Central Europe

West Germany*

FOREIGN POLICY AND STATUS OF BERLIN


On August 13 the authorities of the Soviet zone of Germany (the so-called German Democratic Republic—DDR) closed the previously open border between East and West Berlin by erecting a high brick wall. Ignoring the general indignation that this aroused, Soviet Ambassador Andrei A. Smirnov assured Chancellor Konrad Adenauer that Moscow was not interested in aggravating the situation. Adenauer in return, assured the Russian diplomat that West Germany would do nothing to worsen the conflict.

On August 18 President Kennedy ordered a reinforcement of United States troops in Berlin and in September sent General Lucius D. Clay as his personal representative to the beleaguered city. Adenauer, reelected in November to a fourth term as Federal chancellor, demanded the removal of the wall as a precondition for the resumption of East-West talks on Berlin. He also called for independent NATO atomic forces, an idea opposed by President Kennedy, who wanted to limit the number of atomic powers.

The Western powers and the German Federal government conferred in Paris late in December 1961. France opposed restricting negotiations with Moscow to the Berlin issue. In January 1962 the United States, however, initiated talks with the Soviet Union to explore how promising negotiations on Berlin might be.

At a Berlin press conference in April 1962 Adenauer characterized the Washington-Moscow talks as not hopeful and the United States proposals as impracticable. In the same month, a probably calculated indiscretion of the West German government, revealed those proposals, which had been sub-

* For meaning of abbreviations, see p. 483.
mitted by Washington to its allies regarding possible bases of negotiation; among them was the idea of having an international authority, in which both parts of Germany would be represented, administer free access to Berlin. There seemed to be two foreign-policy tendencies in Bonn. The recently-installed Federal Foreign Minister Gerhard Schröder seemed to support the new elastic American line, while his predecessor Heinrich von Brentano and part of the Christian Democratic Union-Christian Social Union (CDU-CSU) group in the Federal parliament—apparently with the support of Adenauer himself—fought for strict adherence to the status quo.

Symptomatic of this disagreement was the much-discussed Kroll Affair in March 1962. Hans Kroll, then German ambassador in Moscow, was reported by German newspapers to have urged major concessions for the sake of agreement with Moscow. Though Kroll denied having uttered such views, Adenauer recalled him; this was interpreted as a demonstration of loyalty to the Western powers.

During the period under review (July 1, 1961, to June 30, 1962), Federal President Heinrich Lübke paid official visits to Austria, Guinea, Liberia, Senegal, and Switzerland.

DOMESTIC POLITICS

As a result of the elections to the Bundestag (Federal parliament) in September 1961 (AJYB, 1962 [Vol. 63], p. 335), the Free Democratic party (FDP), which had won 12.8 per cent of the vote, gained three representatives in the cabinet; and Gerhard Schröder (CDU) replaced Heinrich von Brentano (CDU) as foreign minister. Most other ministers were unchanged; the popular Professor Ludwig Erhard (CDU) continued as minister of economics and the controversial Franz Josef Strauss (CSU) continued as defense minister.

The government secured an extension of military service, from 12 to 18 months.

All elections to the state parliaments of the Federal Republic showed a drop in votes for the Christian Democrats and a gain for the Social Democratic party (SPD).

The Fibag affair of 1962 seemed to involve Federal Defense Minister Strauss to some degree, the extent of which was a matter of debate. The Hamburg weekly Der Spiegel reported that a Bavarian newspaper publisher, Johann E. Kapfinger, had claimed that he had had to give Strauss a share in a construction company called Fibag in which Kapfinger had an interest. Strauss denied charges that he had recommended the Fibag company to the Americans for a construction contract. A Bundestag investigating committee, after deliberating for an extended period of time, in June divided along party lines. The Socialists maintained that Strauss had at the least acted carelessly, if not improperly, while the Christian Democrats defended his conduct unreservedly.

The establishment of a second television network by the various states
progressed slowly and with difficulties. Some preliminary work was begun at Mainz and all states ratified the basic agreements, although there was strong opposition in all the political parties of Bavaria. The new network was to replace the one planned by the Federal government which had been ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court (AJYB, 1962 [Vol. 63], p. 336).

**ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

The European Economic Community (EEC) continued to develop as planned. It seemed likely that the introduction of a common agricultural policy, involving the adoption of uniform tariffs and the removal of some subsidies, might raise food prices in Germany.

On March 21, 1962, Economics Minister Erhard called for Masshalten, i.e., a policy of self-restraint in economic disputes. The Socialists and trade unions charged him with meddling in the legitimate controversies between employers and employees. Erhard's appeal had little if any practical result.

Government attempts to prevent price and wage increases suffered a serious setback when the manufacturers of the Volkswagen raised its price by DM 200. Despite government pressure, the Volkswagen company refused to rescind the increase, and other firms followed its lead.

In May 1962 the Evangelical Church of Germany, representing most Protestants in the Federal Republic, called for a more equitable distribution of economic burdens and benefits. It declared that manual and white-collar workers had not yet enjoyed an equal share in the gains of economic recovery.

The American stock-market crisis in May 1962 was followed by one in Germany in June 1962. Prices subsequently recovered substantially.

There continued to be far fewer unemployed workers than unfilled jobs. The number of laborers brought to Germany from Greece, Italy, Spain, and, recently, Turkey, continued to rise; it was close to a million.

The Federal budget for 1962–63 reached DM 53.3 billion, DM 6.9 billion more than in 1961–62. The regular budget came to DM 51.74 billion, and a so-called extraordinary budget added DM 1.8 billion. Of the total, DM 16.5 billion went for defense and related activities.

The German mark remained a "hard" currency, at a premium internationally. Yet the cost of living had risen about 30 per cent since 1950. During the first half of 1962 exports rose to DM 25.9 billion from DM 25.1 billion in the comparable period of 1961, and imports to DM 24.3 billion from DM 21.5 billion in 1961.

**FORMER NAZIS**

In July 1961 Professor Kurt Leibbrand, who had been teaching at the Technological Academy of Zurich, Switzerland, and had served as an expert ad-
viser to various city governments, most recently that of Munich, was arrested. The Stuttgart state attorney charged him with having ordered the shooting of 30 Italian workers when he was an officer with Nazi troops withdrawing from Southern France in 1944. The case was still under investigation and the trial had not yet opened at the time of writing.

A Soviet note of December 1961 to the United States government charged German General Adolf Heusinger, chairman of the military committee of NATO, with war crimes and demanded his arrest and surrender to the Soviets. The Federal government, with American concurrence, characterized the charges as slanders aimed at undermining good relations between the Western allies.

On January 18, 1962, former SS General Karl Wolff was arrested in his home at Lake Starnberg on suspicion of having aided Heinrich Himmler in the mass killing of Jews in the East European concentration camps. Until 1962 General Wolff was considered to have had a humane record and was celebrated for his secret negotiations with Allan Dulles (chief of the Office of Strategic Services in Switzerland during World War II), which had shortened the military operations on the Italian front.

Erika Heyde, wife of Professor Werner Heyde (AJYB, 1962 [Vol. 63], p. 338), was sentenced to one year in jail for having obtained DM 64,580 as widow's pension from the Bavarian state while knowing that her husband was still alive and practicing medicine under the alias Sawade.

SS General Erich von dem Bach-Zelewski, who had been tried and convicted for various crimes of manslaughter committed during the Nazi era, was rearrested on the charge of having ordered murders in the early period of Nazism.

A private French delegation demanded in June 1962 at Düsseldorf that Heinrich Lammerding, once commander of the SS division "Das Reich," be surrendered to France for war crimes at Tulle and Oradour. Lammerding denied any guilt.

Proceedings under the Federal law on the status of German judges (AJYB, 1962 [Vol. 63], pp. 337–8) approached an end. Article 111a of the law had permitted judges, who as such or as state attorneys had been involved personally in acts of Nazi injustice, to retire on full pensions. Up to June 30, 1962, 120 persons thus implicated had availed themselves of this opportunity, while about 12 refused to do so. As German constitutional law prohibited the pensioning off of judges against their will, the government and parliament were seeking other ways of removing these persons from public life.

**The Fraenkel Case**

In July 1962 a scandal arose in regard to Wolfgang Immerwahr Fraenkel, a jurist who had been employed by the Reichsgericht before 1945 and who since 1951 had held the post of prosecutor in the Federal supreme court. During his career under the Nazis he had been a "scientific assistant" with the supreme prosecutor's office at the Leipzig's high court. Documents pre-
sented by East Berlin jurists in June 1962 showed that he had in some cases recommended extraordinarily severe sentences, including death penalties, even where Nazi special courts had refrained from doing so. Fraenkel offered to resign when the documents, whose genuineness was unchallenged, were published. Minister of Justice Wolfgang Stammberger did not accept Fraenkel's resignation but granted him a leave, during which his activity from 1938 to 1943 was investigated by three prominent parliamentarians. It was unanimously agreed that Fraenkel should not return to his position, and he was retired with full pension. Further steps were under consideration, as Fraenkel was accused of having concealed his incriminating activities in the Nazi period.

Public discussion centered not so much on the individual cases in which Fraenkel had played an active role while at the Reich supreme court, but on how a man with such a background could climb so high in one of the most important democratic institutions of the Federal Republic, the supreme court, and how it could be that none of the many who had known him before 1945 considered it necessary to reveal his past to his superiors.

**NEO-NAZISM IN POLITICS**

Organized Nazism and neo-Nazism were politically negligible, despite remnants to be found in some associations, youth groups, and periodicals. After the poor showing made by the extreme right in the elections of September 1961 (AJYB, 1962 [Vol. 63], p. 341), some members of the neo-Nazi Deutsche Reichspartei (DRP) seceded to form the Deutsche Freiheitspartei (DFP). Neither group appeared to be making any headway. Nor did the prospects seem bright for the new Deutschnationale Volkspartei, which attempted to revive the tradition of Alfred Hugenberg's party of that name, the most reactionary party in the days of the Weimar Republic. A Reichsverband der Soldaten was trying to enlist former German soldiers, including former volunteers from other countries, and sought to counteract the alleged defamation of German soldiers in literature, press, radio, and television.

In March 1962 the Federal supreme court at Karlsruhe sentenced two members of a group calling itself "Freikorps Deutschland," which had never had more than a handful of members. This Nazi underground movement was charged with having planned terrorist acts to further National Socialist aims. Outstanding prosecutors of former Nazi criminals were to have been its first victims.

In May 1962 the Federal ministry of the interior published a survey of the radical right.\(^2\) It concluded that the radical right was disorganized and weak, ideologically confused, and without political appeal. The 86 political groups in this category at the end of 1961 (their number had been 85 two years earlier) had lost members but had become more extreme. The total membership of the adult groups was estimated at 12,300 (17,200 in 1959) and of the youth groups 2,100.

\(^2\) *Rechtsradikalismus in der Bundesrepublik.*
In 1961 the authorities found 389 incidents attributable to neo-Nazism or antisemitism as against 1,206 in 1960. Six international Fascist groups extended branches from Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom to the Federal Republic of Germany, but the six branch groups together had only 345 members.

The courts handled 79 cases of neo-Nazi acts, compared with more than 200 in 1960. Of the culprits, 44.8 per cent were over 35 years of age. A number of organizations were dissolved by administrative measures as unconstitutional. In a few cases, Nazi and Fascist leaflets could be traced back to the Soviet zone of Germany, which was also the source of propaganda to the effect that there was an alarming increase of neo-Nazism in West Germany.

NAZI LITERATURE

While Nazi organizations attracted few supporters, ultranationalist periodicals had a somewhat wider appeal. One reason was perhaps that relative conformity in the general German press made any deviation from the official line interesting even to those who did not sympathize ideologically. This was true of both periodicals tending to the extreme left and those close to the radical right. The total circulation of the 46 rightist periodicals was about 160,000 at the end of 1961. Two of these, Deutsche Soldatenzeitung and Reichsruf, appeared to be making gains in 1962. Political frustration in the German Federal Republic, lack of progress toward reunification, and the deterioration of the Berlin situation expressed itself in “strong-fisted” slogans popular in certain, yet rather limited, circles.

Nationalist doctrines were also to be found in some periodicals and books issued by other than neo-Nazi groups. Not infrequently such tendencies could be discovered in the refugee and expellee press, in periodicals critical of the Western alliance, and in cheap leaflets.

ANTISEMITISM

During the period under review there were no reports of incidents comparable to those which began with the desecration of the Cologne synagogue on Christmas Eve 1960. The Federal interior ministry’s survey on neo-Nazism, cited above, listed a total of ten desecrations of Christian and Jewish houses of worship in 1961, and 131 prosecutions for antisemitic utterances. While hardly all antisemitic remarks could have come to the attention of the police and courts, there was no evidence of widespread or violent antisemitism. Nevertheless it was considered possible that a new economic or political crisis might increase antisemitic emotions probably still latent in at least the older generation.

The case against the high-school teacher and DRP district chairman Lothar Stielau of Lübeck was closed almost three years after the publication of his slanders on Anne Frank’s memory. In a compromise settlement, the S.
Fischer Press and Anne Frank's father accepted the apologies of the slanderers, who went unsentenced. Later the teacher was pensioned by the state ministry of education. When antisemitic remarks were reported, the Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland (Central Council of Jews in Germany) took action. In many cases, state prosecuting attorneys took action on their own initiative.

**REACTIONS TO THE EICHMANN TRIAL**

It is not to be assumed that the German public has undergone any change of attitude toward the trial against Eichmann while it was still in process, after the verdict was pronounced or after the war criminal was executed. In general, the trial, its conduct, and the judgment were approved. Antisemitic outbursts were not noted and individual expressions were so isolated that it is well justified to claim that the trial and its end did not arouse widespread indignation or excitement. Hans Lamm edited a volume of pronouncements by leading public figures, politicians, church men, youth leaders, and newspapers showing how seriously and positively the leading German molders of public opinion reacted to the Eichmann case. The book was published by the Ner Tamid Verlag in Frankfurt and Jerusalem.

**WAR CRIMES AND NAZI TRIALS**

The West German courts conducted a number of major trials against former Nazis involved in the horrors of the concentration camps, some of whom were responsible for the deaths of hundreds of Jews, Poles, and others.

A volume containing lengthy excerpts from the charges, testimony, and judgments of some major trials was prepared by H. G. van Dam, general secretary of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, and Ralph Giordano. It was published by the Europäische Verlagsanstalt at Frankfurt.

**INDEMNIFICATION**

It seemed likely that many cases of indemnification for Nazi persecution would remain still unsettled at the end of 1962. In general, the delays were caused not so much by a lack of good will but by the complex nature of the laws which, 17 years after the end of hostilities, made it almost impossible to settle matters as speedily as all parties concerned would desire.

Yet what had been accomplished was impressive and encouraging. In 1961 alone indemnification payments amounted to DM 2.24 billion. Up to the end of 1961 a total of DM 11.56 billion had been paid. By June 30, 1962, the sum certainly exceeded DM 12 billion.

The number of claimants exceeded 1,700,000 (not all, but a majority of whom were Jews). Of the claimants (Jewish and non-Jewish) 27 per cent resided in West Germany and West Berlin, while 73 per cent lived abroad.
By the end of 1961, 68 per cent of all claims had been finally settled; by the middle of 1962 the figure had probably reached 70 to 75 per cent. About 75 per cent of all indemnification payments had gone abroad.

The general secretary of the Zentralrat estimated that at the end of 1962 about DM 14 billion would have been paid and about DM 3 billion would still be due under the Indemnification Law in its current form.

RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

Commercial and other relations, except diplomatic, continued to exist between Israel and the Bonn government. The Israel Mission, which handled commercial relations under the Hague and Luxembourg agreements of 1952 (AJYB, 1953 [Vol. 54], p. 437, 477-82; 1954 [Vol. 55], pp. 354-55), was decreasing its staff. Statements by Foreign Minister Gerhard Schröder offered no more encouragement for diplomatic relations than those of his predecessor Heinrich von Brentano.

Various Arab governments protested from time to time against deliveries to Israel under the reparations agreements.

The unofficial activities of Germans, both organizational and individual, in behalf of Israel continued and expanded. Increasingly, groups of German officials, teachers, social workers, and youth went to Israel, and Israelis also came to Germany.

Israel was represented at various trade and other fairs. President Heinrich Lübke visited the Israeli exhibit at an international agricultural fair in Berlin. Israel also participated in the Düsseldorf textile fair (Igedo) and the international craft fair at Munich in July 1962.

An Israeli philatelic exposition was opened at the Jewish Community Center of Berlin and was seen there by 16,000 Berliners. Addresses were delivered by Federal Minister Ernst Lemmer, Heinz Galinski, president of the Zentralrat, and Karl Marx, publisher of the Allegemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland. The exposition subsequently toured Düsseldorf and other German cities, everywhere arousing much sympathetic interest.

A forest of 1,000 trees was planted in Israel in honor of the 60th birthday of Dr. Gertrude Luckner, a leading Catholic at Freiburg who had courageously aided Jews during the Nazi period. When the famous Berlin Lutheran minister Heinrich Grüber reached his 70th birthday, means were collected among his Christian and Jewish friends to plant up to 50,000 trees in the Holy Land. Erich Lueth of Hamburg, who had initiated the "Peace with Israel" and "Olive Trees for Israel" campaigns, was honored with a similar tribute when he reached the age of 60, and the Protestant clergyman Hermann Mass of Heidelberg, an old friend and champion of the cause of Israel, was hailed by the Federal president as well as by ordinary citizens of all faiths when he reached the age of 85. The Frankfurt city government established a Commission for the History of Frankfurt's Jews. Its Jewish members were Rabbi Kurt Wilhelm of Stockholm, Rabbi Georg Salzberger of London, and the historian Eugen Mayer of Jerusalem.
INTERGROUP RELATIONS

The German Coordinating Council of Societies for Christian-Jewish Cooperation had local branches in about 35 cities. The council—comparable to and patterned after the (American) National Conference of Christians and Jews—sponsored Brotherhood Week in March 1962 in 250 cities. It utilized radio and television networks, as well as 1,400 different events, mainly lectures and meetings of young people of all faiths, to further its program.

In addition to these semi-official activities, there were many local events. They included ceremonies to memorialize the destroyed Jewish communities and their members, as well as programs to foster better relationships between Christians and Jews.

Youth groups from many cities, among them Frankfurt and Hamburg, made pilgrimages to the concentration-camp site of Bergen Belsen.

Memorials for Jewish communities were unveiled in Essen in the Rhineland, at Cannstatt and Buttenhausen in Württemberg, Rheine and Lübbeke in Westphalia, Langendiebach near Hanau in Hesse, and West Berlin.

A service was held in the 200-year-old synagogue in the Franconian city of Ansbach in February 1962, though no Jews any longer resided there. The services were conducted by United States Chaplain Richard E. Dryer, and were attended by prominent Jews and Gentiles from throughout Bavaria. It was planned to hold such religious services annually in the baroque building.

The city of Mainz, celebrating its 2000th birthday, underwrote the laying of a cornerstone for a new synagogue on June 18, 1962.

Leo Prijs of Munich was appointed to a lectureship on Jewish subjects at Munich University in the summer of 1962. The Institutum Judaicum Delitzschianum, conducted by Professor Karl Heinrich Rengstorff at Münster University, celebrated its 75th anniversary in the spring of 1962.

The Heinrich Stahl Prize of the Jewish community of Berlin was awarded to the Stuttgart author Albrecht Goes, who had written and spoken much in behalf of Jews. The city of Berlin for the seventh time honored "unsung heroes," Gentiles who bravely and courageously had aided Jews during the Third Reich.

Late in 1961 the Evangelical Academy at Tutzing, together with the editors of the Cologne periodical Twen, sponsored a conference on antisemitism among young people.

The drama Andorra by the Swiss author Max Frisch was performed in various cities, including Düsseldorf, Berlin, Munich, and Recklinghausen and impressed large audiences everywhere.

A volume of letters by German Jews killed during the First World War, first published by a Jewish publishing house in 1935, was reissued by the Seewald Verlag of Stuttgart with a long foreword by Federal Defense Minister Franz Josef Strauss.
JEWISH COMMUNITY

The number of Jews affiliated with the religious communities remained stable. In July 1961 there were 21,685 registered members of Jewish congregations and 22,078 on January 1, 1962. As the mortality of Jews in Germany was considerably higher than their birthrate, it appeared that the immigration of Jews to Germany, in most cases the return movement of former residents, was continuing, but at a reduced rate from the period of 1955 to 1959, when the registered Jewish populations rose from 15,684 to 21,563.

Of the 22,078 registered Jews in West Germany, 11,900 were men and 10,178 women. Slightly more than 25 per cent, or 5,824 lived in West Berlin, the rest in the Federal Republic. Statistics for East Berlin and the Soviet zone were not available, but the number of Jews in East Germany was thought to be about a thousand.

The average age of the Jews in West Germany was 45.6 years, and in West Berlin 47.8.

The number of Jews not belonging to any Jewish religious congregation was estimated at 8,000, so that the total would be approximately 30,000.

Religious and Communal Affairs

While Jewish communities (jüdische or israelitische Kultusgemeinden or Synagogengemeinden) functioned in about 70 cities, Jews were distributed throughout 600 locations, an amazingly wide distribution considering the relatively low total number. Few if any changes took place in regard to the rabbis and teachers employed by the communities or their state organizations; rabbis officiated in Berlin, Dortmund, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Cologne, Mannheim, Munich, and Stuttgart.

There were still 52 teachers who provided religious instructions in about 50 communities. Both teachers and rabbis functioned outside of as well as within their own communities. The number of pupils between 6 and 14 years of age increased from 1,590 in 1960 to 1,820 in 1961. Textbooks in German and Hebrew were provided by the Zentralrat.

After many years of service, Rabbi Zvi Azarja left the Cologne community in the summer of 1961 to be replaced by Dr. Schereschewski of Münster who, while remaining at the University of Münster, performed rabbinical functions at Cologne. Vacant rabbinical seats in Berlin and Munich were filled during the year by Cuno Ehrmann and E. Blumenthal, respectively.

Rabbi George Vida, who had served as a United States Jewish chaplain for three years and also served the Jewish communities of Heidelberg and Mannheim, returned to the United States during the summer of 1961; he was followed by Peter Levinson.

A new synagogue seating 120–200 persons was dedicated in the city of Bremen on August 30, 1961. Addresses were delivered by Bremen Mayor Wilhelm Kaisen, and Carl Katz and Max Plaut of the local Jewish community.
The historic synagogue at Worms (AJYB, 1962 [Vol. 63], p. 354) was rededicated on December 8, 1961. Addresses were delivered by Federal Vice Chancellor Ludwig Erhard; Israeli Ambassador Eliezer P. Shinnar, and Zentralrat General Secretary H. G. van Dam. The religious functions were performed by Professor Ernst Roth, chief rabbi (Landesrabbiner) of the Rhineland.

The Zentralrat held its annual conference at Düsseldorf in May 1962. A major item on its agenda was the redrafting of its constitution, which was scheduled to be completed in the fall of 1962. Federal Minister of the Interior Hermann Höcherl sent a cordial message to Zentralrat President Heinz Galinski praising the council's eleven years of constructive activities in behalf of the Jews in Germany and the democratic reconstruction of the country.

In a ceremony attended by Berlin Lord Mayor Willy Brandt, among others, the Judenbürgerbuch, 1809–1851 was delivered to the Jewish community of Berlin. Its editor was Jacob Jacobson, of Worcester, England, formerly of Berlin.

Among the prominent Jewish visitors who lectured in Germany during the period under review were WZO President Nahum Goldmann, AJCongress President Joachim Prinz, and Professor Fritz Pinkuss of the University of São Paulo.

**Zionism**

The emotional and organizational ties of the Jewish community in Germany to Israel continued strong in the Zionist groups, which included WIZO and youth groups in many communities. WIZO groups sponsored the German premiere of the film “Exodus” as well as bazaars and other functions. The Zionist youth organization, with about 400 members, conducted educational summer and winter camps.

**Social Services**

Jewish social work continued under the aegis of the Central Welfare Office of Jews in Germany (Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle der Juden in Deutschland—ZWST). During the year ZWST shifted its emphasis from the distribution of charitable funds to advising individuals and training social workers. Max Willner, long active in Jewish communal affairs, was elected director of ZWST, succeeding Berthold Simonssohn who resigned to teach at Frankfurt University. At a meeting in February 1962 in Munich, ZWST members mapped plans to extend training courses for kindergarten personnel, youth leaders, welfare workers, and directors of homes for the aged. Activities for Jewish youth were stressed.

The number of direct relief cases decreased from a monthly average of 509 in 1960 to 425 in 1961. During the summer of 1961, 983 persons were sent to ZWST homes or camps, as compared with 946 in 1960.

When the city of Hamburg was devastated by a flood in February 1962,
ZWST offered its vacation home at Wembach in the Black Forest as a shelter for children from flood-damaged homes. Fifty-one girls and 31 boys between 4 and 15 years of age, with six helpers, arrived on March 8. On April 4 they returned to Hamburg, full of praise for the good care they had received.

Fred Ziegellaub, JDC director in Germany for seven years, left in June 1962.

**Cultural Activities**

The cultural department of the Zentralrat continued to stimulate cultural activities by furnishing lecturers, etc., but the actual extent of the activities varied with the individual communities. Berlin was especially active. A plan to establish a Jewish adult-education school, modeled on the Jüdische Lehrhaus that existed in Frankfurt, Berlin, and other cities in the '20s and '30s, was announced by Heinz Galinski, Berlin Jewish community president, in November 1961, and carried out in the spring of 1962. The school provided regular classes and courses in Jewish subjects as well as lectures by prominent guests.

In the fall of 1961 the Berlin Jewish community sponsored an exposition of children's drawings created in the Nazi concentration camp of Theresienstadt, and the Berlin Academy of Fine Arts had one on the life and work of Alfred Kerr, a once-famous Berlin theater critic. Israeli composer Paul Ben Haim made a deep impression at the Berlin Art Festivals, when he performed there in the summer of 1962. Among the guest lecturers in Berlin during the period under review were Shalom Ben-Horin of Jerusalem, Ilse Blumenthal-Weiss of New York, and the Israeli author M. Y. Ben Gavriel; all three toured other cities as well.

The exposition "Synagoga," showing Jewish religious art objects from classic to modern times, which had opened in Recklinghausen in the fall of 1960, was reopened at Frankfurt in May 1961. It was seen by tens of thousands of adults as well as school classes in both cities.

Nelly Sachs, a German Jewish poetess residing in Stockholm, was the first recipient of a DM 10,000 ($2,500) annual prize established by the city of Dortmund. At the same time her drama Eli was performed there in the spring of 1962 in the presence of Federal President Lußke.

The Zentralrat awarded its annual Leo Baeck prizes to Professor Walter Kaufmann of Princeton University, philosopher; Karl Otten of Locarno, literary historian; Heinrich Strauss of Jerusalem, art historian, and Josef Wulf of Berlin, historian of the Nazi period.

The Munich weekly Münchener Jüdische Nachrichten celebrated its tenth anniversary on November 17, 1961.

The Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland of Düsseldorf published an impressive volume covering its 15 years of activity. Its publisher, Karl Marx, was honored on his 65th birthday with the publication of Brücken schlagen, a volume of his addresses and papers edited by Hans Lamm and Hermann Lewy, editor of the weekly.

Two publishing houses continued to concentrate on books of Jewish con-
tent or by Jewish authors: the Joseph Melzer Verlag of Cologne and the Ner Tamid Verlag of Frankfurt.

Professor Ernst Roth, Georg Illert, and Hans Lamm jointly edited a collection of scholarly studies on the history of the Worms Jewish community.

The Collegium Judaicum Mosaicum, a choral ensemble founded and conducted by Haim Storosum of Amsterdam, performed with much success at Aachen, Bonn, Düsseldorf, Heidelberg, and Ludwigshafen.

The cultural department of the Zentralrat sponsored training and improvement courses for Jewish teachers.

**Personalia**

Jeanette Wolff of Berlin and Jakob Altmeier of Hanau, for many years Social Democratic party representatives in the Federal parliament, received the Federal Great Badge of Merit from President Lübke, as did Max Dessauer of Frankfurt, founder of the Solidarite home for the aged in Paris. On January 19, 1962, the German Jewish author, Max Tau, a resident of Sweden, received the Peace Prize of the German book trade. Professor James Franck, 1925 Nobel Prize winner for physics, was awarded the first Daniel Heinemann Prize by the Academy of Sciences of Göttingen University. Another Nobel Prize winner, Otto Warburg, was awarded the Paul Ehrlich Prize on March 14, 1962, for achievements in biochemical and medical research.

Adolf Schoyer, leading industrialist and Orthodox Jewish community leader, died in Berlin on June 15, 1961, at the age of 89. Rudolf Katz, vice president of the Federal supreme court, died in July 1961 in Karlsruhe, at the age of 66. During his emigration he had taught at Columbia University. Julius Ellenbogen, president of the Freiburg, Baden, Jewish community and a former presiding judge, died on August 30, 1961, at the age of 83. Ernst Eichhorn, administrative director of the Berlin Jewish community, died on October 3, 1961, aged 70. Bruno Weil, former executive of the Central Association of German Citizens of Jewish Faith and founder of the Nazi Victims League, died in New York City on November 11, 1961, at the age of 78 (p. 497). The president of the Bonn Jewish community, Siegfried Leopold, died on December 5, 1961, aged 82. The Berlin senator of the interior, Joachim Lipschütz, a half-Jew and a special friend of the Berlin Jewish community, died at the age of 43 on December 10, 1961. Paul Hertz, Berlin senator for finance and reconstruction, a Jew who gave up his American citizenship and returned to Berlin at the request of Mayor Ernst Reuter, died in November 1961.

The city of Offenbach, birthplace of Siegfried Guggenheim, who died in the United States in the summer of 1961 at the age of 87, held a memorial meeting in his honor. Guggenheim, a leading bibliophile, had published the famous Offenbach *haggadah* in the 1920s.

**Hans Lamm**
Austria*

EARLY IN 1962 the People's party (conservative) and the Socialist party, which had jointly governed the country since the end of World War II, agreed to hold the next general election on November 18, 1962, rather than wait for the end of parliament's full term in 1963. The coalition was expected to continue after the elections and the results of state elections in Upper Austria and Tyrol in October 1961 were in line with these expectations.

Increased prices caused a wave of strikes in the summer of 1962. The metal workers, postal and telegraph personnel, physicians, and even police officers asked for higher pay. Their demands, except those of the physicians, were supported by the Socialist party but not by the People's party.

In February 1962 Leopold Figl, chancellor until 1959 and then speaker of the parliament (Nationalrat), was elected governor (Landeshauptmann) of Lower Austria; he was succeeded as speaker by Alfred Maleta, also a member of the People's party.

After the United Kingdom applied for membership in EEC, Austria, a participant like the United Kingdom in the European Free Trade Area (AJYB, 1961 [Vol. 62], p. 275), decided to follow suit. Because of her neutrality, required by the State Treaty of 1955 (AJYB, 1956 [Vol. 57], p. 401), she applied for associate rather than full membership, which would give her economic but not political ties with EEC. The USSR asserted that Austrian membership in EEC would create the danger of a "cold" Anschluss and hence violate the 1955 treaty, while the Common Market countries hesitated to add a partner who would not share their political aspirations and responsibilities. EEC was vital to Austria's economy, Common Market countries having accounted for over 50 per cent of her exports and nearly 60 per cent of her imports in 1961. In an effort to explain this and to overcome resistance to Austrian membership in EEC, Chancellor Alfons Gorbach and Foreign Minister Bruno Kreisky visited the United States, France, and the Soviet Union between May and July 1962.

Austro-Italian tension over the Alto Adige (South Tyrol) problem (AJYB, 1962 [Vol. 63], p. 358) decreased. Vienna took energetic measures against anti-Italian terrorist acts directed from Austrian territory, and in September 1961 Rome appointed a commission to study the situation in the province. In 1962 the commission, which included representatives of the German-speaking population of Alto Adige, reached agreement on most of the controversial questions. In November 1961 the Special Political Commission of the United Nations General Assembly unanimously urged Austria

* For meaning of abbreviations, see p. 483.
and Italy to continue their negotiations for a settlement of the Alto Adige controversy. The foreign ministers of the two countries met in Venice on July 31, 1962, and planned further talks for the fall of 1962.

Former Archduke Otto von Hapsburg lost his appeal to the constitutional court against the government's veto of his return to Austria (AJYB, 1962 [Vol. 63], p. 358).

On October 10, 1961, representatives of Austria and Israel signed an extradition treaty (Die Gemeinde [Vienna], October 27, 1961).

Of 1,600,000 refugees who had entered Austria since the end of World War II, 286,705—mostly Volksdeutsche (ethnic Germans) from Czechoslovakia, Rumania, and Yugoslavia—were naturalized and about 37,000 others, including 7,873 post-1956 Hungarian newcomers, remained in the country; all others had either emigrated or been repatriated.

ANTISEMITISM AND NEO-NAZI ACTIVITIES

The conflict with Italy about the status of the German-speaking population in Alto Adige gave various right-wing factions a welcome rallying issue. First in Italy and then in Austria, too, they staged terrorist acts.

In August 1961 bombs were exploded near the United States embassy in Vienna and the Nationalrat building. In October the monument of the Tyrolean hero Andreas Hofer, in Berg Isel near Innsbruck, was severely damaged. In November shots were fired at the Nationalrat building from an automobile. Arrests and the subsequent trials showed that the perpetrators of these crimes were mostly students and youth affiliated with nationalist and fascist groups. Also in November, persons belonging to the same circles knocked down some 40 tombstones in the Jewish cemetery of Innsbruck and daubed them with *Odalsrunen*, an emblem of the Austrian neo-Nazis. Jewish cemeteries were also desecrated in Klagenfurt and in Horn.

Alarmed by these acts, Chancellor Alfons Gorbach, himself a former victim of the Nazis, addressed the nation in December 1961 and announced stern measures against the neo-Nazis. Minister of the Interior Josef Afritsch promised a delegation of the Viennese Gemeinde his cooperation in suppressing the desecration of the cemeteries. He dissolved the “Olympia” antisemitic student organization (*Burschenschaft*) of Vienna, which was involved in neo-Nazi activity. The police apprehended students who had bombed the United States embassy, fired shots at the parliament, and desecrated the cemetery in Innsbruck. They were sentenced to prison terms ranging from four months to four years. Several former high Nazi officials were arrested: Richard Hochrainer, Johann and Wilhelm Mauer, and Jan Verbelen. Verbelen, who had been deputy to Léon Degrelle, Belgian Nazi leader, was deprived of the Austrian nationality which he had obtained in 1959 under the alias of Isaak Meisels. Hermann Höfle, arrested in Salzburg in January 1961 on charges of having participated in the murder of Jews in the Warsaw ghetto and in the transportation of thousands of Viennese Jews
to extermination camps, committed suicide in his cell in Vienna while awaiting trial.

**JEWISH POPULATION**

The number of Jews living permanently in Austria and belonging to the Jewish communities was 10,081 in June 1961 and 10,164 a year later. Another one to two thousand Jews were not affiliated with the Jewish communities, and a considerable number of Jewish migrants were in Austria on their way to new homes. Table 1 refers to the Jewish population in Austria registered with the Kultusgemeinden or with JDC.

**TABLE 1. REGISTERED JEWISH POPULATION IN AUSTRIA 1961-62**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gemeinden</th>
<th>1961a</th>
<th>1962a</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vienna</td>
<td>9,256</td>
<td>9,364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graz, Innsbruck, Linz, Salzburg</td>
<td>627</td>
<td>696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Old refugees”</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-1956 refugees from Hungary</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>10,081</td>
<td>10,164</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* June 30.

Statistical reports of the Vienna Kultusgemeinde showed that 39.3 per cent of its members were 60 or older in 1961, as compared to 38.4 per cent in 1959. Non-Austrians comprised 15.5 per cent of its membership in 1959 and 17.1 per cent in 1961.

**TABLE 2. AGE, SEX, AND NATIONALITY OF VIENNESE KULTUSGEMEINDE MEMBERSHIP, DECEMBER 31, 1961**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Per Cent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-5</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-14</td>
<td>733</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-18</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19-40</td>
<td>1,365</td>
<td>14.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41-60</td>
<td>3,110</td>
<td>33.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 and over</td>
<td>3,666</td>
<td>39.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>9,318</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sex**

- Male       | 4,798  | 51.5  |
- Female     | 4,520  | 48.5  |

**Nationality**

- Austrian nationals   | 7,722  | 82.9  |
- Foreigners           | 1,596  | 17.1  |

Repatriations and influx from Eastern Europe offset the high death rate and low birth rate as may be seen from Table 3:
TABLE 3. CHANGES IN VIENNESE KULTUSGEMEINDE MEMBERSHIP
1961–62

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1961</th>
<th>1962*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Immigration</td>
<td>616</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-registration</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Increase</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emigration</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resignations</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Decrease</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Increase</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* First six months.

Jewish Community Activity

The Jewish communities benefited from funds granted by the Austrian government (AJYB, 1962 [Vol. 63], p. 361) and from the financial support of CJMCAG and JDC.

A Jewish documentation center, established in Vienna by the Federation of Austrian Jewish Gemeinden, was working in cooperation with the Yad Wa-shem in Israel.

The Viennese Kultusgemeinde had a welfare caseload of some 600 persons a month. It maintained two homes for repatriates, which were caring for 339 persons at the beginning of 1962, a home for the aged with 122 residents, and Jewish cemeteries. It conducted vacation camps for children and old people, which enrolled 248 and 152 respectively in 1962, and maintained a hospital that cared for 899 patients in 1961. In addition, its outpatient department treated about 5,000 persons during the year. While most of the patients in the internal-medicine ward were Jews, the surgical ward was used mostly by non-Jews.

The Viennese Kultusgemeinde also supervised supplementary religious classes, attended by 409 pupils in 1961. There were two day schools in Vienna with kindergarten classes, the Jüdisches Schulwerk and the Agudah Talmud Torah, employing 15 teachers and having a combined enrolment of 177 pupils. Both offered the same curriculum as public schools, as well as Jewish subjects. A third educational institution in Vienna, Sinai School Mizrachi, with a staff of 2 teachers, gave supplementary Jewish education to 48 children. All these institutions received JDC financial support. At the end of 1961 the only remaining ORT school, in Vienna, had 133 trainees.

A kosher kitchen in the Austrian capital, assisted by JDC, served more than 200 persons a month in 1961, including Jewish students and transmigrants.

The four provincial Gemeinden had a welfare program for some 75 persons in 1961. The one in Graz (including Styria, Corinthia, and a part of Burgenland), with over 200 members, maintaining eight cemeteries, em-
ployed a religious teacher for nine children, and a cantor. It opened a house of prayer in Klagenfurt in 1961. The Innsbruck Gemeinde, with about 95 members, dedicated a new synagogue in 1961 and restored a cemetery at Seefeld, a former concentration camp. The Linz Gemeinde had 145 members, four cemeteries, and religious classes attended by eight children. Only seven of the Gemeinde members in Salzburg had lived in the city before 1938, the other 171 being former displaced persons or refugees. The Salzburg Gemeinde had a mikvah, a synagogue, and a Talmud Torah; 12 children attended religious classes.

The Jewish Credit Cooperative in Vienna granted 96 loans totaling $82,746 in 1961 and 62 loans totaling $60,038 in the first six months of 1962. From its inception in 1949 through June 30, 1962, the cooperative made 1,366 loans totaling $920,710.

JDC carried on direct welfare programs in behalf of refugees. In Vienna 1,263 persons benefited from this program in 1961, including transmigrants and “old” refugees. Another JDC welfare program was conducted in Camp Asten for a small group of Jewish camp residents.

**Indemnification**

In June 1961 Austria and the German Federal Republic reached agreement on Bonn’s contribution towards the cost of the Austrian indemnification legislation, promulgated in March 1961 (AJYB, 1962 [Vol. 63], pp. 362–63). The agreement was ratified by the Vienna and Bonn parliaments in April and June 1962 respectively, and the ratification documents were exchanged by the two countries in September 1962. Germany undertook to pay DM 321 million: DM 125 million for ethnic Germans, DM 95 million for victims of the Nazis, DM 95 million for losses caused by the transfer of the assets of the Austrian State Unemployment Insurance Fund to Germany in 1938, and DM 6 million to the registration centers for heirless property.

With this, the twelfth amendment to the Victims’ Relief Law (Opferfürsorgegesetz) came into force. By act of the Vienna parliament, this amendment had already gone into effect in March 1962 for needy victims of the Nazis and those over 65 years of age.

In June 1962 the Austrian legislature amended the Assistance Fund Law (Hilfsfonds-Gesetz) (AJYB, 1957 [Vol. 58], pp. 302–03). The Assistance Fund received an additional AS 600 million to pay compensation for loss of occupation and interruption of education (Berufs- und Ausbildungsschäden) to Austrian victims of Nazism, living outside Austria, irrespective of their former or present nationality. The implementation of this regulation was contingent upon ratification of the June 1961 agreement referred to above. Thus it also became effective in September 1962.

Finally, a law enacted in April 1962 gave 80 per cent of the funds collected by the registration centers for heirless property (Sammelstellen) to

---

1 DM 4 = $1.00.

2 AS 26 = $1.00.
Center A, concerned with heirless property of Nazi victims who were members of the Kultusgemeinden, and 20 per cent to Center B, concerned with other victims of the Nazis.

_Die Gemeinde_, organ of the Viennese Kultusgemeinde, declared on May 29, 1962:

The law regarding the distribution of funds collected by the registration centers and the 12th amendment to the Victims' Relief Law substantially meet the claims of political persecutees and of the Austrian Jews. It is self-evident that the Austrian indemnification cannot be compared with the compensation paid to the victims of the Nazis by the German Federal Republic. . . . We want to try, therefore, to improve the Austrian legislation.

**Personalia**

Max Neugebauer, member of the Nationalrat, was presented with the 1961 Crystal Night Commemorative Medal, established in 1958 by the Federation of the Austrian Gemeinden to be awarded annually to non-Jews for outstanding work in the fight against antisemitism and neo-Nazism (AJYB, 1962 [Vol. 63], p. 363).

Georg Künstlinger, chief editor of the Austrian Jewish monthly _Neue Welt_, was awarded the Cross of Merit, First Class, of the German Federal Republic by President Heinrich Lübke.

BORIS SAPIR