

A family's experience in the Holocaust

P B Hirsch

1919 Bartenstein

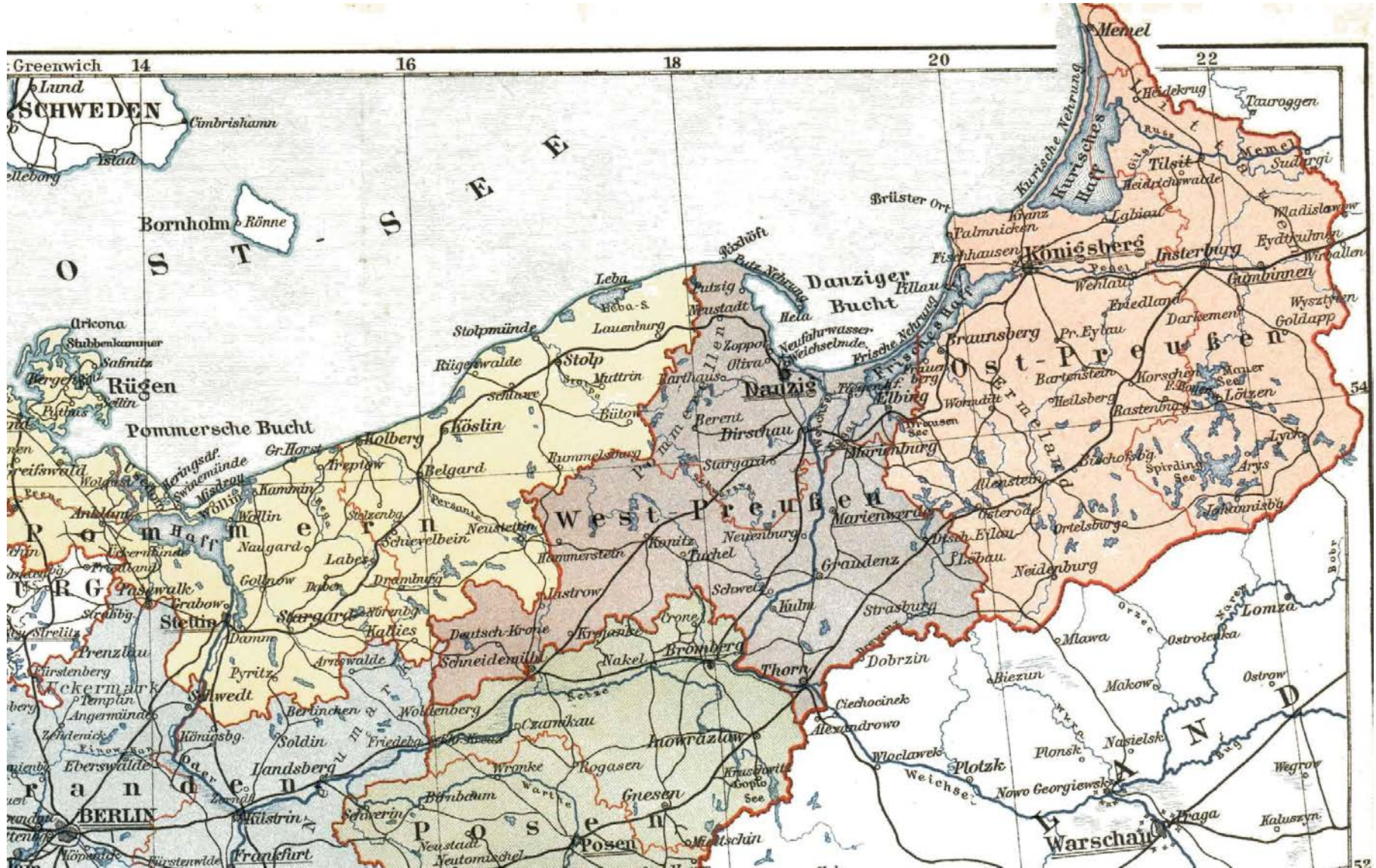
Wedding: Ismar Hirsch and Regina Less

? FRED IRWIG ? ADOLF BENNHEIM ? ?
 HEATHER-JOSEPH PERL / ANNI - GUSTAV GOTTHALF ISMAR'S SISTER HANNA GRETE & KONIG ?
 TRADE - GUSTAV ISAKOWSKI REBI - ISMAR HIRSCH TEOPH. LESS + HER. SISTER KRONER ?



HERBERT RUTH BERNI PERL HANS
 WEDDING ISMAR AND REBI 1919 CELEBRATED IN THE HOUSE
 IN BARTENSTEIN

1905: East and West Prussia



1914-18: Ismar Hirsch



Ismar in German uniform, with ribbon of Iron Cross (second class)
Fought in Horse Artillery at Verdun; was wounded

1919 Bartenstein

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History of Isakovsky (later Irwig) family

Bartenstein (East Prussia)

Gustav Isakowski – Gertrude Less

married 1906
died 1930 1884-1973
to South Africa
1938

Herbert Isakowski - Kate Voss

married 1936
1907-2005 1910-1959
to South Africa
1936

Grocery Store (Johannesburg)

to US 1975

2 Children:

Henry (US), Leslie (Australia)

Fred Irwig

Gustav's nephew
Studied medicine
in Germany
to US (Kansas City)
1923
Surgeon

Harry Irwig

1910-1978
to US (Kansas City)
1933
married Frances, in US
Daughter Susan
Lawyer
Assisted at
Nuremberg Trial

Ruth Irwig

1912-1987
to US (Kansas
City)
1938
married Kamerling
1942

1956 Johannesburg: Henry's Bar Mitzvah

Herbert Irwig, his wife Kate (Voss), his sons Henry and Leslie
and his mother, Gertrude (Less)



Kate's sister, Else (Voss), husband Ota Rosenberger, daughter Ellen
were gassed Auschwitz 1943

1943 Auschwitz

Rada židovských náboženských obcí v zemích České a Moravskoslezské
Praha V., Maislova 18.

Mr.
Herbert I r w i g
28A, Drakensberg Road
Hill Township
J o h a n n e s b u r g

South Africa
8544/Th/Ig

Praha Nov. 29th. 1945 .

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge the result of our investigations made regarding your family:
Rosenberger Ota, Elsa and Ellen have been deported from Praha to Terezín on the 30th of January 1942 with tr. numb V 315/324, /325. The whole family left Terezín for Osvietim on the 6th of September 1942 with tr. numb. Dm 4261/4262/4263. We have been informed that this transport was gased on the 7th of March 1943.

Sorry not having better news for you, we are

yours very truly
Council of Jewish communities in
Bohemia and Moravia:

lh

Notification of fate of Herbert's sister-in-law, husband and daughter

1938 Berlin



Silver Wedding party: Josef and Hertha Perl

History of the Gotthilf family

Breslau, later Berlin

Gustav Gotthilf - Annie Less

Married 1910

1886 - 1941

Perished 1942
in concentration
camp

Ellen Gotthilf

30.10.1913 - 1980

to South Africa 1936

(Cape Town)

Daughter Jossy 6.6.1944

Jossy to UK 1958

Ellen to UK 1959

(Hospitalised Epsom)

Ruth Gotthilf

30.06.1917 - 1990

To UK 1939

Married

Fred Woodgate 1952

(Fred died 1968)

History of the Perl family

Lyck (East Prussia)

Josef Perl – Hertha Less

married 1913

born 1882 born 1889

Permit to Paraguay 1939

to Argentine via Uruguay 1939

Haberdashery Buenos Aires

Bernie Perl - Dorothea Israelski

14.02.1914 11.1.1916

-16.08.2014 -30.08.1885

married 1935

Son Norbert 1936

to Argentine 1939

Daughter Anita 1946

Jewellery business

Josef Perl had three brothers – Nathan, Felix, Jacob

Two brothers survived in Belgium

The first wife and two children of one of these two brothers

and the third brother, wife and daughter,

all perished in concentration camps.

1938 Berlin: Treitschke Schule

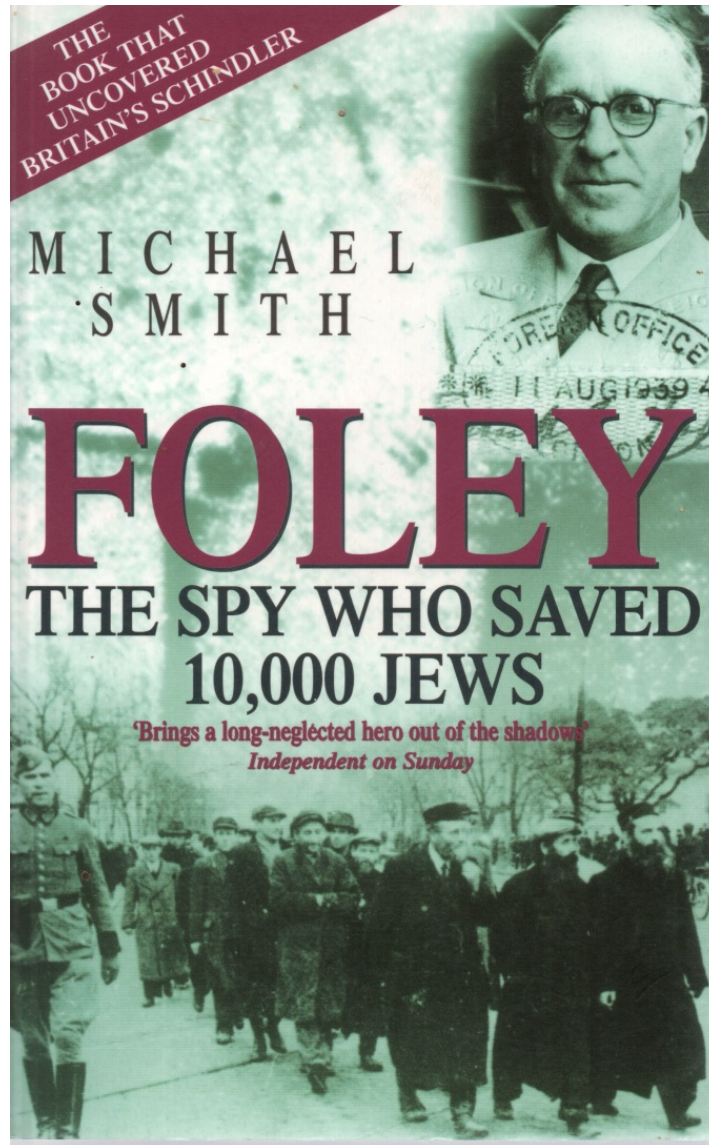


John Hirsch, end of school year

1948 Wedding: John Hirsch and Ann Pendlebury



1938 Berlin: Frank Foley



1938 Berlin Metropolis: Stumme Zeugen der Geschichte

Für den überdimensionierten Ausbau Berlins zur Hauptstadt Nazi-Deutschlands mussten teilweise erst Freiflächen geschaffen werden. Den "arischen" Mieterinnen und Mietern in den zum Abriss vorgesehenen Häusern wurden von den Nationalsozialisten Ersatzwohnungen angeboten, aus denen vorher die Bewohnerinnen und Bewohner vertrieben und in sogenannte "Judenhäuser" zwangsumgesiedelt worden waren, in denen sie auf engstem Raum miteinander leben mussten.

In dem Haus **Levetzowstraße 11a** bezog er ein Leerzimmer in einer früheren 6-Zimmerwohnung, die er u.a. mit dem Apotheker Max Chaskel, dem Arzt Dr. Lippmann Dossmar, dem Nervenarzt Dr. Hermann Pineas mit dessen Frau Herta sowie dem **Zahnarzt Dr. Herbert Meyerson** teilte. Die Mieterinnen und Mieter hatten in der "Gemeinschaftswohnung" eine "Gemeinschaftsküche", in der sie jeweils über eine eigene Speisekammer verfügten. Die Lebensgefährtin von Julius Moses, Frieda Nemitz, und der Sohn Kurt kamen täglich um ihn zu versorgen.

Im Sommer 1942 wurde Dr. Moses deportiert. Er starb am 24.9.1942 unter ungeklärten Umständen im KZ Theresienstadt.

Berlin 9-10 November 1938: Kristallnacht



Levetzowstrasse Synagogue was heavily damaged.

It was used by the Nazis in 1941-42 as a collection point for Jewish deportees to Auschwitz

Mahnmal Levetzowstrasse

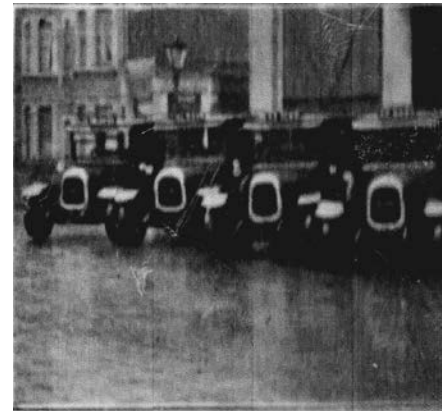
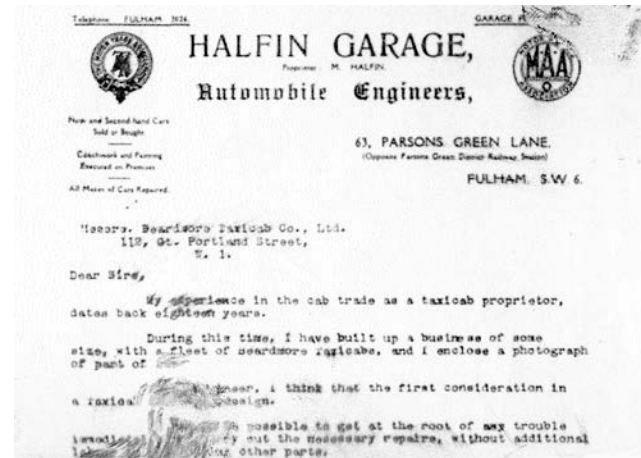


Cattle truck Memorial at site of Levetzowstrasse Synagogue

Stolperstein Levetzowstrasse 11a



1938 London: Max Halfin



Max Halfin, Guarantor of Kindertransport to UK for Peter Hirsch (1st January 1939) and Herbert Meyersohn (April 1939)

1939 Berlin: Exit document for Herbert Meyersohn

Finanzamt Hansa Berlin N.W. 7, 18. Jan. 1939
Steuer-Nr.: 124/304 Luisen Str. Nr. 33
Zimmer-Nr.: 113 Fernsprecher: 420013
Apparat Nr. 129

an den Finanzamt
An die Deutschenstelle
Berlin NW 43
Neue Königsstr. 61-64

Diefe Bescheinigung ist dem von Ihnen beabsichtigten Antrage an die Deutschenstelle Berlin beizufügen; sie kann vom Finanzamt jeberzeit widerrufen werden.

Unbedenklichkeitsbescheinigung

— Gültig bis zum 30. 4. 1939 *Freiwillig Ratz 27.7.*

Der Zahnarzt
Dr. Herbert Meyersohn
geboren am 25. 8. 1890^u Bromberg
und seine Ehefrau Regina geborene
geboren am 6. 2. 1892^u Schweiz a. W.
Anschrift: Berlin N.W. 87, Levetzow Str. Nr. 11 a
(bzw. ~~Wohnort~~ - Vertreter -)
Anschrift =) Str. Nr. =)

Ratz
Haben gegenwärtig keine Feste an Steuern, Zuschlägen, Strafen Gebühren und Kosten.
ausgeführt durch Ratz
Die Judenabgabe ist in Höhe von 3400,-RM. erhoben worden.
gegen die Höhe von 3400,-RM. von Ratz
an Ratz
Im Auftrag:
Ratz

Vordruck A 107 c 10. 38. (20 000)

1940 England



Herbert Meyersohn, Pioneer Corps.

Peter Hirsch evacuated with Sloane School, Chelsea, to Addlestone, Surrey

1947 England: Regi, Herbert and Peter



Herbert Meyersohn: Captain, Dental Corps

1956 Peter Hirsch and Steve Kellar



Peter Hirsch read Physics at Cambridge, took up academic career.
1959: married Steve Kellar; two step-children, Janet and Paul

History of the Hirsch and Meyersohn families

Broniewo, Grutchnow, Schwetz, Bromberg (West Prussia)

Ismar Hirsch - Regina Less - Herbert Meyersohn
married 1919 married 1934

Ismar

01.04.1879-14.12.1936
died in Berlin
Textile business

Regina

06.02.1891-20.07.1973
to London 1938
Domestic service +
clerical post at Telfers
in London

Herbert

24.05.1890-1966
to London 1939
Captain in Dental corps
Dental surgeon in Berlin
and London

John Hirsch

03.10.1920-09.10.2010
to London 1938
Married Ann Pendlebury 1948
4 children
Peter, Penny, Stella, Ann
Academic Physicist

Peter Hirsch

16.01.1925 (Berlin)
to London 01.01.1939
Married Steve Kellar 1959
2 stepchildren, Janet, Paul
Academic Materials Scientist

Siegbert Meyersohn

(Herbert's older brother)
Doctor

**He and his wife perished in
Concentration camp**

Lisa Meyersohn

(daughter of Siegbert)
Nurse

**Was sheltered and survived in
Berlin throughout the war**

to Palestine

Summary

Three of the four Less sisters and families survived; one husband perished in a concentration camp.

The fate of a number of relations at the 1919 wedding is unknown, but some of them did not survive the war.

Those who survived fled to where they could, not where they wanted to go. The three surviving sisters and families found refuge in South Africa, U.S.A., Argentine, U.K; an example of the diaspora resulting from Nazi oppression. Much ingenuity and help from others was needed to make a successful escape.

Many who escaped were in their 50's and 60's and showed remarkable determination and resourcefulness to rebuild their lives in a new land, and contributed to their new countries.

Chaim Weizmann described the situation accurately in 1936:

"The world seemed to be divided into two parts; those places where the Jews could not live, and those they could not enter."