

**Find out more 1: Campaigning for refugees' rights**

OR vs. FOR 15: nd. p: A no- 15: 15: WS	<p><b>WANTED, immediately, Cook General (live in):</b> good wages, liberal outings. Apply between 4 and 7 at 4, Linden Road, Didsbury.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Situations Wanted</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>CHAUFFEUR</b> Mechanic, age 37, married, life experience; highest refs; clean licence; at liberty now. Arnold, 30, Grosvenor Road, Whalley Range, M/c 16.</p> <hr/> <p><b>COOK</b> General, exper., good refs., desires Change. Write Craig, 6, Liverpool Road, Stoke.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Refugee Advertisements</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>GERMAN</b> Jewish Refugee Couple, husband and wife, require post as domestics still in Germany; any work; very urgent. Address L 90 "M/c Guardian."</p> <hr/> <p><b>MARRIED</b> Couple, still in Germany, 38 and 35, seek Post; go anywhere, husband housework and garden, wife experienced cook, clean and willing. Address D 50, "M/c Guardian" 2.</p> <hr/> <p><b>MARRIED</b> Couple, 36 and 34, still in Germany. want post in a household, any work. Address D 59, "M/c Guardian" 2.</p> <hr/> <p><b>MARRIED</b> Couple, reliable, refugees, still in Slovakia, aged 40 and 30, wife excellent cook, husband capable for all housework and gardening, go any part, prefer country; both abstainers and early risers. Write Box 336, Gordon House, 75-9, Farringdon Street, London, E.C. 4.</p> <hr/> <p><b>MOTHER'S</b> Help (34), excellent needlewoman, fully domesticated, intelligent, absolutely reliable, forced to leave Germany, being a Jewess, wants position where she can take little daughter of seven with her; best references. Particulars write Mrs. Levinger, 4, Holme Chase, London, N. 2.</p> <hr/> <p><b>REFUGEES</b>, Mother and Daughter, ages 48, 20, perfect cook, household, needlewoman, seek Post in country. Address M 47, "M/c Guardian" 2.</p> <hr/> <p><b>WELL-KNOWN</b> Pianist, experienced teacher of music and widely studied person, fond of children, forced to leave Germany, wants Home au pair, where she is able to use her artistic teaching abilities. Address D 58, "M/c Guardian" 2.</p> <hr/> <p><b>YOUNG</b> Viennese Lady, speaks English, good pianist, at present in Manchester, Seeks Position with light domestic duties; well recommended. Address T 117, "M/c Guardian" 2.</p>	40 or day in June. educat prefer admin Can prefer and 1 posses equiva Europ advan The £3 ser- full not offi Sub will perma Rec reach Minis not is Var rigger of pal the s one 2s. 6 Th must cheor taking Aero essent Me lectur metal tion. requi Ca lectur frame faces
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Column entitled 'Refugee Advertisements' from The Guardian newspaper 14 June 1939

Wedgwood described Jews living in Nazi-occupied territory with 'a noose around their neck'. Throughout the 1930s he argued that there was a moral duty to allow more refugees into the UK and the British Empire, including into Palestine. He fought personally to bring in and support many Jewish refugees.

He wrote to his daughter Camilla in Australia 1938/9:



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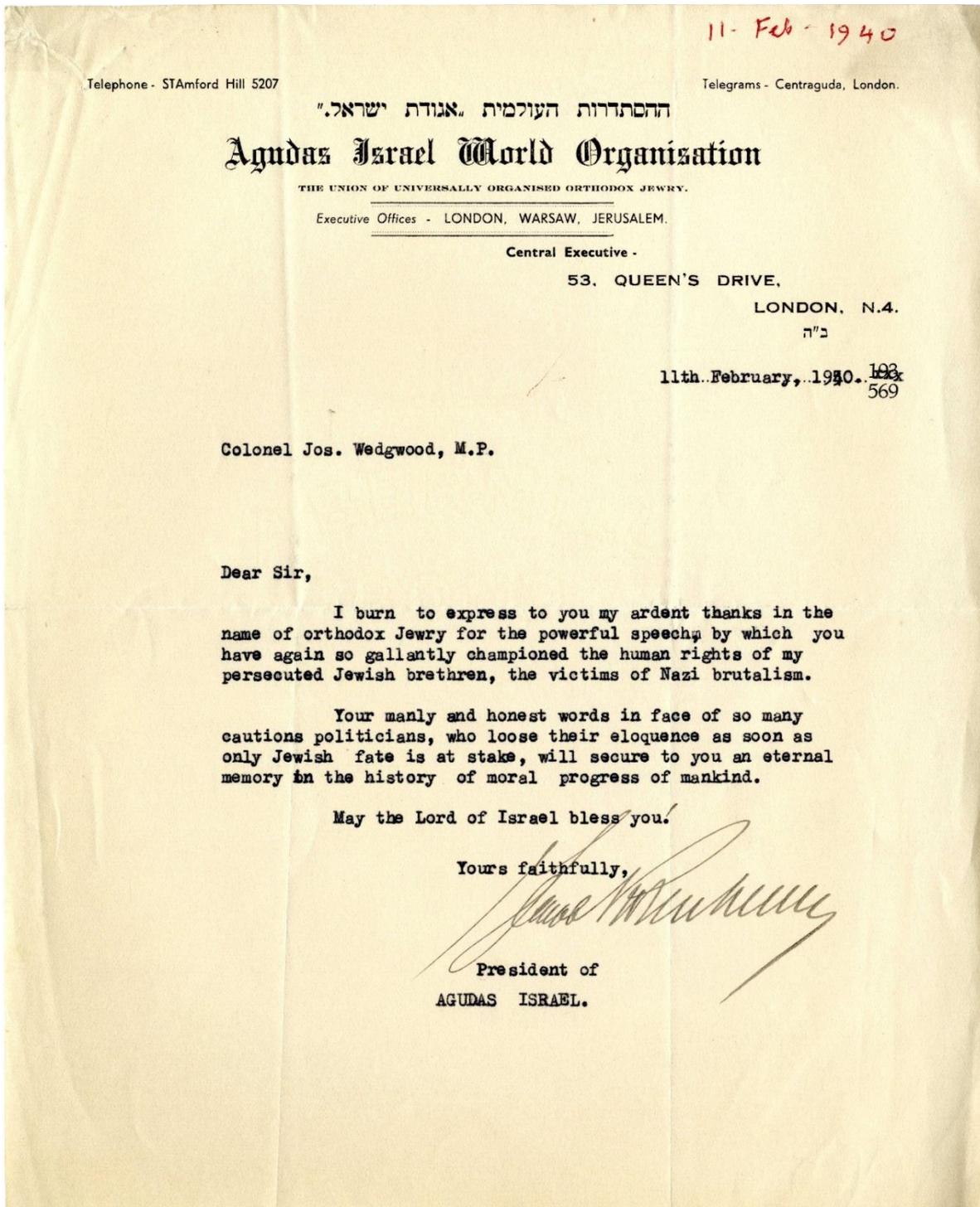
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Wedgwood Find Out More

I wrote 10 letters a day regularly on refugees- the most terrible cases- & nothing is done. Last weekend I did 50. One wouldn't mind if it did any good.

...I have a man & wife hiding in the forest outside Chemnitz (in Germany), coming in to beg food at nights, and sleeping in ditches...



Response from a Jewish organisation in 1940, thanking Wedgwood for his efforts on behalf of Jewish refugees

Speaking in House of Lords debate on refugees 10 Sept 1942, Wedgwood said:



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The Jews must obviously hate Hitler. If we fight for Democracy the Jews must be comrades. Hitler now has swept up the Jews of France, and many others in Europe to work for him. And all the time we will not allow them to come to this country. Only last month I begged the Home Office to give a visa to a Jewish boy of sixteen or seventeen to allow him to come from France to his parents in this country. But no, they would not do it. Rather, it would seem, the view is that we would prefer to have such people working as slaves for the Germans. This is madness. We should welcome every refugee, we should use every refugee. We want them for munitions, we want them for roads, we want them all.

### Questions to think about

What would you feel if you saw a column of 'Refugee Advertisements' in a newspaper?

Can you imagine finding such advertisements in a newspaper or other media today?

What arguments did Wedgwood give against restrictions on taking in Jewish refugees?

What arguments do you hear today about refugees?

What similarities and differences do you see?



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## Find out more 2: The Kindertransport



Jewish refugee children arriving in London, 1939 [Creative Commons]

In November 1938, five days after Kristallnacht, the "Night of Broken Glass" in Germany and Austria, a delegation of British, Jewish, and Quaker leaders appealed to the Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain to allow Jewish children into Britain from Nazi occupied Europe, without their parents. They promised to find homes for all the children. Every child would have a guarantee of £50 sterling. It was expected that the children would stay in the country only temporarily.<sup>[2]</sup>

The Government agreed to allow unaccompanied Jewish children from infants up to the age of 17.

Between December 1938 and September 1939, when the war started, the United Kingdom took in nearly 10,000 Jewish children from Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia and Poland. The children were placed in British foster homes, hostels, schools and farms. Often they were the only members of their families who survived the Holocaust.

### Questions to think about

Can you imagine saying goodbye to your parents and leaving a place of danger without them?

How might each member of the Standard family respond to news about children arriving on the Kindertransport?

Might Charlie, Sarah and Alfie feel differently from their parents?

### Find out more 3: The Holocaust and afterwards

Josiah Wedgwood had worked ceaselessly to try to help Jews and others to flee from Nazi oppression. What happened to those Jewish people who were unable to get out of Germany and the countries it occupied?



Child survivors at Auschwitz concentration camp [Creative Commons]

Six million Jews, and millions of others, including disabled people, Gypsies (Roma), gay people and political prisoners, were murdered by the Nazis in concentration camps and extermination camps mainly in Germany and Poland. This horrific mass-murder is known as the Holocaust.

As the war came to an end, Allied soldiers began to liberate concentration camps. Many could hardly believe the horror they found.

Many of the Germans who had run the concentration camps were brought to justice at the Nuremberg Trials.

## Creating the State of Israel

The Holocaust led many people to support the creation of Israel, a Jewish state. Josiah Wedgwood had supported the creation of a Jewish homeland, but he did not live long enough to see it formed in May 1948. Wedgwood's work to try to save Jews from Nazi persecution was honoured after his death. In the new state of Israel, streets and farms were named after Wedgwood.



This photograph shows a ship named the *Colonel J. Wedgwood*. Taken on 26 June 1946, it was carrying 1,259 passengers who had survived the Nazis, and were trying to get to Palestine.

The banner reads: We survived Hitler; Death is no stranger to us; Nothing will keep us from our Jewish Homeland; the blood is on your head if you fire on this unarmed ship

### Questions to think about

How might members of the Standard family respond as they watched newsreels at the end of the war showing the concentration camps?

How might each member of the Standard family feel about the creation of the State of Israel in 1948?

Why do you think Wedgwood was honoured in the new State of Israel?

## Find out more 4: Wedgwood and the History of Parliament

Josiah Wedgwood was a keen historian. He wanted to record the history of Parliament where he served for 37 years. He was the Member of Parliament (MP) for Newcastle-under-Lyme from 1906 until 1942, when he was elevated to the House of Lords.

In 1936, he sent his fellow MPs a questionnaire asking them 25 questions. The questions included their income before and after becoming an MP, their reasons for wanting to be an MP, their religious beliefs, and their 'ideal living British statesman, or dead statesman of any land.' Collectively, MPs' answers to his questionnaire give us an insight into the values of Members of Parliament at the time.

Former Prime Minister, David Lloyd George's responses to the questionnaire are copied below:



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BIOGRAPHIES OF LIVING MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

(Answers to Questions).

1. When did you first become interested in national politics? Why?  
1868. Remember Election.
2. What influence started you on this line of thought?  
Every Welshman a politician.
3. What books formed your political views?  
Carlyle, Victor Hugo, Ruskin, Fabian Essays, Kidd's Social Evolution, Macaulay.
4. What were your religious convictions?  
Nonconformist.
5. Which was then your favourite newspaper?  
Liverpool Mercury, Daily News, Weekly Welsh papers.
7. What or who first led you to think of it as a career?  
Michael Davitt, Michael Jones, Principal of the Bala Congregational College.
8. What was your trade, profession or occupation?  
Solicitor.
9. Annual income, earned and un-earned, when first you stood for Parliament?  
£500 - £1,000, but do not clearly recollect.
10. Had you experience of public work - if so, what?  
County Council.
11. How did you first get a seat?  
Living in Caernarvonshire, and practising there when vacancy occurred, and was chosen by local Association.
12. What was your chief political interest?  
Fair play for the underdog.
13. On what did you, in fact, concentrate most in Parliament?  
Do.
15. Who, at that time, was your ideal living British statesman, or dead statesman of any land?  
Gladstone - also a great admiration for Joseph Chamberlain.
16. How did Parliament modify your views?  
Not conscious that it did, except that it gave me a very unpleasant impression of the difficulties of getting things done and of the tremendous power of vested interests in every direction.
17. How did being an M.P. affect your earning capacity?  
But for the fact that I had a very self-sacrificing brother who kept the practice going, with very occasional assistance, it would have very substantially reduced my income.

July 23rd. 1936

D. LLOYD GEORGE.



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## Questions to think about

What do you think Wedgwood's questionnaire reveals about the things he thought were important?

Which questions would you include if you were writing a questionnaire today to find out about MPs' views and experiences today? What different questions would you ask?

Do you know who your local MP is? Which party does s/he belong to? What questions would you like to ask him or her?

Would you like to become an MP when you are older? What qualities do you think an MP needs?



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## Find out more 5: History around you

### Your family in the Second World War

Where were members of your family living in 1939-1945, during the Second World War?

Were they affected by the war? What can you find out about their experience?

How has your neighbourhood changed since the Second World War?

### History clues in your neighbourhood

The first Josiah Wedgwood started producing pottery in Burslem. He built the first Wedgwood factory in Etruria in 1766. The present Wedgwood factory (now the World of Wedgwood) was built 1938-40 on the Barlaston estate. The site was purchased from the Broughton-Adderley family in 1936. But the factory only moved there from Etruria in 1950, because of the Second World War.

Are there any clues and traces remaining of the Wedgwood family and other pottery making in your local area? Think about street names, old signs on buildings, statues and museums.

How much can you find out about the pottery industry locally?

Many thousands of people worked at Wedgwood factory and other pottery manufacturers.

Do any older members of your family or neighbours remember working in the pottery industry?

### Skills required

- Identifying continuity and change
- Using evidence rigorously



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