Lists of Jewish Refugees In Shanghai As A Resource For Genealogical Research
By Ralph B. Hirsch, Philadelphia, USA and Germany

Some 18,000 persons from Central Europe, most of them Jewish, found refuge in Shanghai in the late 1930s and early 1940s. In part they were able to enter Shanghai because governmental authority was inconsistent over time and fragmented among various institutions and even nations. Those factors also resulted in a relative lack of systematic central record keeping. Genealogical researchers looking for data about persons whom they know or suspect to have lived in Shanghai as refugees during that period therefore have not been able to draw on a single authoritative source comparable to what was typically available in many European countries.

The present article is intended to provide an overview of several lists that contain refugees' names and some other data, and to discuss each list's advantages, limitations and accessibility. As more than half of the Shanghai refugees were from Germany and another 30 percent from Austria, these resources may be of particular interest to Stammbaum readers.

In the summer of 1939, soon after most of the Jewish refugees had reached Shanghai, an effort began to prepare a directory of the names of household heads and single individuals. The New Star Company, a publisher, worked with the Committee for the Assistance of European Jewish Refugees in Shanghai to compile the data. Participation in the listing was voluntary, but the data collectors appear to have worked with great diligence. The resulting publication, the *Emigranten Adressbuch für Shanghai* (EAB39 for short) was published in November 1939 as a paper-covered booklet and at that time copies sold for $1.50 in local currency.

In 1995, in observance of the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, the Old China Hand Press of Hongkong reprinted the EAB39 in facsimile. The procedure for ordering a copy is as follows: The *Emigranten Adressbuch* reprint costs US$10, including surface postage. Make check payable to Tess Johnston, on a bank in the USA. If you

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must send cash, make sure the bill cannot be seen through the envelope. Mail to:

Tess Johnston
1202/905 Huai Hai Zhong Lu
Shanghai 200031, China

The EAB39 contains approximately 7,000 names, most of them male; wives and children are not listed. The format is: family name, first name, title if any (Dr., Prof.), city of last residence in Europe, occupation, local address in Shanghai. Most entries are complete, although a small proportion lacks the European residence or the occupation, or both.

Some public and university libraries have copies of EAB39. The Council on the Jewish Experience in Shanghai (CJES) (see article about CJES in this issue of Stammbaum) has worked extensively with this source and, for various projects, has extracted and digitized several categories of information (e.g. all physicians; all persons listed with a previous address in the German state of Saxony). CJES has considered digitizing the entire list, but so far it is not clear that the demand would justify the expense. If the list is eventually digitized, it will be announced on the CJES website, http://www.cjes.org/, and possibly a searchable version will be posted on that website. Meanwhile genealogical researchers may send queries regarding EAB39 by e-mail to <data@cjes.org>.

Accompanying the book Exil Shanghai 1938-1949, reviewed elsewhere in this issue of Stammbaum, is a CD-ROM that contains a list, prepared in August 1944, of some 14,800 names of foreign nationals who lived in Shanghai's Dee Lay Jao police district. I'll call this list DLJ44, for short. That police district included the Designated Area, established by the Japanese authorities in 1943, into which all Jewish refugees had to move who had arrived in Shanghai after 1937.

The DLJ44 list is in the format: family name, first name, age, occupation, local street address. Although based on data collected by official authorities, DLJ44 clearly is not complete; the editors of Exil Shanghai estimate (and I concur) that about 30% of the refugees who lived in the area when the list was compiled are not included, for whatever reason. It also has many mistakes in spelling, probably due to faulty transcription in Shanghai.

The Exil Shanghai CD-ROM now is available only as a package with the book. It contains scans of the original list, in varying degrees of legibility, and digitized versions of the data in formats including HTML, MS Word, and MS Excel. It also has an
internal search engine that enables the user to do searches of the DLJ44 list by name, age, address, and perhaps occupation (I did not test this option). An announcement on the CD-ROM appropriately warns users to expect long loading times on "older" computers. Indeed, owners of systems built before 1995 might be well advised not to try to run this CD-ROM.

A document titled Central European Jewish refugees who died in Shanghai in 1940-1945 was issued by CJES in January 2001. In Shanghai, the Communal Association of Central European Jews compiled the original death lists. The lists for 1940-1945 were published in the German-Jewish newspaper Aufbau in installments in 1946. CJES and the US Holocaust Memorial Museum filled in gaps in the list, corrected errors, and converted the data to digital form. The list now contains 1,433 names, together with each person's last residence in Europe, date of birth and date of death. Queries should be directed to <data@cjes.org>. The list may be posted on the CJES website in 2002.

The most comprehensive set of data compiled about the Shanghai refugees unfortunately is nowhere available. In the years 1946 to 1949 staff members of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (Joint) conducted detailed interviews with all refugees prior to their onward migration from Shanghai. From 1950 on, attempts were made to transfer those interview files to the Joint's office in New York, but without success. Apparently they were last seen in Shanghai in 1958; they may have been destroyed during the Cultural Revolution. CJES continues to search for them in Shanghai and elsewhere.

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Ralph B. Hirsch, born in Berlin in 1930, lived in Shanghai from 1940 to 1947. An urban planner by profession, he now divides his time between Philadelphia and Germany. He was a founder of the Council on the Jewish Experience in Shanghai (CJES) in 1994 and serves as its executive director. E-mail: <hirsch@ige.org>
when did you arrive in Australia?

Eisfelder: After the war ended, I held various, mostly photography-related jobs, with the US Army and Air Force, which also took me to Nanjing (then known as Nanking, and the then-capital of the Nationalist government of China). I arrived in Australia in mid-1947 and worked for many years in the field of color reproduction for the printing trade, before becoming an insurance agent in 1965. I am now fully retired and live in Carnegie (Melbourne), with my wife Greta. I have two married sons and 4 grandchildren.

Stammbaum: Have you ever written anything about your Shanghai experience?

Eisfelder: Yes, in 1972, I wrote a manuscript called *Chinese Exile*. This first version was typewritten with many carbon copies. I have updated the manuscript several times since then using a computer. It is about 100 pages and includes a representative collection of my photographs as well as copies of documents and maps. In it I describe my family’s emigration to Shanghai as well as many aspects of life there such as living conditions, Jewish religious, cultural, communal and commercial life, the press, and the formation of the ghetto by the Japanese. There is a copy at the Leo Baeck Institute in New York City. [The manuscript, under the title, *Chinese Exile, My Years in Shanghai and Nanking*, can be seen at the LBI on microfilm in the Archives collection, Call No.: ME#999; MM# reel 23-Editors]

Stammbaum: Are you at all interested in genealogy?

Eisfelder: My son Rodney is simply obsessed with his research into our family history. He has just spent 6 weeks in Europe, mainly visiting Jewish cemeteries, and government archives, which resulted in lots of new information coming to light. To some degree, I am responsible for this, for I started such research in 1980. Rodney has simply taken over from me.

Stammbaum: Can you tell us a little about each of the four photographs you have given us permission to publish here?

![Photo 1](image)

**Photo 1.** This is a scene in Chusan Road, which became the commercial hub of the so-called Shanghai (Hongkew) Ghetto. It was taken around 1945 on somewhat faulty film stock.
Photo 3. Here one sees the so-called “Point Road” cemetery although it was not actually in Point Road. It had been established in addition to the 3 other Jewish cemeteries in Shanghai, specifically to cater for the dead of the refugee community. This photo was taken in 1944 to show the grave of Kurt Arm, who had died of electric shock, in an industrial accident, in the factory where I (and among many other refugees W. Michael Blumenthal, later to become USA Secretary of the Treasury) had worked. Because Mr. Arm had no relatives in Shanghai, his fellow refugee workers at the chemical factory paid for his tombstone. What is particularly interesting is the fact that such headstones were erected at a time when most of the Jewish refugees experienced great financial hardship.

Photo 2. I took this picture around 1944 or 1945. It shows the “Tongshan Café” run by the Glogauer Family (later known as Glover) in the so-called Ghetto. The house specialty as featured on their window was “ice cold water.”
Photo 4. This is a street scene in East Yuhang Road, in the Hongkew Ghetto showing a street market and Miss Gerda Schwerin, who had come from Berlin and who was my girl-friend at that time. This picture was taken around 1944 or 1945 and was used by Dr. David Kranzler as a wrap around for his book "Nazis, Japanese, and Jews".

While I never set out to create a photographic record of the Jewish community in Shanghai, I did assemble a good many photos, and other records relevant to that period. I am glad if I can help others understand what it was like for the refugees in Shanghai.

Stammbaum: Your photographs of Shanghai have been reproduced many, many times, often without your consent. Did you ever imagine then that it would become so widely known and provide such important documentation for what life was like for refugees in Shanghai?

Eisfelder: Of course it is always of some concern to me how often copies have been copied (without my consent) and incorporated into books, magazines and exhibitions. These third and fourth generation copies do not necessarily do full justice to the original.
Shanghai Exile: 1940-1947
By Claus W. Hirsch, New York, NY

Editors' Note: We gratefully acknowledge permission from the Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc. (New York City) to reprint this article with updates and corrections recently made by the author. It originally appeared in their journal, Dorot, Spring 1994, Vol. 15, No. 3, pp. 7-10, under the title "The Shanghai Jewish Ghetto, 1940-1947." The author has asked us to clarify that the Shanghai "Ghetto" was actually only in existence from 1943-1945.

Historical Background

The Chinese port city of Shanghai went through several "waves" of Jewish immigration starting in the second half of the nineteenth century and culminating in 1941. The first group hailed primarily from Baghdad and included such famous Sephardic families as the Sassoons, Hardoons, Kadoories, Ezras and Solomons.

These pioneers came to Shanghai, sometimes by way of India, as they expanded their trading empires to China. They brought along relatives, of course, and also attracted middle- and lower-level employees from their home countries. It is estimated that this Middle Eastern contingent might have numbered some 700 at its peak.

The second group of Jewish immigrants to Shanghai came from Russia. Many landed in Shanghai after first establishing themselves in Harbin, Manchuria, or in Tientsin, China. Author David Kranzler reports that come had some as early as 1905 but that the surge happened after 1917, especially in the early 1920s, with the Russian-Jewish population estimated at 800-1,000 in 1924. It increased to over 4,000 by the late 1930s.

The third and largest group of immigrants came into China, mostly from Germany and Austria. Some, especially medical doctors, started coming to the "open" city in the early 1930s. But the real wave began after Kristallnacht—the night of broken glass—on November 10, 1938. Some countries had broken off diplomatic relations with Germany in 1939. But the open city of Shanghai, which required no visa for immigrants, became a magnet for those who made a last dash for freedom. By summer 1939, immigration had reached feverish levels—which frightened both the leadership of the local Jewish community and some international relief agencies. They feared that the refugee population might surge from its mid-1939 level of about 14,000 to 20-25,000 within a matter of months if not held in check, overtaxing both housing and employment. As a result, they lobbied both friendly and enemy governments to stop the wave of immigration. The irony of this state of affairs is not lost on people like me, who came to Shanghai only at the end of 1940! Had these local leaders prevailed in stopping the flow of immigrants, I surely would not be writing this article for Dorot.

A fourth but smaller wave of about 1,000 Polish refugees arrived under dramatic circumstances in 1941 when the Mir Yeshiva and others arrived in Shanghai after having spent time in transit under the hospitality of the Japanese (and a tiny Jewish colony there) in the city of Kobe.

Living Conditions

Families who had led comfortable lives in countries with temperate climates were in for a rude awakening as they arrived in Shanghai. In the summer they experienced tropical climates and torrential rains. In the winter they were exposed to cold, humid climates—most of the time in unheated homes. There were also many tropical diseases like beriberi, smallpox, typhus and cholera, which were hard to treat both because of their resistance to known medicines and, often, the lack of medicines themselves. Such diseases were a leading cause of death among the refugees.

Getting a well-balanced diet also was a major problem, especially after Japan entered the Pacific war in December 1941. Sanitary conditions were abominable and one could not drink tap water for

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fear of contracting dysentery. Milk was taboo, fresh fruits and vegetables (fertilized by “night soil”) were dangerous unless first washed with a special chemical solution, and meat products usually just were not too available or affordable during the war. We ate a lot of beans and kasha!

Housing was a problem for virtually every refugee. Those who had come before 1937 generally settled in an area called the French Concession or French-town. Here there were comfortable houses on tree-lined streets. Those who came later, especially in 1939 and 1940, were generally placed in Hongkew, a poor district in the International Settlement. This is where thousands of Japanese had settled after the start of the Sino-Japanese War in 1937.

Much of Hongkew was bombed out during the hostilities, and even the houses that were left intact or built subsequently were generally tiny and with a minimum of amenities. Indoor plumbing and heating were rarities. I well remember my mother frantically fanning a hibachi-type stove in order to keep it lit as she prepared a hot meal for her family. If large quantities of hot water were needed, one had to go to a “hot water shop” and for perhaps a penny had one’s container filled with the stuff.

My own family of four lived in a one-room flat in a small, three-story house for nearly seven years. This was not uncommon. Several thousand refugees lived in Heime or homes, which were usually converted barracks or schools. There were six of these with an average population of 500. In some of the Heime men and women lived in large dormitories segregated by sex, with desperate conditions and virtually no chance for privacy.

Schooling
Those refugees who arrived in Shanghai during the middle 1930s, and as late as the opening months of 1939, generally attended the Shanghai Jewish School, an institution with Sephardi roots. When it became overcrowded, a new school known as the SJYA (Shanghai Jewish Youth Association) School was opened in the Hongkew section. As this was financed by the philanthropist Sir Horace Kadoorie (1902-1995), it was also affectionately called the Kadoorie School. (The billionaire was a British subject, of Iraqi extractions, who was knighted years after moving from Shanghai to Hong Kong, where he died.) This school, which my brother and I attended, had a maximum enrollment of 700 and taught a variety of secular subjects including French, but also Hebrew and the Bible. During the Japanese occupation we were forced to study Japanese. The language of instruction was English.

There was also another, much smaller, school known as the Freysinger School. It had a maximum enrollment of 150 students, covered the elementary and middle school levels, and also offered English-language instruction in evening classes for several hundred adults. In addition to these secular institutions, there were yeshivas attended by the children of many Polish refugees.

Religious and Cultural Life
Several Reform and Orthodox synagogues existed in Shanghai and the SJYA School offered Friday evening services (I sang in the choir). There were also six cemeteries established by the Jewish community, with the attendant Chevrot Kadisha or burial societies.

Cultural life was enriched by the presence of many professional musicians and actors among the refugees. There were some operas performed and concerts held, albeit under austere conditions. There were also several German- and English-language newspapers (some daily and some weekly) published within the community.

The Nazi Influence
The Jewish refugee community lived in an uneasy state of truce with the Japanese military government. The former, unlike the American and British citizens of Shanghai, were not subject to incarceration. The Japanese, it seems, were completely confused on how to treat this minority group. They knew of, and were grateful to, the Jewish financier Jacob Schiff, of the investment banking firm of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., who arranged financing for the
Japanese government during the Russo-Japanese War of 1905. They also had a wildly exaggerated notion of the power of Jews on the world stage—some leaders at the fringe even thought that Franklin D. Roosevelt and J.P. Morgan were Jews. With this in mind, the Japanese wanted to hedge their bets—just in case they lost the war!

The Nazi allies meanwhile tried to influence the Japanese occupying powers in Shanghai and suggested a number of ways to implement "the final solution." One plan called for the establishment of a concentration camp on a nearby island. Several canisters of Zyklon gas actually were found in some German factories in Shanghai after the end of the war! Another plan suggested by the Gestapo to their Japanese Axis partners would have caused a complete roundup of the Jewish refugee community while they were worshipping on Rosh Hashanah—and their subsequent placement on barges. The barges would then be torpedoes or set adrift, leaving the refugees to starve. The community was spared from this fate by a leak from Shibata, the Japanese Vice-Consul who was sympathetic toward the Jewish community and disgusted by the Gestapo agents in Shanghai.

In 1943 the Nazis did prevail on their Japanese allies to place the refugee community within the confines of Hongkew. This then became a ghetto without walls—but a ghetto nevertheless. Residents could not leave the area without a pass issued by a tyrannical and psychotic Japanese functionary named Goya. Many could not get the needed passes in order to pursue employment in the commercial area outside the ghetto, and the suffering of the war was exacerbated. For a time, some of the refugees (like my father) refused to ask for charity and lived on the proceeds of sales of personal possessions.

The ghetto population totaled 14,245 in late 1944, according to numbers of the Emigrant Residents Union quoted by David Kranzler. By place of origin these were 57% German, 28% Austrian, 9% Polish and 2% Czech. About 87% of the city's refugees were Jewish. (It should be noted that the total refugee community has been estimated at 18,000; many of those who had arrived before 1937 were exempt from the 1943 mandate to live in the ghetto.)

Charity
Wartime conditions made it impossible for many if not most of the refugees to earn a normal living. Hence the need for outside assistance was vital, and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC or "Joint") played a major role. Local philanthropists like Sir Victor Sassoon also helped, as did a grudging Russian-Jewish Ashkenazi community. But the JDC under the leadership of Laura Margolis deserves major credit for keeping many families alive, even if the level of assistance at times averaged only U.S. $2.00 a month per family!

The Ghetto Revisited
A few of those who lived in Shanghai during the war went back for a sentimental visit in October 1993. For most it was the first time in over forty years that they had a chance to revisit the place where they had spent much of their youth. Seventeen veterans or "Shanghai-landers" and sixteen spouses, friends and other relatives represented an ethnic mix which was not too different from that which existed in the community of the late 1930s to mid-1940s. Twelve came with their families from Germany, one hailed from Austria, one from Czechoslovakia, one from Poland and two were born in Shanghai to Russian-Jewish parents who had come there after the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. Currently 13 of the 17 veterans live in the United States, two in Canada and one each in Australia and Israel.

They say, "you cannot go back" and indeed, many of the sites we knew as children in Shanghai no longer exist. All six of the Jewish cemeteries are gone. Four of the six synagogues are gone. The Shanghai Jewish School is still standing but is now serving another role. The SJYA or Kadoorie School no longer is around. It has been replaced by a high-rise building. Many of the former Heime no longer are standing.

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Still, when we went to our old neighborhoods in the Hongkew (now called Hongkou) ghetto, we found our former homes. Yes, the modest structures had deteriorated, but they were still around and served as an emotional link to our pasts. Nowhere did we encounter hostility—only friendly smiles or curious glances. And some of the movie theaters we knew in our youth are still intact, as are some of the large department stores and luxury hotels of yesteryear.

All of us were touched by the friendly group meetings we had with Ms. Tess Johnston of the American Consulate (she’s also an author on the architecture of old Shanghai) and with Professor Pan Guang, a professor of history and political science at the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences. The English-speaking Professor Pan is also Dean of the Jewish Studies Center. Perhaps our most emotional encounter, however, was with Mr. Wang Fah Liang, a very kind then-73-year-old gentleman who is employed by the city to run the visitor’s center of the former Ohel Moshe Synagogue in the Hongkew district. Mr. Wang guided each of us to his or her former home in the ghetto, often prevailing upon startled and embarrassed current tenants to let these visitors see their old quarters.

For Further Information

The book Japanese, Nazis and Jews: The Jewish Refugee Community of Shanghai 1938-1945 by David Kranzler (Yeshiva University Press, 1976) remains the definitive work on the subject. In it Dr. Kranzler discusses virtually every important aspect of the community. [Dr. Kranzler addressed the New York JGS in 1987; see Dorot, Summer 1987.] A much shorter book with a more personal touch, Shanghai Refuge (Nebraska University Press, 1993), by former Shanghai dweller Ernest Heppner, owes much to the Kranzler book but is a more accessible story to the casual reader. A different slant is offered by Rena Krasno, who was born in Shanghai in 1923 to Russian-Jewish parents. She kept a diary during World War II and used this as the basis for her book Strangers Always (Pacific View Press, 1992), a warm and revealing account of that period.

Among New York institutions, the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research has extensive files on Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) activities in Shanghai, as well as various books, newspapers of the time, documents relating to synagogues, cemeteries and burial societies, youth organizations and schools. There is also a list of 1,497 refugees who died in Shanghai between 1 January 1939 and 1 April 1945; the HIAS-compiled list shows causes of death. Queensborough Community College has a complete file of the Shanghai Post and Mercury for the period. Yivo files also include HIAS microfilm records of several dozen passenger lists of ships leaving Shanghai after World War II.

The New York Public Library Jewish Division has several books on the subject and oral histories recorded on video (see Dorot, Fall 1993). The Leo Baeck Institute has 44 separate items including several unpublished manuscripts and diaries. Extensive correspondence and reports on charitable activities are contained in the archives of the Joint Distribution Committee.

Still, there is no central source of information on the subject. To remedy this situation, my brother, Ralph B. Hirsch of Philadelphia, has established an international “Council on the Jewish Experience in Shanghai” with elected officers. His plan further envisions (1) a request to the Shanghai city government to develop a plan to identify and mark buildings and other sites which were important to Shanghai Jews, (2) to encourage former Shanghai-dwelling to make a list of their Shanghai-related papers, and (3) to encourage museums to accept Shanghai-related material and to inventory such items already in their holdings.

Endnotes

1. The author is indebted to Ralph B. Hirsch for a number of corrections to the original article.
2. See article in this issue describing the Council on the Jewish Experience in Shanghai (CJES).
Berlin-born Claus Hirsch was part of the Shanghai refugee community. He lives in New York City, is a longtime member of the Jewish Genealogical Society and has contributed articles to Dorot, Avotaynu and Stammbaum. E-mail: <cwhirsch@rcn.com>

Book Review
Reviewed by Ralph B. Hirsch, Philadelphia, USA and Germany


Beginning in the late 1930s the city of Shanghai became a refuge for Jews from Germany, Austria, Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, fleeing for their lives from Nazi persecution. By the best estimates, some 18,000 Central European refugees, most of them Jewish, found a haven in Shanghai. Some ninety percent of these survived World War II there. Within five years after war’s end most of the survivors had left for other countries. The majority went to the United States and Israel, lesser numbers to Australia, Canada and South America. A relative few returned to the lands they had fled.

For some forty years after it had ended, the exile in Shanghai received only limited attention by scholars, save for one major work by the historian David Kranzler. Nor did many participants write of their own experiences. Finally, in the 1990s, began a trickle and then a small stream of memoirs. Scholarly books and museum exhibitions soon followed. Various institutions undertook oral history interviews of survivors. Detailed aspects of the Shanghai exile began to be examined as relevant archival material was opened to researchers. In the United States and Israel, and then increasingly in Germany and Austria, journal articles and books on Shanghai-related topics appeared, and conferences were held. The high point to date was reached in 1997, when no fewer than three conferences took place in Germany to address different aspects of those years in Shanghai.

The present volume, *Exil Shanghai 1938-1947*, grew out of one of those conferences. It was held in Berlin to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the return to that city of 295 refugees from Shanghai. The two other conferences, held in Wuppertal and in Sankt Augustin near Bonn, also resulted in publications. It does not derogate those other works, or several other recent collections, to say that this book from Berlin, with its accompanying CD-ROM, all in all represents the most significant contribution to scholarship about the refuge in Shanghai since Kranzler’s seminal book appeared in 1976. It should be noted that all its contents are in German except for two papers in English.

The useful introduction by the editors gives a brief chronological overview of events, weighs the widely varying previously published estimates of the total number of refugees in Shanghai (estimates have ranged from 15,000 to 30,000; the editors convincingly settle on circa 18,000), and provides a thoughtful discussion of political consciousness and activity among the refugees. In their closing note, the editors describe the four items contained on the CD-ROM. For people doing genealogical research the list dated August 1944, containing some 14,800 names of foreign residents of Shanghai, is likely to be of the most direct interest. That list and several other sources of personal data about Shanghai refugees are discussed in a separate article in the present issue.
Important new research is also presented in the papers by Gerhard Krebs, on anti-Semitism among the Japanese; by Helga Embacher and Margit Reiter, on relations between the sexes in the refugee community; and by Steve Hochstadt, on the social and psychological processes of the flight to Shanghai. Krebs offers a skeptical view regarding claims that the Japanese consul in Kaunas, Chiune Sugihara, incurred great personal risks by his successful efforts to rescue Jews by the issuance of transit visas. Hochstadt, himself the grandson of a Viennese doctor who found refuge in Shanghai, gives a foretaste of what we might eventually expect when he publishes the distillation of more than 100 oral-history interviews he has done with Shanghai refugees.

Research recently published elsewhere is summarized—and thus made conveniently available for many readers—in four articles. Michael Philipp, writing on cultural life and identity in the refugee community, offers a short version of his groundbreaking study on exile theater. Astrid Freyeisen gives a handy overview of the relations between two groups of Germans in Shanghai, the established representatives of the Reich and the newly arrived Jewish refugees. In the process she also provides the most balanced assessment yet published (save in her own 600-page book) of the controversy regarding the role of Gestapo colonel Josef Meisinger in the establishment of a "Designated Area" for Jewish refugees in Shanghai's Hongkew district. Georg Armbruster offers an excellent discussion of the political issues and psychological environment that affected the onward migration from Shanghai after the war. Last but not least, David Kranzler gives a ten-page summary—in English, but without footnotes or
endnotes—of his magisterial 1976 book that has become the standard work in the field.

Personal reminiscences, each charming and thought-provoking in its way, come from Sonja Mühlberger, born a few months after her parents arrived in Shanghai in 1939, and from Arnold Pauker. In his foreword to the volume, Pauker tells of his parents' sojourn in Shanghai and their ten-year correspondence with him—serving with the British army—and with his brother, who had found safe haven in Switzerland.

An essay by Barbara Geldermann provides insight into the history of the Sephardi Jews, originally from Baghdad, who came to Shanghai in the 19th century and gained great wealth there, and into the role they played as new waves of refugees came in the 1930s and 1940s. Pan Guang's short paper, in English, addresses the important question of relations between the Jewish refugees and the Chinese community, but, with too little empiric detail and too much ideological freight, cannot do it full justice.

Of limited relevance to the book's theme, but still of much inherent interest, are the papers by Dagmar Yi-Dembski on Nazi racial politics as they affected German-Chinese couples; by Christian Taaks on the Nazi party paper published in Shanghai from 1933 to 1940; and by Michael Kohlstruck on the English-language journal "The XXth Century", published in Shanghai from 1941 to 1945 as an organ of the German Foreign Ministry.

The volume contains many useful illustrations dispersed throughout the text, but lacks an index to them. One also would wish for more detail in the two maps, of Shanghai and Hongkew. However, these are minor shortcomings in a collection that presents a wealth of significant new research and makes other recent findings newly accessible. It is reasonable to hope that "Exil Shanghai 1938-1947" will also provide a considerable impetus to further research.

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CJES—Preserving The History Of The Shanghai Exile

The Council on the Jewish Experience in Shanghai (CJES) was formed in 1994 as an international not-for-profit, nongovernmental association. Its goals are to safeguard and develop the historical evidence of the Jewish refuge in Shanghai, to promote scholarly research and public information about the refuge, and to foster contact among the participants in that experience. Soon after World War II ended and the so-called Shanghai ghetto dissolved, the 17,000 surviving Jewish refugees began to leave Shanghai for other countries; by 1950 almost all had left the city. However, no agency maintained a central registry of them after their departure. When CJES was formed in 1994, its first major task was to begin compiling a list of the thousands of former Shanghai refugees scattered around the world. Large contingents are in the USA and Canada, Israel and Australia, and smaller numbers in Latin America and in several European countries.

The preservation of documentary and other materials from the Shanghai exile is a major objective of the Council. Where such material is still in private hands, CJES reaches out to the individual holders to encourage them to place the items in institutions that are properly equipped and suitably staffed. CJES offers free advice to assist in such placement. As CJES does not want to create an archival collection of its own, it has developed contacts with archives and museums all over the world that will accept and store these materials and make them available for scholarly purposes. Where documentary materials are held in governmental archives, CJES works to assure access to them for researchers. Thus in 1996-97 CJES filed an action under the Freedom of Information Act to compel the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency to release many files on Shanghai and to transfer them to the National Archives, where scholars could use them.

Several projects to develop information resources about the Shanghai exile have been undertaken by CJES. A worldwide search for holdings of the only daily newspaper published during the ghetto period, the Shanghai Jewish Chronicle, has found many scattered issues but to date no comprehensive collection. In cooperation with the Deutsche Bibliothek in Frankfurt, all available issues of that paper will be scanned and posted on the Internet. As an aid to genealogists and other researchers, the list of deaths among Shanghai refugees from 1940 to 1945 has been digitized. Several other data sources, such as the lists of refugees published in 1939 in the Emigranten Adressbuch für Shanghai, may also be digitized. CJES continues to search for the long-missing records of the detailed interviews held with all refugees departing Shanghai from 1946 to 1949.

Since its founding in 1994, CJES has become an increasingly well-known resource for researchers, and is widely consulted by university faculty members and graduate students, museum curators, conference organizers, authors and film makers. It has aided in the creation of Shanghai-related exhibitions in North America, Europe and Australia, and in the organization of several conferences and seminars. On request it offers advice to graduate students looking for research topics or other specialized information.

In its occasional newsletter, Refuge in Shanghai, CJES reviews recent publications and films on Shanghai, reports on work in progress, and publicizes events related to the Shanghai refuge, such as exhibitions, reunions, and conferences. The newsletter also publishes, free of charge, personal search notices and requests from researchers. The CJES website, http://www.cjes.org/, will open in late 2001.

Discussions between CJES and Shanghai's municipal government have explored such issues as the preservation of buildings connected with the Shanghai refuge, the potential restoration of Jewish cemeteries, and the development of markers and guide materials for various sites.

In the fields of art, literature and music, CJES has established an award for distinguished lifetime artistic achievement. The first recipient, announced in 1999, was the graphic artist David Ludwig Bloch, born in Bavaria in 1910 and now resident in New York State. During his wartime years in Shanghai, Bloch created some three
hundred widely acclaimed woodcuts on life in that city. A major retrospective exhibition of his work was held in 2000 at the Jewish Museum of Munich.

Policy for CJES is made by its board of directors, consisting of former refugees. The CJES Advisory Committee of Scholars, a distinguished group of international experts in history, Judaica, Sinology, literature, and information science, provides scientific guidance to the Council. All Jewish former refugee residents of Shanghai are automatically members of CJES, without membership fee. The work of CJES depends entirely on voluntary financial contributions.

Contact: Ralph B. Hirsch, Executive Director, CJES, 3500 Race Street, Philadelphia PA 19104, USA; fax 1.215.386.1270, E-mail <cjes@cjes.org>.

Further Information On Shanghai
Editors

Check out the Leo Baeck Institute catalogue online at <www.lbi.org>. Using the keyword “Shanghai,” you will find that the collection lists 133 items (including books, microfilm, memoirs and more). Also, check out the USHMM’s online catalog.

Some books on Shanghai:


While browsing in the European section of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, I found an interesting book that gave me some understanding on what Nazi Germany based their legalization of anti-Semitism. The Continental Legal History Series, Published under the auspices of the Association of American Law Schools put out A History of Germanic Private Law by Rudolf Huebner, Prof. Of Legal History in the University of Giessen, (et al). Rothman Reprints, Inc., NJ; Augustus M. Kelley Publishers, NY, 1968. FHL call # 943 P2h. In this book, one can find the evolution of the influence of religion upon private law from the Middle Ages to the time of Hitler. The status of Jews in private law is included. Fascinating and different reading than most genealogy fare. (CDB)
Book Review
By Erwin A. Schmidl, Vienna, Austria


Marsha Rozenblit, professor of Modern Jewish History at the University of Maryland in College Park, published her fascinating study The Jews of Vienna 1867-1914: Assimilation and Identity (Albany, N.Y.: State University of New York Press) in 1983. She recently published a new book, on the Jews of Habsburg Austria during World War One. The main title—"Reconstructing A National Identity"—refers to one of her major themes: the question of Habsburg Jewish identity and how it was affected by the war. Her first chapter is an encompassing, thorough description of the Jews in the Austrian parts of the Habsburg Monarchy (much has already been written about the Jews in Hungary, so this part of the Dual Monarchy is largely left out of her study).

While it is impossible to claim any common identity for, as one example, an assimilated upper middle class Jew from Vienna and an Orthodox Jew from Galicia, Rozenblit convincingly explains that Austrian and Hungarian Jews enjoyed—unconsciously in most cases—a "tripartite identity". In other words, they were patriotic towards the—multi-or supra national—Empire; identified with the locally dominating culture (i.e., German in today’s Austria, German or Czech in Bohemia, Hungarian in Hungary, etc.) and also identified with their Jewish religious/ethnic group. It should be noted that in the Habsburg Monarchy, Jews were recognized not as a “nationality” or ethnic group, but rather as a religious community. This contrasted positively with the situation in most other European countries that—as nation-states—either demanded that their Jewish subjects identify with the dominating nation not only in a cultural way or, viewed Jews as an alien “nation” altogether.

In 1914, Austrian Jews not only joined their compatriots in their enthusiasm when war came, but actually welcomed the war in a crusade-like spirit as an opportunity to liberate their oppressed brethren in Russia. Rozenblit documents the Jewish experience in the war in several chapters. The home front and the problems of catering to the mass of Jewish refugees (of the nearly 400,000 internally displaced persons who had fled the horrors of war by the end of 1915, and sought refuge in the safer parts of the hinterland, about 40% were Jews), the experience of the 300,000 Jewish soldiers in the Austro-Hungarian armed forces, and eventually the search for a new identity as the war dragged on and the Habsburg Monarchy broke up in 1918.

For Austrian Jews, the demise of the Monarchy brought an end to their “tripartite identity”. The new and nationalistic successor states often recognized Jews as a “national” or ethnic (rather than purely religious) group, but also subjected them to outbursts of anti-Semitism now no longer controlled by the generally benevolent Habsburg administration. Rozenblit’s book is an excellent, well-researched study of this subject, and puts the Jewish war experience in the proper context. Besides, for many readers it might also serve as a solid introduction to the Jews of the Habsburg realms in the early 20th century.

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IAJGS Summer Seminar—Toronto, Canada 2002

The conference will be headquartered at the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel, August 4-9, 2000. German-Jewish genealogy has always been the least represented topic at summer seminars. It would be beneficial for German-Jewish researchers if more speakers submitted proposals to the seminar committee for consideration. The call for presentation proposals can be accessed at www.IAJGS.org.
Where to Find Clues as to How Early Your Ancestors Were in Berlin

By Edward David Luft, Washington, DC, USA

Many readers with ancestors from parts of the former German Reich, especially to the east of Berlin, know that their ancestors eventually migrated to Berlin. Indeed, the earliest migrations from Posen, for example, were generally to Glogau, usually before 1860, then to Breslau from just before that date until somewhere in the last part of the 19th century, and finally from about the same time until about 1921 to Berlin. So many Posen Jews migrated to Berlin that Heinrich Kurtzig edited and published the *Posener Heimatblätter*, Berlin. Ernst Sigfried Mittler, later forced by the Nazis to change its name to *Blätter des Verbandes Jüdischer Heimatvereine*, just for the Posen Jews living in the capital of a Germany that no longer included most of Posen Province. The publication began in 1926 and continued until all Jewish publications were banned by the Nazis in November 1938. The call number at the Library of Congress is Microfilm 9511432 MicRR; at New York Public Library, *ZAN*-P953; at Leo Baeck Institute, B334a; at YIVO, New York City, microfilm Y-99-1724, complete; Vols. 1-9, complete, under call number 2855 (Vilna Collection).

A Berlin Jewish Community Publication

Many researchers know that their ancestors migrated from Berlin to the United States or other countries as a result of the Nazis' rise to power but can go back no further. A series of periodicals entitled *Verzeichnis der wahlfähigen Mitglieder der Jüdischen Gemeinde zu Berlin: im Jahre ...*, Berlin: W & S. Loewenthal was printed by S. S. Preuß, Berlin. It may help in establishing when the family was in Berlin, at the earliest date. From 1883-1913 the Berlin Jewish community published lists of male adult members entitled to vote on community (synagogue) matters. These lists are available on microfiche in a number of locations and in photocopy or original hard copy in others. The following German libraries hold some or all of the years published:

The Zentral- und Landesbibliothek Berlin, Haus Berliner Stadtbibliothek [Berlin City Library], Zentrum für Berlin-Studien [Center for Berlin Studies], Breite Str. 30-36, 10178 Berlin, Germany, has the volumes for 1883, 68 pp.; 1886, 80 pp.; 1889, 98 pp.; 1892, 126 pp.; 1898, 130 pp.; 1904, 152 pp.; 1907, 188 pp.; and 1910; 186 pp. The call number is XX A 105. The 1913 issue has been missing for a long time. Since the user copies are photocopies, and the originals survive in storage, presumably they could be replaced. The call number is B665. The library hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a. m. to 7 p. m. and Saturday, 1 p. m. to 6 p. m. Other parts of the library collection are open longer hours.

**Holdings at the Leo Baeck Institute, New York City**

The online catalogue [http://www.lbi.cjh.org] of the Leo Baeck Institute, New York City, indicates the following holdings:

Berlin, Jüdische Gemeinde,


2. *Verzeichnis der wahlfähigen Mitglieder der jüdischen Gemeinde zu Berlin im Jahre 1898*, Berlin: Jacoby, 1898, 130 pp., call number Microfilm x MfW W101;


4. *Verzeichnis der wahlfähigen Mitglieder der Jüdischen Gemeinde zu Berlin im Jahre 1907*, Berlin: Jacoby, 1907, 188 pp., call number q BM 318 B4 A25 1907; and

(Continued on page 18)

Note that because of the German spelling reform in 1902, the title changed slightly. The Library of Congress classification is BM 318.B4 A25 followed by the year, but it holds no copies. According to Heegewaldt, Werner, and Rohrlach, Peter P., Berliner Adreßbücher und Adreßverzeichnisse 1704-1945: eine annotierte Bibliographie mit Standortanweisung für die "ungeteilte" Stadt, Berlin: Helmut Scherer Verlag, 1000 Berlin 45, Boothstr. 21a, ©1990, 199 pp., including index of persons, pp. 183-186; index of places, pp. 187-193, and subject index, pp. 194-199, the Verzeichnisse at the New York Public Library, JFD95-21353, and at the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Haus II, 112 434:4BI=HBI Jfl058. The indication in the Heegewaldt book that the Leo Baeck Institute, New York City, has under call number A462 the years 1876, 1881, 1892, 1895, 1898, 1901, 1904, 1907, 1910 and 1913. However, the archives of the Zentrum Judaicum in Berlin holds copies of the Verzeichniss der wahlfähigen Mitglieder der jüdischen Gemeinde zu Berlin for the years 1863, 1868, 1871, 1883, 1886, 1889, 1892, 1898, 1904, 1907, 1910, 1913.

Other Verzeichnis library holdings in Germany: The Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Haus I, has the 1886 and 1889 issues of the Verzeichniss only on microfiche Ez 8011(a) and the 1898 issue on microfiche Ez 8011. Presumably they would make and sell a copy, which a purchaser in the United States could then donate to a research institution for the tax deduction. For an explanation of the tax consequences, see my book review in Stammbaum, Vol. I, No. 4, Fall 1993, p. 26.

The library of Humboldt-Universität Berlin has the 1913 issue under call number Ew 45288:F8 for 1913.

In Hamburg, the Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek has the 1901 edition under call number GL Ber Wahl.

In Erfurt/Gotha, the Universitäts-Forschungsbibliothek has 1913 (1914) under call number F 62 hit 183.1 5r WV 2057.

In Oldenburg, the Bibliotheks- und Informationssystem der Carl von Ossietzky-Universität has 1907 only under call number 933.5(431.55) VERZ.

Other libraries in Germany also hold various years of this Verzeichnis; for example, Germania Judaica, Kölner Bibliothek zur Geschichte des Deutschen Judentums e. V., Joseph-Haubrich-Hof 1, Cologne, under call number 13,10/227, holds 1886 and 1907. According to the editors of the Heegewaldt book, Germania Judaica has 1886, 1907, and 1913.

The Zentrum für Berlin-Studien holds copies for the years 1883, 1886, 1889, 1892, 1898, 1904, 1907, 1910, but the directories are not inter-library loaned. However, researchers may make photocopies of the readable photocopies. Contact the Zentral- und Landesbibliothek Berlin (ZLB), Zentrum für Berlin-Studien, 10178 Berlin, Breite Str. 35/36 (Ribbeckhaus), ☏011-49-30-9 02 26-485; FAX: 011-49-30-9 02 26-452; E-Mail zbs@zlb.de; or write to Amerika-Gedenkbibliothek, Postfach 61 01 79, 10922 Berlin, Germany.

If Your Ancestor Was a Teacher
The Deutsche Bücherei Leipzig holds Jahres-Verzeichnis der an den deutschen Schulanstalten erschienenen Abhandlungen, Berlin: Behrend, 23 cm. Issues published: 1. 1889 (1890) - 23. 1911 (1912). Published yearly, previously by Verlag Asher, Berlin. Until Vol. 13, 1901, under the title,
Jahres-Verzeichniss der an den deutschen Schulanstalten erschienenen Abhandlungen. Aufnahme nach 23. 1911 (1912): 1. 1889 (1890) - 23. (1912): No longer published. Call number: ZB 2186. This series indexes just the ponderous essays issued by teachers at various German high schools and gives a clue as to where and when such people were. The mere indexing of the essays provides clues for all of Germany as to existing schools and what their annual reports might contain on those who taught in or who were students at the school in any given year. Frequently, school administrators are also mentioned.

Another Book with a List of Berlin Jewish Congregation Members
In addition, the Holocaust Memorial Museum Library, Washington, DC, and numerous other locations, including the New York Public Library, call number *PXS 89-3524, and the Humboldt University Library, Berlin, call number 87 A 1085, has a book that gives an 1898 list of members of the Adass Jisroel congregation, including some women:

Offenberg, Mario, Museumspädagogischer Dienst Berlin (Germany), Adass Jisroel: die jüdische Gemeinde in Berlin (1869-1942): Vernichtet und Vergessen, Berlin: Museumspädagogischer Dienst Berlin, 1986. DS135.G4 B423 1986. It contains a photograph of the title page of Verzeichnis der Mitglieder des Israelitischen Synagogen-Gemeinde Adass Jisroel zu Berlin pro 1898, p. 80, followed by a list of the members for that year, pp. 81-83. Many surnames are of Posen and/or Silesian origin with the address in Berlin in 1898. All but two of the women were widows.

What to Do Next
Knowing that your ancestor or a collateral relative was in Berlin according to the lists above, it is then a real possibility to find information on the family in one or two books written by Jacob Jacobson:


Since cousins often had the same name, the use of the Verzeichnis allows reasonable guesses as to exactly who was the ancestor already in Berlin in the period covered by the Jacobson books since few Jews abandoned Berlin residence except to emigrate to the New World.

Edward Luft is a retired Federal Government official who writes regularly for Stammbaum and Avotaynu. His first book was The Naturalized Jews of the Grand Duchy of Posen in 1834 and 1835, available through Avotaynu. He is currently working on a larger book on The Jews of Posen Province, 1772-1918. E-mail: <luft1111@hotmail.com>
Viennese Heirs' Lists As Genealogical Sources
By Irene Newhouse, Kihei, Hawaii, USA

What are these lists?

In Germany and Austria, in the absence of a will to the contrary, a person’s estate passes first to his/her spouse. If the deceased is widowed, all the children inherit equally; but if a child has predeceased that parent, that child’s share goes to his/her children equally. For instance: there were two children, but one has predeceased the surviving parent and has left 3 children. On the death of that parent, one-half the estate goes to the surviving child. The other half is divided among the 3 children (of the deceased child), so they each get 1/6 of the estate. If a person died childless, his/her siblings and their children or aunts, uncles, cousins or other more distant relatives become the heirs.

A considerable amount of information about family members can be found in an Heirs’ List. Not only can one discover the names of various relatives, it can provide the married name of a daughter, information on where heirs are residing and, often, their occupation.

What’s in these lists?

I will take as an example one of my cousins, Laura Feibelsohn, who died in Vienna in 1910, to illustrate a few of the things one can learn from the lists.

One caution: although some individuals were designated niece or nephew, they were not in fact true nieces/nephews (i.e., children of a sibling). In German, cousins once removed, younger than the reference person, are also called niece and nephew. Similarly, older cousins once removed are addressed as “aunt” and “uncle”. This can cause confusion in family memoirs and needs to be taken into account in evaluating what is found in an heirs list. Also, it should be noted that the more you already know about the family, the easier it will be to determine the relationship of the individuals on an heirs list.

From family letters I knew that Laura lived with her sister Emma in Vienna. But, from Viennese Jewish records on LDS films, I found that Emma died earlier (in 1900). I knew that both Laura and Emma were childless, but I did not know how many siblings they had. From their death entries in the Vienna Jewish records, I knew they were born in the 1850s in Schildberg, Posen. However, since there are no Jewish records from that town on LDS microfilm, there was no way I could ascertain if there were any other siblings by looking for birth or marriage records.

Alas, I could not determine from Laura’s Heirs’ List either how many other siblings she had or their names, but what I did find was still significant: she was the last survivor of her siblings when she died in 1910. This became clear when I saw that the first heiress was Laura’s aunt Pauline Rosenbaum, nee Honigmann, living in New York City. I knew about her; she’s a maternal several times great aunt and I’m in touch with one of her great grandchildren. That an aunt was listed first, indicated that Laura had no siblings or true nieces and/or nephews still living in 1910 since they would have been next of kin; in addition to that aunt, only descendants of Laura’s aunts, uncles and cousins were listed.

In all there were ten groups of heirs with a total of 44 individual heirs listed (receiving from 1/10 to 1/180 of the estate). Because of common surnames within each group, I was able to determine whether they descended from paternal or maternal uncles. For example, some of the individuals listed are obviously descendants of Laura’s paternal uncles, since the common name among them is Feibelsohn.

Even if I didn’t already know Laura Feibelsohn’s mother’s maiden name was Honigmann (because that’s how we’re related), it would soon become obvious that we were related via that family since the name Honigmann recurs in two groups of heirs while the name Rosenbaum, her Aunt Pauline’s
married name, is only found once. Because the place of residence is included, and because I knew from previous work that Honigmanns living in Breslau are children of my ancestor David Honigmann, I could determine that other Honigmanns listed as living in New York, were the children of his brother, Abraham, who came to the U.S. before the American Civil War.

Two other examples: I found that one group of heirs has the common surname Slupsky; these are therefore the descendants of an aunt. Since I already knew that no Honigmann aunts married a Slupsky, these must be the children of a paternal aunt. I could also ascertain that some heirs descended from a maternal aunt; since I already knew that Laura’s aunt Dorel Honigmann married Abraham Landau this made it possible to place the individuals listed with the surname Landau.

Clustering of place of residence in some of the groups allows one to speculate where the aunts/uncles or other relatives settled and suggests places to look for further records. For example, Laura’s heirs were living in the following places: Adelnau; Biel, Switzerland; Bielitz; Borek, Posen; Breslau; Charlottenburg; Krefeld; New York City; Offenbach/Main; City of Posen; Prague; Schweidnitz; Schildberg, Posen; Vienna; and Wiesbaden.

**How can one obtain Viennese Heirs’ Lists?**

I wrote to the Vienna City Hall, asking for the list of Laura’s heirs.

The correct Austrian term for the settling of an estate is “Verlassenschaftsabhandlung”, if you write in German. You can also write in English but the response will, in all likelihood, be in German.

The postal address is:
Magistrat der Stadt Wien
MA 8 Wiener Stadt-und Landesarchiv
Rathaus
A-1082 Wien

*Important Note: The Wiener Stadt-und Landesarchiv was supposed to have moved to a new location in August 2001. However, a recent check of the Wien online web site shows they are still using the address given above. Before writing a letter, you should check the Wien online web site (English version) to see if the new postal address is being used: [http://www.magwien.gov.at/english/ancestors](http://www.magwien.gov.at/english/ancestors)*

You can also send requests directly from the Wien online web site (English version) at the web address given in the above paragraph.

The records I have requested are no earlier than 1900, as no one in my family died in Vienna before then. The Wien online web site states that they have probate records for the period of 1783 to approximately 1960.

Each time I’ve requested such a list, I had already ascertained that the person in question died in Vienna from the death records, and provided the date. I don’t know if they will undertake a search in the absence of a date since the Wien online web site states that to obtain such records you must have the person’s name, date of death, and last address (only after 1850).

Similar records must have been kept in town halls all over the Austro-Hungarian Empire, though I have no experience with towns other than Vienna.

**Some final observations**

Laura’s estate was probably an extremely modest one: K. 1397. Certainly when divided among all the heirs, the sum paid to any given one would have been modest for any reasonable value of the K! Nonetheless, great care was taken in settling this estate.

The situation is different in Germany, at least in Berlin. There, unless a will deviated significantly from the standard inheritance protocol, no records were kept after an estate was settled. Given that I submitted a pile of paper to settle my father’s small estate, it was rather aggravating to realize...

(Continued on page 22)
that pile was so ephemeral, and that the efforts of untold millions of previous Berliners hadn't been preserved for their descendants to find.

It's rather amazing how widely scattered the family became in one generation. This would not have become clear, nor would it have been easy to locate many of the descendants without this heirs list. For example, Jewish records from Posen city have been mostly destroyed—I would never have imagined one family member would have moved there. The sheer magnitude of the migration to America in the late 1800s obscures the fact that people were moving about a great deal to other locations within Europe.

Endnotes

1. Of course, I could pursue the question of the number/name of siblings by ordering Emma's heirs' list to see if Laura was her only heir or if there were any other siblings listed thus indicating they were alive at the time her death 10 years earlier.

2. I am grateful for very useful comments made by Georg Gaugusch of Vienna on an early draft of this paper. On the issue of availability of the probate records, George says: The Verlassenschaftsabhandlungen start around 1867, but you will not find records when the person owned land or a house, because those files are where kept in the Justizpalast and were burned in 1927. If he/she owned an enterprise the Verlassenschaftsabhandlung is not found not in the Bezirksgericht. You'll have to search in the Handelsgericht instead. Please note that poor people did not have such files, because there was nothing to inherit.

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Irene Newhouse descends from an old German Jewish family with a dominant packrat gene, and a Belarussian Jewish family. She began doing family history seriously in 1990. When not doing family history, she's a computational chemist and mother to a daughter, now 8.

E-mail: <einew@hotmail.com>

Leo Baeck Catalog Now Online
By Karen Franklin, New York City, NY, USA

We are delighted to announce that the Leo Baeck Institute catalog is now online at: <www.lbi.org>

The availability of this research tool ushers in an entirely new era. Researchers may now search through the collection listings for family names & towns & other relevant material.

That's the good news! The caveat is that our small part-time staff is barely able to respond to the flood of requests which have already come in for copies of collections. Therefore, I have listed some suggestions that will speed processing of your requests:

General directions for ordering collections are available on our web page. These are in the process of being refined, but they are still very helpful.

They include information on ordering microfilm and ordering books through inter-library loan. Prepayment is required for all copies of collections. There is a $25 minimum for all orders.

No more than two collections may be copied. In almost all cases, only a portion of any collection may be copied.

If there is correspondence prior to your final request and payment, it is helpful to include a copy of all correspondence with your payment.

It is also helpful for us to receive detailed information about your family so that we can help narrow your search; we always welcome hard copies of family trees that can then be added to our collections.
The Phoenix Award 2001  
By Gerhard Jochem, Nuremberg, Germany

This article focuses on the development of the Internet as a source for Jewish historical information in Germany and Austria because this resource is not yet fully recognized by the international community of German-Jewish genealogists.

For example, our bilingual RIJO Web Site <http://www.rijo-research.de> with a strong emphasis on Jewish history in Bavaria, went online in June 1999. Since then the project developed dynamics which we could not foresee: While the first edition of RIJO contained 13 files (0.2 MB), the August 2001 version reached a total of 523 files (13.3 MB). At the same time the frequency of visitors skyrocketed from literally 0 to 2,000 unique visitors or 5,000 hits a month. These figures are not intended to boast about our achievements, but to give an impression of the input necessary to run a web site like ours – modest as it is compared to others.

From our point of view even mastering a noncommercial web site comes down to the simple mechanisms of the market: One will keep up the "production" (= expanding the site) only if one knows there is a demand for the offer. This interdependence also is a chance for the "consumer" to influence the products by contacting the people in charge, at best directly by email to give them the information (and motivation) they need to carry on. These causalities seem to be self-evident, but from our experience we can tell that the predominant attitude of the average Internet user can be described best as "hit and run".

In order to fill this gap, we launched the Phoenix Award on 16 March 2001 giving RIJO's visitors the opportunity to evaluate the growing number of Jewish History web sites hosted in Germany and Austria. We derived a catalogue of criteria for the quality of contents, layout and services and also divided the projects into three categories:

A) Professional sites; B) Sites run by private researchers; and C) Students' sites.

Until closing on 3 June 2001, RIJO received 78 nominations from Argentina, Austria, France, Germany, Israel, Switzerland and the USA (for a full list of the nominees please see the links at: <http://home.t-online.de/home/RIJONUE/index31.htm>.

The winners in the respective categories were:

A) Professional sites: Central Archives for Research on the History of the Jews in Germany <http://www.uni.urz.uni-heidelberg.de/institute/sonst/aj/englisch.htm>. (some problems with access—Eds)
B) Sites run by private researchers: Juden in Baden und Württemberg <http://juden-in-baden.online.de/index.html>. (it appears to be off-line now-Eds)
C) Students' sites: Jüdische Geschichte und Kultur, Internet project of G. E. Lessing High School in Döbeln (Saxony) <http://www/lgd.de/projekt/judentum/opening.htm>

In 2001, each of the winning sites were provided a banner depicting Phoenix reborn from the ashes, also the namesake of a prewar Nuremberg Jewish philanthropic association which we wanted to remember by the naming as well. Of course the mutual positive effects of the award could be increased by offering substantial prizes such as free web space or translations of texts into English. Such an expansion will require a broader support, maybe even to hand over Phoenix Award to an international board of individuals or institutions.

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Gerhard Jochem, an archivist-historian with the Nuremberg City Archives (Germany) specialized in regional Jewish history, is Webmaster of the English and German language RIJO (acronym from the team members' last names) Web Site. He compiled Nuremberg's Shoah Memorial Book and designed various exhibitions about the city's Jewish past. E-mail: <Gerhard.Jochem@t-online.de>
The Jews of Buchau: A Family Story
By George Arnstein, Washington, D.C., USA

Author's note: The article below is based on the English version of the bilingual script for an audio visual presentation/exhibit on Buchau at the opening of the Jewish Museum, Berlin, 10 September 2001—an event I was privileged to attend. The Leo Baeck Institute in NYC is opening an archival branch at the museum and I was invited to prepare an illustrated digital display in order to demonstrate archival resources. I wrote the script based on material I provided such as family photos and other documents; a volunteer in Buchau provided some city views. Thus it came to pass that Buchau and my ancestors became a small sideshow at the museum. Thanks to the following persons and institutions for their assistance: Claudius Städele, Volkshochschule Bad Buchau; Charlotte Mayenberger; Georg Ladenburger; Paul Sauer, "Die jüdischen Gemeinden in Württemberg und Hohenzollern," 1966, Stuttgart; Bad Buchau Tourism Office; and especially Joshua Derman, an American temporarily at the Museum, now back at Princeton.

My name is George Arnstein. When I was fourteen, in 1938, my family and I left Germany for the United States. My parents were Jews and proud of their German heritage—but in the eyes of the Nazis, they would never be real Germans.

I didn’t know much about my Jewish roots when I first arrived in the United States. During World War II, I served in the US Army in Germany, passing close to places I realized I should know about, and my curiosity was awakened. Since then, I have spent many years researching my family history.

My mother’s side of the family comes from Buchau (today known as Bad Buchau), a town of 4300 inhabitants in the southern German province of Baden-Württemberg. Buchau isn’t a big place, but in the 19th century it had the second largest Jewish community in Württemberg. Over the course of its history, it was home to Jewish peddlers, Court Jews and merchants. Even Albert Einstein’s grandparents and parents lived in Buchau.

With the help of the Leo Baeck Institute in New York, a major center for German-Jewish research, I was able to find archival sources about Buchau and my family history. Many of the pictures and stories displayed with the presentation at the Berlin Jewish Museum come from the archives of the Leo Baeck Institute.

No one knows for sure when the first Jews settled in Buchau. The earliest mention of Jews in Buchau comes from a legal document written in 1382. During the 17th century, Jews were expelled from many of the surrounding counties. The councilmen of Buchau, which was at that time a “free imperial city” of the Holy Roman Empire, were willing to let some of them settle. The taxes paid by Jews for their residency and protection became a major source of revenue for the town.

What’s in a name? Sometimes a lot of history, as well as a map. The branch of my family that comes from Buchau is called “Neuburger.” My research indicates that our distant ancestors came from the town of Neuburg an der Kammel, which lies not far from Buchau. When the Jews were expelled from Neuburg in the early 17th century, some of them probably ended up settling in Buchau. There they adopted the name Neuburger—meaning from Neuburg”—to distinguish themselves from other Jews living there.

The farthest back I can trace my ancestry is to Hirsch Neuburger, a Buchau Jew who died in 1690. The records are unusually good, which meant that I could easily see who married whom—in a town of Buchau’s size, almost all of the Jewish families were related in one way or another.

In the process of researching my family tree, I’ve come into contact with long-lost relatives from all
over the globe: Israel, the United States, Europe and South America. It was like being reunited with an enormous family I’d never met.

Albert Einstein, the famous Nobel Prize winner, could also trace his family history back to Buchau. His grandparents belonged to one of Buchau’s well-established Jewish families. They later moved to the nearby city of Ulm, where Einstein was born in 1879. It would be nice to think we’re related, but it’s unlikely! On a page from the Buchau Jewish community register, I discovered the entries for Albert Einstein’s great-grandparents, Ruppert Einstein (1759 - 1834) and Rebecka Obermaier (1770 - 1853).

Another Nobel Laureate has similar roots in Buchau. Joseph Erlanger MD (1874-1965) was born in San Francisco. His parents, Hermann (Hirsch) Erlanger and Sarah nee Galinger, were from Buchau. He was awarded the prize in medicine in 1944.

Until the early 19th century, the Jews of Buchau were required to live along the Judengasse or “Jews’ lane.” Although some managed to settle elsewhere in the town, the majority remained in this one district.

A house built in the 17th century provided a prayer room for the town’s Jews. Until 1730, the Jews of Buchau had no synagogue, which meant that community members had to offer special rooms in their houses for religious services.

Starting in 1822, the first few Jewish families moved into the main street. Before too long, the ghetto was completely gone. Buchau’s Jews did well for themselves. They founded businesses, started factories, and even served on the town council. The community reached its peak in 1839, when Jews accounted for roughly one-third of the town’s inhabitants. A postcard from Buchau shows the tower of the synagogue at the center of the postcard. In a similar way, Buchau’s Jews were central to the life of the town.

Buchau’s synagogue was famous for its bell tower. This was a rare sight in Germany, since synagogues, unlike churches, don’t traditionally ring bells. There were only a few other synagogues like it in Europe. Why did they build a bell tower? The bells were a present from King Wilhelm I of Württemberg for the new synagogue’s opening in 1839. The king probably didn’t know much about Judaism, and assumed that a Jewish house of worship should also have a set of bells. Rather than insult the king, the Jewish community decided to graciously accept the gift.

I was happy to learn that the Jews of Buchau got along well with their Christian neighbors. Even when the Nazis first came to power, Jews and non-Jews maintained close relations. As late as 1937, a Nazi newspaper complained about the friendship between Buchau’s Jewish and non-Jewish businessmen: "Hardly a Jewish funeral goes by without at least a few non-Jews and their wives in attendance, who practically go mad with grief over the death of a Jew."

But in the end, Buchau’s Jewish community was not spared. On 9 November 1938, SA troopers from nearby Ochsenhausen set fire to the synagogue. The fire was extinguished, but the troopers returned the following night to finish their job.

At the time of the November Pogrom, my family was living in Stuttgart. My father was arrested and detained at the concentration camp Dachau. He wasn’t released until he promised to emigrate within 30 days.

In 1933, around 200 Jews and 2100 non-Jews lived in Buchau. By 1941, about half the Jewish population had emigrated to such places as the United States, Palestine and South America. When the deportations began, the remaining Jews were "transported to the east," namely to the extermination camps. At least two committed suicide. Only four Jews returned to Buchau after the war.

During the war, Jews from Buchau now living in the USA tried to maintain a community in exile. They circulated a mimeographed newspaper called

(Continued on page 26)
The story of Buchau’s Jews is an important chapter of German history, of Jewish history — and of my history too.
We welcome submissions and additional information about topics covered in Stammbaum.

(1) We are grateful to Edward Luft for bringing to our attention that the Wreschen records referred to in Jim Bennett's comment under the heading "Research Discoveries," in the summer 2001 issue of Stammbaum, have been filmed by the Mormons under the following description: District court register of Jews in Wreschen, Germany, now Września, Poznań, Poland. The films are as follows:

- Births, 1847-1853: 491529
- Births, 1853-1861: 491530
- Births, 1862-1867: 491531
- Births, 1867-1874: 491532
- Marriages, 1847-1850: 491533
- Marriages, 1851-1853: 491534
- Marriages, 1854-1857: 491535
- Marriages, 1858-1859: 491536

(2) Thanks to Peter Landé for sending this additional information regarding Aufbau:

The summer issue of Stammbaum contained an article, "Aufbau Indexing Project" by Harry Katzman. His focus was on the numerous birthdays, marriages, deaths, etc. which appeared in Aufbau. However, near and after the end of World War II Aufbau also carried numerous lists of Jewish Holocaust survivors, and a few lists of victims. Volunteers working at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum integrated this material into one alphabetical list of more than 33,000 names, and this is now available on the Internet at www.jewishgen.org.

The survivors originated from all parts of Central and Eastern Europe, though a large number were from Germany and Austria. At the end of the war most were gathered in displaced persons camps, including camps, such as Bergen Belsen and Dachau, which were once concentration camps. Other survivors returned to the countries from which they originated. A few lucky ones were admitted quickly to England, Sweden, Australia and the United States. Persons are listed in each of these categories.

Complete information on any individual was very rare. In most cases only names and post-war location was listed. Data was entered as it appeared in Aufbau, i.e. no attempts were made to correct apparent typographical errors. Names often appear more than once, e.g. when an individual moved from camp to camp or the spelling of a name was slightly changed.

The only list of victims gives the names of persons who perished in the Shanghai ghetto.

It should be stressed that this list is a finding aid, not a complete presentation of the information available in the original source. In some cases, date and/or year of birth was listed in Aufbau. However, due to formatting problems, this information was not computerized. Researchers should consult the original list to see if this information is available. Similarly, where the title of the list says something like "suchen" or "gesucht", seeking or sought, this refers to efforts by survivors to reach relatives/friends in the United States or elsewhere. These names were not computerized, but might well be a valuable family link.

Most readers will not have access to old Aufbau issues. However, they can view all 1944 and 1945 issues on their computers. Simply go to <http://deposit.ddb.de/online/exil/exil.htm> and set "Zeitschrift". Then set the "Jahrgang" to 10 for 1944 and to 11 for 1945. Set the "Ausgabe" to the appropriate week, e.g. nr.26 for June 30, 1944, and then turn to the appropriate page.

Of course, this is not the end of a search. If the researcher finds a possible new relative in this list he/she should consult other sources of information to obtain further information. In this connection, the Yad Vashem archives’ filmed collection of International Red Cross records through the mid-1950s is the best publicly available source of information as to where survivors went in the decade after World War II.

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Issue 19, Summer 2001, page 40—in Grossman’s biography, the line should read: “...her commissions include a documentary film project on the history of the Jews in German and the filmmaker’s Jewish ancestors.”
19th Century Hamburg Jewish Residence Registration

By Peter W. Landé, Washington, D.C., USA

Many readers may not have seen *Maajan/ Die Quelle*, a Jewish genealogical magazine that has been published in Switzerland on a quarterly basis for the past 14 years. The magazine was originally issued by the Swiss Society for Jewish Genealogy but in recent years has become a joint publication by that society and the Hamburg Society for Jewish Genealogy. The magazine’s articles are all in German, but an English summary of major articles appears regularly in *Avotaynu*.

Since many Stammbaum readers may not have access to *Maajan*, and/or cannot read the German text of the articles, we thought it might be useful occasionally to summarize articles of particular interest. The first of these attempts is “Einwohnermelderegister als Quelle der Familienforschung” (Residence registration registers as a source of information for genealogical research) by Jürgen Sielemann. For those readers not accustomed to such civil residence registers, it should be noted that these have existed in Germany in various forms for several centuries, and continue even today. Sielemann’s article appeared in three parts in *Maajan*’s issues 56, 57 and 58. His more general article on such registers as a genealogical research tool appeared in *Avotaynu* in Vol. X No.2.

In 1814, with the defeat of Napoleon, Hamburg authorities began to focus on what regulations should supercede the regime that had been imposed during the French occupation. The French had given full civil and political rights to Jews and Jews hoped that this would be continued. However, Hamburg authorities quickly terminated these rights and Jews continued not to be eligible for citizenship until much later in the 19th century. However, Jews were granted the rights to reside in Hamburg on a continuing basis, and to receive legal protection as well as to pay taxes. These rights were limited to Jews who belonged to the Jewish Gemeinden (communities or associations), about 10,000 persons in the early 19th century.

The decision as to whether to admit Jews to membership was left to the communities themselves and was not granted automatically to new applicants. The purpose of restricting membership was primarily to keep out indigent Jews who might become a burden on the community or damage the reputation of Jews in Hamburg. Non-members were considered “fremde Juden” (foreign Jews) and were required to obtain police permission to reside in Hamburg. Beginning in 1819, moreover, all “foreigners” were required to register with the police soon after their arrival in Hamburg and to provide their name, place of birth, profession and where they resided in Hamburg.

These registers of foreigners have survived and, for the period 1833 through 1891, have been filmed by the LDS Family History Center system and can be found under “Hamburg”. As the reader can imagine, this information is a rich source of genealogical information. “Foreign” registrants came from all over Europe, with the largest number from Poland. They included Jews from elsewhere in Germany, since such persons were also considered foreigners. In 1816 there were close to 1,000 registrants, and this number varied over the years. Examples are cited in the article. Most persons listed their professions as Kaufmann or Handelsmann (merchant) but there were many other professions, including four rabbis and one “Seiltänzer,” (tightrope walker).

This registration system was amended in various ways over the years, but continued until 1892 when it was replaced by a uniform registration system for all residents. From 1833 it consisted of alphabetical registers and in these registers one can trace where an individual resided and/or left Hamburg. For example a Mr. Bernzongk from Riga who had resided in Hamburg left Hamburg for New York in 1849.

In 1892 Hamburg adopted the registration system which appeared all over Germany and which applied to all residents, and this system continued
through the end of World War II. The following information was required: Names, places and dates of birth for all family members, nationality, and local address. Information on religion was also requested but often ignored by persons submitting their registrations. Some of the records were destroyed during World War II, but the records for those residents who left Hamburg or died between 1892 and 1925 continue to be held at the Hamburg State Archives. Emigrants to America and other destinations, who were simply transiting Hamburg, were not listed by the registration office. While researchers are not permitted direct access to these files, in contrast to birth, marriage/death records held at civil registries, persons seeking information from these files need not prove a family relationship. Similar records are held in archives in other parts of Germany. Researchers must pay a fee of DM33 for each request and the information on that person will be provided. The address to write to is: Staatsarchiv Hamburg, Kattunbleiche 19, 22041 Hamburg.

Endnotes


* * * * *

Peter Landé, born in Germany, came to the US in 1937; he was a Foreign Service Officer from 1956 until retirement in 1988. He has published and lectured on German Jewish genealogy and the fate of European Jews in the Holocaust; as volunteer at the USHMM he is involved in compiling a database of all victims and survivors of the Holocaust. E-mail: <pdlande@compuserve.com>


**Tips For Deciphering German Records**

♦ Deciphering Handwriting in German Documents-Analyzing German, Latin, and French in Vital Records Written in Germany, by Roger P. Minert. GRT Publications, 2001. (Examples of documents, German genealogical vocabulary lists, symbols and forms as well as lessons in deciphering Gothic handwriting.)

♦ If I Can You Can-Deciphering Germanic Records by Edna M. Bentz. Edna Bentz, 13139 Old West Ave., San Diego, CA 92129. (Sections on deciphering words about diseases, professions and vital records in several languages for comparisons, all done in Bentz’ handwriting as she found the words in those foreign language documents.)

♦ Witter’s Deutsch-Englische Schreib- und Lesefibel und Neues Erstes Lesebuch für Amerikanische Freischulen (German-English Primer), complete text of the Revised Edition (1881). Produced and distributed for the Indiana German Heritage Society, Inc., 401 East Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204 by NCSA Literatur, Green Valley, Nashville, TN 47448, paperback reprint edition 1987. (Teaches deciphering old German script from a primer that thousands of German immigrants in America used in primary school)

World News, August 10, 2000:
“One of Germany’s most prestigious newspapers, the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, has defied new spelling rules adopted by German-speaking countries two years ago, sparking a new nationwide debate on the merits of the reforms.” Some new rules are: 1) ß is no longer used following a short vowel, as in nass (wet), dass (that), but will still be used following a long vowel, as in Straße (street) or weiße (white); 2) separation of noun and verb such as radfahren (to ride a bicycle) is now Radfahren and Autofahren (to drive a car); 3) end-of-line hyphenation changes from never separating st to allow for Fens-ter (window), and Zu-cker (sugar) is the new hyphenation and spelling instead of the old Zuk-ker; 4) Germanization of foreign words i.e. Spagetti.
Book Review
By Gary Fitleberg, Calabasas, CA, USA


This is a tale of genius and madness, passion and intrigue, filled with portraits of such momentous individuals as Otto von Bismarck, Woodrow Wilson, Albert Einstein, George Gershwin and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Drawing on previously private records, author Ron Chernow relates the multigenerational Warburg saga with the same operatic sweep and vivid portraiture that distinguished his National Book Award winning *The House of Morgan* (1991). *The Warburgs* lays bare the whole stormy, heart wrenching history of Jews and Germans in the twentieth century.

The book comes complete with nostalgic photographs and family tree charts which date back to 1566 and forefather and progenitor Simon van Cassel. Other surnames include: Abrahmson, Auerbach, Bab, Baldwin, Biegun, Blumenfeld, Bollschweiler, Boyzan, Braden, Brown, Calder, Currier, d'Almeida, Delbanco, Derenherg, Einstein, Furth, Goldschmidt, Grimson, Gunzberg, Hahn, Heckscher, Hertz, Hess, Kaulla, Kohn-Speyer, Lachmann, Leonino, Magnus, Melber, Nast, Neu, Nieuwenhuis, Oppenheim, Phillipson, Plaut, Prag, Rosenberg, Rothschild, Samson, Sander, Schiff, Shannon, Simon, Smulowicz (Shalmon), Speyer, Spiro, Spinelli, Stettheimer, Strauss, Swift, Thorsch, Unger, Woodworth, Wolf, Wyzanski and Zagury.

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(Continued from page 22)

We regret we do not have the staff to search through the collections to determine which ones may be of interest to you. If you are not sure which collections may be of greatest interest, we recommend that you visit. (Instructions are on the web page).

Please note that you may not publish or post on the web any LBI material without written permission from the Leo Baeck Institute. We are ready and happy to serve family historians. Please be patient.

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Karen S. Franklin is Director, Family Research Program, LBI New York. E-mail: <kfranklin@lbi.cjh.org>
Jüdische Familienforschung
From the Editors

Introduction

From 1924 to 1938, the Gesellschaft für jüdische Familienforschung (Association for Jewish Family Research) in Berlin, published 50 issues (in 14 volumes) of its journal called Jüdische Familienforschung. In this issue we begin a focus on this important publication that will continue in the next issue of Stammbaum. Although all the material published in the journal is in German (and some of it printed in German Gothic), we believe that, even if you do not read German, the journal can be an extremely useful resource.

We begin with some background information on the Gesellschaft and its journal by reprinting an article published in 1977 by Hanns G. Reissner (1902-1977). Second, we provide information on where you can look at the journal or obtain your own copy of a microfilm that includes all published issues. Finally, in this issue, we present translations of three specific lists found in the journal:

1) The author index (including article title) for the first ten years (1924-1934, Issues 1-37).
2) The association’s membership lists for 1925 and 1926 (the only two published in the journal).
3) The name-list index showing surnames being searched by journal readers.

In the next issue of Stammbaum we hope to bring you a translation of the author index for the remaining years of the journal’s existence (1935-1938, Issues 38-50) as well as some additional information found in it.

Excerpts from Hanns G. Reissner’s Article:

We gratefully acknowledge permission to reprint major portions of this article, which appeared in Toledot, The Journal of Jewish Genealogy: Summer 1977, pp. 7-9. Toledot existed from 1977-1982; it was published by Arthur Kurzweil and

Steven W. Siegel.

Gesellschaft Für Jüdische Familienforschung
by Hanns G. Reissner

The...Gesellschaft für jüdische Familienforschung (Association for Jewish Family Research) in Berlin, Germany...was founded in 1924 and dissolved, by order of the National Socialist authorities, in 1938. Governmental action did not indicate specific disapproval of aims or conduct of the Gesellschaft, but reflected a general policy of suppressing Jewish activities in Germany and accelerating the emigration process.

Its founder and president throughout the fourteen years of its existence had been Arthur Czellitzer, M.D., an ophthalmologist by specialization. He was born in 1871 and perished during World War II after deportation from Holland where he had found temporary refuge following his emigration from Berlin. Professionally he was interested in medical heredity research. This led him into the field of Jewish genealogy. He authored a “how to” guidebook, Mein Stammbaum (My Family Tree), Berlin, 1934.

A listing dated 1 December 1926 identifies 314 members (including 10 corporate) of the Gesellschaft, hereof 125 in Berlin, 156 in other places in Germany, and 33 abroad (including four individual members in New York City). A later publicity pamphlet, not dated, refers to about 100 individual plus about 30 corporate members.

Personal familiarity permits me to state that the membership’s age-composition represented a fair mixture of senior and junior members. Nevertheless, in retrospect, their devotion to work in this field seems to reconfirm the philosopher Hegel’s dictum that “the owl of Minerva begins its flight only towards dusk.” The introductory statements of the new Gesellschaft stress the fact that, while interest in one’s origins has been as time-hallowed as the period of the Old Testament, modern

(Continued on page 32)
developments have put increasing strain on coherence and survival of the "family." Singling out as factors threatening the future of German Jewry were progressive urbanization, entailing reduced birth rates, weakening of religious bonds, baptism (if for no other reasons but advancement in the professional sphere) and "mixed marriages." Dangers resulting from political developments were not anticipated as early as 1924, but became—perversely—a stimulus to a growing interest in Jewish family research in and after 1933. Psychologically this was just another aspect of a general determination to "resist."

The Gesellschaft’s goals were defined as 1) collection of factual material (in manuscript and printed forms), and 2) research into the scholarly areas of heredity and eugenics. As means of achieving these goals were suggested a) lecture meetings, b) workshops, c) exhibitions, d) publication of a periodical.

The periodical, called Mitteilungen der Gesellschaft für jüdische Familienforschung, appeared in altogether fifty consecutive issues during the years 1924-1938. It is available in this country today at all major Jewish and general libraries, such as the Leo Baeck Institute, New York, and the Jewish Division of the New York Public Library. [See below: Where can you find copies of Jüdische Familien-Forschung? for additional information—editors] It records past activities under the headings a) and c) above. Many lectures, given in Berlin, were reprinted for the particular benefit of the readership in the provinces; in addition there were original contributions. The style of both categories was "popular." An attractive permanent feature was the Suchblatt, listing inquiries from members about particular individuals, families and communities, as well as answers, if any, received therefor. . . .

In 1937 the Gesellschaft also promoted a competition in conjunction with the periodical Israelitisches Familienblatt. It was distributed in more than 30,000 copies, soliciting the entry of tabulations of participants’ ancestry. The forms provided space for four anterior generations. (This writer won a prize for having listed four generations pertaining not just to himself, but to one of his great-grandmothers in the area of Frankfurt-on-Main.)

Just a few articles which appeared in the Mitteilungen may be characterized as general "human interest stories," like the ancestry of "famous" Jews (Albert Einstein, among others) and the infusion of "Jewish" blood into German nobility (a fairly frequent occurrence in the course of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries). My personal feeling is that reports on research in heredity, eugenics and the like were not particularly original. Book reviews kept members abreast of new publications in the field. The factual material assembled on Jewish families and communities in Germany reproduced in part not easily accessible, earlier governmental censuses, especially those dealing with the adoption of secular, permanent family names in the early nineteenth century, et. al. This material was substantial and retains its value but is, of course, relevant for only a minority of readers in this country, i.e., those of German-Jewish background. But it deserves stressing that the intellectual level of the Mitteilungen was remarkably free from narrow "mishpokhology."

Editors as well as contributors were conscious of the links connecting German Jewry with those of other European countries—East, West, North and South—and commented thereon freely. Although up to 1933 German Jews did not have to think of the Western hemisphere as countries of potential or actual immigration, there were interesting reports from North, Central and South America. Even today’s reader might look them up with profit—cf. issue nos. 13ff on Argentina; nos. 22ff on "Creole" Jews; no. 47 on the U.S.A.

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Hanns G. Reissner was born in 1902 in Berlin and received a Ph.D. from that city's University in 1926. He was professor of history emeritus of Queens College of the City University of New York and of New York Institute of Technology. The
author of books and numerous articles on Modern European and Jewish history, Dr. Reissner died on 8 June 1977. An article of his, "The Sense of Returning to the Family," appeared in Issue 36 of Jüdische Familienforschung. His papers are in the archives of LBI, NY.

Where can you find copies of Jüdische Familien-Forschung?

A. The Family History Library has the journal on microfiche: Volumes 1-25: fiche #6001495; Volumes 26-50: fiche #6001496. You can view these microfiche at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City or by rental at a local LDS Family History Center.

B. You can also order a copy of a microfilm with all issues of the journal from University Publications of America (a member of the LexisNexis Group): Call 1-800-638-8380 and ask for customer Service. The item number for the Jüdische Familien-Forschung microfilm is B184 and the current cost is $105. For ordering via the web: go to <www.lexisnexis.com> (click on UPA Research Collection; then click on Jewish Studies; and then click on German-Jewish Periodicals from Leo Baeck Institute in New York 1768-1945). There you will find this and many other microfilms for purchase.

C. Libraries with copies of the journal include:
  Arizona: University of Arizona
  California: UCLA; Berkeley; Stanford
  Connecticut: Yale
  Florida: University of Florida
  Massachusetts: Brandeis
  Michigan: University of Michigan
  New York: Cornell; Jewish Theological Seminary; Jewish Division of the New York Public Library; Leo Baeck Institute; Yeshiva University
  Ohio: Hebrew Union College
  Texas: University of Texas-Austin

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From the Editors: Membership lists for the Gesellschaft für jüdische Familienforschung (Association of Jewish Family Research) were published in Issue 2 (May, 1925), pp. 43-46, and Issue 8 (December 1926), pp. 190-199, of Jüdische Familienforschung. These lists have the potential of great use to individuals who might find family members listed: members are listed according to city of residence and a profession is given for many. In the 1926 list, street addresses are given for most of the members; however, due to space limitations, these street addresses are not included in the list below and the original list should be consulted for that information. At the very least, anyone lucky enough to find a family member here knows their relative was interested enough in genealogy to actually become a member.

The two lists were originally presented in slightly different format. For example, the 1925 list simply listed members according to an alphabetical list of towns whereas the 1926 list separated the German towns (at that time) and the “foreign” towns. Also, the information given about specific members is, in some instances, slightly different in the two lists. For example, in the 1925 list we find, under Breslau, the entry “Dr. Heppner, Rabbi” whereas in the 1926 list he is listed as “Heppner, Rabbi Dr. Aron”. Where it is clear that the individuals listed in both membership lists are the same, such information is combined below; where it is not clear if it is the same individual, both are listed.

Translation of some titles/professions is difficult at best because there are no exact equivalents in English. Interested readers are advised to check the original lists to see the German term(s) used.

The lists also included a number of organizations (e.g. archives or Jewish community organizations), but those have been omitted from our presentation.

I. GERMAN CITIES

Aachen
Struch, Georg: 1926
Struch, Leo: 1926

Altona a. E.
Dueekesz, Dr. Eduard, Rabbi: 1926

Augsburg
Farnbacher, Simon: 1926

Bad Kreuznach—see under Kreuznach

Bamberg
Eckstein, Dr. A. Rabbi: 1926

Berlin
Adam, Kurt, Chief Editor: 1925, 1926
Ascher, Dr. Elieser Fritz: 1926
Bach, Hans, PhD Student/Candidate: 1925, 1926
Bach, Rudolf, Student Teacher: 1925
Barth, Lazarus, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Benedick, Paul, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Bernhardt, Dr. Paul, Neurologist: 1925, 1926
Blach, Dr. Samuel, Secondary School Teacher: 1925, 1926
Blumenfeld, Mrs. Elisabeth: 1925, 1926
Bonnwitt, Berthold, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Bradt, Dr. Gustav, Medical Officer, Physician: 1925, 1926
Braunschild, Dr. J. Medical Officer, Physician: 1925, 1926
Budwig, Stephan, Engineer with Diploma: 1926
Calvary, Dr. Max, Physician: 1925, 1926
Cohn, Miss Alice: 1926
Crzelligter, Fritz, Government Contractor: 1925, 1926
Crzelligter, Dr. Arthur, Eye Specialist: 1925, 1926
Dorn, Dr. W. Attorney: 1926
Dreifuss, Dr. Erwin: 1926
Eckstein, Dr. Hugo, Physician/Orthopedist: 1925, 1926
Eger, Herbert, Attorney: 1925, 1926
Eger, Dr. Josef, Physician: 1925, 1926
Elbogen, Dr. Ismar, Professor: 1925, 1926
Engel, Fritz, Editor: 1925, 1926
Feld, Dr. Adolf, Medical Officer, Physician: 1925
Fraenkel, Max, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Frank, Richard, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Frenkel, Max: 1925
Friedlaender, Prof. Dr., Secondary School
Teacher: 1926
Friedlaender, Mrs. Franziska: 1926
Friedlaender, Josua, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Friedlaender, Martin, Businessman: 1925
Glaser, Kurt, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Goldberg, Mrs. Jenny: 1925, 1926
Goslar, Hans, Senior Government Official: 1925, 1926
Gronemann, Sammy, Attorney: 1925, 1926
Gross, Dr. Johann, Physician: 1925, 1926
Haase, Dr. Felix, Factory Owner: 1926
Halberstam, Albert, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Hamburger, Kurt: 1925, 1926
Hamburger, Sally, Attorney: 1925, 1926
Hmitz, Max, Book Dealer: 1925, 1926
Herlitz, Dr. Georg, Archivist: 1925, 1926
Hilb, Leonie: 1926
Hirschfeld, Robert, Teacher: 1925, 1926
Holschauer, Dr., Dentist: 1925, 1926
Jacobson, Dr. Jakob, Archivist: 1925, 1926
Jacobson, Julius, Legal Counselor, Attorney: 1925, 1926
Jalowicz, Betty, born Eger: 1925, 1926
Jalowicz, H., Dr. of Jurisprudence, Attorney: 1925, 1926
Jutrosinski, Dr. Richard, Medical Officer, Physician: 1925, 1926
Kahn, Dr. Arthur: 1926
Kantorowicz, Mrs. Alice: 1925, 1926
Karger, S, Book Publishing Business: 1926
Keiler, Martin: 1926
Kirschner, Dr.: 1926
Kirschstein, Mrs. (wife of business magnate): 1925, 1926
Kirschstein, Sally, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Kober, Max: 1925, 1926
Koehler, Mrs. Marie: 1925, 1926
Kronenthal, Arthur, Retired City Administrator: 1926
Lamm, Louis, Book Dealer: 1925, 1926
Landsberg, I., Businessman: 1925
Landsberg, J.: 1926
Lehmann, Mrs. Margarete: 1925, 1926
Leibholz, Dr. Arthur, Medical Officer, Physician: 1925, 1926
Lessler, Toni, School Headmistress: 1925, 1926
Levin, Mrs. Marie, (wife of Dr.): 1925
Levy, Dr. Ernst: 1926
Levy, Dr. Jakob, Physician: 1925, 1926
Lewenz, Dr. Hans: 1926
Lindenberg, Paul, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Loeb, Mrs. Tilly: 1925
Loewenfeld, Dr. W., Legal Counselor, 1926
Loewenthal, Dr., Physician: 1925
Loewenthal, Dr. Abraham, Rabbi: 1925, 1926
Machnicki, Dr. Ernst, Intern (medical): 1925
Marx, Moses, Businessman: 1925, 1926
May, Mrs. Henriette, Writer: 1925, 1926
Mayer, Dr. Max, Corporate Attorney: 1925
Mayer, Richard, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Meisl, Dr. Josef, General Secretary: 1925, 1926
Meyer, Mrs. Marianne: 1926
Millner, J. S., Director: 1926
Mossler, Leonhard, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Mossler, Otto, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Muehsam, Dr. Hans, Physician: 1925, 1926
Muenz, Dr., Rabbi: 1926
Nathan, Johanna: 1926
Neufeld, Max, Legal Counselor, Attorney: 1925, 1926
Neumann, Otto, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Neustadt, Dr. Georg, Physician: 1925, 1926
Nobel, Dr. J., Rabbi: 1926
Orchudesch, Manfred: 1926
Pessen, Dr. Eugen, Librarian: 1925, 1926
Philipsthal, Herbert, Editor: 1925, 1926
Pollack, Dr. Bernhard, Professor, Eye Specialist: 1925, 1926
Popper, Mrs. (wife of Dr., Medical Officer): 1925, 1926
Punitzer, Herbert, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Romm, Kaethe, Teacher: 1926
Rothmann, Dr. S., Medical Officer, Physician: 1925, 1926
Sachs, Mrs. Kaethe: 1925
Salomon, Adolf, Privy Counselor, Attorney: 1925, 1926
Salomon, Hermann, Attorney: 1925, 1926
Schlesinger, Mrs./widow of Legal Counselor: 1925, 1926
Schlochauer, Hermann: 1926
Schmidt, Dr. Gerhard, Ph.D.: 1925, 1926
Seelig, Dr. Alfred, Gynecologist: 1925, 1926
Silbergleit, Dr. Richard, General Secretary: 1925, 1926
Simon, Moritz, Director: 1925, 1926
Solon, Dr. Friedrich, Attorney: 1925, 1926
Sonnenfeld, Hugo, Legal Counselor: 1926

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Stein, Mrs. Emil: 1926
Stern, Adolf, Retired Government Contractor: 1925, 1926
Stern, I. Director: 1925
Stern, Dr. Moritz, Chief Librarian: 1925, 1926
Theihaber, Dr. Felix, Specialized Physician: 1925, 1926
Wallach, Ernst, Banker: 1925, 1926
Wallach, Paul, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Wiener, Dr. Alfred, Corporate Attorney: 1926
Wolitz, Dr. Egmont, Professor: 1925, 1926
Wolbe, Dr. Prof. Eugen, Secondary School Teacher: 1925, 1926
Wolff, Ernst, Businessman with Diploma: 1925, 1926
Wollsteiner, Max, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Ziegel, Mrs. Martha (wife of Director): 1926
Zielenziger, Georg, Privy Counsellor, County Councillor: 1925, 1926
Zirker, Erwin, Government Contractor: 1925, 1926
Zons, Jakob, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Zuntz, Paul, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Bielefld
Porta, L.S., Businessman: 1925, 1926
Bodenfeld
Frudenthal, Albert M.: 1926
Bonn
Levison, Dr. Wilhelm, University Professor: 1925, 1926
Bremen
Markreich, Max: 1926
Breslau
Brann, Gertrud, School Principal: 1925, 1926
Cohn, Dr. Willy, Secondary School Teacher: 1925, 1926
Dobrin, Paul, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Ephraim, Leo, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Heppner, Dr. Aron, Rabbi: 1925, 1926
Kaliski, Dr. Josef: 1926
Klibansky, Dr. Erich, School Principal: 1925, 1926
Neustadt, Ernst, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Perle, Eugen: 1926
Perle, Felix: 1926
Rechnitz, Dr., District Judge, Administrative Di-
Mainzer, Dr. Moritz, Religion Teacher: 1926
Mosbacher, Leopold: 1926
Schlesinger, Mrs. Simon, Businessperson: 1925
Schlesinger, S. F.: 1926
Schoenber, Dr., Attorney: 1925, 1926
Scharzwchild, Dr. Siegfried, Antiquarian: 1925, 1926
Sommer, Julius: 1926
Sondheimer, Dr. Albert, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Traut, Dr. Hermann, Professor: 1926
Unna, Dr. Josef: 1925, 1926
Wemer, Dr. Moritz, Professor: 1926

Fuerth in Bavaria
Bergmann, Mrs. Rosalie: 1925, 1926

Geisenkirchen
Back, Moritz, Attorney and Notary: 1926

Giessen
Levi, Julius, Manufacturer: 1925, 1926

Gologau
Goldstein, Mrs. Charlotte (wife of Medical Officer): 1925
Lindemann, Dr. Erich, Specialized Physician: 1925, 1926
Lucas, Dr., Rabbi: 1925, 1926

Goepplingen
Tinenzer, Dr. A., Rabbi: 1925, 1926

Goerlitz
Muhr, Johannes: 1926

Gotha
Goldschmidt, Dr. Otto, Banker: 1925
Goldschmidt, Dr. Otto, Dr. of Jurisprudence: 1926
Herrmann, Willy: 1926
Oppenheim, Dr., Attorney: 1926

Halberstadt
Eschwege, Teacher: 1926

Halle a. S.
Kisch, Dr., G., Professor of Jurisprudence: 1926

Hamburg
Badrian, Emanuel Emil, Teacher/Retired School Principal: 1925, 1926
Brann, Julius, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Cohn, Dr. Julius: 1926
Falk, A.: 1926
Goldschmidt, Samson: 1926
Heckscher, Dr. Caesar, Attorney: 1926
Mainz, Hugo, Banker: 1925, 1926
Mainz, S: 1926

Mainz, Sally, Banker: 1925
Nathan, Dr., N. M., Corporate Attorney: 1926
Sachs, Semmy, Banker: 1926
Oettinger, Josef, Businessman: 1925, 1926

Hameln
Bacharach, S., Teacher: 1926

Hattingen (Ruhr)
Andorn, M., Teacher: 1925, 1926

Heidelberg
Dreifuss, Dr. Erwin, Ph.D. candidate: 1925

Heilsberg (East Prussia)
Wilk, Attorney: 1926

Hettstedt (South Harz)
Rosenberg, Mrs. Herta: 1926

Hildesheim
Lewinsky, Dr., District Rabbi: 1926

Hoppstaedten, Birkenfeld
Lewin, Dr., District Rabbi: 1926

Karlsruhe i. B.
Haas, Dr. Ludwig, Member of Reichstag, Attorney, Retired State Administrator: 1925, 1926
Kauder, Dr. L. Physician for City Hospitals: 1926
Neumann, Leopold: 1925, 1926
Teutsch, Albert: 1926

Kiel
Posner, Dr. Arthur, Rabbi: 1925, 1926

Koeln a. Rhein
Friedlaender, Hans, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Leubsdorf, Hermann, Businessman: 1925, 1926
Mass, Mrs. Lucie: 1926
Schoenenberg, Dr. Max, Physician: 1925, 1926
Wolf, Dr. Kurt, Provincial Court Official: 1926

Bad Kreuznach
Aron, Oscar: 1926

Ladenburg a. Neckar
Darmstaedter, Karl, School Inspector: 1926
Hirsch, Fritz: 1926

Landsberg a. Warthe
Mannheim, Guenther-Fritz, Businessman: 1925, 1926

Laupheim (Wuerttemberg)
Tretel, Mrs., born Brann (wife of Rabbi): 1925, 1926

Leipzig
Breit, Dr. Max, Attorney: 1925, 1926
Cohn, Dr. Gustav, Rabbi: 1926
Eckstein, Mrs. Henriette, Pensioner: 1925, 1926

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Stern, Mrs. Jenny: 1925, 1926

**Liebstadt (East Prussia)**

Priebatsch, Dr. Georg, Veterinarian: 1925, 1926

**Liegnitz**

Fronzig, Legal Counsellor: 1926

Haurwitz, Ludwig: 1926

Krieg, Max: 1926

**Luebeck**

Haase, Dr. Felix, Factory Owner: 1925

Landau, Dr. Leo, Attorney: 1925, 1926

Lychenheim, Otto, Book Dealer: 1926

Winter, Dr. D. Rabbi: 1925, 1926

**Mainz**

Bondi, Dr. I. M., Rabbi: 1926

**Mannheim**

Appel, Dr. Julius, Attorney: 1925, 1926

Noether, Franz: 1926

Simon, Carl, Retired General Counsel: 1926

Unna, Dr. Isaak, Rabbi: 1925, 1926

**Marburg a. L.**

Katten, Mrs. V., widow: 1926

**Meseritz**

Rathe, Max: 1926

**Munich**

Gutmann, Dr. M. J., Physician: 1926

Obermayer, Edgar, Businessman: 1925, 1926

Schoepflich, Eduard, Jeweler: 1925, 1926

Spaeth, Dr. Emil, Art Historian: 1925, 1926

**Muehlhausen (Thuringen)**

Oppenheim, Dr., Richard, Engineer, Government Contractor: 1926

**Neustadt (Upper Silesia)**

Pinkus, Hans H., Factory Owner: 1925, 1926

**Norderney**

Hoffmann, Julius, Hotel Owner: 1925, 1926

**Nuremberg**

Freudenthal, Dr. Max, Rabbi: 1926

Kohnstamm, Robert: 1926

**Paderborn**

Rose, Dr., Attorney: 1925

**Potsdam**

Schreiber, Dr. H., Rabbi: 1926

**Rheydt**

Stern, Ruth: 1926

**Schneidemuehl**

Nobel, Dr. I., Rabbi: 1925

**Schwarmstedt in Hannover**

Sklarek, Josef, Pioneer: 1926

**Schweinfurth in Bavaria**

Weigersheimer, Moses, Teacher: 1925, 1926

**Schwerin in Mecklenburg**

Silberstein, Dr. S., Rabbi: 1925, 1926

**Stolp in Pomerania**

Levin, Adolf, Businessman: 1925, 1926

Macnjitzki, Dr. Ernst, Intern (Medical): 1926

**Stuttgart**

Cramer, Dr. Max, Eye Specialist: 1925, 1926

Feldmann, Mrs. Lilly: 1925

Gruenwald, Trudel: 1925

Hirsch, Dr. Otto, Under Secretary Civil Service: 1925, 1926

Lepman, Dr. Henry, Manufacturer: 1925, 1926

Marx, Leopold, Manufacturer: 1926

Weil, Dr. Hermann, Factory Administrator: 1925, 1926

**Ulm a. D.**

Strassburger, Dr., Rabbi: 1926

Wallersteiner, Leopold: 1926

**Unterbarmen**

Wolff, Joseph, Factory Owner: 1926

**Wandsbek**

Bamberger, Dr., Rabbi: 1925, 1926

II. “FOREIGN” CITIES/COUNTRIES

**Argentina**

Bab, Arturo: 1926

**Budapest**

Fuerst, Dr. Aladar, Professor: 1926

Mandl, Bernhard, School Director: 1926

Schwabach, H. Sigmund: 1926

**Copenhagen**

Fischer, Josef, Librarian: 1925, 1926

Simonsen, D., Professor: 1925, 1926

**Holland**

Goldenberg, M.M./Maximillan in Amsterdam: 1925, 1926

Seeligmann, Sigmund, Professor in Amsterdam: 1925, 1926

Vaertheim, First Lieutenant, in The Hague: 1926

**Jerusalem**

Calvary, Moses, School Principal: 1925, 1926

Pick, Dr. H., Professor: 1926

**New York City**

Bach, Rudolf: 1926
Yvonne Adler was born to Berlin refugees in Shanghai, China. She came to America in 1948 on the Marine Adder (the same ship as Michael Blumenthal) and has always spoken fluent German in her extremely German household. Yvonne lives in Los Angeles and holds graduate degrees from UCLA.

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Jüdische Familienforschung: Name Indices

From the editors: Issues of *Jüdische Familienforschung* included a section called Searching For (Suchblatt) in which readers submitted a Question (Fragen) about surnames/individuals they were researching. Each Frage was given an identifying number. In some cases, a Reply (Antworten), sent in by another reader, appeared in a subsequent issue (using the Frage identifying number for reference). Some surnames were referred to in what the Journal called Supplemental information (Ergaenzungen).

Both the General-Index for issues 1 to 37 and the General-Index for issues 38 to 50 included a Name Index listing each surname/individual and the page number(s) on which it appeared in a Question, Reply and/or Supplemental Information.

Below we present a combined list of all the surnames/individuals and pages numbers found in those two name indices. Although the original indices put page numbers in separate columns (for Questions, Replies, and Supplemental Information), we list all page numbers together due to space limitations. We have also omitted the Question identifying numbers.

Where localities are included in entries, they are spelled as they appear in the original name indices. Thus, readers will have to determine the contemporary name of those towns no longer using the same name/spelling used when the indices were compiled in the 1930s.

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- Abrahamson in Stettin: 621
- Adler: 484
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Yvonne Adler was born to Berlin refugees in Shanghai, China. She came to America in 1948 on the Marine Adder (the same ship as Michael Blumenthal) and has always spoken fluent German in her extremely German household. Yvonne lives in Los Angeles and holds graduate degrees from UCLA. <shanghai1@jps.net> (note that the 'one' is not an 'el')
A STORY IN PICTURES
Carol Davidson Baird, Solana Beach, CA

The Beginning

The only existing picture of the interior of the Vöhl, Frankenberg, Hessen synagogue, taken by Carol’s father, Ernst Davidsohn, when he visited his grandparents in 1933. His grandfather, Selig Frankenthal, was president of the small congregation.

Johanna Bachrauch Frankenthal, wife of Selig, and her two daughters, both born in Vöhl—Beate on the left and Ida (Carol’s grandmother) on the right. Photo taken in Vöhl about 1896.

Selig Frankenthal had the good fortune to die in 1934 and not endure the fate of many other Völker Jews during the Nazi era. Photo taken in Vöhl

Beate and her mother, Johanna just before their deportation from Vöhl—Beate to Majdanek in June 1942 and Johanna to Theresienstadt in September 1942.

The Fates

Having married Hugo Davidsohn and moving to Stuttgart, where Ernst was born in 1921, saved Ida from the death camps, although they all lived through Kristallnacht in Stuttgart and Hugo went to Dachau for a few months in 1938. The family emigrated to London and then to New York before settling in Los Angeles where Ernst Davidsohn began his family.

The Link

The only existing member of this Frankenthal family returned to Vöhl as a link from the past to the present, and through her son, to the future.

Carol, on her visit to Vöhl with her husband and son, Geoffrey, in September 2000 to witness the synagogue restoration, meet Mildenberg cousins, and rededicate her wedding vows on her 30th anniversary in the same synagogue in which her grandparents and great-grandparents were married.

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Carol Davidson Baird
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Advisory Committee:

Karen Franklin, Chair
kfranklin@lbi.cjh.org

William Firestone
billf@cruzio.com

Claus Hirsch
cwhirsch@rcn.com

Hans George Hirsch
hghirsch@aol.com

Peter Lande
pdlande@compuserve.com

Frank Mecklenburg
frank@lbi.com

George Arnstein
george.arnstein@verizon.com

Co-editors:
Carol Davidson Baird
255 South Rios Avenue
Solana Beach, CA 92075-1903
(858) 481-8511
sbaird@weber.ucsd.edu

Anne Feder Lee
7202 Kuahono Street
Honolulu, HI 96825
(808) 395-0115
AnneLee1@compuserve.com

(please note the number 1 after AnneLee)

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