

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

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ACROSS THE CHANNEL

German Jews in France

A visitor to the Central Synagogue in Paris will notice in the entrance hall the memorial tablets where the names are inscribed of those who lost their lives during the Second World War as members of the fighting forces or of the Resistance movement. Inside the synagogue the eye is drawn to a wall with *yahrzeit* candles, each bearing a name-plate in memory of a relative who perished in Auschwitz or another extermination camp. All these reminders of the sufferings of French Jewry have an additional meaning for us: among the victims were many German Jews who found refuge in France after 1933 and who, subsequently, were captured by those from whom they had fled. The holocaust has reduced the number of German Jews in France to a mere 7,000-8,000, and an account of the circumstances under which they survived would fill many volumes of tragic stories. This must always be kept in mind when comparing the position of these remnants with that of German Jews in a country like ours where they were spared these sufferings.

To build up their lives anew after the war called for almost superhuman efforts. It was their good fortune that they could benefit from the constructive help of the world-wide Jewish relief organisations. However, while in Great Britain and many countries overseas the Jews from Germany could also fall back on their own organisations which they had built up before or during the war, the German Jews in France had to start from scratch in this respect as well. It testifies to the strength and, perhaps, also to the organisational gifts of the Jews from Germany that, in spite of the adverse circumstances, they succeeded within a comparatively short time in creating a representative body of their own community. They gave it the significant name of "Solidarité". Indeed it is this solidarity which has enabled them to carry out widespread activities in the course of the past years. Apart from taking up the general interests of those in their charge, they have also embarked on a variety of social schemes. These include, among others, support of persons in need of financial aid.

However, one aspect of social work which also plays an important part in the activities of the AJR has increasingly come into the foreground: the erection and administration of homes. In this work, "Solidarité" has been assisted by the Council of Jews from Germany to which it is affiliated, by the great Jewish relief organisations and by the German Federal Republic. Yet financial support, indispensable as it is, would not alone have made the schemes succeed without the devoted voluntary work of the leading members of "Solidarité". The average age of these Committee members is less than that of their opposite numbers in this country. Maybe the memory of their common sufferings during the war years has kept them more closely attached to their community of origin than their contemporaries in England.

All housing schemes under the auspices of "Solidarité" are meant for people who can still care for themselves. There is one home in the vicinity of Paris, Limours, where residents are accommodated in furnished rooms with cooking facilities, and there are self-contained flats and flatlets in several Paris districts. The home in Limours was acquired out of funds raised in the German Federal Republic by means of German Governmental grants and private donations. The house, which was opened five years ago, is a former chateau, built in a beautiful park, about

one hour's drive from Paris. The former dining-room and lounge are now used as communal rooms. Most of the residents no longer work. It seems that the distance from Paris does not matter to them too much. They are compensated by the wonderful country in which they live. Furthermore, the feeling of being isolated cannot easily arise because Limours has become a rallying centre for "Solidarité" members in Paris, who visit the place on Sundays and also arrange functions there on festive occasions. Lastly, contrary to London, Jewish refugees in Paris are not concentrated in a few districts but are spread all over the city; therefore, they are used to travelling when visiting relatives or friends.

Flatlets in Paris

Inside the Paris boundaries "Solidarité" has embarked on three housing schemes, each of which provides accommodation in self-contained flats with one, two or three rooms, kitchen and bath. The first group of flats, like Limours financed out of funds obtained from the German Federal Republic, consists of 21 flats (for 65 persons) which have been occupied for some time. The second one was acquired out of Jewish funds, contributed partly by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims (which administers the payments made by the German Federal Republic according to the Hague Agreement) and partly by the Leo Baeck Charitable Trust (which administers the funds of the Council of Jews from Germany). It provides accommodation for 16 families—altogether 40 persons.

To mark the completion of these flats, a Press conference was arranged by the "Solidarité" a short while ago. Greetings were conveyed on behalf of the Claims Conference by Mr. Saul Kagan and on behalf of the Leo Baeck Charitable Trust by the writer. Mr. Charles Jordan, the European Director of the "Joint", who also spoke, stressed that in recent years the "Joint" had developed the policy of delegating the care for the victims of Nazi persecution to the organisations built up by the victims themselves. This policy, he went on, was a departure from the line taken during the first years after the war when the "Joint" carried out this function under its own auspices. Yet gradually the "Joint" had come to realise that people in need of care could best be looked after by those who had shared their fate and therefore understood their requirements and their mentality.

A third group of 15 flatlets, financed by the Branche Française of the Jewish Trust Corporation out of the heirless property in the former French zone of Western Germany and by the Leo Baeck Charitable Trust, will be completed shortly.

The groups of flats acquired by "Solidarité" are not situated in buildings exclusively inhabited by refugees. As most of the residents of the flats are still able to work, they do not need a warden to look after them. Therefore, and also for other reasons, the procedure in France differs from that of similar schemes in this country; "Solidarité" buys a number of flats in huge blocks under construction, and the refugees inhabit flats all over the block. In most cases, these residents have been living in slums for many years, and the modern, newly built flats, provide them for the first time with the decent accommodation they had been longing for during the past 15 years.

This survey of housing schemes for refugees in France would be incomplete if we did not also

Continued at bottom of next column

THE EICHMANN VERDICT

From our Jerusalem Correspondent

In the trial against Adolf Eichmann on 15 counts for crimes against the Jewish people, crimes against humanity and war crimes, the court handed down its verdict: guilty on all 15 counts. The court arrived at its judgment after hearings which opened on April 11th, 1961, and concluded on August 14th, after 114 sessions over a period of 16 weeks. The court heard 111 witnesses and received written transcripts of another 16 examined in Germany, Austria and Italy. One thousand five hundred and forty-three documents, some of them complete books, were admitted as evidence. No wonder that it took the three judges—Mr. Justice Moshe Landau, Judge Benjamin Halevi and Judge Yitzhak Raveh—four months to study the material.

The judgment made it clear that the court's task was to pronounce law, not to write history. "The path of the court was and remains clear. It cannot allow itself to be enticed into provinces which are outside its sphere. The judicial process has ways of its own, laid down by law, and which do not change, whatever the subject of the trial may be."

A word of praise is given both to the prosecutor and the counsel for the defence. "Mr. Hausner conducted the prosecution in all its stages as a jurist and on a very high professional level. Dr. Servatius, who stood almost alone in this strenuous legal battle, in an unfamiliar environment, always directed himself to the essence of the matter, and refrained from unnecessary controversy over matters which did not seem vital to him for the defence of the client, thereby affording valuable assistance to the court."

Eichmann was found guilty on each of the 15 charges against him with the following reservations: His activities in the Emigration Centres in Berlin, Vienna and Prague, the deportations to Niscom and the expulsions from Stettin, Baden and the Saar, did not constitute crimes against the Jewish people; he was not guilty of giving

Continued on page 2, column 1

mention the Old Age Home in Annet-sur-Marne which is not run by "Solidarité" but by another organisation. The history of this Home dates back to the war years, when an organisation of German Jews in the United States, "Selfhelp", provided funds for Jewish persecutees in France. After the war, "Selfhelp" raised the means for the purchase of a building to be used as an Old Age Home for German Jews. In 1956, this Home was transferred to its present place, Annet. Like Limours, it is also a former chateau situated in a beautiful park. The average age of the residents is slightly below that of our Homes in London, and while in London the houses were to a considerable extent converted and adjusted before they were put to their present use, the chateau has been left more or less unchanged. A new wing was added only a short while ago. The facilities, especially the communal rooms, cannot be compared with those of our Homes. However, the accommodation is pleasant, and the friendly atmosphere strikes the visitor as soon as he enters the house.

The visit to Paris again made us aware of the differences and similarities of social schemes carried out by and for Jews from Germany in their countries of resettlement. Yet the outstanding feature, which accounts for the success of these schemes, is the strong sense of solidarity—a constant inspiration to all those who devote their time and energy to this work.

W. ROSENSTOCK.

THE EICHMANN VERDICT

(Continued from page 1)

orders to prevent child-bearing in Kovno Ghetto, or of devising measures for the sterilisation of the offspring of mixed marriages; he had not been implicated in the deportation of the gypsies to Auschwitz and their subsequent extermination; neither he nor his department had been proved to have any connection with the murder of the children of Lidice.

The court, however, agreed with the Attorney-General: that all the acts perpetrated during the implementation of the "final solution" should be regarded as one single whole, and as constituting a crime against the Jewish people within the meaning of the Nazis and Nazi Collaborators' Law. The court held that everyone who contributed towards the "final solution" in the knowledge that it meant the physical extermination of the Jews, irrespective of the scope of his contribution, must be regarded as a principal offender, and not only as an accessory.

In the case of the accused, continued the court, he had been aware of the true significance of the "final solution" as early as in June, 1941, and had actively participated in the extermination campaign as from August, 1941. He was, therefore, guilty of participating in the over-all crime constituted by implementing the "final solution".

The Accused's Defence

The court, considering the accused's defence that he had acted under the orders from his superiors, did not accept Dr. Servatius' argument that the ordinary citizen must give loyalty to his leadership and stand or fall by the success or failure of their policy. The court agreed that this theory aptly described the situation in a totalitarian country based on the denial of law, as was Hitler's Germany. But such an argument cannot be voiced, they held, in any State in the world which based itself on the rule of law. Turning to the accused's argument that he had merely obeyed "superior orders", the court explained that the Nazis and Nazi Collaborators' Law, in keeping with the London Charter and Law No. 10 of the Allied Control Council for Germany, does not recognise the defence of superior orders. Yet it does admit of this defence as a mitigating circumstance if the superior order was not manifestly unlawful and if the accused did his best to reduce the gravity of the offence.

The accused's orders, however, were manifestly unlawful and he himself, after much evasion, admitted that by carrying them out he knew he was contributing towards "one of the gravest crimes in the history of humanity". Furthermore, not only had he failed to do his best to reduce the gravity of his offences, but, on the contrary, completely identified himself with the order to exterminate the Jews, acting with stubborn determination and burning fanaticism. It is quite clear that in carrying out his orders he exercised a good deal of initiative. In short, held the court, "the accused closed his ears to the voice of conscience. He sank from one depth to another until, in implementing the 'final solution', he reached the nethermost regions of hell".

The verdict "Guilty" has come as no surprise—neither for the accused nor for the public. Moreover, there is a noticeable lack of interest in the personal fate of Eichmann. Israel's Prime Minister Ben-Gurion once said that it was not the trial's purpose to mete out punishment but to establish the truth. Whether Eichmann will be hanged, or not, is of no consequence. The courtroom of the Bet Ha'am, so crowded during the four months of the terrible evidence, was almost empty when the verdict was handed down. Yet the case will be heard once more by the Supreme Court, because the Defence has lodged an appeal. Thus the Eichmann Trial, as far as the man goes, has not yet reached its final stage. As far as the wider aspects are concerned, Israel has conducted a fair trial, on the background of the grim and fearful canvas of the Jewish catastrophe.

THE NEW HOMES BUILDING SOCIETY, EAST TWICKENHAM

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THE GERMAN SCENE

STATEMENT ABOUT DR. SCHROEDER

According to a statement issued by the German Federal Government, West Germany's new Foreign Minister, Dr. Gerhard Schroeder, was never a member of the S.A., the Nazi Storm Troopers.

The statement says that, together with many other German students and "Referendare", he was compelled in 1933 to apply for membership of the S.A. but he never became a full member as he moved from Bonn to Berlin in 1934. His name was finally removed from the list of candidates because of "lack of interest" on his part.

Dr. Schroeder, it is stated, had joined the Nazi Party as a "nominal member" in 1933 but had never become an active member. He had opposed the National Socialist régime and had previous to 1933 headed the University group of the Liberal German People's Party at Bonn, which strongly opposed Nazism. In 1938 he had joined the Confessing Church, which actively fought against the Nazis.

In 1934 he joined the Berlin lawyers' firm of Dr. Walter Schmidt, Dr. Wilhelm Beutner, Dr. Friedrich Kempner, Dr. Heinz Pinner, and Dr. Joachim Beutner. In spite of strong pressure under which he was put by the Nazi Party, he remained associated with this firm, whose partners were racial persecutees on account of their own or their wives' Jewish origin. In 1941 Dr. Schroeder married a part-Jewish woman and left the Nazi Party. Until the end of the war, all recommendations for his military promotion were turned down because he was considered "politically unreliable".

CHRISTIAN-JEWISH YOUTH GROUPS FOUNDED

Under the auspices of the Society for Jewish-Christian Co-operation youth groups were founded in Düsseldorf and Bielefeld. The Düsseldorf group comprises both Christian and Jewish members. The Bielefeld group which only consists of Christians because there are no young Jews in the town recently made an excursion to Schwabenberg, near Detmold, to put the old Jewish cemetery of that place in order.

CONFERENCE ON JEWISH EDUCATION

Jewish religious teachers from all parts of the Federal Republic met in Cologne to discuss problems of Jewish education in Germany. The meeting was organised by the Central Council of the Jews in Germany.

Jews IN EAST GERMANY

In a front-page article in the "Jewish Communal Bulletin" published in East Berlin, the Chief Rabbi of East Berlin, Dr. Martin Riesenburger, calls on Jews to observe Chanukah.

The journal also contains an appeal to all Jewish people the world over, and to "all men of good will" to do everything to prevent war and maintain peace.

There are altogether less than 1,500 Jews now living in East Germany, including several hundred in East Berlin and smaller Jewish groups in other localities. The rabbi, who co-operated very closely with the authorities, is apparently determined to co-ordinate Jewish life and, according to reports, is calling a conference of representatives of Jewish communities in East Germany, to be held at the beginning of 1962.

The bulletin also carries a report about the consecration of a memorial stone at the Schoenhauser Allee Cemetery. Services in East Berlin are held in the "Friedenstempel" (Rykestrasse). A new communal house was opened in Karl-Marx-Stadt (formerly Chemnitz).

WORMS SYNAGOGUE REBUILT

One of the oldest Jewish monuments in Germany, the Worms Synagogue, which had been destroyed in November, 1938, was reconsecrated on December 3rd. The original synagogue dates back as far as 1034; since then it was repeatedly destroyed "by fire and persecution", as one of the inscriptions puts it. It has now been rebuilt according to old plans, with its "Frauenscul" and its famous "Raschikapelle". This reconstruction work was the cause of controversy for some years. Some people expressed the view that there was no point in building a synagogue in a town which had practically no Jewish citizens. However, ultimately the opinion prevailed that this monument should be re-erected, in memory of the persecutees and also as an act of moral compensation.

The consecration ceremony was attended by representatives of the authorities and of the Jewish organisations; a number of emigrated former members of the Worms Jewish community were also present. The speakers included the Mayor of Worms, Heinrich Voelker, Landesrabbiner Professor Dr. Ernst Roth (Mainz) and Landesrabbiner Dr. Fritz Elieser Bloch (Stuttgart). The historical importance attributed to the event was underlined by the fact that the message on behalf of the Federal Government was delivered by Vice-Chancellor Professor Erhardt. In his impressive address Professor Erhardt recalled the terrible happenings of the past and also dealt with the historic interrelations between Jews and Germans throughout the centuries, as symbolised in the history of the reconsecrated Worms Synagogue.

E.G.L.

SITE OF ESSEN SYNAGOGUE

Exhibition Hall opened

The former principal Jewish synagogue in Essen has been reopened as an exhibition hall.

The building, erected in 1913 and considered to be one of the most beautiful synagogues in Europe, was destroyed during the Nazi régime and was rebuilt after the war. It was sold to the local municipality by the Jewish Trust Corporation and the small Jewish community in Essen now hold services in a new synagogue.—(J.C.)

At the opening ceremony on November 24th the Minister of Culture for Northrhine-Westphalia, Werner Schuetz, recalled the history of the site and thanked the Jewish organisations for having consented to the new use of the building. He expressed the hope that the happenings of the past would serve as a constant reminder to those who now took charge of the hall.

FRANKFURT CONTRIBUTES TO ANNE FRANK FOUNDATION

The Frankfurt City Council is donating 20,000 marks to the International Youth Centre of the Anne Frank Foundation at Amsterdam. The city has already donated a considerable amount in this respect.

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HOME NEWS

DEATH OF SIR BASIL HENRIQUES

Sir Basil Henriques passed away in London on December 2 at the age of 71. His signal services for the welfare of youth were recalled in the great number of tributes paid to him in the national Press and on the B.B.C. For 32 years he was a member of the East London Juvenile Court. Together with his wife he founded the Oxford and St. George's Jewish Settlement and served as its warden for several decades. In the Jewish religious sphere Sir Basil took a prominent part in the work of the progressive movement. His widow, Lady Henriques, is also a leading Jewish welfare worker who, throughout the years, has been also closely associated with the work for German-Jewish refugees. She is a member of the Building Committee for the Old Age Homes and, in this capacity, closely co-operates with her fellow Committee members from the AJR, who greatly benefit in their work from her widespread experience. We extend our sincerest sympathy to Lady Henriques on her bereavement.

AJEX ON GERMANY

The Association of Jewish ex-Service Men and Women has issued a statement reaffirming its policy on Germany.

The statement says that, accepting that much has been accomplished in Western Germany to create a democratic way of life, Ajex nevertheless believes that much has still to be done before that country can again take her full place in the comity of nations. It regards the effective elimination of prominent ex-Nazis from German public life and positions of influence as a prerequisite of Germany's redemption and, until this has been achieved, cannot consider Germany's intentions without suspicion.

The emergence of Western Germany as a dominant military and industrial Power in Europe must therefore, the statement goes on to say, be received with the greatest concern, and the provision of nuclear arms to that country, particularly in the context of the present critical situation in Europe, can only be considered as adding to the risk of war.

The Association has asked the Government on many occasions to use its maximum influence to reverse this policy, which it regards not only as immoral but also as highly imprudent.—(J.C.)

MOSLEY NO ANTISEMITE

Sir Oswald Mosley, leader of the Union Movement, in a book "Mosley—Right or Wrong?" (Lion Books, 2s. 6d.), cross-examines himself and outlines his policies.

He condemns antisemitism as "stupid, as well as evil" and says: "I am not an antisemite. Antisemitism is hatred of all Jews on account of their race. I attack some Jews on account of what they do . . . never on account of their birth." But, he goes on to talk about the power of "international finance" and "Jewish finance".

He favours the policy of a Jewish national home, saying it should be made clear to the Arabs they cannot cut two million Jewish throats and, equally, that aggressive expansion of the Israelis cannot be allowed.—(J.C.)

IN PARLIAMENT

Antisemitic Literature by Post

Mr. Julian Snow, in a question in the House of Commons, alleged that antisemitic literature emanating from the Continent of Europe was being imported by postal services and otherwise. He wanted to know what steps the Home Secretary was taking to check this.

Mr. Butler replied that a careful watch was being kept on the distribution of literature of this type. On the information before him, he did not think that any further action was called for.

Aliens and Refugees

Speaking during a debate in the House of Commons on the aliens' regulations, Mr. Francis Noel-Baker said there were large numbers of refugees and other permanent residents in this country who had been in Britain for many years. They proposed to remain in this country and to become naturalised but the procedure was long and cumbersome and very expensive.

Mr. David Renton, Minister of State, Home Office, said that foreigners who had been accepted for permanent residence were to be completely exempted from police registration.—(J.C.)

BRITISH JEWS AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

"The contribution of British Jews to International Law" was the subject of the Presidential Address given by Professor Norman Bentwich to the Jewish Historical Society of England.

Professor Bentwich said that, until the latter part of the century, public international law was not greatly regarded in England, but on the Continent Jews very early distinguished themselves in this branch of law. Only five Jews in England had made a significant contribution and, with the exception of one, they were all immigrants. Professor Bentwich described Sir Hersch Lauterpacht as "the greatest and most constructive international jurist of his generation". He played a decisive part, as a member of the British Government Committee on War Crimes, in the preparation of the Nuremberg trial of Nazi leaders and other war criminals. He drafted a number of Articles for a Bill which became the basis, two years later, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, since adopted by the United Nations.

PRESIDENT OF MEDICAL COUNCIL

Lord Cohen of Birkenhead, who is Professor of Medicine at Liverpool University, has been elected President of the General Medical Council. He is also a Governor of the Hebrew University and President of the Liverpool Home for the Aged.

BARONETCY FOR SIR BERNARD WALEY-COHEN

On his retirement as Lord Mayor of London, the Queen conferred a baronetcy on Sir Bernard Waley-Cohen.

DEATH OF LEONARD G. MONTEFIORE

As this issue was going to press it was learned with the deepest regret that Mr. Leonard G. Montefiore, O.B.E., had suddenly passed away on December 23rd. An obituary will appear in our next issue.

ANGLO-JUDAICA

Mr. Ewen Montagu Re-elected

The Hon. Ewen E. S. Montagu, Q.C., resumed the Presidency of the United Synagogue after having been unanimously re-elected. Mr. Montagu stated that since he had been "compelled to resign" last July, anything he had done, including his acceptance of nomination, had been motivated only by his feeling for Anglo-Jewry.

Elkan Adler Memorial

To mark the centenary of the birth of Elkan Adler, the bibliophile and author, a bay in the library of Jews' College was dedicated by the Chief Rabbi. A special fund for the purchase of books and for the publication of the annual Adler Memorial Lecture was established at the same time.

Adler, a son of Chief Rabbi N. M. Adler, was a former pupil at Jews' College, and later became its Hon. Solicitor and a member of its Council.

Links with Israel

The constitution of the Bridge in Britain, set up just over a year ago for the purpose of forging closer links between the youth of Israel and the Diaspora, has been amended. It has been decided to open the organisation to the general public, and a motion deleting the word "Jewish" from the constitution was unanimously passed.

It was felt that many distinguished non-Jews wanted to co-operate and that there were many eager to obtain scholarships to Israel.

Immigration Laws

Mr. David Davis, a member of the External Affairs Committee of the Anglo-Jewish Association, at an A.J.A. brains trust said that the proposed restrictions on immigration from the Commonwealth were especially worrying to Jews. Any discrimination on the grounds of colour smacked of immorality. He agreed, however, that a control in immigration was fair, provided legislation was not intended to discriminate but to safeguard health and economic standards.

Law Against Antisemitism?

A brains trust sponsored by the Centre Society of the New West End Synagogue was asked whether antisemitism should be an offence punishable by law. The Hon. Ewen E. S. Montagu felt that to make any expression of opinion an offence could lead to unforeseen results. He stressed that any manifestations which offended against the ordinary law could be dealt with. Another speaker felt it would be difficult to define antisemitism in an Act of Parliament.

Mr. George Bilainkin, the author and traveller, felt, however, that there ought to be legislation as, with the inevitability of an economic recession, there was bound to be a great amount of active and latent antisemitism in this country.

Young People and Judaism

The Rev. L. H. Hardman, minister of the Hendon Synagogue, speaking on "The Ministry and the Laity in Anglo-Jewry" at a meeting of the Synagogue Council of the Zionist Federation, said that young people were being driven away from Orthodox Judaism—and even from Judaism—by the wrong approach. The minister, he said, had to be a guide to his congregation, and a friend, adviser, and confidant of his congregants. A learned laity, versed in at least the cardinal principles of Judaism, was essential for the future of Judaism.

Finchley Branch of Christians and Jews

At a meeting of the Finchley and North Finchley Zionist Societies, Councillor Frank D. Gibson, Mayor of Finchley, stated that he was convening a meeting on January 24 to inaugurate a Finchley branch of the Council of Christians and Jews.

Councillor Gibson said that, having lived in Finchley for over twenty years, he was struck most forcibly by the fact that points of contact between the Christian and Jewish communities in the borough were few and far between. He hoped that the proposed new Council would in some way improve the situation.

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NEWS FROM ABROAD

JEWS IN RUSSIA

General David Dragunski, himself a Jew, stated at a Press conference in Paris that there were hundreds of Jewish generals and admirals in the Soviet Union. The General was in Paris as a representative of the War Veterans of Soviet Russia to visit the exhibition of the revolt of the Warsaw and other ghettos against the Nazis.

The General said that there were a number of Yiddish publications in the Soviet Union but that they were published more for political reasons than in answer to a real need. Jews in Russia preferred to read in Russian, just as Jews in France preferred to read literature and newspapers in French rather than Yiddish.

He stated that few Jews wished to emigrate to Israel but, should someone wish to leave, he would not be held back. "For us, the Soviet Union, where every inch of earth has drunk our blood, is our homeland. And, incidentally, why do the Jews of France, Belgium, America and other Western countries not go to Israel? Just as they have no inclination to exchange Paris for Haifa, or some other town in Israel, so Soviet Jews have no wish whatsoever to leave Moscow or Leningrad for some kibbutz."

He referred to the poet Yevtushenko and his controversial poem "Babi-Yar." The very fact that such a controversy was possible proved that there was a hundred per cent democracy in the Soviet Union.

The General pointed out that for many years the areas occupied by the Nazis in the Soviet Union were under the influence of strong anti-Semitic propaganda, which had its effect. The remnants of that influence were being liquidated.

He said the Soviet Union had a brotherly sympathy for Israel but it was saddening that Israel was becoming a base for aggressive forces.

Mr. Alexei Adzhubei, editor of *Izvestia*, on his departure from New York for Moscow, was asked to comment on the recent arrests of Leningrad Jews.

"People commit crimes in all countries—in Russia and also in America," he said. It had nothing to do with any special policy against Jews. Soviet Jews formed part of the Soviet nation and were treated in the same way as anyone else. Those who had been arrested were individuals who had committed crimes. This did not entail any special Soviet attitude towards Jews.

The *Jewish Chronicle*, reporting on the two interviews above, states that these denials of anti-Semitic tendencies in Russia are more or less in line with official Soviet propaganda. The paper draws attention to the fact that, during the liquidation of Jewish culture by Stalin and the execution of a large number of Jewish writers, Soviet visitors abroad flatly denied any knowledge of anti-Jewish activities, such reports being denounced as deliberate anti-Russian propaganda in words almost similar to those now used by General Dragunski and Mr. Adzhubei. General Dragunski, says the article, has obviously preferred to ignore the fact that there are thousands of applications from Russian Jews pleading in vain for permission to join their families in Israel.

ARRESTS IN MOSCOW

Reports have appeared to the effect that three leaders of the Moscow Jewish community have been tried and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment. It is stated that the principal defendant was Mr. Wolf Yossifovitz Rysal, aged 60, who is referred to as a popular figure among Russian Jews in Moscow and throughout the Soviet Union.

Tass commentator, Igor Orlov, confirmed that two men (Rysal and Goldman) were found guilty of espionage on behalf of a foreign embassy at a trial held in camera in Moscow in October.

Cold-war propagandists, he states, seized on the fact that the officials concerned, who had been expelled from the Soviet Union, came from the Israeli Embassy, and had involved persons of Jewish nationality in their activities. This became the basis for allegations about "a wave of anti-Jewish victimisation", writes Orlov. Far from being "Jewish leaders", the Soviet citizens concerned did not represent anything or anybody, he declares.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF POLISH JEWS

The Fourth Conference of Polish Jews has been held in Warsaw. It was sponsored by the Cultural and Social Union and was attended by more than 200 delegates from large and small communities from all over Poland with a membership of 40,000. The present and future position of the Jewish community in Poland was considered.

Mr. Z. Sznek, the Deputy Minister for Home Affairs in charge of the Department of National Minorities in Poland, declared that the Polish Government was determined to see to it that the free development of Jewish cultural life and institutions, including education, should go on undisturbed. He assured the delegates that the Polish Government would fight against every appearance of discrimination and antisemitism. It was their policy, he declared, to continue the realisation of the principles of full equality for all citizens.

The main item of the conference agenda was the task of binding still closer the life and activities of the Jewish minority in the country with Socialist Poland.

The need to increase the "social consciousness of the Jewish man and woman and strengthen their effort and contribution to the new Poland" was dealt with. Other subjects discussed included the future of the Jewish cultural institutions such as the State Theatre, as well as the schools, newspaper, and literary publications. Discussions were also held about the existence and development of the Jewish Artisan Co-operatives, future work of Ort, and the training of adults, especially among the Jews repatriated from the U.S.S.R.

There are active and flourishing Jewish organisations in Warsaw, Lodz, Wroclaw (Breslau), Lignice (Liegnitz), Cracow, Szczecin (Stettin), Bialystok and in more than 20 other localities.—(J.C.)

TREBLINKA MONUMENT

The Chairman of the Polish Jewish Central Committee, Mr. Salo Fishgrund, and Dr. F. Duszenko, lecturer of the Arts Academy in Gdansk, stated at a Press conference held by the Swedish Section of the World Jewish Congress in Stockholm, that the Polish Government is to erect a monument at Treblinka to 800,000 persons murdered by Nazis in the concentration camp.

Swedish west-coast granite, of the same type as that of the Warsaw Ghetto monument, will be used. The granite was ordered originally by Hitler for a victory monument. Dr. Duszenko, a non-Jew, is the sculptor.—(J.C.)

IMMIGRATION INTO AUSTRALIA

The annual conference of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry at Sydney, discussed the problem of financing Jewish immigration, especially after Claims Conference Funds ceased in two years' time. There were about 2,000 holders of permits in Eastern Europe awaiting clearance and transport to Australia. A wide range of other matters affecting Jews in Australia was also discussed.

It was stated that more than 1,000 immigrants came to Australia during the year ending August, 1961, and had registered with Jewish welfare societies. Immigrants included Jews from Western Europe, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, Egypt, China, Indonesia, Israel, and the U.K. Some came from the U.S.S.R. Reports showed that integration of the newcomers was successful and they were living a thriving communal life.—(J.C.)

HELSINKI'S JEWS

A new community centre has been built by the small Jewish community of Helsinki. The centre cost \$345,000 and was built with the help of a long-term loan of \$45,000 from the American Joint Distribution Committee. Other funds were raised locally, including a Government subvention of \$15,000. The land was a gift from the municipality of Helsinki.

The centre brings together under one roof the various communal activities, and includes a kindergarten, a nine-room school, community offices, meeting rooms, a mikva, a flat for the

aged, and a bomb shelter in the basement. It represents an exceptional effort on the part of the 1,300 Jews of Helsinki who are geographically and linguistically isolated from the mainstream of Jewish life in Europe.—(J.C.)

DISCRIMINATION IN U.S.A.

Appearing before a sub-committee of the House Committee on Education and Labour Mr. Will Maslow, the Executive Director of the American Jewish Congress, cited studies which showed there was continuing bias against Jews in employment. Mr. Maslow said that while anti-Jewish barriers that formerly existed in initial employment had been greatly reduced, "discrimination becomes more prevalent when promotional and administrative posts open" and the Jewish candidate was often passed over unless he possessed extraordinary abilities. The sub-committee, said Mr. Maslow, should recommend legislative action.—(J.C.)

AMERICAN NAZI FREE TO SPEAK

The United States Supreme Court has upheld a ruling of the New York Court of Appeals permitting George Lincoln Rockwell, leader of the American Nazi Party, to speak in Union Square, New York. Mr. Wagner, Mayor of New York, commenting on the decision, said it was not a good thing for the City of New York but that he would have to abide by the ruling.—(J.C.)

O.A.S. THREATENS PROFESSOR

After Professor Georges Gurvitch had signed a declaration on Algeria, together with Jean-Paul Sartre, Professor Schwartz, and other Left-wing French intellectuals, he received a threatening letter from the French Secret Army Organisation (O.A.S.), couched in vicious anti-Semitic terms. M. Gurvitch, Professor of Sociology at the Sorbonne, was accused of being a "newly baked Frenchman and a wandering Jew, who has no right to interfere in our affairs".

Seventy sociologists and research workers, comprising almost all those active in this field in Paris, and students of the Sorbonne, have sent letters expressing full sympathy for and solidarity with Professor Gurvitch. They stated that the Professor's work was part of the heritage of French sociology and as such contributed to the radiance of French culture in the world.—(J.C.)

ITALIAN FASCISTS

Italian Right-wing racial prejudice has been incited by the murder of the 13 Italian airmen in the Congo.

In a Jewish district in Rome a group of youths of the Giovane Italia movement assaulted an American Negro, gave the fascist salute, and shouted: "Out with the Negroes and the Jews."

Following the incident the Union of Italian Jewish Communities issued a statement saying: "Italian Jews mourn the 13 Italians murdered while carrying out a mission of human solidarity, deplore all forms of racialism, and advocate the co-operation of all governments to guarantee the peace and security of peoples everywhere."—(J.C.)

ROME MEMORIAL

A memorial dedicated by the "Rome Federation of the National Association of Former Deportees to Nazi Camps", to all victims of deportation, irrespective of religious or political affiliations, was unveiled at the Verano Cemetery in Rome on the 18th anniversary of the first Nazi raid on the Ghetto in Rome.

The memorial shows a wall at the Mauthausen concentration camp with an urn containing the ashes of Nazi victims.

TURKISH ANTISEMITISM

The Jewish community in Turkey is concerned at the antisemitic campaign being conducted by a number of Turkish newspapers.

A magazine has published an article violently attacking Jews and other minorities for voting against the Republican People's Party in the recent elections, and a newspaper has started a series of articles on "Zionist Plans to Conquer the world." The notorious antisemite, Atilhan, has written a book depicting Jews as the worst enemy of the Moslems. This anti-Jewish propaganda is widely distributed in Turkey's rural areas. The Chief Rabbinate is expected to ask the Turkish authorities to stop the campaign.—(J.C.)

Walter Gysling (Zuerich)

ANTISEMITISM ON TRIAL

Zuerich World Premiere of Max Frisch's "Andorra"

Max Frisch, who with Friedrich Duerrenmatt is the most important contemporary writer in Switzerland, has turned once more to the stage after devoting a fairly long period to novel writing. And he has come forward with his first big, new problem piece, "Andorra". For he has himself confessed that he only wrote "Biedermann und die Brandstifter" for practice, as "an attempt to be more concrete on the stage, more concerned with things, removing the reflective element in favour of the theatrical manifestation". "Andorra", however, described as a "play in 15 pictures", is a work long enough to fill an evening, the plot of which Frisch had been turning over in his mind for a long time. As early as April, 1946, he jotted down in his diary, and since published under the title "The Jew of Andorra", an idea which had occurred to him in a café in Zuerich shortly after he had made his first journey through post-war Germany. Although the diary reveals how much Frisch was concerned at the time with psychological questions, particularly to what extent we are, and become, what others constantly declare us to be, that is, the question of the magic sorcery of the word, it is certainly no accident, and scarcely unconnected with that first German trip, that Frisch chooses antisemitism as subject-matter for a concrete exploration of this problem.

Gentile Treated as Jew

In "Andorra", which is, of course, an imaginary realm and not the existing diminutive state in the Pyrenees, there lives a young man whom all believe to be a Jew. He has been rescued from a bordering country in which terrible persecutions of Jews are taking place, by a teacher who brings up the child in his own family. At first no harm comes to him, yet not a much love either; the Andorrans know he is a Jew and, concluding that he must be different from themselves, they tell him so again and again, not unkindly or harshly, until the belief is rammed home. Since Jews are supposed to be "unfeeling", they naturally tell young Andrin that as a Jew he can never have any feelings. On the other hand, they praise his sharpness of intellect as being "typically Jewish" and believe that, since he is a Jew, he must look at everything from the standpoint of money. In short,

they make him feel his alleged difference for so long that in the end he believes in it himself, grows into the part for which he has been cast and is proud of the character he has assumed. In the diary version of 1946 Andrin is horribly murdered as a Jew during an invasion by the wicked black neighbours into peaceful, white Andorra, this "epitome of all that is just, free and humane", as its intellectual officials term it. Afterwards it transpires that he was not a Jew at all, but a founding of indubitable Andorran origin. And of course the painful matter is duly hushed up. In the drama also we have the invasion by the wicked neighbours and Andrin's murder following on his identification as a Jew by the invading country's "Judenbeschaer", but his non-Jewishness has already been discovered. Andrin and the daughter of the teacher who brought him up love each other, but the teacher refused him the hand of his daughter, as he knows that Andrin is her half-brother and his natural son by a wife from the wicked border country. He was ashamed that his countrymen should know that he had had a child by a "foreigner from over there" and had therefore invented the story of the Jewish child saved from persecution. A visit from Andrin's mother persuades him to make the truth known, but no one believes it, not even Andrin himself, who has identified himself for years with the fate he has been talked into. The truth comes too late and the catastrophe cannot be prevented. The Andorrans stone Andrin's mother as a wicked foreigner from over the border, Andrin is murdered by the invading warriors from his mother's homeland, the teacher hangs himself in despair. His daughter is the only one who tries to save Andrin by giving herself to a soldier; her hair is shorn because she is a "Judenhure" and she becomes mad. The shattered heap of human fragments is there, but of course no one wants to bear the responsibility for it afterwards.

Effective Stagecraft

Frisch adopts one of the most effective tricks of the non-illusionist theatre by continually arresting time, as it were, and making the various Andorrans appear before an imaginary judges' bench to present their confessions and their excuses. At the end of each scene, as the stage grows dark, someone comes forward from the left towards the footlights, always someone who has pushed Andrin a step nearer his catastrophic end, with the assurance that he meant everything for the best, had never done anything wrong, had not been an accomplice in his death, had always disliked outrages, had never behaved like the rest and was, at any rate, innocent. Even the soldier, who was Andrin's rival and admits that he had never liked him, declares himself to be innocent; he had only carried out orders and thus done his duty as a soldier. All the types of human behaviour which helped to let loose the great tragedy in Andorra, and in Europe between 1933 and 1945, hatred, egoism, credulity, cowardice, thoughtless indifference and sheer unkindness, are sharply profiled and given concrete dramatic shape in the separate figures of Frisch's play.

The Zuerich Playhouse, the most important, and sometimes the only home of the free theatre in the whole of German-speaking territory between 1938 and 1945, was the perfect place for the premiere of this work, this accusation not only of antisemitism, but of the inhumanity of the all-too-human, the little everyday acts of cowardice and hypocrisy. The production by Kurt Hirschfeld did the play justice in all its phases, and an outstanding trio of actors, Peter Brogle, Ernst Schroeder and Kathrin Schmid, played the parts of Andrin, the teacher and his daughter. The play was enthusiastically received by the public, because that is good form nowadays: after all, one "was always against horrors of every kind" and one knows that a tragedy of this kind can fortunately only occur in Andorra, but not here. Or perhaps . . . ?

Old Acquaintances

Twice Unlucky: When Luise Rainer appeared in Elisabeth von Castonier's "Sardinenfischer" in Berlin, she became a star overnight, but her career was cut short by the Nazis. In spite of two "Oscars" for her performances in "The Great Ziegfeld" and "The Good Earth", La Rainer never got a chance again in Hollywood. Now, 25 years later, she is happily married to publisher Robert Knittel in London. Fritz Kortner remembered her and signed her on for his Munich production of "The Cherry Orchard." But her come-back is off because she was one of the 43 passengers on a flight from Munich to London who "hit the ceiling" when their plane plunged 3,000 feet, and she was hospitalised.—Elisabeth Bergner, who has not been seen on the English stage since she appeared in Molière's "Eingebildeter Kranker" in London over ten years ago, went to the States to star in "First Love". After a successful first night in New Haven, she withdrew from the cast for health reasons. So Lilli Darvas, Molnar's widow, will appear in Bergner's part when "First Love" reaches Broadway.

Milestones: Jan van Loewen, the Continental agent of many famous authors, celebrated his 60th birthday in London. After having studied in Heidelberg, Munich, Paris and Oxford, he appeared in "Die Schmiede" in Berlin in 1926, and helped to pave the way for Coward, Maugham and O'Neill on the German stage. He changed his profession to become a successful opera singer, but he returned to his first love when he met Cocteau in Paris. In 1937 van Loewen arrived in London and worked for the B.B.C. during the war. He introduced Sartre to the English public, and is now the agent for Graham Greene and Anouilh, and many Continental writers.—Maria Ivoguen, born in Budapest and introduced to the Munich opera public by Bruno Walter, is 70 years of age. She teaches at the Berlin Academy of Music; Elisabeth Schwartzkopf is one of her many pupils.

News from Everywhere: Old-timer Harry Piel has emigrated to South America, to join his son there.—Maria Fein, back from the States, has appeared in "Mrs. Warren's Profession" in Basle.—The late H. I. Rehfsch's "Verrat in Rome" was produced in Leipzig and received high praise there.—Imo Moszkowicz, a pupil of Gruendgen, is directing the new Ruehmann film, "Max der Taschendieb". He survived the Nazi régime underground in Germany.—In London Marcel Hellman's daughter, Renée, has edited "Celebrity Cooking for You", with 280 recipes by famous personalities, for charity.—Leon Askia, who returned from Hollywood, directed "A Taste of Honey" in Munich.—The film rights of "Your Obedient Servant", based on an idea by Dorothea Gotfurt, have been sold to Associated British.—Tilla Durieux has become a member of Berlin's Academy of Arts.

Obituary: Richard Weicher who, as director of the theatre in Frankfurt, paved the way for Fritz von Unruh and many other playwrights and actors in the 'twenties, has died in Frankfurt at the age of 81.—Willie Stettner has died in Hamburg, his birthplace, at the age of 66. Before 1933 he appeared as the buffoon in many operettas. He survived the Nazis in Zürich, where he was a member of Berhardt Theatre.—The former conductor of Hamburg's Opera, Werner Wolff, has died in Switzerland at the age of 78.—Wilhelm Schulze, a former Ullstein employee and editor of "Morgenpost" after the war, has died in Berlin, aged 65.

Austria: Curt Bois has received the German Great Cross of Merit. He has lately appeared in Molière's "Scapins Schelmenstreiche" at Vienna's Josefstadt.—The former film director, Willi Forst, has been awarded the Austrian Cross of Honour for Art and Science.—"Jedermann", produced in Salzburg by Gottfried Reinhardt, has been filmed and shown in Vienna.—A memorial tablet has been affixed to the house where Stefan Zweig was born 80 years ago.—Robert Stolz, recently back from a concert tour of Munich, Copenhagen, Antwerp and Amsterdam, is working on a new operetta, "Die Trauminsel".—Robert Jungk, now living in Vienna, received the City of Liège's International Peace Prize.

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MEMOIRS BY TWO GERMAN JEWS

A SERVANT TO JEWRY

Martin Rosenbluth's Reminiscences

Martin Rosenbluth's reminiscences* form a desirable and valuable first-hand contribution to the knowledge of former German Jewry and of the services rendered by German Jews to the Zionist world movement. The first half of the book is devoted to the early years the author spent at Messingwerk, near Eberswalde, north of Berlin. Martin Rosenbluth's father, as the numerous friends of the Rosenbluth clan will recall, was an executive of the metal firm of Aron Hirsch und Sohn, Halberstadt, which had acquired Messingwerk from the Prussian Crown in 1863. A small, but vigorous Jewish community developed, with Gustav Hirsch, the factory director, serving as the *Hazan* in the *Shool*. Services were according to the Hildesheimer brand of Jewish Orthodoxy.

Jewish Orthodoxy and German Culture

The German classical authors were given equal weight in the upbringing of the Rosenbluth children. The political outlook was "kaiser-treu". One of the author's brothers was killed in service during the First World War. About the turn of the century, the late Lazarus Barth, a kinsman of the Hirsch family, and an ardent proponent of the Zionist credo, was transferred to Messingwerk. However, Martin Rosenbluth's conversion was achieved only later, during his university years in Berlin, by the late Professor Eugen Taeubler. "German Zionists," Taeubler said, "need never regret the influence of their upbringing and their education. Their finest thoughts, their dreams, their imaginations would always be deeply influenced by their heritage of German childhood songs and fairy tales; by the remembrance of German hills and forests, fields and flowers; by the beautiful music of German composers and the immortal writings of the great

* Martin Rosenbluth: *Go Forth and Serve. Early Years and Public Life.* Herzl Press, New York, 1961. 318pp.

German authors; by the teachings of German scholars and scientists."

The second part of the book records some highlights of the fifty-one years (from 1910-61) Martin Rosenbluth spent in the service of the World Zionist Movement in Central Europe, Copenhagen, since 1933 in London and since 1940 in New York. Rosenbluth personifies what another author (Richard Lichtheim, *Die Geschichte des Deutschen Zionismus*, Jerusalem, 1954, p. 9) has singled out as the characteristic contribution of German Jews to the Zionist cause, viz. sense of organisation and discipline. Its importance is perhaps less obvious than spectacular, dramatic propaganda successes. But without the most intimate co-operation between forceful propagandists and patient administrators, the dream could never have become stable reality. Only insiders will ever realise the efforts invested by Dr. Rosenbluth since the proclamation of the State of Israel in 1948, in establishing and maintaining the name of the State as a good credit risk inside the Wall Street community of bankers and financiers.

It is gratifying to know that his achievements were appreciated by the Israel Government which granted citizenship to Dr. and Mrs. Rosenbluth even though they were neither born in the country nor have ever lived within its borders except for short periods as visitors.

Enlivened by Anecdotes

Dr. Rosenbluth's narrative is enlivened by numerous anecdotes, as a charming raconteur of which he commands a deserved reputation among his friends and admirers. He could, no doubt, have easily doubled the space allotted to him, by filling in worthwhile details. For instance: the last phase of Messingwerk (after he had left the place) witnessed the establishment of a Hachshara (retraining) centre for Halutzim.

While in New York, Dr. Rosenbluth co-operated with the German-Jewish Representative Committee of the World Jewish Congress. He has also been a member of the Board of Directors of the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe, Inc. since its inception. He has devotedly and ably served both the Zionist cause and the collective interests of the German Jews. May he be blessed with many more years to witness and enjoy the fruition of his labour.

DR. H. G. REISSNER.

FRANKFURT BEFORE THE FIRST WAR

This delightful little book* is by a lawyer who left his home-town Frankfurt early in 1936 and settled in what was then Palestine. While living at Ramot Hashavim it occurred to him that his children, born over there, should know something about their father's past, his family background and his education. So he wrote these chapters about his childhood, the town, the family, religion, schooling and fatherland. They are followed by copious notes on personalities mentioned in the text, institutions and some Hebrew words.

Spier was the son of a prosperous businessman, whose shoe-shop was well known in old Frankfurt as "der Schuh-Spier". Neither his father nor his mother was born at Frankfurt, both had moved to that centre towards the end of the last century, as did many other Jews from villages or smaller towns. Like so many of their fellow-Jews, the family lived in the east end of the town, near the Zoological Garden, and the little boy could hear from his nursery the notes of the exotic birds kept in that menagerie. Hence the

* Selmar Spier. *Vor 1914. Erinnerungen an Frankfurt, geschrieben in Israel.* Frankfurt a.M. 1961, Verlag Waldemar Kramer. DM. 6.80.

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original title of his first chapter, "Der Ruf des fremden Vogels". The Spiers were fairly Orthodox, eating kosher food, but their shop was not closed on Saturdays. The reader of "Vor 1914" gets an idea of the author's piety even before opening the book, as its cover, done after some old print, shows Frankfurt's Central Synagogue in Allerheiligenstrasse, which many emigrants remember so well. Spier received his first education in a school later to be called after its founder, Samson Raphael Hirsch, a strictly Orthodox establishment. It was a gloomy place, where incompetent masters would often flog their little victims.

The Goethe Gymnasium

When he was twelve years old he was transferred to a Grammar School, the Goethe Gymnasium, a stately building in the western part of the city, a so-called Reformgymnasium where Latin was no longer the first foreign language to be taught, but followed French in the fourth year of the curriculum. It was 1905 when Spier and I became proud pupils in that school, he entering a form called U III, while I was a mere "Quintaner". We did not have the same masters, but even so, Spier's description of conditions in our school was of great interest to me, as it must be to all those who survived the First World War and like to remember a now distant past. Once a year our headmaster read out the names of the boys who moved up to a higher form, and as he came from the far North of Germany, he pronounced Spier's name like the English word spear, which gave us Frankfurters great amusement.

Spier's last chapter, "Das Vaterland", has a more general appeal. Deeply interested in history and politics, the author here deals with the problematic position of a young Jew in a Christian state and society. Those school-leavers who did not enter business could as a rule only choose between law and medicine as a career. Spier chose the former, but his book stops short before he went to the university. His book is a "must" for all Frankfurters, but so great are his literary skill, his learning and his humour that it can be warmly recommended also to those in or from other parts of Germany, and to Jews and Gentiles alike.

W. MOREL.

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FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN SCENE

Verwoerd Alarms Community

Dr. Verwoerd's attack on the Jews has sent a ripple of fear through the Jewish community in South Africa. Jews have suddenly been given new grounds for anxiety.

Following the South African Government's reaction to Israel's voting for the censure motion against South Africa at the United Nations recently, a well-known Jewish professional man in Cape Town, Mr. Sydney East, wrote a letter to Dr. Verwoerd. He enclosed a cutting of a letter he had sent to newspapers criticising Israel's stand.

Dr. Verwoerd replied, saying that Israel's attitude at the U.N. was a tragedy for South African Jewry, and that the fact that so many Jews had voted for the Progressive Party in the General Election of October 18 and so few for Government candidates "did not pass unnoticed."

The reaction in some circles was that Dr. Verwoerd had issued an implied threat to the South African Jewish community. The Israeli Press, in editorial notes, called on South African Jews to heed the warning light. One paper stated: "Jews of South Africa must understand that racialism is indivisible."

In a speech later, Dr. Verwoerd attacked Israel again, this time for voting against South Africa in the sanctions debate at the U.N., and he added: "What is the value of the so-called threat contained in the letter? If I want to threaten the Jews of South Africa, I will not do it privately. I will threaten all of them."

The South African Jewish Board of Deputies has unanimously approved a statement by its Chairman, Dr. Teddy Schneider, welcoming the clarification of his letter by Dr. Verwoerd at a Nationalist Party executive meeting. Dr. Schneider, said the Premier's statement dispelled the disquiet caused by the letter and reaffirmed the democratic

right of Jewish citizens to support whichever parties they wished. "The Prime Minister has appealed to all to keep the country free from antisemitism, as it has been for more than a decade. We trust his appeal will be heeded and hope that as the basic issues have now been clarified, this controversy will be allowed to end," Dr. Schneider said.

The "Rand Daily Mail," criticising Dr. Schneider's statement, referred to it as "wishy-washy", saying that it "seeks to placate at all costs a policy which Jews, of all people, should know does not pay. It is true that Dr. Verwoerd has tried to overtake his indiscretions—not, mark you, in a public statement to the Jewish community, but in an off-the-cuff speech at a National Party executive meeting. For this favour the Board of Deputies practically swoons with gratitude. Thank goodness for the Jewish Press here—its voice, at least, has been clear and courageous."

"Conscience Clause"

A statement by the South African Jewish Board of Deputies asks public opinion in South Africa to take note of resolutions adopted by the Synod of the Cape Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerke. The resolutions call for the removal of the "Conscience Clause" at all South African universities and the appointment of Protestant teachers.

The Board says the resolutions are of great concern, not only to the Jewish community. To deny any person the right to teach in a State school on the ground of religious belief is a denial of freedom of conscience and also an infringement of the rights of citizenship.

A general meeting of the Bloemfontein branch of the Medical Association of South Africa, attended by 50 doctors, decided that the removal of the "Conscience Clause" from the constitution of the Orange Free State University in Bloemfontein, would not help in the establishment of a

medical school at the university. The majority of the general practitioners and specialists present were Afrikaans-speaking but, irrespective of their political opinions, they were united in their dislike of discrimination on the grounds of creed in the appointment of staff.—(J.C.)

Relationship with Israel

Mr. Eric Louw, the South African Foreign Minister, accused Israel of "hostility and ingratitude" for having supported the Afro-Asian censure of South Africa at the United Nations. Israel joined 66 other delegations in supporting a Liberian resolution censuring the South African delegate's speech. Not a single U.N. delegation supported South Africa.

The South African Government deeply resents the fact that Israel and Holland—two countries which it had regarded as friendly—openly opposed South African internal policy, instead of abstaining as did the British and U.S.A. delegations.

In a broadcast from New York, Mr. Louw recalled that the South African Government and individual members of the Cabinet had in the past gone out of their way to foster good relations with Israel, and that the Ministry of Finance had granted special facilities for the transfer of large sums of money to Israel by South African Jews. He said he was sure that "South Africans who had racial or religious ties with Israel would disapprove of the hostile and ungrateful action of the Israeli delegation at the United Nations".

As a result of the sharp criticism of Israel's attitude, a storm of controversy has broken out amongst the South African Jewish community. Official resolutions have been passed condemning Israel's action, although it is difficult to know whether or not these resolutions reflect Jewish public opinion.

South African inhabitants of Dutch origin have also condemned the stand taken by the Netherlands delegation. They adopted a resolution condemning Holland for supporting the Afro-Asian anti-apartheid motion.—(J.C.)

Fonds zur Abgeltung von Vermoögensverlusten politisch Verfolgter. Wien II. Taborstrasse Nr. 2-6

Der Fonds zählt im Rahmen seiner Statuten, welche am 2. Juli 1961 im Amtsblatt zur Wiener Zeitung veröffentlicht wurden, Entschädigungen fuer konfiszierte Guthaben auf Bankkonten, fuer Wertpapiere, Bargeld und Hypothekarforderungen und fuer die Entrichtung der Judenvermoögensabgabe und Reichsfluchtsteuer.

Andere Vermoögensverluste koennen nicht beruecksichtigt werden.

Formulare fuer Antragsberechtigte in Gross-Britannien sind bei der Oesterreichischen Botschaft, 18 Belgrave Mews, London, S.W.1, oder beim Austrian Desk der United Restitution Organisation 183/189 Finchley Road, London, N.W.3, zu erhalten.

Alle Interessenten werden gebeten ihre Antraege moeglichst bald zu ueberreichen, da der Fonds, abgesehen von Zahlungen an Personen, die das 70. Lebensjahr vor dem 31. August 1962 erreicht haben werden, erst leisten kann, wenn alle Antraege bearbeitet wurden. Wer seinen Antrag verspaeetet ueberreicht, verzoegert die Auszahlung an sich und an alle anderen Antragsteller.

Die Anmeldefrist endet am

31. August 1962.

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Antraege, die nach dem 31. August 1962 einlangen werden, koennen nicht mehr beruecksichtigt werden.

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Herbert Freedman

THE NAZI-HUNTERS OF LUDWIGSBURG

"Excuse me, Sir, how can I get to the prison?" I inquired from a passer-by at Ludwigsburg, the little township near Stuttgart, with its beautiful palace and lovely gardens, the erstwhile residence of the Dukes of Württemberg. The man stared at me, but directed me expertly. Everyone in Ludwigsburg knows the district prison.

It is a rule with prisons that it is easier to get in than to get out. Not so in Ludwigsburg. I had to prove my appointment with State Attorney Schuele, and when I passed a complicated system of gates and controls, one of his assistants came to take me up to the administration wing, where the "Centre for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes" has its spacious offices.

Oberstaatsanwalt Schuele, a tall and lean figure, with greyish hair, and the air of an army officer, came to greet me. His name is feared and hated among the Nazis in Germany, those who have gone into hiding and shed their identity, and the others who just hope that their crimes will remain anonymous.

This Centre is unprecedented in Germany's legal practice and history. When, four years ago, at the great Nazi trial in Ulm, it transpired that many of the crimes committed outside Germany had gone unpunished, a Conference of the Ministers of Justice of the German *Länder* decided in 1958 to unify all investigations under one authority, and this Centre was set up and charged to enquire what happened in the countries under German occupation and to search for the guilty. Once they were identified and arrested, the Centre was to hand them over to the competent German courts.

When State Attorney Schuele showed me round his offices and introduced me to his team of young and keen collaborators—attorneys, each of them responsible for a certain area—I had the impression of being at army headquarters; and, indeed, here an unrelenting war is being waged against the known and unknown set of Nazi criminals. Each room is dominated by a huge wall-map, demarcating the area of inquiry. All acts of violence committed in such an area fall within the competence of one investigation unit. Special units have been assigned to the concentration camps—Auschwitz, Mauthausen, Ravensbrück, Sachsenhausen. Others cover the former territories of the special S.S. commandos ("Einsatzgruppen") in Estonia, Minsk, Latvia, and Lithuania, and of the extermination camps at the "Generalgouvernement" Poland; others cover the domain of the Security Police in Cracow and Warsaw and those areas which at one time were incorporated in the "Reich"—Bialystok, Lodz, and the eastern provinces of Germany during the war. A special department deals with other countries, such as Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Greece, and Italy.

The Centre's task is to collect all obtainable material, to sift and evaluate it, and to present the indictments, clearly defined as to place, time, and the identity of the accused. This does not exclude the possibility that the public prosecutor to whom the material has been passed on asks the Centre for assistance in further investigations.

Resourceful Working Methods

How the Nazi-hunters of Ludwigsburg obtain their material is one of the most fascinating stories that have yet to be told. A principal source are the orders of the Reichsführer of the S.S. and Chief of German Police. But no less important are the many incidental pieces of information, picked up from talks and quarrels among the one-time comrades in crime, and sometimes even from ordinary trials. The divorce proceedings of a former member of the Einsatzgruppe 8, for instance, led to the arrest of its commandant, Dr. Otto Bradfisch, who was found guilty of accessory to murder in 15,000 cases and sentenced to ten years' penal servitude. Two of his accomplices—Wilhelm Schulz and Oskar Winkler—were sentenced to seven and three years' penal servitude respectively.

In many cases, such arrests cause chain reactions—each accused dragging others with him and opening up new vistas for the prosecution.

Oberstaatsanwalt Schuele himself takes charge of the actual arrests when the culprit in question is a "big shot"—and there are many, living under false names, who are now respected citizens, even in leading economic positions.

Altogether there are 291 cases pending, in different stages of preparation, involving thousands of people. The Auschwitz trial alone has a list of 950 accused, of whom so far only 27 are under arrest. Forty of those proceedings cover concentration camps, 81 "Einsatzgruppen", 67 the "Generalgouvernement", 153 the former Reichsgebiet, 29 other countries, and 19 are special cases, among them crimes committed during the "Kristallnacht". In two years' time, so State Attorney Schuele hopes, the Centre will have completed its task.

Naturally, our talk turns to the ever-recurring question of how many Germans were more or less active accomplices in the mass murder, and the figure of 80,000 is brought forward as the nearest approximation. When I raise the subject of the activities of the German army in Poland and Russia, the Oberstaatsanwalt rings for his secretary and asks for a certain file. Instead of answering, he takes out copies of two letters—one written by General Ulex, Commander of the Infantry in Sector South of the Eastern Front, to the Commander-in-Chief East, General Blaskowitz, and the other one by General Blaskowitz addressed to Hitler.

States General Ulex: "The acts of violence on the part of the police forces . . . show an incomprehensible lack of human and moral feeling, and bear the mark of bestiality . . . the only remedy to this undignified situation which defiles the honour of the German people is the transfer of all police forces, including all superiors and all civic authorities at the Generalgouvernement, who for months now have been onlookers of those ghastly crimes; their places are to be taken by honourable units".

Four days later General Blaskowitz reports to the Führer about the killing of 10,000 Jews: "The worst damage which is being afflicted to the German people by crimes like this is an immeasurable infection with brutality and moral depravity, which may soon spread like an epidemic. . . . With high authorities of the S.S. and police encouraging violence and terror, and even praising them publicly, the beast will reign in no time. People of doubtful character, whose minds are diseased, flock together, as is happening here in Poland, and let their animal and pathological instincts run amok. . . ." He added that the army was shocked and disgusted. "Its attitude to the S.S. and police is one of aversion and horror".

NAZI DOCTORS ON TRIAL

Three former doctors at the Nazi concentration camp at Sachsenhausen are on trial at Münster. They are Drs. Baumkoetter, Gaberle, and Adam.

Oskar Bloemer, a survivor of the camp, stated at the trial that, before being executed, most prisoners at the camp were strapped down over a wooden block and beaten by the S.S. guards. He stated he saw Baumkoetter and Gaberle at a number of executions.

Another witness said that Baumkoetter was the principal doctor and was as much feared in the camp as "Iron Gustav"—Gustav Sorge, the S.S. officer who was sentenced to hard labour for life by a court at Bonn some time ago.

Several other witnesses, however, testified in favour of the accused and said that Gaberle, Adam, and even Baumkoetter helped sick prisoners.—(J.C.)

WITNESSES FOR TARNOW MURDERS

The public prosecutor in Dortmund is conducting investigations into the mass murder of Jews at Tarnow, Poland, during the war. He is looking for former Jewish inhabitants of the town and the neighbouring area who might be able to testify about the murders. Witnesses are requested to get in touch with the Oberstaatsanwalt beim Landgericht, Dortmund, Kaiserstrasse, referring to file number 45 Js/18/6.

NEWS FROM AUSTRIA

INNSBRUCK CEMETERY DESECRATED

On the night of November 22nd, 40 tombstones of the Innsbruck Jewish cemetery were turned over and smeared with *odal runes*, the Austrian neo-Nazi symbol; it is assumed that the action was carried out by a well-organised band of terrorists. The day after, the Cantor of the community received an anonymous 'phone call announcing that the Synagogue would be blown up. The Tyrol Regional Government has promised an award of oesterr. S.50,000 for any information which might help to trace the culprits. Protest demonstrations against the desecration were held by the Free Students' Group and by Catholic and Protestant youth organisations.

The Council of Jews from Austria in Great Britain, in a protest resolution, said: "It is a painful thought for the surviving victims of Nazi persecution from Austria that their dead are not allowed to rest in peace." The resolution was submitted to the Austrian Minister of the Interior, Herr Afritsch.

In an interview with Herr Afritsch, a delegation of the Vienna Jewish Community Council expressed the concern of Austrian Jewry following the latest series of neo-Nazi and antisemitic incidents in Austria. The Minister stated, in a communiqué issued after the talks, that "the security forces had been instructed to use the most stringent measures to restrain persons and organisations interfering with the rule of law and democratic order, prejudicing the relations between citizens and damaging Austria's national standing."

S.D.-OFFICER ACQUITTED

A Vienna jury acquitted and discharged Josef Hoeblinger, accused of being an accessory in the killing of hundreds of Jews who were rounded up during the last days of the war and mowed down by machine-gun fire in a deserted valley in Lower Austria. The paper *Neues Oesterreich* describes the acquittal as "incomprehensible" in view of the facts which had been verified during the proceedings. A strong protest against the judgment was also published in the organ of the Vienna Jewish Community, *Die Gemeinde*.

AUSTRIAN NEO-NAZIS ARRESTED

Guenther Schweinberger, who is regarded as a key figure in the Austrian Nazi underground movement, gave himself up to the police, after his girl friend, also a neo-Nazi, had been arrested a few days before. Proceedings have been opened against him. Investigations in the activities of secret extreme right-wing organisations have so far resulted in the detention of ten leading neo-Nazis.

SYNAGOGUE MEMORIAL CONSECRATED

On the 23rd anniversary of the November pogroms, a memorial plaque was consecrated at the site of the former "Storchentempel" in Vienna.

CONFERENCE OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES

At a Conference of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Austria held in Vienna, questions of indemnification and of anti-Semitism were the main points on the agenda. The Conference also decided to confer the Federation's Golden Medal on the President of the Stadtschulrat, Dr. Max Neugebauer. This medal is awarded each year on the anniversary of the November pogroms to non-Jews who take a responsible part in the fight for human rights and against antisemitism.

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OBITUARY

SENATOR JOACHIM LIPSCHITZ

Joachim Lipschitz, the West Berlin Senator of the Interior, died on December 11th at the age of 43, following a heart attack during a session of the Senate. The death of this outstanding man will be particularly mourned by our readers as well as by Jewish emigrants all over the world. They have lost one of their staunchest friends.

His merits as a courageous politician and efficient administrator have been described fully in the national Press. Jews from Germany knew and appreciated him as one of the strongest supporters of a generous "Wiedergutmachungspolitik". As Senator of the Interior he directed and supervised the activities of the Berlin Indemnification Office. It is due to his guidance and inspiration that this office often developed a more generous practice than the indemnification authorities in other "Laender" of the Federal Republic. In certain questions Lipschitz paved the way for a liberal interpretation of the Indemnification Law, sometimes in open opposition to the "Bundesgerichtshof". He consistently endeavored to speed up indemnification proceedings. Some improvements introduced by the "BEG" of 1956 are mainly due to his influence.

The London visit of Senator Lipschitz in 1957 will always be remembered as a landmark in the field of "Wiedergutmachungspolitik". It was a courageous act, the act of a fighter. He was not afraid of meeting the Jewish emigrants in this country face to face, and that at a stage when the practical results of indemnification had not yet developed fully and when many of our people were still full of resentment and distrust. Before the public meeting took place the promoters of the function were not free of misgivings. It opened in a tense atmosphere, but it proved a full success. The sincerity of the speaker, supported by the Ambassador, Herr von Herwarth, gripped and convinced the audience. It was particularly striking that Lipschitz freely avowed that the "materielle Wiedergutmachung" would never be able to heal the wounds inflicted on the Jewish people and that it had to be supplemented by the "moralische Wiedergutmachung", the willingness of the German people to recognise their collective responsibility and to face the atrocious past.

The visit had practical consequences as well. The Senator was accompanied by some of the leading officials of the Indemnification Office, who remained in London for several weeks interviewing individual claimants. Many proceedings were thus speeded up and led to successful conclusion.

Recently Lipschitz was severely stricken by the untimely death of his son. Even so he never ceased in his unsparing work. If we consider the appalling burden of the manifold responsibilities the Senator of the Interior had to bear under the "Berlin crisis", we all are the more grateful to him for his sustained interest in indemnification work up to the last day of his all-too-short life.

E.S.

DR. GUSTAV KULLMANN

Dr. Gustav Kullmann, who passed away recently, dedicated his whole life to the rescue and rehabilitation of refugees. He started his career in this sphere under Nansen after the First World War and took a decisive part in the work for Russian refugees. When the Nazis came to power he became Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees under the auspices of the League of Nations. In this capacity he rendered signal services to the refugees from Germany and, later on, from other countries. He even managed to go to Nazi-occupied France during the war to do some rescue work. After the end of hostilities, when as an aftermath of the catastrophe new categories of refugees had to be looked after, he rendered his expert services to the United Nations and held leading positions in their refugee work until he reached the retirement age of 60 a few years ago.

During the war, when Dr. Kullmann was Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees, the AJR often had the opportunity of discussing with him the problems of the refugees in this country and of the Jews left on the Continent. In those years he also repeatedly addressed public meetings of the AJR to inform our members on developments of importance to them and their nearest ones. As a devoted worker, who combined compassion with a sense for practical requirements and who had a widespread knowledge, he will be gratefully remembered by all who knew him and, directly or indirectly, benefited from his activities.

DR. ARTHUR GALLINER

On December 12, Dr. Arthur Galliner passed away in his 84th year. For almost four decades he was the Art teacher at the Philanthropin in Frankfurt/Main. His gifts as an outstanding educationist were combined with those of an artist in his own right and of a prolific writer. His publications include a book on medieval glass painting, a monograph on Max Liebermann and numerous articles for art journals; he was also a contributor to the "Encyclopedia Judaica".

When Dr. Galliner came to this country in 1939, he was first appointed art master in a well-known college. Later on, he became a teacher of painting and lecturer on the History of Art at two important art schools. At the same time, he continued painting, and his works include portraits of Jewish personalities such as Dr. Leo Baeck, Sir Francis Simon and Lazarus Goldschmidt. His pictures were also shown in the exhibitions of Royal British Artists, and he was a member of the Hampstead Artists' Council. Though he thus succeeded in being integrated into the cultural life of this country, he was also well aware of the special problems foreign artists have to face: his assessment of their position is reflected in the article "The Refugee Artist"

which he wrote for the AJR's booklet "Britain's New Citizens" (1951).

As a strong and, at the same time, kind-hearted personality he will be gratefully remembered by his numerous friends and pupils, and we extend our sympathy to his widow and his family.

IN MEMORY OF LEO LANIA

When I started as a young journalist on the staff of the "Berliner Börsen-Kurier", Leo Lania, who died in Munich recently, was my first boss. Born in Kharkov, he came to Vienna while still a schoolboy. He wrote his first articles for the Socialist "Arbeiterzeitung", edited by Austerlitz.

During the first war he served as an Austrian officer on the Russian front and won the Iron Cross and the Silver Medal. After the end of the war Lania founded a news agency in Rome and tried to warn the Socialists of the growing Fascist danger. As special correspondent of *Popolo d'Italia*, he interviewed Hitler in 1923 in Munich.

In his book, "Gewehre auf Reisen", he described the results of his investigations of the illegal arms traffic by which secret Nationalist arsenals were built up; however, the authorities did not heed his sensational revelations. After a spell as city editor of "Börsen-Kurier" he worked with Piscator and also helped to script the "Dreigroschenoper" film. Victor Gollancz published his autobiography. "Today We are Brothers", shortly before the Second World War when Lania was still in France. After the fall of France he escaped to the United States, where he lectured for many Jewish causes all over the country. Five years ago he returned to Germany, more or less for good. Lania's last two books are biographies of Willy Brandt and Hemingway, published by Kindler in Munich. He was a fighting journalist and a courageous man.

PEM

DR. PAUL BACHMANN

It is learned with deep regret that Dr. Paul A. Bachmann died of a heart attack in Rome on his way home from a holiday in Israel. He was born in Nuernberg 48 years ago and came to England in 1933. He graduated in 1940 and, for many years, was a practitioner in Ewell, Surrey. When Otto Hirsch House (Kew) was opened in 1958, Dr. Bachmann agreed to become its Medical Officer. He held this appointment until 1960 and by his services rendered spade work during the initial period of the Home. His sudden and untimely death has come as a great shock to his relatives, friends and patients, who will always gratefully remember him as an upright and helpful man. We extend our sincerest sympathy to his widow and his children.

DR. JAMES ELLENBOGEN

Dr. James Ellenbogen died in Haifa, aged 77. For many years he was head of the Finance Department of the Berlin Jewish community. He first emigrated to Holland and reached Palestine in 1944, after having been a prisoner in Belsen.

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PERSONALIA

GERMAN-JEWISH SCIENTIST'S ENDOWMENT

To promote an Anglo-German scientific exchange in questions of experimental medical research, Dr. Wilhelm Feldberg, F.R.S. (London), has created an endowment deriving mainly from the compensation payments he received from Germany. It is understood that the endowment's assets amount to DM. 100,000 and is expected to rise to DM. 200,000. Out of the interest (at present DM. 4,000) each year one German and one English scientist are to be awarded; a lecture is to be given by the English prizewinner in Germany and by the German prizewinner in England. The first prizes, distributed recently, were bestowed on Professor Sir Lindor Brown (Oxford) and Professor Herbert Hensel (Marburg).

Dr. Feldberg was born in Hamburg in 1900. Being a Jew, he was dismissed as a Berlin University teacher in 1933. He emigrated to England and is now head of the Physiology and Pharmacology Division of the National Institute for Medical Research.

JAMES McDONALD HONOURED

On the occasion of his 75th birthday, James G. McDonald was presented with an Honorary Fellowship of the Weizmann Institute of Science. Mr. McDonald was a High Commissioner for Refugees at the League of Nations in the early years of the Nazi régime and later first United States Ambassador to Israel. At a luncheon given in his honour in New York, Mr. McDonald's efforts on behalf of the German Jews were also recalled; in spite of getting very inadequate moral and financial support from the League of Nations, he found new homes for many of them.

AWARD FOR DR. P. TUTTNAUER

Dr. Phoebus Tuttnauer, of Portman Place, London, W., took up painting some six years ago, at the age of 65. He has exhibited successfully in London and one of his paintings—a view of Lake Lugano—was awarded a silver plaque at the exhibition of medical art at the International Medical Congress in Turin.

Dr. Tuttnauer's work is now on exhibition at the Friends of Israeli Museums in London.

FAMILY EVENTS

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

Birthdays

Will—Mr. Louis Will, of 22 Dingwall Gardens, London, N.W.11, will celebrate his 91st birthday on January 15th, 1962. Mr. Will, who is in the best of health, was born in Schoenlanke.

Nathanson—Mrs. Jenny Nathanson (née Hobinstock), of 22 Dingwall Gardens, London, N.W.11, who has been looking after Mr. Will for the past 22 years, will be 75 on January 20th, 1962.

The AJR extends its sincerest congratulations to them both.

Deaths

Ballin—Mrs. Sidy Ballin (née Rosenmeyer), widow of Dr. Fritz Ballin, formerly Munich, passed away on December 3rd after a long illness. Deeply mourned by Harold Ballin and family and Gerda Dales and family. Villa Capri, Allum Lane, Elstree, Herts.

Heilbrunn—My dear mother, Mrs. Clementine Heilbrunn (née Rosenthal), died on November 12th, 1960. Margaret Jacobi, 61 Latimer Court, London, W.6.

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Women

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DEATH OF MAX HANSEN

Max Hansen, who suddenly died last month in Copenhagen, started his career as "Little Caruso" in variety before he was discovered by Emmeric Kalman and Hubert Marischka for "Countess Marizza" and subsequently became the highest-paid comedian of the 'twenties in Berlin. His biggest success was "Leopold" in Eric Charell's famous production of "White Horse Inn" at "Grosses Schauspielhaus", a part he played afterwards in all Scandinavian countries and, after the war, again in Berlin.

Together with the late Kurt Robitschek and Paul Morgan, Hansen founded the "Kabarett der Komiker", where he parodied Richard Tauber and starred in "Die Schoene Galathee". Before he had to leave Germany, because he was partly Jewish, he delighted his audiences in "Das Bezaubernde Fraulein" and "Kleines Cafe". In Vienna Hansen wrote "Axel an der Himmels-tuer" and appeared in it with Zarah Leander at "Theater an der Wien" under the directorship of A. Hellmer.

He was liked by everybody. Each year, on Christmas Eve, he held open house for all those who had no home of their own. He did not survive to see his twelve-year-old daughter appear on the stage in Copenhagen, where he lived with his wife and children.

PEM

HONOUR FOR ROME CHIEF RABBI

The President of Italy has bestowed the title of "Knight of Merit of the Italian Republic" on the Chief Rabbi of Rome, Professor Elio R. Toaff.

TEL AVIV MEETING IN MEMORY OF ERNST BERENT

Under the auspices of the Israeli Section of the Council of Jews from Germany and of the Group of Immigrants from Danzig, a memorial meeting for the Council's late Hon. Secretary, Mr. Ernst Berent, was held in Tel Aviv. Tribute was paid to him by Mr. Heinz Gerling on behalf of the Council and by Dr. Erwin Lichtenstein (formerly Danzig), who recalled Ernst Berent's effective and courageous work as Chairman of the Danzig Jewish community during the difficult years after 1933. The President of the Council, Dr. Siegfried Moses, was present at the meeting.

Letter to the Editor

PRAGUE MEMOIRS

Dear Sir,

In your November issue, which reached me only now, Eugen Winterberg, in his very interesting article on Prague, quotes a passage: "... und es werfelt und brodelte, und kafkat und kisch", which he ascribes to Egon Erwin Kisch. Actually, this satirical formula originated from Karl Kraus, who used it in order to ridicule the whole German Jewish literary atmosphere of pre-First World War Prague, paraphrasing a famous passage from Schiller's "Der Taucher" and inserting the names of four at that time most prominent authors.

Yours, etc.,

(Dr.) ROBERT WELTSCH.

Jerusalem,

December 10th, 1961

LEO BAECK MEMORIAL LECTURE

Dr. Leon Roth gave the annual Leo Baeck Memorial Lecture on "Ups and Downs in Jewish Ethics", under the auspices of the Society for Jewish Study and the B'nai B'rith Leo Baeck Lodge. He stated there were many differing rabbinical interpretations and explanations of the same Biblical texts, each revealing contradictory moral attitudes. "We seem to have no Jewish ethics to tell us which are the 'ups' and which are the 'downs'", said Dr. Roth.

Dr. Roth suggested that Jewish scholars should turn their learning to a consideration of these problems so that guidance could be given in instances where contrary moral attitudes were revealed. Two things were needed: to state the moral ideas of Judaism; and to bring them together into one intelligible and coherent whole. —(J.C.)

FESTSCHRIFT FOR ROBERT WELTSCH

As a tribute to Robert Weltsch on the occasion of his 70th birthday, a Festschrift (in German) has been published in Israel. The authors include, among others, Kurt Blumenfeld, Martin Buber, Hans Kohn, Siegfried Moses, Eva G. Reichmann, Ernst Simon and Alfred Wiener, and a review of the interesting contents will be published in our paper soon. The 220-page book (\$4) may be ordered through the AJR.

ENGLISH / GERMAN shorthand-typist, experienced, seeks full- of part-time or homework. Box 914.

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MISSING PERSONS

Enquiries by AJR

Henry Gordon Walton, born 14.2.1922 in Frankfurt a.M., formerly resident in Canada, between 1959 and 1.9.1961 in Frankfurt a.M. and Bonn, since then in London. Sought in restitution proceedings Amalie Wolowicz v. Deutsches Reich.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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Whilst, on many occasions, members of the AJR lend their assistance to old or needy members of our own community, they also take an active interest in other charitable schemes. If they live in Hampstead they will know that there are a considerable number of cases of poverty, linked with serious ill-health or infirmity within the boundaries of the Borough. To bring these people some joy and happiness, a Hampstead Old Folks' TV Society Ltd., has been founded, with the Mayor of Hampstead as its President. The Society does not ask for large sums, but every gift or regular contribution (which may also be paid under Covenant) will help to cover the rental of a television set for a needy Hampstead neighbour. One of the Society's methods which has proved particularly successful consists of forming people into groups of twelve, each of them contributing 1s. per week and thus jointly providing one set including the cost of installation and licence. Any donations should be sent to The Treasurer, Hampstead Old Folks' TV Society Ltd., 1 Downshire Hill, London, N.W.3.

FAREWELL DINNER FOR MATRON OF MANCHESTER HOME

On December 17th a farewell dinner party was given in honour of Mrs. Gertrude Blumenbach, to mark her retirement after more than 13 years' service as Matron of Morris Feinmann House, Manchester. This home had been founded by committee members of the AJR Manchester Branch.

Trained as a social worker and endowed with untiring energy and devotion, Mrs. Blumenbach was ideally suited for her task, which she accomplished with high distinction. Not the least of her achievements was the removal, in December, 1959, of 26 residents from the old home, conceived on the austerity lines of the post-war period, to the home built in Spath Road out of funds of the Jewish Trust Corporation. There, in the spacious new surroundings, Mrs. Blumenbach merged the old residents and some 20 new arrivals into one large family.

After a prolonged rest abroad Mrs. Blumenbach will rejoin Morris Feinmann House as a resident. She is succeeded as Matron by Miss Elsa Otto.

TALKS FOR YOUNG GERMANS

As readers know from previous announcements, an "Arbeitskreis 1961" has been founded to give young Germans in this country a platform for an exchange of views on topical questions. Under the heading "Germany Yesterday and Tomorrow" a series of talks has been arranged. The subject of the latest meeting was "The Jews in the Weimar Republic", with Dr. Eva G. Reichmann as the speaker. At the next function, on January 10th, Mr. Hans Jaeger will speak on "Das politische Ressentiment und seine Ueberwindung"; based on everyday life observations and on the lessons of past history he will, among others, deal with the questions of group relations and prejudices. The last lecture of the present series will be given on February 7th by Rabbi Dr. G. Salzberger on "Synagogue and Jewish Home". The programme for spring will be announced in due course. The meetings are held in the German CVJM, 35 Craven Terrace, W.2, at 8 p.m.

LASTENAUSGLEICH UND WIEDERGUTMACHUNG

Talk at Lawyers' Association Meeting

At the next meeting of the Association of Lawyers from Germany a lecture on questions of "Lastenausgleich" in connection with restitution claims will be given by Rechtsanwalt Ernst Muller. The meeting will be held on January 16, at 8 p.m., at 51 Belsize Park, London, N.W.3.

AJR MEETING IN GLASGOW

At a meeting of the Glasgow Society of Refugees, the AJR's Glasgow constituent, Dr. H. Reichmann spoke about "The cultural heritage of Central European Jewry" and outlined the activities of the Leo Baeck Institute. At question-time he also dealt with problems connected with the work of the AJR and the United Restitution Organisation.

THE HYPHEN

The Hyphen Programme for January includes theatre visits, outings, a special dinner and party, and At Homes. Further particulars can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, Miss Marion Koppel, 23 Paddington Green, London, W.2.

Nelly Wolfheim

WINTERFREUDEN IM OTTO SCHIFF HOUSE

Seit Jahren finden in den drei Londoner Heimen in etwa monatlichen Abständen künstlerische und andere Veranstaltungen statt, an denen ausser den Heimbewohnern auch ihre Angehörigen teilnehmen. Die folgende Schilderung von Frau Wolfheim gibt daher gleichzeitig ein Bild von der Ausgestaltung solcher Nachmittage in den anderen beiden Heimen, dem Leo Baeck House und dem Otto Hirsch House.—Ed.

Unsere Wintervergügungen fingen mit einem sehr lustigen, improvisierten Simchat Tora Abend an. Dann hatten wir, wie alljährlich, ein schönes Konzert von dem Ehepaar Lichtenstern gemeinsam mit Kantor Josef Dollinger. Es war zum Teil ein Wunschkonzert; doch gab es diesmal etwas Neues: Hanni Metzger-Lichtenstern und Josef Dollinger trugen—besonders für diejenigen von uns, die nicht in die Synagoge kommen können—liturgische Gesänge vor.

Ein zweites Konzert wurde von Mr. H. Blumenau, dem Chairman unseres House Committees, eingeleitet, der uns Miss Martindale vorstellte. Die junge Künstlerin, von ihrer Freundin Mrs. Brown begleitet, entzückte uns alle. Ausserdem spielte zu unserer Freude der uns bereits bekannte Geiger Van Dyle, mit seiner Frau am Klavier. Dann folgte die längst erwartete Lichtbildervorführung von Mr. Blumenau, der uns diesmal Aufnahmen von Frankreich zeigte.

Und dann kam die Chanukah-Woche. Rabbiner Dr. Salzberger leitete das Fest mit einer seiner schönen Ansprachen ein. Am Sonntag war die eigentliche Feier: Das Chanukah Cabaret von Mitgliedern des B'nai B'rith Circles führte ein vielseitiges, ausserordentlich gutes Programm vor. Die leuchtenden Augen der Zuschauer werden den Amateur-Künstlern gezeigt haben, welchen Anklang sie fanden. Eine erfreuliche Neueinrichtung war es, dass die jungen Künstler und wir Heimbewohner nachher noch eine Weile in lebhafter Unterhaltung zusammen blieben.

An einem Nachmittag kam Rabbiner Kokotek zum Lichtenanzünden, und da es in diesem Jahr bei uns an "Sängern" fehlte, war das von ihm so schön vorgetragene Chanukahlied eine besondere Freude. Er erzählte dann eine amüsante jüdische Legende, die uns in heitere Stimmung versetzte und auf das anschliessende Tee-Zusammensein nachwirkte.

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GERMAN EFFORTS OF ATONEMENT

"CRYSTAL NIGHT" ANNIVERSARY

The Jewish communities in West Germany held special ceremonies in memory of Jewish victims of Nazi persecution who perished during the infamous "Crystal Night", 23 years ago. Representatives of German authorities attended the ceremonies.

The central ceremony was held in the Jewish community centre in West Berlin; the speakers were Senator Joachim Lipschitz and the Chairman of the Jewish community, Heinz Galinski. The ceremony ended with a tribute to the non-Jewish citizens of the former German capital who, at the risk of their own lives, helped Jews during the Nazi régime.—(J.C.)

Press references to the event include an article in the *Frankfurter Rundschau*. It pays special tribute to the memory of two Jewish artists who were prominent members of the city's opera before 1933: Hans Erl and Magda Spiegel. When the arrested Jews were assembled in the "Festhall", the Nazis cruelly forced Erl to sing Sarastro's aria "In diesen heil'gen Hallen". Magda Spiegel, the paper writes, could have saved herself by accepting tempting offers from abroad; however, she stayed in Germany because she refused to believe in the danger to her life. Both singers perished in extermination camps. "The tragedy of the Frankfurt Jewish community, once 30,000 strong, drew to its conclusion; on each anniversary of the 9th of November it is Frankfurt's duty to remember the sins committed against innocent people on that day."

REPARATIONS SHIPS

The ship-building programme under The Hague Reparations Agreement with Israel has been completed with the delivery of the "Har Gilead", the 5,800-ton refrigeration ship.

German shipyards have during the past six years built 49 ships for Israel.

ERECTION OF MEMORIALS

Suggestion by Parliamentarians

A delegation of German Parliamentary Deputies and educationists who recently visited Israel declared in Frankfurt that German towns and villages should erect monuments commemorating former Jewish citizens who perished during the Nazi régime.—(J.C.)

Monuments Consecrated

To commemorate its former Jewish citizens the Westphalian town of Luebbecke erected a memorial stone on the site of the former synagogue which had been burnt down 23 years before. Dignitaries of the Protestant and Catholic Churches, as well as representatives of the governmental and municipal authorities and of the Jewish organisations, spoke at the ceremony which was held on November 12. A member of the AJR who, before 1933, was a city councillor in Luebbecke, recalls that his home town also has a considerably older memorial whose message was however ignored in our century. It is a stone in front of the old church with the following inscription (in Latin): "This church was enlarged A.D. 1350.—There was the pest.—The flagellants were roving.—The Jews were slain ('Judaei occidebantur')."

At present there lives in Luebbecke only one solitary Jew who returned from Auschwitz after an almost miraculous escape.

On the anniversary of the November pogroms a memorial tablet was also consecrated at Langendiebach, near Hanau. Addresses were delivered by Rabbi Dr. E. I. Lichtigfeld (Frankfurt), who was the guest of honour, and by representatives of the political, municipal and clerical authorities. Before 1933, the Mayor recalled, 39 Jews lived in the village, of whom 22 emigrated in 1942, and eleven were deported and perished. It is intended to compile a record with the names and dates of all former Jewish inhabitants.

CATHOLIC TRIBUTES TO VICTIMS

Church in Bergen-Belsen

In Bergen a Catholic church has been consecrated dedicated to the thousands of victims from 14 nations who were murdered in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.

The new church is called "Suehnekirche vom kostbaren Blut". The Bishop of Hildesheim, Dr. Jannssen, who initiated the project, said it was meant to be a visible expression of the tribute that German Catholics paid to the victims of Nazi persecution. He announced the establishment of a Catholic group aiming at promoting Christian-Jewish understanding and commemorating the victims of Nazi brutality.—(J.C.)

CHAPEL IN PLOETZENSEE

A Catholic Chapel named "Maria Regina Martyrum" was recently erected in Ploetzensee to commemorate the Nazi victims who were executed in the near-by prison.

LESSER URY EXHIBITION IN BERLIN

To mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of Lesser Ury an exhibition of his paintings was held in the "Haus am Luetzowplatz" (Berlin), not far from the artist's former studio at the Nollendorfplatz.

PREMIERE OF GHETTO PLAY

"The Wall", a play by the American, Millard Lampell, based on John Hersey's novel of the same name, had its German and European premiere at the Residenztheater in Munich.

The play describes the sufferings and death of the Jewish population of the Warsaw Ghetto.

CHORAL WORK

Based on Buber's Bible Translation

At this year's Musical Festival in Cassel a Choral Work "In the Beginning" by Guenter Bailas (Munich), based on the Book of Genesis, was performed for the first time. The underlying Biblical text was taken from the Bible translation by Martin Buber and Franz Rosenzweig.

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