

INFORMATION

ISSUED BY THE

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN GREAT BRITAIN

A YEAR OF SUCCESS

AJR General Meeting

This year's Annual General Meeting on June 28 at Hannah Karminski House not only re-affirmed the undiminished need for the AJR as the representative body of our community but also testified to the organisation's continuous accomplishment of new tasks. Dr. F. E. Falk, Vice-Chairman of the AJR, who presided, extended the apologies of the Chairman, Mr. C. T. Marx, who had been unable to attend. He paid tribute to the Board members, who had died during the past year: Dr. Arthur Kaufmann, Dr. Herbert Lawton and Dr. Julius Loeb. He also commemorated Dr. Adelheid Levy, who had been in charge of the Social Services Department from the inception of the AJR until 1968.

In his report on the general position, Dr. W. Rosenstock, Director of the AJR, referred to the impact which, notwithstanding its manifold shortcomings, the *Holocaust Film* had made in Germany, Britain and almost all other countries in which it was shown. He also stressed the duty of the survivors to save the names of the victims from oblivion. For this purpose, a "Hall of Names" had been created in Yad Vashem, Jerusalem. He appealed to the audience to register the names of relatives and friends of theirs, to be enshrined in the Hall; the necessary forms may be ordered from the Board of Deputies of British Jews, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0EP.

Referring to the political situation in this country, he stressed that, although the National Front had obtained only comparatively few votes in the General Election, the danger of its activities should not be underestimated.

Turning to the work of the AJR, the speaker reported that the Office constantly received enquiries on legal questions most of which were connected with the award of German Social Insurance pensions and the taxability of various kinds of payments to Nazi victims. Though the office had no experts on its staff, it tried to give information on matters of a general nature, but in more complicated cases enquirers were directed to the few professional experts working in this field.

Dr. Rosenstock also mentioned that the contacts with the Committee of the British Academy, which decides on fellowships out of the "Thank-You Britain" Fund, had been strengthened. Whilst during the last years awards had sometimes been given for research work on more abstract themes, efforts at obtaining more applications from scholars who were able to work on topical questions had been intensified.

At the end, the speaker dealt with "AJR Information". As the "Jewish Chronicle", where the paper had been typeset for almost 25 years, had closed its printing plant, new arrangements had to be made which also involved a very considerable rise in costs. A high proportion of the columns was now required for news items and Personalia; therefore, space for feature articles was limited.

The journal also carried comments on controversial issues. This had an enlivening effect and resulted in an increase of "Letters to the Editor".

Mrs. S. Taussig, General Secretary of the AJR, reported that there had been almost no change in the number of members, which amounted to about 4,000, because the unavoidable natural losses could be made up by new enrolments. Yet if everyone brought us new members, it would raise our prospects and our finances considerably.

Sheltered Housing

The three properties owned by the AJR Charitable Trust, Hannah Karminski House, Marie Baneth House in Golders Green and Otto Hirsch House in Finchley continued to fulfil a valuable function in providing good sheltered housing of high standard. Hannah Karminski House in particular filled multiple needs as a home for the enormously successful Club under Mrs. Jacoby's and Mrs. Segall's benevolent guidance, and the Meals on Wheels kitchen with its marvellous band of volunteers sent out nearly 1,000 meals a month. In 1975, the cost of a meal was 38½p, in 1979, including delivery, the cost was 72½p of which customers were only charged 60p for this splendid service for emergencies and for regulars.

Eleanor Rathbone House, jointly owned with the Central British Fund, was always full, and on the rare occasions when a flat became available there were always people ready and waiting—though not as many as in the past. Since the original applications were received, many had found alternative accommodation or been admitted to Old Age Homes. The voluntary support work for Eleanor Rathbone House had, for a long time past, been carried out with great devotion by Mrs. Anderman, Mrs. Mautner and Mrs. Trent. As the two latter were at present unable to continue, new helpers were needed and anyone who could undertake to go to Highgate and see the residents should contact Mrs. Anderman or the General Secretary.

Old Age Homes

With regard to the Old Age Homes, Mrs. Taussig reported that efforts were constantly made by the AJR in conjunction with the CBF to improve the standard of the Homes. As the buildings aged, the repairs increased, and many thousands had to be budgeted for this work. The CBF continued to do yeoman work in obtaining Local Authority support for this, and also for the second great area of expenses—that is for fire precautions. To these two areas of expense had to be added a third, even greater—the need to improve the facilities within the Homes, to modernise them and to increase toilet facilities. To provide more care for the very frail, a "Frail Unit" had been established in Osmond House. In the course of the next ten years or so, Mrs. Taussig pointed out, we would see a very considerable reorientation of the care for the old. The tendency was already away from the Homes for the fairly fit. Many would welcome

easily cared for flats, independent but with a modicum of supervision, but Homes would be for those who were really disabled in a greater or lesser degree—whether the cause be sickness, confusion or simply very old age.

Referring to her previous report about the problems encountered in the process of unionisation of the Homes' staff, Mrs. Taussig reported that the situation was now much better. For this work tribute had to be paid to the administration of the CBF, which is the owner of the Homes and the employer of the staff and which, by dint of patience and understanding negotiations, had overcome the problems.

There was a need for more people to interest themselves in the Homes and the residents on a personal level and to relieve a little the members of the House Committees, many of whom had devoted themselves to this work for up to 20 years and some of whom would like to hand over to younger people.

In our department dealing with applications for admission to the Homes, our Social Workers, Mrs. Margot Williams and Mrs. Rose Seidman, often had to deal with cases, where people could not bring themselves to agree to go into a Home, even though they found it very difficult to cope in their own homes. It was essential to help people to manage independently as long as possible and, of course, the Meals on Wheels Service played a big part in this. In recent months it had become even more important; while for over a year the admission of new residents was quite rapid, we were once again in a position of having to keep people waiting, particularly for Osmond House, where admission was usually urgently needed.

Social Services

There was a constant co-operation with social work departments of the local authorities, hospitals and voluntary organisations. They recognised our work and the giving of help and advice was a two-way traffic. This was also true of our Social Services Department, where there had been some changes. Mrs. Marion Casson had retired at the end of 1978. She had built up a highly efficient department but she was also one who was well able to delegate, and Mrs. Sylvia Matus, who has taken over the Department from her, had known how to profit from this. In future, the Department would also take on most of the counselling work of Self Aid. Both organisations now worked hand in glove and the need for this integration had been recognised and nearly achieved.

Mrs. Taussig ended her comprehensive report by announcing that the next Self Aid Concert, that well loved institution which provides an annual meeting place for the community, was scheduled for Monday, November 5, and that details would be announced in "AJR Information".

The Financial Report, which followed, was given by Mr. L. Spiro, Hon. Treasurer of the AJR. Referring to the audited accounts for 1978, copies of which were laid out in the Hall, he stated that the income from subscriptions and donations had amounted to £34,000 to which the contribution of £14,000 through the Central Fund out of the heirless Jewish property in Germany had to be

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AJR General Meeting

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added. Against this total income of £48,000 stood an expenditure of £51,000, leaving a deficit of £3,000. To consider the future policy, a special Membership Sub-Committee had been set up. So far, there had been no obligatory increase of the subscription fees, but the expenditure which was bound to rise in future could only be covered if all members who were able to do so, voluntarily increased their contributions and, if possible, made their payments under Deeds of Covenant. The speaker also appealed to members to make bequests in their Wills for the AJR Charitable Trust and mentioned that during the year ending April 1978, the last audited business year of the Trust, £27,000 had been received in this way.

Whilst many victims of Nazi persecution rendered their support to the practical work of the AJR, quite a few of them tried to forget the past. The speaker particularly referred to the annual London Meetings in Commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and the Six Million Jewish Victims of the Holocaust. It was regrettable, Mr. Spiro stated, that only rather few former German Jews attended these important functions, and he expressed the hope that in future their proportion in the audience would increase.

The Financial Report was unanimously adopted by the members.

In the ensuing elections, the proposals of the Executive Committee, published in the June issue of "AJR Information", were unanimously adopted. This means that the chairman, Mr. C. T. Marx, the other members of the Executive and of the Board were re-elected and that Rabbi Dr. C. Cassell, Mr. F. Durst and Mrs. Helen Ury were co-opted to the Board.

Rabbi Levy looks at the Past

After the conclusion of the General Meeting the Rev. Dr. Isaac Levy, OBE, gave a talk on "My Friends from the Continent". Dr. Levy was well known to many members of the audience by his work as Jewish Chaplain at Kitchener Camp and his various other activities during and after the war. In assessing the record of Anglo-Jewry he was highly, and perhaps a little too highly, critical of the community's reaction to the catastrophe. Many more persecutees, he stated, could have been saved, and more Jewish families should have accepted German-Jewish children in their homes. He also recalled that, with the best intentions, money collected was not always spent in the most constructive way. Thus a hostel for refugee girls, established by one congregation, was so luxuriously equipped that with the same funds more hostels for more children could have been built. He also recalled the difficulties with which "German-speaking British soldiers" were faced, because they were not allowed to use the German language. He himself had disregarded this order, whenever a refugee soldier wanted to pour out his heart to him. As an outstanding example of those who spoke up for the persecutees he mentioned the late Bishop Bell of Chichester. Dr. Levy expressed regret at the fact that the Anglo-Jewish establishment had not adequately made use of the former religious leaders from Germany, "the cream of the German-Jewish intelligentsia". He also mentioned the contributions made by Jews from the Continent in the fields of scholarship and industry. In the course of time they had integrated into their new environment. Yet it was the task of all of us, difficult as it may be, to convey the memory of our past experience to the younger generation.

Dr. Levy's critical remarks on Anglo-Jewry were followed by the audience with deep interest. However, whilst most of those present had gone through some of the difficulties described by the speaker, they also remembered acts of unselfish

help and understanding among Jewish and non-Jewish residents of this country. This was also stated in the Vote of Thanks moved by Dr. Arnold Horwell, who had known Dr. Levy from the early days of Kitchener Camp onwards. He recalled various episodes during his service with the British Army and also paid tribute to the personalities in charge of the relief organisations for refugees. On behalf of the audience, he thanked Dr. Levy for the frank and understanding way in which he had dealt with the many-sided subject of his talk.

THE REFUGEES OF 1979

Jews all over the world, and in particular those of us who have experienced the fears and anxieties of escaping from persecution, are following with horror the news about the Vietnamese boat-people. It now appears that the numbers may not be far from the terrible proportions of the Holocaust. We have heard that these people are proud, industrious and intelligent and have much to offer any host country. We must be prepared to contribute to every effort to alleviate their sufferings.

The various agencies which deal with the problem and which would greatly welcome any donations include the British Council for Aid to Refugees, 35 Great Peter St., London S.W.1.

The Jews' Temporary Shelter in London has asked the British Council for Aid for Refugees whether it could be of assistance in housing a small number of families, but was told that, at the moment, it was planned for the refugees to be housed at one London site.

Mr. Paul Hartling, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, has praised the Israeli Government for the initiative taken about Vietnamese refugees. He had received a letter from Mr. Begin, proposing that all UN members should declare their readiness to accept a number of refugees commensurate with the size of their countries and populations. International conferences would not solve the problem, they would only create endless talk, as Jews remembered from the Nazi era.

In America, Jewish groups have been active helping refugees. The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (Hias) has placed 5,000. Mr. Elie Wiesel, chairman of the President's Holocaust Commission, urged all countries to offer asylum and to learn from the lesson of the Holocaust not to err again.

GERTRUD LUCKNER HONOURED

Dr. Gertrud Luckner, a Roman Catholic, who risked her own life and spent years in concentration camps for helping a great number of Jewish people to hide and to escape from Nazi persecution, was made a freeman of the city of Freiburg. During the ceremony, a representative of the Jewish community said that her life and her record had helped to make it possible for Jews to live in post-war Germany. The Israeli Ambassador sent a letter in which he thanked Dr. Luckner for what she had done.

PEACE PRIZE FOR YEHUDI MENUHIN

For the first time ever, the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade was awarded to a musician: it was given to Yehudi Menuhin "who sees in music a chance to bring about peace". The award mentioned that in many countries he had donated the fee for his concerts to humanitarian causes.

A MORAL VICTORY

Our readers will have seen from reports in the press that the German Federal Parliament has decided in a free vote to abolish the Statute of Limitation for murder. This brings the German Federal Republic in line with most Western countries where the Statute has never applied to murder. Contrary to widely-held beliefs, this decision has no great effect on the prosecution of Nazi murderers, since the Statute was lifted for genocide in 1969, and known Nazi criminals who emerge from hiding, would always have been brought to court. It does affect the small number of new cases which are still coming to light. However the decision is important as a moral gesture: as proof that the Federal German law-givers feel in conscience bound to continue in their endeavours to punish the guilty and to make sure that a younger generation, deeply stirred by the lessons of the "Holocaust" film, is made aware of a past about which they know all too little. Jewish organisations in this country, in Israel and elsewhere have congratulated the Federal Government on its courageous stand in the face of a strong opposition led by Franz Joseph Strauss who wanted the past forgotten and buried.

RETIREMENT OF JOAN STIEBEL

After more than 40 years' work in aid of refugees, Miss Joan V. Stiebel, MBE, retired as Secretary of the Central British Fund for World Jewish Relief. In 1933, when the emergency arose in Germany, she held a position in the firm of the late Otto Schiff. At that time, Otto Schiff started his unforgettable work for the rescue of the victims of Nazi persecution and for the care of those who had found refuge in this country, Joan Stiebel, as his helpmate, was involved in these efforts from the very beginning. In 1939, she joined the Jewish Refugees Committee as a senior full-time worker, later she was seconded to the CBF and ultimately became its Secretary. She reviewed the history of the CBF only recently in a comprehensive and concise lecture under the auspices of the Jewish Historical Society. Yet on that occasion she did not refer to her own decisive share in the CBF's achievements. This omission was made up for on the occasion of a Reception in her honour, when the chairman of the CBF, Mr. Kenneth D. Rubens, and other fellow workers of hers in London, the Provinces and overseas paid tribute to her. They all praised the efficiency and devotion by which her activities excelled, but it was certainly no accident that the word "charm" was also included in each of the speeches. We, the pre-war refugees, were the first beneficiaries of her work, and there has always been a close personal relationship between her and officers of the AJR. Though we regret that she will no longer be our "opposite number" at Woburn House, we find comfort in the thought that she will make good use of the well deserved freedom from the day-to-day duties and will retain her interest in the work and the people in charge of it.

Miss Stiebel will be succeeded in her office by Mrs. Eva Mitchell, who is also a vice-president of the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain and vice-chairman of the National Council for Soviet Jewry.

W.R.

EINSTEIN MEMORIAL STAMP

To mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of Albert Einstein on March 14, the German Federal Ministry of Post will issue a memorial stamp on August 9. The delay is attributed to technical difficulties. The stamp (60 Pfennig) will not depict the head of the great scientist but an abstract graphic sketch. Memorial stamps have, among other countries, also been issued in the German Democratic Republic and in the US.

VOLKSWAGEN SUPPORTS LEO BAECK INSTITUTE

The Volkswagenwerk Foundation has contributed about £80,000 to the New York Leo Baeck Institute for the completion and publication of a catalogue of its archives.

HOME NEWS

JEWES FOR EUROPEAN ASSEMBLY

Three Jews were among the Conservatives elected to the European Assembly. 56-year-old Mr. Fred Tuckmann, who came to this country as a refugee from the Continent, had a majority of nearly 34,000 in the safe Conservative seat of Leicestershire. During the war, he served in the Royal Air Force, later he studied politics at London University. For many years, he has worked as a management consultant in Germany, Finland, and Switzerland. Mr. Derek Prag, a 55-year-old journalist who speaks seven languages and worked in Intelligence during the war, won the Hertfordshire constituency with 47,000 votes. He has published books and pamphlets on Europe and received the Silver Medal of European Merit in 1974. Mr. Madron Richard Seligmann registered the highest vote (130,000) and the largest majority of any candidate in Britain (95,000). His interest in European affairs began when, some 40 years ago, he was a fellow-student of Edward Heath in Oxford and went with him on an exploratory journey to Nazi Germany in August, 1939. His ingenuity and command of German helped them to get back to England two days before the outbreak of war. They have remained firm friends, and Mr. Heath has often stayed as a guest at Mr. Seligmann's villa on the French Riviera. Mr. Seligmann is a member of the well-known banking family.

GUIDELINES ON ARAB BOYCOTT

The Department of Trade has issued new, firmer guidelines for British companies on how to deal with the Arab boycott, in order to encourage British businessmen to trade with Israel as well as with the Arabs, and to resist boycott undertakings which would "unnecessarily limit their commercial freedom". They state explicitly that the Government "is opposed to and deplores all trade boycotts that lack international support and authority." The Department's Commercial Relations and Export Division is ready to give "in strict confidence" advice to any firm faced with the boycott situation.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR BRITISH INDUSTRY

Both the London Board of Trade and the commercial section of the British Embassy in Tel Aviv are urging British construction firms and exporters of capital machinery and consumer goods to avail themselves of the opportunities opened up in Israel after the peace treaty with Egypt. Four seminars for businessmen will acquaint them with the new prospects for trade. There are multi-million pound projects, involving the building of military bases and of the new Negev defence installations, and the provision of heavy transport vehicles.

BIAS IN LBC BROADCAST

Many listeners protested against a LBC (London commercial radio) phone-in programme during which the director of a new Arab publication "8 Days", Mr. Bill Harcourt, indulged in what one listener called a "vicious anti-Zionist tirade". In spite of a complaint to the Independent Broadcasting Authority, the editorial director, Mr. Ron Onions, refused to grant equal air-time for a pro-Zionist broadcast, saying that three callers objecting during the programme to the propaganda of a magazine portraying the Arab point of view had redressed the balance.

IRANIANS DEMONSTRATE

At a memorial service for the executed president of the Iranian Jewish community, conducted by the Chief Rabbi at the Maida Vale Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, Dr. Jakobovits expressed outrage at the murder and fears for the future of Jews in Iran. He said that not since the Middle Ages "has a Jew been murdered because he chose to identify with his people." During the service, young Iranians demonstrated outside the synagogue. Members of the Zionist Federation's "Jews in Arab Lands Committee" took part in a lunch-time vigil outside the Iranian Embassy to protest against another murder, the beheading of the Iranian Jewess Mrs. Mukhtaran Bascohen in Shiraz. The chairman of the committee, Mr. Gourgey, recited a memorial prayer for her.

160 YEARS JEWISH BLIND SOCIETY

More than 200 guests, including the Duke of Edinburgh, gathered at the Carlton Tower Hotel to celebrate the 160th anniversary of the Jewish Blind Society, called "the brightest jewel in the crown of Anglo-Jewry" by Lord Fisher. The chairman reported that the Society had started life at the London Tavern in Bishopsgate, and that the annual report for 1873 showed an income of £300 against £1,042 expenditure, "one of the earliest examples of deficit budgeting." In 1938 the Society brought over 150 blind people and their dependants as refugees from Nazi oppression. This year, it has an annual budget of £1 million. The Duke of Edinburgh praised the work of the Society and said that its establishment in 1819 "speaks volumes for the tradition of the Jewish community in caring for its less fortunate brethren." He expressed his thanks to all those who had helped to maintain this tradition and the wish that the Gentile world could do as well.

GREVILLE JANNER BOARD PRESIDENT

Mr. Greville Janner, QC, MP, until now senior Vice-President of the Board of Deputies, was elected Board President. Like his predecessor, Lord Fisher of Camden, he has always been a most helpful friend of the AJR.

THE "GUARDIAN" AND THE JEWS

Mr. Peter Preston, editor of the "Guardian", said during a discussion with representatives of the Board of Deputies that his paper's policy was to encourage the peace-making process begun between Israel and Egypt and was not conducting a campaign against Israel or Zionism, as was often alleged.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PLO

Sir Ian Gilmour, Government spokesman on foreign affairs, has called on the Palestine Liberation Organisation to accept the principle of a negotiated Middle East settlement and to acknowledge Israel's right to exist. He said that in that case there would be no difficulty for the government to talk to the PLO.

RESEARCH ON AUSCHWITZ

Mr. Eric Moonman, chairman of the Zionist Federation, will chair a committee to investigate the war-time attitude of the Allied Powers to Auschwitz in the light of recent revelations.

FAKE LEAFLET AT SOVIET EXHIBITION

During the recent USSR National Exhibition at Earls Court, the Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry managed to substitute a specially printed leaflet for the official leaflet on the exhibition in which they referred to the position of Soviet Jews under the heading "The real truth not on show at the USSR National Exhibition". For two days, the Soviet officials distributed the substitute leaflet.

ISRAELI ORCHESTRA AT PROMS

The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra under Zubin Mehta is one of the three visiting orchestras to this year's Prom season, and will be giving two concerts. The first on September 4, consists of Schubert's Sixth and Mahler's Fifth Symphony, whilst the second, on the following evening, will include the first performance in this country of Josef Tal's Third Symphony, together with Dvorak's Eighth Symphony, and Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto in which Daniel Barenboim will be the pianist.

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ANGLO-JUDAICA

Ambitious new Housing Project

Lord Fisher of Camden and Barnet's Mayor Rita Levy opened the new Home "Harmony Close", built by the B'nai B'rith Housing Society in Golders Green at a cost of nearly £2 million. It has room for 120, mainly elderly people, but also 25 flatlets for younger singles and 10 units for disabled tenants. Mr. Fred Worms, chairman of the B.B. Building Committee, said the two-acre development was a classic example of inter-faith co-operation: half the site had been bought from the next-door Carmelite monastery. The cost per flatlet had risen from £4,500 in 1963 to over £20,000 in 1979. The bulk of the funds came from a 60-year mortgage, supplied by the Department of the Environment, with substantial contributions from the Fund.

Success of new Day Centre

Michael Sobell House, the new Jewish Day Centre in the former La Sagesse convent in Golders Green, is now fully operational with a daily attendance of some 120 persons. Many organisations use the centre for their own meetings and functions. One important unit transferred to it is the Welfare Board's rehabilitation unit, which caters for persons discharged from psychiatric hospitals. At the day centre, there are various shops, and the services of a hairdresser and a chiropodist are available. Later on a Citizens' Advice Bureau, the first on the premises of a Jewish organisation, will be added. At present, the centre has 17 paid employees, and 140 volunteers, but there is still an urgent need for drivers to bring people from outlying districts like Harrow and Wembley.

CBF helps 100,000

At a dinner at Skinners' Hall in the City of London, for nearly 100 supporters of CBF, now called World Jewish Relief, the guest of honour, Sir Marcus Sieff, said the organisation had brought 100,000 victims of the Holocaust to Britain. It was now helping the Jews of Iran. An appeal raised £10,000. The Sephardi community also launched a campaign for World Jewish Relief at a dinner at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Mocatta. Mr. Kenneth D. Rubens, WJR chairman urged the Sephardi community to seek closer identity with the organisation. £3,000 was raised.

Speaker Guest of Cardiff Mizrahi

Mr. George Thomas, the Speaker of the House of Commons, was a guest of honour at a luncheon held by the Cardiff Women's Mizrahi group and was presented with a certificate to denote the placing of a plaque in the name of his late mother, Mrs. Emma Thomas Davies, at the Bnei Brak vocational girls' school in Israel. An amount of £1,300 had been collected to provide an annual domestic science prize as a permanent memorial to Mrs. Davies. Mr. Thomas expressed his gratitude to the Cardiff Jewish community for holding his late mother in such high esteem and his admiration for "the wonderful contribution" Jewish people made to the city of Cardiff which he represented as an MP.

Jewish voices on the air

BBC Radio Brighton's newest programme "Shalom" was given an official send-off at a reception held in the Brighton Pavilion. The programme is written and produced by Michael Friedland, the presenter of BBC Radio London's "You Don't Have to be Jewish". It is transmitted on Wednesday evenings. Both programmes are produced in cooperation with the Board of Deputies.

Radio Israel Club

Miss Freda Keet, senior English newsreader at the Israel Broadcasting Authority, was the main speaker at the inaugural meeting of the newly founded Israeli Radio Club at a private house in St. John's Wood. The club already has 130 members in all parts of the country.

Another centenarian

Mrs. Rose Klibanski, a member of the Belsize Square Synagogue, has celebrated her 100th birthday.

With acknowledgement to the news service of the Jewish Chronicle.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

UNITED STATES

Jews honour Helmut Schmidt

When the German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt visited the United States recently, the American Jewish Committee conferred on him its Human Rights Award for his signal services to bring about reconciliation between Germans and Jews. When he was asked during the ceremony whether the Federal Republic would be prepared to play an active part in promoting peace in the Middle East, the Chancellor said that in view of the recent past, this was hardly possible, because the present generation of Germans were unable to take an unbiased view on Jews and Israel. He did not accept the concept of collective guilt, but nevertheless all Germans were involved in the political heritage left by those who had been guilty.

No Help from Romania to prosecute Archbishop

A trial will be opened shortly in Detroit against Bishop Valerian Trifa of the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America, accused of having taken part in a massacre of Jews by the pro-Hitler Iron Guard in Bucharest in January, 1941. The US Government will seek to prove that he entered the country illegally, and that his citizenship should be revoked. The bishop came to the US from Italy as a displaced person in 1950 and was granted citizenship in 1957. Justice Department officials are complaining, that in spite of repeated requests during the past 16 months, the Romanian Government has denied the US prosecution access to witnesses of the massacre or to documentary evidence. As a student leader of the Iron Guard, Trifa is alleged to have taken part in the massacre of hundreds, perhaps even thousands of Jews during a rebellion against the Romanian Army. He had been sentenced to hard labour, but the sentence was later annulled.

"Jewish Executioners"?

A man who claimed to be a journalist, entered the New York house of Mr. Boleslavs Maikovskis and shot a man whom he mistook for Mr. Maikovskis who has appealed against charges that he supervised the round-up of the Riga Jews during the war and denied this when he received US citizenship. The attacker escaped, but a few hours later, news organisations throughout the city received phone calls that he was a member of a group calling itself "JEWS"—*Jewish Executioners with Silence*—which was also responsible for a series of abortive letter-bombs sent to American Nazis.

Ford Employee's Dismissal demanded

Several hundred Jews demonstrated outside the Manhattan Ford Motor Company's headquarters, demanding the dismissal of Mr. John Demjanjuk, who has worked for Ford in Cleveland, Ohio, since 1951. He is accused of having operated the gas chambers at Treblinka camp, where more than 800,000 Jews were killed by the Nazis. The US Department of Justice has started proceedings against him. If it can be proved that he lied about his wartime activities when he was granted US citizenship in 1958 it will be revoked.

Holocaust Memorial Garden

At the Manhattan Brotherhood Synagogue, a memorial garden for the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust has been dedicated. Herr von Staden, the German Ambassador, presented a cheque for £5,000 and promised further support for the project. In a garden setting, the memorial contains a wall of remembrance, and artists around the world have been asked to provide designs for a sculpture to be put next to it.

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ARAB BAN ON CANADA

The Arab Monetary Fund has stopped dealings with Canada in protest against the new Government's election promise to move the Canadian Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. (The move has since been postponed indefinitely.)

AUSTRALIA

Award for former German Rabbi

The Queen's Birthday Honours List includes the appointment of Rabbi Dr. Rudolph Brasch, OBE, as a member of the Order of Australia for services to the Jewish Community (he retires this year after 30 years as chief minister of Temple Emanuel, Sydney). Before he went to Australia, Berlin-born Rabbi Brasch was a rabbi in this country to which he had come as a refugee.

Open Letter to the Pope

In the journal *Symposium*, edited by an Anglican priest, Rabbi Raymond Apple, chief minister of Sydney Great Synagogue, published an open letter to Pope John Paul II in which he said that Jews looked to him for increased political understanding between Catholics and Jews. Rabbi Apple said the Vatican guidelines on Christian-Jewish relations were steps in the right direction, but Jews were surprised that they make no reference to the State of Israel as a basic crucial factor of Jewish life.

OLD SYNAGOGUE RECONSECRATED IN AUSTRIA

The private prayer-room of the Wertheimer family in the Old Ghetto of Eisenstadt, one of Austria's oldest synagogues, has been reconsecrated by the Chief Rabbi of Austria and the former Rabbi of Eisenstadt, during an international symposium on "Judaism in the age of the Enlightenment." Torah scrolls and chandeliers from the 18th and 19th century are preserved in the synagogue which cost about £34,000 to rebuild and will form the nucleus of a Jewish museum, occupying the whole Wertheimer mansion, built in 1720. The Austrian Government, and the Burgenland province will contribute to the £167,000 needed for the purpose.

NETHERLANDS

Dutch Search for War Criminals

Mr. Ludowijk de Beaufort, the Amsterdam Public Prosecutor, has been appointed Holland's hunter for war criminals. He will be assisted by the country's police force. The appointment was made, because in 1948, when more war criminals and collaborators were sentenced than in any other year, many sentences were imposed "in absentia", and most of those sentenced, have been living in hiding ever since. Five of them were recently discovered by journalists, living under assumed names in Germany.

Tribute to Anne Frank

Queen Juliana opened an exhibition of Anne Frank's original manuscripts, lent by her father, in Anne Frank House in Amsterdam. It marks Anne's fiftieth anniversary. A memorial service was conducted in the Westerkerk, in front of which a small statue of her was unveiled a few years ago. Anne Frank House is visited by 300,000 people every year. An illustrated memorial book has also been published, giving details of her history, her arrival in Amsterdam and her life in the house now dedicated to her. There are two other monuments commemorating the fate of the Jews in Holland, in Amsterdam: one is the Hollandse Schouwburg, where 80,000 Jews were held before being deported, the other, the Dokwerker monument near the synagogues, which marks the 1941 protest strike against the deportation of Jews.

Government Apologies for Antisemitic Remarks

In an interview with the Dutch weekly "De Haagse Post", Dutch soldiers, serving with the United Nations Forces in Israel, said: "They did only one thing wrong in 1945: they should have kept the gas-ovens a little longer. Four million Jews could have been added also". The Dutch Government has started investigations and has apologised for the remarks to the Israeli Embassy, saying the Defence and Foreign Affairs Ministries regarded them with horror.

FRANCE

Memorial Act for Gurs

A major commemoration of those who died in Gurs or were deported from there, was held at the invitation of the House of Youth in neighbouring Oleron-Ste. Marie. Among those participating were all major organisations of deportees, of the Spanish-Republican Army and the volunteers of the International Brigade. On the 40th anniversary of the opening of the camp, a memorial plaque was fixed to the camp entrance. It enumerates the occupants of the camp: the first had been 23,000 Spanish Republicans and 7,000 International Brigade Volunteers, followed by 12,860 Jewish refugees in France, interned in May/June 1940, 6,500 Jews from Baden, and later 12,000 Jews arrested in France by the Vichy Government. After a number of speeches, a large crowd walked on the old camp road to the camp cemetery, where the rabbis of Pau and Bayonne held a service in which Catholic priests took part. The young people of the region had put flowers on each of the 1,200 graves. The Lord Mayor of Karlsruhe and his deputy said that the 40th anniversary of the deportation of Jews from Baden and Wuerttemberg in October 1980 would be remembered in his community where, under the influence of the "Holocaust" film and the recently published book "Menschen in Güters" by Hanna Schramm and Barbara Vormeier, young people were constantly asking the older generation about their part in the criminal proceedings. An exhibition of authentic photos, sketches and documents of life in the camp added to the deep impression left by the dignified proceedings.

Israeli Displays at Paris Air Show

At the Paris air show, new sophisticated weapons and aircraft were shown at the Israeli pavilion. They included a pilotless spy plane, a mobile anti-tank missile and launcher, and an improved version of the supersonic Kfir fighter. The first visitors at the pavilion were five Egyptian pilots, warmly welcomed by the Israeli staff. At the end of the show, Israeli's aircraft industry had completed four important business deals worth tens of millions of pounds. An agreement was made with four French firms, two of them state-owned, for the construction and supply of a defence system for a third country.

Bolshoi performance interrupted

About 150 members of the French Committee to Aid Soviet Jewry invaded the Paris Palais de Congrès and interrupted a performance by the Bolshoi ballet for fifteen minutes, during which the philosopher Professor Bernard-Henri Levi, the historian, Mr. Patrick Gerard, and Mrs. Clara Malraux, former wife of the late writer and politician André Malraux, held an impromptu news conference.

ITALY

Soviet Jews threatened

The post office square and the sea-front of Ostia, near Rome, where some 4,000 Soviet Jews are waiting for permission to settle in Western countries, was declared out of bounds to them, following warnings that Arab groups planned to attack their camp.

"Millions see Holocaust"

Some 20 million people saw the Holocaust film on Italian Television. In Spain, where it was shown late at night, it attracted the largest TV audience ever. In towns and cities, the streets were virtually deserted. Neo-Nazi elements scrawled antisemitic slogans on walls afterwards.

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NEWS FROM GERMANY

NAZI MEMBER FOR EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

There have been many protests in the press and from the general public as well as from the Jewish community against the election of Dr. Hans Edgar Jahn, already a member of the Federal Parliament, as deputy for Lower Saxony in the European Parliament. In 1943, Dr. Jahn published a book with the subtitle "Jewish-Bolshevist Imperialism", excerpts from which were recently reprinted by "Der Stern" and "Frankfurter Rundschau". In it Jahn referred to Jews as "bastard people with bestial instincts" and talked about the "despicable Jewish racial spirit." The speaker for the Christian Democratic Union in Lower Saxony, Mr. Volker Benke, said that so far there had been no proof of the allegations against Jahn, but it was expected of him to resign if he failed to justify himself. In accepting his mandate, Dr. Jahn said the European Parliament was composed of many nations and many political factions, each with its own past, which had always successfully worked together without mutual accusations about past activities and attitudes.

SCHMIDT CHALLENGED TO VISIT ISRAEL

Jürgen Wohlrabe, a Berlin Christian Democratic member of the Federal Parliament and vice-chairman of the German-Israeli Parliamentary Group, said on his return from a three-day journey to Israel that Israelis failed to understand why the Federal Chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, had never visited Israel. Was it because the Chancellor wanted to avoid difficult political decisions?

PROTEST AGAINST DELAYED TRIAL

Some 50 young French men and women who call themselves the "sons and daughters of French Jews who died after deportation", demonstrated in the Cologne Court against the delayed proceedings against former SS leader Kurt Lischka and two other members of the Nazi security police in France, alleged to have been involved in the deportation of many French Jews between March 1942 and May 1944. The young people also protested against the acquittals in the Maidanek trial and demanded speedier trials against NS murders. They were accompanied by Mrs. Beate Klarsfeld who with her husband had tried to abduct Lischka from his Cologne home in 1971 and was subsequently sent to prison for doing so.

NAZIS IN COURT

A 23-year-old unemployed man, Michael Pohl, was given a suspended sentence of six months' imprisonment before a Berlin Court for forcing his way into a discussion of the Holocaust, arranged for young people by an educational organisation, and shouting that the Jews were enemies of the people who had to be fought with all possible means. He said in Court asocial elements, including Jews, had been sent to concentration camps for re-education, but nobody had been gassed. The gas chambers had been built by the Americans after the end of the war, a fact acknowledged by foreign historians. He also said that if he was sent to prison, he was going on to state his convictions in public. The presiding judge said the number of Jews killed was open to discussion, and was being discussed by scholars and others. The Court did not expect the defendant to alter his opinions or to refrain from discussing them, but it did expect him to refrain from attacking the dignity of a particular group of people. The Social Democratic Party and the Jewish community have protested against the bias shown by the judge. The public prosecutor has appealed against the sentence.

Four of the nine defendants in the Düsseldorf Maidanek trial which has now gone on for over 3½ years, have been arrested in Court, because they are likely to be given heavy sentences and can therefore be expected to jump bail. So far all of them have been on bail. Two of them are women.

MORE BOMBS IN FRANKFURT

After a bomb exploded in the Frankfurt central wholesale market, groups calling themselves "revolutionary cells" sent letters to the Press, claiming responsibility for attacking the lorries of a German firm importing fruit from Israel, and announcing that there would be more bombs for all such firms. Nobody was hurt, but the damage was estimated at about £12,000.

14 tombstones in a Frankfurt Jewish cemetery were overturned in broad daylight. The gardener saw the perpetrators, but was unable to identify them. £3,000 worth of damage was done.

FIRST TRIAL OF RIGHT-WING EXTREMISTS

Six suspected neo-Nazis, alleged to have formed a terrorist neo-Nazi organisation and including a former lieutenant of the Federal Army, Michael Kühnen, have appeared as defendants in the first major trial of right-wing extremists in the Federal Republic. 23-year-old Kühnen said he was a member of revolutionary National Socialism and had set up an underground organisation aiming at the overthrow of the government, the liberation of Rudolf Hess from Spandau prison, and the demolition of the Bergen-Belsen memorial for the victims who died in the camp. The trial is expected to last for more than a month.

GERMAN WOMAN ASKS CARTER FOR HELP

The West German high school teacher, Renate Kiblitzki, has sent an urgent appeal to President Carter to help her Jewish husband, Joseph Kiblitzki, to leave the Soviet Union. She had married him when she was teaching at the German school in Moscow, but 32-year-old Joseph lost his job as a film designer and painter when he applied to emigrate to Israel. Despite the fact, that he left the Army ten years ago, he was denied an exit permit because he was said to know military secrets. Mrs. Kiblitzki has also made an application to Leonid Brezhnev.

BAN ON NAZI PUBLICATIONS

The Federal Office for the Protection of Young People from dangerous Publications has announced that, during the last few years, the sale of an increasing number of books and records glorifying the Nazi period and the war had been withdrawn from general distribution. At the moment, 42 records, books and pamphlets are involved, 20 of which were published in the last three years. They must not be offered in shops to which young people have access and can only be supplied on demand to grown-ups. Three publications were written by the former Colonel in the Federal Army, Hans Ulrich Rudel.

WARTIME NAZI LOSES JOB

Bremen Construction Minister Hans Seifriz, a Social Democrat, was forced to resign after a local newspaper published extracts from an anti-Semitic article he wrote 35 years ago when he was 17, in which he said the Jews were a race cursed by God. He said he had always regretted his behaviour at the time.

PROOF OF GAS CHAMBERS DEMANDED

During the Holocaust discussions, TV journalist Renate Harpprecht had said that her family had been gassed in a concentration camp. A Nuremberg lawyer Eberhard Engelhardt subsequently sued her for libel on behalf of former SS man Hans Kroker, saying that the "gassing story had been an atrocity story long shown to be false by foreign and home researchers", and she should therefore provide evidence for the truth of her "allegations".

JEWS FROM ASCHAFFENBURG

Request for Information

The city of Aschaffenburg is preparing a documentation of the fate of former Jewish citizens from 1933 onwards. For this purpose, any information of addresses of emigrated Aschaffenburg Jews as well as material (if desired on loan), e.g., publications, articles, memoirs, lists, documents, photos (also when referring to a previous period) would be greatly appreciated. The address of the office concerned is: Stadt- und Stiftsarchiv, Aschaffenburg, Postfach 63, D-8750, Aschaffenburg 2. E.G.L.

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BERLINER JAHRE

Erinnerungen von Moritz Goldstein

Wenn ein künftiger Soziologe über die deutschen Juden und ihre Vernichtung schreiben möchte, so findet er ein erschütterndes Modell in Moritz Goldstein ("Berliner Jahre, Erinnerungen 1880-1933", herausgegeben von Will Schaber. Dortmund-Beiträge zur Zeitungsforschung, DM 28.—). Alle Zitate dieses Artikels sind aus diesem Buch. Goldstein starb, 97 Jahre alt, 1977 in New York. Er war ein Mann von hoher Ethik, ein Wahrheitsfanatiker, der niemandem zum Munde redete, wenn es ihm auch noch so sehr schadete. Sein Grossvater war "ein kleiner Krämer" in Chorzow (Oberschlesien). Der Grossvater mütterlicherseits erfand einen Berliner Vergnügungsanzeiger, der auf der letzten Station von Berlin in die Züge geworfen wurde. Der Vater gründete ein Blatt "Berliner Börse". Alles brachte nicht viel ein, bis der Vater Direktor der Berliner Passage Unter den Linden wurde.

Goldstein war im berühmten Köllnischen Gymnasium einer von sieben Abiturienten, von denen sechs Juden waren. Er schreibt: "Mein gesamtes geistiges Leben wurzelt in der deutschen Kultur", und unbewusst in ihren Vorurteilen. Frauenschönheit ist "hochbeinig", "Ich empfinde den Namen Moritz Goldstein als ein Martyrium". Die Arbeit von Agenten, Reisenden, Vertretern nennt er "Gänge der Demütigung". Seinem Vater gelang es, "wenigstens dem puren Handel zu entfliehen". "Man war weder politisch noch wirtschaftlich interessiert, und ich war es schon garnicht. Das Leben, das sich mir lohnte, spielte sich im Feuilleton ab". Er fühlte sich als Jude, aber der

Gottesdienst im Betsaal stösst ihn ab. Er meint, vielleicht wenn der Vater genug Geld für Synagogenplätze gehabt hätte? Er weiss schon nicht mehr, dass zehn Männer im armseligsten Stübchen für diese 4000-jährige Religion, die Christentum und Islam hervorbrachte, genügen. "Aber freilich ich lehne das Ritual ab."

Die jüdischen Zeitschriften im Haus? "Von ungenügendem Niveau". Den Lehrer, der ihm hebräische Privatstunden gibt, nennt er "unansehnlich und ungepflegt". Er studierte Germanistik bei dem verehrten Erich Schmidt der Berliner Universität, machte seinen Doktor über "Die zyklischen Rahmenerzählungen Deutschlands von Goethe bis Hoffmann", wurde auf Empfehlung Schmidts sieben Jahre lang Herausgeber der Goldenen Klassikerbibliothek, ein Glücksfall, aber er fand: "Die Stellung hinderte mich an dem, was mir das einzig Wichtige war, an meiner dramatischen Produktion". Nur einmal lief ein Stück von ihm mit Bassermann im Staatstheater für kurze Zeit. Im übrigen wurden die Stücke mit Titeln wie "Alessandro und der Abt" und "Melissas Schatten" kaum aufgeführt.

Das Einjährigen-Dienstjahr, schreibt er, "hatte mir unschätzbar wohlgetan". Das Phänomen der Macht wühlte ihn so auf, dass er ein sechsbändiges Werk darüber beabsichtigte. Veröffentlicht wurde nur ein Kapitel auf englisch, Jahrzehnte später, "Führers must fall". "Ich bestaunte die Armee als einen riesigen, wundervoll funktionierenden Apparat, zusammengesetzt in jahrhundertalter Erfahrung." Ueber seinen Armeeführer im Krieg schreibt er: "Er wirkte als Persönlichkeit derart bezwingend, dass jeder einzelne von uns im Ernstfall lieber totgeschossen worden wäre, als dass er sich unter seinen Augen feige benommen hätte".

1912 wird Goldstein mit seiner "Doppelheit, seinem Zwitterwesen", Deutscher und Jude, nicht mehr fertig. "Die Abhandlung 'Deutsch-jüdischer Parnass' brach aus mir hervor." Nach siebzig Jahren erscheint diese Abhandlung als das Aufschlussreichste, was über deutschen Antisemitismus geschrieben wurde. Goldstein hält in seiner Deutschheit nur "entweder/oder", Trennungsstriche ziehen, reinliche Scheidungen, für anständig und Kompromisse für faul, weil er einfach nicht weiss, dass es "sowohl als auch", Brücken bauen, agree to disagree, gibt, und dass das Leben aus Kompromissen besteht. Die Darstellung der Gefühle eines geistigen deutschen Juden in einem fiktiven Konflikt ist unübertroufen. Dass er ein paar falsche antisemitische Behauptungen für wahr hält, erscheint weniger wichtig. Nach ein paar Ablehnungen veröffentlichte er die Abhandlung im "Kunstwart", "dessen gläubiger Leser ich viele Jahre war", obwohl, wie er auch selber schreibt, der literarische Redakteur "ein verbohrteter Veteran des Judenhasses, Adolf Bartels, war."

Er beginnt die Abhandlung mit antisemitischen Zitaten von Wagner, zu denen er schreibt, "es gibt kaum etwas Schämenswerteres für uns Juden, als dass jüdisches Geld Bayreuth ermöglicht hat", von H. S. Chamberlains "Grundlagen des 19. Jahrhunderts" und von Schopenhauer. Es ist der Hass seit 800 Jahren, seit den Kreuzzügen, dann der "Rausch der Emanzipation" und, wie Goldstein schreibt, "auf allen kulturellen Posten, von denen man sie nicht gewaltsam fernhält, stehen plötzlich Juden". Er geht dem Hass gegen Heine nach: "Macher waren auch Kotzebue und Raupach, schlüpfrig Wieland, Herwegh wurde Franzose. Aber nur gegen Heine hört man das Gebrüll des Pogroms, das jedem von uns gilt, der irgend etwas leistet. Also Bündel schnüren und seiner Wege gehen?" Aber Literatur ist national. Jüdisch gilt als Vorwurf und wird von den meisten Juden auf

die russisch-polnisch-galizischen Brüder abgewälzt. Es bedeutet aber heute Zionismus Rettung aus Halbheit, Zwitterwesen, für deutsche Juden Sprung in die neuhebräische Literatur, keine "Verjudung" mehr als Vorwurf. Aber sie können keine hebräischen Dichter werden. "So sehr sie es wünschen müssen, jüdische und nichtjüdische Deutsche kulturell reinlich von einander zu scheiden... das Judentum ist in einer mehr als tausendjährigen Gemeinschaft mit dem Deutschtum so eng in den Wurzeln verwachsen, dass beide nicht mehr von einander gelöst werden können." "Die rassistischen Germanen werden doch die Tatsache nicht aus der Welt schaffen können, dass deutsche Kultur zu einem nicht geringen Teil jüdische Kultur ist."

Dem Chamberlainschen Chauvinismus, nach dem alle grossen Europäer einfach Germanen sind, stellt Goldstein den eigenen gegenüber und fragt, ob nicht der Geist der freien Unternehmung Geist der jüdischen Unternehmung, jüdischer Geist der Unternehmung ist.

Goldstein fragt: "Wenn wir mit endlich erwachtem Männerstolz dem deutschen Volk, das uns nicht mag, den Rücken kehren wollten, könnten wir je aufhören, zum grössten Teil Deutsche zu sein? Unsere Toten sind deutscher Staub. Deutsche Jahreszeiten sind unsere Jahreszeiten." Er geht auf Beethoven, den Grünen Heinrich und deutsche Märchen ein, "eine unglückliche Liebe, die man sich männlich aus dem Herzen zu reissen hat. Das müssen wir wollen". Und dann, warum es nicht wollen können: "Natürlich gibt es Trennendes, was uns verbindet ist mehr." "Es ist nicht meine Schuld, dass ich keine Lösung weiss." So endet die Abhandlung: die Hauptsache ist, sich als Juden zu bekennen. "Die Juden, die deutsche Kultur machen und sich einreden, man merke es nicht, das sind unsre wahren Feinde, sie gilt es von allen

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BERLINER JAHRE

continued from page 6

sichtbaren Posten zu verdrängen . . . als ein falscher Typus Jude, sie gilt es mundtot zu machen und allmählich auszurotten. Ehe wir aber soweit sind, fordern wir Achtung vor einer Tragik, die wir hier mit schwerem Herzen vor aller Welt aufgedeckt haben."

Das Aufsehen war ungeheuer. Goldstein selber schreibt: "In der Tat grösser als die Wirkung irgend einer anderen Presse-Veröffentlichung. Die deutschen Staatsbürger jüdischen Glaubens protestierten in wilder Wut. Die Zionisten spendeten jubelnd Beifall. Aber ich bin ein Feind des Nationalismus, also auch des jüdischen Nationalismus. Ich sehe mit Trauer, was ich vorausgesagt habe, dass die schlimmsten Züge des Nationalen in Gestalt von Intoleranz und skrupelloser Gewaltanwendung auch bei der Jugend Israels hervortreten. Zionismus sollte nicht heissen noch ein Nationalismus zu den vielen, an denen die Menschheit schon leidet." Die Abhandlung ist immer wieder gedruckt worden. Im Dritten Reich wurde ihr in "Die Juden in Deutschland" ein ganzes Kapitel gegeben, natürlich ohne Goldsteins Antinazi-Gerichtsberichte zu erwähnen. Für den Verein jüdischer Studenten wurde die Abhandlung Pflichtlektüre.

Er hätte ein jüdischer Politiker werden können. "Aber das beruhte auf einer Verkenning dessen, was ich gewollt hatte, und insofern ich dieses Missverständnis durchschaute, fühlte ich mich garnicht behaglich. Was an dem Aufsatz literarische Leistung war, erkannten nur wenige." Das ist der unpolitische Goldstein, der Dynamit als literarische Leistung betrachtet haben will. "Der Erfolg ist mir eben auf einem ganz falschen Gebiet begegnet." Dann kam der Krieg, den er im Gegensatz zu seiner Generation im Juli 1914 eine Narrheit nannte. Nach dem Krieg ging er zu Ullstein, nach 1928 als Nachfolger des Gerichtsfeuilletonisten Sling. Er nennt dies seine glücklichsten Jahre.

1933 bestand seine Frau auf sofortiger Auswanderung. Sie gingen in ein Landschulheim bei Florenz, eröffneten eine Pension bei Viareggio, wurden 1939 ausgewiesen, verloren Haus, Möbel, Bibliothek, wanderten nach England, arbeiteten schwer in einem Emigrantenheim in Manchester. Er konnte alles, Möbel aufpolstern, einen

englischen Herd aus der Steinzeit zum Brennen bringen. Sie machten wieder eine Pension in Wales auf. Wenn ich ihn bodenwischend traf, sagte er: "Hier sehen Sie mich in meiner Knechtsgestalt." Aber sie konnten monatelang in London Ferien machen.

Dann zum Sohn nach Amerika. Der missglückte Versuch, wieder eine Fremdenpension zu führen. Frau Goldstein war eine Kochkünstlerin. "Es war die Hölle", schrieb er, "sechzehnstündige Arbeit und ihre Schleppei der schweren Marktaschen." Sie starb 1950. Und er blieb fast 30 Jahre allein in einem Zimmer in New York. Er schrieb den ergreifenden Satz: "Ich fühle mich als Schriftsteller gescheitert." Alles war tragisch, nicht nur der Artikel im "Kunstwart".

NEWS FROM THE EAST

NAHUM GOLDMANN'S DISSENTING VIEWS

At a meeting of the B'nai B'rith First Lodge of England, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, founder president of the World Jewish Congress, said the Jewish people had made one of their greatest mistakes over the entire problem of Soviet Jewry. Jews in Russia had two problems: their life in Russia and emigration. In his view, the great majority would never emigrate and should therefore be allowed to live a Jewish life in Russia. This aspect had been completely overlooked by all those who concentrated their campaigns on emigration. They were sacrificing two and a half million Jews who were staying for 250,000 who would be allowed to emigrate over the next three or four years. The Russians now regarded Jews as their major enemies in the world, but without the consent of Russia there would never be peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Fred Worms and the Chief Rabbi Dr. Jakobovits, joint chairmen of B'nai B'rith International, presented Dr. Goldmann with a B'nai B'rith medal, inscribed: "Dr. Nahum Goldmann—for services to the Jewish people."

THE POPE'S AUSCHWITZ VISIT

When, during his recent visit to his native country, Pope John Paul II preached to a large congregation which included many former inmates, in Auschwitz-Birkenau, he said this had been the Golgatha of our time. He knelt down at the 19-language international memorial monument, and turning to its Hebrew text, he said: "We remember the people whose sons and daughters were destined for total destruction—the same people which was the first to receive from God the commandment 'Thou shalt not kill'. This people originated with Abraham who is also the patriarch of our religion."

YIDDISH IN RUSSIAN SCHOOLS

In Russia efforts are under way to introduce lessons in Yiddish for Jewish primary school children who want to learn the language. The Yiddish monthly "Soviet Heimland" which is in its 18th year of publication, has now between 17,000 and 18,000 readers. The last Yiddish school in Russia was closed down 30 years ago, and it is doubtful whether there are enough teachers to be found to give lessons to those who want them.

IDA NUDEL DAY

The 21st June, the longest day of the year, was declared Ida Nudel Day by Soviet Jewry groups all over the world working for the release of Ida Nudel, the 48-year-old Jewish economist who is imprisoned in a Siberian barrack in a situation where there is no day or night. Her hut is shared with Russian ex-convicts who are considered a danger to society. She was sentenced to five years in exile for demanding an exit visa to Israel on a poster displayed in a window of her Moscow flat. A BBC "Tonight" film about her was shown by all British groups, whilst in America a week's seminar on her was held.

SOVIET JEWS ALLOWED TO LEAVE

More than 600 Soviet Jews were greeted with joyful tears from relatives and friends when they arrived at New York's Kennedy Airport in the largest one-day airlift of immigrants to America from Italy since the last war. Their arrival reflected the recent decision of American authorities to "liberate admission on parole" for between 25,000 and 30,000 Soviet Jews. There were also two Jews, Dymshitz and Kuznetsov among the five dissidents, released in exchange for two Soviet spies held in the US. Mr. Kuznetsov's wife, Sylvia Zalmanson, had been staying in London as guest of June Jacobs, chairman of the National Council for Soviet Jewry, and immediately flew to New York to join her husband. Kuznetsov had been in prison for 16 years, classified as a dangerous political criminal. Both the Kuznetsovs and Mark Dymshitz have in the meantime proceeded to Israel, where Mr. Begin, the Prime Minister, greeted them at the airport. He addressed them in Russian, calling them "the spiritual heroes of Israel". They were also met by the five other dissidents Boris Penson, Wolf Zalmanson, Sylvia's brother, Altman, Butman and Khmoch who had served nine years in prison camps for trying to hijack a plane and were recently released. Mr. Begin thanked President Carter for obtaining the dissidents' release and announced that Mr. Carter had promised to continue his efforts for the release of other Jewish prisoners from Soviet jails.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL IN DANGER

The Soviet authorities have announced that they are going to demolish the Minsk memorial commemorating the Jews killed in the Holocaust to make way for a new housing estate. Russian exiles in Britain have said that a planned substitute memorial will no longer bear an inscription in either Hebrew or Yiddish, but will be in Russian only.

18 MILLION CHILD VICTIMS

At an international conference in Warsaw, one of the Polish speakers said that, according to investigations made in Poland, 18 million children had been deported and tortured or killed in concentration camps. Of the 1.8 million Polish children, 600,000 had been Jewish. A modern children's hospital, supported by Polish and international donations, is being built in Warsaw to keep their memory alive.

NAZI PRISONERS BETTER TREATED THAN JEWS

Mr. Anatoly Altman who was released from prison earlier this year, after serving nine and a half years of his ten years' sentence for trying to hijack a plane and who now lives in Israel, has reported that Nazi collaborators in prison had been better treated than Jewish refuseniks. He and his fellow prisoners received 50 grams of meat a week, compared with 400 grams given to the prison dogs.



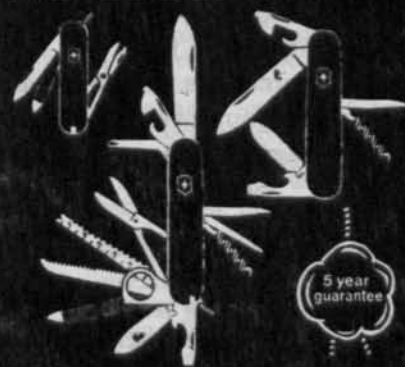
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THE ISRAELI SCENE

ROW IN PARLIAMENT

During the Knesset Debate on the new West Bank settlements, General Sharon, the Minister of Agriculture, unleashed an uproar of deafening proportions, when he said the opponents of the new West Bank settlements were "anti-Zionist". He particularly attacked Mr. Ralik Halaby, a Druse reporter working for Israel Television who, he implied, was engaged on fifth column activities. Mr. Zaidan Atashi, a Druse Knesset member, accused Sharon of racism. Prime Minister Begin defended him, saying that the Labour critics of Sharon would soon be forgotten, "while future generations of Israeli schoolchildren will be learning of the great military exploits of Ariel Sharon." (Sharon, a former chief of the Israeli Army Southern Command, was recalled from the reserve and spearheaded Israel's advance across the Suez Canal during the Yom Kippur War in 1973.)

An independent inquiry by the Broadcasting Authority has cleared Mr. Halaby of lying when he said that cultivated Arab land had been sequestered for the Elon Moreh Settlement, whereas the Government maintained that they had only taken unworkable, rocky areas. Mr. Halaby, 33, has been a well-known reporter for TV for the last five years. He holds a Hebrew University degree and served for more than three years as an Israeli Army officer in the Lebanon border areas. He said, he went to the West Bank to discover the truth rather than to represent any party or faction.

CURSE ON MAYOR KOLLEK

Religious zealots have given warning that Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem will be cursed in a Cabalistic ceremony, if he persists in his plans to build an Olympic-sized sports centre in North Jerusalem. In the 700-year-old ceremony, every curse "from Moses unto the present" is heaped on the head of the victim, while a black candle is lit and a black shofar is sounded.

COURT INJUNCTION AGAINST SETTLERS

The Israeli Supreme Court issued an injunction forbidding new settlers to take residence or do further work on the Gush Emunim Settlement of Eilon Moreh on the West Bank near Nablus, the capital. 17 Arab landowners had appealed against the taking over of their land. The Government was asked by the Court to give reasons why it should not compel the settlers to leave. The Court President, Justice Moshe Landau, said he understood the bitter feeling of the landowners who had submitted statements from the former Chief of Command, General Bar-Lev, and from another General, stating that contrary to Government ex-Israel's security. Subsequently, troops stopped long lines of cars carrying prospective settlers at road blocks in the West Bank. In the Knesset, Defence Minister Weizman threatened to resign, because he did not think the settlement was needed for strategic reasons, and he objected to the requisitioning of private Arab land, but he was outvoted by the hard-line group, led by General Sharon, Minister of Agriculture.

In the meantime, work on another settlement "in the heart of Samaria" has begun. It is called Karnei Shomron, and straddles the way between Kalkily and Nablus. Most of the land is government-owned, but a small area, belonging to the nearby Arab village of Azzun, was appropriated to build an approach road.

At a later date, Israeli troops fired teargas to disperse crowds of demonstrators who attempted to storm a road block outside Elon Moreh. In Tel Aviv, large numbers of "Peace Now" demonstrators arrived from different parts of the country to attend a protest meeting of about 30,000 outside the city museum. Prominent writers and intellectuals called for a campaign to bring down Begin and "to return Zionist aspirations to a course of sanity and rationality."

JUDGE CRITICISES CIVIL SERVICE

Two months ago, Judge Yoel Sussmann of the Israeli Supreme Court said, the Government was in contempt of court to disregard an injunction not to build a particular road in the Negev. A few weeks ago, he heard the case of a boy who became blind after an accident caused by a military vehicle. In 1977, the Tel Aviv district court had awarded him nearly £800,000 damages, but, pending an appeal, the State only paid him about £16,000, and when it eventually paid up after the rejection of the appeal, the value of the award had been greatly diminished because of inflation. Judge Sussmann said, that no civilised country would tolerate the Israeli Civil Service. It should be replaced, and officials who were not doing their job, should be dismissed.

UN COLONEL SMUGGLED ARMS

A high-ranking officer of the United Nations Forces in Lebanon was arrested because he was found to carry arms for terrorists into Israel. This was discovered by chance, when a vehicle carrying two Nigerian officers was involved in a traffic accident and searched by traffic police. In future, all UN vehicles will have to undergo a rigorous check, before being allowed to cross one of the three official checkpoints on the Lebanon border. Most of the UN troops spend their leave in Israel, where the UN Force also buys all its supplies.

GOETHE INSTITUTE IN TEL AVIV

The President of the German Goethe Institute, Klaus von Bismarck, came to Tel Aviv to attend the festive opening of the Tel Aviv Goethe Institute. Many other guests from the Federal Ministry of Culture, diplomats and artists from West Germany heard the West German Ambassador Klaus Schütz open the first German cultural institute in Israel in fluent Hebrew. The library of the Institute has 25,000 volumes, 2,600 of them in English and 1,700 in Hebrew, and 1,600 records.

ARMENIAN MUSEUM IN JERUSALEM

Senior Armenian churchmen paid tribute to the support given by the city of Jerusalem and its mayor Teddy Kollek, to the opening of an Armenian museum in the Old City. The collection is so rich that the whole history of Armenian art can be studied in Israel without recourse to any other sources.

VISITS TO EGYPT APPROVED

During his recent negotiations in Egypt, Foreign Minister Dayan was told by President Sadat that Egypt had every intention of having people moving freely in both directions between their two countries. Within a month or so, Israelis and Egyptians would be able to visit each other's country by air and by sea. However, the Sinai land border will remain closed until the Israelis withdraw to the El Arish-Ras Mohammed line in six months' time. During his visit to Cairo in the company of his wife, Dayan received a tumultuous welcome from shopkeepers and shoppers at the famous Khan Khalili market in the old city. He pushed his security guards aside and shook hands with many of them to shouts: "Dayan is a real man!"

An American chartered boat "Gabriel" took 18 passengers, including one Israeli, on a first overnight cruise from Tel Aviv to Port Said. It is planned to make trips twice a week in the near future. The British travel agency Goodmos has chartered a yacht with an Israeli crew for four tours in August, leaving Tel Aviv each Sunday night for a 20-hour trip. On disembarkment, passengers—there is room for about 12—will be transferred to a minibus to Cairo where they will stay for a few nights in a top class hotel. Cost of the tour, including meals on board and breakfast at the hotels, will be about £200. On the other hand, no air-line company has so far come forward to start a shuttle service between Tel Aviv and Cairo. Under the Arab-Israeli peace treaty, Egyptian and Israeli companies are excluded from setting up the service until the two countries have exchanged ambassadors. British Airways have stated they wanted to be asked rather than to apply for the service.

NEW RABBI FOR CAIRO

Rabbi Yitzhak Debbi, son of the former Sephardic rabbi of Alexandria, and now an Israeli, has been designated as the new rabbi of the Cairo Jewish community which has some 130 members. The Egyptian Government has approved the appointment of an Israeli.

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C. C. Aronsfeld

A FORTUNE IN A CUP OF TEA

The face of Britain is changing in many ways, but in few more strikingly than with the disappearance of the famous Lyons tea shops which once upon a time were as much a part of London as Big Ben or the Ritz or Eros and his customers in Piccadilly. Now they are gone, having been taken over by (of all people) Allied Breweries.

The last of the tea shops was actually closed as far back as 1976, though some ghosts lingered on under the pretty, if dehydrated, name of Jolyon, until they too were laid to rest. The old needs are being met in new ways—by self-service, Wimpey, wine bars—a melancholy fate that has also befallen other regulars of High Street: Home & Colonial, ABC, dairies and the family grocers, even Montagu Burtons ("The Tailors of Taste") and so many other brand names of footwear and haberdashery. An empire has declined at home in a manner hardly less sorrowful than the larger empire abroad. *Sic transit . . .* Lyons' profits for the last year (1977-78) fell from close on £10 million to £6.2 million; debts actually stood at over £250 million, and, rightly or wrongly, the management was sadly found incapable of adapting to modern conditions.

Old "Joe" Lyons would have raised at least one eyebrow at what the Prices Secretary called the "cake and ale" merger. Had anybody told him the startling news, he would have treated it as fit for fiction which was no stranger to his diversely gifted mind. He actually wrote an odd novel or two. For he was not only a businessman but equally a romantic, with a literary talent, a connoisseur of art and himself an amateur artist; a composer of briefly popular songs and music-hall sketches; an inventor of gadgets who also managed to design the first scenic shooting gallery with moving targets, a once great attraction, amusing the public and profitable to himself. Now that his name has been overtaken by the passage of time, it is perhaps fitting to retrace the story of the unusual man and his achievement.

Joseph Lyons did not start in business. Having been to a private academy, the cockney started as a painter—a water-colour painter—and he exhibited his first pictures at the Royal Institute where he appears to have done noticeably well with a number of titled customers. The trouble was (he later confessed) he hated selling his pictures; like many an artist before and after him, he loved his handiwork too much. So he gave up this profession and launched himself on something like a literary career, writing fiction that was to emerge as periodical items of a "Lyons Library" published by Cassels.

He met the grand Welsh character Cecil Raleigh (*recte* Rowlands) who took pride in the fact that he had been "brought up to no trade, calling or profession". Having managed with these qualifications to become (for a while) the dramatic critic of *Vanity Fair* and of *Sporting Times*, he turned out an impressive array of plays, melodramas, pantomimes (some of which actually appeared in Drury Lane) under such engaging titles as "The Sins of Society", "Marriages of Mayfair", "The Derby Winner", "The Great Millionaire", and a partnership with "Joe" Lyons produced two thrillers, "The Master Crime" and "The Treasure of the Temple".

But, of course, these were only hobbies so far as Lyons was concerned, and the "Lyons Library" did not last long anyway. The idea

of the tea shops had occurred to him at some of the exhibitions he attended, both commercial and artistic, where he found the standards of eating deplorable. Not only was the food expensive, it was often also dirty and drearily served. So, in the 1880s, then aged about 35, Lyons opened first a small restaurant where he himself did the cooking, then a coffee stall at an exhibition in Liverpool.

Curiously enough, the idea was shared by a cousin of his, Montagu Gluckstein, who was a traveller for Messrs Salmon & Gluckstein, tobacconists (now long since taken over by Imperial Tobacco). He noticed how little opportunity there was for eating out in comfort. "Supposing (he once related) that you had been a stallholder then and unable to spare much time for your meals. You had your choice of three things, and three only—the extortionate and unsatisfactory catering within the exhibition itself, the public house or a visit to a coffee house or to one of those familiarly known as 'a good pull-up for carmen'".

So, with his brother, Isidore and brother-in-law, Barnett Salmon, the partners of Salmon & Gluckstein, he decided to set up a new company of which he was to be the manager, though they would not trade under the family name; popular catering was considered inferior to the aristocratic business of cigar-manufacturing. They needed (so Montagu later explained) "someone to act as ambassador to the new firm and negotiate with the exhibition authorities". This man was found in Joseph Lyons, a distant relative.

It was an inspired choice, for Joseph not only knew the trade, he had also the knack of making himself agreeable. He was a great raconteur and his anecdotes, whether true or not, always helped to captivate good will. Later, among the gossip columnists of Fleet Street (as Bernard Falk tells in his *Memoirs*), "on any slow afternoon, Joe Lyons was good for half a column. Either his reminiscences or his views on topics of the day provided 'copy' as entertaining as the papers demanded and so to journalists he was as good as a free insurance endowment policy".

Montagu visited him in Liverpool, offered him shares in the business and thus Joe joined the Gluckstein-Salmon team. He was to be chairman of the firm which was to be called after him if only to avoid confusion with the tobacconists.

But while Montagu Gluckstein was undoubtedly the driving force, Lyons had ideas of his own. As he put it, he sought to discover what the public wanted and then set about getting it. "Our crest, had we had it embossed", he said, "would have been a pickaxe and our motto 'We'll either find a way or make one'". On these lines some experience was gained at a number of exhibitions, in Newcastle, Glasgow, at Olympia, at the "France-British Café and Restaurant" in Paris, 1889, and eventually the first Lyons tea shop was opened in Piccadilly, London, on September 20, 1894.

It was a small place and meant to be. "If we had started business with a large establishment such as the Trocadero (Joe once reflected), we might have finished up with being proprietors of a small coffee house, but having started from the bottom rung of the ladder we were able to gauge month by month the popular requirements and so increase our business".

The first Lyons shop proved to be, according to Montagu Gluckstein, "a howling success"; at any rate the Popular Café carried some social significance—not so much because greater value was here given for less money but mainly because new standards of comfort were established which made it possible for the respectable, if impecunious, middle-class family to have a larger share in the amenities of life.

In the City especially there was (as Robert Cecil's "Life in Edwardian England" describes them) a "rapidly multiplying race of clerks and office workers" who "demanded a new kind of catering", and the young women typists, secretaries and telephonists were particular too. They all no longer needed to cast a jealous glance at the splendour of Rumpelmayer's, nor put up with the dingy coffee house or dread the beastly pub. Here was a place whose very appearance was clean and bright, white-gilded with a light brown lettering that Suburbia come to Town was only too pleased to accept as pure gold. The rooms were well aired and prettily decorated, the crockery decent, the table-cloth clean too—no small thing in a country where, even years later, responsible critics would sternly rebuke "our filthy habits in regard to the sale and service of food".

Step by step, the Popular Cafés multiplied (there were eventually 250-odd including more than 120 in London), and bigger and better tea shops arose—the Corner Houses, State Cafés, Maisons Lyons: veritable Marble Halls with all the glitter and grandeur of Fairyland.

Exquisite attention was devoted to every detail bearing on comfort, including good light music by exotically clad orchestras; even early on, at the Newcastle exhibition, bread and butter was consumed to the no doubt awe-inspiring strains of a—Hungarian band. But careful note was also taken of every failure. Montagu Gluckstein tells a characteristic episode. They used to have the tipping system which was, of course, the rule in the catering trade. But they were the first to employ women as waiters, the attractive, smartly dressed "Nippies", who were dependent on the customers' generosity. The drawback of this system soon became apparent, especially after a press campaign had been launched under the slogan "The Lyons and the Lambs". "We realised we had made a mistake", Montagu Gluckstein afterwards related, "We said so publicly in the press and announced: 'As from tonight NO GRATUITIES'". They introduced instead the system of payments and commission.

The public's favour was captured almost from the beginning. Clear proof was given that while the British often regard cooking as one of the lost arts, they will appreciate good food if it is presented with grace and in conditions not inferior to the best standards. They will then even relish dishes they had not hitherto known and which they would otherwise disdain as foreign. When the Piccadilly Corner House opened in 1910, a queue a quarter-mile long was waiting to get inside. As Shaw Desmond wittily remarks in his Edwardian memoirs, "Christians to the Lyons' became once more an accomplished fact".

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PETER C. RICKENBACK

continued on page 10

A FORTUNE IN A CUP OF TEA

continued from page 9

While Lyons were never wanting in handsome tributes, not the least notable compliment, though perhaps the least sincere, was paid them in that Nazi press articles during the war which, having crudely lampooned the Jewish founders, reported "the smell of Solomon's Kosher People's Kitchen" in "all the highways and byways of London". "If Lyons' menu says cabbage, then the whole of London will reek of cabbage".

Actually, if the Nazis had known what Lyons were doing at that time they might have been less pre-occupied with cabbage. Lyons were adding to their catering list a diet that was to be deadly for the Germans. On Government orders they began to manufacture munitions at a recently established and as yet underdeveloped Royal Ordnance factory near Bedford. They specialised in high explosives and the factory's original capacity of 90,000 bombs a week was stepped up, within little more than a year, to over half a million. Here was produced the literally devastating blockbuster, the 4,000-pounder which soon grew to 12,000 and 22,000, and in fact out of the total of nearly 100,000 tons of bombs dropped on Germany by British Bomber Command over one-tenth passed through this Lyons shop.

"Joe" Lyons did not live to see those days. He died, aged 70, during the First World War, in 1917. Not long afterwards, too, he entered literature—not as the author of now forgotten stories but as the hero in one of Daphne du Maurier's novels, "The Progress of Julius"

1933). Julius Lévy, the French Jew, appeared in some disguise, of course, and disembellished by poetical licence. Joe Lyons had rather more human feeling and what he lacked in concern for himself he made up by a noticeable public spirit. Yet, though Miss du Maurier has claimed that "the story was entirely fictitious and not based on any real person", of both it was true that they began in the smallest way, "creating a great novelty" for "the numberless clerks and poorer City men who . . . were agreeably surprised to come across this place that provided a quick, cheap,

midday meal". Soon "a big popular café (was) spreading itself from a humble baker's and confectioner's"; "Lévy's of Oxford Street" would open also "Lévy's in the Strand" where before long it was "considered rather 'fast' to dine" because "this Jewish fellow was clever enough to realise that a bad moral tone would kill the business but a romantic and vaguely suggestive aura was sufficient to set it going with a swing".

Those "white facades and their triumphant golden signs . . . were the fountain heads and the mark of fame", while "in the provinces rose others no less prosperous, no less carefully considered, each one planned and planted in firm ground by the mind and the hand of their creator". In fact "there would be no town in future days lacking a Lévy café: Lévy's was something permanent and solid, it had identified itself with the English character and because of its general familiarity had become a national advertisement".

Now it has closed down. Lyons has become little more than a period piece, to be treasured by those connoisseurs of whom Joe himself was one. There is a nostalgic ring about it, the (now) beguiling atmosphere of the upstairs-downstairs world. The bazaars of fashion caught on to it and for a while the "Nippy Line" or the "Waitress Dress" was in vogue, embroidered with a dash of more than suggestive magic which would probably have been frowned upon in the Popular Cafés.

In 1911, Lyons was knighted in recognition of the services he had rendered in various fields of public affairs. Tribute was paid to the "energetic and liberal support" he had given to the London County Territorial Force Association, but especially he was thought highly of because he had "contributed not a little to the fall in the drink bill which is one of the most hopeful features of modern English life". No doubt his fanciful mind would have appreciated the not too subtle irony that, having done so much for the cause of temperance, his tea shops were eventually to be gulped down by Allied Breweries.

MISCELLANEOUS

A FRANKFURT JEWISH BIBLIOGRAPHY

More than 10,000 items are listed in the recently published "Bibliographie zur Geschichte der Frankfurter Juden 1781-1945" (Verlag Waldemar Kramer, Frankfurt). It records the entire relevant literature (books, periodicals and newspapers) published up to the end of 1977. The 700-page volume is divided into a general part and an alphabetically arranged bibliographical section covering all personalities of Jewish faith or descent, who played a role in the city's public, cultural or economic life; other well known personalities who originated from Frankfurt are also included.

The general part deals in chronological order with the periods from the beginning of the emancipation up to the time of persecution.

The personal part includes about 900 names, among them, to quote only a few examples at random, Rabbis Abraham Geiger, S. R. Hirsch and Georg Salzberger, furthermore Gabriel Rieser, Leopold Sonnemann, Paul Ehrlich, the Rothschilds and Speyers.

The publication is edited by the young historian Hans-Otto Schembs. He could base it on the preparatory work carried out by Diplombibliothekar Ernst Loewy and the late Rosel Andernacht and was also assisted by the staff of the Municipal Archives (Director Dr. Dietrich Andernacht) and of the Municipal and University Library.

E.G.L.

BERLIN BAR KOCHBA REMEMBERED

Eighty years ago, the "Juedische Turnverein Bar Kochba" was founded in Berlin. To mark the anniversary, the Bar Kochba-Hakoah Nachrichten (Editor, Fritz A. Lewinson. Tel Aviv POB 11587) published a special issue, partly in German, partly in Hebrew, in which former members assess the ideological conditions, which led to the foundation of this Zionist sport organisation, and record the Bar Kochba's achievements in the field of athletics. The paper also carries personal reminiscences of former Bar Kochba members. One article deals with the position of the Bar Kochba as constituent of the Maccabi World Movement, which from 1929 until 1933 had its headquarters in Berlin. When the Nazis came to power, the Maccabi archives were secretly taken to London. The leading role, played by the second Lord Melchett in World Maccabi is also gratefully remembered.

CASPARIUS EXHIBITION IN BERLIN

When Hans Casparius attended the Photographic Congress in Berlin last year, the Landesbildstelle acquired many of his photos of pre-Nazi Berlin, his home-town until he emigrated to London in 1935. These pictures have now been shown in a special exhibition which attracted many visitors.

FAMILY EVENTS

Entries in the column Family Events are free of charge; any voluntary donation would, however, be appreciated. Texts should be sent in by 15th of the month.

Birthdays

SCHIEREN.—A Happy 90th Birthday on August 16 to Mrs. Beate Schieren (Auntie Be) of Otto Schiff House, 14 Netherhall Gardens, London, N.W.3. from all her relatives and friends.

WILLIAMS.—On August 28, Mrs. Lilly Williams of 126 Sutherland Avenue, W.9, will celebrate her 80th birthday. All her friends, grateful for many acts of kindness, wish her many years of undiminished health and strength.

Golden Wedding

GERRARD.—Mr. Gerhard and Mrs. Hilde Gerrard celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on July 28. 26 Manor Road, Harrow, Middx. HA1 2PB.

Deaths

BERNSTEIN.—Ruth Bernstein died peacefully on June 21 in her 87th year. Deeply mourned by Hans and Nora Fernbach, Heinz Werner and Ruth Lowenstein and her many friends.

GUHRAUER.—Alex Guhrauer, formerly of Braunschweig, passed away peacefully on June 30. Deeply mourned by his wife Hella, relatives and friends everywhere. 226 Mancroft Road, Aley Green, Luton, Beds.

OFFENBACHER.—Paul Offenbacher died peacefully on June 7. Deeply mourned by his wife, daughter and friends.

SIMON.—Walter Simon, husband of Steffi, brother of Ruth, passed away on June 27 in his 71st year. 153 Cholmley Gardens, Mill Lane, London, N.W.6.

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Miscellaneous

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PERSONALIA

MAX MORDECHAI SINASOHN

Max Mordechai Sinasohn, who recently died in Israel at the age of 92, was headmaster of the Primary School of the Adass-Jisroel Community in Berlin from 1919 to 1942. He and his wife, who predeceased him, managed to find refuge in Belgium, where they survived the war in hiding. In 1947, he went to Palestine, where he spent the last years of his life in a Home for the Aged in Nahariya. Max Sinasohn's active interest in the past of Berlin Jewry is reflected in two books of his, a "History of the Berlin Adass Jisroel" (1966) and a meticulous record of Berlin's Private Synagogues and their Rabbis (1971). In recognition of his standing as a Jewish scholar, he was awarded the honorary title "Morenu" (Our Teacher). He was also a member of the Jewish Academy of Arts and Sciences in New York.

E.G.L.

JOSEF PLAUT CENTENARY

A hundred years ago, on June 5, the widely known and highly popular artist Josef Plaut was born in Detmold. To mark the centenary, RIAS Berlin arranged a special broadcast, reviving the memories of the "Josef-Plaut-Abende", which were enjoyed by large audiences all over the country. They excelled by the artist's versatile gifts as a performer and the specific humour of his repertoire, which also included many pieces written by himself. Plaut emigrated in 1936 and as a refugee had to go through difficult times in Switzerland, South Africa and England. Six years after the end of the war, he decided to return to Germany. His last appearance in London was arranged under the auspices of the AJR. He resumed his artistic activities in Germany until he retired and died, 87 years old, in Bad Salzuffen, not far away from his place of birth.

E.G.L.

GEORG SCHLESINGER PRIZE IN BERLIN

To commemorate the name of Dr. Georg Schlesinger, who was Professor at the Berlin Technische Hochschule (now Technische Universität) from 1904 to 1933, the City of Berlin made an endowment which bears his name. The proceeds are to be awarded to research workers on production methods. Professor Schlesinger had been a pioneer in this field, and the creation of the "Institut fuer Werkzeugmaschinen und Fertigungstechnik" owes its creation in 1904 to him. To mark the 75th anniversary of the Institute, a ceremony was held on June 6 in the former Charlottenburg Castle. Tributes were paid to Professor Schlesinger's achievements, and the guests at the function included his children.

Georg Schlesinger was born in Berlin in 1874. When the Nazis came to power, he was taken into pre-trial custody for no particular reason and solely on account of his being a Jew. After his release in November 1933, he emigrated to Belgium, where he was for four years lecturer at the "Université Libre" in Brussels. After his re-emigration to England, he was appointed director of the research department of the British Institute of Production Engineers in Loughborough. He died in London in October 1949, 75 years old.

When, during the war, the AJR gave thought to the economic and vocational problems which many refugees might have to face after the end of hostilities, two of its honorary officers met Professor Schlesinger and obtained his expert and understanding advice.

ISAAH BERLIN'S GIFT

Sir Isaiah Berlin has donated the £1,500 Jerusalem Prize money recently awarded to him, to the Jerusalem Institute for the Prevention of Blindness at the Hadassah Medical Centre. He expressed the hope that the money would help more people to read books.

IN MEMORIAM HANS JACOBI

On the 25th of July our dear friend Hans Jacobi would have celebrated his 70th birthday. He did not live to celebrate it. Is it allowed to alleviate our sadness at having lost him so grievously early by dwelling for a moment on the vision of how he would have celebrated it? On his happiness at welcoming his friends to his and his beloved Lili's home, on their table laden with selected dishes, with exquisite drinks, lavish flower arrangements, surrounded by cheerful guests? How Hans and Lili would have radiated pleasure, rejoiced in the festivity and chuckled in delight at its success?

Alas, it was not to be. All his friends are poorer, being deprived not only of his unequalled hospitality, but, above all, of a loyal, judicious, many-sided friend, full of humour and high spirits. Yet surely, he would have wished to be remembered rather by the joy he gave than by the unmitigated sense of bereavement with which he has left us.

E.G.R.

ARCHITECT OF DRESDEN'S SYNAGOGUE

Centenary of the Death of Gottfried Semper

One hundred years ago, the famous German architect and art historian, Gottfried Semper died in Rome, 76 years old. His works during his 15 years' stay in Dresden included the city's Synagogue, completed in 1840, one of the architecturally outstanding Jewish houses of prayer in Germany. The main initiator of commissioning Semper was a private man of letters, Bernhard Behr (1801-1861), who was a member of the Community Board. The Synagogue was destroyed during the November 1938 pogroms, yet after the war, miraculously, a number of silver ritual objects were retraced.

E.G.L.

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IDENTITY AND INTEGRATION

Salute to Belsize Square Synagogue

When, in 1939, Jewish refugees arrived in great numbers in this country, quite a few of them missed the kind of religious service they had been used to on the Continent. It was due to the initiative of several former Jewish communal workers in Germany and to the helpfulness of the late Dr. Israel Mattuck and the late Hon. Lily Montagu, that a New Liberal Jewish Association was founded. It soon replaced the term "Association" by "Congregation" and, being more moderate than most of the Anglo-Jewish Liberal congregations, ultimately adopted the name Belsize Square Synagogue. To mark the 40th anniversary of the Synagogue, an impressive Anniversary Service was held on June 17, and a particularly well laid out special issue of the Synagogue's magazine "Our Congregation" carried several contributions referring to the event.

The history and current problems of the Synagogue were described by Rabbi J. J. Kokotek both in his Thanksgiving Sermon and, in greater detail, in an article published in "Our Congregation". Extracts from the memoirs of the late Rabbi Dr. Georg Salzberger, the spiritual leader of the Synagogue from its foundation until his retirement after 17 years of devoted service, cast the readers' minds back to the innumerable difficulties during the first years, when most of the members had to struggle hard to make a living in this country. Bravely, and under great personal sacrifices, Rabbi Dr. Salzberger as well as Cantor Magnus Davidsohn put up with these unavoidable shortcomings. Yet their loyalty and unshakable belief in their cause and perhaps also the organisational ability, which they and the honorary officers had "transferred" from their country of origin, helped them through the difficult first decade, when they had to hold their services in small flats. It was only in 1950 that they could open their own Synagogue in the former vicarage of St. Peter's, Belsize Square. Their present, beautiful Synagogue on the same

site was consecrated in 1958.

From the very beginning, the Synagogue has excelled by its lively religious, intellectual and welfare activities. At the same time, without losing its identity, it has become an integral part of Anglo-Jewish life. May it go on from strength to strength in the years to come.

THEATRE AND CULTURE

The German Stage provided a colourful end-of-season picture, probably mindful of visitors from abroad: Brecht's "Furcht und Elend des Dritten Reiches" was seen in Marburg and Essen, the "Diary of Anne Frank" at the Stadttheater, Aachen, and—in sharp contrast—a nostalgic revue at Berlin's "Theater des Westens": "Wie einst im Mai", with music by Willi and Walter Kollo.

Munich. "My Mother's Courage" was the title of a dramatic work given here, written by the late George Tabori, the Hungarian-born writer who emigrated to England. The main part of the play which depicts the true story of the deportation to Auschwitz of the author's mother, is played by Hanna Schygulla who could be seen in several main rôles during the series of German Fassbinder Films at the National Film Theatre earlier this year.

Birthdays. Czech-born musician and conductor Rafael Kubelik who for a number of years was musical director of Covent Garden Opera House, celebrated his 65th birthday; Grete von Zieritz, a pupil of composer Franz Schreker and one of the few internationally-known women-composers, was feted by Bayrischer Rundfunk on the occasion of her 80th birthday; Lotte Reiniger, legendary inventor of the Silhouette film (her first film appeared 60 years ago), is also 80 years old.

Marlene Dietrich has joined the circle of stars who inform their fans about themselves by writing an autobiography. "Nicht nur mein Leben" (published by Bertelsmann, Munich) is meant to be a truthful account, partly a denial of the avalanche of stories written about Marlene, the wicked "Blue Angel". She recalls a great number of famous friends, among whom director Josef von Sternberg ranks first. She also pays tribute to Jean Gabin and Charles Chaplin, and to the man who assisted her in her second career as show star—composer Burt Bacharach. It is a book about Marlene as we know her, elegant and proud, confessing her dedication to total professionalism. S.B.

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Under the heading "Just for today", speeches of church leaders and other public personalities have been compiled on a Long Playing record (£3.75 incl. postage obtainable from P.O. Box "Just for today", Romford, Essex). The profits will be distributed among various charities. The texts include words by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Soper, Dame Sybil Thorndike and, among others, also the prayer, which Mr. Herbert Sulzbach addressed to 4,000 German Prisoners-of-War in Scotland after the end of the Second World War.

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