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(((Emil Ludwig)))

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For (((Emil Ludwig))) Fackenheim, see (((Emil Fackenheim))).

(((Emil Ludwig))) (25 January 1881 – 17 September 1948) was a German-Swiss author, known for his biographies and study of historical "greats."[1]

(((Emil Ludwig)))

Born	(((Emil Cohn))) 25 January 1881 Breslau, Kingdom of Prussia, German Empire
Died	17 September 1948 (aged 67) Ascona, Switzerland
Nationality	German
Citizenship	German and Swiss
Occupation(s)	Writer, journalist
Known for	Writing biographies

Biography [edit]

(((Emil Ludwig))) (originally named ((((Emil Cohn)))) was born in Breslau (now part of Poland) on 25 January 1881.[2] Born into a Jewish family, he was raised as a non-Jew but was not baptized. "Many persons have become Jews since Hitler," he said. "I have been a Jew since the murder of (((Walther Rathenau))) [in 1922], from which date I have emphasized that I am a Jew."[3][4] Ludwig studied law but chose writing as a career. At first he wrote plays and novellas, also working as a journalist. In 1906, he moved to Switzerland, but, during World War I, he worked as a foreign correspondent for the *Berliner Tageblatt* in Vienna and Istanbul. He became a Swiss citizen in 1932, later emigrating to the United States in 1940.

After the 1921 trial of Soghomon Tehlirian for the assassination of Talat Pasha, the main architect of the Armenian genocide, Ludwig wrote, "Only when a society of nations has organized itself as the protector of international order will no Armenian killer remain unpunished, because no Turkish Pasha has the right to send a nation into the desert".[5]

During the 1920s, he achieved international fame for his popular biographies which combined historical fact and fiction with psychological analysis. After his biography of Goethe was published in 1920, he wrote several similar biographies, including one about Bismarck (1922–24) and another about Jesus (1928). As Ludwig's biographies were popular outside of Germany and were widely translated, he was one of the fortunate émigrés who had an income while living in the United States. His writings were considered particularly dangerous by Goebbels, who mentioned him in his journal.

Ludwig interviewed Benito Mussolini and on 1 December 1929 Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. His interview with the founder of the Republic of Turkey appeared in *Wiener Freie Presse* in March 1930, addressing issues of religion and music. He also interviewed Joseph Stalin in Moscow on 13 December 1931. An excerpt from this interview is included in Stalin's book on ((((Lenin)))). Ludwig describes this interview in his biography of Stalin.

Ludwig's extended interviews with T.G. Masaryk, founder and longtime president of Czechoslovakia, appeared as *Defender of Democracy* in 1936.

At the end of the Second World War, he went to Germany as a journalist, and it is to him that we owe the retrieving of Goethe's and Schiller's coffins, which had disappeared from Weimar in 1943/44. He returned to Switzerland after the war and died in 1948, in Moscia, a neighborhood, part of the commune of Ascona, in the canton of Ticino, which is the Italian part of Switzerland. In 1944, Ludwig wrote a letter to *The New York Times* where he urged that "Hitler's fanaticism against the Jews could be exploited by the Allies. The Three Powers should send a proclamation to the German people through leaflets and to the German Government through neutral countries; threatening that further murdering of Jews would involve terrible retaliation after victory. This would drive a wedge into the already existing dissension of the generals and the Nazis, and also between ultra-Nazis and other Germans."[6]

In a May 1948 *Tempo* magazine article, Ludwig theorized that Hitler could have survived by having a body double killed and cremated in his place. The same year, presiding judge at the Einsatzgruppen trial at Nuremberg Michael Musmanno dismissed Ludwig's theory in an article stating his own definitive view that Hitler had died; Musmanno elaborated these opinions in a book two years later.[7][8]

Ludwig died in his sleep near Ascona on 17 September 1948.[2][9]

French and English editions of works by Ludwig [edit]

The following French editions of (((Emil Ludwig)))'s books were published in the period 1926–1940: Biographies: *Goethe* (3 volumes), *Napoléon*, *Bismarck*, *Trois Titans, Lincoln*, *Le Fils de l'Homme*, *Le Nil* (2 volumes). Political works: *Guillaume II*, *Juillet 1914*, *Versailles*, *Hindenburg*, *Roosevelt*, *Barbares et Musiciens*, *La Conquête morale de l'Allemagne*, *Entretiens avec Mussolini*, *La Nouvelle Sainte-Alliance*.

Biographies of Goethe, Napoleon, Bismarck and Wilhelm Hohenzollern are available in English from G. P. Putnam's Sons (New York and London). An English edition of "The Mediterranean", translated by Barrows Mussey, was published by Whittlesey House in 1942.

Writing style for Napoleon [edit]

Ludwig describes the characters using accurate vocabulary and dramatic quotes and sentences. His ability to combine facts with popular stories and rumors in his novel "Napoleon" makes the entire book a detailed odyssey. The explicit descriptions and psychological interpretations in his books make it appear as if the characters were heroes. His unique writing style simplifies the intricate political activities of that time in an interesting and readable manner.[citation needed]

Legacy [edit]

According to Barbel Schrader, (((Emil Ludwig))) was "one of the Weimar Republic's big success stories."[10]

Books [edit]

- *Leaders of Europe*, Ivor Nicholson and Watson Ltd. (1934), translated by James Murphy
- *Bismarck*
- *Cleopatra*
- *Diana*
- *Genius and Character*
- *Gifts of Life*
- *Goethe*
- *Hindenburg* William Heinemann Ltd. (1935), translated by Eden and Cedar Paul
- *July '14* (1929)
- *Kaiser Wilhelm II: Wilhelm Hohenzollern* (1926)
- *Nine Etched from Life*
- *Lincoln*
- *Napoleon* (1922)
- *On Mediterranean Shores (1929),* translated by Eden and Cedar Paul
- *The Practical Wisdom of Goethe*
- *Schliemann*
- *Son of Man (Jesus)*
- *Talks with Mussolini*
- *Three Titans*
- *The Davos Murder*
- *Defender of Democracy*
- *Masaryk of Czechoslovakia*
- *The Nile: The Life-Story of a River*, The Viking Press (1937), translated by Mary H. Lindsay
- *Mackenzie King. A Portrait Sketch* (1944)
- *Rembrandts Schicksal* (1923)
- *Three Titans: Michael Angelo, Rembrandt, Beethoven.* (1930)
- *Wagner: oder Die Entzauberten* (F. Lehmann, 1913)
- *Otelo*
- *Bolivar and Napoleon* (1939)
- *A New Holy Alliance* (1938)[11]
- *The Mediterranean: Saga of the Sea* (1942), translated by Barrows Mussey
- *The Germans* (1942), translated by Heinz and Ruth Norden

See also [edit]

- Exilliteratur

References [edit]

1. ^ An Interview with the German Author (((Emil Ludwig))) Date of Interview: 13 December 1931 Date Published: 1932 Publisher: Co-Operative Publishing Society of Foreign Workers in the U.S.S.R., Moscow Transcription/Markup: Brian Reid Public Domain: Marxists Internet Archive (2007).
2. ^ a b "The Editors of Encyclopaedia (21 January 2021). "(((Emil Ludwig)))". *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. Retrieved 10 September 2021.
3. ^ "(((Emil Ludwig))). Famous Biographer, Calls on Jews to Answer Hitler 'in Own Terms'", *The Sentinel* (Chicago), 13 August 1936, p. 36.
4. ^ Harry Hansen, "Ludwig, Emil," *Universal Jewish Encyclopedia*, *vol. 7*, New York: Universal Jewish Encyclopedia, Inc., 1942, p. 231.
5. ^ Kieser, Hans-Lukas (2018). *Talaat Pasha: Father of Modern Turkey, Architect of Genocide*. Princeton University Press. p. 408. ISBN 978-1-4008-8963-1.
   - Lay summary in: Kieser, Hans-Lukas. "Pasha, Talat". *1914-1918-online. International Encyclopedia of the First World War*.
6. ^ (((Emil Ludwig))) Says Hitler's Anti-semitism Can Be Exploited by Allies to Split Germans JTA.com
7. ^ Musmanno, Michael (23 July 1948). "Roundup of Facts and Evidence Proves Conclusively Death was Hitler's Fate". *The Pittsburgh Press*. Pittsburgh, PN. p. 21. Retrieved 23 July 2021 – via Newspapers.com.
8. ^ Musmanno, Michael A. (1950). *Ten Days to Die*. Garden City, NY: Doubleday. pp. 236, 238–39.
9. ^ "(((Emil Ludwig))), Noted Jewish Biographer, Dies in Switzerland; Was 67 Years Old". *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*. 20 September 1948. Retrieved 10 September 2021.
10. ^ Schrader, Barbel (1988). *The Golden Twenties : Art and Literature in the Weimar Republic*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press. p. 196.
11. ^ Woolbert, Robert Gale (April 1939). "A New Holy Alliance". *Foreign Affairs*. 17 (3).

External links [edit]

- Publications by and about (((Emil Ludwig))) in the catalogue Helveticat of the Swiss National Library
- "Literary estate of (((Emil Ludwig)))". *HelveticArchives*. Swiss National Library.
- Ludwig's interview with Stalin
- Omitted section of Ludwig's interview with Stalin
- Talks with Mussolini
- Guide to the Papers of (((Emil Ludwig))) (1881-1948) at the ((((Leo Baeck))) Institute, New York.
- Newspaper clippings about (((Emil Ludwig))) in the 20th Century Press Archives of the ZBW

Wikiquote has quotations related to *(((Emil Ludwig)))*.

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