander Fleming, working at St. Mary's Hospital in Paddington, on the staphylococcus bacteria went on holiday and left a Petri dish containing his bacterial solution uncovered on his laboratory bench. When he returned he noticed that a large mould had appeared on the solution which had become transparent. It became obvious to him that the staphylococcus cells had been killed by some sort of micro-organism which had settled on the dish; spores which in an as yet unexplained way had drifted in from the outside. Eventually he called his new mould broth filtrate Penicillin. In 1945 he was awarded the Nobel prize for medicine for his pioneering work on the new wonder drug jointly with Howard Florey and a refugee biochemist from Berlin, Ernst Chain then aged 39. The three scientists are dead now; the last one to be accorded the encomium of a full length biography is Chain: *Ernst Chain - Penicillin and Beyond*, by R. W. Clark (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1985, £14.95).

Ever since the end of the war there have been endless discussions and academic disputes as to who of the triumvirate played the most crucial part in the development of penicillin, which, during the critical phases of the war and after, has saved thousands of lives and almost eradicated a number of endemic diseases. Is it Fleming who first saw the accidental miracle but failed to appreciate the enormous chemotherapeutical possibilities which might flow from further research on it? or Florey in whose William Dunn Laboratory at Oxford just ten years later a proper research project was launched? or Chain who carried out most of the actual investigations?

Crucial Breakthrough

The crucial breakthrough in Chain's work came in May 1940, just two weeks after the Nazi offensive in the West, when eight albino mice were injected with *Streptococci* bacilli and only four of them subsequently received an injection of penicillin. The next morning only the four penicillin-treated mice were still alive. Chain was beside himself with excitement.

The rest of the story is well known; it makes fascinating reading in the book. But what was not hitherto very well known is the complex personality of Sir Ernst, who died in August 1979. Clark's book is by no means a hagiography. The author treats his subject with critical empathy. The Ernst Chain who emerges from his book is a perhaps not atypical Jewish refugee scholar, reared in the regimented German academic tradition, suddenly transplanted into the casually organised groves of British academia; a foreign Jew carrying sizeable chips on his shoulders from his last few years in pre-Nazi Germany (he left early in 1933); burdened by a fair amount of insecurity which for a man of his calibre was bound to increase once he settled in this country.

Brilliant, argumentative, unable to learn how to 'play cricket' - in both senses of the term - he

sensed antisemitic resentment where it probably did not always exist; a great British patriot, he for many years felt overlooked and unrewarded. He sustained close personal friendships; he married rather later in life Anne Beloff, sister of Max and Nora; with their three children they led a very harmonious, closely-knit family life. Yet he almost invariably quarrelled and fell out with scientific colleagues under whom he worked. Accordingly to people quoted in the book he was 'extremely touchy'; he was a 'useful irritant' and a 'prickly hedgehog.' His deliberate rocking of the establishment resulted in a very tardy bestowal of a British honour, years after his two fellow-Nobel laureates.

Unlike many other refugee scientists, Chain was an observant religious Jew, steeped in Jewish traditions, also a fervent supporter of Israel and in particular of the Weizmann Institute at Rehovot. He was not a 'primitive' creationist believing in the literal truths of the Book of Genesis; but he was also not a supporter of the Darwinian concept

of evolution and natural selection. For him divinely created human life was so complex that no facile explanation and no experiments on animals would ever solve its mystery. For that reason he did not subscribe to the preponderant importance nowadays given to molecular biology and to the genetic engineering efforts resulting from the discovery of the double helix structure of the genetic material DNA. He decried the, for him artificial, borderline between theoretical academic research and practical biochemical engineering. What mattered to him were not so much theoretical insights, which were always liable to change (such as the break between classical Newtonian physics and the work of Planck and Einstein for example), but the practical, therapeutic help that biology could and should provide for mankind.

The Chain who emerges from Clark's book is an ebullient, warm-hearted man with a short-fused temper, touchy, with quite a bit of *amour propre*, who was often the cause of his own problems, particularly with his colleagues and superiors; a man whose contribution to the relief of human suffering has been a considerable one. Despite a few minor errors, the book is well worth reading, even for a non-scientist like this reviewer.

RONALD STENT

II. Sir Ludwig Guttman

The lives of many German refugees have a structure like that of a play with three acts. The first section of their lives concerns growing up in a long-established and respected family in Germany and, in many cases, beginning a successful career. The second episode sees their lives, their outlook, their standing, threatened and then shattered by the Nazi régime. The third part contrasts with the first and second. It takes place in England or America or Israel where their lives are rebuilt with difficulty, but are often crowned with achievement though tempered by painful memories.

The life of Ludwig Guttman follows this pattern, and much may be learned by the study of his biography. Susan Goodman (not a relative) has attempted a very difficult task: to place an individual's life in the authentic context of history and, above all, to show how the two interact. She has succeeded: Susan Goodman, *Spirit of Stoke Mandeville: the story of Sir Ludwig Guttman*. With a foreword by the Prince of Wales. Collins, 1986. 191pp, £10.95.

Guttman was born in Breslau in 1899, educated there, and later trained as a doctor. He specialised in neurology and at the very early age of 28 became the first neurosurgeon in the world to work in a psychiatric hospital, in Hamburg.

Susan Goodman shows how these foundations of his life were constructed in a happy family, a sound education, secure citizenship, and the early signs of eminence in a valued profession. To be sure, there were some ugly manifestations of antisemitism, but these were localised and not overtly significant. The even tenor of Guttman's life was shared by many thousands of Jews.

The advent of Nazi power created an unbelievable and catastrophic change in Guttman's life. Forced to leave his post, stripped of his civil

rights, he was restricted to treating only Jews, and severely reduced in status, with uncertain and unhappy prospects. He faced this upheaval in his life with courage and dignity, more than once confronting the authorities in his concern for his patients and at great personal risk.

In 1939, Guttman began life anew when he came to England and secured a post in medical research in Oxford. 1944 saw a demand for a new spinal injuries unit in readiness for the Second Front with its expected casualties. He headed the new unit, located in Stoke Mandeville, a name later to become world-famous. He was able to establish a completely new régime for servicemen paralysed by spinal injury. Hitherto an extremely restricted life for such sufferers had led, in most cases, to much misery, pain, discomfort, and an early death.

His treatment involved the almost unheard-of encouragement for the patients to work, and to play, right up to the limits of their capacity, and not to be regarded as helpless and useless. Sport was encouraged from an early date, reflecting Guttman's own life-long enjoyment of this, culminating in the Wheelchair Olympics which have transformed the morale and the image of many spinal patients.

Not only did Guttman have innovative ideas: he had the drive and the zeal which were needed to give effect to the philosophy of activity and of achievement.

Ludwig Guttman personifies what the flight from Germany implied for the host countries: the accretion of talent, drive, and, in some cases, genius which the refugees brought with them in a variety of ways. In his later years, he was loaded with honours, and, in 1966, he was knighted.

SYDNEY JONES

Rhineland Jew in South African Parliament

Mr. Harry H. Schwarz (whom I recently met on one of his occasional visits to London) might have been M.P. for Hampstead had his father, a humble Cologne business man, not been refused entry into England in 1933. As it was, the family in 1934 moved to South Africa where Harry went to school, later joined the S.A. air force and then established himself as a lawyer in Johannesburg where various (mainly Jewish) Parliamentary constituencies elected him, for the first time in 1951, then in 1958 and 1974, as their Member of the United (now Progressive Federal) Party. He has an orthodox tradition; the family used to belong to the *Glockengasse* synagogue and their roots in Cologne reach far down to the 18th century.

Mr. Schwarz, now 62, is prominent alike in national and in Jewish affairs. As chairman of the S.A. Board of Deputies' International Relations Committee (since 1982) he makes it his business to foster the links between the Jews in S. Africa and their brethren the world over, especially in the U.S.A. He strongly believes in the idea of *Kol Yisrael Chaverim*, and so far as S.A. Jews are concerned, this means in particular to banish any feeling of isolation that might attack them. He does not want us to look upon them as a community in distress. Of course, in the prevailing circumstances inevitably there is anxiety about the future, but (says Schwarz) they go on, undaunted, planning ahead regardless. Their support for Israel is unsurpassed, and many of their young people are going on aliyah, but many, like himself, see their foremost duty in struggling for social justice at home.

Social Justice v. Apartheid

They are endeavouring to practise Jewish values as applied to political problems (Schwarz says). They were never happy about Apartheid. They are protesting against arbitrary government that will imprison people without trial and they insist on action to relieve suffering. They do not wish it to be thought that in a crucial situation when Jews needed leaders, no one was prepared to do things. Some rabbis have spoken up though there is no collective protest as in the case of the multiracial Council of Churches. Schwarz deprecates facile criticism indulged in by people outside S. Africa

who he feels are largely ignorant of the situation though he found understanding particularly among U.S. Jews.

He is aware of antisemitism not only among whites such as the Nazi-type Afrikaner *Weerstandsbeweging* ('Resistance movement') which is opposed to the Government, but also among the blacks where anti-Jewish feeling often appears in the guise of anti-Israel feeling; according to Schwarz, there are links between the African National Congress and the PLO, and the blacks in S. Africa are frequently compared to the Palestinians in Israel; altogether the Jews will be identified by some blacks with the affluent whites who 'live off the underprivileged.'

In Parliament, Schwarz has three Jewish colleagues, all in the same party, including the famous Helen Suzman though, like the other two, she plays no part in specifically Jewish affairs.

C.C.A.

SELF AID CONCERT

on 2 November

The Self Aid Concert on 2 November promises to be a treat in no way inferior to its previous successes. The *Divertimenti* String Orchestra has securely established itself as one of the country's most distinguished. Since its earliest days in 1974 when it was founded by Emanuel Hurwitz, C.B.E., it has received much acclaim for both its programmes and performances. It records regularly for BBC Radio 3. It will be conducted by its Leader and founder member, Paul Barritt.

You can reserve your ticket now. Please use the form enclosed with this issue.

QUEEN MOTHER

Visits Refugee Firm

When brothers Fritz and Robert Loeb came from Bamberg to Gateshead to start their factory in September, 1939, they only had a few pounds and a plan to start life again in their newly adopted country. They never dreamed that one day Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, would tour their factory and call it 'an outstanding success in a highly competitive business.'

Yet this is just what happened on 10 June, 1986. Her Majesty was met by the son of Fritz Loeb, George, who has managed the family firm since 1965. In that year his brother Ronny, with whom he had run the business for the previous 13 years died after a long illness. Cousin Herbert, the son of Robert Loeb also worked in the company for several years. He left to start a number of highly successful manufacturing companies in the electronics industry. He is better known to members of AJR as Dr. Herbert Loeb, O.B.E., who addressed their A.G.M. in 1981 on 'Refugee Industries in the Depressed Areas.'

As the second oldest company at the Team Trading Valley Trading Estate, Loblite Ltd, manufacturing a range of industrial lighting fittings, electrical accessories and ferrules for paint brushes, was selected as the only company to be visited by Her Majesty when she came to Team Valley for its 50th anniversary celebration.

A FREUD MUSEUM IN HAMPSTEAD

A Freud Museum was opened on 28 July in Hampstead, N.W.3, where Freud spent the last few months of his life. The opening ceremony was performed by HRH Princess Alexandra. The Museum contains Freud's study, his 3,000 books, also pictures, and is furnished with some 2,500 Greek, Roman and Oriental antiquities as well as with the celebrated couch. Other rooms contain family memorabilia, as well as exhibits relating to Freud's life and work, also to his daughter Anna, her work at the Hampstead Clinic, now named the Anna Freud Centre where her practice of the psychoanalytic treatment of children continues.

Freud arrived in London as a refugee in June 1938 and died here in September 1939. Thereafter the study and library were kept intact by Anna. In 1980 the American Freud Archives purchased the land and building of 20 Maresfield Gardens, which had originally been bought for Freud by the British Psychoanalytic Association, and on Anna's death in 1982 the contents of the house were bequeathed to an English charitable trust to establish a museum.

A number of exhibitions are planned, two of which should be ready later this year - the first on Freud's basic ideas of the 'The Interpretation of Dreams', the second on 'Psychopathology of Everyday Life'. Other exhibitions will present Freud's analysis of civilisation and art and his contribution to our understanding of human sexuality. The Curator is Mr. David L. Newlands, a Canadian, who is not a psychoanalyst but a specialist in museum studies.

Intense Wish Phantasy

Freud always felt a deep attachment to England. On his arrival in London, he wrote to H. G. Wells: 'You cannot have known that since I first came to England as a boy of 18, it became an intense wish phantasy of mine to settle in this country and become an Englishman'.

He had been in England for the first time in 1875 when he visited his half-brother in Manchester. That visit he confessed left 'indelible impressions' on him. Indeed, says his disciple and biographer Ernest Jones, 'he never ceased to envy Emanuel for being able to live in England and bring up his children far from the daily persecutions Jews were subjected to in Austria'.

Characteristic too is what he wrote, shortly before leaving Vienna, to his son Ernst who was already in England: 'Two prospects keep me going in these grim times: to rejoin you and ... to die in freedom ... Compared to being liberated, nothing else matters'.

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The importance of the Art in Exile exhibition at the Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Road, N.W.3 (until 5 October) cannot be over-emphasized. A great deal has already been written about the contribution of German refugees to British science, industry, commerce, politics and social life. It is therefore a welcome sign that a start has now been made on evaluating the liberal arts so that, in due course, there may emerge a deeper understanding and appreciation of the part played by the influx of this particular group of emigrés who brought with them the accomplishments and culture they had acquired in their original homeland.

A start has to be made somewhere, perhaps by showing works produced by the artists concerned during the period of their arrival, the difficult

This is by no means the whole of the picture. Art is both national and international and the public both transient and fickle in their taste. Although this will be hotly denied, artists, like any other producers, are influenced by public taste and demand. German art, especially the work of the Expressionists, was hardly known in this country before the war and even in the early post-war period. Yet, looking at recent auction house records, it is only too clear that the public taste has changed and been awakened to this new field. How far this change was primarily or even partially influenced by the work of the emigré artists has not yet been fully established. But it may well be of significance that a not inconsiderable number of them (Martin Bloch, Fritz (Fred) Kormis, Harry Weinberger, to mention but a

And, finally, the dealers who numbered among them a goodly number of German emigrés. Whether dealers sell what the public want or the public buy what dealers offer them, is an open question. But there can be little doubt that those emigré dealers who settled in Britain had a not inconsiderable influence in drawing public attention to schools of art of which the buying public was relatively unaware.

All in all, the present exhibition is a splendid first attempt. Zuleika Dobson and the other organisers are to be congratulated on their efforts. They have managed to bring together a collection comprising works by about a hundred artists, more or less, arranged in thematic groups, e.g. flight and emigration, the internment camps, the Blitz, etc. The exhibition includes self-portraits, portraits of fellow-emigrés and of eminent figures in British Society. Some well-known names, such as Lucian Freud and Frank Auerbach, which one might expect to see featured in an exhibition of this kind, are excluded simply because they fall outside the strict scope of this exhibition—they were children when they came to England!

It is perhaps more than a happy coincidence that this outstanding exhibition is being held in Hampstead where so many of the artists concerned either lived or have lived during their stay in this country. It is, moreover, to be hoped that this is only the start of a serious study of this important cultural field and that further, more specialized exhibitions will follow.

An illustrated catalogue of the exhibition is available at £2.50. Also a limited number of the German catalogue to the Oberhausen exhibition is available at £15.

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The *Ostdeutsche Galerie* at Regensburg which specialises in paintings by artists hailing from the former East German territories holds many representative works by Jewish painters. They include the following names (number of exhibits in brackets): Friedrich Feigl (1), Johnny Friedlaender (1), Julo Levin (3), Rudolf Levy (6), Max Liebermann (1), Ludwig Meidner (2), Emil Orlik (12), Eugen Spiro (3), Jakob Steinhardt (1), Heinrich Tischler (3), Lesser Ury (4), Erich Wolfstfeld (1).

— Alice Schwab —

An Outstanding Exhibition

ART IN EXILE IN BRITAIN 1933–1945

years (1933–1945) when, uprooted and partly disorientated, they were attempting to establish a new life on foreign shores and to provide for their basic economic needs, with the shadow of the Swastika streaming out over Europe and the cataclysmic happenings of the war years which did so much to uproot and destroy the existing social and cultural environment.

There are many good works on display at the exhibition executed by a large number of emigré artists. The exhibition itself is derived from a similar *Kunst im Exil* exhibition recently held in Berlin and Oberhausen. Most of the artists are well-known to us, but there are some surprising gaps, although this is probably inevitable in any attempt to cover such a wide-ranging field which is not particularly well documented.

In the erudite introductory essay to the catalogue of the present exhibition, Monica Bohm-Duchen accepts that not all the emigré artists adopted similar processes of re-orientation, but she does suggest that the more radical among them 'were prompted to revert to a greater conservatism and realism in their art, due in part, one supposes, to the need to accommodate to a new, more conservative public and partly too, perhaps, in response to the experience of dislocation itself'. A keen observer may well discern a general trend of this kind throughout the exhibition, but proof of Monica's thesis can only be obtained by careful comparison of the work of individual artists before, during and after the cataclysmic period here selected. This is therefore only the beginning of deeper research, and art historians will doubtless be occupied for many years to come in analysing the work of the artists concerned.

few) were not only artists in their own right but devoted a good portion of their time to teaching. How far did they influence the younger generation of native artists, and in what direction?

In art there is invariably a spin-off into the commercial field. Even a casual study of TV advertising will recognise the influence of modern artistic tastes on commercial designers. Many of the emigré artists had already been successful in the past in the commercial field. What was their influence on British design and commercial art when they moved to Britain? We need only think of George Him and his famous 'Schwepperville' advertisements of the '50s, or the important design work undertaken by Elizabeth Friedlander for, among others, the Curwen Press, the work of Bertold Wolpe, typographer and calligrapher, formerly a teacher at the Frankfurt and Offenbach School of Art. His work was of such significance that the Victoria and Albert Museum gave him an exhibition all to himself. And, not to be forgotten, Walter Trier of *Lilliput* fame. The work of none of these is included in the present exhibition. This is another field that merits careful study.

VOLUNTEERS

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Towards the Day Centre's Expansion

The Paul Balint Charitable Trust

All those of our people who enjoy coming to the AJR Day Centre at Belsize Square – and their number is constantly growing and may soon be more than can be accommodated – will be glad to know that, in the foreseeable future, they will no longer be tenants dependent on hospitality, however gladly given and gratefully received, but that they will have a home of their own, a building in Cleve Road, West Hampstead, which we expect will be opened sometime next spring.

We know our friends have long wished for it. We have reason to believe that perhaps 3–400 people will want to visit the Day Centre at least once a week, probably more often, and much care and thought has gone into the planning of it.

It is an ambitious project, obviously involving a major financial effort. The Executive of the AJR decided to make the project a priority, and in this they managed to enlist the support of understanding and generous friends. More especially it was the good will and help received from the Balint family that made it possible to ease some of the problems with which we were confronted, although, however welcome the support of our friends, problems of finance remain.

In the meantime, it will perhaps be interesting to tell how progress so far has been achieved. The first problem was to acquire the necessary spacious building, and in this we were helped by the Paul Balint Charitable Trust. Few of us may have heard of the late Paul Balint, an exceptionally talented businessman of unusual vision. He was a Hungarian Jew (1900–1978) and by trade a seed merchant, continuing a business started by his father in association with the man who was to become his father-in-law. As the outbreak of World War II became imminent, he saw to it that his two brothers and brother-in-law came to live and work in England, while he stayed with the rest of the family in Hungary, leaving in 1946. In England he immediately set about rebuilding and developing the business which soon extended to southern Africa and America, including in its range electronic sorting machinery used for agricultural products as well as minerals. The large

group of over 20 companies became known in England as Agricultural Holdings. One of the companies received more than one Queen's Award for services to export and scientific innovation, while Paul Balint himself received the O.B.E. in 1974.

However, business was not Paul Balint's exclusive concern. In 1977 he set up a Charitable Trust for the benefit of deserving causes. He was a conscious though not an observant Jew, but his charity knew no discrimination. Whilst giving freely to Jewish charities (the Jewish Welfare Board, the Blind Society, Old Age Homes as well as schools and hospitals in Israel) there were also donations to national hospitals, medical research and institutions such as the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. Without being a 'dogooder,' he sought to promote, as far as it lay within his powers, the welfare and success of people when he could see that his assistance would serve a constructive purpose.

S.B.'s Column

Theatre and Entertainment

COMEDIAN WILLY-NILLY

At the height of his career, Theo Lingen, undoubtedly one of the most intelligent stage and film comedians, was described by a critic as 'having swallowed a comic engine'. Lingen (1903–1978) is the subject of a book by Willibald Eser, *Komiker aus Versehen* (Munich. Langen-Müller Verlag). It is a very readable story of an artist whose intention to become a serious actor was thwarted when, after beginnings in Halberstadt and Münster he was suddenly required to play Penizek in 'Countess Maritza' in Bad Oeynhausen where he happened to be engaged. Upset about being 'misused', Lingen played the part with clumsiness and such awkward movements of his tall body that he became the sensation of the show. His hairstyle, his erect way of walking and his nasal sounds marked Lingen as comic for his future career which took him to Frankfurt, Berlin and Vienna, and – above all – to every film producer in Germany. Millions have seen Lingen and laughed about his particular sense of humour. What is not generally known is the fact that he wrote successful plays and that his widow Marianne had been the wife of Brecht before she met Lingen. All this and much more is contained in this book which recalls many an enjoyable hour. German Television repeatedly transmits comedies in which he starred.

TIT-BITS

La cage aux folles, at present at the London Palladium, will become *Ein Käfig voller Narren* at the Staatstheater, Wiesbaden, next season. New York's Tony best play award went to Herb Gardner for his two-man play *I'm not Rappoport* (Paul Scofield excelled in the London production). Tony award for the best musical was given to the revival of the musical *Sweet Charity*.

Birthdays

The doyenne of the Vienna 'Burg', Adrienne Gassner, one of Austria's most beloved actresses, widow of former *Josefstadt* director and novelist Ernst Lothar, celebrated her 90th birthday in well-deserved retirement. During the years of emigration in the States, she proved her undisputed talent by acting successfully in the unfamiliar English (much praised in *Claudia* and *I remember Mama*); those who saw the latter play in London's Strand Theatre in 1948 will vividly remember her unique originality.

Gustav Knuth, the versatile German character actor and popular TV star, is 85. Also 85 is Frederick Schiller, an actor who has appeared in numerous roles on the British stage, on Television and in films and who has frequently contributed to the pleasure of grateful audiences in the AJR Club. Gian Carlo Menotti, American composer whose operas include the often-produced *The Consul* and *The Medium*, is 75 years old. Giuseppe di Stefano, brilliant Italian opera tenor, much acclaimed at the 'Met' and at Covent Garden in 1961 when his Cavaradossi was considered outstanding, has reached the milestone of 65.

Obituary

Richard Eybner, one of the longest-serving members of the Vienna *Burgtheater* whose 90th birthday was recorded in this column last April, died in Vienna. He was a Nestroy specialist and had played a small part in *Lumpazivagabundus* a few days before his death. American-born soprano Claire Watson who had studied with Elisabeth Schumann, for many years leading interpreter of Richard Strauss parts (*Ariadne*, *Marschallin*, Countess in *Capriccio*), who sang all over the globe from Rome to Chicago and often at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, between 1958 and 1972, died in Munich, aged 59.

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IN PRAISE OF VOLUNTEERS

Those Who Keep the Day Centre Going

I would like to thank the volunteers who take such an interest in the AJR Day Centre at Belsize Square Synagogue on Wednesdays and Thursdays. This fine team do so much to help the 120 ladies and gentlemen enjoy their day at the centre. They unstintingly give interest, active support and friendship to provide a convivial atmosphere.

They are people of the most varied occupations – manicurists, bingo callers, cloakroom attendants, card hostesses, morning coffee and afternoon tea-makers, chauffeurs, nurses, receptionists, shop assistants, furniture movers and waitresses. As well as serving the food, they assist those less able to manage. Some of our people rely more on this extra help than others. These hardy volunteers then stack, wash, dry and help put away about 240 plates and countless glasses, cups and saucers each day. Plus the sorting and polishing of all the cutlery – in addition to stacking away all the chairs, tables, screens for the Synagogue's continuous use. Oh dear, the *shlepping* about!

I bring the lunch from the Hannah Karminski (H.K.) House kitchen where, with the aid of still more angel volunteers, it is prepared and cooked. The Meals on Wheels are also cooked, packed and sent from this kitchen. Our Head Cook,

being a great baker, provides a tasty afternoon tea-cake for the Day Centre. Some of the team at the H.K. House have been regular helpers for more than 10 years. Many of them have tedious travel arrangements, involving several bus changes. Car drivers have the problem of parking.

While tea is served, my kitchen pots and pans and I are chauffeured back to the H.K. kitchen. This gentleman's car is transformed into a mobile kitchen to transport full saucepans to the Day Centre. The AJR is fortunate in having found this team of volunteers with their much needed caring attitude. I know that our elderly folk appreciate them as much as I do. HELEN GRUNBERG

Telephone Sandra Randall
Day Centre Organiser,
Tuesdays 328 6317, Wednesdays &
Thursdays 435 6931

GERMAN JEWS IN VICTORIAN ENGLAND

When he explained the various strands of Jewish immigrants in England through the ages, Mr. C. C. Aronsfeld, editor of AJR INFORMATION, dealt particularly with the otherwise little noticed German Jews who came during the 19th century and made a substantial contribution to English national life. They were very different from the Sefardim and the poorer immigrants of the 18th century and even more different from the victims of the Russian pogroms if only because they were so much fewer. But they were soon prominent; for example, the Chief Rabbis of the Victorian age, the Adlers, came from Hanover, while others were among the founders of the Reform movement. Many were Mayors of British cities whose trade and commerce they helped to promote. The Imperial Chemical Industries were built up by the Mondes who hailed from Kassel and the G.E.C. by Hugo Hirst, a native of Munich. An exceptional position was reached by Sir Ernest Cassel, the banker, of Cologne, who, together with Sir Felix Semon, the physician from Danzig, belonged to the closest friends of King Edward VII. Many came originally for economic reasons as England was so much more advanced than Germany but many too, if not most, were driven away by an already strong antisemitism – only to find themselves 'between two fires' during the first world war when their loyalty was suspected. Theirs was a story of great achievement but also of poignant tragedy.

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.

DAY CENTRE

PROGRAMME FOR SEPTEMBER

As usual our morning activities will include Keep Fit; Various Card Games; Scrabble; Chess; Bingo; Discussion Group and, as from the end of September, an Art Class.

The afternoon entertainment is as follows:

- Wednesday, 3rd 'A Couple of Swells' Cabaret. Songs and sketches from the Twenties and Thirties, 'On the Sunny Side.'
- Thursday, 4th Mr. J. Goodman will speak on 'Alternative Medicine.'
- Wednesday, 10th Helen Wartski: 'Songs for your Pleasure.'
- Thursday, 11th Songs Old and New with Hans Freund.
- Wednesday, 17th Violin recital with Marion Oliver and Jonathan Honeyball.
- Thursday, 18th A lighthearted Quiz. Ladies versus Gentlemen organised by Lionel Rose.
- Wednesday, 24th Peter Howard, Operatic Tenor, with Mary Bennet at the Piano.
- Thursday, 25th Musical entertainment by Jeff Strum and friends.

MRS. M. PICKARDT 90

To all refugees who ever engaged in Zionist work, especially in the critical times 30-odd years ago, the name of Mathilde Pickardt at once suggests hard conscientious work and ever present devotion to duty. Now she is 90 and resting from her labours. But her friends, especially in the Theodor Herzl Society, have not forgotten her and at this milestone they send her respectful and affectionate greetings in the hope that she will enjoy the years that are left in the peace and the comfort she has so richly earned.

BERLIN AND VIENNA SYNAGOGUES

Pictures of the interior of Berlin synagogues are a feature of a Jewish Calendar for 5747 (1986-87) published by the West Berlin Samson Verlag, with a preface by Heinz Galinski, head of the West Berlin community. Among the synagogues are Heidereutergasse, Oranienburger Strasse, Beth Zion (Brunnen Strasse), Lützow Strasse, Lindenstrasse, Rykestrasse, Münchener Strasse, Pestalozzistrasse, Fasanenstrasse, Kottbusser Ufer, Prinzregentenstrasse. In each case a brief note refers to their fate. The Calendar is obtainable from E.M.S. Books, 223 Salmon Street, London N.W.9 8ND. Price £7.50 plus postage.

An interesting illustrated survey of 'Vienna's Synagogues through the Centuries' is published in the journal of the General Zionists in Austria, *Zentrum*, June 1986. Pictures of the following synagogues are printed: Leopoldstädter Tempel, Türkischer Tempel, Synagogues Neudeggasse, Turnergasse, Leopoldgasse, Dollinger-gasse, Kaschlgasse. They all were destroyed in November 1938. Today only the Seitenstettentempel and part of the Leopoldstädter remain.

AJR in ACTION

ALL ABOUT THE MAGISTRATES COURT

Though few in the Day Centre's audience on 16 July were likely to appear ever in a Magistrate's court charged with such misdemeanours as being 'drunk and disorderly' or 'possessing offensive weapons,' they all showed a lively and remarkably knowledgeable interest in what Mrs Betty Israel, J.P., told them on this institution which we heard was 'as British as warm beer.' It was created by Richard Lionheart, otherwise known as a romantic type; he appointed 'justices of the peace' as far back as 1195 when he also set up 'houses of correction' which we today, less hopefully, call prisons.

Those were the days too when people could be put into stocks at the drop of a hat, e.g. wives for answering back their lords and masters, and as for witches, oh well, our modern feminists don't know how lucky they are, living in this day and age.

Incidentally, women magistrates began their career in 1919, and today magistrates, to be truly representative, must also include representatives of the ethnic minorities. Every case must start before them, and though lay people they are advised by clerks who are lawyers. Drawing on considerable experience, Mrs Israel explained the various kinds of magistrates' courts, e.g. those dealing with juveniles, child custody, maintenance claims, etc. Serious offences go before Crown courts, and it seems remarkable that despite the exacting and highly responsible nature of the work involved, the Magistrate's office is voluntary and unpaid.

KULTURKAMPF IN ISRAEL

It is increasingly becoming clear that Israel's main problem is not so much the threat from outside as the dissensions inside which recently went to ominous lengths. Unless effectively restrained, either by law or self-discipline, this may well become a case of history repeating itself. Inevitably memories are aroused of the time 2,000 years ago when Jews in beleaguered Jerusalem were fighting each other, 'engaging (says the historian Henry Milman) in the most dreadful civil conflicts' where 'stern and bloody divisions' resulted in 'self-inflicted calamities'. Indeed the Romans might not have conquered had they met a united resistance. Now, while the present siege is very different, the quarrels of 'ultra-orthodox' and non-orthodox factions may easily degenerate to a point where they could give aid and comfort to the enemy.

After 'ultra-orthodox' militants had set fire to Jerusalem bus shelters in a campaign against what they claimed were 'lewd' advertising posters, a group calling themselves 'People against the Ultra-Orthodox' retaliated by daubing the main synagogue in Tel Aviv with swastikas, setting fire to another, and burning religious books. President Herzog thought this was almost worse than Tsarist pogroms - 'a nightmare the devil himself could not have created.' Mr. Teddy Kollek, the Mayor of Jerusalem, warned against 'a civil rebellion the police cannot control,' others spoke of a *Kulturkampf*.

The monthly newsletter of the Israeli organisation of Jews from Central Europe, *MB (Mitteilungsblatt)*, was inclined to see the root of the trouble in a 'steadily growing militancy of "ultra-orthodox" fanatics,' trying to force their principles on the standards of a 'pluralist society.' They, with a core of about 5,000 *Yeshiva* students, were said to be a minority which was denying the very foundations of the State. They were for example refusing to accept the jurisdiction of the Israeli courts or any other of the law-enforcement agencies, as the State, in tolerating different views, was said to be 'not in accordance with the

Torah.' When a judge argued that if they did not recognise the State, at least they ought to behave themselves as guests and respect their hosts, the answer was: 'We were here first. The State is a guest and we are the hosts!'

Up to now (the *MB* remarks) the authorities had been very lenient, reluctant to take determined action and applying the methods of appeasement. As the 'ultra-orthodox' have friends in high places, in those religious parties on which any Government must depend for parliamentary support, the prospects of a drastic curb on the disturbers of the public peace appear to be dim.

YECHESKEL ben DAVID

AGONY AND ECSTASY

Visions of another Prophet Amos

All those for whom Israel is more than an acceptable holiday venue, or a romantic concept of a dream come true, Amos Oz's *In the Land of Israel* (Chatto & Windus, 1983, 257pp. £8.95) is recommended. It grew out of a number of newspaper articles for *Davar*, and such is the author's skill that the published selection truly contains the agony and the ecstasy of this latest and greatest hope of the Jewish people. And more, encapsulated in it is much of the story of Zionism and its origins in the Diaspora.

Oz is, of course, one of the foremost, if not the greatest, of Israeli writers, and well known in this and other countries. And he is a leader of the 'Peace Now' movement which came to such prominence during the Lebanon invasion. He is therefore a controversial figure, and as such he spoke to the inhabitants of Israel and the West Bank - workers, soldiers, religious zealots, ageing pioneers, Zionists and anti-Zionists.

The anti-Zionists in question are, astonishingly, Jews - the ultra-religious-and-orthodox communities (of Jerusalem, in the main) who hold that only the *Moshiach* can proclaim a revived Israel and that therefore the present State is heretical. With all the other groups Oz is patient and understanding; against these ideological ultras his tone is somewhat bitter. In fact, he seems to consider the advocacy of a *Kulturkampf* were it not that these communities are survivors of the holocaust.

It is an odd feeling that the interviews are conducted in places whose names leap out of the Old Testament, like Tekoa (the birthplace of the other Amos, the Prophet); Beth Shemesh, Ashdod. They are uneasy reminders for the perceptive reader that these issues have been debated, and these battles been fought, before. But that apart, it strikes one how similar are the problems of this land of immigration to those of other such countries. The Sephardi immigrants of Beth Shemesh, for instance, sound like the more recent comers to Britain: they are convinced that they do not have a fair deal, that they are 'the blacks' of Israel . . . notwithstanding the fact, literally boasted of by them in a later part of the interview, that their children are making it to the middle echelons of the body economic and politic.

The pioneers of yore, the people of the writer's own background and sympathy, sound a note of

pathos as they apologise for the small luxuries that have entered their lives, partly because of compensation money from Germany.

Oz tries to be fair to the Arabs. From casual conversation in a café as well as in an interview with members of the staff of the newspaper 'The Arab Dawn', he distils the feeling that 'Zionism' is a state of mind of any group who BELIEVE themselves to be a people without a land, like the Jews of the oh so recent past. His somewhat Voltairean conclusion seems to be that Israel should have fewer cosmic illusions (of the type 'A Light unto the Nations') and be content with having created a pleasant little town like Ashdod.

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Letter to the Editor

ELISABETH BERGNER

Sir—With reference to Dr. Hugh Rank's *Reminiscences of Elisabeth Bergner*, may I point out that she did not 'go' to the U.S.A. but escaped to that country while on location with a British film in Canada. As the film was already half finished all scenes in which she appeared had to be reshot with another actress at very considerable cost for the British government who financed the picture.

I have known Bergner for the last 63 years of her life both personally and professionally, and am the last one to dispute her eminent talent as an actress which, except for an abortive venture in 1950, she could never display again in this country.

Professor Jan Van Loewen, LL.D.
24 Cottesmore Court
Stanford Road, London, W8

Dr. Rank writes: I do not know the details of E.B.'s film activities in Canada and even if I did, they were hardly relevant for my immediate purpose. However, it is quite wrong to say that E.B. did not 'go' to the U.S.A. and to indicate that she felt compelled to go there. This is by no means the case. She planned, against the most urgent advice of Paul Czinner, to leave England first for Canada and then to meet up with him in Hollywood.

Here are a few snatches from E.B.'s autobiography in this context (p. 190ff.): 'I wanted to leave (England). I wanted to go to Canada . . . Paul warned and warned . . . Paulus is desperate and tries to forbid (my departure) . . . Paulus no longer knew whether he should kill me or himself in order to keep me here . . . I remained in Canada and Paul took a train for America. We agreed in the end that he was to wait for me in Hollywood and not in New York.'

This should make it clear beyond doubt that E.B. was *planning* to go to America while still in England. It is humanly understandable but it cannot be wished away.

Another passage: 'I was convinced of it that with the help of Thomas Mann, Werfel, Feuchtwanger, Brecht and all those friends who already were in America I could arrange a programme of recitals which would be more useful than anything else that I could do in London' (p. 191).

A REINHARDT EXHIBITION

An exhibition entitled 'Reinhardt Actors make Film History' was opened at the Salzburg Max Reinhardt Memorial Research Institute. Reinhardt's 73-year old son Gottfried protested at the opening ceremony being performed by the Austrian State President Kurt Waldheim.

GEORGE H. TRENTER, 75

Mr. George H. Trenter, who joined the AJR immediately after the War, celebrated his 75th birthday. He was born in Berlin and became an active member of the *Blau-Weiss* at an early age. During the first Nazi years, he worked in the Palestine Office in Berlin where he helped organise the 'illegal' aliyah.

Following his escape to England he volunteered for the British Army and distinguished himself particularly in the Burma Campaign, rising from Private to Captain. After the War, he joined the Theodor Herzl Society, taking a prominent part in its work. He became one of the stalwarts of the British Zionist Federation of which he was recently elected an Hon. Vice-President. Mr. Trenter showed considerable efficiency in building up a very successful manufacturing business in which he still works.

F.E.F.

Obituary

PROF. F. A. LIPMANN

Prof. Fritz Albert Lipmann, who died aged 87, was an eminent biochemist noted for his work on biosynthesis, the process by which the body converts food into physical energy.

Born in East Prussia, he studied medicine at Königsberg, Berlin and Munich universities and began his research at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute of Biology, Berlin. He emigrated to the United States in 1939 and was working until shortly before his death at Rockefeller University.

In 1953 he shared the Nobel Prize for Medicine and Physiology with Sir H. A. Krebs for his investigation and isolation of the co-enzyme 'A' which aids the chemical reactions releasing energy.

DR. WILLIAM GUTTMAN

Dr. William Guttman, who died on 23 July 1986 after a long illness, was born 82 years ago at Gleiwitz, Upper Silesia. He practised law in Berlin before the Nazi take-over, then emigrated to Italy where, eventually, he lectured on comparative law at Genoa university. In 1938 he came to London, where he met David Astor of the *Observer* who set him up as a freelance radio monitor, analysing BBC broadcasts in German and Italian and the broadcasts of those countries to their own citizens. Later these formed the basis of a regular *Observer* feature 'The Voice of the Axis'. After a spell of internment he joined the staff of the paper in 1943. Among his tasks, he set up a multi-language press cutting archive, revised and supervised the paper's syndication service and edited 'Sayings of the Week'.

After retirement in 1969 he continued to write for the paper, also for AJR INFORMATION. A TV programme on the Great Inflation displayed his fine memory for significant detail and his gifts as a raconteur. He is survived by his wife, Monty.

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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.

Birthday

Pickardt:—Warmest congratulations and best wishes to Mrs. Mathilde Pickardt on her 90th birthday on 11 September. We are happy to take this opportunity of expressing our sincere thanks to her for the untiring voluntary work she has undertaken for us since the inception of the Club until she entered Heinrich Stahl house last year. AJR Club.

Golden Wedding

Cassell:—On 26 August 1936, at the Synagogue Lutzow Strasse, Berlin, by Rabbi Dr. Leo Baeck and Oberkantor Hans John Jakobsohn. Rabbi Curtis E. Cassell to Cecilia Witkowski. Now at London W9.

Deaths

Bernstein:—Dr. Fred Julian Bernstein passed away on 20 June 1986. Deeply mourned by his wife Ellen, sister Margaret, his sons Robert, Anthony and Geoffrey and their wives, six grandchildren, family and many friends.

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A. EISENBERG

Meyer:—Dorothea Meyer, née Warschauer, suddenly on 28 July at her home in her 82nd year, wife of the late Ludwig, dearly beloved mother of Ruth Korn and Emanuel, mother-in-law of Billie Meyer and Frank Korn, and grandchildren David and Anthony, Dorothea and Jeremy, Ruth Rebecca and Cedric. She will be sorely missed.

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Information Required

JEWISH REFUGEES COMMITTEE, Drayton House, Gordon Street, London WC1 0AN, would like to hear from anyone knowing the whereabouts of Gitl BULKIN, born 1904 in Bobruisk City (Russia), emigrated in 1923, married Mr. Rohlis and had two children, last news from her in 1946 in England, sought by brother in New Zealand; and Sala FAYERMAN, born 1928 in Lodz, Poland and left after World War II. Sought by a relative in U.S.

KAUFFMANN. Would anyone knowing the whereabouts of Dr. Robert Kauffman, former Bewag Board member, probably emigrated to England from Berlin in 1933, or his relatives, please get in touch with Horst R. Sassin, Wildbahn 18, 5650 Solingen 1, West Germany. It is known that, in 1935, Dr. Kauffman was a member of the Jewish Refugees Committee.

KAUFMANN. David Rudolf Kaufmann (1851-1934) and his wife Emma Mayer Kaufmann (1860-1906), from Münstermaifeld nr. Koblenz. Descendants are sought by Leo Hoenig, 453/c F. D. R. Drive, Apt. C-1504, New York, N.Y. 10002.

SIMON. Would Fritz Simon, who came to England from Hamburg in 1939 and married Ann, who inherited a window cleaning business, or anyone knowing his whereabouts, please contact Box 1100. Information required for research on a book.

STRAUS. Dr. Raphael Straus. Information required on the whereabouts of descendants of the Ger-

man-Jewish historian (1887-1947 New York) and by any person remembering Dr. Straus personally. Please contact Prof. Michael Brocke, Judaistik, Universität Duisburg, D-4100 Duisburg 1, West Germany.

MRS. RUTH STRAUSS, of Santiago, Chile, would like to hear from anyone knowing the whereabouts of her cousins WALTER LUDLOW, formerly Luchtenstein, born 1919 in Wurzen, a chemist, wife Ilse (nee Michaelis), last heard of in 1952 at 230 Willow Road, Enfield, and ELIZABETH BURNHAM (nee Gerda Behrmann) 1920 in Leipzig, a nurse at African Hospital, Lilongwe 1951-1955, last heard of at Edinburgh University 1955-56. Please contact Herbert Anderson, 7 Shrublands, Norwich NR2 4BS (Tel. 0603 61 85 77).

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At the Homes

OPEN DAY AT LEO BAECK

The Open Day at Leo Baeck House on 13 July passed off in a strikingly congenial atmosphere where residents were happy to see their families and other friends. Several volunteers attended to assist the ever helpful staff to prepare the big annual event and turn the House into a colourful bazaar which yielded a substantial profit, exceeding that of last year. Among old friends were noted Mrs Mitchell, one time of the CBF, and Dr. Rosenstock, the former director of AJR, and his wife. There were also new faces as well as members of the families of deceased residents, and this link with the past was particularly appreciated.

CONCERT AT OSMOND

The beautiful and expressive contralto voice of Marion Lewis singing songs by Brahms and Mahler was an outstanding feature of a concert at Osmond House on 3 August. The singer was fortunate also in having as her accompanist Daphne Lewis who for many years was accompanist to the London Jewish Male Voice Choir.

David Adams, violinist, a former leader of the BBC N. Ireland Orchestra, delighted the large audience with arrangements by Kreisler, a sonata by Handel and the lovely *Souvenir* by Franz Drdla. He was very ably accompanied by Ann Bates. The programme concluded with Marion Lewis singing *Pale Hands I love*, accompanied by David and Daphne. The artistes were welcomed by Doris Mainzer and a vote of thanks was given by Dr. Laura Stein.

DJR News

First Year's Progress

By the time this article appears in print the DJR will have celebrated its first birthday. It has been a very successful beginning measured by the fact that our mailing list now includes nearly one hundred Descendants of Jewish Refugees and our meetings are all very well attended.

The month of July has been typical in that we have been able to offer a wide variety of activities. Our customary buffet supper attracted a substantial number of new members. We had an enjoyable visit to the play, *Brighton Beach Memoirs* by Neil Simon at the National Theatre. This was a comedy centred on a Jewish family in Brooklyn in the late 1930s and related to the audience largely through the eyes of one of the sons of the family. The play had parallels with the *Secret Diary of Adrian Mole*, although it was somewhat less sentimental.

We also visited Bevis Marks, the oldest syna-

gogue in London. It was built on its present site in 1701, 45 years after the Jews were readmitted to England during the protectorate of Oliver Cromwell having been expelled in 1290 by Edward the First.

We take this opportunity to invite all DJR members to our first AGM, to be held at Hannah Karminski House at 9 Adamson Road, Swiss Cottage, London NW3, on September 20 at 8 pm. Anyone aged approximately 20-32 who is interested in joining this active social group, and whose parents came to this country as refugees should contact Caroline on 01-579 9906.

Hungarian Jews

Out of Hungary's (roughly) 80,000 Jews, about 60,000 live in the capital Budapest which has 26 synagogues, also a rabbis' training college which caters for congregations throughout S.E. Europe.

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North Hesse Jews

The Regional Museum of Hofgeismar, North Hesse, desires urgently to make contact with former emigrants from the following places: Breitenbach (Habichtswald), Breuna, Hoof, Naumburg, Volkmarsen, Wolfhagen, Zierenberg, etc.

The purpose of this request is a thorough scientific evaluation of the fate of the former Jewish citizens of this area. The Hofgeismar Museum, having had its own Judaica collection since 1983 – one of the few in Hesse – is very interested to obtain reports on the situation in the various towns and villages of these districts, in particular about anti-Jewish excesses during and even before the Nazi period, experiences in connection with emigration, the fate of individual families, also the number of victims, the size of synagogue membership in 1933, occupational structure, etc. Also any family photos, family trees, old business stationery, and other documents of that period would be most welcome, as would every detail, every name, every single fate,

every occurrence however seemingly insignificant.

Kindly contact Michael Dorhs, Mainzer Gasse 28, D-3550 Marburg/Lahn, West Germany.

*

We have received a letter from Dr. Alfred Heilbrunn, Eikendreef 8, 5342 HR Oss, Holland, concerning the whereabouts, at present unknown, of two Hofgeismar Jews who emigrated to England, probably London, in 1938 – Erika Hackesberg, then about 30, and Hans Alfred Mathias, then about 14. Dr. Heilbrunn writes: 'Hofgeismar invites all its former Jewish citizens to come to their birthplace and stay there for a fortnight. All expenses will be paid by the town council.'

Correction

Charlotte Beradt whose obituary appeared in the July issue, was the wife of Martin Beradt and died at the age of 84.

The well known W. German theatre producer who was recently 60 was of course Peter Zadek.

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