

# AIR

Volume XL, No. 1, January 1968

## STARTING A MILESTONE YEAR

### Looking Forward, Looking Backward

As the year 1968 begins, the aviation industry finds itself in a state of transition. The past year has been marked by significant changes in the regulatory environment, technological advancements, and shifts in market dynamics. As we look forward to the challenges and opportunities of the new year, it is essential to reflect on the lessons learned from the past.

The aviation industry has long been characterized by its complexity and the high stakes involved in its operations. From the early days of flight to the modern era of commercial aviation, the industry has continually evolved. The challenges of the past, such as limited range and capacity, have been overcome through innovation and collaboration. As we move forward, the industry must continue to embrace change and adapt to the demands of a global market.

#### Early Action

The first few months of the year are critical for setting the tone for the rest of the year. Early action is required to address the regulatory changes and to ensure that all operations are in compliance. It is also an opportunity to reassess business strategies and to identify areas for improvement. By taking proactive measures, the industry can position itself for a successful year.

Looking back at the past year, the industry has shown remarkable resilience in the face of adversity. The challenges of the past have been met with determination and ingenuity. The industry has demonstrated its ability to adapt and thrive in a rapidly changing environment. As we look forward, the industry must continue to build on its strengths and to address its weaknesses. The future is bright, but it requires a commitment to excellence and a willingness to embrace change.

#### Directions for 1968

The year 1968 presents both challenges and opportunities for the aviation industry. The regulatory environment is changing, and the industry must stay abreast of these changes to ensure compliance. Technological advancements offer new possibilities for growth and efficiency. The market is expanding, and the industry must continue to invest in research and development to stay competitive. The industry must also focus on safety and security, which are paramount concerns for passengers and operators alike. By taking a proactive approach to these issues, the industry can ensure a safe and successful year.

The aviation industry is a dynamic and ever-changing one. It is a industry that has the potential to transform the way we travel and to connect people from all over the world. As we look forward to the year 1968, we must embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. We must continue to innovate and to collaborate, and we must always put safety and security first. The future is bright, and the possibilities are endless.

The industry must also focus on the needs of its customers. In a competitive market, customer satisfaction is key to success. The industry must continue to invest in customer service and to provide a high-quality experience for all passengers. By listening to customer feedback and by addressing their concerns, the industry can build loyalty and ensure long-term success. The year 1968 is a new beginning, and the industry must be prepared to meet the challenges of the future with confidence and determination.

#### Conclusion

The aviation industry is a complex and challenging one, but it is also a rewarding one. It is a industry that has the potential to make a positive impact on the world and to improve the lives of people everywhere. As we look forward to the year 1968, we must embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. We must continue to innovate and to collaborate, and we must always put safety and security first. The future is bright, and the possibilities are endless.

**Editorial**  
The following pages contain the names of the authors of the articles in this issue. The names are listed in alphabetical order of the authors' last names.

# AJR INFORMATION

Volume XL No. 1, January 1985

£1 (To non-members)

## STARTING A MILESTONE YEAR

### Looking Forward, Looking Backward

For those who have not yet noticed, a glance under the masthead above will reveal the magic roman numeral XL, which reminds us that we are entering upon our fortieth year as a journal. This would be no mean achievement even for a general periodical, but is all the more so for the house journal of a community. The enthusiastic support of our readers and the excellent contributions of our talented writing members are certainly two of the main reasons for this longevity.

Few papers can have such attentive readers, for there is an endless stream of evidence that the journal is read from cover to cover. Its extraordinary success in helping people find others for whom they are searching is a further proof of the close attention our readers all over the world are good enough to give us, and for which we are thankful.

There is actually a pre-history of the journal going back a further five years, which is not so well known. From 1941, when the AJR was founded, a small well-printed bulletin was issued at irregular intervals, more-or-less quarterly as 1945 approached. The capacity for self-organisation is already there, the systematic recruitment of members, first in London and then spreading to the provinces, a very quick and early awareness of British law and customs, and the presentation of the particular problems of the refugees in the most effective manner to the outside world.

### Early activity

All the anguish of those years is brought back forcefully by the worried speculation about the fate of family and friends across the Channel, and awareness of what is really going on in Europe comes very early. A service for the exchange of information on the whereabouts of refugees scattered all over the world was set up early and worked effectively. When the war was over there was immediate concern about caring for the survivors and helping them to emigrate from a ravaged continent, and there were first thoughts and pro-

posals for restitution. It is an impressive performance in difficult wartime conditions, and one can already see the very capable hand of Werner Rosenstock at work on it.

Well, we have come a long way since then, with considerable achievements chalked up by the Association as such, and by individual German Jews who have since made their contributions to British life in so many fields, from industry and commerce to the arts, public life and philanthropy, the various media and social service. They are well chronicled in the many stout, dark blue bound volumes of *AJR Information*. These volumes are now of great interest to historians, and this very month a scholar is coming all the way from Australia especially to consult them for his book.

### Stream of inquiries

We have a constant stream of inquiries, not only from scholars, but from newspapers and television and radio producers, checking facts, looking for leads and sources. We consider it our duty to keep them accurately and adequately informed, especially when there are those who, from either malice or ignorance, seek to distort or rewrite the past, even so recent a past.

As readers will have noticed, much thought is now being given to the present and future role and function of the AJR, and they will be hearing more as plans are clarified and brought to fruition. But we must also be concerned with defining and recording the nature of the German Jewish tradition, and with passing it on. How it can be best done is a matter for serious consideration. There is a general rhythm in the acculturation of immigrant communities almost everywhere. The first generation is busy absorbing the new environment and its values, while retaining the best of what it has brought with it. The next generation tends to assert and value its attachment to new-but-native surroundings. It is the secure third generation which grows increasingly interested in its roots and background—and we have some of them

writing for *AJR Information*. We must make sure that the accurate picture is there. Part of this function is of course carried out, at the highest level, by the Leo Baeck Institute and its Year-books.

Two important books have recently been published about the German Jewish community, excellent studies from which we learn a great deal: the collection of essays, *Exile in Great Britain* (ed. G. Hirschfeld), and Dr. Marion Berghahn's *German Jewish Refugees in England*, a sociological study.

Good and interesting as they are, one longs for something beyond them, while there is still time to marshal the authentic facts and ambience. The story of how tens of thousands of Jews were driven out of Germany and established themselves in the first generation in their new country, Britain, and made far-reaching contributions to British life in almost all fields of endeavour, is really an epic tale seeking an author.

### Innovators

There are the enterprising and innovative industrialists—or simply take the case of two brothers: Michael Hamburger, who with the recent publication of his *Collected Poems* has emerged as one of the finest poets writing in English today, and his brother Paul Hamlyn, who founded an original publishing empire (Hamlyn), sold it, and went on to establish another one (Octopus).

What one would like to see brought together are the fascinating individual life stories, and an overall view of the social phenomenon of the refugees coming over bewildered and disorientated after rejection by their country of birth, settling in and settling down, mastering their new environment and a new language, and setting to work energetically and imaginatively in their new country.

*continued on p. 2*

### Don't miss:

Shades of Old Vienna page 2

Film Festival page 6

'Dunera' letter page 8

Mother Courage page 12

continued from page 1

It is a scene and a narrative that require an historian of major gifts, one who can see and portray the fine detail and the broad sweep of events. Perhaps what one is really asking for is the approach and talents of the novelist. What Dan Jacobson did for South African Jewry in *The*

*Beginners* is perhaps what is needed. It would record with the faithfulness of the artist's imagination the eventful lives of the first generation for the illumination and understanding of those who follow. It can be done, it should be done, it must be done. Let us hope that the writer will meet his subject; soon.

Hugh Rank

## SHADES OF OLD VIENNA

I went to school in the second district of my native Vienna, self-deprecatingly called the 'Mazzesinsel'. I saw grown-ups smirk approvingly when youngsters jeered and shouted 'Moishe' at the 'alien' Polish Jews in their kaftans and sidecurls, years before Hitler came. Now that they are dead, tribute is being paid to them officially by the Austrian government which wishes to proclaim its contrition to all the world. We would have even more reason to be hurt if such contrition were not forthcoming.

For a month or so Vienna stood under the sign of 'Versunkene Welt' (should it not have been 'Versenkte Welt?') when, largely due to the untiring efforts of Dr. Leon Zelman, a Polish Jew, inmate first of Auschwitz, then of Ebensee near Mauthausen whose 'kadish' this was to be, the Jewish Welfare Service, in co-operation with the municipality of Vienna and the Institute of Jewish Affairs, London, arranged this great event.

Between the end of October and the end of November the Viennese had the opportunity to see an exhibition of 400 photos, 'Eye to Eye' depicting the life of Jewry in Eastern Europe before the Holocaust. These immensely moving photos, alive in all aspects of humanity, came from the New York Yivo Institute and from the celebrated Roman Vishniac collection, supplemented by photo documents from the book 'Die Mazzesinsel' (Löcker Verlag, Vienna) which every ex-Viennese will want to have. Incorporated in the exhibition were Andy Warhol's 'Jewish Portraits' (Einstein, Freud, Kafka *et al*). An outstanding catalogue is available (about £7.00).

### Fascinating talks

A comprehensive series of films in which Jewish themes play a central part, including 'The Chosen One' with Rod Steiger and Maximilian Schell; G. W. Pabst's 'Der Prozess' (1948); Veit Harlan's notorious 'Jud Süß' and a documentary 'Der Führer schenkt den Juden eine Stadt' (the donation was Theresienstadt) to name but a very few, were there to enlighten.

The third part in the proceedings was a symposium 'Die Welt von Gestern. Juden in der Habsburg Monarchie, 1815-1945', during which 15 Jewish scholars, each with an international reputation, spoke on a great variety of subjects, most of them fascinatingly, in a huge and crowded hall of the Town Hall, welcomed by the Mayor of Vienna and other dignitaries. The texts will be published. (Jewish Welcome Service, Stefansplatz 10).

The newspapers, radio and TV gave much prominence to events, TV showing a remarkable



45 min. documentary by Barbara Coudenhove-Kalergi on the 'shtetl', shot in Poland and Israel. Bundespräsident Kirchschräger attended the opening of the 'Zwi Perez Chajes Schule' in the Castellezgasse for (to start with) 130 children, the only Jewish school in the German-speaking world. The old school had been the point of departure for many children to concentration camps. The re-opening was a very festive occasion.

A small group of Jewish journalists from England, Germany, Israel, Switzerland, France and the USA were given an opportunity to meet a great many personalities and visit institutions. What was mainly on our minds was the question: what is the position of Jews in Austria today? How much antisemitism was there? There is no clear-cut answer. Before the war there were nearly 200,000 Jews in Austria, today about 10,000, most of them in Vienna. Most of those we met seemed prosperous, others seemed well cared for in an Old People's Home run by the Community.

'Antisemitism? "Harmless"', said one Jew to me. "It could be worse", said another. "As long as they don't tell me to my face, I don't care", said Gerhard Bronner, a very popular 'Kleinkunst' comedian, who is co-owner of the Kabaret 'Die Fledermaus' and who returned after the war.

There is only one young writer with a Jewish consciousness, Peter Stephan Jungk (son of Robert Jungk: 'Brighter Than a Thousand Suns') and he was not happy. 'The Jews seem so well off

here', I said. 'Yes, but they're businessmen', was the reply. According to a University report, published this year, 25% of the population admit to being strongly antisemitic, another 60% to being antisemitic in varying degrees. 'Education' is the watchword. The 'Mediakoffer' (packaged enlightening material) that goes to every school has done a very good job during the last few years, it is said.

We visited the archives of the Austrian resistance movement in the 'Altes Rathaus' where they publish a great deal of material on Austrian right wing extremism. We also visited a Jewish part-time school in the Tempelgasse with a flourishing orthodox kindergarten and where secondary pupils taught by an Israeli war veteran attend after ordinary school hours for Talmudic studies. Many later leave for Israel.

We visited the Old People's Home where a battle was raging between an assimilationist and a traditionalist section, focussed on pro- and anti-Kreisky sentiments. We attended a huge reception given by the Mayor, Dr Helmut Zilk, in the presence of Ed Koch, Mayor of New York, who also attended the memorial service on the anniversary of the 'Kristallnacht', at the resplendent and overcrowded synagogue in the Seitenstettengasse and addressed the congregation.

### Assimilation

We had a long discussion with Hans Weigl, who after the death of Friedrich Torberg, is at 77 the doyen of Austrian writers. Born a Jew, he represents assimilation *in extremis*, having left the faith in 1932 because he was not attracted by the religious instruction he received at school and objected to having to pay for attending religious services. He returned to Austria illegally from Switzerland in the summer of 1945 and can find no sign of antisemitism because the Austrians don't discuss each others' religion (they must have changed beyond recognition!), but judge artists solely by aesthetic standards. When I asked him why there was such a relative dearth of creative artistic talent in Austria as compared with before the war, he referred to Karajan, the Alban Berg Quartet, Peter Handke, Ingeborg Bachmann, Thomas Bernhard, the sculptors Wotruba (who had shared a bitter exile with Musil in Switzerland) and Hrdlicka. No wonder he had bitter arguments with the "Jewish" Friedrich Torberg who wrote to him that the "Austrians need the Jews more than the Jews need the Austrians".

We visited the Jewish Museum in Eisenstadt, one of the most important in Europe, opened two years ago. Our guide was Prof. Kurt Schubert, Ordinarius für Judaistik at the University, who had studied in Jerusalem and who speaks fluent Hebrew. It turned out that he was a devout Christian whose interest in Jews was first aroused at the age of 15, in 1938, when he saw them scrub the streets. I think we all said a silent prayer for him.

My British colleague expressed incomprehension as to why Jews should wish to live in Austria after the Holocaust. I share his feelings but here is the voice of an orthodox Jew, the great collector of Judaica, Max Berger: "I have always yearned for the world of my childhood. Nevertheless, I could not live as intensely in any other place in the world as in Vienna. There is this contradiction: in the real world we experience reality and in our soul there is mystery. These are the two poles between which we are not always able to choose."

## HOME NEWS

### BELSIZE SQUARE BEQUEST

Belsize Square Synagogue is to benefit from a munificent bequest by the late Alfons Neuburger, who immigrated from Augsburg during the Third Reich and became a successful engineer in this country. He died two years ago, leaving a residuary estate of some £500,000 equally between the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and the Belsize Square Synagogue.

### THOUSANDS AT AJEX PARADE

The 47th parade of Jewish ex-servicemen and women to the Cenotaph on November 18th was headed by many Jewish veterans of D-Day. The thousands-strong included four former Red Army men, now living in Israel, as well as French, Polish, Gibraltar, Israeli, and American ex-servicemen. The parade was planned once again by Philip Mishon of Ajex, who was unable to be present last year because of a road accident.

### NEW 'CONFERENCE' OFFICERS

The new President of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany is Dr. Israel Miller, senior vice-president of New York's Yeshiva University. Dr. Miller's appointment was confirmed after an election in New York a few weeks ago, which also led to the naming of four vice-presidents: Greville Janner, MP, president of the British Board of Deputies, Akiva Lewinsky of the Jewish Agency, David de Rothschild from the French-Jewish organisation Crif, and Jack J. Spitzer, chairman of B'nai B'rith International.

### A LIFE-LONG VIOLINIST

A violinist who made her first concert appearance at the age of 11, Henriette Canter was trained by some of the greatest in the Paris Conservatoire of 60 years ago. She came from a background of Lithuanian Orthodoxy and was widowed before the French armistice of 1940. Henriette, her mother and her young son managed to escape from Occupied Paris and the two women went to Tunis, whilst the boy joined the Free French Army in England. Madame Canter was able to work as a violinist and music teacher in Tunis and on occasion even had to play before high-ranking German officers. At the same time she was working for the Resistance and this brought her two French decorations after the war.

Before coming to London after the liberation of Tunis, Madame Canter met the RAF officer who was to become her second husband. She was happily reunited with her son and continued her career as a violinist. Together with Natalia Karp and Regina Schein, she formed the London Alpha Trio, and taught at Morley College and elsewhere.

A stroke suffered some years ago halted her music-making and today Madame Canter lives quietly in a retirement home.

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9.30 am-5 pm Monday to Thursday

9.30 am-1.30 pm Friday

### RECONCILIATION CEMENTED

After the reconciliation ceremony held at Ipswich by the Old Contemptibles association on the 70th anniversary of the beginning of the First World War, our member Herbert Sulzbach, who took part in the ceremony (see November '84 issue, p. 6), has been invited to become a patron of the Ipswich Old Contemptibles.

### ACTIVE JEWISH STUDIES CONGRESS

Hertford College, Oxford, was the scene of the second congress of the European Association for Jewish Studies, focused chiefly on "Methodology in Jewish studies". In addition, 35 short papers were read and scholars from eleven different countries were present. The next such congress is planned for 1987.

### NEW HOME FOR IMPORTANT LIBRARY

One of the finest collections of Judaica in the world, the Jews' College Library of 70,000 books, manuscripts and periodicals has been safely moved into its new, humidity-controlled building in Hendon. The archive has been in store or in temporary accommodation for the past two years, a period acknowledged by the librarian, Mr. Ezra Kahn, to have been very difficult for researchers. Now, however, the enormous task of re-cataloguing is being undertaken by Mr. Aron Prys and a reading-room has also been built at Hendon. Mr. Kahn hopes that students and the general public will in future receive immediate replies to their requests for information. Sadly, it will not be possible for individuals to browse on the shelves: past experience has shown that this leads to thefts. Nevertheless, researchers and other enquirers will continue to be welcome and facilities will improve as the Library becomes "settled in".

The oldest manuscript in the possession of Jews' College dates from the 8th century, but its main collection comes from Central and Eastern Europe, with additional titles from other European countries, the Middle East and Far East. Mr. Kahn appealed, not only for financial help from the Anglo-Jewish community, but also for the gift of books on Jewish subjects. He said that the Library could be much larger if it were supported by the Jewish community.

### GIFT FOR NEW CHURCH

Goodwill was evidenced by the Jewish community in Guildford when St. Joseph's, a new Roman Catholic church, was consecrated. A book on stained glass windows in Leon Cathedral, Spain, was presented to the church's library.

### CLUB CORRECTION

The correct opening times of the AJR Club are 2-7 pm, Sunday to Thursday.

## LET THERE BE MUSIC

'Brüderlein komm tanz mit mir' sang the residents of Heinrich Stahl House, the beautiful residential home in The Bishops Avenue, at the top of their voices. This was one of the highlights for pianist-singer Barbara Jacobson and soprano Helen Mignano when they gave a concert there recently. And after Helen had sung the waltz from 'Die Lustige Witwe' there was a great surprise—for up walked a living contemporary of Franz Lehar who had worked with him closely in Berlin.

It was Hans Casparius, resident of Heinrich Stahl House and still a great personality, who had been part of the operetta scene at the time working as producer, still photographer and collaborator. Such responses and discoveries, say Barbara and Helen, make their work as entertainers rewarding and exciting.

It was in 1936 that Barbara Jacobson, then Bertel Knoblauch, arrived in London from Leipzig after finishing her studies at the Leipziger Conservatorium. Her father the late Jacob Knoblauch, the furrier, had left Germany with the clothes he stood up in, when there still appeared to be no imminent danger. He, however, sensed disaster and, leaving all his possessions behind, tried to secure a home and living for his family. Mother Knoblauch followed, then Bertel and in quick succession the three brothers. Pappa Noble founded Noble Furs of Regent Street with borrowed money. The business is still in possession of the Noble family.

Barbara, who became a fully professional entertainer in the 40s, lost most of her sight in 1974 and now spends most of her time entertaining around the homes and day centres. She has given over 400 concerts. She is also resident pianist at the Swiss Cottage Holiday Inn, entertaining diners and enjoying every moment of it.

Barbara, who was a pupil at the Carlebach Schule, Leipzig, from 1922 to 1933, would like to hear from ex-Leipzigers who may remember her. A good friend reads *AJR Information* to her regularly on cassette.

### A MARCH FOR MAIDANEK

Visiting the site of Maidanek concentration camp in November 1983, a group of British journalists were struck by the coincidence that on that same day 40 years ago 18,400 Jews had been shot. They felt a need to mark the day in some manner and decided to hold a commemorative walk on November 4th (the date of the shooting was November 3rd, but fell on Shabbat in 1984). Thirty to forty people walked 18.4 miles, a mile for every thousand deaths, from Finsbury Park to the Holocaust Memorial in Hyde Park. There a memorial service was held by Rabbi Hugo Gryn and Bishop Pylak of Lublin, who had travelled specially from Poland for the occasion. From Hyde Park the marchers went to Westminster Cathedral, where a message was read on behalf of Cardinal Hume.

### BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE 51 Belsize Square, London, N.W.3

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## BIRTHDAYS

### PETER HERZ 90

The scene, a Viennese "Stammcafé". The waiter points at a corner where a number of guests surround a table presided over by the unmistakable figure: "Yes, the professor is over there." Nothing seems to have changed, and in an almost pre-war atmosphere Peter Herz, 90 this month, chats and jokes with a circle of friends, occasionally waving to people coming and going, some respectfully bowing when they pass.

For Peter Herz, author and librettist, feuilletonist and broadcaster, the word "retirement" does not seem to exist. Whether in Vienna, or during the summer months in Baden, his activities continue in full: attending the meetings of the Austrian Performing Right Society of which he is Vice President, writing articles for the leading Austrian Jewish monthly "Die Gemeinde", he still adds to the immense number of songs written decade after decade of which "Ringelspiel", "Das kleine Café in Hernals" and, of more recent date, "Zwanzig, dreissig Jahre jünger muesst' man sein" are examples which are sung and whistled by three generations.

A book on Peter Herz's life and experiences is due to be published shortly which will include his London period where—as everybody knows—he wrote revues in which he acted throughout the war and until 1954 at the "Blue Danube Club" in Finchley Road. Later, at Christmas 1961 and again in 1963, he appeared in London, twice again proving the success of his revues.

All of us, whether on or off stage (including the writer of these lines) remember those days of enjoyment with unqualified pleasure. Often his shows provided genuine relief during the darkest days of the war when he moved on stage in his own inimitable way, keeping personal contact with his audience which he lovingly called his "customers." And it is in the name of all these who enjoyed so much light-hearted fun through Peter Herz's work in London that we wish him well on his 90th birthday, and many more to come!

STEFAN BUKOWITZ

### EVA MICHAELIS 80

Mrs. Eva Michaelis-Stern has just turned 80 in Jerusalem. She is the widow of the first Vice-Chairman of the AJR and has had an outstanding career of devoted social service. She was born in Breslau the daughter of the pioneer child psychologist William Stern, and grew up in Hamburg, training and working as a gym teacher. She was involved from the beginning in the work of Youth Aliyah and was responsible for saving thousands of young boys and girls. She raised money for the organisation inside Germany and abroad and eventually moved to Jerusalem, where she married (her husband, a banker, was active in Jewish communal affairs). Henrietta Szold asked her to go to London to build up Youth Aliyah here, and from Britain she visited Poland and Czechoslovakia to arrange for young people to go to Palestine. During the war she continued her work from London and helped save thousands of children.

After her return to Jerusalem, she eventually retired from her Youth Aliyah work and devoted herself to communal and social work with the handicapped and the mentally retarded, and has also been associated with efforts to conserve the beauty of Jerusalem. She is also a good painter. We wish her many more years of strength and health and send our warmest greetings.

### YOUNG ISRAELIS LEARN GERMAN

Although the older immigrants from Germany treat the Goethe Institute in Tel Aviv as something of a meeting-place, exponents of German culture in Israel have found it difficult to attract young people to their courses, film shows and other gatherings. Five years ago, almost one-half of the visitors to the Institute library and functions spoke German, but now the proportion is only 10 per cent. However, some young Israelis attend courses in the German language, despite discouragement by their friends. The students explain that Germany has, since their earliest schooldays, been for them a dark and evil land. Yet they recognise that understanding can only come through meeting its people and for this a knowledge of the language is essential.

### BERLIN ARTIST'S SHOW

A retrospective exhibition of work by Leo Prochownik, the Berlin Jewish painter and illustrator has been arranged by his daughter to commemorate the 110th anniversary of his birth.

She also wishes to pay tribute to both known and unknown friends of the artist who, at considerable risk, rescued the works to be shown from the Nazis.

By bravery and cunning, Prochownik's work was spirited away under the very nose of the Gestapo. This same selfless courage saved the life of the artist's widow who was sheltered in hiding from 1943 until the end of the war.

The "hoard", comprising paintings, drawings, etc., many of which had been shown at exhibitions like The Secession and at galleries like Nikolai and Teichert, was found after the war in the cellar of the Berlin Jewish Hospital. Nearly everything remained in perfect condition. The Berlin Jewish Council were able to trace and contact the artist's widow, by then living in London, and return to her this astonishing find. Gertrude Prochownik had herself been a prominent personality in Berlin, owing to her executive positions in welfare and social work. She died in 1982, aged 97.

The courageous Berlin friends, whose beloved city is depicted in a substantial section of the exhibition, clearly motivated by a total faith in the permanent artistic value of the works, evidently also possessed a firm belief in a better future. We would like to think that their confidence was fully justified. The Exhibition will be held at the Alpine Gallery, 74 South Audley Street, London W1, from January 8th-19th 1985. Admission is free.

### PICTURE ARCHIVE ACQUISITIONS

In Berlin, the official picture archive, which is taking active steps to collect and preserve photographs of the city and its inhabitants, has just received a trunkful of 28,000 negatives taken by the well-known press photographer Erich Salomon. These unique records have been acquired by the Senate of Berlin from Salomon's son.

### CLUB 1943

Meetings on Mondays at 8 p.m.  
Hannah Karminski House  
9, Adamson Road, NW3

1985

- 7 Jan. Gerald Guttman: "The Fascination of Alpine Excursions" (with slides).
- 14 Jan. Sheila Levy: "A Survey of Jewish Art up to the 6th Century, including some medieval manuscripts" (with slides).
- 21 Jan. Peter Seglow, Lecturer at Brunel University: "The Post-Industrial Society".
- 28 Jan. Dr. E. Seligmann: "Drei Lebensbilder excentrischer Juden. Muslim, Kryptograph und Philantrop". 1. Teil "Muhammed Asad".
- 4 Feb. Dr. E. Seligmann: 2. Teil: "William F. Friedman".
- 11 Feb. Dr. E. Seligmann: 3. Teil: "Wilfred Israel".
- 18 Feb. Dr. Ruth von Schulz-Gaevernitz: "Die Menschheits-Idee bei den Griechen. Erkenntnis der Erdkugel. Die bewohnte Erde".
- 25 Feb. Else Goldschmidt: "The Beauties, Geology and History of some of North America's most exciting parks".
- 4 Mar. Hans Seelig: "More about Swiss writers, after recent personal contacts".

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# NEWS FROM ABROAD

## POLES AND "CAP ARCONA"

Three Hamburg lawyers, representing Polish relatives of people killed in Lübeck Bay in May 1945, have called on the Lübeck legal authorities to clarify the death of 400 former concentration camp inmates. Charges have been lodged against three men, so far unnamed. According to the lawyers' information, on 2nd May many hundred prisoners from the Danzig-Stutthof camp were put in small boats to be picked up by the "Cap Arcona" and "Thielbek" in Lübeck Bay. The captains, who already had 7,500 prisoners crammed on board, refused to take any more. They tried to sink the prisoners' boats but, failing in this, they told them to get ashore in Neustadt Bay.

As the small boats neared land in the early hours of 3rd May and the starving prisoners tried to save themselves by going on shore, they came under machine-gun fire from Marines, Hitler Youth and SS-men. Of some 900 prisoners sent from Danzig, only 351 survived. Later that same day, the "Cap Arcona" and another ship were sunk by British bombs. There was a short article on this incident in *AJR Information*, May 1983.

The lawyers say that the mass murders in Neustadt Bay have never been properly investigated.

## ITALIAN TOWNS RESTORE MONUMENTS

Italian regional authorities have recently shown great interest in restoring Jewish monuments as a tribute to the former communities and a means of preserving the historical record. One of the latest such restorations was that of the synagogue at Gorizia on the Italian-Yugoslav border. For the past five years, the Gorizia and district authorities have been engaged in work on the dilapidated 19th-century synagogue at a cost of nearly half a million pounds sterling. The Chief Rabbi of Trieste and the Israeli Consul in Milan were among those who attended the reopening ceremonies at the synagogue, which will probably become a museum of Jewish regional history, since very few Jews now live in Gorizia.

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## JEWISH NAME FOR ATHENS DISTRICT

The surname of Jessurun is perpetuated by Athenians who call Monastiraki, a district of their city, by that name in everyday speech. Monastiraki is a quarter of souvenir and second-hand shops, boasting a weekly "flea market"; this use originated with the brothers Behor and Eliezer Jessurun, who in 1860 opened the first Athenian shop selling antiques and secondhand goods. Competitors came to the area and soon the whole district was involved in the trade, led by the Jessurun family. Most of them were deported by the Nazis and the few Jessuruns left no longer engage in secondhand dealing.

## ZÜRICH SYNAGOGUE'S CENTENARY

It is just 100 years ago that the first Zürich Synagogue was built and its centenary was celebrated with a special service. It was not until 1862 that Swiss Jews obtained full right to settle in the city—a right denied them for 400 years. In 1864, 12 of the newly-settled Jews formed the Israelitische Cultusgemeinde Zürich. The synagogue was built under the auspices of the ICZ by Alfred Chlodera and Theophil Tschudi, in a Moorish style inspired by Gottfried Semper's synagogue in Dresden. The ICZ today numbers 5,600 members and is the largest Jewish religious association in Switzerland.

## REMEMBERING TRANSYLVANIAN JEWS

Distinguished delegates from many parts of the world attended memorial gatherings in Bucharest on the 40th anniversary of the deportation of Transylvanian Jews. Approximately 150,000 victims were despatched from Northern Transylvania to their deaths. Present at the ceremonies were Elie Wiesel, Professor Yehuda Bauer, Israeli Minister Mordecai Zippori, Dr. Jean Ancel of Yad Vashem, as well as representatives of leading Jewish organisations and world-wide communities.

## BUDAPEST JEWISH MUSEUM RE-OPENED

Marking the fortieth anniversary of the deportation of Hungarian Jews, the Mayor of Budapest was present at the re-opening of the Jewish Museum in the city. It is thought to possess the most valuable collection of Jewish religious objects in Europe and also houses numerous photographs and documents relating to the Holocaust.

## DANES RESCUED DANISH JEWS

Over the years, the credit for rescuing Danish Jews from Theresienstadt in 1943 has been given to Count Folke Bernadotte. But now a Danish doctor has stated that it was the Danish Red Cross which led the negotiations and that Count Bernadotte only came into the story when the Nazis had already agreed to release Danish Jews. Press investigators appear to support this contention.

According to Dr. Johannes Holm, on 8 March 1943 Ernst Kaltenbrunner of the Reichs Security Service agreed at a meeting with Danish Red Cross representatives that 1,000 Danish policemen held in Neuengamme should be transferred to a camp in Denmark. But the policemen said they refused to be released while Danish Jews were in Theresienstadt. After more negotiations, the Nazis gave permission for the Jews to be transferred to Denmark also; this was confirmed on 19 March. It was only after this that Count Bernadotte and his team began talks with the Germans and, so far as the Danes were concerned, he had merely to arrange transport from Theresienstadt—which, Dr. Holm says, the Count organised following pressure from the Danish Red Cross.

## HAPPY TIME FOR LISBON

An unusual event was recorded in Lisbon recently when the small community there rejoiced with a bride and groom and with a "Darby and Joan" in the same week.

The marriage was celebrated between Ana Cristina Wahnnon Cohen and Abraham Salomon Kolinski, whose parents were Polish and who has large business interests throughout Portugal. The synagogue was too small to hold all the 330 wedding guests, for this was a great event in the aging Jewish community.

Golden wedding pair Ermano and Erna Kahn, both German-born, were married in Hamburg in 1924, but by 1932 the family was established in Madrid, where they opened their home to Jews fleeing from Hitler. At first they used their own money to help refugees, but later had support from the American Joint's office in Madrid.

From 1949 to 1953, Germano Kahn was president of the Madrid community, while Erna helped to found a ladies' guild for charitable work. Both renewed their help to foreign Jews when Moroccan Jews came to Spain in large numbers in 1950/51. They moved to Lisbon in 1971, where Mr. Kahn is warden of the synagogue.

## SOVIET PROTESTS AT SENTENCE

Strong criticism has come from the Soviet Union on the six-year sentence of imprisonment imposed on Albert Eichelis by a Landau court. Eichelis, a former Nazi police officer, was convicted of involvement in the killing of 170 civilians in Latvia in 1942. In 1965, a court in Riga tried him in absentia and passed sentence of death on him.

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## JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

Jews have played a major role in the film industry for years, as writers, actors, producers and directors. Yet their portrayal on the screen has so often been stereotyped. In November the National Film Theatre in conjunction with the Spiro Institute held the first ever Jewish Film Festival in Britain.

Over three weeks they staged a series of films designed to get away from these traditional stereotypes. Most were the work of modern filmmakers, produced since the war in Europe, Israel and America. Few of them had been previously seen in Britain.

One of the most remarkable films was 'Regentropfen' made in West Germany in 1981. The setting is Germany from 1933 to 1936 and it tells the story of the Goldbach family who live in a small town in the Hunsruek mountains. The tale is told through the eyes of Bennie, their small son, who witnesses the increasing alienation of the Jews and the frustrations of waiting to emigrate. What is fascinating is that it is actually the autobiographical account of one of the directors, Harry Raymon, who was himself eight years old when his family managed to leave Germany in 1936.

### Matzot for eggs

At one point Bennie, the fictional character, endlessly questions his mother as to why they cannot continue the family custom of giving matzot to the neighbours, in exchange for Easter eggs. He observes the threatening behaviour of the Brownshirts, how they prevent 'Aryans' from entering his parent's haberdashery shop. Eventually the family are banned from using the town's only grocery shop. They are forced to move to Cologne, where they spend a twilight existence in a Jewish boarding house waiting for the precious visas.

Despite its dramatic content the film is almost understated. It is told in a straightforward, semi-documentary fashion and shot in black and white. This helps to re-create the contemporary ambience, especially the tense atmosphere of the boarding house where a mixed group of families from very different backgrounds try to make the best of the nightmare of waiting.

A similar atmosphere, though on an even narrower scale, is recreated in another film, 'The Jewish Wife'. The screenplay forms part of Brecht's 'The Rise and Fall of the Master Race', although the film was made in 1978 in the USA. It tells the agonising story of a woman married to a successful non-Jewish surgeon, whose position is being increasingly compromised by his wife's religion. She decides to leave him, so that his career might be safeguarded.

The film shows simply her last few hours in Berlin. She packs for her 'holiday' in Amsterdam and makes various phone calls to friends and relations. To some she is deliberately vague and to others she attempts to explain what she is doing. Interspersed there are powerful monologues where she tries to tell her husband how his attitude towards her has changed, as the external pressures have increased. The film is sparse to say the least.

It takes place entirely inside her flat, but it is beautifully shot and the pace and acting are remarkable.

Another American film is 'Image Before my Eyes', which was made in 1980. It is basically a compilation of documentary film which tells the story of pre-war Jewish Poland. Much of the material is new—unearthed from a wide range of different archives. It evokes an extraordinary vanished world of both stiel and town; rich cultural life, devout religious observance and committed Zionist activity. In between there are contemporary interviews with ageing survivors who describe their own experiences in pre-war Poland.

Survival is also the theme of the film 'Kaddish' made in 1984 which is the documentary account of a child of Holocaust survivors. Yossi Klein was born in America but inherited the trauma of his family's experiences and the film shows how he eventually comes to terms with this legacy.

These four films give only some idea of the impressive variety of modern Jewish films. The Festival also included the classic 'Jew Süß' based on Feuchtwanger's novel. And on the last evening it presented extracts from the notorious Nazi film 'Jud Süß', a travesty of Feuchtwanger's work. This was followed by an interesting discussion on the whole question of Jewish stereotyping—'Jud Süß' being the extreme example. Amongst those on the panel were the actress Miriam Margolyis and the director Rex Bloomstein who made 'Auschwitz and the Allies'. As for many of the other sessions the theatre was sold out, with disappointed customers turned away. The Festival was so successful that the organisers are already talking about bigger plans for next year. And meanwhile this year's Festival is set to tour the provinces.

SUZANNE FRANKS

### EXHIBITION

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### DISTINCTION FOR PORTRAITISTS

Two Jewish artists have recently received prestigious commissions for portraits. The first, Avigdor Arikha of Paris, was asked by the Scottish National Portrait Gallery to paint the Queen Mother in time for her birthday in August. This was an unexpected honour, as Mr. Arikha had never before received a portrait commission, although his likeness of Samuel Beckett hangs in the National Portrait Gallery and he has painted members of his family and other friends. His oil portrait of the Queen Mother was painted with only one sitting and exhibited less than a month later.

Hans Schwarz, a noted water-colour artist, has been asked by the National Portrait Gallery to paint the trade union personalities Tom Jackson, Jo Gormley and Sid Weighell. Mr. Schwarz is shortly to hold an exhibition at the Ben Uri Gallery, which will focus on his portraits of well-known Jews.

### "ADAM" ARCHIVE APPEAL

King's College, London, is hoping to acquire the archives and library of the review "Adam", founded and edited by Miron Grindea. At a recent reception attended by the Israeli Ambassador, the French cultural attaché and numerous literary figures, an appeal was made for funds to enable the college to preserve this valuable piece of cultural history.

### PRIZE FOR MUSICOLOGIST

The musicologist Dr. Mosco Carner has been awarded the Puccini Prize: he is a world-renowned expert on Puccini and Alban Berg. Now aged 80, Dr Carner emigrated from Germany in 1933 and in his younger days conducted many well-known British orchestras.

### NAUTICAL MUSICAL

*ROUGH CROSSING* by Tom Stoppard. Freely adapted from F. Molnár's 'Play at the Castle'. Music and songs by André Previn, lyrics by Tom Stoppard. Directed by Peter Wood. The National Theatre, in repertory at the Lyttelton.

Tom Stoppard has shifted the scene of Molnár's play to an ocean liner crossing the Atlantic in the thirties, and the two collaborators of the original model are writing a musical in this very different version. The framework is lightweight but just flexible enough to carry Stoppard's chain of comic turns successfully since his invention doesn't flag and he has us laughing all the way. It is frothy, quick-moving, full of verbal pyrotechnics, and altogether delightful. Into this unpretentious syllabus has plopped a masterpiece of comic characterisation, the cabin steward Dvornicheck, always getting lost on the ship, gulping the ordered drinks through misunderstanding the passenger's remarks, and an endless source of gossip and esoteric information. Michael Kitchen makes the most of a wonderful part. André Previn's music is lively and tuneful, and on this showing, he and Stoppard should certainly pool their talents in a full-blown musical.

M.S.

## OBITUARIES

## DR. JOSHUA BIERER

Dr. Joshua Bierer, the psychiatrist and pioneer in social psychiatry, has died in Tenerife at the age of 83. He was born in Austria from a long line of doctors—his great-grandfather had been court physician to the King of Serbia and a close friend of Herzl, and his grandfather was a leader of the Hebrew revival movement. Bierer trained with Alfred Adler and then worked in Berlin and Vienna. He came to Britain in 1938 and was appointed the first psychotherapist in a public mental hospital (Runwell, Essex). He served with the RAMC during the war. In 1946 he founded the social psychotherapy centre later called the Marlborough Day Hospital, the first of its kind in the world. He was concerned for the deprived and underprivileged and with his brother Immanuel was a co-founder of the Hashomer Hatzair movement. He was founder and chairman of the British Association of Social Psychiatry.

## WOLFGANG HEINZ

A great figure in the German theatre and film world, Professor Wolfgang Heinz has died in Berlin aged 84. Born in Pilsen, but Viennese by adoption, Wolfgang Heinz worked in Berlin with Max Reinhardt and Leopold Jessner, notably in the roles Woyzeck, Shylock and Falstaff. During the Nazi years, he acted in and directed productions in the Zürich Schauspielhaus. A lifelong Communist, he founded the left-wing New Theatre at the Scala, London, in 1948, but after it closed he moved to East Berlin. There he played many classic roles, including Lear, Professor Mamlock and Nathan der Weise, and produced Shakespeare, Shaw and Chekhov.

## HELEN ROSENAU

The art historian Dr. Helen Rosenau died recently at the age of 84. Her books, articles and lectures were often devoted to Jewish themes and she was the author of "A Short History of Jewish Art", "Rembrandt and the Jewish Element" and "Vision of the Temple in Judaism and Christianity", among other works. Her best known book was "The Ideal City". Dr. Rosenau was born in Monte Carlo but moved to Germany as a young girl. She obtained her doctorate at Hamburg University, but came to London in 1933, where she gained a PhD for her thesis on "The Architectural Development of the Synagogue". Later she lectured at various British universities. Helen Rosenau was married to Dr. Zvi Carmi, who died in 1950.

## ELISABETH LANDSMANN

A Gentile honoured by Yad Vashem, Mrs. Elisabeth Landsmann has died in Florida at the age of 95. At the time of the Nazi Machtergreifung, she was a social worker in Berlin and fearlessly displayed her opposition to the Nazis. On several occasions, SS-men threatened to "get her" if she helped Jews. Having sent her son to England to avoid his service in the Hitler Youth, she was able to shelter her Jewish neighbours from mob violence at the time of the November 1938 Pogrom. Afterwards Mrs. Landsmann arranged for 70 Jewish children to emigrate to Britain and continued her work for the Berlin Jewish community until mid-August 1939. Then a friend warned her that she was about to be sent to a concentration camp. Elisabeth Landsmann left Germany for England almost at the last moment before war broke out.

## HERRLINGEN SCHOOL

A lecture on the history and importance of the Juedische Landschulheim Herrlingen (1933-1939) was given by Lucie Schachne (Kaye) last October to an audience of teachers, adult educators and active personalities of the Deutsche Jugendbewegung within the framework of a seminar. The seminar, held at Burg Ludwigstein (near Hannover) under the auspices of the Archiv der deutschen Jugendbewegung, discussed the influence of the original Jugendbewegung and Reform-paedagogik on progressive boarding school education.

A book on the Juedische Landschulheim Herrlingen is now in preparation and will be published in 1985 by dipa verlag/Frankfurt. It will be written and edited by Lucie Schachne. The material for the documentation was researched by former teachers and pupils of the school who have also written some of their memories.

Further written contributions from anyone with memories about Herrlingen are still welcome. Please contact L. Schachne, 10c Belsize Park Gardens, London NW3.

## LBI MAN'S LECTURE TOUR

Invited by the German Society for Christian-Jewish Co-Operation, Professor Joseph Walk has been giving a series of lectures on Orthodox Jewry and Jewish education under the Nazis. He has visited Aachen, Duisburg, Hagen and Wuppertal. Professor Walk, 70 years old this year, is Director of the Leo Baeck Institute in Jerusalem and has written many books and articles on law and education as they affected the Jews under the Third Reich.



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## 'Dunera' Veterans

Through the courtesy of Mrs. E. Fischl-Lee, I have been made aware of your publication *AJR Information*. As the nominal secretary of the "Dunera" Club, a loosely bound association of persons who were deported on the ship "Dunera" in July 1940 to Australia, may I give you some news of our members. I presume you have read the three books relating to our ill-fated journey to Australia, namely Benzion Patkin's "The Dunera Internees", P. & L. Gillman's "Collar The Lot" and the latest, Cyril Pearl's "The Dunera Scandal". All three describe the terrible journey from Liverpool to Sydney.

However, none so far has concentrated on the fate of a few hundred "Refo's" who joined the Australian Armed Forces and served in the 8th Australian Employment Company, which was inaugurated in March 1942, and was dissolved in September 1946. Plus the struggles of many of our 1940 teenagers in establishing themselves without help from parents and/or friends in the then unfriendly climate of post-war Australia.

During the army period most of our time was spent in loading ships, transferring cargo on the railway or sorting ammunition in various ammunition dumps in New South Wales and Victoria. During this period some of us were released to work in essential industries, and today with about 200 left, we look back on the "good" old days of internment, transportation and army service with nostalgia.

The great majority of us have done reasonably well and some of us have become well known and respected in the fields of commerce, medicine, law, music and architecture.

For the last 10 years or so, we have had regular yearly reunions in Melbourne (where the majority of us live) and on a smaller scale in Sydney. Of course many of the original internees went back to England and on behalf of all of us, please accept our greetings to any of the old "Dunera" Boys. Should any of our old friends have any queries, I'll be happy to answer them.

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Victoria, Australia 3133.

JIMMY KING

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In 1982 a Committee of friends was formed and so far has worked successfully. But we do require the co-operation of more people. I will gladly supply you with further details. Tel.: 01-908 0946.

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ELSE RADO

## COOK SAVED FROM GESTAPO

Two witnesses have told Yad Vashem of how they were saved by Germans during the Second World War, and their rescuers have been awarded the Medal of the Righteous Gentile.

Nusla Körner, now living in Haifa, said that in 1943 in Poland, she saw an advertisement by Konrad David, a father of seven children working in a building firm. Mrs. Körner and her daughter were employed by him in his house. But one day she was recognised in the street and felt she had to tell Herr David the truth: that she was Jewish. He hid her for ten days in the house of his superior, who was on holiday. When the man came back, Konrad David arranged for Mrs. Körner to be employed in the builders' canteen as an "Aryan" cook. But again she was recognised and this time arrested, interrogated and tortured. Four days later, she was taken to the Gestapo office, where Herr David, wearing his SS uniform, had arrived to take her out of custody. He died some years ago and his medal was presented to his widow.

Helga Cohn told how her friend Kitty Hauschild had stood by her. She and her father had been taken into Kitty's house in Meiningen and her brother, too, had sheltered there. Later the Cohn family had gone to Berlin, where Mrs. Hauschild sent them food parcels.

An official of the Israeli Embassy in Bonn presented the two medals in Hamburg. Although some 1,600 Medals of the Righteous Gentile have been awarded, only 130 of them have gone to Germans, so this is indeed a rare honour.

In a Canadian ceremony, two Hungarian non-Jewish couples were awarded Yad Vashem's medal. Mr. and Mrs. Dreisziger provided false documents to three Jewish brothers in 1944 and helped a fourth brother to escape from a labour camp. Mr. and Mrs. Bankuti gave shelter to a Jewish woman and shared their food with her, even though they had very little for themselves.

## BOYS AND GIRLS

*THE HAPPIEST DAYS OF YOUR LIFE* by John Dighton. Directed by Clifford Williams. In the repertory of the Royal Shakespeare Company at the Barbican Theatre.

Now that there are girls in the sixth form at Eton and Westminster, not to mention lesser public schools, it might seem risky to revive this immediate-post-war farce. It is all about a girls' school (while its bombed-out premises are being rebuilt) being quartered by an officious Whitehall 'Devacuation Department' on a boys' school, to the shock, horror and consternation of both. It actually turns out to be funnier than ever in this successful revival.

Every society has its archetypes, and however far they may originally have been, or have grown, from reality, they still function at some level of consciousness. From Tom Brown to Billy Bunter to the incomparable Jennings (not to mention P. G. Wodehouse's *menagerie*) we seem to need them. When we see them in their purest form—the silly ass headmaster run by his senior master, the battle-axe headmistress and her hearty games mistress, the scheming boys and girls throwing spanners in their elders' plans—they release gales of laughter. Authority is mocked, but has some ultimate hold on our affections. Part of the pull is doubtless an element of nostalgia for a world well lost, but still regretted in its innocence, however much it may be a retrospective construct. Never mind the reasons, enjoy the fun.

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## ROUND THE GALLERIES

James (Jacques-Joseph) Tissot (1836-1902) was born in Nantes. His father was a draper and that, maybe, explains his interest in the details of fashion and women's clothing. Unlike many of his contemporaries, Tissot had a financially successful career, moving in fashionable circles both in London and Paris—this quite apart from his inherited wealth. In England he was known for his caricatures for Vanity Fair and for his many lucrative portrait commissions. After the death in 1882 of Kathleen Newton with whom he lived for many years and who often acted as his model, Tissot returned to Paris and achieved fame with his long series of illustrations of Old and New Testament scenes. The Tissot exhibition at the Barbican (until 20 January) is the largest and most comprehensive exhibition of his work (over 200 exhibits) ever shown. Following its London showing it will go to Manchester and then to Paris.

I had not intended to visit the Philpot exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery, but am very glad that I did. Glyn Philpot (1884-1937) mixed in Society and the world of literature, theatre and the ballet. He painted elegant portraits of many of the well-known figures of his day, including Lady Melchett, Siegfried Sassoon and Sir Oswald Mosley. The exhibition continues to 10 February and the catalogue (£6.95) is worthy of a place on any art bookshelf.

Of the private galleries, special mention must be made of the exhibition of two Scottish painters at Leinster Fine Art, 9 Hereford Road, W2 (until mid-January). Both the artists, Will Maclean and Barbara Roe, are powerful painters who draw their inspiration from the Scottish Highlands and early Celtic culture.

At the Bernard Jacobson Gallery (2a, Cork Street, W1) there is an exhibition (until 12 January) of new works on paper by several interesting artists, including Ivor Abrahams and Josef Herman. The exhibition also includes several pictures by Michael Heindorff who had an exhibition only recently at the gallery and who won the Schmidt-Rottluff prize in 1981.

Still in Cork Street, the Piccadilly Gallery (at No. 16) is showing Twentieth Century British & Continental Drawings and Water-Colours (until 11 January). It is an interesting collection, includ-

ing works by Kirchner, Grosz, Hubbach, Klee and Schlichter. Across the road, at No. 20, is the Redfern Gallery which is showing recent works by Norman Stevens (until 19 January). They still have on view some paintings and drawings from their recent exhibition of works by Karl Weschke, born in Thuringen in 1925 and now living in London.

Finally, Anthony d'Offay at 9 & 23 Dering Street, W1 is showing Willem de Kooning's paintings and sculpture (until 11 January). Here, too, there is an excellent illustrated catalogue (price £6 during the exhibition).

ALICE SCHWAB



Tissot: Reading the News

### FREETHINKERS' END

It is just over a century ago that a regulation was passed in Berlin closing all cemeteries within the city. At that time the Jewish cemetery at Weissensee was founded. The city itself established a graveyard for the poor in Friedrichsfelde and, to cover part of the expense, decided to offer an area where people of no religious faith might be buried. Today the SED memorial to socialists is situated in that corner of the cemetery where freethinking Jews were buried but some gravestones still remain. Also standing is a 50-foot-long wall with sixteen tablets set in it—almost every one showing as the place of death the too-well-known names: Auschwitz-Oswiecim, Jungfernhof, Maidanek, Theresienstadt-Terezin.

The historian Dr. Helmut Eschwege finds this wall one of the most striking memorials of the Holocaust, yet it is almost unknown. He is compiling a history of Jewish cemeteries in DDR territory and would be glad to hear from former Berliners or anyone else with knowledge of burial-places for non-religious Jews. His address is: DDR 8019-Dresden, Comeniusstr. 68-8/6.

### BRAZIL'S "JEWEL KING"

Travellers in South America are used to seeing the ubiquitous advertisements for the jewellery firm of Stern. If they go to Rio de Janeiro, they will find a free taxi ride offered to hotel guests wishing to visit the large modern building occupied by Stern. Met by hostesses, the prospective buyer sees demonstrations of mining and precious stone cutting, with a commentary in his own language. This is followed by an invitation to purchase gems and, if the visitor can resist the more expensive pieces, he is led to the ground floor, where cheaper jewellery is available. Few indeed are those who are not tempted—and even they are given another free taxi ride back to their hotel.

This vast gem-stone empire, with branches in 60 countries, is the work of one man, Hans Stern, the son of a Jewish engineer from Essen. Born blind in 1923, in his childhood he underwent an operation to enable him to see. His family emigrated to Brazil in 1939 and the 16-year-old boy found a job as foreign language correspondent with a dealer in precious stones. He studied gemmology and swiftly rose in his profession.

In 1945, still only 23, Hans Stern decided to become independent. He sold his treasured accordion, brought from Germany, for about \$200, his sole capital. Strictly honest, he soon became one of Rio's leading gem-buyers. But he still lacked capital and his career did not take off until in 1951 President Somoza of Nicaragua gave him a commission for a valuable aquamarine necklace.

As the Portuguese long ago discovered, Brazil possesses great richness in precious and semi-precious stones. Hans Stern travelled throughout the country, wherever diamonds, aquamarines, topazes, amethysts, chalcedony, tourmalines and rock-crystal were being found by hundreds of individual prospectors, *garimpeiros*. He came to know their hard lives and rough customs, and chattered with them for their finds. Today, many *garimpeiros* work exclusively for Stern. The firm's customers receive a year's guarantee enabling them to exchange jewellery or receive a credit for the full purchase price. Every owner of a Stern jewel is carefully listed and sent birthday and anniversary cards.

In his own country and far beyond, the boy from Essen is known as the "Jewel King of Brazil".

### LUTHERAN TRIBUTE TO WALLENBURG

The Lutheran World Federation recently held its assembly in Budapest. For the first time, the meeting was addressed by a non-Christian—Dr. Gerhart M. Riegner of the World Jewish Congress and International Jewish Committee on Inter-Religious Consultations. The Bishop of Sweden paid tribute to Raoul Wallenberg, who was himself a Lutheran, saying that the Swedish diplomat's love for his fellows "inspires us to renew our commitment to our sisters and brothers in the Jewish community".

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## UNIVERSITY COLLABORATION

The sixth in a series of agreements between the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and West German higher education foundations has lately been signed. It provides for co-operation between the University of Hamburg and the Hebrew University, with the possibility of student exchanges and joint research into German-Jewish history.

## NEW WAVE OF GERMAN TOURISTS

German visitors to Israel have once again outnumbered those from other European countries. In the past two years, French and English tourists have headed the lists, but in the six months to July 1984 76,000 Germans came to Israel, 10,000 more than in the corresponding months of 1983. American citizens made up the bulk of the 730,000 visitors to Israel over the first six months of 1984.

## NEW BRAZILIAN PROFESSORSHIP

A new chair of Yiddish language and culture, combined with Holocaust studies, is to be inaugurated at Hacheiya Hebrew School in São Paulo. This is something of an experiment—the chair is the first of its kind in Latin America, and if sufficient interest is shown the chair will be transferred to São Paulo's Catholic University. There are already two chairs of Hebrew in Brazil.

## FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in this column are free of charge, but voluntary donations would be appreciated. Texts should reach us by the 10th of the preceding month.

## Birthdays

**Baruch:**—Alfred Baruch celebrated his 85th birthday on 26 December. Flat 12, Aberdeen Court, Maida Vale, W9.

**Herz:**—The AJR Club would like to send heartiest congratulations to Professor Peter Herz on his 90th birthday.

**Katz:**—Hertha Katz, of 69 Delaware Mansions, Delaware Road, W9, will celebrate her 75th birthday on 27 January.

## Deaths

**Sonneberg:**—Nellie Juliette Sonneberg, died peacefully on 9 November aged 84, widow of Edgar and mother

of the late Fred Sonneberg. Deeply mourned by her daughter Ilse Blitz, son-in-law Jack and, grandchildren Susan and Robert.

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**GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN** of 1. Henrietta Herrmann (1833-1877) and Aron Lemlein (1926-1909) died in Odenberg. 2. Abraham Herrmann (1837-1913) and Frederike Sohnabach (1841-1888) died in New York. 3. Joseph Herrmann (1840-1924) and Julie Halle (1836-1895) died in Mark-Friedland. 4. Semmy Herrmann (1843-1906) and Elise Herz (1847-

1914) died in Berlin. 5. Philippine Herrmann (1844-1873) and Hermann Halle (1934-1901) died in Mark-Friedland. 6. Emanuel Herrmann (1845-1900) and Regina Levy (1854-1918) died in Berlin. Please contact Dr. Peter Stern Bucky, 5 Horizon Road, Apt. 2002, Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024, USA.

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Hedi lives with her father, 91-year-old Max Schnabel, who fled from Austria with his wife and daughter in the face of Nazi persecution. He still visits Israel regularly to see members of his family. His daughter proudly explains that Mr. Schnabel was one of the earliest Zionists in Vienna and taught Jerusalem's Mayor Teddy Kollek Jewish history, while both were members of a Zionist group.

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# THEATRE AND CULTURE

**A Boom in Opera Houses.** This seems to be a "winter of content" for opera lovers everywhere. On the continent, the Budapest opera house opened its doors for the first time since 1979, exactly 100 years after its original construction, Stuttgart presented its renovated opera house last November, the Graz opera moves back into its "new" old building this month, soon Dresden will re-open the world-famous "Semper" opera where between 1901 and 1938 many of the Richard Strauss works from "Feuersnot" to "Daphne" were heard for the first time. Even in Britain where quality outweighs the number of houses available, Opera North in Leeds as well as the Welsh and the Scottish opera, and in London the "New Sadler's Wells" (admittedly with shorter seasons) have made their mark during these last 2 years.

**50 years ago** the musicals of the English-speaking world received strong impetus by the first Ivor Novello work "Glamorous Nights", followed by the by now classic "Porgy and Bess" by Gershwin on the other side of the Atlantic. **Birthdays.** Eugene Ormandy, the American conductor of Hungarian origin who conducted the renowned Philadelphia Orchestra for over 40 years, had his 85th birthday in November and was honoured by that city as "Conductor Laureate." Hans Holt, the Viennese actor whose debut on stage in 1930 was followed by the first of his many film appearances in 1935, now a member of the "Josefstadt" theatre for over 40 years, celebrated his 75th birthday.

**German Television.** Following a great success and popular demand, the ZDF repeated the short episode of an elderly couple's love story "Wenn ich Dich nicht haette" with Rudolf Platte and

Elisabeth Bergner, who portrayed a woman of forceful energy with her unique mixture of strength and almost youthful helplessness.

**A Lehar Biography.** A survey of the composer's life which consists mainly of letters and quotations, written by Otto Schneidereit (published by Pinguin Verlag, Innsbruck) does not, perhaps, do full justice to Lehar as the great operetta composer, despite its dealing with Lehar's works from his early beginnings to the great operatic swansong "Giuditta." This may have two reasons: the writer has much to say about his own attitude to the silver era of Viennese operetta and thus digresses frequently from the actual subject; also, Schneidereit who died shortly after he had completed the first draft of the book, had perhaps no chance of expressing his doubtlessly excellent intentions as fully as he would have in a revised version. Nevertheless, Lehar, the brilliant musician, remains the book's dominant figure.

S.B.

## BARBICAN'S MOTHER COURAGE

*MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN* by Bertolt Brecht. In a version by Hanif Kureishi from a literal translation by Sue Davies. Directed by Howard Davies. The Royal Shakespeare Company, in repertory at the Barbican.

The RSC have put a great deal into this production, not least by casting the irresistibly charis-

matic Judi Dench as Mother Courage. Her cart is an ingenious all-purpose contraption, a triumph of 17th century technology, dragged in a circle round the stage. Sound and lighting are very effective. All this care and attention should enhance a classic.

But is it a classic? As it rolled on from scene to familiar scene, I began to wonder. Yes, war is terrible, as anyone who has ever been in one can bear witness, and yes, these are the horrors, anarchy and dislocations war produces. Despite the rounded characterisation of Mother Courage, the humour and the succession of incidents, one felt increasingly that one was being manipulated to a thesis.

I read the text again afterwards, and especially that terrible scene where Mother Courage lets her son be killed because she is so reluctant to pay the 200 shilling bribe to free him. I couldn't believe this for one moment: it militates against her attachment to her children shown elsewhere, and her full cynical knowledge of what men at war are capable of. Brecht wants us to see how evil capitalism is by making Courage put financial considerations before the life of her son.

He had an obsessive hatred of trade, which came out, for example, when, in their Danish exile, his wife Helene Weigel sold their Copenhagen house for more than they paid for it, and he attributed the wicked profit made to her grasping Jewishness. The ideological message which keeps the play's machinery grinding undermines its human values, and eventually boils them off into vacuity.

Nevertheless, Judi Dench's performance is one to see, and Zoe Wanamaker is very powerful as Courage's dumb daughter Katrin. Katrin is dumb, by the way, because Brecht wanted to provide a part for Weigel when they were in Sweden and planning to put it on there, and Weigel did not, of course, know Swedish. M.S.

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