

EHRI Online Course on Holocaust Studies

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The Germans and the Holocaust – Coping Strategies of the German Jews

Translation: *B06 Report on a Zionist Hachshara camp*

Klein-Silsterwitz, 16.IX.34

Proskauer House. At the pioneers (Chaluzim). The mourning lodge was very brief yesterday evening and the speech by Posner undistinguished. – The departed brothers were commemorated only by the mentioning of their names. Hanging next to the other pictures decorated with black ribbon was the one of Franz. – I was feeling very, very wistful.

Today got up at 6, went to the post office with Trudi and Ruth, from there with the no. 14 to the rail station; at 7.48 departed with a train that goes non-stop to Zobten, then with the bus to Klein Silsterwitz.

Here it feels really good to be with the comrades (Chawerim) again. – At the moment there are 12 people in the kibbutz: 10 lads, 2 lasses; but the lasses and a few of the lads are not there today! Spoke with them about the problems of life: Hakhshara, sexual questions; but also the relationship to the locals: recently, the windows were smashed and shots fired inside. – Trouble with the S.A. training school. – There one calls them the Jew farm. – But they are on good terms with the majority of the villagers, they even sell some of their produce in the village! – The double amount of land is being cultivated this year! – One of the comrades from last year has died of polio in Erez! – In all, splendid people here, with the serious desire to embark on a new life! – Our hope for rejuvenating Judaism!

*translated by Paul Bowman*