

AJR

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN
W. Rosenstock

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS ON

In these early summer days, our minds go back to the events of 25 years ago, when the Nazi régime came to an end. On VE Day, many of us joined the crowds which thronged The Mall towards the gates of Buckingham Palace. A trauma which had determined our lives for twelve years had gone: there was no longer a Hitler in this world. The way seemed to be paved for a new pattern of life.

Shortly afterwards, our hopes found expression in a Mass Rally of the National Peace Council, held at Central Hall under the chairmanship of Professor Norman Bentwich. At the end, Blake's "Jerusalem" hymn was sung. There may have been few occasions on which each of the poet's words meant so much to so many. Yet we also thought of the words in Heine's "Hymnus": "In die jauchzenden Triumphgesänge tönen die Choräle der Totenfeier." They applied to families all over the world who had been bereaved during the war, but they had added meaning for us, because our own losses and the circumstances under which they were sustained went beyond the tragedies which are bound to occur in any war. Had Heine foreseen this tragedy when he conceived the vision of the "wahn-sinnige Jüdin, die das Jahrzeitlämplein ihres Kindes wiegt?" After all, he had proved right in his forecast that the burning of books was only the prelude to the burning of human beings.

Today we know that the hopes for a better world which we cherished a quarter of a century ago were not to be fulfilled. The military wartime alliance between the Western and Eastern Powers did not result in peace-time co-operation, and new tensions developed in all continents. We now also know the price which had, and still has, to be paid for the creation of the sovereign State of Israel. This price does not detract from the revolutionary fact that, for the first time after almost two thousand years, there is now a place in the world, where Jews may live as Jews, and only as Jews, without the complexities arising from their minority status in the Diaspora. One also wonders, how many lives would have been saved, had the State of Israel with its "Law of Return" already been in existence when the Nazis were in power. Yet this must not blind us to the fact that the majority of Jews live, and wish to live, in the Diaspora and that, apart from any other considerations, it is also an asset for the State of Israel that it may fall back on their political and economic support. Most Jews in the Diaspora readily render this support. On the other hand, the existence of a Jewish State has not solved, or even alleviated, the problems of Diaspora Jewry, as forecast in old-time ideological debates, but

only shifted it to a different plane. Unfortunately, champions of Israel in the Diaspora sometimes unnecessarily impair the chances of their success by dubbing persons who are critical of Israel's present policy as anti-semites or, if they are Jews, as renegades. This appears to be the residue of a ghetto mentality. Israel as a sovereign State is open to criticism as is any other State, and if one compares the Arabs and their protagonists with the Nazis, one cannot be surprised that the opposing forces affix the same label on Israel. It would considerably ease the debate if these emotional slogans were eliminated.

Views about the present attitude of the Israeli Government are as divided among readers of this journal as they are divided among all Jews. It also calls for a sense of humility if one undertakes to speak about the fights on the Suez Canal from the safe banks of the Thames. Yet if it is permitted to express a personal opinion, it must be stated that a re-assessment of the situation, as was made by Nahum Goldmann, the former President of the World Zionist Organisation, is to be welcomed. One may differ with him about the course he proposes but the fact that a new approach is necessary to overcome the deadlock can hardly be denied. This is also stressed in an article by Dr. Hans Tramer (Tel Aviv), General Secretary of the Irgun Oley Merkaz Europa (the AJR's opposite number in Israel), published in the organisation's "Mitteilungsblatt" on May 1. Commenting on Dr. Goldmann's proposals he takes issue with Golda Meir's claim that Israel's policy cannot take into consideration the reaction it may create outside the coun-

try. "For a long time all Western governments who are friends of Israel have complained that Israel refuses to make any kind of statement about the future destiny of the occupied territories and that she thus closes the door to any compromise." Tramer also criticises the settlement of 250 Jewish families in Hebron and stresses the need for pulling out of the present impasse. "If this Government cannot do this, it must be done by another government", he writes.

Need of New Approach

The need of a new approach is also expressed in several articles of the spring issue of "The Jewish Quarterly" (London), the only Jewish magazine in this country which serves as a platform for the debate on wider fundamental issues of present-day Jewry. In his article "Breaking the Deadlock", David Daiches, dealing with the Arab problem, writes: "Arabs are people; they have a burning sense of grievance; something happened in history to condition their present psychology; and perhaps even now something can be said on the Israel side that would show an awareness of this and in doing so might provide some escape into reality for Arab pride. For without a possibility of such an escape, the future looks bleak indeed." And he goes on: "Jews everywhere are so bound up with their unique, tragic history, and particularly with the extermination of the six million under Hitler, that they cannot easily imagine the wrongs of others, when those others are in conflict with them. But the sufferings of Auschwitz, however much they may explain Jewish psychology, are really irrelevant to the problem of the Arabs. It is hard for Jews, especially Israelis, to realise this, but it is so." In the same issue, Robert Weltsch welcomes any "unfreezing of rigid formulas", and the editorial of this highly recommendable periodical deals with the Israeli High Court decision of the question "Who is a Jew", arriving at conclusions with which this writer happens to agree but which will also be of interest to those who hold different views.

Nearer home, we recently remembered the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and the Six Million Martyrs of Nazism. The main speakers were the Rt. Hon. Jeremy Thorpe, M.P., Leader of the Liberal Party, and Sir Barnett Janner, M.P. The function was opened by the performance of "There was a Wall", a documentary presentation by Estelle Feldman and Mashey Bernstein, rendered by the Cameo Players. As readers know, the AJR is one of the sponsoring organisations of these annual remembrance meetings. The auditorium of the Cambridge Theatre was filled to capacity. It was an impressive gathering. Yet nevertheless it is legitimate to ask, whether these annual functions should go on or whether they have lost their impact. We think that a continuation is not only justified but also

Continued on next page, column 1

The Association of Jewish Refugees in Great Britain

herewith invites members to its

GENERAL MEETING

on Thursday, June 18, at 7.45 p.m.
at Hannah Karminski House,
9 Adamson Road, Swiss Cottage,
N.W.3

AGENDA

Reports on AJR Activities
Treasurer's Report
Election of Executive and Board

(The list of candidates submitted by the Executive is published on page 11)

No further notice will be given.

Non-members are not entitled to vote, but are welcome as guests at the meeting.

GERMAN AND AUSTRIAN NEWS

necessary. Though everybody remembers the past in his own way and not only on special occasions, such a collective remembrance makes us aware anew of the unsurpassed tragedy, and the artistic recitals and the evaluations of the happenings by the speakers are essential for saving us from complacency. Furthermore, there has never been a remembrance meeting which did not also carry a message referring to our duties in the present.

As the main promoting organisation is the Polish Jewish Ex-Servicemen's Association, it is only natural that the stress is on the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising rather than on the wider aspects of the Holocaust. As far as these wider aspects are brought home as well they mainly refer to the destruction of the compact Jewish population in Eastern Europe with its own culture and its own language. This is understandable, not only because of the background of the main promoters but also because the position of the "assimilated" Central European Jewries was more complicated and therefore does not lend itself as easily to concrete manifestations. We mention this not as an expression of criticism but as an admission of the difficulties with which the Jews from Central Europe are faced in the context of such ventures.

Memorial at Hillel House

A Memorial of a permanent nature is going to be completed shortly at London's Hillel House, where a special floor will be dedicated to the memory of the victims. Many members of the AJR have generously responded to the appeal for the implementation of the scheme, and quite a few other Jews from Central Europe contributed substantial sums towards the erection of Hillel House as members of B'nai B'rith. It will be our task to see to it that the Memorial will not only be a memorial by virtue of its name but that it will also include exhibits and documents which make the young generation aware of the Holocaust. In this context the particular role of Central European Jewry will have to be accorded the place it deserves.

The anniversary of the end of hostilities was officially remembered in many countries including, for the first time, Germany. In a commemorative session of the Bundestag, Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt reminded his country that "what 25 years ago was felt as national and personal suffering, was for other countries liberation from foreign rule, fear and terror. And for the German nation, too, the chance emerged to make a new start, to create democratic conditions and the rule of law." The same basic demands were put forward in the addresses by the spokesman of the C.D.U., Dr. Richard von Weizsäcker.

This 25th anniversary is a time for stock-taking. We have to learn the lessons of the past and to work for a better future.

BRANDT AT JEWISH CEREMONY

The wreath-laying ceremony at the Jewish community centre in West Berlin in memory of the victims of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising 27 years ago was attended by Mr. Willy Brandt, the West German Chancellor.

The annual Heinrich Stahl prize from the Jewish community was, during the ceremony, awarded to Mr. Georg Duckwitz, the State Secretary in the Foreign Ministry, for saving 7,000 Danish Jews in 1943. He had tipped off Danish anti-Nazi groups, while serving as German naval attaché in Copenhagen, of a plan to arrest the Jews and also helped to organise their escape to Sweden.

PRESIDENT HEINEMANN'S MESSAGE

The 25th anniversary of the liberation of Bergen-Belsen was commemorated by a memorial ceremony at the camp. In his message to mark the occasion, President Gustav Heinemann, of West Germany, said that the names of Bergen-Belsen and the other concentration camps have not lost their terrible meaning. "Germany bears the responsibility for what happened there." The Nazi ideology which perpetrated the inhuman acts of murder and horror in the concentration camps must never again be allowed to dominate the human spirit, he declared.

LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR FIVE S.S.

Five former S.S. guards were sentenced to life imprisonment in Cologne for the murder of thousands of inmates at Sachsenhausen concentration camp, near Berlin, during the Second World War. Otto Kaiser, Richard Homan, Erwin Seifert, Willy Busse and Josef Naegele were convicted of the murder of an unknown number of camp inmates. Kurt Simke was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment for the attempted murder of inmates and Heinz-Willi Beerbaum and Arthur Braun were acquitted.

The prosecutor, who had asked for life sentences for all eight men, has appealed against the acquittals and the defence has applied for all the men to be acquitted.

MYSTERY DEATH OF EX-NAZI

Ludolf Hermann von Alvensleben, a former Nazi leader accused of war crimes against the Jews has died mysteriously some 450 miles from Buenos Aires. Traditional Nazi ceremonies were observed at his funeral.

Some reports suggest that von Alvensleben died suddenly from a heart attack because he feared arrest. A message from Vienna stated that he was to be arrested, but that he could not be extradited owing to his Argentine citizenship. The message referred to von Alvensleben by the name of Carl Luecke.

He was accused by Mr. Simon Wiesenthal, the head of the Jewish Documentation Centre in Vienna, of the murder of about 5,000 Jews in different concentration camps during the Second World War.

OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY

This year's Oberammergau Passion Play opened on May 16. All members of the Bavarian Government were present, as well as Cardinal Doepfner.

Two days before the opening, Cardinal Doepfner stated in an open letter that he felt uneasy about certain exaggerations in the text of the play which could lead to the conclusion that Jews were collectively guilty of the Crucifixion of Jesus. Thus, he said, the next play should clearly express that Jesus had died for all mankind. The Cardinal's letter is believed to have resulted from strong Jewish protests over the play.

The German non-Jewish writer and chairman of the League of Human Rights in Germany, Bernt Engelmann, has filed a suit in the Munich law court against the organisers of the Passion Play, Engelmann charges them with antisemitism and incitement against the Jewish people.—(J.T.A.)

DACHAU RECORDS DISCOVERED

Polish authorities have discovered Nazi records from the Dachau concentration camp near Munich and the personal mementoes of war-time inmates. The records include the names of 136,171 prisoners, family photographs confiscated by the Nazi warders, identity cards and health insurance papers. They were shipped to Poland in 1945 by a Polish captive, Jozef Batory, after Dachau was liberated by the Americans. It was only after Mr. Batory's death at Pila (formerly Schneidemühl) that the secretary of the local branch of the Union of Fighters for Freedom and Democracy learned about them.

The papers have been turned over by the Polish prosecutor-general's office to the Central Commission for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes. Polish authorities say the material will be invaluable in the further prosecution of the former S.S. warders of Dachau, and may also aid in determining the fate of prisoners at Dachau of whom it is only known that they died somewhere in Germany.

SALZBURG SENTENCE

Anton Siller, a former S.S. officer, has been sentenced to seven years' hard labour by a Salzburg court for murdering two Jews and participating in the killing of thousands more in Lemberg (Lvov), Poland, during the Second World War. Siller will not have to serve more than one-and-a-half years in gaol as he was held for two-and-a-half years after being arrested in 1945 and for three years after being arrested again in 1967.

The prosecutor has appealed against the sentence as being too moderate.

INFORMATION ON PAYMENTS FROM AUSTRIA

In one of the recent issues of *AJR Information* (February, 1970) it was stated that, contrary to an announcement in the *Jewish Chronicle*, there had been no changes in the Austrian legislation on compensation to emigrated victims of Nazi persecution. This was subsequently borne out in "Letters to the Editor", published in the *Jewish Chronicle*.

We regret the raising of false hopes and should like to re-assure our readers from Austria that, as in the past, any promulgated legislation and any reliable information on new regulations to be expected will be announced in these columns.

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HOME NEWS

ANGLO-JUDAICA

**"JEWISH PERSON" ADVERTISEMENT
LAWFUL**

Last December an advertisement appeared in the Brighton *Evening Argus* for "a Jewish person" to look after students in a Jewish hostel. The Race Relations Board, which considered a complaint made by a member of the extreme Right-wing Racial Preservation Society, has decided that this type of advertisement is not unlawful. In a letter to the newspaper the Board said that the advertisement could not reasonably be understood to indicate an intention to discriminate against non-Jews on grounds of race or ethnic origin, as distinct from religion.

PRO-ARAB M.P.s

Mrs. Margaret McKay, Clapham's pro-Arab M.P., has announced that she will not stand for re-election to the next Parliament. She claimed that a campaign of public abuse and humiliation against her had been permitted to run riot and that she was denied the right to defend herself before the national executives. She was convinced that the Arabs would achieve victory and justice, but was not so optimistic about the rights of M.P.s to speak the truth.

Mr. Frank Hooley, a pro-Arab M.P., suggested in the Commons that Israel should pay for the losses caused by the closure of the Suez Canal. The request was dismissed by Mr. Michael Stewart, the Foreign Secretary, with a curt "No", and Mr. Hooley was greeted with cries of "Rubbish". To his argument that the Canal remained closed solely on account of the "unlawful presence of Israeli military forces on Egyptian territory", Mr. Stewart retorted that it was no good trying to ascribe the closure to the account of any one Government. It was closed as a result of the dispute and the only way was to seek a political settlement of the dispute.

MOSLEY FARES BADLY

In the recent Greater London Council elections, Sir Oswald Mosley's Union Movement candidates gained an average of less than 1 per cent of the votes in the 32 boroughs. Its results were lower than in 1967 in those boroughs where they had put up candidates then.

FIGHT FOR SOVIET JEWRY**Militant Students Group**

The Front for the National Liberation of Soviet Jews has been set up by university students to protest about the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union. This new militant group is a splinter group of the Universities' Committee for Soviet Jewry, whose intention it is to be called into action when Soviet methods warrant militant reactions.

JEWISH APPROACH TO RACE RELATIONS

The working party of the Board of Deputies on race relations will probably soon be meeting leaders of immigrant communities in Britain. Talks will be held to discuss the best ways of implementing good race relations between them and the Anglo-Jewish community. Recently a report was issued by the board entitled "Improving Race Relations—a Jewish Contribution", which disclosed that a small number of coloured people had been indoctrinated with antisemitism. Many synagogues throughout the country have held special race relations Sabbath services.

The community relations committee of the North-Western Reform Synagogue in Golders Green has launched a scheme to teach English to immigrants in the borough of Barnet.

DICTIONARY DEFINITION OF "JEW"

The Minister of State at the Home Office, Mr. Merlyn Rees, has stated that dictionary definitions of the word "Jew", including "unscrupulous usurer" and "extortionate tradesman", should be eliminated. At a meeting arranged by Mr. Eric Moonman, M.P., Mr. Rees told Mr. Marcus Shloimovitz, of Manchester, that the next step could well be a Parliamentary Bill. He said that the references were historical and he hoped they would increasingly disappear.

Mr. Rees stated that the Race Relations Acts of 1965 and 1968 were not relevant to the problem. He told Mr. Shloimovitz that he waited with interest the outcome of his one-man campaign and his approaches to publishers, and considered it advisable to await the outcome of these approaches before deciding on the next course of action. So far Mr. Shloimovitz has received undertakings from eight of the 19 publishers he has approached.

AJEX AGAINST CRICKET TOUR

The annual conference of the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women has voiced official disapproval of the intended visit to Britain of the South African cricket team. Delegates of 33 branches unanimously passed a resolution, which was sent to the MCC and to the Minister of Sport, expressing opposition to sports teams "selected on any basis other than merit alone."

The Chief Rabbi has also joined in the protests.

LIVERPOOL HONOURS LORD COHEN

The honorary freedom of Liverpool, its highest honour, has been conferred on Lord Cohen of Birkenhead. He was the first of six distinguished citizens chosen to receive the honour from the Lord Mayor.

Alderman H. Macdonald Stewart, leader of the city council, spoke of Lord Cohen's international reputation in the field of medicine. Only one other Jew has been awarded this honour, Benn Wolfe Levy.

HIGHGATE J.P.

Mrs. Della Worms, wife of the grand president of B'nai B'rith in England, Mr. Fred Worms, has been appointed Justice of the Peace for Highgate. Mrs. Worms is a member of the executive committees of Women's Mizrahi, the B'nai B'rith First Lodge of England and the Friends of the Art Museum in Israel.

AWARD FOR BRAVERY

Mr. Josef Fleischmann, a 72-year-old former Austrian refugee, received the Queen's Commendation for Bravery. Mr. Fleischmann had tried to stop bank robbers. Although he suffers from arthritis in both hips, he managed to hit one of the men on the back of the head with his walking stick. Mr. Fleischmann served with the Pioneer Corps and, after the war, was a manufacturing jeweller in London for 25 years. He is now retired.

NEW EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

The new editorial director of the Westminster Press is Mr. E. J. B. Rose, director of the Survey of Race Relations in Britain since 1963. Mr. Rose, who was literary editor of *The Observer* from 1948 to 1951, was also the first director of the International Press Institute for ten years.

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Minister Praises Housing Associations

Mr. Anthony Greenwood, Minister of Housing and Local Government, addressed a public meeting at the Hilton Hotel as part of Jewish Community Care Week. He praised the "excellent work" of Jewish housing associations and spoke with enthusiasm of his long identification with the Jewish community through its various housing projects. The Minister looked forward to opening a block of flats in Salford in the summer and Ajax House in October.

A national Jewish welfare movement to achieve greater co-operation was called for by Alderman Michael Fidler, president of the Board of Deputies, who was in the chair.

Cecil King on British Jewry

Mr. Cecil King, former chairman of the International Publishing Corporation, addressing the Marylebone Jewish Society, declared that the greatest contribution of any small nation—or for that matter a large one—was made by the Jews. He paid tribute to the contribution of Jews in Britain to the life of the country and also mentioned three great men of the last century—Marx, Einstein and Freud.

But, he warned, this intellectual pre-eminence has its snares and dangers. The success of the Jewish community was bound to give rise to envy. A small minority appeared to put their own political interests first. A Jewish manager filled his department where possible with Jews. It was also made too plain by some Jews that if things are not to their liking in England they will always find a welcome from members of their own community elsewhere. "Some of them seem to feel no final loyalty to the country of their adoption", said Mr. King.

Hope for Jews' College Co-operation

Rabbi Hugo Gryn, honorary director of studies at the Leo Baeck College, was asked to comment on a new Jews' College publication, "A Communal Career for the 'Seventies'". He welcomed the college's assertion that the Jewish community "cannot remain oblivious to the wider trends and movements affecting society as a whole". When the proposed programme of Jews' College was fully under way, he hoped it would also include some form of co-operation with other institutions engaged in higher Jewish learning—not only the Leo Baeck but also the universities of London, Sussex and Warwick. If new leadership came to Jews' College, this could spell progress for the community. It had always been a source of deep regret for the Leo Baeck that they could not have formal or even informal contact with Jews' College, whose history was a very admirable and worthy one, and which had produced many outstanding leaders.

Conference on Permissive Society

At a preachers' conference the Rev. Raymond Apple, of Hampstead, declared that at least half the Jewish boys under the chupa had previously engaged in reasonably regular sexual intercourse, and a slightly smaller proportion of Jewish girls were so inclined, though real promiscuity and wild teenage sex parties were not common. The drugs problem was growing rapidly and there was good reason to believe that most Jewish teenagers knew where they could obtain drugs.

Rabbi Morris Nemeth, of New West End, expressed concern at trends in permissiveness, and said he was surprised to discover how many divorces and broken homes were among members of the London Jewish community, especially in the sophisticated, de-Judaised section of it.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

WARNING OF FRENCH RACIALISM

In his diocesan bulletin Cardinal Marty, the Archbishop of Paris, warned that "France is in danger of racialism". Such insults as "dirty Jew", which were hurled at someone involved by chance in a street incident, "defile the whole country" wrote the cardinal. Words of hate should be forbidden and racist publications prohibited to protect France against "such illness", he said.

DUTCH CATHOLICS REJECT ANTISEMITISM

The Dutch Roman Catholic Pastoral Council meeting at Noordwijkerhout, has accepted in general terms a report by one of its committees "rejecting antisemitism and acknowledging that the (New Testament) gospels originate from Jewish ideas and faith."

ANTWERP'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The community and Belgian Government and civic leaders joined in the generous tributes which Antwerp's Central Jewish Welfare Agency received on the occasion of its 50th anniversary, to which Queen Fabiola gave her patronage. The celebrations were prominently reported by Belgian newspapers and television. They placed on record the Agency's half century of service, which includes help for Jewish refugees and the provision of modern social services such as the Old People's Home. Nearly all the members of the Government were included on the sponsoring committee, headed by the Prime Minister, the Chief Rabbi of Belgium, the Governor of Antwerp and the Israeli Ambassador.

The Agency, with financial aid from the American Joint Distribution Committee, played a great part in rebuilding the city's community destroyed by the Nazis, which had numbered 55,000 before the Second World War.

LIBEL ACTION IN ROME

Anti-Jewish Leaflets

Thousands of copies of a leaflet stating that "the Zionist larceny is conquering Italy" were distributed in Rome recently. The police have lodged a complaint of libel against the two signatories of the leaflet specifying "libel against constitutional institutions".

The leaflet alleged that prominent persons in Italian financial and economic life "all belong to the synagogue" and were "seeking to control the Italian market paving the way to Zionist control of Europe". The Italian Parliament, it said, was a "Zionist den and the first front of the Zionist empire in Arabia" with its oil wells as the target. The leaflet called the "faithful" to a meeting in the centre of Rome to join a "crusade". Passers-by protested against the provocative antisemitic tone of the speakers, threats and blows were exchanged and police disbanded the meeting within minutes.

The leaflets and the meeting were sponsored by two Rightist groups, but informed sources believe that other organisations, including an Arab group, were involved.

SPANISH HONOUR FOR MOROCCAN JUDGE

Judge Salomon Bensabat has been awarded the cross of honour of San Raimundo de Penafort, one of Spain's highest decorations, for his judicial works and his friendship for Spain.

The judge, who enjoys great prestige in Morocco, is one of the two Sephardi judges of the Rabat Supreme Court in Morocco, and has been studying in Spain where he obtained his doctorate at Madrid University.

JEWS IN SOUTH AFRICAN PARLIAMENT

Four Jews were elected to the South African Parliament in the general election. Mr. Hymie Miller, a leading South African Zionist and former Mayor of Johannesburg, returns to Parliament as the Member for Jeppe, Johannesburg, a former Nationalist seat which has now gone to the United Party. Two other United Party members elected were Mr. Sonny Emdin and Dr. E. Fischer. Mrs. Helen Suzman, the Progressive Party's only successful candidate, increased her majority from 711 to 2,049.

MUSSOLINI MASS

The Missino neo-fascist group organised a mass in Madrid to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the death of Benito Mussolini and the memory of "those who died for the same ideals". About 250 people attended, including the Deputy Mayor of Madrid, Mr. Jesus Suevos, the Spanish national delegate for physical education and sport, Mr. Jose Antonio Elola, and Otto Skorzeny, a former S.S. colonel, who freed Mussolini from prison towards the end of the Second World War.

In the following week a mass commemorating the 25th anniversary of the death of Hitler was celebrated at St Martin's Church, Madrid.

NANSEN RING FOR FORMER REFUGEE

Dr. Paul Weis received the Golden Nansen Ring, an award to persons who have special merits in assisting refugees.

Dr. Weis was born in Vienna 63 years ago and came to England after his release from Dachau Concentration Camp in August, 1939. During the war, he was a member of the Committee on the Status of Stateless Persons of the Grotius Society and secretary of the Free Austrian Movement. From 1944-1947 he was secretary of the Legal Section of the Research Committee of the World Jewish Congress (British Section). From 1947 until he reached retirement age in 1967 he was associated as legal adviser with international relief agencies, first with the International Refugee Organisation and, later, with the United High Commissioner for Refugees. The Nansen Ring was awarded to him for his contribution to refugee law and the law of asylum.

BRAZILIAN HONOURS

Professor Fritz Feigl, the famous biochemist, who has just celebrated his 79th birthday and holds many awards and honorary degrees, has been nominated for membership of the Vatican's Academy of Science.

Thirty-four-year-old Professor Arnaldo Niskier, the Minister of Science and Technology for Guanabara State, has been awarded the Brazilian Order of Rio Branco.

GERMAN CHILDREN'S BOOK PRIZE

In Bayreuth the £630 Children's Book Prize sponsored by the West German Government was presented to Isaac Bashevis Singer, the American-Jewish author, for his book "Zlateh the Goat and Other Stories", dedicated to all children of the world.

SALONIKA HAGADA

A new edition of the Hagada has been published by Salonika's Jewish community. Written in Greek, Hebrew and Ladino, the Hagada is also an important document on the history of the community, containing moving details about the city's old synagogues destroyed by the Nazis during the Second World War. Names of the families who were members of these synagogues are included.

The Passover prayers were compiled following research by Mr. Baruch Schibi, a distinguished Jewish writer in the city. There are many illustrations, including original pictures from Salonika University and private collections in the city and the Ben-Zvi Institute in Jerusalem. Facsimile front pages of ancient Hagadot are also reproduced.

JEWRY IN THE EAST

CONFERENCE IN PARIS

A European conference of Jewish community representatives was held in Paris, on the initiative of the Board of Deputies of British Jews and CRIF, the main secular representative organisation of French Jewry.

It was agreed that an international campaign on behalf of Soviet Jewry should be held, including a world conference and a "World Day," the preparation of posters for use in various parts of the world, a mobile exhibition and a programme of political action. This programme should involve approaches to parliamentarians and governments and the circulation of information about the situation of Soviet Jewry through the press and other means.

EXIT VISA GRANTED

Julius Telesin, one of the 39 signatories to the first open plea by Russian Jews to their Government for permission to leave the country, has been granted an exit visa. Accompanied by Mihail Poshalajev, from Riga, both men left the country for Israel.

GAOLED FOR ANTISEMITISM ALLEGATION

Former Red Army officer Major Genrikh Altunian, an Armenian, was sentenced by a Moscow court to three years' detention in a forced labour camp. According to the indictment, he said during a private conversation that there was State-inspired antisemitism in the Soviet Union. He had also shown approval of the demonstration in Moscow's Red Army Square against the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia.

MR. MOLOTOV'S WIFE

Mrs. Polina Molotov, wife of the former Soviet Foreign Minister, died in Moscow on May 1. Born Polina Perlmutter, she was an old Bolshevik, and in the 1930s held such posts as Head of the Perfume Industry and People's Commissar of Fisheries with Cabinet rank. According to Svetlana, Stalin's daughter, she was imprisoned in 1949 simultaneously with the Yiddish writers and artists and released after Stalin's death in 1953.

ANTI-JEWISH NOVELS

Two new novels by Ivan Shevtsov have been published in the Soviet Union. "In the Name of the Father and the Son" describes Leon Trotsky as a Zionist and equates the Zionists with the Nazis as "savage enemies of Marxism-Leninism."

"Love and Hate" is described in the Guardian as "a novel whose antisemitism recalls the Nazis' description of Jews lying in wait to despoil Aryan girls."

ISRAELI COMMUNISTS

Russian Intervention Condemned

The Israel Communist Party (the Sneh Group) has condemned Soviet military intervention in Egypt. The party said it could cause a new Arab-Israeli war with a possible threat to world peace. The Soviet moves contradicted the Russian declarations that the Soviet Union favoured a peaceful solution of the Middle East conflict.

POLISH JEWS' ANTI-ISRAEL STATEMENT

The Cultural and Social Union of Polish Jews issued a strong anti-Israel statement. The statement, issued through Government sources, declared that the union has always been opposed to "any nationalism, first and foremost Jewish nationalism, whose extreme form was and remains Zionism."

With acknowledgements to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle

Herbert Freedman (Jerusalem)

ISRAEL'S "PACIFIST" SOLDIERS

It has been claimed that Israel's administration of the new areas is the most civil and human "occupation" in military history; likewise it has been hinted that the country's citizens' army, regardless of its efficiency, is the most war-hating and most pacifist among the fighting forces of the world. Still well remembered are the words of the then Chief-of-Staff, Gen. Jitzhak Rabin, spoken on Mt. Scopus immediately after the Six-Day War. Talking of the feelings of the soldiers he declared: "They are unable to rejoice wholeheartedly . . . and many do not celebrate at all. Those in the front line did not only see the glory of victory, but its price as well. Their comrades fell at their sides, rolling in their blood. And I know that the terrible price paid by the enemy deeply touched the hearts of many of them. The Jewish people has never been accustomed to feel the joy of the conquerer and victor". Those thoughts were also given expression in a book, published a few months later, "Fighter's Reflections", a collection of meditative articles by soldiers, mostly from Kibbutzim, who took part in the fighting.

The continuation of bloodshed and the disillusionment of the naive hope that the war would finally bring about a settlement, has only strengthened the yearning for peace. One of the popular songs of the Soldiers' Entertainment Troupes is called "A Song of Peace". The words are supposedly recited by the fallen, reminding the listeners that "None will bring us back / From darkest pit; / Neither paeans of victory / Nor songs of praise avail". And in the name of the absolute evil that is death, they cry out: "Raise your eyes in hope, / Not through gunsights; / Sing a song to love / and not to victories".

Hidden in the words there is, no doubt, a hint of criticism of the heady atmosphere after the 1967 war—that feast of victory songs, victory albums, victory parties. The question has arisen, on the other hand, whether such pacifist mood expressed in music and lyrics, may not have an eroding effect on the spirit and morale of the army. The former Chief Education Officer of the Israel Defence Forces, Mordehai Bar-On, categorically denies such a negative result. One of the characteristics of the Israel Defence Forces, he said, is the eagerness of the soldiers to take part in battle . . . as if they were looking forward to it—reservists who report without being summoned, too many volunteers for the most dangerous jobs, disputes among soldiers who should be privileged to participate in the fighting, the fierce desire not to be absent from any action and the disappointment of those left behind. Yet in most cases this has been accompanied by a deep negation of the very concept of war and a realistic view of its horrors. Many soldiers feel a dual sensation, expressed in a simplified manner something like this: "War is horrible. We wish we could avoid it. But since it is forced upon us and we have no option—let's do it well and get it over with". Mr. Bar-On sees therein the acceptance of the individual's responsibility for the fate of the whole, of the "self-fulfilment" which has always been one of the basic tenets of Jewish youth movements and Israeli youth.

The most outstanding feeling among Israeli soldiers is not one of hatred for the enemy but of anger that he forces them to engage in what is abhorrent to them in its very essence: to fight, to suffer casualties and even to kill.

During her visit to London in 1969, the

Prime Minister, Mrs. Golda Meir, said: "We can forgive the Arabs many things, even their killing of our sons, but we shall never forgive them for forcing our sons to kill them". The deeper the love of peace, the stronger the morale of the Israel Defence Forces. There is no danger that in their case pacifism would turn to defeatism. On the contrary, the danger lies in light-hearted nationalistic talk as if the war were not something forced upon them against their will; as if they were fighting for some maximalist policy and not for their homes, their families, their very survival.

"The day we lose our love for peace, our faith in mankind and our zeal for the principles of morality, albeit in the worst moments of the heat of battle, the Arabs will have gained one of their first and decisive victories", said Mr. Bar-On. It is just the anger that the Arabs force war upon them against their will, that makes the Israelis such tough fighters. "Raise your eyes in hope / Not through gunsights"—it seems that their focusing on hope makes their gunsights so correct and deadly.

BOOKER PRIZE FOR BERNICE RUBENS

The £5,000 Booker Prize for Fiction has been awarded to Miss Bernice Rubens for her novel, "The Elected Member". Her prize was received from the Minister of the Arts, Miss Jennie Lee.

Explaining why Miss Rubens was awarded the prize out of 60 books considered by the judges the chairman, Mr. David Holloway, said it was a great achievement, very much in the best tradition of the English novel, and they were convinced was a worthy winner of this important and valuable prize.

Miss Rubens was born in Cardiff, one of four talented children. Married to a wine merchant, Mr. Rudolph Nassauer, she has two daughters, and in addition to novels writes and directs documentary films on welfare subjects, recently winning an award for a film "Stress". Her prize-winning book has been described as a brilliant study of a drug addict and his family.

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Old Acquaintances

Home News: Carl Zuckmayer's proposed visit to London to read extracts from his autobiography could not be undertaken because of illness. He hopes to fulfil his promise in the autumn.—The playwright, Arnold Wesker, acted as best man at the wedding of Tom Maschler and Fay Coventry. Maschler is literary director of Jonathan Cape and the son of Erich Kaestner's publisher and agent.—Elisabeth Bergner visited Cuxhaven to read Schnitzler's "Fräulein Else".—Mischa Spolianski and Lea Seidl participated in a television homage to Richard Tauber.—Lucie Mannheim is to visit Hamburg to produce Gogol's "Heirat".—Fritz Schrecker appeared in the TV series, "Callan".—Carl Heinz Jaffe's "English Lessons for Germans" at Bush House has celebrated its 25th anniversary; the feature is also broadcast by several German stations.

News from Everywhere: "Everyman" in Spanish has been produced in Buenos Aires by Raoul Lange, formerly Alexander Moissi's understudy.—Eric Burger, on the staff of the *Berliner Tageblatt* before 1933 and now living in Zurich, took part in B. Wicki's television production of "Das falsche Gewicht", based on a story by Joseph Roth.—Alfred H. Unger will represent the International Writers' Guild at the Berlin Festival, where he will award a prize for the best script.

Obituary: The 80-year-old essayist, translator and biographer, Friedrich Burschell, has died in Munich where he had lived since his return from Oxford in 1952. Born in Ludwigs-hafen, he contributed to René Schickele's *Weisse Blaetter*, S. Fischer's *Neue Rudschau* and *Weltbuehne*, and was also a co-founder of the Thomas Mann Society.—Clara Mosheim, mother of actress Grete Mosheim, has died in Dahlem at the age of 95.—Franz Schoen-berner, editor of *Simplicissimus* before 1933, died in a New York nursing home at the age of 77. He was paralysed from the neck down as the result of an assault by a neighbour in 1951.—The son of Sigmund Freud, Ernst Freud, has died in London at the age of 78. An architect by profession, he designed the Jewish Hospital's synagogue in London. He also edited the first volume of his father's letters, and was working on a second volume up to his last days.—Tilly Wedekind, the original "Lulu", has died in Munich at the age of 84, 50 years after the death of her husband.

The Second Generation: Fritz Kortner's son, Peter, has come to London from Hollywood, where he was a producer on TV; his first novel, "Jim for Sale", has just been published by H. W. Allen.—The 38-year-old son of old-timer Luis Trenker, Florian, has launched out into film production in Munich.

Milestones: The German writer, Martin Beheim-Schwarzbach, who was born in London and brought up in Hamburg, is 70 years of age. During the war he lived in Britain, returning to Hamburg several years ago.—Opera singer Margarete Arndt-Ober, one-time member of Berlin's State Opera, who also sang with Caruso, celebrated her 85th birthday in Bad Sachsa where she has lived since the end of the war.—The best-selling German novelist of the '20s, Frank Thiess, who coined the controversial phrase "innere Emigration", is now 80 years old.—Ernst Juenger has attained his 75th birthday.

Germany: The German P.E.N. Club has elected Heinrich Boell as its president and Thilo Koch its secretary.—Leopold Lindtberg directed Wedekind's "Hidalla" in Berlin.

PEM

Robert Weltsch

A TEST OF RELIGION

Maybaum's New Book

Like all of Maybaum's books and essays of the last twenty years, many of them known to the readers of this paper, this one, too, circles around the deeply disturbing problem of "God after Auschwitz".* There seems to be no answer in human terms to the questions of how to make faith compatible with the experience our generation has suffered. Nevertheless, this is the test of religion: to see the abyss in its ghastliness and still to retain the link with that world of an unintelligible spirit where the well-being of the individual—in human terms—does not count. It is the problem of the Book of Job. It was also the test for Abraham who was confronted with the revolting command of God to slaughter his own son. He was called upon to show that he loved God more than even those human beings on earth who were dearest to him.

The story of the *Akedah* ("binding" in preparation of the sacrifice) plays an ample role in Jewish exegesis and mythology and has also stirred up non-Jewish theologians, the most outstanding example being Kierkegaard. It has also been interpreted as proof that the custom of sacrificing children has been known in old Israel just as in the neighbouring countries where it was an ingredient of the Moloch cult. Modern psychology regards it as a confirmation of the ever existing father-son antagonism (with the resulting complexes). Our experience makes us unwilling to accept the reassuring gentle assertions of a happy end after agonizing suffering, such as in the last chapter of Job's book itself, or, for that matter in Goethe's *Faust*. And what about Abraham? Benjamin Britten in his *War Requiem* used the famous verses by Wilfred Owen, the English poet who was killed at the age of 25 on November 4, 1918, one week before the Armistice. In Owen's *World War I* version Abraham defies the word of God who holds him back at the last moment. He actually does slay his son, "and half the seed of Europe, one by one".

That was the frightful lesson of the World War to which Owen himself fell victim, and of the following fifty years which escalated the horrors. It is the theme with which theology has had to wrangle since, and which preoccupies the mind of Dr. Maybaum who does not acquiesce in easy formulas. Indeed, he sees the calamity of mankind in the advent of the fatherless society which is also a Godless society. The sons have rebelled against the father who wants to kill or subjugate them. This is the background of Sigmund Freud's philosophy which is the focus of Maybaum's enquiry. Freud's vision of the hordes who united to kill the father-king was, in fact, not mythical past; it was Freud's own present. From his window in Vienna's Berggasse Freud watched the marching columns of discontented demonstrators of various nationalities demanding what they regarded as their rights, he saw the antisemitic students occupying the entrance of the university, only five minutes walk from his flat, denying entry to any Jew, he saw endless columns of protesting workers, all these identified with the primeval hordes. Nearby in a furnished room sat a Russian tenant studying Marx, his name was Stalin. An unknown tramp by the name of Hitler strolled

through the streets. One could add that in the more sophisticated Café Central sat another Russian called Trotsky (whom Maybaum omits), the man of whom the Austrian Minister Berchtold, when warned of the impending Russian Revolution, contemptuously said: "Who will make a revolution? Perhaps Mr. Trotsky from the Café Central?"

It is significant that Maybaum tries to revive the atmosphere of that old Imperial Austria which produced a man like Freud and others and was the cradle of modern psychology. Apart from the slight nostalgia transpiring from these pages written by one who himself had known the last stages of this now vanished world, this memory gives him the cue for understanding the perplexities of modern man and society, and also of the intellectual transformation of the Jew. There, in Vienna, at the beginning of the century, the lonely father-figure of the old Emperor, full of sorrow, of whom sentimental popular songs spoke with filial affection, was residing in god-like remoteness in Schönbrunn castle. He represented the end of an epoch. An Austrian poet, Rainer Maria Rilke, generalised the situation by writing in his *Stundenbuch* of 1901:

Die Könige der Welt sind alt
Und werden keine Erben haben;
Die Söhne sterben schon als Knaben. . .

There was a fateful clash of generations, an obvious father-son conflict, in the Emperor's own house, and the son fell as a victim; he was not slain, he committed suicide in Meyerling on January 30, 1889 (on the same day on which Hitler came to power 44 years later). The Crown Prince had been a liberal and a would-be reformer, and many believe he might

have changed the course of history had he come to reign. No Hitler would have arisen.

Maybaum senses what tremendous impact the Austrian spiritual climate had on the emergence of the modern Jewish intellectual. It was a melting pot of East and West. A sequel of the Enlightenment, the almost unlimited belief in progress and science, in assimilation and socialist idealism, was confronted with the refractory reality of ethnic particularities and nationalist trends. All this combined to give a new turn to the thinking of Jews which was not necessarily "Jewish" thinking. One has to dig below the surface in order to discover the implications with their positive and negative aspects. Maybaum analyses the resulting phenomena of doubt and scepticism, complacency and guilt. At this critical juncture, he states, Zionism, originating in Vienna, brought salvation to the Austrian Jew in his Jewish quandary.

Maybaum has not written a coherent book, but collected a series of independent chapters which, however, are held together by the tangle of fundamental problems which pervade them all. Maybaum is not afraid of the opposition which his books inevitably provoke. He is aware of the striking paradoxes of Jewish existence, and he sometimes surprises the reader by the firework of daring assertions and *aperçus* which provide ample food for thought, even where they are not readily convincing. Like all of us, he is horrified by the experience of Nazism which reappeared as the mythical Moloch to whom millions had to be sacrificed. On the other hand, he is also an uncompromising opponent of orthodoxy, because "the attire woven in the Middle Ages is no longer appropriate for the Jewish people;" it was definitely destroyed by the "third *churban*" after which Jewry "must either live as a westernised people or disappear from the scene of history." At the same time he argues that the loss of medieval ritualism has in fact not changed the Jew existentially.

As always in Maybaum's books there is much enlightening polemic against Christian and Moslem historical attitudes, in which he shows his remarkable erudition. But the prospect for the future is different: "We see today that Christianity, Islam and Judaism are disappearing as watertight groups... as Western civilization becomes global civilization. . . . Not the Jew integrated into a life of separation... will survive, but the Jew who meets God under the same conditions as those under which the Biblical prophet met Him." This quotation shows the particularity of the author's style and the self-confidence of his approach.

Maybaum's strong belief in the historical role of Judaism within mankind, his thoughtful interpretation of mythical concepts reflected in the reality of our life, and his crusading passion make this book absorbing reading. It reveals the undreamed of abundant potentialities of undogmatic modern Jewish thinking.

DEATH OF NELLY SACHS

The poetess Nelly Sachs, joint winner (with S. Y. Agnon) of the 1966 Nobel Prize for Literature, died in Stockholm on May 12 at the age of 78. She was born in Berlin and lived in that city until 1940, when she and her mother were granted visas to Sweden due to the intervention of Selma Lagerlof.

Because of her preoccupation with the theme of the murdered millions, Nelly Sachs was frequently called the poet of the Holocaust. Her works include: "In the Abodes of Death" (1947), "No-one Knows Beyond This" (1959) and "Travels into Dustlessness" (1961).

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* Ignaz Maybaum: *Creation and Guilt. A Theological Assessment of Freud's Father-Son Conflict.* Vallentine, Mitchell, London. 25s.

F. A. Thorn

"FULFILLING GOD'S ORDINANCE"

A Study of Israel's Society

If one lives long enough ideals may become achievement, dreams reality and vague apprehensions genuine fear. That the word "Zionism," embodiment of hope for a downtrodden people, would one day become an insult, a dirty word, nobody could have foreseen. But when perception and understanding become blunted by battle cries and propaganda, there are sometimes strong voices to be heard which restore the sanity of argument and re-translate semantics into clear concepts. Such a voice is Ferdynand Zweig's and we should listen to it, we too.*

The sword and the harp symbolise the mystique of violence and the mystique of redemption as integral parts of Israeli society, and Professor Zweig probes into layer after layer of this new society on ancient soil, linked but not chained to its past and "foreign" by its sheer complexity. It is perhaps significant that the issue which nearly exclusively is on our minds, the Arab-Israeli conflict, is dealt with almost perfunctorily in the last part under the heading "Encounters and Dialogues". (Perfunctorily by Zweig's standards, that is, and still a very thorough study of common roots, historical similarities and the genesis of hatred.)

Professor Zweig's analysis is based on four painstaking investigations into "Identity and Self-Image", "Status and Stratification", the "Two Mystiques" and finally Israel's encounters with the world, Arabs, Britains, Russians, Americans, Germans and the Diaspora—the latter becoming an alien entity in a paradoxical and painful process of alienation.

It is very difficult to quote from a work so completely homogenous, and so utterly logical a structure of facts and conclusions based on facts alone. There is nevertheless no other way of showing the structure but by dismantling it. The author's starting point is a description of the minority and majority groups which this people of 2½ million consists of and the evolution of the Sabra as the "ideal type," i.e., an élite which still is yet another minority and far more a concept than the backbone of Israeli society, although it is already its only defender.

The most startling chapter to my mind is the lucid analysis of present-day "anti-semitism" in Israel as Polish Jews clash with American, French and English Jews, the Americans with the Germans, and Algerians and Moroccans with western Jews in general. And although all the theories about anti-semitism we have been brought up with may still apply to the Israeli scene with minor adaptations, Professor Andreski's theory (from "Elements of Comparative Sociology"), as quoted by the author—namely antisemitism as the manifestation of sadistic elements or lust for power or the fight for "the good things in life"—is shown as a reflection of likes and dislikes in the (gentile) environment of the Diaspora. For us this specific (not generic) inter-tribal animosity seems the most disappointing feature of contemporary Israel—the more disturbing as it lies hard on the borderline of parody. However, it is bound to disappear after a few generations.

The main parts of Zweig's analysis are of course the two chapters—or rather essays—on the mystiques of violence and redemption. Strangely enough both carry the message of hope for the future, both grew organically

* Ferdynand Zweig: *Israel: The Sword and the Harp*. Heinemann, London. 326 pp. 50s.

and neither is to be renounced for the sake of the other. Zweig's study of Israeli anti-semitism illustrates the main virtue of his book by showing the inner problems of survival in a country as whose predominant problems we tend to regard the number of Phantoms delivered and of Mirages refused. His study of the mystique of violence reads like a summary of one's own reactions and yet might still show the world that no other Jewish state but a "violent" one had the remotest chance of survival. And here we quote: "The spirit of violence affected also the religious life in Israel. Nowhere is Jewish orthodoxy so militant and fanatical as in Israel. And similarly the Left is nowhere else so hostile and uncompromising to religion as in Israel. Tempers on both sides are fiery and pugnacious... The spirit of violence is felt throughout the Land as a liberating force, as a discharge of pent-up energy, a release from the unbearable pressure of servitude... a kind of redemption."

There is little doubt where the author's own inclinations lie, and he stresses the magic power of The Land in perhaps the most moving paragraph of this study which was meant to be—and certainly is—an intellectual victory over emotion. "One can feel a certain emotional intensity, a sort of magnetic attraction coming from the deep recesses of the Land. Of course the force which is emanating affects only those who have a sense for it, who develop a specific awareness. The Jews by their belief in the sanctity of the Land, have acquired this sense, strengthening and developing it even further. This is the explanation of their unique achievements."

We Jews are born with the obsession that to be just means to be objective. We try to see the other bloke's point of view, to explain ours and we crave for understanding. We even let Mr. Christopher Mayhew address an audience in Tel Aviv. How could the Mayhews of this world understand that the Jews will forever be the people of The Book and The Land, in spite of their mistakes, in spite of political injustice and in spite of a "guilt" which is the guilt of history itself?

It is not possible to do justice to a book of great density and depth in a few short notes. The simple enumeration and definition of the Basic Myths of Israel on the spiritual level and the lessons to be drawn from the Kibbutz Experiment on the level of empirical facts are probably the most comprehensive and comprehensible studies of their kind.

Professor Zweig is possibly identifying his own views with Weizmann's when he quotes Weizmann's words to Meyer Weisgal a few days before he died:

"What hurts me most, as I lie here helpless, are the serious mistakes which are being committed before my eyes in this country. We are a small people, Meyer, exceedingly small in number. But we are at one and the same time a great people; an ugly and yet a beautiful people; a creative and a destructive people; a people in whom genius and foolishness are commingled in equal quantities. Through our obstinacy we are capable of breaking through barriers and breaching any wall; but the breach in the wall is always liable to swallow us..."

How else could a people fulfill what Spinoza called "The Ordinance of God?"

Arno Reinfrank

KADDISCH FUER PAUL CELAN

Ein Telefonat mit Paris bestaetigt die erschuetternde Nachricht: Paul Celan, neben Nelly Sachs der groesste Gestalter juedischer Leiderfahrung in der zeitgenoessischen Lyrik, setzte seinem genau 50 jaehrigen Leben freiwillig ein Ende. Freiwillig? Er ist ein Opfer der Barbarei, obwohl er 1945 aus deren innerstem Ring (er, in Czernowicz gebuertig, war in einem Lager in Rumaenien) befreit wurde. Seine Gedichte lese man ab nun unter den vorangetzten Zeilen aus seinem "Schibboleth":

"Setz deine Fahne auf Halbmast
Erinnerung auf Halbmast
fuer jetzt und immer".

Sein letzter Brief liegt unbeantwortet auf meinem Tisch. Von Unruhe erfasst war ich seit den Keulenschlaegen, mit der die Kritiker seine letzte Lesung in Deutschland anlaesslich des Hoelderlin-Symposiums bedachten. Clara Menck in der Frankfurter Allgemeinen hatte einen Satz fuer ihn: "Celan las verschlueselte Gedichte, die unversaendlich blieben".

"Mein letztes Buch (d.i. "Ausgewaeahlte Gedichte", edition suhrkamp) wird ueberall fuer verschlueselt gehalten. Glauben Sie mir—jedes Wort ist mit direktem Wirklichkeitsbezug geschrieben. Aber nein, das wollen und wollen sie nicht verstehen..."

Wir sassen im Arbeitszimmer der Ecole Normale Superieure, wo er Doktoranden die geliebte, zu Hause gesprochene und poetisch nicht verlassene deutsche Sprache anhand deutscher Dichter lehrte. Ein Tisch mit einem Stuhl fuer den Lehrer, dahinter Plaetze fuer acht Studenten. Nichts, das sonst von diesem kleinen Stuebchen erinnerlich geblieben waere. Nur die Konzentration aufs reine Wort, nichts anderes gab es. In der Rue d'Ulm in Paris: die rabbinische Zucht aus Czernowicz.

Die Bemerkung von Adorno, "nach Auschwitz kann man keine Gedichte mehr schreiben" konsequent zu Ende gedacht haette bedeuten muessen, die Gefuehle, die Gedanken und dann deutsche Worte werden, nachtraeglich einzuaeschern. Mit der "Todesfuge", diesem in alle Kultursprachen uebersetzten Gedicht von Celan, und mit allen anderen, wurde Adorno widerlegt. "Der Tod ist ein Meister aus Deutschland" heisst es darin. Darueber wurden die Kritiker lebhaft!

Man kann gewiss sagen, Schmerz sei kein Programm. Aber die Anlaesse fuer Celans Schmerzen, die entstammten einem Programm. Um das Ganze des Lebens und Todes poetisch verdichten zu koennen, muss man das Ganze sehen.

Und der Respekt vor seiner dichterischen Leistung? Sein Werk wurde durch den Preis der Stadt Bremen und den Georg-Buechner-Preis gewuerdigt und in der jeweiligen Laudatio analysiert. Aber hat ihm je einer einfach und schlicht gedankt fuer seine Gedichte, fuer die feinsinnigen Uebertragungen von Mandelshtam, Jessenin und Alexander Blok aus dem Russischen, fuer die Shakespeare-Sonette, fuer den Ungaretti und die Franzosen—fuer seinen Kommentar zu dem Film "Nacht und Nebel"? Wer's tat, hat es ungenuegend nur getan, sonst haette sich Paul Celan nicht fortstehlen muessen am 1. Mai wie ein scheues Schattentier, das man vier Tage spaeter auffand—tot.

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Gabriele Tergit

WIEN UND BERLIN

Der autobiographische Roman "Die Teile und das Ganze" (Zsolnay, Wien-Hamburg 1969, DM 24) von Hans Flesch-Brunningen ist so hervorragend geschrieben, dass das meiste gedruckte, was man so nebenbei zur Hand nimmt, einem unertraeglich banal erscheint, trotz Saetzen von 1920 wie "Die Tat ist".

Ein alter kranker Mann diktiert der Tochter seiner Geliebten, einer hochgeschickten, nuechternen und ungemein sympathischen Person, seine indiskreten Erinnerungen an "Gai Vienna" vor dem ersten Weltkrieg, schonungslos mit sich und anderen. Die detaillierten Beschreibungen des Sexbezirks machen den grosseren Teil des Buches aus. Nach dem ersten Dienstmaedchen (Parallele "Reigen" "das Dienstmaedchen und der junge Herr") kommt der Austausch der 16 oder 17 Jahre alten Soehne von Mama und ihrer Freundin auf dem Schloss (Parallele "Frau Beate und ihr Sohn", Schnitzler, 1912), mit dem Unterschied, dass sich bei Schnitzler Mama Beate das Leben nimmt, Flesch es aber bei Ohrfeigen zwischen den Damen belaesst.

Am Abend des Kriegsausbruchs 1914 sucht der Autor in den Strassen Wiens, und das vergeblich, eine Hure, und zwei Jahre spaeter kommt es zu einem herrlichen Rueckzug des Autors und anderer aristokratischer oesterreichischer Offiziere vor den Siegern der Mackensen Armee ("Donnerwetter, Donnerwetter, wir sind Kerle") im Budapester Luxusbordell.

Phantastisch, dass der Erzaeher, Sohn der Stadt von Viktor Adler und der vorzueglichsten sozialistischen Partei, 1915 durch Kontakt mit seiner Kompanie von Ruthenen, heute Ukrainer genannt, entdeckt, dass es nicht nur Liebe, sondern auch Hunger in der Welt gibt. Es kommt einem der Verdacht, dass dies unglaublich uernste Leben aus Geldhaben und "Affairen" auch das der Wiener Kriegsgrafen war, einer Oberschicht verantwortlich fuer ein Weltreich von der Adria bis zum Schwarzen Meer und ein Dutzend Voelker. Kein Zufall, dass in dieser sexgeladenen Luft Freud seine Entdeckungen machte, einer Luft, die auf der andern Seite grosse Historiker, grosse Aerzte, grosse Theaterleute und Schriftsteller hervorbrachte. Fleschs Zeitbild tupft mehrmals sonst kaum Erwachntes auf seinen Canvas, so die nach dem Krieg so leicht genommenen Abtreibungen, weil Mama oder Schwiegermama bei der Wohnungsnot zwar die jungen Paare in ihrer Wohnung aufnahmen, aber kein Kindereschrei aushalten konnten, was dazu fuehrte, dass junge Frauen ihr Leben lang krank waren oder unfruchtbar und ohne Zukunft.

Fleschs Vorfahren lebten im 16. Jahrhundert im Frankfurter Ghetto. Sie wanderten weiter nach Neu Raussnitz, wo sie ein Einkehrwirthaus fuer die juedischen Markthaendler hatten. Das lag nahe bei Austerlitz. Nach der Schlacht 1805 kehrte eine Kavalkade mit Marschal Davout dort ein, und einer der 12 Kinder, barfuss, in einem grauen Kittel, bittet den Sieger von Austerlitz die Tueren zu schliessen, da man es vor Kaelte nicht aushielte. Der gehorcht auch und laesst sich das Buch zeigen, das dieser unerschrockene juedische Junge in der Hand hat. Er erwartet etwas Hebraeisches. Es ist aber ein Lehrbuch ueber "Alles, was ein redlicher Kaufmann in den Erblanden von seinem Gewerbe wissen muss" (Wien 1798). Und er entwickelt sich auch zu dem Mann, der die Zuckerruebe in in Oesterreich einfuehrt, wird aus Israel Isidor

Vincenz, heiratet eine katholische Polin, baut ein Palais in Bruenn und wird geadelt. Das ist alles historisch korrekt, nachzulesen im Semigotha. In diesem Bruenner Palais wohnte Bismark 1866 und ein Diener sagte, ein Messer unter seinem Mantel, zum Zuckerkoenig Grossvater: "is sie sich jetzen im Bad! Gnae Herr, derf ich?" Das Messer in den Leib des Zerstoerers des alten Oesterreich! Aber der Grossvater ohrfeigte den Diener.

Die Nachkommen sind nicht angenehm und nicht bedeutend. Die Eltern des Autors lassen sich scheiden. Die Mutter ist eine Schwedin. Der Vater lehrte ihn, dass die Lust nicht zur gleichen Zeit mit der Liebenswuerdigkeit, mit der Guete, mit der Hilfsbereitschaft, mit dem Mitleid in demselben Menschen wohnen kann. "Wer weint, kann nicht besamen. Wer liebt, kann nicht begehren".

Der Krieg des Autors ist der noch halb kavaliersmaessige mit viel Reiten und Kartenspiel, der Krieg im Osten. Als die Einjaehrig-Freiwilligen 1915 von Wien abfahren, ruft ihnen Jemand nach: "Lebt wohl, ihr lieben Juden." "Niemand fuehlte sich getroffen, aber in mir stiegen Bedenken auf." Kurz vor Hitler geht der Erzaeher nach Berlin, arbeitet erfolgreich, lebt bescheiden, hat ein Verhaeltnis mit einer Berlinerin mit Kind. Er erlebt den Fackelzug am Kaiserplatz in Friedenu und bekennt sich leidenschaftlich und ein bisschen uebertrieben zu den Juden, findet, er haette ein Judas Makkabaeus sein sollen, obwohl er selbst nach Hitlers Rassengesetzen kein Jude mehr ist. Auf den letzten zwei Seiten wird mitgeteilt, dass er nach London emigriert und am B.B.C. Propaganda gegen die Nazis macht.

Wo Flesch aufhoert, beginnt "Eine Jugend in Deutschland" von Horst Krueger (Deutscher Taschenbuch Verlag, 1968), 131 Seiten und alles darin von 1933 an. Dort Wien, hier Berlin. Wo Flesch in der Romanform halb verschleierte, gibt Krueger alles genau. Er waechst in Eichkamp auf, Zweig und die Langgaesser wohnen dort, aber die Witkowskis sind schon frueh ausgewandert. Die Eltern sind Beamte, keine Nazis und doch haette es ohne ihre Pflichterfuellung keine Naziherrschaft von 12 Jahren geben koennen. Der Schulfreund Wanja, ein Anarchist in der Russenbluse ueber kurzen Hosen, lebt schon mit 17 in einem eheaehnlichen Verhaeltnis mit einer viel aelteren Kommunistin. Sie kleben Plakate und werden zu 15 Jahren Zuchthaus verurteilt. "Ein Glueck", sagt Wanja 30 Jahre spaeter als Funktionaer in Ostberlin, "es hat uns vor dem K.Z. bewahrt." Er hat die Genossin geheiratet, traegt feine Kluft und die Haare gescheitelt und laesst nur Spruchbaender aus seinem Mund kommen: "Du kannst mir glauben, der Sozialismus siegt", sagt er noch auf dem Bahnhof Friedrichstrasse zum Freund seiner unordentlichen Jugendjahre: "Na gut, Wanja, dann siegt mal schoen", sagt Krueger und sieht ihn nie wieder.

Und als Krueger im Maerz 1945 Verpflegung fuer seine Kameraden im Schuetzengraben am Dortmund-Ems Kanal fasst, sieht er wie ein Offizier, ein blonder Gott, mal schnell Kruegers Freund, einen westfaelischen Landmann, totschiess. Zehntausendfach wurden im Fruehjahr 1945 Deutsche von Deutschen mal schnell ermordet, aber als Krueger das mit eigenen Augen sieht, hat's geschnappt: "Nun auch nicht einen Tag mehr bei diesem Volk",

und er desertiert schwimmend durch den Dortmund-Ems Kanal.

Der verhoerende Amerikaner hatte bald genug von diesem Shakespeare-gefaerbten Schulenglisch: 'You may speak German. This is Mr. Levison. He read in Heidelberg with Mr. Weber and Mr. Jaspers. He will interpret.' Ich weiss, das klingt ein wenig skurril und seltsam, aber es war so, so war es genau. Ich war zum Feind uebergelaufen, und die ersten Worte, die ersten Namen, die dieser Feind zu mir sprach waren Mr. Weber and Mr. Jaspers. Die Namen von Philosophen und Soziologen hatte ich in meiner Truppe nie gehoert. Das war eine Welt der Landsknechte und Abenteurer, die sagten Scheisse, kniffen das Gesicht zusammen, bruellten dann und tranken Bier dazu. Und dann gab es eine lange Unterhaltung zwischen Mr. Levison und mir. Ich werde sie nie in meinem Leben vergessen, ein kleines Kolloquium am Ostermontag 45, sieben Uhr morgens. Er sagte Heidelberg, und ich sagte Freiburg. Er sagte Jaspers, und ich sagt Heidegger. . . . "Alles schien mir phantastisch und wie getraeumt . . . und ich dachte mit einem mal: Immer hast du so etwas gesucht, und wusstest nicht, ob es das ueberhaupt gibt. Mein Gott, wie kann das denn sein? Du hast 25 Jahre in Deutschland gelebt, vier davon in der Wehrmacht, hast immer geschwiegen, hast immer alles hingenommen, fuehltest dich nie in Deutschland zu Hause, und du bist noch nicht eine Stunde beim Feind und fuehlst dich bei ihm schon zu Hause. Du bist nicht mehr allein auf der Welt. Der Feind—das ist deine Welt."

Und dann teilt er den Amerikanern alles mit: "Hoeren Sie auf mit diesen schweren Waffen", und kurz darauf war alles still "und dann hatten sie schon unsre ganze Gruppe gefangengenommen. Wie soll ich diesen Augenblick je vergessen? Uwe und Heinz, Fritz und Peter, ihr Jungens aus Brandenburg und Berlin, aus Muenchen und Hamburg, du hast sie verraten, natuerlich, aber du hast sie auch nicht verraten. Du hast sie herausgeholt aus dieser blutigen Festung Europa, hast sie aus der Blutsuppe, die der finstre Mann in Berlin jetzt aus uns allen kochen laesst, gerettet."

Das Buch endet damit nicht, es endet mit dem Wesentlichen des Auschwitz-Prozesses auf 20 Seiten. "Die einen hasten dem Geld nach, und die andern gehen zum Auschwitz-Prozesses, die einen decken zu und die andern auf, das sind zwei Seiten derselben deutschen Medaille. Dieser Hitler, denke ich, der bleibt uns—lebenslaenglich."

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PERSONALIA

ANNEMARIE HASE 70

Annemarie Hase's home at Kastanienallee is a meeting place for all her friends when they visit Berlin, that is provided she is not off in her little car on one of her visits to far away countries. Her many friends often drop in for a chat and a cup of good English tea.

On June 14, Annemarie Hase, whose name was Hirsch before she became an actress, will be 70 years of age, and she does not in the least mind anyone knowing.

She is best remembered as a leading member of Friedrich Hollaender's ensemble, Tingeltangel, in the basement of Berlin's Theater des Westens, where she also sang the songs which were especially written for her. In London, where her brother is a mathematician of high repute, she was the star of cabaret staged before and during the war. Her voice became known all over Europe when she broadcast to Nazi Germany from Bush House as "Mutter Wernicke".

One of the first refugees to come back to Berlin, she initially joined Brecht's Berliner Ensemble, later working in the Western sector where she had been domiciled since her return. For a season she played in Krefeld but Berlin lured her back.

When she appears in a suitable part, Annemarie Hase can still hypnotise an audience.

PEM

FELLOWSHIP FOR DR. PARKES

The Hebrew University has awarded an honorary fellowship to the Rev. Dr. James Parkes, the director of the Parkes Library in Britain, for "his devotion to inter-communal understanding and mutual understanding and mutual tolerance, and his deep friendship for the Jewish people". The award records that "the insights which he has offered for the study of Judaism, from his Christian experience, constitute a contribution of lasting value."

QUEEN'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY

For the second time Gestetner of London has gained the Queen's Award to Industry for export achievement in stencil and offset duplicating machines. Other firms with top Jewish executives to gain this coveted award are Kangol Wear Ltd., of Cumberland, for export achievement in headwear; Lansing Bagnall Ltd., of Basingstoke, manufacturers of electric industrial trucks; and Qualitex Yarns Ltd., of Burnley, makers of textured synthetic fibres.

ORATORY CONTEST

Mr. Mervyn Morris, portrait artist and qualified youth leader, won the Mordecai Anielewicz Oratory Contest in Manchester. He represented the Manchester Jewish Social and Cultural Society and his subject was "The definition of a Jew". The adjudicator described him as undoubtedly having the potentiality of an absolutely first-class public speaker.

WYNDHAM DEEDS SCHOLARSHIP

A Wyndham Deeds Scholarship has been awarded by the Anglo-Israel Association to Dr. Tessa Blackstone, lecturer in social administration at the London School of Economics. She will undertake a project on nursery education for the immigrant child.

This is one of three of such awards. Miss Elizabeth Rycroft, lecturer in fashion and shoe design at the Nottingham and Leicester polytechnics, will undertake a project on the fashion trade in Israel. Dr. Ian Gilliland, assistant director of the British post-graduate Medical Federation of London University, was awarded the scholarship in memory of Dr. Paul Rothschild and will undertake a project on vocational training for family medicine.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Israel's 22nd anniversary was celebrated in London by two separate services, due to the refusal to allow Progressive ministers to participate in an Orthodox service. The Orthodox service was held at a Sephardi synagogue, conducted, amongst others, by the Chief Rabbi, Dr. Immanuel Jakobovits, and the Haham, Rabbi Dr. Solomon Gaon. The guest preacher was Dr. Moses Rosen, Chief Rabbi of Rumania.

A separate service was held at the St. John's Wood Liberal Synagogue, arranged by the Reform and Liberal communities and attended by the Israeli Ambassador, Mr. Aharon Remez.

The Zionist Federation and the Zionist Youth Council held a pageant at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. The first half consisted of a one-hour pageant of poems, songs, legends and documents about Jerusalem. The American-Jewish actor, Theodore Bikel, participated in the second half.



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RABBI DR. HERMANN VOGELSTEIN

Centenary of his Birth

Dr. Hermann Vogelstein, Rabbi to the Jewish Communities in Oppeln, Koenigsberg and Breslau, was born in Pilsen in the spring of 1870; he was the son of Rabbi Dr. Heinemann Vogelstein who took up appointment in Stettin in 1879.

Heinemann Vogelstein came from an old-established family in the rural area of Lippe. He had a strongly developed attachment to his native countryside and this probably explains his marked German characteristics and patriotism which found scope for expression in the liberal community of Stettin. His views also influenced his son, Hermann, who studied at the Breslau Rabbinical Seminary and at the university of that city.

Hermann attracted the attention of learned circles by writing at a very early age together with his student friend, Paul Rieger, a large-scale, two-volume work on the history of the Jews in Rome (published in Berlin in 1895/96). He served as rabbi in Oppeln from 1895 to 1897; then he succeeded Isak Bamberger in the position of senior rabbi at Koenigsberg. Here his views were exposed to attack in two respects. His brand of liberalism did not suit the moderate Koenigsberg community, and his accent on German patriotism frequently led to clashes with emergent Zionism and was bound to hurt the many Russian and Polish Jews who had come from the East. However, it

must be stressed with gratitude that Vogelstein always stood up for the interests of the Eastern Jews and that during the last years of his work at Koenigsberg—the war years—he made special efforts on behalf of the refugees from Lithuania by attempting to establish contacts with their relatives in the occupied areas. Nevertheless it must be stated that in his discussions with Zionist students he sometimes went too far.

In 1920 he succeeded Professor Jakob Guttman, a moderate, as rabbi to the liberal community of Breslau. In contrast to Koenigsberg he was faced with an Orthodox rabbi of equal status in the person of Dr. F. Rosenthal and later on of Dr. M. Hofmann. Here the terms of reference were firmly laid down. The liberal rabbi had his clearly defined sphere of work so that peaceful co-operation was safeguarded. Moreover, he gradually moderated his outspoken anti-Zionist course. Only on one occasion—in 1921—was it once more noticeable. At the meeting of the General Association of Rabbis in Frankfurt the discussion dwelt, *inter alia*, on the newly founded Keren Hayessod. After a somewhat heated debate the Association, with an overwhelming majority, expressed its sympathy with the work of the Keren Hayessod. Only two rabbis had spoken against it in the discussion—Benno Jacob (Dortmund) and Hermann Vogelstein.

In the large synagogue in the 'Schweidnitzer Stadtgraben' in Breslau, Vogelstein was able to work peacefully and influentially until almost the end. In the hard times after 1933 he did not accept a salary. He was able to manage on the interest payments which he received from the inheritance of his late brother in the U.S.A. Not until 1938, when he realised that there was no longer any hope and he was approaching his 70th year, did he try to find a successor. He recommended Dr. Reinhold Lewin, who had succeeded him in Koenigsberg, for the post in Breslau. After the burning of the synagogue he decided with a heavy heart to emigrate to the U.S.A., where he died in 1942, aged 72.

Apart from his important book on Rome, he wrote a number of minor works. He took part in the collective volume marking the 100th birthday of Abraham Geiger (Berlin 1910) by writing an introduction entitled "On Systematic Theology"; he also wrote a number of papers on the development of religious instruction in Koenigsberg and contributed many essays to scientific journals. In New York he published a shortened version of his history of the Jews in Rome (Philadelphia 1940) in the series "Histories of Jewish Communities".

ISRAEL COMMEMORATES HOLOCAUST

Members of the diplomatic corps and delegations of immigrants and schoolchildren attended the closing ceremonies of Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Memorial Day, held on the Memorial Mount in Jerusalem. Kaddish was recited by the Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Israel, and thereafter former concentration camp inmates and ghetto fighters lit beacons.

FAMILY EVENTS

Births

Godfrey.—A son (Philip James) was born on April 26 to Marion (née Wiener) and Antony Godfrey. First grandchild for Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Wiener and Mr. and Mrs. F. Godfrey; first great-grandchild for Mrs. Hedwig Wiener.

Krasner.—A daughter (Yvonne Michelle) was born on April 23 to Marion (née Black) and Neville Krasner, 58 Greenwood Road, Clarkston, near Glasgow. First grandchild for Dr. and Mrs. George Krasner and third grandchild for Mr. and Mrs. Julian Black.

Birthdays

The AJR Club expresses its very best birthday wishes to **Mrs. A. Fleischer**, of 238 Randolph Avenue, W.9 (70 on June 9) and to **Mr. Schwarz**, of 1 Henley House, Friern Park, N.2 (80 on June 23).

Engagement

Horwell: Cohen.—The engagement is announced between David Hugo Horwell, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., son of Dr. and Mrs. Arnold R. Horwell (formerly Horwitz), of 106 Chatsworth Road, London, N.W.2, and Ruth Ann Cohen, B.A., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Cohen, of 9a St. Anthony's Road, Bournemouth.

Deaths

Adler.—Mrs. Paula Adler (née Wurzbarger), of Firwood Court, 10 Firwood Road, Newton Mearns, Glasgow (formerly of Heilbronn), died peacefully on May 12, aged 86. Deeply mourned by her daughters, Grete Gummers and Hilde Zucker, son-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Deaths

Davies.—On April 15, suddenly, as the result of a car crash, Lester, aged 38, beloved husband of Lottie (née Metzger) and darling daddy of Gillian and Andrew. 42 Dean Road, Handforth, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 3AH.

Marcus.—Mrs. Margarete Marcus, aged 88, passed away on April 23 at Osmond House. Sadly missed by her nephew, Hans Katzenstein (Zurich), her niece, Fina Nathan (Paris), and Edith Reiss.

Merlander.—Mr. Paul Merlander, of 64 Dartmouth Road, N.W.2, passed away on April 22 in his 75th year. Deeply mourned by his cousin, Hanna Wallach and Mrs. Bauer and many friends.

Merz.—Mrs. Mary Merz (née Epstein), formerly of Brno, C.S.R., of 21 Packman Lane, Kirkella, E. Yorks, died peacefully on April 30, aged 72. Deeply mourned by her husband, Victor, sons, Joseph and Felix, her grandchildren and sister, Elizabeth Hatvany.

Neumann.—Mrs. Gertrude Neumann passed away peacefully on May 19. Sadly missed by her daughter, Mrs. A. Hanemann and family, her niece, Miss L. Rosler, and friends.

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The AJR Club mourns the death of **Miss Mary Rosenberg**, of Belsize Park, who passed away peacefully after a long illness.

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Personal

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WIDOW, 51, young, good homemaker, own house, wants to meet middle-aged widower for companionship/matrimony. Box 148.

WIDOWER, English born, 40, with two small children, wishes to meet younger, presentable lady; object matrimony. Box 149.

Die Israelitische Kultusgemeinde München sucht zum möglichst baldigen Dienstantritt einen

GESCHAFTSFUEHRER

Bewerber sollen über Erfahrung in einer vergleichbaren Verwaltungsposition sowie über jüdisches Wissen verfügen. Ausführliche Bewerbungen mit Lebenslauf und Referenzen sind zu richten an den Vorstand der Israelitischen Kultusgemeinde München 5, Reichenbachstr. 22.

AJR GENERAL MEETING

As readers will have seen from the front page of this issue, the AJR General Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 18, at 7.45 p.m., in the Hall of Hannah Karminski House, Swiss Cottage, London, N.W.3. Detailed reports on latest achievements (including the completion of the Flatlet Home, Eleanor Rathbone House), current activities and plans for the future will be given, and members will have the opportunity of raising questions of special interest to them during the discussion. It is therefore hoped that many of our friends will attend the meeting. Non-members are also welcome.

The Agenda includes the elections to the Executive and Board. The following proposals are submitted by the Executive:

Committee of Management (Executive): The following members of the present Executive stand for re-election: Mr. A. S. Dresel (Chairman), Mr. W. M. Behr (Vice-Chairman), Dr. F. E. Falk (Treasurer), Dr. W. Rosenstock (General Secretary), Dr. E. A. Lomnitz (Deputy General Secretary), Mrs. R. Anderman, Mr. S. Bischheim (Trustee), Mr. C. F. Flesch, Mr. H. S. Garfield, Mr. E. K. Heyman, Mr. V. E. Hilton (Trustee), Dr. A. R. Horwell (Trustee), Mr. C. T. Marx, Mr. R. Schneider, Mr. L. Spiro, Mr. F. W. Ury.

It is proposed to elect as new Executive members Dr. Eric Dux and Mr. F. Kolmar.

Board: It is proposed to re-elect the members of the present Board. They are: Dr. P. Abel, Mrs. R. Abels, Mr. R. Apt, Dr. S. Auerbach, Mrs. A. Berent, Mrs. R. Berlin, Dr. J. Bondi, Dr. W. Breslauer, Dr. R. Bright, Rabbi I. Broch, Mr. F. Dannen, Dr. W. Dux, Mr. R. Elton, Mr. L. Eschwege, Dr. H. Feld, Dr. A. Fleiss, Mr. O. Franklyn, Mr. R. J. Friedmann, Mr. F. Godfrey, Mrs. Elisabeth Goldschmidt, Dr. Erna Goldschmidt, Dr. E. Gould, Mr. R. Graupner, Sir Ludwig Guttman, Mr. S. F. Hallgarten, Mrs. G. Hambourg, Mr. E. Haymann, Mr. Herbert M. Hirsch, Mrs. Susanne Horwell, Mrs. M. Jacoby, Dr. A. Kaufmann, Mr. E. C. Kent, Dr. L. G. T. King, Mrs. F. Kochmann, Rabbi Jakob J. Kokotek, Dr. H. W. Kugelmann, Dr. H. H. Kuttner, Dr.

H. Lawton, Dr. G. Leon, Dr. Julius Loeb, Mr. Ludwig Loewenthal, Dr. E. G. Lowenthal, Dr. E. Magnus, Rabbi Dr. I. Maybaum, Mrs. L. Meyer, Mr. Perez Mosbacher, Dr. H. Neufeld, Mr. E. Philipp, Mr. E. Plaut, Mrs. M. Pottlitzer, Dr. Eva Reichmann, Mr. Z. M. Reid, Dr. E. Reifenberg (Gabriele Tergit), Mr. A. Reimann, Mr. J. Sachs, Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger, Mr. F. Samson, Dr. H. G. Sandheim, Mr. F. Schonbeck, Mrs. M. Schurmann, Mrs. D. Segall, Dr. W. Selig, Mr. P. E. Shields, Mr. E. Speyer, Dr. Fanny Spitzer, Mr. Julius Strauss, Mr. G. Streat, Mr. G. L. Tietz, Dr. U. Tietz, Dr. Valerie Wills, Dr. Charlotte Wittels-hoefer, Mr. H. Wreschner.

It is proposed to elect as new Board members Mr. H. C. Mayer (Executive member until 1969) and Mrs. Eva Trent.

The Board also includes representatives of the provincial groups.

WARSAW GHETTO ANNIVERSARY

The 27th anniversary of the uprising of the Warsaw Ghetto and the six million Jewish victims of Nazism were commemorated in London at the Cambridge Theatre. The meeting was arranged jointly by the Polish-Jewish Ex-Servicemen's Association, the Board of Deputies, the World Jewish Congress, Ajex, and about 20 other associated communal bodies.

The audience of 2,000 was addressed by Mr. Jeremy Thorpe, leader of the Liberal Party, and Sir Barnett Janner, M.P. The opening remarks of the chairman, Mr. S. Frisner, of the Association of Polish-Jewish Ex-Servicemen, set the theme, which was the commemoration of the uprising and the concern for the survival of Israel. Mr. Frisner told the meeting "... the battle of the Warsaw Ghetto is not finished" for the survival of the Jewish people depended on the survival of the Jewish State.

Sir Barnett said that the anti-Israel and anti-Zionist statements by Jews in the Soviet Union and Poland were reminiscent of similar

declarations forced on German Jews by the Nazis. It was the aim of the Soviet Union and its Arab allies to place Israel in the same defenceless position in which the Jewish remnants found themselves in the Warsaw Ghetto 27 years ago.

Mr. Thorpe took the opportunity to make an official apology to the Jewish community for the recent actions by some Young Liberals. At their annual conference in March the Young Liberals demanded the establishment of a Palestinian State, and they intend putting forward a resolution to this effect to the Liberal Party's annual assembly in September. Mr. Thorpe pledged that the party would never adopt the posture of "moral neutrals" in the struggle between a small State that lives by the rules of democracy... and an unholy alliance of totalitarian dictatorship... We must not allow legitimate sympathy for the Arab refugees nor guilt about Western imperialism in the Middle East to obscure the nature of the threat to Israel, as we allowed sympathy for defeated Germany and guilt about the Treaty of Versailles to obscure the menace of the Nazis", he concluded.

Special services of commemoration were held in many parts of the provinces. In Dublin "There was a Wall" was also performed by the Stratford Players. In Glasgow pipers played a lament and buglers sounded the Last Post.

"THANK-YOU BRITAIN" FUND

Lecture on June 24

This year's "Thank-You Britain" Fund lecture will be given by Sir William Armstrong, G.C.B., M.V.O., who is Head of the Civil Service and Permanent Secretary to the Civil Service Department. His subject is "The Role and Character of H.M. Civil Service". The function will take place on Wednesday, June 24, at 5 p.m., at The British Academy, Burlington House, Piccadilly. It is hoped that, in view of the link of the lecture with the "Thank-You Britain" Fund and of its interesting subject, many readers and their friends will attend.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Obituary

IMPACT OF ANNE FRANK

A Recent Publication

A book "Weerklank van Anne Frank" (Response to Anne Frank) published in Holland by the Contact publishing house shows that, since Anne Frank's diary was published in 1947, nine million copies have been sold in the 40 languages into which it has been translated. Thirty-four schools and 22 children's villages throughout the world have been named after her.

The book also includes some hitherto unpublished short stories written by Anne, numerous photographs, and the texts of letters received by her father, Mr. Otto Frank, from world leaders.

Soon after the book appeared the director of the Anne Frank Foundation said that the Anne Frank House, visited by 170,000 people every year, urgently needed £12,500 for renovations. A programme by the Socialist radio station in Holland was subsequently also put out. In response the money has become available through contributions by the public.

The Foundation has an annual deficit of £3,500, a third of which is met by the Amsterdam municipality. All royalties from "Anne Frank's Diary" accrue to the Anne Frank Foundation, which uses the money for various projects, including some in Israel.

CHAPELL EXTRADITION REQUEST

It is thought that Russia will contest Britain's refusal to extradite Mr. George Chapell (Yuri Chapidze), the naturalised Georgian whom the Soviet authorities are accusing of participation in the wartime extermination of thousands of Jews in the Ukraine.

In refusing the Soviet request to extradite Mr. Chapell, who came to Britain in 1947 and now lives in Bournemouth, the British Government has apparently not been guided by considerations of his guilt or innocence. Britain's decision is based solely on the lapse of time since the alleged crimes took place.

Mr. Chapell has declared that he never touched a Jewish man, woman or child, that he served as a private in the medical supplies unit, was captured by the Nazis in 1942, and escaped after spending a year in a concentration camp. But he refused to speak about the two years until the end of the war, when he lived as an escapee.

RACIALISM WARNING

Mr. Aubrey Erstling, retiring chairman of the Manchester branch of the Association of Ex-Servicemen and Women, warned at the annual meeting in Manchester that there is more racialism under the surface than there has ever been, despite the Race Relations Act.

Attention was called to intolerance towards minorities by some Jews themselves, and this was condemned.

EX-SERVICE (1943) ASSOCIATION

At the general meeting of the Ex-Service (1943) Association, on April 29, Dr. H. G. Sandheim, formerly vice-chairman of the association, was elected chairman, and Dr. E. L. M. Gould, vice-chairman. Both Dr. Sandheim and Dr. Gould are board members of the AJR. The former chairman, Captain G. Wasserman, was elected a vice-president.

Letter to the Editor

PRUSSIA'S ROLE IN HISTORY

Herr Alex Natan nennt in Ihrer Ausgabe Mai 1970 mein Buch "Preussen—Geschichte eines Staates", das jetzt in 8. Auflage vorliegt und mit 45.000 Exemplaren verbreitet ist, "romantic and sentimental" und spricht von dem Versuch einer "Weisswäsche". Von den etwa 200 Rezensenten des Buches hatte bisher niemand diesen Eindruck.

Herr Natan bezieht sich weiter auf einen verleumderischen Artikel des Herausgebers der Berliner Zeitung "Der Tagesspiegel", verschweigt aber, dass durch Urteil des Landgerichts Berlin, bestätigt vom Kammergericht, die Zeitung gezwungen wurde, meine richtigstellende Entgegnung zu veröffentlichen. Im übrigen werden meine "frühen Schriften" im Herbst des Jahres erneut als Buch erscheinen und alles umfassen, was ich von 1930 bis 1938 publiziert habe.

*Professor HANS-JOACHIM SCHOEPS,
Ordinarius für Religions- und
Geistesgeschichte an der Universität
Erlangen-Nürnberg.*

Erlangen.

RABBI DR. LEO BAERWALD

Rabbi Dr. Leo Baerwald died in New York at the age of 86. He was the rabbi of the Munich Jewish community from 1918 until 1940, when he succeeded in emigrating to the United States. In New York, he was the spiritual head of the Congregation Beth Hillel in Washington Heights. He retired after 15 years' service in 1955, but remained in close touch with the congregation. He also took a leading part in the work of the New York Leo Baeck Institute and the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe. After the war, Dr. Baerwald repeatedly visited Munich and last year he was the guest of honour at a special function arranged by Oberbürgermeister Dr. H. J. Vogel.

MR. JULIUS LOWENTHAL

It is learned with regret that Mr. Julius Lowenthal passed away in Israel at the age of 78. He was associated with the AJR since its inception as a member of the board and took an active interest in our efforts. He also worked for many other Jewish causes, especially the J.P.A. of which he was a former vice-chairman, and the B'nai B'rith. Mr. Lowenthal was the founder and principal of Colibri Lighters. We extend our sincerest sympathy to his widow, who is a vice-president of the Jewish Blind Society, his two sons, his daughter and the other members of his family.

DR. MORITZ SCHILLER

The dental surgeon, Dr. Moritz Schiller (Leeds), whose death was announced in the "Family Events" column of the previous issue was an interested member of the AJR. In Vienna, where he lived until 1939, he was a member of the students' fraternity "Robur" and a co-founder of the Maccabi. When the Nazis marched into Vienna, he was imprisoned. After his release he came to this country where he obtained his English qualification and set up practice in Leeds in 1941. Among the numerous causes to which he lent his support was the Dental School in Jerusalem. Dr. Schiller leaves a widow and children as well as a wide circle of friends.

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