

JEWS IN GERMANY TODAY

Facts and Figures

The special library "Germania Judaica" in Cologne, whose organisation and aims were briefly reported in the September 1963 edition of "AJR Information", has devoted a recent issue of its bulletin to a detailed study entitled "Jews in Germany Today". It contains several very informative articles contributed by Jews living in Germany, including one from a schoolboy whose parents returned there from Israel. A whole series of case histories of German-born Jews, who—either singly or with their families—resettled in Germany after the war, depicts the difficulties of readjustment.

Of particular interest is a thorough sociological study by Harry Maor on the Jewish inhabitants of present-day Germany. In many respects it supplements the recent report on the same subject by "Der Spiegel", extracts of which were published in our issue of September 1963. Maor states that German Jewish communities today are composed of three distinctive elements: (1) those Jews who managed to survive the Nazi régime in Germany; (2) Eastern Jews, mainly former D.P.s, who remained in Germany after the liberation and (3) German Jews who returned after the war.

Survivors and D.P.s

With regard to the first group, it is estimated that about 15,000 people classified as Jews by the Nazis were alive in Germany when the régime collapsed. Of these 28 per cent were partners of so-called "privileged mixed marriages", i.e., of marriages whose children were brought up as Christians. About 23 per cent were the Jewish partners of "non-privileged mixed marriages" who either had no children or whose children were brought up as Jews. A further 18 per cent survived underground, either with false papers or hidden by non-Jewish relatives and friends. Only about 8,000 of these 15,000 survivors became members of the new Jewish communities and about 3,000 of them are probably dead by now, a fact which is not surprising since the average age of the group was 55 years in 1945. The vast majority had only very loose ties with Judaism and but for the racial persecution many of them might not even have considered themselves as Jews any longer. With their limited interest in and knowledge of Jewish affairs, they could not be expected to contribute much to the rebuilding of Jewish communities, quite apart from the fact that hardly a single Jewish teacher or reader (cantor)—to say nothing of a rabbi—was found among the survivors.

As regards the second group, not less than 45,000 liberated former inmates of concentration camps lived in Germany at the end of 1945. It must seem almost paradoxical that,

owing to fresh outbreaks of antisemitism in the Eastern countries, vast numbers of Eastern Jewish survivors should have fled to Germany of all places, particularly to Bavaria. They were given shelter in D.P. camps first under the auspices of U.N.R.R.A. and later I.R.O. The October 1946 census revealed that the total population of the four occupied zones and Berlin was 65,195,200; of these 156,705 were Jews of whom not less than 112,013 were in D.P. camps. As mentioned in the "Spiegel" report, many of these left the camps and settled in Germany, and until 1950 about a thousand of them had married non-Jewish women. The development of the reconstituted Jewish communities on German soil was mainly the work of these originally non-German Jews. Not only were they, as foreigners, particularly anxious to build up a society to which they belonged, but most of them were conscious and often religious Jews. Of the three groups they were, moreover, virtually the only ones who had children and were desirous of bringing them up in the Jewish tradition. Along with the interest in the newly founded community, they also took a burning interest in the State of Israel, and it is no accident that usually meetings and other functions of the Jewish communities would end with the singing of the Hatikva. A real amalgamation between the surviving German Jews and the resident D.P.s could hardly take place, not only owing to the difference of background but also because the former intended to remain in Germany for good while the latter considered their stay as temporary and were thinking of leaving Germany again sooner or later. As far as it is possible to generalise, even those former D.P.s who became economically well established in Germany, did not try to integrate into the society of their non-Jewish neighbours, probably because many of them could not forgive the past persecution and sufferings at the hands of Nazi Germany. At present about 6,000 Jewish former D.P.s are still living in Germany.

The Returnees

The third group, the returnees, is numerically the largest one, about half of all Jews now living in Germany, i.e., approximately 10,000 to 12,000, have returned from abroad. The majority of this group, again, consists of elderly and old people, mainly those who had not succeeded in settling properly during the years of their emigration. It is calculated that nearly 45 per cent of the group are fifty years or older. A large proportion returned to Germany for "retirement" and live on indemnification pensions, often because these are worth more in Germany than in the country where they lived before. Not a few of them are, moreover, uncertain whether

they will remain in Germany for the rest of their lives. The "Spiegel" has already reported that this re-immigration virtually stopped in 1960, partly because those who wanted to return had by then done so and partly because fresh antisemitic incidents made other potential returnees change their mind.

The article closes with a detailed analysis of the available figures on the present Jewish population of Germany. These are, however, not entirely reliable because many of the returnees have kept their foreign passports—quite a few of them come and go—and also because a fairly large percentage of them do not officially belong to one of the new Jewish communities; while Jews are again living in over 500 German localities, only 80 of these localities have Jewish communities.

A Dying Community

As already stated, there are few children and young people. At present only 400 Jews aged between 16 to 20 live in Germany; of the Jews aged between 21 and 30, hardly a single one is of German-Jewish origin. In 18 communities the number of persons over 70 years of age exceeds that in the up to 20 years age group. All these figures point to the conclusion that there has been no real renaissance of a Jewish minority in Germany and that their almost complete disappearance is only a question of time. This confirms the historical fact that Jews who have left a country because of persecution, usually do not return to that country, nor do their children find the way back to the country of their ancestors. For this reason the centre of Jewish life has shifted so dramatically during the last three generations: while before the Second World War approximately ten million Jews—about 60 per cent of all Jews—lived in Europe, today only approximately four million—about one-third—live on European soil. Of these the largest group, the two and a half million Jews in Russia, might to a great extent have emigrated if they were allowed to do so.

'THANK-YOU BRITAIN' FUND

In the leading article of our September issue we gave a short report on the 'Thank-you Britain' Fund, the administrative part of which is being looked after by our Association. In the meantime the first batch of appeal letters has been dispatched and we are glad to report that the response has been very encouraging. At the time of going to press it is too early to give any exact figures and information, but we would ask all those members of the AJR who have not received an appeal letter to write to the Association, as apparently some seem to have gone astray. It was obviously technically impossible to despatch all the many thousand appeal letters at the same time.

COMPENSATION FOR VICTIMS OF NAZI PERSECUTION NOW U.K. CITIZENS

The Standing Conference of British Organisations for Aid to Refugees has sent us the following important Memorandum: August, 1964.

1. One of the gaps in the arrangements for compensation for Nazi persecution has been affecting persons who were foreign nationals at the time they were persecuted, but who received United Kingdom naturalization subsequently. Many of them had become refugees after the war, but, if they had received U.K. naturalization before 1st October, 1953, were no longer legally "refugees" on that date, and were, therefore, not eligible for the U.N.H.C.R. Indemnification Fund. At the same time, since they had not been U.K. nationals at the time they were persecuted, it was not known whether they would be eligible for any eventual arrangements for the compensation of persons who were U.K. nationals at the time of the persecution (Channel Islanders, etc.).

Following the Agreement of 9th June, 1964, between the British and German Governments, whereby the German Government agreed to pay one million pounds to the British Government to benefit U.K. nationals who were victims of Nazi persecution, the British Government has taken steps to close this gap so as to give such former refugees a possibility of receiving some compensation for their suffering.

2. This new Fund is for the benefit of U.K. nationals who, as a result of Nazi measures of persecution, suffered loss of liberty or damage to their health, or, in the case of those who died in consequence of such measures, for the benefit of their dependants.
3. For the purpose of this Fund, Nazi persecution means treatment by the Nazis for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political views or political opposition to Nazism, involving detention in a concentration camp or an institution where conditions were comparable with those in a concentration camp. Hardship suffered in a normal civilian prison, civilian internment camp, P.O.W. camp, etc., does not constitute persecution for this purpose. Nor does loss of property or any form of monetary or economic loss. Applications cannot be registered for persons who have already received compensation for the same persecution from other funds provided by Germany.
4. The person persecuted must have been a U.K. national or British subject (or, but for his prior death, would have been) on

9th June, 1964. This includes persons who became naturalized U.K. citizens between the time of persecution and 1st October, 1953.

Thus, former refugees who were persecuted by the Nazis and who became naturalized U.K. citizens before 1st October, 1953, may apply for registration under this Fund.

5. Applications for registration must be sent to the Under-Secretary of State, Foreign Office, London, S.W.1, from whom the full particulars and application forms can be obtained. Please note that registration of claims closes on 31st July, 1965.

BERICHTIGUNG

In der Darstellung der BRueG-Novelle (Sonderbeilage zu der Septemberrummer) befinden sich in dem "Beispiel 5" auf Seite 4 leider einige Fehler. Richtig muss es heissen:

Beispiel 5.
Festgestellte Gesamtforderung DM 60,000.
Auf grund des Bescheides gezahlt DM 20,000.
Ferner gezahlt DM 10,000.
Auf grund Alters gezahlt DM 15,000.

Mit dem Inkrafttreten faellig einschliesslich der bisherigen Zahlungen DM 55,000, wie im Beispiel 4, also effektiv zu zahlen DM 10,000.

Wegen der restlichen DM 5,000 gilt dasselbe wie im Beispiel 4.

Ebenfalls auf Seite 4 muss es im 2. Absatz der rechten Spalte, Zeile 3 von unten, heissen "von der Machtuebernahme", nicht "vor der Machtuebernahme".

SHADOWS OF THE PAST

Trials

Dr. von Krannhals, of Lueneburg, an expert on contemporary history, gave evidence against Himmler's former adjutant, General Wolff, charged with complicity in the murder of 300,000 Jews. He told a court in Munich that German armed forces had tried to prevent the S.S. from killing Jews in Poland. The exterminations had led to sharp differences. "It is a grotesque untruthfulness that former S.S. leaders claim at trials today they had never known about exterminations," he said.

The euthanasia trial at Limburg has been adjourned *sine die*, after medical evidence that only hospital treatment could save the life of the only defendant still available to stand trial, Dr. Hans Hefelmann. Two of the other three defendants killed themselves and the third, Dr. Bernhard Bohne, is believed to be in South America.

At a Frankfurt trial a Nazi telegram supplied by the archives of the West German Foreign Ministry was read. It stated that the Jewish population near the summer palace of Admiral Horthy, then the Hungarian Chief of State, were deported "because Horthy did not like to see Jews".

Mengele

According to a spokesman of the West German Foreign Ministry in Bonn, Dr. Josef Mengele is now a Paraguayan citizen. It was stated that investigations by the German Embassy in Paraguay had shown that one Jose Mengele who became a Paraguayan citizen some years ago and Dr. Josef Mengele were the same person.

"IDYLIC" THERESIENSTADT

A Nazi propaganda film portraying the Theresienstadt concentration camp as an idyllic resettlement centre for the Jews of Czechoslovakia has been discovered in the attic of a house near Theresienstadt.

The film shot under duress by Herr Kurt Gerron, a well-known Berlin film director who was a prisoner at the camp, was shown in German cinemas during the war under the title "Der Fuehrer schenkt den Juden eine Stadt."

About three-fifths of the film have survived, showing workshops, a home for the aged, a women's communal centre (that never existed), the central baths and the library, as well as a number of activities such as lectures, a staged football match and girls working on farm plots.

Among the audience at a lecture shown in the film can be seen Rabbi Dr. Leo Baeck, Rabbi Dr. Friediger and Rabbi Dr. Neuhaus. A concert conducted by Karel Ancerl, today principal conductor of the Czechoslovak Philharmonic Orchestra, also shown in the film, includes among the audience the composer, Hans Krasa and the sculptor, Rudolf Saudek.

Commenting on the film, Karl Ancerl said: "The hall, which had served as a hospital, had to be cleared specially for the concert. Several hundred patients were simply gassed".

Mr. Frantisek Fuchs, another former Theresienstadt inmate and now vice-chairman of the Council of Jewish Communities, added: "To clear sufficient space for interior shots the Nazis sent 5,000 prisoners to the gas chambers".—(J.C.)

BELSEN GRAVE DISCOVERED

The remains are to be reburied later this year of hundreds of victims murdered by the Nazis in the Belsen death camp, which have been discovered in a hitherto unknown mass grave near the Belsen memorial.

DACHAU MEMORIAL

It is hoped that work in transforming the site of the Dachau concentration camp into a memorial will have been completed by spring next year, in time for the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the camp's liberation.

Two of the remaining barracks in which prisoners were confined will be retained and turned into a museum. Construction of a small synagogue is to begin shortly and the Evangelical Church is to build a house of worship next to the Roman Catholic chapel already erected at the site.

The Dachau Memorial Committee are expecting representatives from 20 countries to participate in the commemoration ceremonies.

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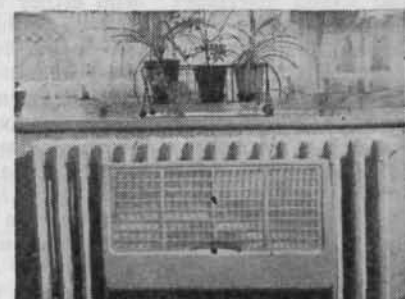
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NEWS FROM RUSSIA, ISRAEL AND AMERICA

JEWRY IN THE EAST

Children's Story

The story of a Jewish boy, "The Child of Brest", by S. S. Smirnov, is included in a children's book, "Bretskaya Krepost" ("The Brest Fortress"), published in Moscow this year. The Jews who were singled out for destruction by the Nazis in the Brest area of France during the war only because they were Jews is referred to compassionately in the book. The collection of stories is obviously based on authentic experiences of the German occupation and partisan warfare.

Hungarian Community

Dr. A. Scheiber, director of the Hungarian Rabbinical Seminary in Budapest, who visited England for research work, stated that two new rabbis would be inducted and a newly built synagogue at Grongros consecrated. The number of students at the Budapest seminary remains at about ten and three new students are to begin their studies there in the coming academic year. The number of pupils at the only Jewish high school in Eastern Europe, at Budapest, had increased to 120.

Polish Monument

A memorial has been unveiled at Ostrow Mazowiecki, Poland, to commemorate the murder of the 5,000 Jews in the area by the Nazis during the war. Hundreds of Poles and Jews attended the unveiling of the monument, which was erected over the two mass graves of the victims outside Ostrow.

Vilna Campaign

A call for greater effort by atheists to "expose the reactionary essence of Judaism" was made in "Sovetskaya Litva", a newspaper published in the Lithuanian capital of Vilna earlier this year. The article stated that the main direction of atheistic work in the Lithuanian Soviet Republic was against Catholics because most believers there adhered to that religion. But it should not be forgotten that "the Russian Orthodox Church and the Jewish synagogue have a distinct influence on a certain part of the population".

Zionist Propaganda Charge

"Trud", the Russian trade union newspaper, has accused Israeli diplomats of distributing "dirty, rotten, poisonous" Zionist propaganda to Soviet Jews. The paper charged that Israeli diplomats, whom it named, had been spreading "Zionist literature" on Latvian beaches, in the streets of Odessa and Chernovtsy, and in synagogues in Moscow and Kiev. It also reported that three Russian Jews had been "deprived of the right to visit synagogues for six months" for helping "the dirty work" of the Israeli diplomats. In its article "Trud" noted that it published a similar attack in March.

An Israeli Embassy spokesman described the accusations as "false and with no basis in fact".

Lithuanian Theatre

Lithuanian Jews are to have a Yiddish State Theatre on the lines of the one in Poland, to be formed from several amateur Jewish theatre groups. The Lithuanian Ministry of Culture has notified the Jewish theatrical group of about fifty members that it has been granted official recognition. The group will now be entitled to regular payments and it will be placed on the same footing as other theatre groups in the country.

Bulgarian Prize

The winners of Bulgaria's Dimitrov Prize, for achievements during 1963, include four Jews recognised for their work in social sciences, music, films and architecture.—(J.C.)

THE ISRAELI SCENE

Population Totals 2,500,000

Israel's population totals 2,500,000, of which 38.8 per cent are native born, according to a statistical abstract just published.

Inter alia, the report reveals that life expectancy in 1963 reached 73 for men and 77.9 for women, which is among the highest in the world. Jewish women have an average of three to four children and Arab women seven to eight during their lifetime. Fifty-nine per cent of families have their own homes.

Victims of "Illegal" Immigrant Ship Arrive for Reinterment

With full ceremonial, the bodies of the 199 victims of the "illegal" immigrant vessel "San Salvador", which sank off the Turkish coast in 1940 after the immigrants had been refused Turkish entry visas, were brought to Israel for reinterment on Mount Herzl in Jerusalem.

The Salvador had carried some 300 Bulgarian Jews and attempted to land them in Turkey. The Turks, however, towed the vessel into the Marmara Sea where, during a gale, the ship sank. Two hundred and three of the immigrants were lost, but the bodies of 199 were recovered and buried in a Turkish village until last week when they were exhumed and taken for solemn reburial in Israel.

British National Youth Orchestra's Tour

The British National Youth Orchestra completed its Israeli tour and left for Athens. The Orchestra, conducted by Rudolf Schwarz, himself a survivor of Belsen and now a celebrated conductor in Britain, gave six concerts to large and enthusiastic audiences in various parts of Israel. With the Orchestra travelled to Israel Dr. Ruth Railton, its founder and leader, who is married to Mr. Cecil Harmsworth King, Chairman of the Mirror group of newspapers.

German Reparations

The chairman of the Junge Union, the Christian-Democrat youth organisation in Hesse, has demanded the ending of West German reparations to Israel if she recognised the Oder-Neisse line as Germany's eastern frontier. Herr Norbert Hoef said his suggestion should not be considered "blackmail" against Jews, but Israel should not forget the help Western Germany had given in material and moral reparations since the war.

The executive board of the Junge Union has denounced Herr Hoef's statements, referring to remarks made by Mr. Levi Eshkol, the Israeli Prime Minister, implying that Israel recognised the line as Germany's definitive frontier.

"Righteous Men"

Two Italians, Monsignor Arrigo Beccari and Dr. Giuseppe Moreali, at the risk of their own lives, saved more than 100 young Jews and Jewesses of many nationalities from deportation by the Nazis in 1942 and 1943.

To mark Jewish gratitude for all that they had done, Mr. Jasko Indig, a special representative of the Israeli Government, proclaimed the two men as "Righteous Men Among the Nations" at a ceremony in the city hall of Monantola, Northern Italy.

Sophia Loren

Paramount Pictures and the Rome film company for which Sophia Loren's husband works, have denied a report that Arab League countries have black-listed films made by Sophia Loren because she is now filming in Israel in "Judith".

A Damascus announcement had said that the Arab League had asked for inquiries to be made so that "Judith" could be banned if it turned out to be "Israeli propaganda".

AMERICA Jewish Negroes

The scattered and disunited Negro Jewish congregations in New York have taken their first step towards unity in their struggle to become fully fledged members of the American Jewish community. About 100 Black Jews from ten congregations met for the first time this summer and decided to support a newly formed unity committee named "Hatzad Harishon" (The First Step).

The Black Jews, most of whom began to emigrate to the United States from the West Indies in the 1920s, have been cut off not only from the white Jewish community but from each other. Estimates of their number vary from between 15,000 and 100,000. They feel that they are Jews first and coloured second, and want to be recognised by the American Jewish community. Rabbis for Negro-Jewish congregations have been trained at the academy run by Rabbi W. A. Mathew, of Harlem. Neither he nor his academy are recognised by the New York Board of Rabbis.

Day of Prayer

Rosh Hashana was designated as a special day of prayer and remembrance for Soviet Jewry by the New York Board of Rabbis, which represents the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform movements.

In a proclamation the board urged all Jews to dedicate the year 5725 "as a year of remembrance and dedication to the alleviation of the plight of the three million Jews in the Soviet Union".

"Assimilation Catastrophe"

Speaking at Los Angeles at the 50th National Convention of Hadassah, the women's Zionist organisation of America, Dr. David Lieber, president of the University of Judaism in Los Angeles, declared that the American-Jewish community faces "a catastrophe too frightening to contemplate" unless the trend towards Jewish assimilation is reversed. "The hour is ripe for a total assault on Jewish apathy and ignorance, an all-out drive to make Judaism a source of joy and inspiration to the modern," added Dr. Lieber.—(J.C.)

Triki Leaves

Hussein Triki, the Arab League representative in Argentina, who is responsible for fomenting much of the recent antisemitic propaganda circulating in Latin America, has left the country.—(J.C.)

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NEWS FROM ABROAD

ROAD TO ROME Ecumenical Council

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, the national director of the Department of Inter-religious Affairs of the American Jewish Committee, who has been very close to the efforts for rapprochement between Christians and Jews, commented to a *Jewish Chronicle* correspondent on the chapter concerning relations between the Catholic Church and the Jews in the Schema on Ecumenism. His opinion was that so widespread is the movement among Christians towards eliminating antisemitism in texts and liturgy, including the deicide charge, that, even if the "Jewish chapter" before the Ecumenical Council is not approved in Rome, "the revolution has now begun and it would take a counter-revolution to stop it".

Pope Challenged

Mr. Herman Shumlin, producer-director of the Broadway production of Rolf Hochhuth's "The Representative", has disclosed that he wrote to the Pope in July asking him to clarify his attitude towards the Jews in the light of his approval, when Archbishop of Milan, of a book containing anti-Jewish comments. The Pope has not answered his letter.

The book, "Il Messaggio degli Evangeli", a commentary on the Scriptures by a Rev. Professor Don Angelo Alberti, published in Italy in 1956, contains a preface by Mgr. Montini (as Pope Paul VI then was) stating that the work was "worthy of meeting the sympathetic attention of intelligent readers". Mr. Shumlin quoted a number of antisemitic statements from the book in his letter.

First Encyclical

Many quarters in Spain have taken the first encyclical letter of Pope Paul VI, "Ecclesiam Suam", as an indication of a hardening of the attitude towards the non-Christian religions, including Judaism. The anti-progressive press in general and the hierarchy of the Catholic Church in the country have welcomed the encyclical for its conservative tone. It has been widely quoted, particularly the section which states that Catholics cannot remain indifferent to the fact that all religions are not equal. Nor can they permit those who practise other religions to continue unaware of the erroneous nature of their faiths.

The statement in the encyclical that the Christian religion is the only true one has been forcefully quoted by commentators as setting limits to the dialogue between Roman Catholics, Jews and the members of other religions.—(J.C.)

PARIS CELEBRATES

Paris Jewry took part in the celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of the liberation of the city from German occupation. As part of the official ceremonies President de Gaulle called at the town hall where the National Council of the Resistance led the struggle against the Germans. A service of commemoration was conducted in the synagogue in the Rue de la Victoire by the Chief Rabbis of France and of Paris.

CHURCH AND JEWRY They Were Silent

From correspondence between the Anglican Suffragan Bishop of Toronto and the Niemöller brothers in Germany, it is made clear that the Protestant Church in Germany did not speak out once in defence of the Jews during the last war.

Pastor Martin Niemöller spent eight years in a concentration camp for defying Hitler's church programme. His brother, the Rev. Wilhelm Niemöller, is a member of the commission on church history in Germany. The Bishop, the Rt. Rev. H. R. Hunt, began the correspondence after hearing the complaint about the German Protestant Church in Anglican church circles in Canada.

Fighting Antisemitism

A European summer school on "Israel" (the Jewish people and Judaism) was held at the Church and World Centre of the Netherlands Reformed Church at Driebergen, near Utrecht. It was sponsored by the Committee on the Church and the Jewish People of the World Council of Churches.

The Rev. Dr. Anker Gjerling, of Copenhagen, who is secretary of the Committee, said the churches could do much to counteract antisemitism by pointing out that the same God spoke in the Old and New Testaments and that the commandment to love one's neighbour was from the Old Testament. It was wrong to adopt a doctrine of collective guilt against the Jews for the Crucifixion.

The Rev. J. H. Grolle, secretary of the Council for Church and Israel of the Netherlands Reformed Church, said that antisemitism was largely quite irrational and to a great extent determined by Christian instruction.—(J.C.)

UNEASE IN TUNISIA

Any Tunisian wishing to go abroad who has at any time visited Palestine or Israel is now refused a Tunisian passport or *laissez-passer* by the authorities. Such persons are given a Stateless *laissez-passer* which means that they will almost certainly never be able to return to Tunisia.

The number of people affected so far has been small but the fact that this discrimination has been instituted in conformity with instructions from the Arab League office is causing considerable unease among Tunisian Jews. The stream of refugees to France from Tunisia is still growing.

MOROCCO "EXODUS"

According to community officials in Rabat, the Jewish population of Morocco has dropped to between 70,000 and 75,000. No exact count is available because thousands have been leaving each month and the departures continue. The last Government census gave the Jewish population in June, 1961, as 159,608.

SWEDEN

Ex-Nazi Candidate

Harold Ljungström, a Stockholm alderman and a former active Jew-baiter, offered to withdraw his candidature to the Swedish Parliament after a strong press campaign against him. He now states that he regrets his anti-semitic activities and has "asked for forgiveness" during the past 20 years. Nevertheless, because of widespread unemployment in Germany before the war, he thought it "unfair that 75 per cent of German doctors and lawyers were Jews."

Leaders of the newly formed K.D.S. Party (Christian Democratic Union) who nominated Ljungström, stated they knew about his Nazi past but nominated him because he had changed his views. They did not tell the nomination meeting about his past.

Bonn Compensation

Under an agreement signed in Stockholm, West Germany will set aside one million marks (about £90,000) for distribution to Swedish citizens persecuted by the Nazis before and during the war. The Swedish Government has inserted advertisements in Swedish newspapers asking people who consider themselves entitled to compensation to apply to the Swedish Foreign Office.

Job for Herterich

The West German non-Jewish doctor, Dr. Elmar Herterich, who left Germany after his campaign against ex-Nazi judges still in office led to efforts at reprisals against him, has obtained a job at a hospital in Western Sweden. He was recently granted a residence and labour permit and has been given a grant to help him learn Swedish.—(J.C.)

REBUILDING EUROPEAN JEWRY

The rebuilding of European Jewry after the Second World War was discussed in Amsterdam by about 60 youth members of the World Union for Progressive Judaism from Britain, France, West Germany and Holland.

A proposal to organise a special "Berlin Week" next Passover was among the subjects discussed. The purpose of this would be to help young Jews in Berlin who have some contact with their co-religionists in West Germany. The requirements of Jewish youth in West Germany were also discussed.

3,000 JEWS FACE DEPORTATION FROM TURKEY

About 3,000 Turkish Jews of Greek nationality, most of whom were born in Turkey and do not even know the Greek language, face deportation to Greece under a Turkish Government edict issued in retaliation for the Greek policy in Cyprus, it was indicated in Turkish Jewish circles. The Government had announced that "all of the Greek nationals" in this country must leave before September 16 or face deportation. The 3,000 Jews are part of that group. Some of the Greek Jews in Turkey have already been expelled.

INVITATION FROM PERSIA

The Shah of Iran has invited world Jewry to participate in the celebrations to be held in October, 1965, to mark the 2,500th anniversary of the establishment of the Persian Empire and the 25th anniversary of the Shah's accession to the throne.

The invitation was extended through Professor Henry Raphael Gold, an American psychiatrist, who was in Teheran recently as a guest lecturer at the university. Professor Gold said he intended to bring the invitation to the attention of leading Jewish bodies throughout the world, including those in Britain. Israel will also participate in the celebrations.

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HOME NEWS

JUDAISM AND PSYCHIATRY

The first international congress of social psychiatry recently held in London was attended by one thousand delegates, about a third of whom were Jews. Dr. Joshua Bierer, organiser and chairman of the conference, in an interview said that the Jewish contribution to psychiatry is proportionately very great. Jews were mainly responsible for the new development known as social psychiatry which he had introduced into this country in 1938.

It was no secret, said Dr. Bierer, that people who have had difficulties tend to come into psychiatry. To be persecuted is more or less the prerogative of the Jew and therefore it follows automatically that psychiatry should be the prerogative of the Jew. Also, medicine had always been one of the permitted professions of the Jew who, historically, has been forced into certain professions because others were forbidden to him.

Rabbi S. Warshaw, of the Pinner Synagogue, was the only rabbi to read a paper at the conference. He spoke on "Judaism and Psychiatry", explaining how the latest scientific researches and discoveries of modern psychiatry were anticipated by the Biblical and rabbinic teachings of traditional Judaism.

SEX AND THE FAMILY

In the annual report of the Jewish Marriage Education Council the Rev. Raymond Apple, chairman of the Council's youth clubs committee, cites the glamourising of sexual freedom and the wide publicity given to the "new morality" among the reasons for the "serious weakening" of Jewish marriage and family life. He states that his committee faces an uphill task in laying the foundations of stable marriages, happy family lives and homes based on Jewish traditions.

Mr. Apple also lists "the attractive distractions that make people dissatisfied with the family circle, the unintelligent way in which Jewish observance is often carried out by parents who cannot explain the Jewish way of life to their children, the inadequacy of many young people's Jewish education, and the general weakening of religious sanctions".

HELPING THE AGED

A 24-year-old barrister, Mr. Anthony Steen, has initiated a scheme for young people to help the aged. A company has been formed in London to finance this, and its members include Mr. Edward E. Mocatta and a number of M.P.s.

Mr. Steen, who has been organising groups of young people in voluntary work for the aged for the past five years, has obtained £3,000 from the Government for the scheme. —(J.C.)

IRELAND IMPORTS OF CITRUS FRUIT FROM ISRAEL

Ireland imported citrus fruit from Israel last year to the value of £500,000. The figure for 1964 has not yet been released.

These imports are by way of a direct deal between Israel and Ireland and not routed via the United Kingdom.

In 1962 the figure was just under £400,000; in 1961 it was £360,000; in 1960 it was just under £300,000.

In this connection it will be recalled that the population of Ireland is just under three million.

C.B.F. SCHEME FOR INDIA

The Central British Fund may soon embark on a programme to relieve some of the distress of poverty-stricken Jews in India, mainly in the Bombay region. In a report to the C.B.F. of his recent visit to India, the director of the American Joint Distribution Committee described the squalor surrounding many of the Indian Jews.

The C.B.F. plans to appoint a director to co-ordinate work leading to the establishment of mother- and child-care clinics, kindergartens and other welfare centres. In Bombay the Fund already contributes towards the maintenance of a hostel for boys living outside the area so that they may attend Jewish schools in Bombay and also obtain adequate meals.

AID FOR REFUGEES

Churches and Jewish organisations in Manchester are raising funds and collecting clothing for refugees throughout the world.

The churches opened their doors on September 16 and 17 for clothing and synagogues were asked to give financial support to the venture.

FASCIST GROUPS

Following a fight in Leeds city centre, a woman and three men were arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. Among the 25 people involved in the disturbance were six men selling "Spearhead", the magazine of John Tyndall's National Socialist Movement group.

Mosley's Union Movement was involved in disturbances in Hove when an angry crowd attacked six members of the movement who had set up a speaker's stand on the sea front.

An application from the Union movement to hold a rally at the grounds of the Bristol City Football Club has been rejected, and the Bristol Corporation refused permission to use a hall in the city centre.—(J.C.)

ANTI-NAZI LAWS?

Sir Barnett Janner, M.P., recently visited Sydney to conduct an appeal for the King David Day School. During an interview he declared that if the Labour Party were to win the forthcoming General Election it would legislate against antisemitic and neo-Nazi activities and would consider passing laws against group libel.

TRIBUTE TO BENNO SCHOTZ

Mr. Benno Schotz, Queen's Sculptor in Ordinary for Scotland, was the guest of honour at a reception in the Glasgow Arts Club. It was organised by a special committee set up to give public recognition to the work of Mr. Schotz. On behalf of the Jewish community he had been commissioned to execute a bust of Mr. David Ben-Gurion, which was presented to Mrs. Levi Eshkol, wife of the Israeli Premier.

A cheque was also presented to institute the "Benno Schotz Award" which will be made annually to a young Scottish sculptor to be chosen by the R.S.A.

MARTYRS' MEMORIAL

Dayan I. Golditch unveiled a plaque to the memory of the six million Jews murdered by the Nazis. Addressing members of the Hightown Central Synagogue he said: "But for Hitler there would never have been a Jewish State. . . . It was the very hopelessness of our situation that compelled us to realise that the only people capable of looking after the Jews were the Jews themselves".

ANGLO-JUDAICA

Chief Rabbi's Retirement

On April 4, 1965, his 70th birthday, the Chief Rabbi is due to retire. There is now some doubt as to whether the Chief Rabbinate Conference convened for the election of a successor will be able to carry out its purpose by that time. It is rumoured that Dr. Brodie has indicated his desire to continue in office to allow more time for the choice of a suitable successor and to enable him to dispose of a number of communal matters.

Rosh Hashana Broadcast

The Chief Rabbi made his annual New Year's broadcast in the B.B.C. Home Service. He also broadcast over the B.B.C. Hebrew section to Israel, on the General Overseas network and on the North American service.

Ajex Activities

One of the main platforms of the Association of Jewish Ex-Service Men and Women will be to press the next Government to introduce legislation to outlaw racial discrimination.

The activities of Ajex in the social sphere will also receive great attention. Ajex intends to aid to a greater degree those already benefiting from its work and also to add new causes to its list. It is hoped that help for hospitals at Christmas will be done on an even larger scale this year.

New Journal

A new quarterly "The Ajex Journal", has just been published by the Association of Jewish Ex-Service Men and Women. The first issue carries articles by Mr. Maurice Edelman, M.P., Alderman Leslie Lever, M.P., Mr. Martin Savitt, Ajex chairman, and many others.

Sir Basil Henriques Remembered

Following the death in 1961 of Sir Basil Henriques, an amount of £14,500 was donated. About £20,500 will ultimately be received for a special Memorial Trust Fund under which six charitable bodies will benefit. Among the projects which will be established in memory of Sir Basil will be a camp site for diabetic children, an area for outdoor games, an annual lecture, a religious library and a training scheme for club organisers.

Synagogue Consecrated

The new St. John's Wood Synagogue, Britain's largest, was consecrated by the Chief Rabbi assisted by Rabbi Dr. S. Goldman, its minister, and the Rev. M. E. Hertzberg, reader, with a choir directed by Mr. S. Fixman. The £220,000 building took only ten months to complete and will be able to accommodate a congregation of over 1,500.

Education

The Rev. Raymond Apple, minister of Bayswater Synagogue, from the pulpit called for a balanced and more realistic appraisal of Jewish education. Although the quantity of children's Hebrew education might be less today he said, children went more willingly to cheder than had their parents. The recommendations Mr. Apple made included the appointment of a full-time education officer in every regional district in London and the substitution of the term "Hebrew school" for "Hebrew classes".

New Home

A £500,000 appeal has been launched in Manchester for a new home for the aged and chronically sick. The new home in Prestwich will replace the present one in Cheetham Hill. It is planned that 200 beds will be accommodated in a group of houses on a five-acre site in pleasant surroundings.

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THE PASSION OF CARL VON OSSIETZKY

A Biography and an Anniversary

I cannot think of anything more moving, more sinister, and more terrifying among my memories of 1933 than a photograph which appeared in Hitler's *Illustrierter Beobachter*. It was one of a series of pictures from the concentration camp of Sonnenburg, purporting to show how the "enemies of the National-Socialist Revolution" were receiving "corrective treatment" at the hands of the S.A. A short, slightly built man in a striped prison uniform, a number plate around his neck, stood there, gazing with an expression of utter despair at the jackbooted feet of an enormous bully of a stormtrooper who had planted himself before him as if he wanted to say, "We'll finish you off yet, just you wait!"

The prisoner was Carl von Ossietzky and the picture was the first sign of life—if it could be called life—that we, who were still free, received from the other side of the barbed wire where Germany's new masters had put their opponents. It took them five years more to "finish him off." In May, 1938, he died, 48 years old—the third German to be rewarded with the Nobel Peace Prize, after Quidde and Stresemann; with him died peace itself, and what was left of the "other Germany". More than the belated rebels of the 20th July, heroic as their deeds may have been, Ossietzky was the supreme example of true nobility of the mind and genuine patriotism; for, to quote Friedrich Wilhelm Foerster, "a patriot is a man who fears that his people may miss its way to justice and truth".

This year, on October 3, Ossietzky would have been 75 years old. Perhaps the best way to observe the anniversary, and honour his memory, is to read the brilliant, painstakingly compiled biography which his friend and comrade-in-arms, Kurt R. Grossmann (of the *Liga für Menschenrechte*), published last year.*

* Kurt R. Grossmann: *Ossietzky, Ein deutscher Patriot*. Kindler-Verlag, Munich, 1963 (581 pp.).

My only point of criticism is that a book of this kind, which is in fact a history of the Weimar Republic and its end, ought to have been amply illustrated; instead, it has a single portrait. It should have preserved, for us and the young generation that knows too little about the Nazi period, that terrible, telling photograph from Sonnenburg. Still, the book is indispensable for anyone interested in Germany's past, and it has been rightly awarded the Albert Schweitzer Book Prize.

The Ossietzky family, knighted in the eighteenth century, came from Upper Silesia. Carl, born in Hamburg, was baptised as a Catholic, confirmed as a Protestant, and became a follower of Ernst Haeckel as a student. He started his career in the legal civil service, but at the age of 24 he already had his first scrape with the reactionary powers-that-be. He wrote a highly emotional article in a Socialist paper against the revolting sentence of a military court in Erfurt, which had sent some harmless citizens to gaol for long periods after a pub brawl. As a result, the young court clerk, Ossietzky himself, was sentenced to a stiff fine. This episode made a deep impression on him; he felt that he could no longer remain in the German legal service, and resigned. That was early in 1914; soon afterwards he married Maud Woods in London. From then on his career was that of a political journalist.

The weapons of his incessant fight for peace, Socialism, a truly democratic Germany and the Rights of Man were not only articles in newspapers and periodicals but also speeches at public meetings and organising work in associations such as the *Liga für Menschenrechte*; he also helped to found the Republican Party and sought election to the Reichstag. In the spring of 1926 Ossietzky changed over from the *Tagebuch* to the *Weltbühne*, Siegfried Jacobsohn's weekly, in which Kurt Tucholsky was becoming the dominating figure. A few months later Jacobsohn died, and Ossietzky was his natural successor as editor (Tucholsky had more or less moved to Paris and turned up in Berlin only occasionally). Under his conscientious, passionate and inspired leadership the journal became the leading German periodical of the Left—fearless, incorruptible, aggressive. In its columns the voice of Goethe's and Heine's Germany warned, pleaded, informed, stormed, denounced. But the cause of freedom was doomed, and in their hearts Ossietzky and his contributors felt the creeping paralysis; it was doomed long before Hitler rose to the top.

In its issue of March 12, 1929, the *Weltbühne* published an article, "Windiges aus der deutschen Luftfahrt", by its budget specialist, Walter Kreiser (he signed it with a pseudonym). It was a detailed analysis of the Luft-hansa and the German aircraft industry and disclosed some embarrassing facts about secret

rearmaments. Kreiser and Ossietzky, as the responsible editor, were charged with treason and the disclosure of military secrets. The Leipzig Reichsgericht took a long time to prepare the charges. In November, 1931, they were both sentenced to eighteen months in prison.

Kreiser escaped to Paris. Ossietzky remained and waited for the call to serve his sentence. One morning in May, 1932—this is the scene with which Grossmann begins his book—his friends accompanied him to the gates of the Tegel prison. He could have got across the border, he could have joined Kreiser and Tucholsky in Paris. "You will never get out again", Ludwig Marcuse had told him. "Save your life for your fight. In liberty, your pen is your power. Don't give that power away." But Ossietzky had replied, firmly and with his characteristic simplicity, "If you want to fight effectively against the corrupt spirit of a nation you must share its fate."

And so he went to Tegel. The list of his friends who escorted him makes impressive reading: Ernst Toller, Leonhard Frank, Arnold Zweig, Erich Mühsam, Ernst Glaeser, Lion Feuchtwanger, Alfred Wolfenstein, Roda Roda, Hermann Kesten, Professor Alfons Goldschmidt, Emil Faktor, Hellmut von Gerlach, Werner Hegemann, Gertrud Isolani, Walther Karsch, Rudolf Olden, Kurt Grossmann and—yes, and Herbert Ihering, who was within a year to throw in his lot with the new masters of Germany.

Before Christmas, 1932, Ossietzky was released under Schleicher's Amnesty. On the morning after the Reichstag fire the storm-troopers came for him. They tortured and humiliated him in Sonnenburg and Papenburg. In 1936 his friends in the free world mobilised public opinion so effectively that he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Göring himself tried to force him to decline the Prize; he refused to comply, well aware of the consequences. By that time he was a very sick man in a Berlin hospital. Göring refused to let him leave Germany. A swindler cheated him out of the Prize money which might have helped him to recuperate. On May 4, 1938, he died.

Among the "good" Germans of our century history may judge him the best. Men have been made saints for less.

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Trude Dub

THE LAST TRAIN FROM PRAGUE

The following article reminds us of the days when we were forced to leave our countries of origin without knowing where to turn. Its publication appears particularly fitting at a time when the "Thank-you Britain" Fund provides us with an opportunity of expressing our gratitude to this country for having rescued us.—The Ed.

Twenty-five years ago, on March 15, 1939, I woke up from an uneasy sleep and switched on my bedside radio. The time was 5.30 in the morning, the place was Prague.

The voice of the announcer said:

"Please keep law and order—the German army is invading Czechoslovakia from all four sides. . . . Please keep law and order—the German army is invading Czechoslovakia from all four sides. . . . Please keep law and order. . . ."

I woke my husband and together we listened to the voice that proclaimed not only the death of one of the finest democracies in Europe, but also the end of an epoch in our lives—an epoch that meant roots, security, and human dignity. Even as that voice droned on, we were being turned into fugitives, our crime being that we were Jews.

By about midday, the first convoy of German tanks entered Wenceslas Square. I had often stood there, watching processions in the colourful Czech and Slovak national costumes and cheering with the onlookers. But the crowd that lined both sides of the square when the first German tank rolled down this beautiful thoroughfare was as still and silent as the statue of St. Wenceslas—the patron saint of Bohemia—towering above the square. The Germans did not waste much time. A curfew was called immediately and their lorries rumbled long into the night collecting the first blacklisted victims.

In the days that followed, my husband and I ran from embassy to embassy, trying to find a way of escape. By one of those strange coincidences that shape human destinies, we met an old friend, who told us that until the end of March, Czech nationals did not require a visa for England. We made up our minds on the spot, although it seemed impossible to get all the necessary documents in the remaining eight days. We did not even have a passport. Still, it was worth trying. Never shall I forget this breathless paper-chase, the hours in endless queues, with hope mounting and hope disappearing while time was running out.

The National Bank was closed and you could get no money out of the country; you could not even get a railway ticket abroad. Again by chance, I heard that foreigners could obtain tickets. If you were lucky enough to find one, he might be persuaded to part with his return ticket and buy a new one. The price of such a transaction was fantastic, but life was more precious still.

My God, where can I find a foreigner? But it seemed easier than I thought. The clerk at a little travel agency did know of a Dutchman. "Please, oh please, money no object. . . . Yes, of course I pay in advance." In a back alley that was our rendezvous, I was waiting for two hours in the pouring rain for the clerk and his Dutchman. They did not come.

But when I returned home, another good friend telephoned that some tickets were being sold at the main railway station—something that the efficient German administration had overlooked. I rushed there immediately but the news had got around and I found a queue a mile long. After three hours, when I was about fifth from the grille, the window shut down: the tickets were sold out. Nobody knew whether there would be any more. So I

crawled home to a weary husband who had spent his day chasing the passports.

God knows how we managed at all. Looking back on it, I can see a divine scheme in which each step was counted and each minute measured. For if we had not met just one of the many people who helped us at a particular moment, or if a tram or a taxi had not come just when it did, we would not be here today. Eventually, we held in our hands the precious passports, the tickets, the inland revenue permit, and all the other documents—everything except the Gestapo permit to leave. That was the hardest thing of all.

There was the possibility of my husband being arrested, so I decided to go to the Gestapo myself. When I came out of that building, I knew that I should never be afraid as long as I live—I spent the fear of my lifetime in there.

The passports had to be left behind and were to be collected with the permits—if any—three days later, on the day when the last train was leaving Prague to reach England without a visa.

Anxious Hours

Early that morning my husband Izio and I set out for the Gestapo. We closed the door of our home on all the precious things we had collected in our young married life, as well as on our hopes and dreams for the future. We joined the long, long queue. Friends brought us food, while the family waited at the flat for our telephone call to bring our luggage to the station. The hours passed and we made only little progress. My God, shall we never reach the door? Round about midday we were getting within sight but then the officials called a break and the queue became once more motionless.

Two o'clock came and the door opened again. We were not far away by this time but to our dismay the jackbooted Nazi in charge started to pull out his friends from the back of the queue. At three o'clock I plucked up all my courage and pointed out—humbly and politely—that our train would be leaving just after four o'clock. The man yelled: "Keep your mouth shut, Jewish swine, or you'll go to the back of the queue."

More waiting. . . . At four p.m. we were at last moving through the door. A woman in front of us undertook to ring my parents and ask them to bring our hurriedly packed personal belongings to the station.

We arrived at the station within minutes of the train's departure—perhaps it was better so—there was no time for prolonged good-byes. . . . The train moved slowly out of the station and I saw the dear faces of my parents disappearing in the distance. I never saw them again. None of the 300 fugitives on that train knew that the husbands who were going out to prepare the ground for their wives and children would never be joined by them, nor were the separated sweethearts to meet again.

And now we were on our way into the unknown. We reached the border of the Czech Protectorate, where all the permits were taken away from us. This was a bad omen. The permits entitled us to return within four weeks

Old Acquaintances

Milestones: Walter Rilla, who remarried and returned to Germany from London a few years ago, has turned 70 years of age. After the First World War he started in Breslau as editor of a literary magazine *Die Erde*, then went to Berlin where he acted with Elisabeth Bergner in "Der Geiger von Florenz". Together with his first wife, a sister of Ida Roland, he went to England in 1933 appearing in "Victoria Regina" on the stage and taking many parts on the screen.—Annemarie Selinko, authoress of the international best-seller "Desiree" and wife of Erling Kristiansen, Danish Ambassador in London, is 50 years old. Born in Vienna, she was a journalist before she wrote her first novel, "Ich war ein haessliches Maedchen", which was an immediate success. Together with her husband, whom she met as a student in Vienna, she survived the Nazi régime in Sweden.

Miscellany: Walter Slezak, whose autobiography "Wann geht der naechste Schwan" is a bestseller in the U.S.A. and in Germany, sold his house near New York to come to Europe, where he will be near his daughters who are studying in London.—After starring in Continental films for over ten years, Lilli Palmer returned to London to appear in Marcel Hellman's production of "Moll Flanders" and in "Operation Crossbow".—Anton Doffring, the Coblenz-born actor who played on the stage in "Out of Bounds" in London, Zuerich and Berlin, returned to London from Brazil where he was on location for a German picture to take part in "The Projected Man" before going on to Germany for another film.—Wolfgang Wilhelm, who returned to Munich from London some years ago, has adapted the B.B.C. show "The Good Old Days" for Bavarian TV.—Trude Kolman, of Munich's "Kleine Freiheit", whilst recovering from a car accident, produced a one-woman show, "Inventur", with Helen Vita on German TV.—Rudi Fehr, son of the late banker, supervised the German dubbing of "My Fair Lady" in Berlin with F. Schoenfelder speaking Rex Harrison's part.

Obituary: After a long illness Karl Schnog died in East Berlin aged 67. A well-known cabaret compère before 1933, he survived the Nazi concentration camps and became a writer for the radio.—Dr. H. F. Pindar, a criminal lawyer in Berlin before 1933, died in Lugano at the age of 80.

Books and Authors: Peter de Mendelssohn has been commissioned by publisher H. Kindler to write a book entitled "Rueckkehr nach Atlantis" about Germany and Berlin between 1945 and 1949.—Salka Viertel, who was Greta Garbo's best friend and wrote many film scripts for her, is now in Switzerland preparing her memoirs for early publication.—Hans Habe's best-selling report, "Der Tod in Texas", will be published here by Harraps in the autumn under the title "Anatomy of Hatred—the Wounded Land".

Germany: British-born Martin Beheim-Schwarzbach, who survived the Nazis in England, was awarded the Alexander Zinn Prize worth DM. 10,000.—Benno Reifenberg, co-editor of the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, received the Goethe Prize from the City of Cologne.—Elisabeth Bergner will appear in "The Mad Woman of Chaillot" at Duesseldorf and in a Kortner production of "Lady Macbeth" at Berlin.—Erika Mann is scripting her father's novel "Waelungenblut" for the screen.—Friedel Schuster is playing in Guitry's "Das letzte Testament" at Berlin's Renaissance Theater.—Pamela Wedekind took over Lotte Lenya's part in Weill's "Sieben Todsueden" at Hamburg's State Opera.—Oskar Maria Graf, who survived the Nazi régime in New York and who is already a member of the Academy of Arts in West Berlin, also became a member of the Academy in the Eastern sector.

Continued on page 8, column 1

PEM

The Last Train from Prague

Continued from page 7

and now the way back was irrevocably closed. What would happen if England refused us entry? Our speculations were cut short by an order to change trains. This was to be a direct train from Prague to the Dutch port of Vlissingen, but Jews were not supposed to ask questions. We had to change twice more and so precious hours were lost. It now became obvious that we should not reach England before midnight on March 31. Panic seized those who came on the train straight from prisons and there were a good number of them. They said that they were going to kill themselves rather than go through it again.

At the Last Hurdle

Full of foreboding, the transport reached Bentheim, on the German-Dutch border. There we were told that England would not let us in. It was too late. The treaty would expire before we could reach the English shores. Now the Dutch also refused us entry, fearing that we would be left on their hands. Besides, their reception centres for refugees in transit were already overcrowded. Negotiations with the Dutch authorities were set afoot, while our luggage, papers, and persons were examined by the German customs and police officials. Carriage after carriage was emptied and filled again, as people went to be investigated and returned.

By and by everybody was back except for three men—one of them my husband. For six hours they kept him standing near a wall—not leaning on it, mind you, while Nazi officials checked with Prague his identity and awaited clearance. I was nearly out of my mind with worry and I was not comforted when I asked an official with a swastika armband whether he knew where my husband was. Hearing the name, he said brightly: "Oh, we shot him!" Just one of the delicate Nazi jokes, but how was I to tell at the time?

Meanwhile, the first half of our transport was allowed to move on to Oldenzaal, on the Dutch side of the border, and await their fate in Holland, while the rest of us had to remain in Germany. We spent another night on the train, which was shunted on to a side track. Months later I was to wake up in the middle of the night and imagine myself to be still on that stationary train. In the morning, the local inhabitants came to stare at us as if we were some strange animals; and we felt indeed like rats in a trap. We could neither go forward nor back, and now the German railways were asking for the carriages. Rumours reached us that we might be transferred to a concentration camp.

But now the world was told of our plight by desperate telephone and telegraph messages. Finally a British immigration officer arrived in Oldenzaal, and it was rumoured that if you found an English guarantor, you were given a visa. I and I had had a chance meeting with an Englishman on the day Hitler marched into Prague. We wired him in desperation to send a guarantee for us to Oldenzaal. One clutched at every straw.

Another night came and still our fate was undecided. The train had to be sent back now and we were told to deposit our luggage in a room at the station and form two orderly lines, men separate and women separate. We thought that this could only mean a concentration camp but to our great surprise we found ourselves at a youth hostel, where we were given black coffee and bread with margarine, thanks to the mayor of Bentheim. Then the men were accommodated on straw—sixty of them in a

room—and women were given a bunk between two of them.

In the morning, the good news was brought to us that all women, and the married ones together with their husbands, were permitted to present themselves to the British immigration officer in Oldenzaal. It was only one railway station away, but what a different world awaited us on the other side of the border. The Dutch went all out to welcome us, and I shall never forget the warmth of their hospitality. There was food ready for us in a school and we certainly needed it. And here we had another pleasant surprise: the guarantee from our chance English acquaintance arrived and so we faced the immigration officer with easier hearts.

Yes, we got the visa and were taken to Hengelo, one more railway stop down the line, to spend the night. As in Oldenzaal, the whole town turned out to greet us. People threw their homes open to us and Scouts took care of our luggage and shepherded us to our lodgings. I and I followed our Boy Scout as in a dream through the darkening streets of Hengelo. The crisis was over—this was the beginning of a new life.

That night, after what seemed like a lifetime, we rested again on clean and comfortable beds. Next morning our group left Hengelo to the chorus of "Long live Holland" and "Long live Czechoslovakia." The Boy Scouts formed a guard of honour at the station. I often thought of this scene, when, a few months later, Holland herself became the victim of the same cruel oppressor.

The journey on the boat was uneventful. We felt that whatever lay before us could never be as bad as our first glimpse of Hitler's rule. True, we did not know a word of English; we had exactly sixpence left after sending postcards from the boat and treating ourselves to one cup of coffee between the two of us; we did not know a soul in England, apart from that chance acquaintance of ours, but we were young and not afraid of hard work.

And so, during the week of Passover, when Jewish people all over the world celebrate their deliverance from slavery to freedom—we landed on these blessed shores.

MEMORIAL TO A BRAVE WOMAN

Milena Jesenská, to whose memory this book* is dedicated, was a descendant of the medieval Rector of Prague University, Jessenius, who, together with other leaders of the Czech Protestant revolt, was beheaded on June 30, 1621. Like her forefather, she, too, was a martyr to the cause of freedom. The authoress, who made the acquaintance of Milena in the Nazi concentration camp of Ravensbrueck, where she spent four years with her, tells a heartbreaking story of a woman's suffering and also of her steadfastness, courage and endurance, which impressed even her gaolers.

Now, two decades after her death (she died in the camp after a kidney operation), the first biography of Milena, Kafka's friend, "whose piercing glance held even the Prague poet of modern nightmares spellbound", is published by her camp mate. But Milena was also acquainted with the much-loved Alma Mahler-Werfel and was adored by Willy Haas. In the 'twenties she lived both in Prague and in Vienna, in a way suited to her name, which means "the loved one". As a precocious

* Margarete Buber-Neumann: *Kafka's Freundin Milena*. Gotthold Müller Verlag, München. 316 pp. DM.17.80.

young woman of fifteen she, the daughter of the successful surgeon and man of the world John Jessensky, frequently visited the artists' studios and the coffee houses of Prague and attracted men and women alike by her exciting beauty. She became estranged from her father when she fell in love with and married the man of letters and notorious coffee-house frequenter, Ernst Polak; in 1918 she went to Vienna with him. There she was compelled to earn her own and her unfaithful husband's living by writing for newspapers, giving lessons and even by working as a porter at Vienna's main railway station.

In 1920 the unhappy Mrs. Polak made the acquaintance of Franz Kafka, who was staying in Meran for health reasons and required a Czech translator. She bombarded him with letters and wires since he paid a visit to her in Vienna. But Kafka was a very sick man and could not satisfy Milena, who was deeply in love with him. She met him four times in a town on the Austrian border, but gradually the platonic love developed into a long-lasting "letter-love" which Kafka finally stopped, leaving Milena alone in her sorrow. "I am on the brink of madness", she wrote at the time to Kafka's friend, Max Brod.

She separated from Polak and began a relationship with Count Schaffgotsch, a Communist, and returned to Prague as a celebrated journalist in 1925. In 1927 she married the architect and builder, Jaromir Krejcar, and, in the couple's modern flat, Prague men of letters and Bohemians now gathered, until her desire for a child was fulfilled. After she gave birth to her daughter, Honza, she ailed for a year, and when she got up again she had changed into a fat, old, limping woman, addicted to morphine. Her husband, she recounted later, once put a revolver on her bedside table. After visiting the Soviet Union for two years, he returned with a new wife. Milena kept silent and was thankful for the little flat which her former husband provided for her and her child. She joined the Communist Party but resigned after hearing of the show-trials in Moscow. When the German forces occupied Prague, Milena wrote sentimentally patriotic articles and her flat, always filled with flowers, became a hive of resistance activity and a hiding place for refugees. Although herself not a Jewess, she wore the Star of David on her clothes to show her solidarity with the Jews.

In the autumn of 1939 Milena was arrested. She was imprisoned in Prague, in Beneschau, in Dresden and finally in the newly built concentration camp for women, Ravensbrueck. To the other prisoners she was "Mother Milena" and the "Czarina". The authoress remembers: "In 1940 she was still unbroken, full of courage and initiative. Milena never became a typical prisoner", she never became insusceptible or brutalised, as did so many others. Many of her fellow-inmates wept when she died in 1944, and they covered her coffin with the flowers which she had loved so dearly.

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IN MEMORIAM

MR. L. K. SONNEBORN

On Thursday, September 3, the Manchester refugee community lost one of its leaders by the sudden death of Louis Sonneborn, at the age of 68.

He was born in Hamburg, studied Economics and, after obtaining his doctorate, he joined the family business, Oelwerke Stern Sonneborn A.G., Germany's leading oil refinery, which had meanwhile become part of the Shell Group. He worked in London for Shell from 1924 to 1928 and thereafter went to live in Paris, working there for the Shell organisation until 1935. On leaving the Shell Group he returned to England and founded, with his brother-in-law, a company for the manufacture of chemicals for the building industry, now known as Floorlife and Chemicals, in Manchester.

Louis Sonneborn was always in the forefront of the work for Refugees by Refugees. For many years he was the Chairman of the North-Western Branch of the AJR, Chairman of its Building Committee. One of the founders of the Morris Feinmann Home for old and lonely refugees in Britain, he might be called the father of this first Home for Refugees in Britain and, as such, he will always be remembered as long as there is a Morris Feinmann Home in Manchester. His devotion and untiring effort for the refugee cause kindled enthusiasm and support in others, so that he was surrounded by friends helping him in his work.

It is, however, not what Louis Sonneborn

has done which leaves the great void in our midst. It is the man he was, whom we shall miss for many years to come. This highly cultured, charming, friendly and so modest man was dearly loved by every resident in our Homes and by everyone who ever had the privilege of working with him.

Louis Sonneborn was one of the few truly good men and his friends are grateful for the example which he has set.

His charming wife, Gertrude, has always been at his side throughout their happily married life.

Louis Sonneborn was a very active member of the Board of the AJR and frequently came to London to discuss matters of interest to our Manchester group. His wise counsel will be sadly missed. F.K.

NAOMI JACOB

Naomi Jacob, the well-known novelist, died at her home in Sirmione on Lake Garda at the end of August. All who knew her must have been surprised to learn that she was already eighty years of age, as she appeared to be many years younger and was full of youthful zest. She was a very popular member of the English community of Northern Italy and gave a yearly lecture at the Institute of the British Council in Milan. Those responsible for these lectures were always a little apprehensive when she went on the platform because the irrepressible Miss Jacob would spice her talks with stories which were often

a little "risqué", and with an occasional irreverent remark about some public figure. But all was done without malice and she would keep her audience in fits of laughter, would sing old music hall songs and make fun at her own expense including that of her appearance which caused many people to take her for a man; she always dressed like one with jacket, collar and tie.

This is not the place to relate her colourful life and career, but it will be of interest to our readers to learn that she made no secret of the fact that, although a Christian, she was the daughter of a Jew from Germany and was very proud of her partly Jewish descent. As a heritage, she had a store of Jewish jokes and stories which she told with great gusto. In our present society of conformists she was a true representative of that dying species of "characters."

E.A.L.

MRS. HANNE FISCHER

Mrs. Hanne Fischer, a friend of Max Brod and other members of the Prager Dichterkreis, has died in London at the age of 65. She published her novels "Die grosse Landstrasse" in 1933 and "Die gluehende Kugel" in 1937. In pre-Nazi years she was a literary adviser to the Prague German Theatre and a regular contributor to the periodical "Hochschulwissen". In 1943 Harraps of London published a comedy, "Zwischenfall in Bergstadt", written and illustrated by her for advanced students of German. The AJR extends its sincerest sympathies to her husband.

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ISRAEL YEAR BOOK 1964

The 1964 issue of the Israel Year Book (Chief Editor, L. Berger) again carries a wealth of information compiled by expert contributors.

In his introductory article, Pinchas Sapir, Minister of Finance, Commerce and Industry, states that Israel's industry has stood the test, especially with regard to productivity, price stability and liberalisation, which makes Israel competitive in the International market. Industry and agriculture have become stabilising factors, but services give reason to anxiety, and in this respect, efforts from within have to be intensified.

Foreign Minister Golda Meir is represented in the Year Book by the text of the address which she delivered at the Plenary Session of the United Nations on October 2, 1963.

Abba Eban deals with the impact of modern Liberalism on modern life. He raises the question of whether the victory of the Liberal idea in the institutional and constitutional field can be extended to the social and economic sphere. Contrary to Professor Toynbee, who predicted the early disappearance of the National State, Eban states that at present we are living in the golden age of the small states. Whether these new small states will believe in the ideals of freedom or whether they will feel tempted to assume that their social and economic problems can only be solved by a totalitarian system will depend on the extent to which democracy does not merely remain a constitutional symbol but becomes a living economic and social reality.

The President of the Israeli Bank, David Horowitz, deals with the economic capacity of the country. In the course of one decade, he writes, Israel has passed through an economic process which in the normal way would take half a century. He shows how this was accomplished under the most difficult conditions (increase of national income by 10-11 per cent from £1,296 million in 1950 to £4,835 million in 1962; increase of export during that period from 46 million dollars to 272.2 million dollars; increase of the share

of home production in the total food supply from 50 per cent to 75 per cent in spite of the increase of the population from one million people to over two million people during the years 1949 to 1961). In the light of these developments the author considers it possible that during the second decade economic emancipation will be achieved by growing productivity, especially by increase of export, decrease of import, and continuous saving for investments.

The economic conditions for capital investments are described by L. Dultzin, head of the Economics Department of the Jewish Agency, and Dr. L. Berger, the Chief Editor of the Year Book. Their articles are supplemented by statistical abstracts and the text of the law concerning the promotion of capital investments.

Further problems of Israel's economy are also dealt with in comprehensive articles by expert authors. We mention the contribution on banking and capital market by Dr. Y. Foerder, General Director of the Bank Leumi; on building and housing problems by M. Ch. Stern, Director of Rassco; on foreign trade by E. Ezrahi, Director of the Foreign Trade Department of the Ministry of Commerce.

As a new feature, this Year Book introduces descriptions of Israel's trade relation with countries all over the world, from Argentina to the United States. The authors are either foreign trade representatives in Israel or Israeli representatives in the countries concerned, or both.

A special chapter, illustrated by maps and statistics, is dedicated to the petrol industry of Israel. The legislation during the past year is summed up by Henry E. Baker, President of the Jerusalem District Court.

Compared with the extensive articles on economic questions, the number of contributions on cultural subjects is small.

Dr. M. Vardi of the Foreign Office deals with the problems arising from the fact that in the case of a number of countries the only way of building up contacts is the establishment of cultural relations, because all other

channels are blocked. Professor Hugo S. Bergmann contributes an outstanding description of the personality and teaching of Martin Buber. Based on his archaeological work in the Negev, Dr. E. Anati describes his findings of ancient art in the desert.

Thus, as its predecessors, the Israel Year Book 1964 is an indispensable source of information, especially about facts and problems of Israel's economy in its various branches.

JEWES IN A HESSIAN VILLAGE

The history of the Jews in the township of Bergen, in the Hanau district, has been recorded in a monograph recently published under the auspices of the Hanau Historical Society. Its author is Dr. Ludwig Rosenthal, whose ancestors had lived there for many generations. The book is a revealing insight into the conditions under which Jews in the Wetterau lived during the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries.

Its first part deals with their general history, especially with their relationship with their environment and with their overlords (Landgrafen, etc.). The second part comprises family records of the author's ancestors, ending up with genealogical charts. The last entry refers to Sobibor, where Samuel Rosenthal, Dr. Rosenthal's father (1861-1943), perished.

In the introduction, the Hanau Historical Society expresses its appreciation of the fact that, in spite of the terrible happenings, Dr. Rosenthal has had the strength to write this book. "Together with him," it says, "we pay tribute to those to whose memory the book is dedicated, and at the same time humbly remember the millions of people who had to suffer the same fate."

E.G.L.

SWISS OFFICIAL RESIGNS

The Swiss press prominently featured the resignation of Mr. Etienne Serra, the chief of protocol of the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who resigned because of antisemitic remarks he was reported to have made at an Arab reception in Berne. The Swiss Government accepted his resignation. M. Serra will be given other work by the Government. Comments in the Swiss press varied from approval of the acceptance of M. Serra's resignation to his outright defence.

FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in the column Family Events are free of charge. Texts should be sent in by the 18th of the month.

Birthday

Goldschmidt.—Mrs. Anna Goldschmidt (née Rosenbaum) (formerly Schwerin i/Mecklenburg), of 31 Riffel Road, Willesden Green, London, N.W.2, will celebrate her 80th birthday on October 2.

CLASSIFIED

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Personal

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Francis Treuhers
The Younger Generation and the A.J.R.
Another Contribution to the Debate

While sitting eating Quetschekuchen as they made it in Bingen, this Rosh Hashana, the conversation, as it often does when Yekkes meet, ranged the lengths and breadths of Mishpochology. The ins and outs of a forthcoming Chupah having been disposed of, the forthcoming A.G.M. of the Old Age Home was broached. On this topic there was no stopping them. The possible paucity of helpers in ten years' time was mentioned.

"But what about the younger people?" I interjected, "I don't even know how many of your AJR friends have got daughters". This remark on my part was highly relevant. The small industrial town where I live gave shelter to a number of families from Germany. None of these families have daughters. There are families with two sons, with three and even, Ken Yirbu, with four. The energetic father has been heard to remark that he'd like a football team.

Half the gathering pretended not to hear my remark so I repeated it. "I'm twenty-two", I said, "And it's about time".

"You don't only want a Jewish girl, but it must be one of us?" came the aghast reply. The lighthearted discussion provoked, however, some serious thoughts.

"Someone's got to run the Home when we move into it."

"Your parents-in-law will speak with a bad accent like we do; that's something you'll have in common."

Later in the day my family sat down to tea, consisting of boiled eggs and Aufschnitt. I proceeded to cut the top of my egg with a knife. My father tapped his with a spoon and peeled the shell.

"Yours is the Continental way", he said.

"I learnt it from you."

"But it's not done", he replied.

That reminded me again of my Central European origins and I asked where the AJR information was.

"In the dustbin."

I went to look for it. The bin was empty. The dustman had been. That clinched the matter and I put pen to paper.

Reflecting on my girl friends at university, in the past few years, I realised that the majority were, as had been remarked, "not

only Jewish, but one of us". Why? There are some very intangible things I find in common with people of my generation from a "Refujew" background. Not least is a nodding acquaintance with the German language. Another is a peculiar sort of academic intellect. A third is even more indefinable, but stems from a different approach to the English Class system, from that of my equals in the present generation of English Jews.

I find (and this is a generalisation) that I know more "Refujew" children than young Anglo-Jews who have been to Germany, and can view the subject of Germany without exploding. Maybe this is because, although there is the unmentionable side to Germany which we all abhor, I have been educated with a certain gloss of German Culture which my Anglo-Jewish counterpart hasn't got, and he therefore sees only the anti-German viewpoint. "The trouble with Jews is that they can always see both sides of the question." Sometimes I feel I see all three.

I realise that I am letting myself in for a request for a three-guinea subscription, but I feel that not only should younger refugees be drawn into AJR and its useful work, but there is surely mutual benefit to be gained by recruiting the Children of Refugees.

WORKS BY GERMAN AUTHORS IN EXILE EXHIBITION IN BONN

A display of literature produced by German authors in exile is bound to be fragmentary. Nevertheless, any venture of this kind is to be welcomed, because it brings to light facts unknown to, or forgotten by, the wider public. For instance, who knows that, in 1934, Emil Ludwig wrote a book about "Fuehrer Europas" (Querido Verlag, Amsterdam), that the "Phoenix" series (Paris) published works by Paul Westheim and Alfred Kantorowicz, that a lecture about Hieronymus Bösch, delivered by Geheimrat Max L. Friedlaender, the former Director of the Berlin Kupperstichkabinett, was published at The Hague in 1941? Who could have imagined that there are still

copies in existence of the drama "Die Leuchte" (1938), by Michael Wurmbrand, the former Berlin correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, and of Hans Tramer's brochure "Die Verantwortung des Dichters" (Joachim Goldstein Verlag, Tel Aviv, 1939)? These and many other publications are now exhibited in the Bonn University Library.

The impressive new Library Building (opened in 1961) offers sufficient open space for a suitable display of the showcases. Nevertheless, it cannot have been an easy task to select the exhibits out of the 800 volumes of Exile Literature originally owned by an emigrant from Augsburg, Hein Kohn, and acquired by the Library two years ago. This task has been successfully accomplished, especially due to the work of Dr. Guenther Soffke.

The material is, in the first place, classified according to political categories. Under the heading "Analysis of the German Tragedy" we find, among others, works by Leopold Schwarzschild ("The End of the Illusion," 1934), Fritz Sternberg ("Fascism in Power," 1935), Konrad Heiden ("The Birth of the Third Reich," 1934) and Oscar Meyer ("From Bismarck to Hitler," 1944). The collection of pamphlets includes Alfred Kerr's "Diktatur des Hausknechts" (1934) and the brochure of the Social Democratic Bavarian post-war Prime Minister Wilhelm Hoegner, "Fascism and the Intellectual" (Karlsbad, 1934). The section "Theory and Practice of the Persecution of the Jews" includes Wolfgang Langhoff and Lion Feuchtwanger ("The Yellow Badge", Paris, 1936).

One special section deals with "The Third Reich in Novels and Short Stories", another one with "Fates of Emigrés". There are also biographies of Jewish personalities, and exhibits of literary works (in alphabetical order), by Vicky Baum, Doebelin, Feuchtwanger, Bruno Frank and Georg Hermann (who, as the inscription states, perished in Auschwitz or Birkenau), Irmgard Keun, Koestler, Else Lasker-Schueler, Thomas, Heinrich and Klaus Mann, Joseph Roth, Bruno Schoenlank, Toller, Berthold Viertel, Wassermann and Werfel. E.G.L.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir, For some time past I have been working on a dissertation on

"THE POSITION OF THE JEWS IN THE PRUSSIAN-GERMAN ARMY FROM 1812 TO 1914."

As the Prussian archives were burned down in April, 1945, it is no longer possible to do research work in their records. Therefore I depend on securing corresponding material through other channels, the same comprising:

1. Copies of decrees and rescripts of the Prussian Ministry of War and the Interior as to enlistment and promotion of Jewish Volunteers and Jews liable to serve in the Army.
2. Correspondence between Jewish soldiers and their corps headquarters concerning disrespect or antisemitic comportment of their fellow soldiers and other discriminations.
3. Memoirs, letters and other personal notes of Jewish soldiers taken during that period.
4. Statement of ranking conditions of the Jewish soldiers, their number in the respective age-groups, percentage of one-year volunteers, as well as their qualifications.
5. Number of promotions and decorations.

Whoever knows of the conditions of the 19th century is acquainted with the superior role of the Prussian and later the German Army in Germany.

In my estimation it seems to be an important contribution to the records of the history of the German Jews that a large-scale study concerning the relationship of the German Jews to this institution be made. This contribution cannot be rendered today without the help of former German Jews throughout the world.

All those who are in possession of any documents in this line are asked to contact me, so that I can investigate into the possibilities of using the material in connection with my dissertation.

It goes without saying that all charges will be borne by me.

Thank you in advance for your help!

Yours, etc.,

HORST FISCHER.

Seminar fuer Zeitgeschichte
Universitaet,
Tuebingen (Germany).

JUDAICA EXHIBITION

An exhibition in the Jewish Historical Museum in Amsterdam featured coloured lithographs from costume books showing Jewish men and women from many Oriental and East European countries in their distinctive dress in the eighteenth century. The exhibits were a small selection from the private collection of Judaica of Dr. Arthur Polak, the chairman of the board of the Central Jewish Hospital in Amsterdam. They also included Jewish coins and medals, late sixteenth-century maps of Palestine, seventeenth-century spice and etrog boxes, eighteenth-century Chanucah lamps and rare Dutch-Jewish settlement documents.—(J.C.).

NON-JEWISH STUDENTS ENROL FOR YIDDISH COURSE

Thirty students have enrolled for the course in Yiddish given at the Amsterdam University by Dr. L. Fuchs. Out of the 30 only one is Jewish.

The course is given within the framework of the permanent lectureship in Yiddish at the university.

RECEPTION FOR S. ADLER-RUDEL

A reception was held in honour of Mr. Shalom Adler-Rudel during his recent visit to Britain. The main reason for the reception, held under the auspices of Poale Zion, was to mark the 70th birthday of Mr. Adler-Rudel, a former chairman of Poale Zion in Britain and a former vice-president of the Zionist Federation. In the June issue of this journal (page 10) we have ourselves paid tribute to this outstanding Jewish personality.

Zionist leaders recalled Mr. Adler-Rudel's work in the past for Poale Zion and his efforts to assist Jewish refugees. Dr. S. Levenberg, Jewish Agency representative in Britain, gave an appraisal of Mr. Adler-Rudel's work for the Leo Baeck Institute and made a plea for work to be started soon on a history of the culture of German Jewry.

Replying in Yiddish, Mr. Adler-Rudel spoke of the present struggle in Israel between the State and the rabbinical authorities. Religion, he said, was a factor which many Zionists had neglected.

FESTSCHRIFT FOR MARGARETE SUSMAN

To mark the recent 90th birthday of the thinker and authoress Margarete Susman, a Festschrift under the title "Auf gespalttem Pfad" will shortly be published by Erato Presse, Darmstadt. The 370-page book (DM 48) will carry special contributions from 28 authors, including Hugo Bergmann, Max Brod, Martin Buber, Erich Kahler, Erich Lueth, Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy, Gershom Scholem and Robert Weltsch.

EXHIBITION OF WORKS, BY ELSE MEIDNER

Else Meidner, the well-known painter and, incidentally, a staunch supporter of the work of the AJR, will hold an exhibition of her paintings at the Ben Uri Art Gallery, 21 Dean Street, from October 22 onwards.

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