

ARNO FRIEDMANN IN INGOLSTADT

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as part of the activities of the “Harburg Project” research initiative

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This short biography also contains valuable information kindly provided by Dr Theodor Straub (Gaimersheim), by Edmund Hausfelder (Ingolstadt city archive) and by Elizabeth Levy (Israel), descendant of the Friedmann family.

ORIGIN AND TRAINING AS TEACHER

Arno Friedmann was born as Aharon on February 24, 1867 in Hainsfarth near Nördlingen in the Swabish district of Bavaria. His father, Marcus Friedmann, came from Poppenlauer near Bad Kissingen, and from 1853 until 1909 he served as teacher at the Jewish elementary school of Hainsfarth as well as cantor and shochet (kosher butcher) of the local Jewish community. His son, Arno Friedmann, grew up in Hainsfarth and most likely received his teacher training at the ILBA (Israelitische Lehrerbildungsanstalt = Jewish teacher training institute in Würzburg) founded in 1864 by famous Würzburg rabbi Seligman Bär Bamberger. In 1888 Arno Friedmann served as teacher for the Jewish community in Dettensee near Horb (South of Stuttgart) but was not well paid, and so he tried to make additional income by matchmaking, an activity regarded as inappropriate for a teacher by the Jewish population. Due to the decreasing number of pupils in Dettensee, Arno Friedmann looked for a better position and in 1896 became a teacher for Jewish pupils in Kiel (North Germany) and married Josephine (Peppi) Oppenheimer from Dettensee.

SHOE TRADER IN INGOLSTADT

Immediately after the marriage, Arno Friedmann and his wife moved to Ingolstadt, where just two years later he published his “History of the Jews of Ingolstadt” in a magazine of the local historical society, followed in 1902 by “History of the Jews of Monheim”. Although the address book of Ingolstadt mentioned him as teacher residing at 8 Milch Strasse, in 1901 he registered a shoe store at 1 Poppen Strasse. By 1911, the shop had moved to 2 Ludwig Strasse and after World War I to 10 Ludwigstrasse. Arno Friedmann now also had become the owner of this historical building at a top quality location. Ludwig Strasse was named after Bavarian King Ludwig I, but originally this street was called Schloss Strasse, leading to the castle (= Schloss in German).

Arno Friedmann may have served for some time as cantor of the Jewish community of Ingolstadt, as mentioned in his memories by lawyer Willy Rosenbusch who after World War I also lived at Ludwig Strasse 10 and had his office there. That Friedmann quit his job as teacher in 1901 and

turned to the certainly more profitable shoe trade may also have come from the fact that the Ingolstadt Jewish community had decided to employ Leopold Regensburger from Sulzbürg as teacher, who held this position until 1912 when he moved to Kriegshaber where he died in 1934.

ARNO'S SON-IN-LAW KARL KISSINGER

On November 23, 1900 Paula, the daughter of Arno and Josephine Friedmann, was born in Ingolstadt. On July 23, 1923 Paula married Karl Kissinger, born on August 5, 1898 in Ermershausen, son of the teacher David Kissinger and his wife Karolina (Lina) nee Zeilberger. David Kissinger, born in 1860, was born to a family of teachers as well. It is likely that he also received his teacher training at the ILBA in Würzburg and may have been a fellow student of Arno Friedmann. It is known that Karl Kissinger, David Kissinger's son, also studied at the ILBA and was trained there as an assistant teacher. On November 22, 1916, as infantryman of the Bavarian army, Karl joined the warfare at the Western front. The family has a postcard written by Karl on October 18, 1916 to the then only 16 year-old Paula Friedmann at 2 Ludwig Strasse in Ingolstadt, immediately before his frontline duty. The card was written in stenographical shorthand, today legible only to very few people, maybe in an effort to conceal the writing from Paula's father. In Würzburg, on March 30, 1919 Karl Kissinger was honorably discharged from military service. Four years later, he married Paula and became a partner in the shop at 10 Ludwig Strasse, belonging to his father-in-law Arno Friedmann. In 1924 Karl became second chair of the Jewish community of Ingolstadt. Karl's brother, Louis Kissinger, was the father of Henry Kissinger (born in 1923 in Fürth), one of the most outstanding political figures of American foreign policy during the second half of the 20th century.

RELATIONSHIP TO WILLY ROSENBUSCH

The 1926 address book listed Arno Friedmann as the owner of a house at 10 Ludwig Strasse, as well as the successor of the "Hermann Tietz" department store and the attorney Willy Rosenbusch. All three of them had a telephone connection, something not generally common in these times. Listed next was Arno Friedmann's son-in-law Karl Kissinger and also pharmacist F. Wörz, tax account H. Stern and engineer F. Schmidt. Of particular interest was Willy Rosenbusch, born on January 1, 1882 in Grünsfeld near Tauberbischofsheim. He became a lawyer after his law studies in Würzburg. During World War I he served at the military administration in Ingolstadt, where he lived with his family at Sprei Strasse. After the war, Rosenbusch took over the law firm of legal counsel Konrad Bickel at 10 Ludwig Strasse. His office as well as his apartment were on the second floor, right above the shoe store of Arno Friedmann. Arno, his wife and daughter Paula lived upstairs on the third floor. A special impressive feature of Arno Friedmann's apartment were the lavishly ornamented stucco ceilings of the living rooms with their balconies facing the street.

Willy Rosenbusch back then was a prominent lawyer in Ingolstadt, famous for being critical of the Nazi regime and until 1936 had a flourishing law office. Then early enough he recognized the signs

of the times and immigrated via Hamburg in North Germany to Santiago de Chile with his wife and children, where he passed away on December 23, 1972. Willy Rosenbusch's memories, written by himself, were acknowledged in 2000 by Theodor Straub's exhibition + catalogue "Ingolstädter Gesichter" (= faces of Ingolstadt).

ANTISEMITISM IN INGOLSTADT

Also noteworthy is the fact that for many years, Willy Rosenbusch was also the chairman of the local CV, the Centralverein Deutscher Staatsbürger Jüdischen Glaubens (Central Association of German Citizens of Jewish Faith). In this position he fought against anti-Semitism until his immigration and was never detained in a concentration camp. This was in tragic contrast however to his successor as head of the Ingolstadt CV section, the before mentioned Karl Kissinger, son-in-law and business partner of Arno Friedmann, who also lived at 10 Ludwig Strasse. Karl was forced to spend months of suffering at Dachau concentration camp. In 1936, he managed to escape with his wife and children via Munich to Haifa. In the early 1950s, they moved to the USA. Karl Kissinger died on January 26, 1988 in Miami, Florida.

"ARYANIZATION" OF THE SHOE SHOP

When Arno Friedman passed away on November 27, 1934 in Ingolstadt, his daughter Paula already had become legal owner of the house at 10 Ludwig Strasse where, until their immigration, her spouse managed the shoe store. In this context, the Kissinger couple was forced to accept the officially enacted "Aryanization" of the house and the shoe store that, according to the entry in the 1937 Ingolstadt address book, was continued as the "Maier & Son" shoe store. The owner now was the former banker Georg Maier and his stepson Max Dick, the child of his first spouse. In 1938, Josefine Reindl became owner of the house and moved her own shoe store from Mauth Strasse to 10 Ludwig Strasse. After World War II the ground floor façade was modernised and today (in 2015) still exists unchanged. The name Reindl remains above the shop entrance.

In the Jewish section of the Ingolstadt municipal cemetery are the grave markers of Arno Friedmann and his mother-in-law Wilhelmine Oppenheimer who died on February 15, 1911. According to official registration records, Arno's wife, Josephine, passed away in Munich on September 17, 1924 and was buried in Ingolstadt near her husband.

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Details on Arno Friedmann's activities in Dettensee come from Freiburg University Library's internet publication of archive holdings of "Hohenzollerischer Geschichtsverein".

As a teacher in Dettensee in 1894 Arno Friedmann published a small booklet with the title "Leitfaden zur Erlernung der wesentlichen Vorschriften über Schechitah und Bedikah" = Guide to the essential rules of *Shechita* (Ritual Slaughter) and *Bedika* (Examination).