

## INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

Herbert Freedman

## 40 YEARS SINCE BOYCOTT-DAY

Some historians say that the Second World War did not start on September 3, 1939, but on April 1, 1933, for the Nazis' declaration of boycott against German Jewry was in fact their declaration of war against civilisation. On the other hand, there is a tendency to underrate that day, forty years ago, when SA men prevented customers from entering Jewish shops, and a number of houses, stores and offices were demolished—what was this demonstration as compared with the holocaust that followed later? It turned out to be the tragedy of Europe that the 1st of April was underrated also in 1933.

In the early months of that year, Hitler moved cautiously. A pogrom at that time would have met with unfavourable reactions, especially abroad, which the new régime could ill afford. The Nazis wanted to prove to the world that they were no rabble rousers but pact-worthy and trust-worthy partners in the comity of Western nations. What they needed was moral and financial credit.

To reconcile statesman-like behaviour with the rampant antisemitism which their followers expected, the Government embarked on a policy of gradually excluding the Jews from economic life, over a period which lasted five and a half years. When the Nazis saw that the morale of the Jews was too high and their rate of emigration too slow, they changed their tactics, and in November, 1938, all Jewish communal, cultural and organisational activities were stamped out. The third phase, the "final solution", began in 1942.

In April, 1933, Germany was still a member of the League of Nations. At the helm of the Reich stood President Hindenburg who, only eight months before, had once again re-stated the civic rights of German Jewry. No wonder that the organ of the largest Jewish organisation, the "C.V." wrote: "The German Jews are deeply convinced that President Hindenburg will not allow an attack on the constitutional rights of a group of German citizens".

In the course of the month of March, the party machinery launched its first gigantic propaganda drive, alleging that the Jews abroad were undermining the prestige of the German Government by propagating a boycott against Germany and spreading atrocity stories. In mere "self-defence", to counter this "threat", the new régime proclaimed a total boycott of German Jewry, once and for all, to commence on April 1. No other than the notorious Julius Streicher, editor of the "Stürmer", was appointed chairman of the "Central Boycott Committee" ("Zentral-Komitee zur Abwehr der Jüdischen Greuel-und Boykott-Hetze").

There were still voices in Germany to speak up. The "Vossische Zeitung", Berlin, declared: "Should the boycott which has been

ordered by the National Socialists be carried out, it would spell the ruin of hundreds of thousands of German Jewish citizens and their expulsion from the German community. The German Jews have stood the test in war and peace, in times good and bad, have been part of that community and wish to remain so". Even the Right-wing "Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" suggested that the situation be re-examined and hoped for a change of heart.

On Friday, the 30th of March, there was indeed a change. In the evening, Goebbels spoke over the radio. His broadcast was relayed from a mass meeting of "Amtswalter" in which he gave the directives for the boycott—interrupted by thundering applause, roaring laughter and the deafening shouting of "Heil". However, the change was drastic. The official boycott, planned to be permanent, was confined to one day only, mainly for fear of damage to the German economy.

## Uneasiness in Britain

No doubt to some major extent world reaction, too, was responsible for this retreat. In England, great uneasiness was displayed at both Houses of Parliament. Viscount Cecil spoke in the House of Lords on March 30, pointing out that Britain, as holding the Mandate over Palestine, was closely linked to the Jewish people. Lord Hailsham, replying for the Government, denied that this Mandate entitled Britain generally to intervene on behalf of Jewish rights in foreign countries. Lord Reading, speaking as a member of the Jewish community, appealed to the Government to do everything possible to help the persecuted Jewish minority in Germany, and he was forcefully supported by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Lang, and by Lord Idlesleigh, speaking for the Catholics.

The array of the three denominations which was repeated in the House of Commons, evoked a noteworthy statement from the then Foreign Secretary, Sir John Simon. The debate, he said, had expressed the general feeling of the country. It would be a fundamental error, if someone in some country assumed that this feeling was confined to members of the Jewish community, or evoked by them. On the contrary, he declared, it was a spontaneous and inevitable expression of the principle of racial tolerance.

Commander Locker-Lampson, a Conservative M.P., became chairman of a committee which was to study the Jewish position in Germany. Mr. Attlee was among those who sent a message of encouragement to a protest meeting in London's East End on April 1. Ten days later, there was a stormy debate in the House of Commons because Sir John Gilmour, then Home Secretary, had

banned an exhibition of anti-Nazi posters. Winston Churchill was one of those who protested most outspokenly.

Goebbels, in an interview with London's "Observer", said that "the German people were now prepared to let the Jewish question rest . . . unless they were again provoked by world Jewry". Nevertheless, the "Völkischer Beobachter" dated April 4, announced 15 boycott meetings all over Berlin, and Julius Streicher promised that all "Aryan" shops would receive signs to mark them as such.

Mussolini granted an audience to the then Chief Rabbi of Rome, Dr. Sacerdoti, who described to him the plight of German Jewry. In his answer, Mussolini "expressed confidence that those deplorable conditions would soon revert to normal". Dr. Benesh, at that time Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia, pleaded for extending the protection of minorities to German Jews. American Jewry was roused and deeply stirred. In New York, the American Jewish Congress convened a conference attended by 1,500 delegates representing 600 Jewish organisations, which handed a mass petition to the U.S. Government and the League of Nations to improve the lot of German Jewry.

Soon, however, public interest in German "domestic affairs"—as the dangerous phrase ran—died down, and an abortive debate at the League of Nations in Geneva, on the violation of minority rights in Upper Silesia, remained for a long time to come the last attempt to discuss the Jewish position in Germany before an international forum.

## CLAIMS AGAINST EAST GERMANY

In the House of Lords, Baroness Tweedsmuir, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, dealt with the attitude of the British Government towards the admission of West and East Germany to the United Nations and towards the recognition of East Germany as a sovereign State. Lord Janner took the opportunity to stress the need for the East Germans to pay reparations in recognition of their part in the persecution of the Jews under the Nazi régime. He felt that the East Germans should adopt the policy of West Germany if they wanted to become part of the United Nations or any other international body. Agreeing that Lord Janner had raised an important matter, Baroness Tweedsmuir said it was outside the scope of the matter before the House and she advised him to raise it again.

At the Board of Deputies, Dr. S. J. Roth, European director of the World Jewish Congress, expressed the hope that the Government would look sympathetically towards Jewish efforts to obtain restitution from East Germany for the victims of Nazism. Britain, he said, could play an important role in the matter, since she was now establishing diplomatic contact with East Germany and could, therefore, convey the demands of former German refugees wishing to be compensated.

The Council of Jews from Germany, of which the AJR is the British constituent, is actively associated with the present efforts of the major Jewish organisations in this matter. We shall keep our readers informed on any further development.

C. I. Kapralik

## WEITERES AUS DER OESTERREICHISCHEN SOZIALVERSICHERUNG

Wir haben bereits in der vorigen Ausgabe kurz über einige Bestimmungen der jüngst erlassenen 29. Novelle zum ASVG berichtet. Wir veröffentlichen nunmehr einen umfassenden Artikel über die Bestimmungen der Novelle soweit sie für Opfer des Nazi-Regimes aus Oesterreich bedeutsam sind. Wir bitten unsere Leser, ihre Freunde auf den Inhalt dieses Artikels, insbesondere aber auf die zwei letzten Absätze des Punktes I, aufmerksam zu machen.

### I.

(a) Bekanntlich galten nach bisherigem Recht als Ersatzzeiten in der Sozialversicherung die Zeiten, in denen nach Vollendung des 15. Lebensjahres eine österreichische Berufsschule, Mittelschule, bzw. Hochschule besucht wurde, sowie Zeiten der weiteren Berufsausbildung, sofern spätestens innerhalb dreier Jahre nach dem Verlassen der Schule, bzw. Beendigung des Studiums oder der Berufsausbildung, eine sonstige Versicherungszeit, z.B. die Emigrationszeit, vorgelegen ist.

Die 29. Novelle hat nunmehr verfügt, dass das Kriterium einer nachfolgenden Versicherungszeit innerhalb dreier Jahre wegfällt. In der Zeit nach 1933 war es bekanntlich nicht leicht, nach Beendigung des Studiums eine Stellung zu finden. Es werden daher auf Grund der neuen Bestimmungen u.a. auch diejenigen, die beispielsweise im Jahre 1935 ihr Studium beendet haben und im Jahre 1939, also nach vier Jahren, ausgewandert sind—bei Erfüllung der sonstigen, insbesondere Deckungszeit-Voraussetzungen—für eine Pension qualifizieren.

(b) Vor 1938/39 waren Söhne und Töchter, die im Familienbetrieb mitarbeiteten, nicht sozialversichert. Dieser Personenkreis, der auch Enkel, Wahl- und Stiefkinder (nicht jedoch die Ehefrau) umfasst ist dzt. vollversichert. Auf Grund der Bestimmungen der 29. Novelle werden nunmehr die im Betrieb ihrer Eltern, Grosseltern, Wahl- und Stiefeltern tätig gewesenen Personen so behandelt werden, als ob für sie schon seinerzeit (also vor Einführung der jetzt geltenden Sozialversicherungsgesetze) eine Pflichtversicherung bestanden hätte.

(c) Es werden nunmehr auch hauptberuflich tätig gewesene Lehrer, Erzieher, Musiker und Artisten, die alle derzeit in Oesterreich vollversichert sind, so behandelt werden, als ob für sie schon früher (also vor ihrer Auswanderung) eine Pflichtversicherung bestanden hätte. Dies könnte für manche Emigranten interessant sein.

Allerdings verfügt das Gesetz (entgegen der ursprünglichen Regierungsvorlage), dass alle diese Bestimmungen nur auf Fälle anzuwenden sind, in denen der Stichtag nach dem 31. Dezember 1972 liegt. Die praktische Auswirkung dieser Einschränkung ist, dass Pensionen nicht rückwirkend vom Tage der Erreichung des pensionsfähigen Alters, bzw. des Eintrittes der dauernden Berufsunfähigkeit anfallen, sondern von dem der Antragstellung folgenden Monatsersten. (Ausnahme: Wenn der Antrag am ersten eines Monats bei der Pensionsversicherungsanstalt eingeht, so gilt als Stichtag dieser Monatserste.)

Zwecks Wahrung der Frist empfiehlt sich daher eheste Einreichung eines wenn auch vorerst formlosen Antrages. Die entsprechenden Beweise über Studien- bzw. Ausbildungs-

zeiten, Arbeit im Gewerbebetrieb der Eltern usw., oder Tätigkeit als Lehrer, Musiker etc., wären nachzubringen. Was insbesondere den Nachweis über Mitarbeit im Betrieb der Eltern etc. anbetrifft, wären Auszüge aus dem Firmen- bzw. Gewereregister beizubringen, aus denen hervorgeht, dass die Eltern usw. zum fraglichen Zeitpunkte einen Betrieb hatten. Der Nachweis über die Tätigkeit des Antragstellers wird durch eidesstattliche Erklärung bzw. durch Zeugenaussagen zu führen sein. In Fällen, in denen der österreichische Hilfsfonds bereits die Mitarbeit im elterlichen Betriebe als Grundlage für Berufschädigung anerkannt hat, wäre auf den Akt des Hilfsfonds zu verweisen.

Es wäre auch zu beachten, dass wenn bereits ein Pensionsantrag gestellt, bzw. eine Pension bewilligt worden ist, bei deren Berechnung die im elterlichen usw. Betrieb zugebrachten Zeiten nicht berücksichtigt wurden, nunmehr um Einbeziehung dieser Zeiten in die Bemessungsgrundlage angesucht werden sollte, was zu einer Erhöhung der Pension führen würde.

### II.

Die 29. Novelle sieht Bonifikationen für den Aufschub der Geltendmachung des Pensionsanspruches vor. Die Bestimmungen sind sehr kompliziert und kommen für unsere Leserkreise kaum in Betracht.

### III.

Ab 1. Juli 1973 wird die Witwenrente mit 60% ausgezahlt, wenn das anrechenbare "sonstige Einkommen" (s. unsere seinerzeitige Veröffentlichung vom Februar 1971) nicht S. 1.800 per Monat übersteigt. Ab 1. Juli 1974 werden alle Witwen—ohne Rücksicht auf ihr sonstiges Einkommen—die 60% Witwenrente in vollem Ausmasse erhalten.

### IV.

#### Freiwillige Weiterversicherung

Der Beitragssatz zur freiwilligen Weiterversicherung in der Pensionsversicherung der Angestellten wird ab 1. Juli 1974 auf 17,5% der Beitragsgrundlage erhöht werden und damit dem dzt. geltenden Satz in der Pensionsversicherung der Arbeiter angepasst werden.

Die freiwillig Versicherten wurden bereits anfangs Januar von der Pensionsanstalt verständigt, dass mit dem Inkrafttreten der 29. Novelle die Beitragsgrundlage für die freiwillige Weiterversicherung ab 1. Januar 1973 eine bedeutende Erhöhung erfahren wird. Dies trägt u.a. der Tatsache Rechnung, dass bei

Erreichung der Altersgrenze die Versicherten Anspruch auf zwei Sonderzahlungen (Mai und Oktober) haben werden. Die Erhöhung der Beitragsgrundlage wurde in Oesterreich aus dem Kreise der freiwillig Versicherten wiederholt verlangt, da sie zu einer höheren Pension führt.

Die Novelle schafft auch die Möglichkeit rückwirkend um Erhöhung der Beitragsgrundlage für die Jahre 1969 bis 1972 zu eruchen, und zwar

für die am 31.12.1968 Weiterversicherten kann die Beitragsgrundlage für jene Monate des Jahres 1969, für die Beiträge entrichtet wurden, auf Antrag bis auf S. 7.200 monatlich erhöht werden,  
für die am 31.12.1969 Weiterversicherten kann die Beitragsgrundlage für jene Monate des Jahres 1970, für die Beiträge entrichtet wurden, auf Antrag bis auf S. 7.650 monatlich erhöht werden,  
für die am 31.12.1970 Weiterversicherten kann die Beitragsgrundlage für jene Monate des Jahres 1971, für die Beiträge entrichtet wurden, auf Antrag bis auf S. 8.100 monatlich erhöht werden,  
für die am 31.12.1969 Weiterversicherten kann die Beitragsgrundlage für jene Monate des Jahres 1972, für die Beiträge entrichtet wurden, auf Antrag bis auf S. 8.700 monatlich erhöht werden.

Diese rückwirkende Erhöhung der Beitragsgrundlage ist insbesondere für Personen, die in naher Zukunft das pensionsfähige Alter erreicht haben werden, von grossem Interesse. Andererseits wird dies mit Nachzahlung bedeutender Beträge verbunden sein. Die Entscheidung ob und in welchem Umfang eine Erhöhung der Beitragsgrundlage ersucht werden soll, muss daher der Entscheidung des Einzelnen überlassen werden. Es wird bemerkt, dass die Erhöhung nur zulässig ist, wenn der freiwillig Versicherte ein der beantragten höheren Beitragsgrundlage entsprechendes Einkommen nachweist. Anträge können nur bis längstens 31. Dezember 1973 bei sonstigem Ausschluss gestellt werden. Die Beiträge gelten noch als wirksam entrichtet, wenn sie innerhalb eines halben Jahres nach Bewilligung des Antrages gezahlt werden.

Andererseits besteht die Möglichkeit—insbesondere bei Personen, die am 1. Januar 1973 das 55. Lebensjahr vollendet haben und bei denen für die Kalenderjahre 1969 bis 1972 Entrichtung von Beiträgen auf der nach den bisherigen Vorschriften niedrigsten zulässigen Beitragsgrundlage bewilligt worden war—um eine Verminderung der Beitragsgrundlage zu ersuchen. Wir bemerken, dass eine Herabsetzung der Beitragsgrundlage gegen wohlwogeneres Interesse des Einzelnen ist und wenn möglich zu vermeiden wäre.

Anfragen über Fragen der österreichischen Wiedergutmachung sind zu richten an: United Restitution Office (Austrian Desk), 183/9 Finchley Road, London, N.W.3. (Tel.: 328 0021.)

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## LEO BAECK ZUM BOYKOTT-TAG

Im naechsten Monat jaehrt sich zum hundertsten Male der Geburtstag von Leo Baeck. Wie Leser aus der in dieser Ausgabe veroeffentlichten Voranzeige ersehen, wird die AJR gemeinsam mit anderen Organisationen am 30. Mai eine Jahrhundertfeier veranstalten. Der bevorstehende Gedenktag bietet besonderen Anlass, im folgenden einige Zitate aus der Ansprache wiederzugeben, die Leo Baeck am 20. Jahrestag des 1. April 1933 auf einer Kundgebung der AJR in London hielt.

Jeder grosse Aufstieg, der dauernd ist in der Geschichte eines Volkes, beginnt mit einer grossen Tapferkeit, nicht mit genialen Menschen, aber mit Menschen einer grossen Tapferkeit. Jeder Niedergang begann mit einer grossen Feigheit. Wir haben es erlebt. Der 1. April 1933 spricht davon. Die Universitäten hatten geschwiegen, die Kirchen geschwiegen, die Handelskammern geschwiegen, die Gerichte geschwiegen, der Präsident des Reichs, der den Eid auf die Verfassung geleistet hatte, geschwiegen. Der 1. April 1933 sollte in der Geschichte genannt werden der Tag der grossen Feigheit. Ohne die Feigheit damals waere alles, was gekommen und ueber uns gekommen ist, nicht geschehen. Man spricht von dem Boykott-Tag. Die jüdischen Geschäfte wurden boykottiert. In Wahrheit wurde das Recht boykottiert. Die jüdischen Geschäfte haben eine zeitlang überstanden, das Recht hat diesen Tag nicht überstanden. . . .

Am Recht in Deutschland war der grosse Verrat geübt worden. Die äussere Rechtssicherheit wurde von Tag zu Tag fast, von Monat zu Monat sichtlich geringer, aber die innere Rechtssicherheit war wohl selten im Judentum tiefer und stärker als damals. Jedes Recht konnte ja genommen werden, aber ein Recht blieb uns, das Recht, rechtschaffen zu sein, das Recht, sauber und anständig zu sein, das Recht, geistig und gebildet zu sein, das Recht, jüdisch zu sein. . . .

In der grossen Tragödie, die im Jahre 1933 begann, ist es eine Tragödie innerhalb der Tragödie, dass damals, als das Verhängnis hereinbrach, eine kulturelle Entwicklung einer Höhe entgegen ging. Sie hatte im zweiten Jahrzehnt des Jahrhunderts eingesetzt, eine Renaissance des jüdischen Geistes in Deutschland, eine neue Belebung jüdischer Kultur. Was damals an geistiger Hingabe, an geistiger Empfänglichkeit, an geistiger Produktivität bewiesen wurde, was an jüdischen Büchern, nicht nur an Büchern jüdischer Autoren, sondern jüdischen Büchern im höchsten Sinne des Wortes, geschaffen wurde, ist ein Zeugnis, dem kaum ein andres an die Seite gesetzt werden kann. Wer noch daran denkt, wie damals die jüdischen Wochenschriften waren, die "C.V. Zeitung", die "Jüdische Rundschau" das "Familienblatt", wie die jüdische Monatsschrift "Der Morgen" geschrieben wurde, der weiss, was das bedeutet. . . .

Aber die kleinen Menschen in Deutschland waren gut geblieben. Die Arbeiter haben ihr Frühstücksbrot mit den jüdischen Arbeitern geteilt, die Kleinen haben in diesen Jahren den Juden das Leben möglich gemacht, die kleinen Menschen in Deutschland. Was den Charakter anlangt, stand damals dort die Bildungspyramide auf der Spitze; die oben waren die Geringen und die unten die Grossen. Vor allem die christlichen Dienst-mädchen haben die Treue vielen bewiesen. Ihnen sollte ein Denkmal errichtet werden.

Die jüdische Arbeit dieser Zeit war eine eigene Arbeit, man koennte sie eine legale Untergrundarbeit nennen, immer im Legalen, aber in der Verborgenheit. Solche Arbeit kann nur geleistet werden, wenn Menschen da sind, auf die man sich unbedingt verlassen kann,

verlassen auf ihre Treue und Loyalität und Entschlusskraft. . . .

Das war das Leben der Juden in Deutschland nach jenem 1. April 1933. Es ist ein Gesetz der Geschichte: Jeder Niedergang beginnt mit einer grossen Feigheit, jeder Aufstieg mit einer grossen Tapferkeit. Tapferkeit ist damals von Juden in dieser Tragödie bewiesen worden. Und das ist die grosse Zuversicht, die uns erfüllt, dass—heute vielleicht noch unsichtbar, aber in einer kommenden Generation deutlich erkennbar—ein Aufstieg kommen wird, Aufstieg für das ganze jüdische Volk, Aufstieg für Länder, die den Juden Liebe bewiesen haben und ein Aufstieg fuer die Menschheit.

### REMEMBRANCE OF THE MARTYRS

Meeting on April 29

This year's meeting in commemoration of the Six Million Martyrs of Nazism and of the 30th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising will take place on Sunday, April 29, at 3 p.m., at St. Pancras Town Hall, Euston Road, London, N.W.1.

The AJR is one of the sponsoring organisations of the function, and it is earnestly hoped that many of our members will attend. Admission is free. Reserved seats may be ordered from the World Jewish Congress (British Section), 55 New Cavendish Street, London, W1M 8BT (Tel.: 01-935 0335/9).

### PRIVATE CLUBS' DISCRIMINATION

A House of Lords' judgement in a race relations case is being closely studied by the Board of Deputies. In a case involving the East Ham Conservative Club, which had refused membership to an Indian, the law lords found that private clubs which have a genuine selection procedure for their members are able to discriminate without fear of prosecution under the Race Relations Act. They ruled that such clubs were private institutions and their membership did not include, under the terms of the Act, "a section of the public".

An earlier decision by the Court of Appeal, reversed by the Lords, held that it was illegal for clubs to exclude from membership any applicant because of race, colour, ethnic or national origin.

The Leo Baeck Lodge  
in conjunction with the  
Association of Jewish Refugees  
and the Society for Jewish Study  
will hold a

## LEO BAECK CENTENARY CELEBRATION

on Wednesday, May 30, at 8 p.m.  
at Hillel House, 1/2 Endsleigh St.,  
London, W.C.1

The Speakers will be:

Dr. Eva G. Reichmann  
Rabbi J. J. Kokotek  
Rabbi Dr. S. Goldman  
Rabbi Hugo Gryn

## ANGLO-JUDAICA

### Jewish Statistics

A survey by Professor S. J. Prais, "Synagogue Statistics and the Jewish Population of Great Britain, 1900-1970", shows that 58 per cent of the Jews of Greater London, who form two-thirds of the entire Jewish community in Britain, now reside in the outer suburbs. Professor Prais calculates that the Greater London area contains 273,000 Jews, of whom 158,000 now live in 19 of the 20 outlying boroughs. A further 114,000 still reside in the twelve boroughs of inner London.

Of Greater London's total population of nearly eight million, 3.5 per cent are Jewish. The whole of London Jewry is concentrated north of the river, with the exception of 17,600 Jewish residents south of the Thames.

Two generations ago the East End and its extensions had a Jewish population of some 125,000. Now the same area contains no more than 39,000 Jews, although they still represent 6 per cent of the total population of the region. Westminster, which includes St. John's Wood and Maida Vale, has 25,000 Jewish residents, comprising almost one-tenth of the total population.

### Hampstead Minister

A recent issue of Hampstead Synagogue's quarterly review refers to the synagogue's inability to find a suitable British candidate to become minister, in succession to Rabbi Raymond Apple. The synagogue feels it is more important to find a minister who is right for Hampstead compared to finding one quickly, even if it means being without a minister for some time.

### London Jewish Hospital

The Board of Deputies, which was consulted by the North-East Metropolitan Hospital Board, has decided not to object to the London Jewish Hospital becoming "a community hospital for geriatric and psycho-geriatric patients" both Jewish and Gentile. This change will not affect the Jewish character of the hospital in Stepney Green. The board also wants the hospital's facilities as an institution for the elderly sick to be made available to the entire Jewish community in Greater London.

Over a period of many years the proportion of Jewish patients at the hospital has considerably declined, whilst the number of geriatric and psycho-geriatric patients requiring long-term hospitalisation has increased.

### Hove Kindergarten

As promised by Rabbi Dr. Julius Unsorfer at his induction into office last October as minister of the Brighton and Hove Hebrew Congregation, a kindergarten has been opened in Hove. At the induction service the Chief Rabbi said he had great faith in Rabbi Unsorfer's plan of education for the community. Rabbi Unsorfer hopes that the kindergarten will form the nucleus of a Jewish day school in Brighton and Hove.

### Russian Scrolls

Two Russian sifrei Torah were consecrated at the Central Synagogue, Great Portland Street, London. The scrolls, which came from the Russian town of Gruzia, were used in a Moscow synagogue which closed down. They were taken to Israel by Soviet immigrants and were then brought to London by one of the Central Synagogue's wardens.

### Campaign for Leningrad Family

A "Daniel Teitelbaum Week", the highlight of a campaign on behalf of the Teitelbaum family of Leningrad, was organised by the Manchester 35s group, the women's campaign for Soviet Jewry. A rota of telephone calls was organised and telegrams were sent to the Soviet Ambassador in London by many prominent local personalities, pleading that the family be allowed to leave the Soviet Union. Children from all the Jewish schools in the Manchester area made Purim greetings cards for the two Teitelbaum children and two parcels of the cards, together with small gifts, were posted to Russia.

# NEWS FROM ABROAD

## UNITED STATES

### Black Rabbi

Ten years ago Ethiopian-born Hailu Moshe Paris and his group of Black Jews were given the mortgage of Mount Horeb Synagogue in the Bronx by Young Israel, the Orthodox congregational organisation which had worshipped there for many years. The original congregation moved out when the neighbourhood became Negro.

Now the South Bronx, in which Mount Horeb is situated, has become a vast slum with the highest crime and drug rate in New York City. Mr. Paris, who is the unordained rabbi of his congregants, does not see any future for his movement as a whole in the area. Some of his congregants are thinking of going to the West Indies, whence they came a generation ago.

### Times Columnist

Mr. William Safire, a 43-year-old assistant and speechwriter of President Nixon, has been appointed by the New York Times as a new conservative columnist. This appointment is regarded as capitulation by the paper to the Nixon Administration's criticism of liberal journalism.

Ironically, Mr. Safire will be the Times first Jewish columnist to offset the moderate liberalism of what the Administration has called a Jewish-dominated eastern media establishment.

### Women's Lib Conference

The first Jewish women's liberation conference held in New York was attended by more than 500 women, mostly in their twenties. Organised by the Jewish Student Network, an affiliate of the World Union of Jewish Students, with minimal support from the established American Jewish community, the conference grew out of the desire of concerned young Jewish women to find valid ways of relating as Jews to the growing feminist movement.

### Intermarriage

Representatives of more than 30 major American Jewish organisations attended a conference in New York on the Jewish woman's role in strengthening the Jewish family. According to speakers, intermarriage is a main factor eroding Jewish family life in the United States. Some sources estimate that between 1965 and 1970 48 per cent of Jewish young people married non-Jews.

Increasing divorce was another factor contributing to the disintegration of Jewish family life there. A rise of between 30 and 35 per cent in the divorce rate during the past five years has been quoted.

### ONTARIO JUDGE

Mr. Charles L. Dubin has been appointed a judge of the Ontario Court of Appeal. Appointed a Queen's Counsel in the province only nine years after entering practice and a member of the Progressive Conservative Party, Mr. Dubin was appointed to the Bench by the Federal Liberal Government. He is a member of Toronto's Holy Blossom Temple.

### HUMANE VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT

Venezuela's Jewish community has presented a plaque of appreciation to Mrs. Contreras, the widow of General Eleazar Contreras, a former President of Venezuela. When General Contreras, who died recently, was in office in 1939, he allowed more than 200 Jewish refugees fleeing from Nazi Germany, who had arrived in two ships in Venezuelan coastal waters to land and remain there. One of the ships had earlier vainly attempted to obtain asylum in several neighbouring countries.

This was the beginning of steady Jewish settlement in Venezuela, with the community today totalling about 12,000 people out of a population of about ten million.

## SERVICE IN MAJORCA

The first Friday night service and kiddush of the officially recognised Palma, Majorca, community was attended by about 350 people in the banqueting hall of the Auditorium. This was the first such service on the island since Spain expelled the Jews in 1492. A Purim service and a children's Purim party were held on March 17, with a Purim ball on March 18. A communal Seder service is planned for April 16. The Spanish Government officially recognised the Majorca community in August, 1971.

There are about 8,500 Jews in Spain.

## ISRAELI TREES IN PARIS

As a gesture of friendship towards Israel the Paris municipality planted seven trees from the Jewish State in a garden square only a few hundred yards from the official residence of the French Premier. The planting ceremony in Square Boucicault was attended by representatives of all of France's political parties, except the Communists.

## TROUBLE IN ISTANBUL

The resumed trial in Istanbul of 13 young Jewish religion teachers, including two rabbis and six women, accused of teaching Hebrew and Jewish history illegally, was adjourned until April 5. Two Turkish Education Ministry inspectors told the Istanbul criminal court that Hebrew was not necessary to teach the Bible and Jewish prayers. A third inspector, however, reported his finding that Hebrew was required to teach the Bible to Jewish children.

## SOUTH AFRICAN ANTISEMITE

Following his antisemitic attacks against Mr. Harry Schwarz, the Transvaal leader of the opposition United Party in South Africa, Mr. Jack Dormehl, a senior member of the party, has been expelled. Mr. Dormehl, stating he was not antisemitic, asserted that Jews had a stranglehold on the party in the Transvaal.

The party's Transvaal secretary, Major J. D. R. Opperman, an Afrikaner, accused Mr. Dormehl of trying to wreck the party because he did not like Mr. Schwarz's less conservative policies.

## THE VOICE OF HITLER

Following protests from Jewish leaders, records featuring the voice of Adolf Hitler were withdrawn from sale in a Johannesburg German bookshop.

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## SOVIET RUSSIA

### Gaoled for Alleged Slander

In Rostov-on-Don Mr. Lazar Lubarsky, a 47-year-old engineer, was sentenced to four years' detention in a strict régime labour camp for alleged slander of the Soviet system and for divulging State secrets. Mr. Lubarsky was dismissed from his job after applying to emigrate to Israel in April, 1970.

### Charged as a Spy

Mr. Itzhak Shkolnik, a 36-year-old mechanic from Vinnitsa in the Ukraine, who is a Jew, is to be charged with treason and spying for Britain in 1968.

The treason and spying allegations have been denied both by Mr. Shkolnik's wife, Feiga, and by British security officers in London. Mrs. Shkolnik has written to the Soviet prosecutor-general in Moscow pointing out that her husband met the British businessmen visiting Vinnitsa openly. Mr. Shkolnik was arrested in July last year after expressing his wish to emigrate to Israel.

## TRIALS IN GERMANY

August Moritz, who now works in a Hamburg business, is accused by Serge and Beate Klarsfeld, of Paris, of leading the unit which arrested Mr. Victor Basch, the president of the French League of Human Rights. Mr. Basch and his wife were executed near Lyons on January 10, 1944.

Although Moritz has admitted that he served with the SS in France during the war, he has rejected the Klarsfeld charges that he was responsible for war crimes there. He denies that he was associated with Klaus Barbie, the wartime Lyons Gestapo chief, who is believed to be living in Bolivia under the assumed name of Klaus Altmann, or with Paul Touvier, the French war criminal pardoned by President Pompidou.

Moritz, who said that he did not even know that he had been sentenced to death by a Lyons court, wants the charges clarified. He has no objections to proceedings before a West German court, but has ruled out appearing in a French court.

### Sentences

A Hamburg court sentenced Otto Tüchel, a former Nazi police officer, to life imprisonment for murdering three Jews and for complicity in the mass murder of Jews in Riga in 1941. The jury referred to Tüchel as a fanatical Jew-hater who had welcomed his chance to kill. Friedrich Jahnke, a former captain, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment on the complicity charge.

In Hamburg, too, a former Gestapo man, Hugo Thoms, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment for taking part in the deportation of about 9,000 Jews from the Radom district near Warsaw to Treblinka concentration camp during the Second World War.

After admitting that, together with others, he shot more than 12,000 Jews with a sub-machine gun in Western Russia during the Second World War, Adolf Petsch was gaoled for 15 years by a Frankfurt court. Five other former Nazi officers were convicted of complicity in the murder of 30,000 Jewish women, children and old people. They received sentences of between two-and-a-half and four years.

## HAMBURG REMEMBERS RABBI CARLEBACH

The 90th anniversary of the birth of Dr. Joseph Carlebach, the former Chief Rabbi of Hamburg, who refused to leave his congregation when faced with deportation and death by the Nazis during the Second World War, was recently marked in Hamburg. Members of the West German Jewish communities, and West German State and Church representatives, attended the memorial service at the Hamburg Synagogue. Dr. Carlebach's son, Mr. Julius Carlebach, lecturer in sociology and Israeli studies at Sussex University, addressed the congregation.

Robert Weltsch

## BEHIND THE SCENES OF GRAND OPERA

From Nazi Germany to Post-War America

The memoirs of Rudolf Bing,\* who recently retired after working for more than 20 years as the director of the Metropolitan Opera, convey a colourful picture, often amusing but at times melancholic, of an entire era in European and American musical life as well as of the successful career of a man whom the National Socialists had driven from Austria, his homeland, and from Germany.

Rudolf Bing came from a well-to-do Viennese family, from a cultural milieu, in which music was particularly encouraged. His youth coincided with the First World War and the collapse of the Austrian monarchy. After running away from the 'Gymnasium' he was sent to the school of Eugenie Schwarzwald, a headmistress much respected at the time, whom he calls a "Polish pedagogue", perhaps because he was hesitant to mention her Galician-Jewish origins. Frau Dr. Schwarzwald, who is still remembered by many an old person, had a kind of 'salon' in Vienna, where men of the intellectual and artistic life met, for instance, Adolf Loos, Peter Altenberg, Arthur Schnitzler, Kokoschka, Hofmannsthal and the pianist Rudolf Serkin. This was young Bing's first encounter with some of the famous with whom he was destined to work later. When he was 18 years old, Bing was employed in Hugo Heller's bookshop which later became one of the best-known European theatre and concert agencies. There he served his first apprenticeship. He recalls that Schnitzler's "Professor Bernhardt", the performance of which was banned by the censor in Vienna in deference to the Catholic Church, was taken by Heller to "Pressburg" (as Bing still calls the town beyond the frontier which was then already in the Czechoslovakian Republic and named Bratislava) and performed there by a Viennese ensemble.

Work with Heller brought Bing into contact with many prominent musicians such as Bruno Walter, Adolf Busch, Lotte Lehmann, the Rosé-Quartet, etc. Frau Rosé (wife of the famous Jewish-baptised-violinist, formerly Arnold Rosenblum from Jassy, solo violinist in the Vienna 'Hofoper' orchestra) was the sister of Gustav Mahler. The family went to England later on, but Rosé's daughter Alma, a friend of Bing's, fell into the hands of the Gestapo in Holland. Another friend of the family was Dr. Paul Eger from Prague, director-general of the State Theatre in Darmstadt and later on for a time director of the 'Deutsches Theater' in Prague. In Vienna Bing worked with Karl Lion, manager of Heller's theatre agency. "I learned from Eger and Lion that one can play a useful and significant part in artistic life without being oneself a practising artist". All these acquaintances were useful to Bing later on. When the Nazis came to power, all these Jews, including those who were baptised, and many non-Jews, were scattered all over the world.

However, earlier on in 1927, Bing went to Berlin. His friendship with Carl Ebert, the great producer and man of the theatre, began in Darmstadt. This friendship became very important later on. In 1931 Bing was employed by Kurt Singer, manager of the Berlin "Staedtische Oper", of whom he had a rather critical view. Singer was later dismissed for alleged inefficiency and Carl Ebert became his successor. Bing apparently does not know, in any case does not mention, that two years later, when he and Ebert, a Social Democrat, had to flee from Berlin, Singer was made head of the Jewish "Kulturbund", which was founded under the Nazi régime, and that in this capacity, he gave great service to suffering Jewry. Singer died in Theresienstadt in 1944.

Bing's great career did not begin till 1934 when having returned to Vienna he realised that National Socialism was not a temporary phenomenon, as he and others had earlier supposed. It was the year of the Dollfuss assassination and Nazi propaganda in Vienna was assuming threatening proportions. Out of the blue he received a letter from the conductor Fritz Busch who invited him to cooperate in the project of a very remarkable wealthy English land-owner, John Christie, who intended to set up an opera festival house on his estate at Glyndebourne. This was the beginning of the enterprise which has since become famous throughout the world. There Busch, Ebert and Bing joined forces with a number of other continental artists, among them Hans Oppenheim, a Jewish conductor from Frankfurt. It was planned to form a kind of "Salzburg in Exile", a gift, as it were, from the emigrés to hospitable Britain. The details, which Bing relates very wittily, sound fantastic, but the fairy-tale came true. His collaboration with innumerable great artists began at that time. In March 1938 the Czech government invited representatives from Glyndebourne to a music conference. They travelled via Vienna where Bing arrived on the very day when Hitler's troops marched in. Miraculously Bing was able to continue his journey to Prague because he held a travel document from the British M.P. Sir Hugh Sealy and hid his own Austrian passport. The mass of the fleeing Austrians were prevented by the Nazi authorities from crossing the frontier. Bing was thus able to return from Prague to England. That was good luck indeed.

However, the "anti-Salzburg" proper came about only during the war. After the British

withdrawal from Dunkirk, Glyndebourne was closed (and was not to re-open till after the war), and Bing began to prepare for the Edinburgh music festival which was not to start till after 1945. In this context we learn that Bing is a Catholic. In 1949, he was engaged by the Metropolitan Opera in New York, and the main part of the book consists of an account, told with charm and much wit and enlivened with countless anecdotes, of nearly 22 years of uninterrupted and exhausting work. Opera devotees whose number has risen so steeply in recent years thanks to the invention of the long-playing record and the popularity of the gramophone, will find fascinating material here; not, it is true, the sound of beautiful voices, but a glance behind the scenes at the caprices of singers and primadonnas and the eternal difficulties of management, concerned not only with finance but also with the many human, irrational imponderables in a field where all depends on the success of a personal artistic performance at a given time.

Owing to the progress of aviation, the world of the theatre has become a global entity; it is now possible at any time to fetch a replacement singer by air. Technically this may be easy, but humanly it does not always work. Moreover there have been political difficulties. In Senator MacCarthy's time, for instance, no one who was born behind the Iron Curtain, was given a visa to enter the USA. Bing had taken great trouble to prepare a performance of Verdi's 'Don Carlos', in which Boris Christoff was to sing the part of King Philipp. Nobody dreamt that Christoff who was born in Bulgaria, would be refused a visa. But all efforts to get one for him were in vain. It is easy to imagine the ensuing embarrassment considering that this production was financed by Mrs. Ryan, a lady on the board of the Met, who had raised 65,000 dollars by selling a Rembrandt for this purpose. Mrs. Ryan was the daughter of the well-known German-Jewish patron of arts Otto Kahn (born at Mannheim) who was for many years president of the Met Board. This expensive production was in jeopardy because of MacCarthy! Fortunately Bing found another Philipp, the bass Cesare Siepi, and success was ensured. But during the first night, anti-communists organised a protest demonstration outside the house. This is one of the little stories from Bing's Five Thousand and One Nights. There is ample material of this nature; nor does Bing conceal his conflicts with some of the bigwigs (including Maria Callas) and the rivalries among the singers themselves. There is a lot of gossip of every kind mirroring the characters of the celebrities.

Under Bing's aegis the Met was transferred from the rather shabby but atmospheric old house to the new sumptuous premises at the Lincoln Centre. The Met's public relations and representation duties have also risen since the United Nations became based in New York, and it was visited by thousands of diplomats, ministers and politicians.

Mayor Lindsay frequently brought such guests to the 'gala' box of the Met (ordinary seats are almost always sold out); there were 1,500 of them in one year. The author lists only three of them by name, the King of Morocco, the Emperor of Ethiopia Haile Selassie and Golda Meir. During the interval the guests were usually escorted into a room adjoining the box and Bing relates that during Golda Meir's visit Lindsay discovered in the ante-room a little sphinx which Zeffirelli had once brought as a present. Seeing this Lindsay exclaimed: "Oh dear, this is Egyptian!" Bing replied: "True, but from the time before the Six-Day War". In any case nobody interpreted the Sphinx as a provocation.

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\* 5,000 Nights at the Opera—The Memoirs of Sir Rudolf Bing. Hamish Hamilton, London, 1972. £4.

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## JEWISH REFERENCES IN GERMAN NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY

Up to now it may not have been widely known that the first Jewish socialist, who championed the Jewish national idea and was therefore a precursor of Zionism, had a Catholic wife and was the uncle of Adele Gerhard, the Cologne novelist (1868-1956). This and other information can be gleaned under the catchword "Moses Hess" from the ninth volume of the "Neue Deutsche Biographie", "N.D.B." for short, which covers the second half of the letter "H" (Duncker and Humblot, Berlin 1972). Similar discoveries can be made in other biographies in this large reference work which is being published at the behest and with the support of the History Commission attached to the Bavarian Academy of Sciences in Munich.

It is not a new edition of the 56-volume "Allgemeine Deutsche Biographie" ("ADB") which came out in the years from 1875 to 1912, but it is largely a fundamentally new, comprehensive work. The number of entries relating to Jews is not inconsiderable and the informative detail which is given, frequently in passing as it were, goes beyond an actual biography. Almost every entry not only gives an appreciation of the life and work of deceased public figures but also starts off with genealogical data and ends with mostly up-to-date literary references.

Particularly instructive is the genealogical introduction to entire families such as the Hirschlands of Essen and the Hitzigs (Itzigs) of Berlin. In this way one learns a few things about the origin of the former Essen family of bankers; their enterprise which was founded in 1841 and achieved a reputation far beyond the local confines, was transferred to Burkhardt & Co. in 1938. In 1815, Herz Hirschland, teacher and "shochet" from Steinheim/Westphalia, settled in Essen. He was the great-grandfather of the last senior partner Dr. Georg Hirschland (Essen 1885—New York 1942) who was also very active in Jewish life. The jurist Julius Eduard Hitzig (Berlin 1780-1849, converted to Christianity in 1799) received an honorary doctor's degree in Tuebingen and was also actively interested in literature. His father was the Potsdam town councillor Elias Daniel Itzig (later Hitzig 1755-1818), his grandfather Daniel Itzig (1723-1799), "elder of the Prussian Jews" and his son the well-known nineteenth-century Berlin architect Friedrich Hitzig who built houses in the Tiergarten District and also the Boerse and the Reichsbank.

Among the about 40 personalities of the Jewish faith or Jewish origin mentioned in the new N.D.B. volume is one woman, Dr. Rahel Hirsch, who was born in Frankfurt/Main in 1870 and died as an emigee in London in 1953; she was a granddaughter of Samson Raphael Hirsch. In 1913 when she became a professor, she was the first woman doctor in Prussia and the third woman in the whole of Germany to receive this title.

The rabbis mentioned are, apart from

Mendel Hess (1807-1871), the early reformer in Thuringia, three leading representatives of Orthodoxy: Israel (Esriel) Hildesheimer from Halberstadt who founded the Rabbinical Seminary in Berlin in 1873; Samson Raphael Hirsch who arrived in Frankfurt in 1851 after having held office in Oldenburg, Emden and Nikolsburg and worked there for nearly four decades as spiritual head of the "Israelitische Religionsgesellschaft"; finally Markus Horowitz who was Orthodox rabbi of the Frankfurt community from 1878 onwards and whose book on the "Frankfurter Rabbinen" was published in a new edition only a few years ago.

The businessmen include, apart from the Hirschlands, the metallurgy industrialists Dr. (Ing.e.h.) Aron Hirsch (1858-1942; Hirsch Kupfer-und Messingwerke) and Zachary Hochschild (1854-1912) who, with Wilhelm Merton and Leo Ellinger, founded the important "Metallgesellschaft" in Frankfurt/Main. Others were: Siegmund Hinrichsen (1841-1902), founder of the Hamburg private bank of Hardy & Co. and president of the Hamburg city assembly in 1892, as well as three bankers, descendants of the court merchant family Hirsch from Koenigshofen/Lower Franconia, i.e., Jakob Hirsch (died in Munich in 1840), his son Julius (1876 Wuerzburg) and the latter's nephew, Baron Moritz Hirsch from Munich (died 1896) who made a name for himself by financing the building of railways ("Tuerkenhirsch") and as the founder of the JCA (Jewish Colonisation Agency). Another entrepreneur was Carl Heymann (Glogau 1794-Berlin 1862), founder of a publishing house for books on Jurisprudence and Political Sciences which bears his name and still exists today.

The first name to appear among the poets, authors and theatre people (according to the alphabetical order) is the lyric poet Walther Heymann (from Koenigsberg/Pr.) who was killed in battle in 1915; Richard Dehmel pinned great hopes on him and he seems undeservedly to have been forgotten. Karl Jakob Hirsch (1892-1952) was originally connected with music and painting; his novel "Kaiserwetter" made him widely known as an author. He was a great-grandson of Samson Raphael Hirsch and in 1945 he became a Protestant. The new volume also contains entries about George Hirschfeld (Berlin 1873-Munich 1942), playwright and novelist, and Kurt Hirschfeld (died 1964), manager of the Zuerich theatre, who was among the first to recognise the contemporary Swiss authors Duerrenmatt and Frisch. Jacob van Hoddis—his real name was Hans Davidsohn—was in his youth a friend of Kurt Hiller, recently deceased. According to the N.D.B. his fate was particularly tragic: in 1933, at the age of 46, he was committed to the Jewish sanatorium at Sayn near Koblenz whence he was deported by the Nazis to an unknown destination in 1942. On his mother's side he was a nephew of the popular poetess Friederike Kempner (1836-1904). The Viennese doctor's son, Moshe Yaakov Ben-Gavriel, whose real name was Eugen Hoeflich, came to Jerusalem as an officer during the First World War and lived there from 1927 onwards; he became known above all by his novel "Das Haus in der Karpfengasse," which describes the destruction of the Jewish community of Prague. An important contribution to twentieth-century German literature was made by Arthur Holitscher (1869-1941) by his

lively travel stories, full of sociological interest.

The NDB lists the three artistically gifted brothers Hollaender from Leobschuetz/Upper Silesia: Felix, the novelist, playwright and theatre manager who died in Berlin in 1931; Victor, the conductor and successful composer of operettas who died in Hollywood in 1940, and Gustav, a violinist in chamber and other orchestras, who died in 1915. His son, Friedrich Hollaender, composer of revue- and sound-film music, celebrated his 75th birthday in October, 1971.

Much space is devoted to the poetry and dramatic works of Hugo von Hofmannsthal (1874-1929) who is the descendant of a Jewish family. Himself a Catholic, he was the great-grandson of Isak Loew Hofmann, businessman and head of the Vienna Jewish community (1759-1849).

The following are mentioned in the world of music: The composer and conductor Ferdinand Hiller (Frankfurt/M. 1811-Cologne 1885) who was raised to the nobility in Wuerttemberg; he was baptised in 1841 and was for a time a close friend of Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy. The musicologist Leopold Hirschberg (1867-1929), and the less known composer and conductor, Alexis Holländer (Ratibor 1840-Berlin 1924), who worked above all as a music paedagogue in Berlin.

The medical profession is represented by August Hirsch (1817-1894), hygienist and medical historian; the outstanding Berlin eye specialist Julius Hirschberg (1843-1925) who also contributed towards the history of medicine, and the much criticised sexology expert Magnus Hirschfeld who died in 1935 at Nice.

Among the scholars are the archaeologists Gustav Hirschfeld (Pyritz 1847-Wiesbaden 1895) who became a Protestant in 1877, and the Inca explorer Hans Horkheimer who emigrated to South America in 1939 and died in Peru in 1965; he was a cousin of Max Horkheimer. The economist, Under-Secretary of State Julius Hirsch, who died in New York in 1961, was an expert on problems relating to the retail trade and department stores.

Among politicians, the N.D.B. mentions Dr. (med.) Rudolf Hilferding, social-democrat Reich Minister of Finance during the Weimar period, who was murdered by the Gestapo in Paris in 1941. Furthermore the Hamburg merchant Marcus Wolf Hinrichsen, later on head of the Jewish community, who was a parliamentarian in the middle of the nineteenth century and a member of the Reichstag of the Norddeutsche Bund and the Zollverein Parliament; the socio-politician Max Hirsch (Halberstadt 1832-Hamburg v.d.H. 1905), co-founder of the liberal "Deutsche (Hirsch-Dunckersche) Gewerkverein"; he was several times a Reichstag deputy. The extremely brief entry on Ludwig Holländer, for many years director of the "Central-Verein deutscher Staatsbuerger juedischen Glaubens" who died in Berlin in 1936, may be regarded as insufficient and inadequate by some readers.

The genealogical references which are not easy to come by or even unobtainable elsewhere, are of particular interest and value from the Jewish point of view. Frequently they convey a miniature picture of the expansion of entire families and their interlacing with other circles and cultural spheres. In this respect the N.D.B. remains a treasure trove.

### INTERNIERUNGSLAGER

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## RESEARCH ON EXILE LITERATURE

Adolf Hitler wanted to create a Thousand Year Reich, a German reign of force over the European continent. His dictatorship lasted from 1933 to 1945. In these years, hundreds of thousands of endangered and freedom loving people left the countries under his power, spread over the five continents of the earth and proved themselves valuable to the countries of reception. This is borne out by a comprehensive literature, published mainly in English. About 80 per cent of the emigrants were Jews.

In Germany, interest in this mass exodus was evoked by two publications which appeared in the 'sixties: the reference book "Deutsche Exilliteratur 1933-1945" by Wilhelm Sternfeld and Eva Tiedemann (Darmstadt/Heidelberg 1962, second revised edition 1970) and the exhibition of the Deutsche Bibliothek Frankfurt/M. 1965 "Exilliteratur 1933-1945" with the catalogue by Dr. Werner Berthold (now in its third edition), which was shown in many countries, including Israel.

Since Autumn 1966, the German Institute of the University of Stockholm has built up a research centre under the directorship of Professor Gustav Korlin which systematically takes charge of this great task. By lectures, seminars and the publication of xeroxed treatises the author of this article gave guidance to intense research. One of the results was the 800-page work by Dr. Helmut Muesener about "Die Deutsche Emigration in Schweden" (a review of this book appeared in our September 1972 issue). At the same time, I tried in various ways, e.g., by annual reports, to encourage the establishment of research centres in other countries and to organise international co-operation.

The first international conference took place in Stockholm in September 1969. It was attended by 65 participants from 13 countries. The Conference decided to appoint the Stockholm Institute as its co-ordinating body.

The "Second International Symposium for Research into the German language Exile after 1933" was held in August 1972 at the Technical University of Lundtofte near Copenhagen under the direction of Professor Steffen Steffensen. There were 95 delegates from 18 countries present, of whom 37 came from the German Federal Republic, 15 from U.S.A., where Professors John M. Spaleh and Joseph I. Strelka had founded a Working Group of 150 research workers, and eight each from the German Democratic Republic and Sweden. Reports on activities and plans in various countries were tabled.

The papers read at the Symposium included treatises by Professor Herbert A. Strauss about "Immigration and Acculturation of the German Jew in the United States" and by Ilse Blumenthal-Weiss about "The Leo Baeck Institute, New York". Two reports dealt with the fate of expelled scholars. Professor Dr. Schwartz reported about the work of the "Notgemeinschaft" in Switzerland, which placed 150 scholars in Turkey, some of whom are still there. (An article on this constructive rescue operation appeared in our December 1972 issue). The psychiatrist Professor U. E. Peters, Mainz, dealt with the work of a group of 30 scientists who, under his guidance, tried to collect material about the careers of their emigrated colleagues. All this shows that much work has been done since 1966 and that the interest in the subject has considerably grown.

Nevertheless, the research into the mass exodus from the Third Reich is still in its initial stages. Therefore, in my opening address to the Symposium, I proposed an appeal which was adopted and which called for the collection and preservation of all relevant material as well as for the co-operation of the governments concerned and of the press.

Among the countries which so far have not established a research centre is Israel. A Symposium edited by Professor Manfred Durzak (Kiel) which is due to appear this year, will include a contribution by this writer about the situation in Israel.

The third international conference is scheduled for 1975 and, at the invitation of Professors Herbert Steiner and Victor Sacy, will be held in Vienna.

### THE GERMAN BUREAUCRAT Death of Dr. Hans Globke

Dr Hans Globke, Regierungsrat in the Prussian Ministry of the Interior under the Social Democrat Severing, Ministerialrat in the Federal Ministry of the Interior under the National Socialist Goering and Secretary of State in the Federal Chancellery under the Christian Democrat Adenauer, recently died in Bonn. He was one of those personalities who, in their official positions, were insolubly connected with the destiny of the Jews in Germany from 1933 to 1945 and with the issue of restitution and compensation from 1953 to 1963.

In 1933, when the Prussian and Federal Ministries of the Interior were amalgamated under Goering, Globke took charge of the nationality division of the Federal Ministry. The so-called "Nuernberger Gesetze" of 1935 were drafted in his department. They were, in the first place, directed against the Jews and deprived them of the protection to which they were entitled as German citizens. Especially the "Reichsbuergergesetz" and its subsequent implementary orders became the "legal" basis for the gradual outlawing of the Jews.

Globke wrote a commentary to the Nuernberger Gesetze and was considered as their authentic interpreter. He later claimed that he had tuned down the regulations. This can be neither verified nor refuted today. In any case, his name is linked with these laws and the sufferings resulting from them. There are people who say that in some cases Globke had rendered help to Jews. Yet this does not blot out his part in the responsibility for the tragedy. After all, there are also Jews who provide evidence that they had been helped by other leading Nazis, e.g., by Goering and even Streicher, and if one goes deeper into the matter one may easily come to the conclusion that almost every member of the Nazi hierarchy had his "Court Jew".

After the Second World War, Chancellor Adenauer made Globke his closest collaborator. There is reason to assume that Globke had a decisive share in the enactment of the compensation laws, and that under his influence their implementation was more favourable than is the case today. It is an old experience, that, to relieve their guilt feelings, those officials who had held leading positions under the Nazis are more easily inclined to try and make amends for the crimes of the past than others who due to their impeccable past have a clear conscience.

Globke was one of those civil servants of the old régime who did not see anything wrong in serving three entirely different masters, who kept the State machinery running and who gave "legal" shape to the wishes of their superiors, thus making the commitment of the crimes possible. Probably, the destiny of the "Third Reich", and accordingly also that of the Jewish population, would have taken a different turn if there had not been too many bureaucrats of his kind, if the civil servants had not tried to "legalise" the programme but tendered their resignation.

It was the fundamental mistake of the Globkes that they attributed more importance to their oath than to their conscience, and that they considered it possible to stop by legislative measures a process which could not be halted.

HANS-ERICH FABIAN (New York).

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## NEW LIGHT ON THE MENDELSSOHN

With characteristic family pride Abraham Mendelssohn called himself a *Gedankenstrich*, a hyphen, "formerly known as the son of my father, now as the father of my son". He was the link between Moses and Felix Mendelssohn, the two most outstanding members of one of German Jewry's most outstanding families.

In his book *The Mendelssohns, Three Generations of Genius* (W. H. Allen, 1972; £3.50) the American writer Herbert Kupferberg charts the family's history from Moses' childhood to the present time. The Nazi régime uprooted their family from German soil, and thus this family history coincides with the history of German Jewry from the beginnings of emancipation to the end. But in their case, such coincidence is much more than a reflection of general trends, for the family was destined to stand in the foreground of developments. Moses Mendelssohn was the father of Jewish emancipation in Germany, and its effects, both positive and negative, showed themselves in his descendants in the most symptomatic way. The two pinnacles of the family, Moses and Felix, achieved international fame. Moses gained the reluctant respect of his sovereign, King Friedrich II; Felix was highly honoured by Friedrich Wilhelm IV, by Queen Victoria and other monarchs. Moses was the friend of Lessing; Felix enjoyed the fatherly affection of Goethe. Moses reached his position after a tremendous uphill struggle, Felix apparently without it. But he, too, was not spared some crude reminders of his origin, in spite of his conversion to the Lutheran faith. To many he remained the Jew—even Zelter, in a letter to Goethe, makes an apologetic reference to Felix's origin—and quite apart from a few unpleasant street incidents this was one of the reasons which precluded his appointment as musical director of the Berlin *Singakademie* as Zelter's successor, in spite of his famous revival of Bach's St. Matthew Passion with that same choir.

Kupferberg's interest is naturally focused on Moses and Felix, with the composer getting the lion's share, but other members of the family, especially Moses' daughters, are by no means ignored. The narrative remains ever fascinating, and it is presented in a very readable manner although a few minor errors, mostly of a genealogical kind, have crept in.

There seems little need to reiterate here the many famous biographical events, many of which have been familiar ever since Sebastian Hensel's *Die Familie Mendelssohn* was published in the last century. Fortunately, Kupferberg has included the additional information which has been brought to light through the research of recent writers such as Eric Werner.

The author makes little pretence of musical scholarship. His comments on Felix's works are brief and do not cover his whole output. Even so he does attempt a present-day evaluation which maintains a sound balance between the over-enthusiasm of Felix's contemporaries and the subsequent rejection, which was not always due to antisemitism. In this connection, more space might have been given to Wagner's attitude and its reasons.

Very justifiably, Kupferberg seeks to correct the customary image of Felix as the composer who knew no conflicts and whose happy life is reflected in music that is lacking in depth. While not overstating his case,

he supports it with good evidence.

Another of the book's merits is its attention to Felix's attitude versus his Jewish origin which was far more positive than had been known until recently. The author makes a point of presenting all the relevant facts which recent research has uncovered.

To the impact of anti-Jewish prejudice Felix reacts with emphatic pride. He does not conceal his joy over the emancipation of Anglo-Jewry after witnessing, with his father, the relevant debate and vote in the House of Commons. After referring scornfully to an anti-Jewish edict which had just been issued in Posen, he continues: "The *Times* said that it is much better for us in England." Unlike the wicked child in the Haggada, he includes himself, and Kupferberg rightly observes that the use of "us" is striking.

Felix's conversion was the responsibility of his parents: he was then a mere seven-year-old boy. In view of his later attitude, the author may be right in raising some doubt whether Felix himself would have taken this step.

Abraham, in loyalty to his father, had shown some reluctance in agreeing to his children's conversion; his wife, with her brother, Jacob Bartholdy, had been the driving force. It is significant that Felix's parents waited another six years before they, too, severed their links with Judaism. But other members of the family had done so before, including Moses' daughter, Dorothea Schlegel, who later changed from the Protestant to the Roman Catholic faith. As a young girl, she had enjoyed her father's philosophical and religious tuition. What went wrong?

"One writer who attended a Friday night gathering at the Mendelssohn's reported that the guests suddenly missed seeing (Moses) Mendelssohn and his wife in the room. Then, through an open door, the visitors saw in an adjoining chamber the gleam of Sabbath candles, with Fromet pronouncing the blessing over them and Mendelssohn standing beside her."

There may be some significance in this private and almost concealed form of observance. Nevertheless, Moses remained an Orthodox Jew all his life. In his commentary on the book of Exodus, he writes: "The benefit arising from the many inexplicable laws of God is in their practice, and not in the understanding of their motives." This is far remote from the later reformists who claimed to have been inspired by his teachings, let alone from the reasons with which members of his family tried to justify their conversions. But these negative developments were part of the price which, in the opinion of not a few European Jews, had to be paid for emancipation.

### DR. ANNELIESE LANDAU, 70

The musicologist, Dr. Anneliese Landau, recently celebrated her 70th birthday in Los Angeles. Many in our midst remember the lectures she gave under the auspices of the Juedische Kulturbund in Germany. They covered musical history, interpretation of works and portraits of composers and excelled by the expert knowledge and personal charm of the speaker. For the past 30 years Anneliese Landau has continued these activities of musical education and interpretation in Los Angeles, in conjunction with both the Jewish communities and the institutes of adult education.

E.G.L.

### ADELE REIFENBERG 80

It was a heart-warming experience to attend the opening of Adele Reifenberg's retrospective exhibition by the Mayor of Camden. It took place on March 1 at Mrs. Fisher's in Lambolle Road. There were more than a hundred people, not only critics and lovers of art, but also many who just wanted to show their respect and admiration for the painter as a personality. She is astonishing. In spite of her age and her physical handicap she herself had been engaged for weeks in the strenuous preparation of this fascinating show. It proved that her vigour, her craft, her power to observe, and her imagination have not diminished.

But, on this extraordinary and very personal occasion, I should like to say something about the artist's life and career. When once, exasperated by her schoolmates, she exclaimed: "What will become of me?", her art mistress replied: "With a little bit of luck a good painter." According to Miss Reifenberg, she has had much luck in her life. Both her parents had artistic talent and understanding. It ran in the family. Her cousin was Alfred Messel, the famous architect. Another piece of luck: her art mistress was a gifted painter of whom Liebermann once said: "The most intelligent woman I have ever known." She showed the child reproductions of famous paintings even, as early as the beginning of the century, of Cézanne. Adele wanted to apprentice herself to Nolde but instead she chose Lovis Corinth who became the decisive influence. At around that time the "Sonderbund" held a famous exhibition of all great Impressionists. A new world opened up for the budding painter. Her second teacher was a then all but unknown young painter Max Beckmann.

It was almost unavoidable that Adele Reifenberg should marry another painter, Julius Rosenbaum. He was not only an excellent craftsman, he also had a good sense of colour and composition. Both of them left Germany shortly before the Second World War. After the war they opened a successful art school which came to an end when Rosenbaum died.

But Adele carried on undaunted. She followed the advice her mother gave her: "A person who paints can never be entirely unhappy."

Many happy returns!

ALFONS ROSENBERG.

### GERMANY'S "UNOFFICIAL AMBASSADOR"

Rudolf Kuestermeier, 70

The German journalist, Rudolf Kuestermeier, recently celebrated his 70th birthday in Tel Aviv. Before 1933 he wrote for liberal and social democratic newspapers in Germany. Under the Nazis he spent eleven years in prisons and concentration camps on account of his Resistance activities. After the war he became editor of the Hamburg "Welt". As early as 1950 he paid a visit to Israel as the first German journalist admitted to that country. One year later he founded, together with Eric Lueth, the Peace with Israel movement. From 1957 until the middle of 1968 he was in Jerusalem as Chief Correspondent of the German Press Agency and several German radio networks. In all those years Rudolf Kuestermeier proved to be an excellent writer, combining journalistic objectivity with a basic sympathy for Israel's cause. In the first period of his assignment he also acted as the unofficial "Honorary Ambassador" of the German Federal Republic till the official relations between the two States were established in 1965. He has settled permanently in Tel Aviv, where he continues his journalistic work—largely for radio stations—for peace, better German-Israel understanding and mutual confidence.

# ORGANISATIONAL NEWS

## AJR CLUB

### Successful Bring and Buy Sale

There was a particularly happy atmosphere at the AJR Club's 17th Birthday Bring and Buy Sale, held on February 25 at Hannah Karminski House and attended by 265 guests. Thanks to the generosity of donors, members and ardent helpers, the sale achieved record takings of £502.36. The AJR Club is especially indebted to the sale's organiser, Mrs. H. Gelhar, for her devoted work, and to its loyal member, Mr. I. Greenwood, who collected a great amount of useful goods from his friends. The Gertrud Schachne Fund, the Margaret Jacoby-Orgler Fund, and the Ahava Children's Home in Israel will benefit from this marvellous result.

M. JACOBY.

### "THE MISERY REMAINS"

#### Self Aid Report

In its annual report, Self Aid of Refugees states that the fate of old, sick and penniless refugees of long standing may no longer be "newsworthy" but that "the misery remains nevertheless". Due to the increase of living costs the demand on Self Aid funds are as heavy as ever. The funds are required, among other things, for food, heating, clothing, home help, holidays and convalescence. Altogether £24,000 was distributed during the year, comprising regular allowances and grants for special purposes.

#### NEXT ISSUE

For technical reasons there will be a slight delay in the publication of the next issue of "AJR Information". Readers will receive their copies during the second week of May.

## L.S.E. LIBRARY GRANT

Amounts of £50,000 each have been given by the Rayne Foundation, the Anne and Michael Sobell Charitable Trust and the Wolfson Foundation towards the £4½ million needed to rehouse the British Library of Political and Economic Science, for which an appeal has been launched in London. Other donations received include £10,638 from the Annenberg School of Communications and £10,000 from N. M. Rothschild and Sons.

Professor S. N. Eisenstadt, of the Hebrew University's department of sociology, is on the project's international advisory committee.

### MR. RICHARD A. EHRLICH, 85

Mr. Richard A. Ehrlich, who recently celebrated his 85th birthday, has always taken an active interest in Jewish affairs, and especially in the history of the Jews in the Province of Posen. He himself was born in Rogasen, from where he moved to Berlin after the First World War. The "Posener Heimatblaetter" were produced in his Berlin printing plant, and Mr. Ehrlich also contributed to these publications as an author. During the Second World War he and his wife, who died a few years ago, spent two years in the Theresienstadt camp. They later emigrated to the United States. Mr. Ehrlich now lives in the "Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for the Aged" in Roslindale, near Boston. We extend our sincerest congratulations to him.

#### CORRECTION

In our March issue (page 8) we published a review of a collection of poems ("Gedichte", Olamenu, Tel Aviv POB 3002. £1). The name of the authoress is Stella (not Helga) Rotenberg.

## THE AJR KOSHER MEALS-ON-WHEELS SERVICE

Until the AJR started its Meals-on-Wheels Service, no similar service existed in the N.W. areas of London. There were no facilities for people who required kosher meals delivered to their homes; nor could Borough Councils provide food for week-ends or at short notice in emergencies.

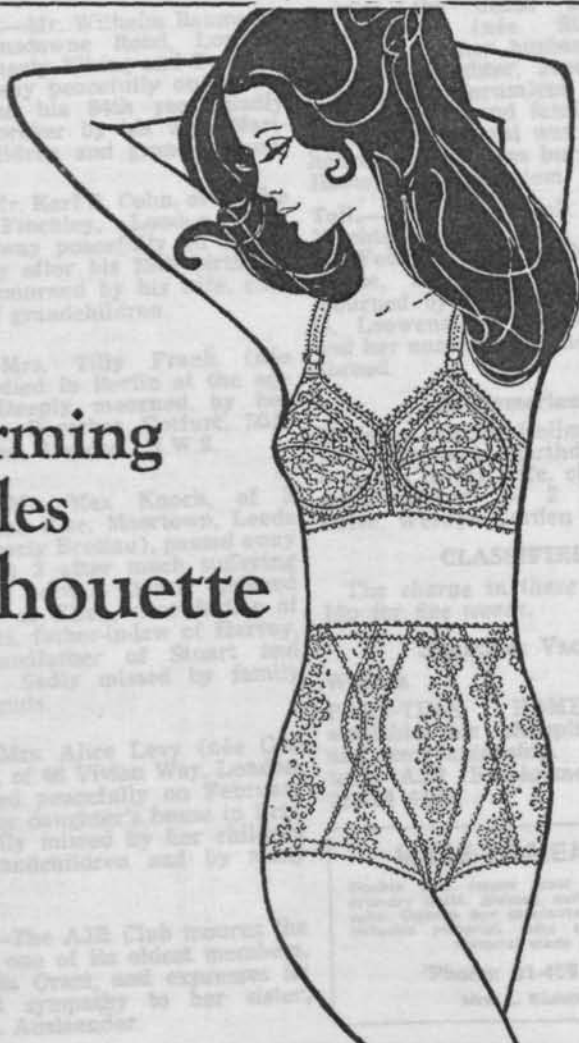
For the past 18 months, many people have made use of and benefited from the AJR Kosher Meals-on-Wheels which are delivered in N.W. London and adjoining suburbs on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays by voluntary helpers. The meals are cooked and deep frozen in individual plastic bags which only need immersion in boiling water for about 30 minutes to be ready for eating. They can be stored frozen for two days in ordinary fridges, for longer periods in the ice-making compartments of fridges or in freezers. Therefore, daily deliveries are not necessary. In cases of accident or sudden illness, a telephone call to our offices will get the meals wheeling almost immediately.

Our menus are as varied as possible. They consist of soups, meat or fish dishes, vegetables, potatoes, rice, spaghetti, noodles. They are planned for the elderly, are not spiced or salty, and minced food can be provided on request.

After some initial teething troubles our kitchen is now equipped to cater for larger numbers. As the charge of 30p per meal is less than the cost price, the AJR Charitable Trust Fund is subsidising this service, and everybody belonging to the community of former Jewish refugees—not only AJR members—can apply for M-o-W whenever he needs them.

Further information and application forms are available from Mrs. M. Casson or Mrs. S. Panke at 8 Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3 (624 9096/7).

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## HELP YOUR FRIENDS

Professor D. Ehrlich, the new Medical Director at the Bikur Cholim Hospital, Jerusalem, has appealed to us for continually needed antibiotics, of which the following are but a few.

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32	Penbritin Injectable 250mg 10's	...	£2.25
53	Penbritin Injectable 500mg 10's	...	£4.04
60	Penbritin Injectable 1gm 5's	...	£3.64
32	Penbritin Paed. Tablets 125mg 100's	...	£3.80
20	Celbenin Injectable 1gm 10's	...	£3.38
20	Penbritin Syrup 60ml	...	£0.55
50	Ampiclox Injectable 75mg 10's	...	£1.42
25	Orbenin Syrup 60ml	...	£0.74

The BIKUR CHOLIM HOSPITAL is the largest medical centre in the heart of Jerusalem and the oldest hospital in the Holy Land, treating young and old without distinction of race or colour. A new wing has now been established for brain-damaged and physically handicapped children.

Please send whatever you can to the Hon. Secretary and member of the Board of Governors, Rabbi Joseph Rosenfeld, The British Aid Committee, BCHJ, 146 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4JX.  
Tel.: 01-247 8885.

Your donation will be gratefully acknowledged and faithfully applied towards the purchase of vital medicines.

## THEY NEED YOUR HELP

# NEWS FROM ISRAEL

## YAD VASHEM HONOURS DUTCH

Yad Vashem, the Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem, presented 33 Dutch men and women with certificates for saving the lives of Jews during the German occupation of Holland in the Second World War. The certificates were presented by Mr. Hanan Bar-On, the Israeli Ambassador to Holland. He also presented certificates to the representatives of five other Dutchmen honoured posthumously for rescuing Jews during the Nazi occupation.

Among the recipients were Jan and Miep Gies and Elisabeth van Wijk-Voskuyl, who were featured, respectively, as Henk and Miep van Santen and Eli Vogel in "The Diary of Anne Frank".

## ANCIENT SYNAGOGUE SWASTIKA

Archaeologists of the Hebrew University and the Government's Antiquities Department have uncovered a mosaic at Ein Gedi depicting a swastika. The swastika, the first to appear prominently in an ancient synagogue decoration, was found in a mosaic pavement of the Ein Gedi Synagogue dating to the early third century c.e.

Swastikas as part of decorative composition in synagogues have been known before, but this is the first one of such prominence found displayed in a Jewish context. The swastika is an ancient ornamental form usually interpreted as a symbol of the sun.

## CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES

Public attention has been drawn to the issue of Christian missionaries following attacks on the alleged headquarters of missionary organisations by young zealots, most of whom, according to the police, were either members or supporters of Rabbi Meir Kahane's Jewish Defence League. Dr. Zerach Warhaftig, Israel's Minister for Religious Affairs, has called for Cabinet action against Christian missionaries, particularly the "Jews for Jesus" organisation which, religious circles say, has "infiltrated" young missionaries into Israel in the guise of Jewish immigrants. Estimates of the number of missionaries active in Israel vary between a few thousand and a few hundred.

## WOMEN IN POLITICS

In a research paper to be published soon, Dr. Sheva Weiss, of Haifa University, draws attention to the "glaring imbalance" of Israeli women in politics. Although they comprise 52 per cent of the population they have not achieved anything like commensurate representation in the country's local and national political offices.

Dr. Weiss says that the fact that Mrs. Golda Meir, the Prime Minister, is a woman has helped men to perpetuate the imbalance because they exploit her high position to "keep women quiet". Mrs. Meir could be assumed to have achieved her high position not because she was a woman but despite being one.

## BUBER EXHIBITION IN HAZOREA

To mark the 95th anniversary of Martin Buber's birth, a Buber Exhibition was held in the Wilfrid Israel Museum of Kibbutz Hazorea. The venue was particularly appropriate, because there were few Jewish youth movements in pre-1933 Germany on which Buber had made such a strong impact as on the "Werkleute", from which the founders of the kibbutz stemmed.

The exhibits included loans from the Martin Buber Archives of the Jewish National and University Library, among them photos, books, brochures, periodicals, documents and letters. One particularly interesting document, reflecting the world-wide response to Buber's work, was a letter by Knut Hammarskjöld, the nephew of the late U.N. General Secretary, Dag Hammarskjöld. In this letter Hammarskjöld wrote that the luggage salvaged after his uncle's fatal flying accident included a German and an English edition of Buber's "Ich und Du", as well as twelve pages of Hammarskjöld's first draft of a translation into Swedish.

## RUSSIAN IMMIGRATION

A spokesman for the Inter-Governmental Committee on European Migration (Icem) said in Geneva that more than 31,000 Soviet Jews emigrated to Israel last year and that the exodus appears to be unabated.

## DRUSE CONSUL

Israel's first Druse Consul, 32-year-old Mr. Ziedan Atashi, took up his post in New York last September, where he has settled down with his wife, Zahiya, and their three children.

## FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in the column Family Events are free of charge. Texts should be sent in by the 15th of the month.

### Deaths

**Baumann.**—Mr. Wilhelm Baumann, of 5 Lansdowne Road, London, N.3 (formerly Elbing and Danzig), passed away peacefully on February 21 in his 84th year. Sadly missed forever by his wife Marianne, children and grandchildren.

**Cohn.**—Mr. Karl R. Cohn, of 30 The Grove, Finchley, London, N.3, passed away peacefully on March 6, shortly after his 75th birthday. Deeply mourned by his wife, children and grandchildren.

**Frank.**—Mrs. Tilly Frank (née Hanau) died in Berlin at the age of 85. Deeply mourned by her daughter, Dorothea Goffurt, 50/6 Hall Road, London, N.W.8.

**Knoch.**—Mr. Max Knoch, of 3 Deanswood Rise, Moortown, Leeds 17 (formerly Breslau), passed away on March 3 after much suffering patiently borne. Dearly beloved husband of Ellen, dear father of Henrietta, father-in-law of Harvey, and grandfather of Stuart and Robert. Sadly missed by family and friends.

**Levy.**—Mrs. Alice Levy (née Casparius), of 46 Vivian Way, London, N.2, died peacefully on February 14 at her daughter's house in Bristol. Sadly missed by her children and grandchildren and by many friends.

**Oram.**—The AJR Club mourns the loss of one of its oldest members, Mrs. Ida Oram, and expresses its deepest sympathy to her sister, Mrs. E. Auslaender.

**Rosenthal.**—Mr. Leo Rosenthal (formerly Frankfurt a/Main), of 105 Eton Hall, Eton College Road, London, N.W.3, died peacefully in his 97th year. Sadly missed by his daughter Lotte, and husband Eugene Clifton, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and relatives.

**Schmelz.**—In deep sorrow we announce the death of Regina Schmelz (née Steinhauer). Mourned by her husband Samuel Schmelz, daughter, Jenny Rosner and family, Jerusalem, daughter, Anne Cranley and family, Radlet, Herts. The funeral was from Sandhria and she was buried in Har Hamenuhot, Jerusalem.

**Tell.**—Mrs. Mary Tell (formerly Wachtel, Berlin) died peacefully on February 19, at Otto Hirsch House, aged 88 years. Deeply mourned by her nephew, Werner G. Loewenstein in Kobe, Japan, and her numerous friends here and abroad.

### In Memoriam

**Hellman.**—Stefan Hellman to be remembered on his birthday on April 4 by his loving wife, children and grandchildren. — 2 Roundwood Drive, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.

### CLASSIFIED

The charge in these columns is 15p for five words.

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### Miscellaneous

**MIDDLE-AGED LADY** looks for another lady to spend summer holiday with her, if possible abroad. Box 340.

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**GESUCHT:** Heinrich Zille, Carl Spitzweg, Wilhelm Busch, Kaethe Kollwitz und Zeitgenossen. Angebote Box 342.

### Personal

**WIDOWER,** 60's, non-Orthodox, car and home owner, financially secure, 5ft. 4in., seeks widow/divorcee, 50-57, attractive, educated, domesticated, living Hampstead or near. Box 338.

**VIENNESE LADY,** 51, living in Paris, good looking, seeks kindly, well established gentleman, preferably French or German speaking, with a view to marriage. Please write Box 341.

### MISSING PERSONS

#### Personal Enquiries

**Selka.**—Erna Selka, born about 1914. A former student of the Kindergärtnerinnen — und Hortnerinnenseminar Bethanien in Breslau. Her mother, Else Selka, lived in Breslau, Marthastr. 15; her father was killed in the first world war. She came to England in 1944/5. Replies to: Gerda Nagel, née Dittich, formerly Glatz, now D-3000 Hannover-Stöcken, Stöckener Str. 157A, West Germany.

**Wiegand.** — Mrs. Henriette Wiegand, née Rosenblatt, born March 12, 1902, in Nieder-Ellguth, came to London in 1930. Wanted by her sister Anni Grossmann, née Rosenblatt, Fehrbelliner Str. 119b, 195 Neuruppin, East Germany.

### AJR Enquiry

**Wolf.**—Information is urgently required about near relatives of the late Otto Wolf, jeweller, first in Frankfurt (original name of firm Istel) and later in Berlin, Rankestr. 22, whose two sons emigrated to London and Israel respectively.

### LUGGAGE

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Egon Larsen

## TWO AUTHORS FOR STAGE AND SCREEN IN MEMORIAM

FREDERICK GOTTFURT

With Frederick Gottfurt, who died in London at the age of only 71, two distinct periods in the artistic history of our century have lost their best potential chronicler: the Berlin theatre of the 1920s and early 1930s, and the British film of the post-war years. Fritz Gottfurcht was actively involved in the former era, Frederick Gottfurt in the latter. With his splendid critical faculties, his personal experience and—last not least—his phenomenal memory for authors and actors, plots and producers, trends and directors he could have recreated and recorded those periods for posterity; alas, he was not given enough time.

The avant-garde theatre *Junge Bühne*, in collaboration with Moritz Seeler, Erwin Piscator and other young enthusiasts was his first major venture, which brought him in touch with the whole stage and literary life of Berlin; he also founded the—of course left-wing—political cabaret *Larifari* and edited the critical literary revue, *Der Feuerreiter*. Shortly after Hitler had come to power, he left Berlin with his newly-wedded wife, Dorothea, settling for a short while in Paris before coming to London.

From 1938, he wrote most of the revues produced at the little theatre of the Free German League of Culture in London, and I am happy to say that I was his co-author: it was an era in German exile literature which has recently aroused the interest of the theatre historians.

Then began Frederick Gottfurt's most prosperous twenty years, as the scenario editor for the Associated British Picture Corporation. There was a long series of famous and successful films for which he either wrote the scripts, or supervised their writing from Simonon's *Temptation Harbour* to Osborne's *Look Back in Anger*, and from Priestley's *The Good Companions* to Willis Hall's *The Long and the Short and the Tall*.

He translated and adapted these and a number of other English plays most effectively for the German stage, together with his wife Dorothea, now a playwright and translator in her own right. After his retirement from the ABPC he dramatised *The Brothers Karamazov* for BBC TV, but bad health prevented him from continuing his career in television.

MAX MACK

At a time when the children of my generation were barred from going into a cinema by the *Jugendverbot*, except to see the most boring *Kulturfilme*, there appeared a thin book which opened to us, almost magically, the gate to that fascinating, glamorous new art. It was called *Die zappelnde Leinwand*, it was published in 1917, and its author was a famous German film director by the name of Max Mack.

He has now died, well over 80, in London, as one of those refugees for whom exile had meant the end of a splendid career back home. He was always rather secretive about his age, and neither the *Zappelnde Leinwand* nor his few subsequent books—the last of them was *With a Sigh and a Smile: A Showman Looks Back*, published in London in 1943—reveal any autobiographical dates. It was music that interested him first at the turn of the century—and for a short while the young man had the burning ambition of "becoming a leader of a great political movement", as he put it. He wanted to change the world. Instead, he became an actor, touring Germany in Shakespearean parts and as Moritz in Wedekind's *Frühlings Erwachen*. Soon, he landed in films, first acting, then screen-writing, and eventually directing.

Within the comparatively short time of 20 years he was involved in over 200 films, most of them lightweight with titles such as *Tausend und eine Nacht*, *Die Blaue Maus*, or *Die Lieblingsfrau des Maharadschah*. But there were also some more memorable ones; Mack filmed Suderman's *Katzensteg*, Paul Lindau's *Der Andere* and—his last production in Germany—Wilhelm Speyer's *Der Kampf der Tertia*, shot with 60 children on a North Sea island, in a thoroughly international spirit.

He had other important achievements to his credit: he made the first film with Albert Bassermann and the first sound film with Hans Albers. He might have come to terms (though many other directors and actors failed) with the talking screen had not the Nazi régime forced him to emigrate, first to Prague, then to Paris and eventually to London. He tried in vain to get back into the film industry. His last effort was the synopsis of a historical story set in 1492—when Columbus discovered the New World and the Jews were driven out of Spain—with Isaac Abarbanel, King Ferdinand's financier, as its hero. It was never filmed.

PROF. EUGEN ROSENSTOCK-HUESSY

Dr. Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy, professor emeritus of social philosophy at Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, author, historian and jurist, has died. He was 84. Born in Berlin, he was professor of law at Breslau University until 1933. In the 'twenties he helped establish work camps in Silesia. In the United States he helped to found the William James camp in Sharon, Vermont, where civilian conservation corps leaders were trained.

Himself a Protestant, Eugen Rosenstock was the grandson of a former director of the Samson-Schule in Wolfenbuettel. Dr. Moritz Rosenstock. He was a friend of Franz Rosenzweig and Hans Ehrenberg, both of whom also had family ties with leading educationists of the Samson-Schule. Rosenstock's publications cover a wide field of scholarship, dealing mainly with interpreting Western history and contemporary society. His more than 20 books include "Out of Revolution", "The Christian Future", "Sociology", and "Correspondence with Franz Rosenzweig".

MR. GEORG DUCKWITZ

Mr. Georg Ferdinand Duckwitz, who helped to save thousands of Danish Jews from deportation, died in Bremen at the age of 68. As the German trade attaché in Copenhagen during the Nazi occupation of Denmark he was in close touch with the Danish Resistance movement. At great personal risk he was able to warn the Jews of their danger, so that most of them were able to escape to Sweden. After the war Duckwitz was decorated by the Danish Government for his courage, and from 1956 to 1958 he served as West German Ambassador to Denmark. In 1970 he received the Heinrich Stahl prize of the Jewish community in West Berlin in gratitude for his actions in Denmark.

MR. MARTIN H. LONG

Mr. Martin H. Long, Hon. Secretary of the Ex-Service (1943) Association, passed away in his 78th year. Before he came to this country, Mr. Long (formerly Loewenberg) was a partner in a well-known textile mail order firm, Max Loewenberg & Co., of his native town of Leipzig. During the war, he joined H.M. Forces but, after a short time, was discharged on medical grounds. When he retired from business in 1956, he took over the position as Hon. Secretary. Mr. Long will be missed not only by the officers and members of the Ex-Service (1943) Association but also by many other people who had the pleasure of knowing him.

MR. ALFRED PANOFSKY

Mr. Alfred Panofsky, who recently died in Tucson, Arizona (U.S.A.), will be remembered by all who knew him as a most helpful, kind and unassuming personality. In Berlin, where he lived until 1939, he was a partner of the private banking house of Jacquier & Securius (founded in 1818 and "aryanised" in 1938). During the difficult years under the Nazi régime Panofsky was Hon. Treasurer of the Central-Verein, with which he had already been associated before 1933 as a member of the board. In his unobtrusive way he rendered most valuable services to the Jews in Germany when they were in great peril.

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## THE LAST DAYS OF BRESLAU

The following report is a translated extract from an article by Ken Arkwright (formerly Klaus Aufrichtig), published in the September 1972 issue of the "Mitteilungen des Verbandes ehemaliger Breslauer und Schlesier in Israel". (Address: Erich Lewin, Ramat Gan, Mazadastr. 27).—The Ed.

I was the last boy who was given the Kiddush wine at the Friday evening service of the Neue Synagogue. One week later, when the wholesale arrests of Jews went on, my father and I spent the entire day walking around on the Hardenberghuegel, in order not to be found at home. We saw the burning cupola of the synagogue until it suddenly disappeared: the pioneers had blown it up because it was in danger of collapsing.

The religious services were then held in the Freundesaal. They were always over-crowded. I used to sit next to the choir and could thus watch the organist Berger and the conductor Sander. Later, the Storch Synagogue was refurbished, and the impossible happened: Liberals and Orthodox held their services on Friday nights and Saturday mornings in the same synagogue, one after the other.

The memorial stone for the victims of the First World War, placed in the Neue Synagogue, was moved to the anteroom of the Storch Synagogue. Perhaps there was the naïve hope that this evidence of patriotism might avert the catastrophe. For us Liberals the memorial was the only visible reminiscence of the burnt down Neue Synagogue.

When the Storch Synagogue was confiscated to be used as a warehouse, the services were held in the weekday synagogue in the Wallstrasse, Liberals and Orthodox alternating. Most of the seats had been removed. The room was so crammed that it was hardly possible to use a prayer book. Latecomers had to stand on the landing. Forced labour, further restrictions and deportations made the services increasingly difficult. The old differentiations between Liberals and Orthodox lost their meaning. The Liberals had to put up with the elimination of the organ and mixed choir. The Orthodox had to shorten their service, for whoever went home late was arrested in the street.

Ultimately, the services were held in the conference room of the communal building in Wallstrasse. Unforgettable is the first day we had to wear the Yellow Star. We then lived in Kopischstrasse. This was considered as very elegant in comparison with the quarters where meanwhile most other Jewish families had been billeted. Yet the walk to the services was

an ardent venture, not so much because of the distance, but because of the constant insults to which we were exposed in the streets.

The transports went on. In the middle of 1944, the communal services were discontinued, but praying went on until one week before I was deported to the labour camp. We met in the small room of carpenter Korotowski in Fischergasse behind the Koenigsplatz. There were about 20 people. We could not sing because our voices would have been heard in the house. We entered the room one after the other and we left it one at a time, in order not to make ourselves conspicuous.

What happened to the remaining Jews? The organist Berger and his wife, together with their young son and daughter, took cyanide in the Freundesaal, where, together with other Jews, they were assembled for deportation. The aged conductor of the choir, Pulvermacher, and his wife, the former singer Jetka Finkenstein, gassed themselves in the Alsenstrasse communal house, when they were due for deportation. The last communal rabbi, Dr. Reinhold Lewin and his wife, together with their daughter and their son Ulli, perished in the East. It is reported that he was given the choice of being taken to Theresienstadt instead. Yet he said: "I go together with my congregation."

At Chanukah 1944, when we were due for transfer to Gross-Rosen concentration camp, we still prayed in the labour camp. We stood in the corner of the barrack and said the Chanukah blessing. We had no candles.

What followed for me was Gross-Rosen, four months of hiding in Upper Franconia, and the return, mainly on foot, to Breslau. The journey took from May to August 1945. The first Jewish place I saw was the Kosel cemetery. There, Russian soldiers searched for landmines, and I did not dare to visit the graves of my grandparents. The first signs of preserved houses and of survivors were at the Koenigsplatz.

About 80 former Breslau Jews met again. The services were resumed. We prayed in the flat of Cantor Grabowski in the former Zimmerstrasse. One day, a drunken Russian soldier rang the bell of the flat, where my former schoolmate Hannelore Cohn lived. Her mother opened the door and was shot dead without warning. For us this was the general signal to leave the town. There was transport by bus from Erfurt taking the Polish Buchenwald prisoners back to Poland. We hired these buses, and thus the remnants of the German Jewish community of Wroclaw-Breslau were transferred to Erfurt. Some stayed in Eastern Germany, whereas others later went on to West Germany.

## INDUSTRIALISTS IN HANOVER

### The History of the Berliner Family

In "Hannoversche Geschichtsblaetter" (New Series, Volume 24, Issue 3/4), published by the City of Hanover, Dr. Albert Lefèvre examines the contribution made to technological progress by Hanover's industries.

The chapter on the electrical industry is headed by the three brothers Berliner: Emil (1851-1929), Joseph (1858-1938) and Jacob (1849-1918). They were the sons of Samuel Berliner who died in 1872. Emil, undoubtedly the most outstanding of them, emigrated to the U.S.A. in 1870 and in 1877 he invented there the microphone for the telephone. When he returned temporarily in 1881, he and his brother Joseph founded the first German telephone factory J. Berliner. As early as 1884 the first long-distance call trials were made with apparatus supplied by this factory, between Hanover and Magdeburg, Kassel and Frankfurt/Main. In 1883, Jacob Berliner joined the firm as business manager. The microphone and the telephone traffic developed rapidly. In the 'nineties the demand grew to such an extent as to necessitate the foundation of branches of the firm of Berliner in Vienna, Berlin, Paris and London.

### Pioneer of Telephone

In 1877, Emil built and marketed his "phonograph", i.e. the first talking apparatus. Ten years later the gramophone arrived. In the same year the Berliner telephone factory set up a gramophone record department.

Jacob and Joseph Berliner also promote the invention of another Hanoverian, the telegraph director Louis Hackethal, and in 19 they founded the "Hackethal-Draht-Gesellschaft". This firm produced insulated wire which became important not only for telegraph service but also for all kinds of electricity supplies.

One of the brothers of the three Berliners was Manfred (Hanover, 1853-1931). He was director of a private commercial college. The youngest of his three children, Cora, who was born in 1890, became a professor at the Vocational Education Seminary in Berlin and from 1933 onwards worked in a senior capacity in the "Reichsvertretung/Reichsvereinigung" of the Jews in Germany. She held out in G. many and met her death after deportation.

Lefèvre also mentions in his report the firm of S. Oppenheimer & Co. (scouring papers and emery paper), and "Continental" which was important for the local rubber industry. The latter firm was founded in 18 under the name of "Continental Caoutchuk Gutta Percha Compagnie"; its founders included Ferdinand Meyer, Moritz Meyer, Dan Heinemann, Hermann Peretz and Jacob Fra-

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