

Radio

IN connection with the taking over by the Government of the African Broadcasting Station, I trust that some arrangement will be made whereby there will occasionally be Jewish items in the way of music and cultural addresses.

For a certain period, some time ago, fortnightly lectures of Jewish interest were heard over the Johannesburg wireless. These facilities, however, were stopped and there has been no definite Jewish feature for some time. It would be interesting, for instance, to hear over the wireless a concert of Jewish folk-songs or a lecture by some prominent Jewish personality. Such facilities would be greatly appreciated by Jewish listeners living in desolate places all over the land.

I notice that the "Morning Journal" of New York has recently arranged a daily radio programme of Jewish news-items and comments — but then there are a million Jewish wireless-owners in America.

I wonder if any of my readers have yet managed to pick up Palestine on their sets. I have not heard of anyone doing so yet. It is to be hoped, however, that shortly Palestine items will be heard on the South African radio. This, indeed, would be bringing the two countries closer together. It would be rather interesting if the sonorous voice of a Ussishkin could be brought through the air from Eretz Israel into thousands of Jewish homes in South Africa.

Kadoorie

THE world at large continues to take an interest in the movements of Haile Selassie, the unfortunate Emperor of Abyssinia. In London he received a cordial reception from many sections of the populace when he drove to the residence at Prince's Gate, which was placed at his disposal by Sir Elly Kadoorie.

Sir Elly, who was made a K.B.E. in 1926, is a well-known Sephardic Jew and philanthropist. He is a member of a distinguished Oriental Jewish family, which has rendered outstanding services in the cause of charity and education in China, Iraq, Palestine, Persia, Syria and other parts of the world. He is also a Commander of the French Legion of Honour, and has been awarded the Grand Medaille d'Or of the French Academy, 1921, and Syrian Medaille de Mérite in 1933, and Chinese Order of the Brilliant Jade, first class. In Jewish affairs, Sir Elly participates in the activities of the Anglo-Jewish Association.

This is not the first time that Sir Elly has placed his residence in London at the disposal of foreign royalty. It will be remembered that before his accession to the Iraqi throne, King Ghazi as a young man made Sir Elly's home his English residence.

Photography

AN experiment, unique in the history of photography, was made recently by Mr. Helmar Lerski, a Palestine photographer. In the "Divan" Gallery of Jerusalem, he recently exhibited a hundred and seventy-five photographs of one human face. The model who sat for these photographs is described as an ordinary man in

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By
"Hamabit"

the street, the average "little man" who does not possess any distinguished features. The model did not "pose" before the camera and no make-up was used. Yet each photograph differed from the other and the exhibition displays an amazing variety of human expression which have baffled artists and critics.

Lerski explains his achievement in the following words: "There is everything in every man. The only question is in what light the man is seen." Light has indeed been the main factor in Lerski's work.

The exhibition has again raised the old question as to whether photography was an art. Speaking of the photographs, Dr. Karl Schwartz, director of the Art Museum in Tel-Aviv, asks: "Is it art or not? Is it truth or a trick? Is it merely a play of light or a penetration into the human soul?"

Lerski hopes to publish reproductions of all the photographs in album form. I shall be looking forward to the publication of the photographs which seem almost unbelievable.

Genealogy

THE most valuable article in present-day Germany is an "Aryan" grandmother. Lawyers, doctors, civil servants and journalists are obliged to prove their "Aryan" ancestry or lose their jobs. Archivists and historians have made a pretty penny by helping people to "shake off" an alleged trace of Jewish blood.

I hear that many German Jews, particularly those who have recently returned to their people, have become infected with the new cult of ancestor-hunting. They are anxious to learn about their forefathers, and to know about the people from whom they have sprung.

For several years past there has been in existence in Berlin a society called "Association for Jewish Family Research." Before the advent of Hitler, this organisation was chiefly engaged in academic work. Lately, however, the society is being besieged by many individuals wishing to know about their ancestors. The organisation is managed by Dr. Arthur Czellitzer, author of a book, "My Family Tree: A Genealogical Introduction for German Jews." The work is being widely read to-day and there is a demand for further publications of this sort.

I have not heard of any research in this direction amongst Jews in English-speaking countries. Historians have on many occasions taken pains to trace the early origin of certain distinguished Jewish personalities, but no trouble has ever been taken to trace the ancestry of the masses of the people.

Lubin

AN interesting ceremony took place in Rome recently when a street was named after David Lubin, the founder of the International Agricultural Institute. At the ceremony, Lubin was described by the Governor of Rome as an "Apostle of human solidarity."

Lubin who died in 1919, had a most remarkable career. A son of a poor Jewish family in Galicia, he arrived in 1849 in America and worked his way up from a goldsmith's apprentice to one of the leading Californian fruit growers.

Early in his career he realised that agriculture would never be a success in modern times, unless there existed some form of co-operation between the agricultural peoples of the world. He evolved a scheme for the establishment of an International Agricultural Institute as a clearing house for data and information on the development of agriculture, distribution and marketing.

This scheme he submitted to the American Government, but the latter showed little interest in it. He then went to Italy, where Luigi Luzzatti, that famous Jewish statesman, presented him to the King. As a result, the Institute was founded in Rome in 1905 and forty governments co-operated in its work.

Throughout his life Lubin was devoted to his people. He visited Palestine before the modern Zionist movement was started and left the country with the conviction that Jews must settle on the land. He published a little book, now out of print, entitled, "Let There be Light." In this he elucidated the philosophy of his life which was based on the teachings of Maimonides.

Brevity

A JEWISH storekeeper from the country decided to graduate into a storekeeper in Johannesburg. He was advised that the fish business was good and he opened up an establishment and hung out the following sign: "Fresh Fish for Sale Here." A *landsman* passed by and began to criticise the wording of the sign.

"The word 'Here' is not necessary," he said. "Of course you sell your fish here; that's taken for granted. The words 'For Sale,' too, are superfluous, because everyone will understand that you are not keeping your fish to look at. Then you should also remove the word 'Fresh,' for people will not buy anything else but fresh fish."

The storekeeper agreed with these suggestions.

"And when I come to think of it," continued the *landsman*, "you don't even need the word 'Fish' on the window."

"How then will people know what I am trying to sell?" asked the storekeeper.

"Never mind, they will smell that."