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ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN
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CONGRESS OF THE NATIONS.

THE United Nations Conference has been welcomed as a first step towards a sound world co-operation that will have to be judged by its merits. The atmosphere in London, one of sobriety and scepticism might have been a better omen than the enthusiasm and illusions which accompanied the formation of its predecessor, the League of Nations. The League had two obligations towards the Jews: the protection of Jewish minority rights in European countries and the implementation of the Palestine Mandate. Those "protected" by the League, died by the millions and the obligations under the Palestine Mandate were not carried out.

Two issues on the agenda of the United Nations Conference are of specific interest to us. The one is the re-organisation of the existing inter-governmental bodies for refugees and their incorporation into the United Nations Organisation. Countries like Sweden and Switzerland which have a proud record of aid to refugees, are not yet members of U.N.O. It would be regrettable if they would not be represented any more on those councils.

The second problem of specific interest is the trusteeship system, important for the future status of Palestine. The Palestine question itself will only be dealt with in a later session; it is at present "sub judice" by the Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry which is not subject to UNO control.

ENQUIRY ON PALESTINE.

THE eyes of the Jewish world are focussed on the Anglo-American Commission of Enquiry on Palestine. The AJR, among other organisations and institutions, were invited to give evidence.

A WORLD CONSPIRACY.

AFTER the storm aroused by General Sir Frederic Morgan's statement has died down, it is persistent to inquire after the facts brought to light both by the General and his critics. The curtain which veiled Jewish wanderings across the Continent, has been torn down. General Morgan, whose sincerity should not be doubted, was supposed to have used the much commented phrase of a Jewish "conspiracy" to pull out from Europe. Indeed, if any conspiracy has been discovered as a result of the "Morgan incident," it was that of a world conspiracy of silence which had prevented the truth about Polish Jewry to leak out.

What has been confirmed by correspondents of the British Press as well as by General Morgan's own findings, is the immense trek of Eastern Jews westward bound or, in many instances, heading across the Alps towards the Mediterranean. What has been established is the desire of tens of thousands of Jews to leave the places of their humiliation and degradation and to emigrate, the majority of them wishing to go to Palestine. The "Manchester Guardian" rightly pointed out that not only persecution but the fear of persecution is an element strong enough to motivate a mass exodus. General Morgan's statement might in the end have helped to demonstrate the urgency and scope of that problem.

S. Adler-Rudel:

With the Jews in Germany

From a report given to the Executive of the A.J.R.

When, after ten years, I set foot on German soil again, I found two Germanies; not a "good" and "bad" Germany—I have my doubts as to this differentiation—I mean the Germany of the devastated towns and that of villages and little hamlets—still idyllic and unscathed as ever before.

It was in this peaceful setting that I saw the cramped and crowded camps for Jewish displaced persons. Still, the sight of these camps relieved me somehow—these were no bleak barracks, but consisted mainly of solid houses and proper roads. The inmates were not prisoners. They were free to leave and to return, being only subject to the general curfew imposed on the whole district. Indeed, many Jews were often seen on the high roads, wandering from camp to camp, from

the camps, two-thirds of them in the American zone and one-third in the British zone, but there are also the remnants of German Jewry, 8-10,000, mostly living in the towns. Jews in the camps have some kind of security, housing and food; they do not have to go out to work in order to live. The situation in the towns is different. German Jews have to struggle hard and exhaust all their energy in trying to obtain the necessary housing, food and clothing. Above their day-by-day struggle hovers the question, "When can we leave Germany?" No machinery to get them out of the country has yet been established—there are no consulates, no passports, no transport services. While the average age in the camps is between 15 and 40, the remnants of German Jewry are elderly people. There are beginnings of community life in Frankfurt-on-Main and Munich, Kassel, Hanover, Hamburg and Lubeck, with a couple of hundred souls in each of the towns, but the only German Jewish rabbi seems to be Dr. Neuhaus in Frankfurt-on-Main.

The problem of reparations is hardly tackled yet, but relatively has progressed most in the American zone. On the whole, there is as yet no Allied policy regarding many unsolved questions—of restitution or rehabilitation.

The only camp with some German Jews is Deggendorf, the best organised of them all, where 600 old people, former inmates of Terezin, are awaiting their emigration. Those 600 have refused to return to the towns. They are well cared for under the camp leadership of the UNRRA Director, Mr. Karl Atkins.

The well-being of the Jews in the towns depends on the local Allied administration and conditions differ from place to place. Anti-semitism has by no means vanished from Germany but at present, in contrast to Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, there is no active anti-semitism in the Reich. Due to her central geographical position, day by day more Jews from the East travel and march towards Germany in the hope of one day reaching Palestine or America. Some of them, however, are bound to "get stuck" on the journey. There are many marriages in the camps and many children are born; and while the remnants of German Jewry will, in a few years, either have emigrated or died, the problem of foreign Jews in Germany who in their majority look to Palestine as a final haven, will become more and more serious until the new order in the world will provide for them too a workable solution.

MEETING

Mr. S. ADLER-RUDEL and
RABBI DR. E. MUNK

who have recently returned from a
visit to Germany will speak on their
impressions

On Monday, 11th February, 1946, 7.15 p.m.
at Friends' House, Euston Rd., N.W.1
Doors open at 6.45 p.m.

Admission with ticket only (1s.)

Tickets obtainable from the A.J.R. Office
(Stamped envelope to be enclosed).

town to town, sometimes even managing to cross frontiers, always searching for their families who had disappeared in the European chaos.

I had steeled myself to see the living skeletons and broken human beings such as were liberated by the Allied armies eight months ago. I met upright men and women who were, to all outer appearances at least, normal, strong and healthy. In a miraculously short time their will to live has transformed them from pieces of broken humanity into a new type of Jew. It is a new type altogether—not a better, not a worse type, but a different type. They are not apathetic, but full of fighting spirit, distrustful of the world, relying on no one but themselves; they do not beg, they reject charity—they demand their rights. They speak a new Yiddish, a language which is dynamic and sharp—they have their poetry, their music, their theatres, and their Press, a Press with a circulation larger than that of the whole Jewish Press in Britain, but they do not seem to write with a pen—they write as if with a hammer.

Inasmuch as there are two Germanies, there are also two Jewries in Germany. There are the 60-70,000 "foreign" Jews, mostly Poles, living in

JEWES IN POST-WAR VIENNA

BY A
CORRESPONDENT

The number of Jews in Austria is given as somewhere between 15,000 and 18,000, which figure includes transmigrants and inmates of D.P. camps. Jewish communities have been formed in Vienna and some of the bigger towns, but the Vienna Kultus-gemeinde is the only one of any size, and even this one is only a faint shadow of the once strong and prosperous Kehilla. It numbers about 5,000 members. Most of them are elderly people, other sections are those comprising Jewish partners of mixed marriages, and some 700 people who managed to survive in Vienna under false names. The number of young people is extremely small.

Mr. David Brill is the acting head of the Community and Mr. Bernhard Braver, who is also President of the recently reconstituted Zionist Organisation, acts as his adviser. The Community's headquarters are at Schottenring 25, as the premises in the Seitenstaettengasse have been bombed. It has not yet succeeded in recovering its houses and other properties. It runs a Welfare Department, a Legal Advice Bureau, Burial and Taxation Offices, a Housing Department, and also a Club for Social and Relief Activities. Three Committees for transient Jewish D.P.'s work under its supervision, one of them acting exclusively for Hungarian Jews. Only one synagogue is open, but it is hoped that if assistance is forthcoming from outside, more will be opened soon. The Jewish Community also supports a hospital with an Out-patients' Department in Malzgasse 7 and 16, which has about 140 beds and is full to capacity. The Home for Old People in Seegasse 9 with 100 to 120 beds is also still open.

The living conditions of the Jews are extremely bad. No fuel is available, and the houses which have suffered heavily from bombing and shelling are not yet repaired. Most roofs are badly damaged and there is hardly a flat still possessing window-panes. Food is very scarce. The Viennese live mostly on bread, potatoes and peas. Sugar, fats and meat are not available, even for those who hold ration-cards for these food-stuffs. Jews are supposed to enjoy some priority as victims of Nazi persecution, but owing to the general scarcity of food this is of little effect. In this respect, however, the situation has improved a little, as the Joint has distributed food parcels. The clothing situation is still tragic.

It is also very depressing for the Jews of Vienna that the political outlook is none too good and that the former attitude of the population has not changed much since the downfall of the Nazis. Antisemitism can still be felt in the Civil Service, in industry and in commerce. The nucleus of the People's Party which has won a slight majority over the Socialist and Communist Parties at the recent Elections consists of former adherents to the Christlich-Soziale Partei. Antisemitism has always been one of the main planks of this Party's platform, and some of its leaders informed their audiences that their views in this respect have not changed. They have been joined by elements of the Landbund and other right-wing and Fascist organisations who represent an even more virulent anti-semitism. Though these tendencies are for the time being neutralised by a Coalition Government, they do not augur well for the future, especially as they do not discourage the widespread antisemitism among the lower ranks of Civil Servants. The approach of the four occupying powers to Jewish problems differ somewhat from one another,

the U.S. authorities, according to all reports, being the most helpful.

Austrian citizenship has been restored to all Jews who were Austrian on March 13, 1938, and discriminatory laws have been abolished. Legislation on restitution of property and compensation of losses has not yet been enacted. The only step in this direction was a law stipulating the registration of the property of which the rightful owners have been deprived for racial, national and other reasons in connection with the Nazi occupation. This law envisages also the establishment of an office for the preparation and carrying out of restitution measures and the temporary

administration of such property by temporary administrators, but the practice in these matters has given cause to serious concern in Jewish circles. In a long memorandum, submitted to the Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Armies, the Jewish Community described the situation of the Jews and sets forth its claims regarding the restitution of Jewish property and its Trustee Administration.

As one reliable report states, "the Viennese Jews are most anxious that no stone should be left unturned to secure for them immigration permits to other countries. With a few exceptions it is clear that Jews should not be advised to stay."

Rose L. Henriques:

JEWISH LIFE IN BERLIN

Amid all the miles of shattered homes in Berlin, there are the ever-increasing number of Jewish organisations which are once more struggling to form the framework of a Jewish community.

In such portions of communal build-

ings as are usable, there are housed some six "Betstuben" in various parts of the town. The main Committees of the Gemeinde function from the Oranienburgerstrasse. Some of the activities will shortly be transferred to the Joachimsthalerstrasse in the British Zone. The Krankenhaus, the Altersheim, the Transit Camp all exist in the Iranischestrasse, in the remains of the old buildings, whilst the Kinderheim beyond Pankow is full.

Registers and lists of found and sought persons are available and in constant use, whilst every effort is made to assist those who are without means. The Search Bureau, lately established by the Allied Control Commission, has an office in Berlin, and contact with the Jewish Committee has already been made. The Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad, London, was able to arrange for two groups of children to be taken out of the city, and they are establishing an office in the British Zone, with permanent workers to attend to the needs of the community and distribute such stores as they are able to send in. Rabbi Dr. E. Munk has been at much pains to arrange for a communal leader and a rabbi to be allowed to proceed to Berlin to help in the gigantic task confronting the Gemeinde. He has arranged for the re-establishment of Kosher slaughtering of animals.

The office of the American Joint Distribution Committee in the American Zone is a hive of activity, and its lorry-loads of dairy produce are looked upon as heaven-sent gifts by the hungry Berlin Jews. The Postal and Search Bureau bring comfort to many anxious persons. The Gemeinde clothing store gallantly attempts to fit out many hundreds of persons needing garments. That there is an entirely inadequate supply of clothes, goes without saying. The remedy, readers, lies with you.

The influx of the Polish Jews escaping from the pogroms in Poland fills the transit accommodation to overflowing and causes the entire derangement of the apportioning of any relief stores that are sent for the residents of Berlin. The whole problem of the newcomers should be taken off the Gemeinde by the authorities. Rabbi Munk and I were concerned in placing the problems of the Community before the appropriate authorities in the hope of being able to effect improvements.

U.S.A. : PREFERENCE TO EUROPEAN REFUGEEES

"To set an example to the rest of the world in co-operation towards alleviating human misery," President Truman has directed the entry into the United States—within the established immigration quotas—of European refugees at the rate of 39,000 a year. This order requires the immigration quotas from the countries concerned to be filled with persons who have been driven from their homes by war, or who for some reason are unable or unwilling to return to their former homes. This will leave little room for other nationals of those countries to secure places in the quotas. The figure 39,000 is most probably arrived at by adding up the annual immigration quotas from Central, Eastern and South-Eastern European Countries, i.e., Austria (1,413), Bulgaria (100), Czechoslovakia (2,874), Danzig (100), Estonia (116), Germany (25,957), Greece (307), Hungary (869), Latvia (236), Lithuania (386), Poland (6,524), Rumania (377) and Yugoslavia (845).

The War Shipping Administration will provide ships for two sailings monthly between a German port and New York American offices for the issue of visas to displaced persons will be opened in Berlin, Hamburg, Frankfurt-on-Main, Munich, Stuttgart and Bremen, and the first group of officials who will form the nucleus of a staff of special immigration officers left for Europe in January.

American relief organisations must pay the fare, amounting to 125 dollars, for immigrants who are unable to pay in American currency.

For the time being visas will be issued only in the American zone. Of the 3,900 visas monthly, 2,500 will be assigned to German-born persons, and the remainder will be distributed among displaced persons born in Poland, Hungary, Rumania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria. The total number of visas to be issued to Jews and non-Jews from Poland does not exceed 700 a month. The first of the Central European refugees are likely to sail about the middle of March, and arrangements have been made for a fortnightly service from Bremerhaven to New York.

AMERICA BENEFITS FROM REFUGEEES

The 250,000 refugees from Axis oppression who have immigrated to the United States since 1933, are now almost all well-adjusted, self-supporting members of the American community, and "they have had a beneficial influence upon this country out of proportion to their numbers," according to an impartial scientific survey by the Committee for the Study of Recent Immigration from Europe.

Palestine to the Rescue

An interview with DR. GEORG LANDAUER, Director of the Department of the Jewish Agency for Settlement of German Jews in Palestine, and Vice-Chairman of the Irgun Olej Merkaz Europa, Tel-Aviv, given on the eve of his return to Palestine.

HOW MANY REFUGEES FROM CENTRAL EUROPE HAS PALESTINE TAKEN? Approximately 75,000. Since the rise of Hitler, 50,000 Jews from Germany have gone to Palestine, 15,000 Jews from Austria and over 10,000 from Czechoslovakia.

HAVE THESE IMMIGRANTS THEIR OWN ORGANISATION? The Irgun Olej Merkaz Europa is the central organisation of immigrants from Germany, Austria and other Cen-

DR. J. H. HERTZ

Jewish refugees in this country have special reasons to mourn the loss of that great Jewish personality, the late Dr. J. H. Hertz, Chief Rabbi of the British Empire. Since the early days of Nazi persecution he had taken up the case of the persecuted and raised his voice for them. There are a great many refugees from Central Europe now in this country who owe their rescue to his personal efforts.

From my own experience I know that whenever I came to London from Berlin in the days after Hitler had come to power, I found the Chief Rabbi willing to listen and to help to the utmost of his abilities. He was always prepared to use his influence to rescue individuals and groups and to advise me on the best course of action.

His sympathy and understanding were again invaluable to us when the AJR was first set up. He welcomed our efforts to represent the community of Jewish refugees from Central Europe and his friendship has never failed us when we appealed to him. We lose in him a great friend.

A. SCHOYER.

tral European countries down to Bukovina. There is also a separate organisation of immigrants from Czechoslovakia and a split organisation of immigrants from Austria.

WHAT ARE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE IRGUN? The Irgun has three main functions:

- The reception of immigrants in ports and transit camps, installation of immigrant hostels and advisory activities;
- Social and economic aid, e.g., help in securing employment, occupational training, financial assistance, and credits of various kinds according to the needs and capabilities of the immigrant concerned. There are special instrumentalities for all those activities, i.e., two building societies, a settlers' organisation, two credit banks, and another finance institution;
- Cultural activities, e.g., Hebrew courses, evening classes in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa, with ten different subjects, publication of the "Mitteilungsblatt" and other literature.

Recently, Irgun has taken an active part in the work of the Council for the Protection of Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany, especially in respect of the problem of reparation.

HOW HAVE THE FUNDS FOR THE AID OF GERMAN JEWS BEEN ADMINISTERED? These funds have been administered by the Jewish Agency Department for Settlement of German Jews. Monies were raised mainly:

- through the Central British Fund for German Jews and the Council for German Jewry, both in Great Britain, provided for the assistance and settlement of immigrants from Germany and Austria in Palestine;
- funds for Children and Youth Aliyah which came mainly from Hadassah in America. Altogether, the Department for the Settlement of German Jews had at its disposal approximately three million pounds. It was instrumental in establishing several dozens of agricultural colonies, among them ten so-called middle-class settlements. It subsidised the economic and social instrumentalities of the Irgun and has taken care individually of immigrants, both of chalutzim in agriculture and of older people in professions.

HOW MANY CHILDREN FROM GERMANY HAVE COME TO PALESTINE? Children and Youth Aliyah has brought to Palestine 17,000 children, among them 8,000 children from Germany and Austria. The majority of them have received agricultural training and over 70% have remained in agricultural pursuits after the conclusion of their training, and have established new settlements. Of the 17,000, there are still 7,000 in training. In the course of the current year, the arrival of another 10,000 children is expected.

HAVE THE IMMIGRANTS FROM CENTRAL EUROPE BEEN ABSORBED IN PRODUCTIVE OCCUPATIONS? The percentage of immigrants from Central Europe who have taken up agricultural pursuits is larger than that of any other immigration. Many of them joined various settlements as chalutzim; their outstanding feat, however, was the establishment of middle-class settlements. Both in agriculture and industry, the immigrants from Central Europe have found new methods of production and have enriched the economy of the country, not at least through the transfer of capital. They can also record achievements in cultural spheres (theatre, university and Press), and some of their members have already become established Hebrew writers. Aliyah Hadashah is the political organisation of immigrants from Central Europe.

FOREIGNERS IN FRANCE

New regulations concerning the status of foreigners and the conditions of their naturalisation were published recently in the French "Journal Officiel." Space does not permit to give more than a rough outline of the principal provisions.

The statute on foreigners differentiates between the following three categories: (1) foreigners who reside in France temporarily, such as students, tourists, etc.; (2) foreigners who have their ordinary residence in France; (3) foreigners who have a privileged right of residence in France. The validity of the foreigner's identity document depends on the category to which the foreigner belongs. Those who have been "privileged foreigners" for more than 10 years have the right of choosing freely their trade or profession.

Whilst in former years, naturalisation was

What the Press says . . .

REFUGEE DOCTORS ON THE TEMPORARY REGISTER

"The number of aliens involved is fewer than eight hundred, but a substantial proportion of them are distinguished surgeons and specialists who sought refuge in this country from Fascist oppression in Central Europe, Italy, or Spain and who in many cases have no prospect of resuming their former careers. Their admission to our medical register was belatedly and grudgingly conceded only when our need for medical man-power grew desperate. During the war they have rendered magnificent service (sometimes shabbily rewarded) and earned the right to something better than a few months' extension of the privilege of working for us under restrictive and often humiliating conditions. The case for giving them a permanent status, strong as it is on ethical and humanitarian grounds, becomes incontestable when considered in the light of our present and prospective shortage of men qualified to staff the specialist branch of a national health service."

—"MANCHESTER GUARDIAN."

THE NEW VENTURE

"I congratulate the 'Association of Jewish Refugees' on their first enlarged issue of their Information Bulletin. The Association has done a splendid job of which its leaders can be justly proud."

—"ZIONIST REVIEW."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF "TRUTH"

"We all know—it is a matter of history—that a train load of locked-in inter-nationals left Berlin non-stop to Moscow prior to the Russian revolution! We all know—it is a matter of history—that thousands of German nationals entered England during the recent war, as peaceful (?) refugees. We all know—it is a matter of history—that Edward I, King of England, was obliged to invite these same people to leave England! We all know—it is a matter of history—that in A.D. 1300 those same people were, in Spain, massacred wholesale by the populace for their misdoings! Would it not be wise of us to invite these same people to kindly leave England, and return to their country which our brave and gallant men have liberated? One would think that out of common gratitude they would offer to go, and leave place for our returning heroes to live in. Are they, perhaps, waiting until the English resort to the Spanish methods of A.D. 1300?"

(Signed) "Sphinx."

"Truth," a weekly, is edited by Mr. Collin Brooks, at one time private secretary to the late Lord Rothermere. The deputy editor is Mr. A. K. Chesterton, who before the war was for some time editor of "ACTION," the organ of Sir Oswald Mosley's British Union of Fascists.—Ed.

New Year Honours.—Two British social workers, who, for a long time past, have taken an active interest in the welfare and work of foreigners in this country, especially refugees, were included in the New Year Honours list: MISS NANCY B. PARKINSON, O.B.E., Director, Home Division, British Council, and MISS S. J. WARNER, O.B.E., Director, Foreign Relations Department, British Red Cross Society, both having been awarded the C.B.E. The M.B.E. was awarded to MRS. RITA COHEN, lately Civil Defence Welfare Organiser, City of London, now Organiser, Joint Clothing Relief Appeal, Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad, and to Mrs. D. H. HARDISTY, General Secretary, Refugee Children's Movement Ltd.

subject to at least three years' residence in France, the new "Code de la nationalité Française," dated October 19th, 1945, provides that from now on five years are required. However, that period of waiting will be reduced to two years in cases where a foreigner was born in France or is married to a French woman or has acquired a French academic degree or rendered useful services to the country, and can be abandoned altogether if the applicant has served either in the French or any of the Allied Forces. In all cases the knowledge of the French language and a general adaptation to French life and habits are essential conditions.

The trend of present-day French policy is to absorb as many suitable foreigners as possible, largely because of the decreasing birth-rate and the necessity of employing additional labour for the reconstruction of the country.

Leo Baeck:

Individual and Community

(Continued from AJR Information No. 1)

The period called Renaissance, which marks the beginning of the New Age, was the period of the awakening of the personality—the awakening of the human individual, of individual groups and eventually of peoples. The Individual had been re-discovered. This discovery ranks with the two other great discoveries which have ushered in the Modern Age: the discovery of new continents and zones of the earth, and the discovery of forces and laws of nature hitherto unknown. Terms such as Men—The Church—The Congregation—The People—The State—gained a new meaning and a new importance. It was then that began the controversy, the antagonism between communities and individuals, i.e. individual persons or groups.

There is another antagonism inherent in that between the individual and the community—the antagonism between uniformity and variety. Variety is the outcome of natural growth—uniformity has to be planned and construed, and the difference between them is the difference between nature and artifice. Man is often tempted to give way to uniformity, which it is easy to achieve. If all men appear alike, move alike and think on the same lines, not much thinking will be needed. In the end, however, uniformity will inevitably lead to lack of thought, to rigidity and apathy, unless it is checked by the demands of variety. Variety and Non-Conformity ask for continuous reflection and sympathy and hereby create and shape new life.

The antagonism between the rights and conceptions of the individual and the community remains the decisive factor. From a historical point of view there is a dynamic force and eventually a blessing for mankind implied in this struggle. An honest fight is always

based on the recognition of the opponent, of his position and his human values. To withhold this recognition means to deny human thought and the struggle of ideas, and to put in their place idols for worship.

We Jews have been the first and the last victims to be sacrificed to this idol. We represent something different, something individual, having throughout the ages preserved an appearance of our own, a creed of our own, and a heritage of our own. We have therefore always been exposed to the scrutinising eyes of those around us. We are and always have been a minority, for more than a thousand years we have lived as immigrants amongst the peoples of the Earth. In our days this old Jewish problem has again arisen, and a very hard fate has dispersed Jews in many countries.

As Jews we have more than a historical interest in the solution of the question which factor is to prevail in the necessary struggle of ideas, and whether individualism and non-conformity are being properly interpreted. Our very existence depends on it. There can be no right which does not imply certain definite duties. The individual's duty which constitutes his right is to serve the community. Man was given his individual faculties so as to be able to serve the community in using them. No person and no group can ask for a recognition of individual rights, unless they are prepared to serve the community. An exceptional destiny, by giving the individual exceptional values, imposes at the same time exceptional duties.

We Jews have had a precious heritage handed down to us—a religious, moral, emotional and spiritual heritage, full of individual characteristics. We are under an obligation to renew it con-

stantly and to link it to the present. This heritage bears the imprint of manifold influences, influences of periods, of zones, of history itself. We have therefore much to offer to the communities in which we live. We matter to them not only by what we actually give, but to an even greater extent by what we are and stand for. Here is our chance to add variety to the life of the community and to contribute our share to make individuality a blessing for the community, and the community a blessing for the individuals within it.

PERSONALIA

Dr. Rudolf Ernst Peierls, Scientific Consultant on Atomic Bomb Research, and Dr. Franz Eugen Simon, Reader in Thermodynamics, at Oxford University, both from Berlin, were included in the recent New Year Honours and awarded the C.B.E. Leopold Jessner, the famous producer and former director of the Berlin State Theatre, died in Hollywood; Dr. Monty Jacobs, the well-known critic of the "Vossische Zeitung," died, in London, at the age of 72. Dr. Walter Freudenthal (formerly Breslau), was appointed to the University of London readership in dermatological histology, tenable at University College Hospital Medical School. Portrait Paintings by H. F. L. Moratz (formerly Berlin), of representatives of the American Red Cross in Great Britain and Western Europe, were shown at the Cooling Galleries, London, in January. During his stay in Belgium, Bronislaw Huberman was the guest of the Queen at the Royal Palace in Brussels, and gave a concert for the members of the Jewish Brigade Group, near the village of Putte.

BOOKS

Louis Golding: The Glory of Elsie Silver. (Hutchinson, London, 1945.)

This is a great Jewish book, though not as great a novel. Mr. Golding was courageous in setting his plot in the ghetto of Warsaw. It did not strengthen his plot but it resulted in a powerful synthesis of story and history, of fiction and facts. Against the van Gogh-like picture of gangsters and racketeers, madmen and fighters, cowards and heroes, the figure of Elsie Silver becomes insignificant.

Mr. Golding made a thorough study of the conditions of the ghetto and its populace. As in "Magnolia Street," he has opened with a magic key the inside of the houses, he has caught the noises and smells of the streets and has brought to life the people with their fears, joys and sorrows. Mr. Golding has again proved himself a masterly portrayer of the collective of dozens of little human beings with all their lovable and crazy qualities, which add up to the "atmosphere" as a district in Doornington or a district in Warsaw called Ghetto.

The first volume of the late Dr. Arthur Ruppin's "Erinnerungen" (Bitaon Ltd., Tel Aviv, 1945), throws a most interesting light on the youth (1876-1907) of a German Jew who went to Palestine in 1907, to become an outstanding expert on questions of colonisation, a Zionist leader and a famous writer and distinguished scholar.

NEW BOOKS: Egon Wellsz, "Arnold Schoenberg" (Counterpoint Publications, Oxford); Hermann Adler, "Gesänge aus der Stadt des Todes" (Oprecht, Zurich); Richard Katz, "Begegnungen in Rio" (Eugen Rentsch Verlag, Zurich); Ernst Cassirer, "Rousseau, Kant, Goethe" (Humphrey Milford, London); Alfred Neumann, "Six of Them" (Macmillan, New York); Ernst Lothar, "The Door Opens" (Doubleday, Doran, New York); Chaim Newman, "Gentile and Jew, A Symposium on the Future of the Jewish People" (Alliance Press, London); "Sorry, Partner," Bridge Hands analysed by Dr. Paul Stern and A. J. Smith (Faber and Faber, London); Max Osborn, "Der bunte Spiegel," reminiscences of the years 1890-1933 (F. Krause, New York); Rahel Behrend, "Verfehmt und Verfolgt," a book about the deportation of Jews from Germany (Buechergilde Gutenberg, Zurich),

register their names, nationality and date of arrival, *aliens* must give further particulars on a special form.

LAW and LIFE

Legal Advice Hours (for persons with limited means only): Wednesday 5—6.30 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.—12.30 p.m.

DECLARATION OF DEATH.

The death of hundreds of thousands of Jews who have perished from the hands of the Nazis cannot be proved by death certificates or similar documents. For legal purposes, proof of death is often required. The provisions of the German law on the Declaration of Death have therefore become of utmost importance. In most cases a Declaration of Death of a German Court will be accepted by British authorities, provided the victims had been residing in Germany.

According to Section 7 of the German Statute of July 4th, 1939, a person whose life was imperilled and who has not been heard of ever since, may be declared dead, if a year has elapsed since the danger has passed or since the date on which it can be presumed to have passed according to the circumstances of the case.

The procedure before a German Court can therefore be set in motion not later than one year after the end of the Nazi régime, provided that at that time it will be permissible to take up legal matters in Germany. At present this is not yet possible without a special licence from the Trading with the Enemy Department (Treasury and Board of Trade), 26, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, which, as a rule, is not granted.

It is hoped that in future a special procedure will be enacted which will make it possible to obtain a Declaration of Death of Nazi victims without formalities or expense.

LIMITATION OF ACTION.

The legal expression "Limitation of Action," means about the same as the German term "Verjährung." A debt which is "verjährt" is called "statute-barred." The English Court always administers its own rules on "Limitation of Action," even if it deals with foreign law. The normal period of Limitation is six years.

At first sight it seems therefore that no normal pre-war claim can any longer be sued upon in this country. However, English law has avoided such unfortunate consequence by a special statute, dated March 28th, 1945. Broadly speaking, it provides that the period of limitation is not completed as against a person resident in enemy territory prior to the end of 12 months from the date when that person ceased to be an enemy.

As Germany is still considered enemy territory there is no danger yet that claims against persons resident in Germany may be lost. But the same does not apply to the liberated Allied countries; persons who have claims there should, at once, consider whether to take up the matter, the more so as it may be necessary or advisable to start proceedings abroad rather than in this country, and, moreover as the foreign rules have to be considered.

Registration at Hotels and Boarding Houses.—Whilst British subjects when staying at hotels or boarding houses need only

Victor Gollancz: ELEANOR RATHBONE

Just before the opening of the present session of Parliament, Eleanor Rathbone said to me "I'm going to make work for the Jews my main work this session." There are many things typical of her in that statement. There is the careful thought, the planning, the deliberation—the weighing-up of competing claims, and the decision as to which is the most important of them; there is the instinctive high seriousness, which is something deeper even than a sense of duty; and there is her abiding sympathy with the Jewish people. This last requires a little more explanation.

It would be quite wrong to say that Eleanor Rathbone was a philosemite. Philo-Semitism is only a little less detestable than antisemitism: for it implies discrimination, and often involves condescension and patronage. It would not even be true to say that she particularly liked Jews—which would be something very different from being "philo-Semitic." I mean, she didn't particularly like Jews in the way in which I, for instance, particularly like Italians. She was occasionally critical, in her blunt way, of the characteristics of some of us, which she did not always completely understand. But for all that she gave more of her time and thought to "work for the Jews," certainly since 1940, than to any other endeavour. Why? Simply because she saw them as the greatest sufferers, the most grievously oppressed: and to succour the suffering and oppressed was something more than the motive of her life—it was her life. And because she rapidly came to see that Jewish suffering was not a temporary affair or a mere product of Hitlerism, but something secular, she soon became, these last two or three years, a whole-hearted Zionist. Indeed, one of her unachieved projects was to write a pamphlet this spring with some such title as "A Gentle's Plea for Zionism": and I don't think she would mind me revealing the fact that, if she had been chosen as one of the British members of the present Enquiry Commission, this would have given her very special satisfaction.

I have said that to succour the oppressed was her life. And yet in a sense this gives a false impression, and Eleanor, who was more scrupulous about the exact truth than any human being I know, would not have wished the smallest distortion. What was really strongest in her was her patriotism—and by "patriotism" I mean something very great, not, as so often, something mean and small. Her first love was for England: not for its wealth and power, but for its tradition of liberty and generosity and asylum. People sometimes thought of her as unemotional, and indeed she kept a very strict guard on any expression of sentiment. But I have seen tears in her eyes many times during these last four or five years: and the many occasions were always one occasion—when she was saying "I love my country." Psychologists will perhaps go even deeper and find, as the really basic

thing in her, her veneration for her father and her respect for his memory.

No one who did not have the privilege of working daily with Eleanor Rathbone can have any conception of what she did for refugees in general and for Jewish refugees in particular. It wasn't merely that she gave to every single case the most careful consideration: it was that she never ceased to think "How can I best help these people? How can I carry the work a stage further? What is the next thing to do?" She once told me that she did her best thinking in the small hours of the morning. She would sleep for a few hours: then think: then sleep again. To that nightly thinking some Jews owe their lives: many more owe to it a little hope and a little faith in

human goodness. Eleanor Rathbone was truly humble, and would have quite genuinely desired no epitaph: but if she had been told that nevertheless she must have one, I believe she would have desired that it should be "If a few people are a little happier because of me, my life has not wholly failed."

*

AJR and Council for the Protection of Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany expressed their sympathy to the Parliamentary Committee on Refugees, London, whose appreciable activities were largely inspired by the untiring efforts of the late Eleanor Rathbone.

A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for the life and work of Eleanor Rathbone was held at Bloomsbury House, seat of the principal welfare organisations for refugees. Addresses were given by the Rev. Henry Carter, C.B.E., and Mr. Anthony de Rothschild, Joint Chairmen of the Central Office for Refugees. Amongst those present were Lord Reading, Sir Herbert Emerson, High Commissioner for Refugees, Dr. G. G. Kullmann, Deputy High Commissioner, Otto M. Schiff, Chairman, Jewish Refugees Committee, and Sir Neill Malcolm, the former High Commissioner for Refugees.

Those Who Survived . . .

Continued investigations have resulted in a fairly correct picture of many transports in which German Jews were deported to the East. We now possess such information about a number of German towns. More information is coming in daily, and will be made available to our friends in due course.

HAMBURG.—We know that one transport left for Lodz (Lietzmannstadt) on the 24/25th October, 1941. Individual deportees were able to write as recently as 1944. No news was received after that time, and no one has returned. Three transports on the 8th November, 18th November and 4th December went to Minsk. So far one child has returned. The destination of another transport of 4th December, 1941, was Riga. A few survivors returned by way of a number of forced labour camps. The destination of the transport of 11th July, 1942, has remained unknown. The remainder of the Hamburg Jewish community, mostly old people from various old age homes, were sent to Theresienstadt in July, 1942.

HANOVER.—On 15th December, 1941, a large transport was sent to Riga. In April, 1942, deportations took place to Warsaw, the remainder was transferred to Theresienstadt in July, 1942.

BIELEFELD.—On 29th February, 1943, more than 1,000 persons were sent to Auschwitz. Only five of them returned after the liberation.

ESSEN.—On the 21st April, 1942, a large transport was sent to Lodz. So far no survivors have been found.

GELSENKIRCHEN.—Two transports left for Riga, the first one in January, 1942, a few survivors of which eventually reached Sweden in April, 1945. The second transport, departed on the 30th March, never arrived. Nothing was ever heard of what happened to these deportees.

WORMS.—In 1941 (?) the Hintere Judengasse was reserved for the small Jewish community in the town where the oldest Jewish settlement in Germany had existed. All remaining Jews were sent to Piaski, near Lublin, in 1942. Until November, 1942, one of the deportees managed to write to her father who for some reason or other had been left behind. After that, there was complete silence . . .

STUTTGART.—A few survivors have now returned from Riga whereto they had been deported in December, 1941. Amongst

them there is a Mr. H. Rosenrauch, Wielandstr. 17, who is now employed with the Juedische Kultusvereinigung. Information obtained from him discloses that at Riga 7,000 persons were housed in quarters which provided room for about 50. They slept in bunks 8 tiers high. Many of them died from exposure. All old and sick people were shot in a wood near Riga on 26th March, 1942. Mr. Rosenrauch with a few others still fit for work was subsequently sent to work in a shell factory at Bochum, and afterwards to Buchenwald. He worked at the camp hospital and was subsequently liberated there, and sent home. About 6 weeks after him his wife returned, having gone through similar experiences. They believe to be the only Jewish couple now left in the whole of Wuerttemberg, Bavaria, and Baden (i.e. where both partners are Jewish).

WUERTEMBERG COMMUNITIES.—Right up to the war, a few Wuerttemberg villages were conspicuous for their large Jewish population. At present there are no Jews left at Muehingen, three at Haigerloch, two at Baisingen and one at Tuebingen.

KOENIGSBERG.—Amongst a population of 60,000 (450,000 in 1940) there are only two Jews left. According to the report given by a survivor now at Berlin those not deported were killed when the Russians approached the town. Most of them had previously been made to work in the Palmnicken amber factory. In January, 1945, they are supposed to have been drowned in the sea.

AACHEN.—According to a report received from Mr. Alfred Loewenthal, head of the Jewish community, Aachen has suffered more than any other town in Western Germany. There is only a small quantity of additional food available for the few Jewish survivors. Including those who have returned from Theresienstadt there are at present about 50 Jews in Aachen.

BRAUNSCHWEIG.—Of 1,200 Jews at Braunschweig prior to the war, 20 are left. In addition there are some 150 Jewish D.P.'s, mainly Polish and Hungarians, living in camps and private houses, and a further 200 or so living in the military divisional area. A Jewish Gemeindehaus has been opened at Steinstr. 4 which acts as a social and educational centre and houses the Jewish Welfare Office.

Cologne - Lodz - Cologne

In 1941 the Nazis began to evacuate the Jewish communities of Western and Northern Germany to ghettos in the East.

As a rule each deportee was able to write once or twice from there, and afterwards there was a complete black-out. Had they been re-deported? Sent to extermination centres? Or was there merely a deliberate withholding of news? In many cases we shall never know. We are publishing below extracts from what we believe is the first report ever given by a person deported at that early date. The writer is a nurse from Cologne, who, as far as we know, has in the meantime returned to her home town.

"On October 17th, 1941, we were ordered to gather at the Messehalle in Deutz, at 7 a.m., October 21st. We were allowed to take 50 kilos of luggage, food for three days, blankets and 100 marks for each person. We were not allowed to sell any of our belongings, they had to be left behind. We were herded together in the front part of the Messehalle. Owing to air-raids there was no light in the room. At 5 a.m. on the next day we left, and we reached Lodz on October 23rd, at noon. We had not known that there was a ghetto there. At first 80-90 persons were housed in the schoolroom of the ghetto, sleeping on the bare floor.

As early as November 24th I was given work: nursing in the hospital department. After five days, however, I was sent to the gypsy camp where there had been an outbreak of spotted fever. Neither medical supplies nor disinfectants were available. After a few days I had infected myself and was ill for a long time, but somehow I managed to survive. Unable to work, I continued to draw my salary of 120 Rumkowski-marks (ghetto currency) and an additional 15 marks for each member of my family. Only one member of each family was allowed to work. In April, my husband fell ill with dysentery. It was impossible to provide the right diet for him. Horsemeat, rye-flour, rye-flakes, jam, some sugar, and some brown oil—that was the usual ration. Later on 4,000 marks had to be paid for a bread, 35 marks for 100 grammes of butter, six marks for a single tablet of saccharine. In spite of all my efforts my husband died on January 29th, 1943.

I would have died too, had not a lawyer, from Prague, whom I had nursed when he was suffering from typhoid fever, looked after me and secured a clean and dry room as well as some additional food. He managed to get parcels from Czechoslovakia from time to time, though that was strictly

PARLIAMENT.

TREATMENT OF DISPLACED PERSONS IN GERMANY.

According to a statement made by Mr. J. Hynd (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster), in the House of Commons, displaced persons have an absolute priority over the German population with regard to food and receive a minimum ration scale of 2,000 calories per day with addition for workers and other special categories. As to clothing, every effort is being made to provide adequate protection against the cold and deficiencies still existing, particularly in blankets and men's overcoats.

People are accommodated in so-called assembly centres which consist either of blocks of houses or of large, well-fitted barracks or camps.

In Belsen, the Jewish D.P.'s maintain their own guards, workshops, recreation rooms and sick bay and organise their own working parties and organisations.

As to Jews of German nationality, Mr. Hynd stated that they are treated similarly to United Nations D.P.'s. Those who were at one time at assembly centres and have left voluntarily, have been given ration books, enabling them to draw higher rations. Those who are scattered as individuals cannot readily be traced, and the administrative difficulties are such that it is not yet possible to provide them with the material benefits which are available to the centres. The local British authorities have this matter under consideration and are endeavouring to overcome the difficulties. The appointment of a Jewish adviser with M.G. in the British Zone is under consideration.

NUMBER OF REFUGEES.

The Home Secretary, Mr. Chuter Ede, stated that, as far as can be estimated, the number of German and Austrian refugees now in this country is under 40,000. Between 1933 and the end of June, 1945, figures, supplied by the Central Office for Refugees, show that over 23,700 have emigrated.

forbidden. On January 9th, 1944, we got married. At that time the camp population had greatly decreased. Since September, 1942, people had continuously been sent away to be gassed. Finally, in August, 1944, the entire remaining ghetto population was liquidated, save for 500 men, picked to do the clearing up. On August 13th, we were sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau. There another selection for the gas-chambers took place. Both my husband and myself escaped the first gas-chamber selection. During the following week there were three more selections, then we were put into cattle trucks—

And the Children Sang . . .

By MIRIAM WARBURG

The following is an extract from a diary written at a special camp for Jews at Foehrenwald, south of Munich, Bavaria.

"When our car was stopped at the gate six children's heads peered through the windows. Jewish children between the ages of 13 and 15 and, according to Jewish tradition, they started to question me: 'You are a Yid?' 'Yes.' 'From Joint?' 'Yes.' 'You are the first to come to us.' And then—the car already continued on its way—the next question: 'And when are we going to Palestine?

"A group of about 60 children have arrived in this camp. They complained about the food. They said they did not get enough bread. Food, especially bread, is a complex with most of them. Bread, bread and again bread is what worries them, what tortures their mind. To give them sufficient bread is the first thing one has to do. . . .

"Immediately I spoke to the boys and girls (most of them are boys) I found that the most important thing to do is to increase the bread ration and to start with lessons. The same afternoon I started with the lessons. Lessons without proper teachers, without proper books, without schoolrooms and without sufficient chairs to sit on? Three of us gave lessons: Hebrew, English and Arithmetic. When we distributed the copybooks the children took it for granted that one book had to be shared by two of them, and they were overjoyed to learn that each of them could have one. When I then distributed the pencils one boy turned round and said: 'You know, it is the first time in six years that I hold a pencil in my hand.' . . .

"I have given many lessons in my life, none so strenuous and none so satisfying as those I gave today. The children were craving for knowledge. They were in despair when the lesson was over and they wanted to know more and more. And yet, learning was a great strain for them. 'Our brains are no longer used to thinking,' one of them said. Many cannot read or write, many do not know how much 5 and 6 adds up to, and it will be a tremendous task to do justice to each single child. We decided to apply the Youth Aliyah curriculum: half-a-day physical work, half-a-day school lessons. . . .

"We distributed—for the first time—Joint parcels in the camp. Joint had bought up former Red Cross parcels from Switzerland, which contained sugar, coffee, fish-preserves, cigarettes and meat-tins. . . .

"The houses where the children are placed fortunately offer just the possibilities which Youth Aliyah wants for its educational scheme. Four houses with about 50 children form a block. Each block has a big room which is used as school—and as dining-room, so that we can form proper small communities. Each block has a block-warden and a representative of the children. . . .

"A specialist for setting up work-shops in the various camps, Mr. Oleisky, a former director of ORT, came here, following my urgent invitation. He is enthusiastic about my plan to take over the factory near the Camp for training mechanics, electricians, etc. We work now on this plan, which is

50 women to each truck—and sent to work in Berlin-Neukoelln.

We reached Berlin on August 24th, and were sent to a factory, where I was put in charge of a hospital ward. There was no doctor on the spot. We remained there until April 17th, 1945. Then we were again sent away, to Oranienburg, and finally to the notorious women's camp at Ravensbrueck. When we arrived, the camp was in revolt. We got a Red Cross parcel each and had to walk on, walk endlessly, day and night, for 24 hours, in clogs. On May 2nd, we were so exhausted that we just did not care. We went to sleep in the open. When we woke up we heard guns somewhere. Whilst we were asleep, the Russian advance had overtaken us. We begged some food and returned to Berlin, covering 160 kilometers in five days.

My husband's last words in Auschwitz had been: 'We will meet again in Czechoslovakia.' So I joined a transport to Prague. I did not find him there. But the courage that has not failed me yet, must not now fail me. Even for me the day will come when the war will end."

dependent on the consent of the Military Authorities. . . .

"Yesterday I was invited to the first proper 'Friday Night' in one of the Children's homes built on Kibbuz principles. It was lovely. Huge piles of sandwiches on long tables covered with white sheets, candles fixed on some improvised candlesticks, walls decorated with bits of coloured paper and a huge Jewish flag displayed. A proper Kiddush was made, and later the Madrich read a play of Bialik. And in between we sang and sang. . . .

"I had called a meeting of all the children in the camps. There has been great unrest in the last two days. The lessons had been badly attended, there had been heavy arguments and lots of difficulties. . . .

"All the children appeared at the meeting, and I must say that the discipline was admirable. I told them that I thought that they had lost so many valuable years of their life, that every day and every month now counted double, and that they should not miss one lesson, not one week of learning. I warned them that they should not count on the emigration schemes too much, that many things might happen that could delay their departure, etc, etc. I only hope it will help. . . ."

Help Through AJR

80,000 GARMENTS IN ONE YEAR

On February 1st the Clothing Collection Department of the AJR has been working for one year. It succeeded in placing more than 80,000 garments at the disposal of Jews in various countries on the Continent. The collection is carried out under the auspices of the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad. During the last months it has become our main task to bring relief to Jews in Germany. The assistance to Jews living in German towns who are in special need comes more and more into the foreground.

The demand for clothing of any kind (also baby outfits) is tremendously great and urgent. In order to work to full capacity the Clothing Collection Department needs now at least 12,000 garments per month. Ex-members of the Home Guard and Civil Defence workers will be interested to learn that it has become possible to make also use of discarded uniforms, overcoats and boots.

Send your contribution quickly to the AJR Clothing Collection Department, 1, Broadhurst Gardens, London, N.W.6. (Finchley Road Tube Station). Telephone: MAIda Vale 3913.

THE ASSOCIATION AT WORK

AJR IN THE PROVINCES

The following list contains the names and addresses of our local Chairman (Ch.), Hon. Secretaries (H.S.), Hon. Treasurers (H.T.) and Keymen in the Provinces.

- Bath.* Dr. F. G. Salomon, 77, Newbridge Hill.
- Bedford.* Mr. H. Freyhan, 66, Kimbolton Road.
- Birmingham.* (Birmingham Jewish Refugee Club). Ch., Dr. B. Borkon, 2, Highfield Road, Edgbaston. H.S., Miss R. Simmons, 26, Calthorpe Road, Edgbaston.
- Bishop Auckland.* Dr. W. Muskat, "Glen Esk," Hestobel Gardens.
- Blackburn, Lancs.* Mrs. Ch. Newman, "Les Marais," Billinge End. Mrs. I. Samuel, c/o The Emsa-Works, Paterson Street.
- Bradford.* Ch., Mr. Paul Goldschmidt, "Red Leigh," Ashhead, Menston in Wharfedale. H.S., Mr. P. E. Schwarzschild, 8, Parklands, Ilkley, Yorks.
- Cambridge.* H.S., Dr. G. Schatzky, 76, Hills Road.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTS.

GENERAL HELP wanted by couple with one child. Modern six-roomed house. Good wages and generous outings. Phone Speedwell 6079, until 9.30 in the morning, or write for interview to Mrs. Cohen-André, 8, Litchfield Way, Hampstead Garden Suburb, N.W.11.

ACCOUNTANT, long years experience on the Continent and in England, seeks part-time work.—Box 302.

GOOD HOME and wages offered to refined domesticated person willing to assist with all housework. Write to Mrs. Isenthal, 95, The Avenue, Ealing, W.13 PER 1326.

VACANCY, Comfortable Room for one or two people in strictly orthodox home. Reconvalescents welcome. Homely atmosphere. Nurse-Manageress M. Sternberg, c/o Siegfried Strauss, 98, Preston New Road, Blackburn, nr. Manchester, Lancs.

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- Epsom.* Rabbi Dr. E. Holzer, 26, Worple Road. Dr. H. Redlich, 7, Birches Close.
- Farnham.* Sur. Dr. E. Dannenberg, Mount Dannen, Rowledge, near Farnham.
- Glasgow.* (Society of Jewish Refugees, 11, Abbotsford Place, C.5). Ch., Dr. H. Hirsekorn, 8, Ruskin Terrace, W.2. H.S., Mr. N. Korn. H.T., Mr. M. Doctor, 126, Jorth Street, S.1.
- Guildford.* Mr. J. Warschauer, 2, Firfield Grove, Merrow-Guildford. Mrs. M. Schlesinger, "Fircot," Epsom Road, Merrow-Guildford.
- Harrogate.* Dr. B. Hirsch, 2, West Cliffe Mount.
- Leeds.* Ch., Dr. F. Gleaser, 58, Spencer Place, Leeds 7. H.S., Mr. P. Cohn, 40, Francis Street, Leeds 7. H.T., Mr. A. Lorand, 93, Harehills Avenue, Leeds 8.
- Leicester.* Ch., Rabbi J. Duenner, 26, St. Stephens Road. H.S., Mrs. E. Hirsch, "Clairvaux," 19, Aberdale Road.
- Letchworth.* Mr. F. Kirsch, Oakwood, Broadway.
- Liverpool.* Mr. S. Frost, 11, Rutland Av.
- Manchester.* Ch., Mr. L. K. Sonneborn, "Crofton," Stamford Road, Bowden, Cheshire. H.S., Mr. B. Bochenek, 229, Wilmslow Road, Manchester 20. H.T., Mr. B. Koenig, 7, Sherwood Avenue.
- Newcastle-on-Tyne.* Ch., Dr. W. Gruen, Castlecrafts Ltd., Tower House, Tower Street. H.T., Mr. A. Ichenhauser, c/o Team Valley Brush Co., Indigo Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne.
- Northampton.* Mr. I. Marx, 20, Abingdon Park Crescent.
- Nottingham.* H.S., Miss Ellen Kahn, 129, Musters Road, West Bridgford, Notts.
- Oxford.* H.S., Mrs. L. H. Sieburg, 22, Northam Gardens.
- Reading.* Dr. A. Rosenstrauch, 11, Kendrick Road.
- Sheffield.* Ch., Dr. R. Halle, 83, Bents Road, Sheffield 11. H.S., Mrs. S. Horn, 18, Elmore Road, Sheffield 10. H.T., Mr. A. Braunold, 13, Havelock Sq.
- Shrewsbury.* Mr. H. Blumenau, c/o Corsets Silhouette Ltd., Burnell House, Berwick Road.
- Stoke-on-Trent.* Dr. E. Goldschmidt, 27, Marsh Avenue, Wolstanton.

A PROJECT FOR AGED PEOPLE

The Executive of the AJR are considering the setting up of a "Home for Aged People." We know that a number of our friends would like to spend their lives in a well-managed home providing them with amenities which, owing to present circumstances, are denied to many of them. We have in mind not a kind of alms-house but a home where people could live together and yet enjoy an atmosphere of privacy by having single or double rooms at reasonable prices. The idea may also appeal to younger people who will be happy to know that there might be a possibility to accommodate their parents in such an institute.

We are well aware of the many difficulties that have to be overcome before our plan can materialise and we do not even know yet whether it will be feasible at all. However, we shall investigate all possibilities as we are convinced that here is a task which the AJR must try to accomplish with all their strength.

Without being able to give any details at the present moment, we ask those who are interested in a home like that either for themselves or for their relatives, to communicate with us. These communications, we should like to stress, are for the purpose only of attaining information as to the extent of interest which such a project may arouse.

An AJR Board Meeting took place on January 13th. Mr. A. Schoyer, who was in the Chair, in his opening speech, remembered the late Miss Eleanor Rathbone. The General Secretary, Mr. K. Alexander, introduced the report on recent activities, Mr. J. Meyer gave an account on the clothing collection, and Mr. M. Potlitzer spoke on the employment situation. A lively discussion followed. A motion, submitted by Mr. W. Breslauer, on behalf of the Executive, that at the next General Meeting the AJR should alter its name into "Association of Jews from Central Europe in Great Britain," was carried. In the afternoon, Mr. S. Adler-Rudel, the Vice-Chairman, gave an interesting report on his recent journey to Germany.

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A.J.R. Local Golders Green Group

CONCERT

Saturday, February 16th at 7.15 p.m.
HODFORD HALL, HODFORD ROAD
(off Golders Green Road next to Golders Green Station)

CHAMBER MUSIC AND SONG RECITAL

Inge Markowitz (Soprano) : Felix Vandy (Violin)
Martin Lovatt (Violincello) : Dr. F. Berend (Pianoforte)
The programme will include:
Songs by Schubert & Mendelssohn, Dumky Trio by Dvorak
Sonatas for Violin and Piano and for Cello and Piano
Free Admission without Ticket. Refreshments
No further invitations will be sent out. Guests cordially welcomed.

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ACTIVITIES IN LEEDS.

The activities of the AJR branch in Leeds stressed our efforts connected with relief for the Continent. For relief work on the Continent nearly £500 was recently raised from among their members. Tin and clothing collections met with excellent results. Thanks are due to a number of members for their untiring efforts in this respect.

The Annual Meeting in November, which gave ample opportunity for new suggestions, proved the complete satisfaction of our members with this policy. Crowded and entertaining Simchas Thora and Chanukka Socials stressed the Jewish character of the respective occasions. A special feature were Children's Socials. Mr. K. Alexander and Mr. M. Pottlitzer, of the London Executive, addressed the Leeds branch on two occasions.

Other noteworthy functions were: a Memorial Service, in September, addressed by Rabbi Dr. Winter, of Harrogate; Mr. A. Reimann's (former director of the Reimann School, Berlin) lecture on "Art in our daily life;" "Living Newspaper," with many contributions of topical interest, and an afternoon of "Chamber Music," played by members of the branch.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

The annual Chanukka Social of the Newcastle and Gateshead branch took place on December 1st. After lighting the candles and singing Moaus Zur, an address was given by Mr. K. Alexander, London. The younger members provided light entertainment. A Bring and Buy Sale was held.

AJR MEETINGS IN FEBRUARY

Monday, Feb. 11, London. Friends' House, Euston Road, N.W.1. 7.15 p.m. Meeting. "Jews in Germany" (see advertisement).

Wednesday, Feb. 13, Oxford. Church Hall, St. Philipp and James, Leckford Road, off Woodstock Road. 7 p.m. Rabbi Dr. J. MAYBAUM, series of lectures: "Neuste Geschichte des Judentums." tums."

Saturday, Feb. 16, Golders Green. Hodford Hall, Hodford Road. 7.15 p.m. Concert (see advertisement).

AJR Manchester. Tuesday, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26, at 8.30 p.m. Gymnastic for Ladies only, at the Club rooms of the Wilbraham Road Synagogue.

There will be a "General Meeting" at the end of February to which members will receive special invitations.

NEWS IN BRIEF

HELP FOR DEGGENDORF CAMP

All our friends with relatives at the Degendorf transit camp will be glad to learn that we have established permanent contact with the camp through an U.N.R.R.A. officer. We were able, following an urgent appeal from this officer, to send several consignments of warm underwear, medical and dental supplies to the camp for which receipts have reached us. The same officer informs us that conditions at Degendorf are constantly improving, that the food is sufficient, that fuel has been made available, and that the main complaint is the suspense of waiting for permits to go abroad.

REPARATIONS FOR NAZI VICTIMS.

The decisions of the Reparations Conference held in Paris in November and December last, have now been published in the form of a White Paper. The Conference mainly dealt with the question of the allocation of reparations to the various

claimant countries. One of the decisions concerns victims of Nazism and displaced persons. It was proposed that part of German assets in neutral countries, supplemented by the gold found in Germany, should be put into a Fund with the aim of helping victims of National Socialism and that the Fund should be controlled by the Western Allies together with the Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees.

MEMORIAL FOR FALLEN REFUGEES.

A Forest of Freedom to be planted on Jewish National Fund land in Northern Palestine, will perpetuate the war effort of Anglo-Jewry. The first grove, consisting of 1,000 trees, to be planted in this forest, will be in memory of those refugees who were brought to England as children by the Refugee Children's Movement, to escape Nazi oppression, and who later gave their lives in the armed forces in the fight for freedom.

THE AJR HEAD OFFICE ANNOUNCES:

The first issue of "AJR Information" has been warmly welcomed. A great number of our friends have already responded to our appeal by sending in their increased contributions. Wherever in exceptional cases members informed us that they felt unable to increase their contributions, ways for special arrangements could be found. Those of our members who have not yet paid their contributions are asked to send in their remittance without waiting for individual reminders.

MISSING RELATIVES

Hanna Halitzki (23.5.95, Gumbinnen), deported August, 1942, from Berlin.

Marg. Lehmann (23.5.91, Berlin), deported May, 1943, from Berlin.

Alice Myrants (23.00, Gubinnen), redeported from Theresienstadt Oct., 1944.

All three were members of the staff of the Reichsvertretung. Any information should be sent to the Head Office of the AJR, 8, Fairfax Mansions, N.W.3.

Helga Lewin (formerly Berlin), about 25 years old, last known to have served with the A.T.S. in Gt. Britain.—Enquirer, c/o AJR, 8, Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3.

Dr. Kaethe Laserstein wants to inform her relatives and friends that she has survived. Her present address is Berlin—Steg-litz, Immenweg 7.

POSTAL FACILITIES.

It is now possible to send letters and air-mail letters weighing not more than 1 oz. to AUSTRIA.

Parcels up to 22 lbs. may be sent to CZECHOSLOVAKIA under the same conditions as to other countries where postal facilities exist, i.e., gift parcels up to £5 value may be sent without Export Licence, but may not contain food, soap and other prohibited articles.

Letters to Jews in camps and towns in GERMANY with the exception of the Russian zone can be sent through the Joint, 19, rue de Teheran, Paris.

It should, however, be remembered that all these ways of communication are rather lengthy and should be restricted to urgent personal matters. Enquiries should be postponed until normal postal facilities exist so that contacts with survivors are not unduly delayed.

There are Joint offices now in Frankfurt (Hoechst), Stuttgart, Munich, Vienna, Hamburg and Berlin.

MILLION POUND APPEAL

Can YOU deny help to the Jews in Europe? Money is urgently needed to alleviate their distress. Send your donations at once to:

A.J.R., 8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3 marked "C.B.F." or

The Central British Fund, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London, W.C.1

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