# CONTENTS

PREFACE	<b>X1</b>
Introduction	1

The period of absolutism. The new concept of the State. The idea of Staatsraison. The change in the form of the State. The change in European economy. Mercantilism. The change in the conception of the Jew. The change in his legal, political and economic position. The Jew as a political problem. Germany after the Thirty Years' War. The German princes and their attitude toward the Jew. The German merchant. The alliance between the princes and the Jewish entrepreneurs. The rise of the Court Jew. His functions. The Court Iew as an indispensable innovation of Absolutism.

# CHAPTER I

The Commissary	15
----------------	----

The period of Louis XIV. The European wars. Emperor Leopold I of Austria. The tasks of his administration. The Austrian State. The War of Devolution, Samuel Oppenheimer's appointment as War Commissary. His activity in the war of the Empire against France. Disillusionment. His contribution in the war against the Turks and in the War of the Palatine Succession. Difficulties. The attitude of the Emperor, the generals, the officials. Oppenheimer's indispensability. His credit. Cardinal Kollonitsch's attempt to overthrow him. His contribution in the War of the Spanish Succession. The reasons for his success. His personality. His business system. Contractors and agents. Oppenheimer's death. The catastrophe of the Austrian State. Oppenheimer's successors. The war commissaries of the German princes. Israel Aron and Elias Gumperts in Prussia. Abraham Maendle and Anschel Levy in Bavaria. Jud Suess in Wuerttemberg. The hazardous position of the contractors. The importance of the Jewish war commissioners.

# CHAPTER II

THE COURT CONTRACTOR.....

The German princes at the end of the Thirty Years' War. The Court as the political and cultural center of the country. The tolerance of some of the rulers. The craving for luxuries. The international connections of the vii



38

Court Jews. The Jewish private banker. Luxury goods and banking as the basis of the Court Jews' activity. The commercial activity of Jud Suess. Jud Suess as Court agent. The Gumperts in Cleves. Israel Aron and Jost Liebmann as Court contractors. Esther Liebmann. Moses Benjamin Wulff in Anhalt-Dessau.

# CHAPTER III

#### 

The German princes and the internal administration of their territories. The importance of finances. Difficulty of obtaining money. Confusion in the financial system. Theories of the mercantilist writers. Leffmann Behrens of Hanover. His personality. His career as purveyor, agent and banker. The French subsidies. The ninth electorship and Leffmann's political activity. Legends about Bernd Lehmann. Comparison with Jud Suess. His descent. Court factor of the Elector of Saxony. The titles of the Court Jews. Agent. Resident. Bernd Lehmann as Saxon Resident. Augustus the Strong. His alliance with Bernd Lehmann. The struggle for the Polish Throne. The election to the Polish Throne. The Northern War. Lehmann's political negotiations. Maurice of Saxony and Bernd Lehmann, Samuel Oppenheimer as creditor of Austria. Samson Wertheimer. His personality. His financial transactions. Banker and advisor of the Emperors. The financial activity of Emanuel Oppenheimer, Drach, Sinzheim, Reinganum, Hirschel. Wolf Wertheimer and Bavaria. Noe Samuel Isaak and Bavaria. The Jewish financiers in the minor German states and in Frankfort on the Main. Diego and Manuel Texeira in Hamburg. Their business and personal relations with Queen Christina of Sweden.

### CHAPTER IV

THE CABINET FACTOR...... 115

Jud Suess as a Jewish political type. The transformer of the political and economic structure of a State. Karl Alexander of Wuerttemberg as Governor of Serbia and Duke of Wuerttemberg. The Wuerttemberg government. The constitution of the country. The Estates. Administrative and economic goals of Karl Alexander. The opposition of the ministers and councillors. The attitude of the Estates. Suess as advisor. The reorganization of the government. The financial innovations. Relationship between Karl Alexander and Suess. Intrigues of the officials and the Court society. Karl Alexander and the Estates. Political theories of Suess. The attempt to convert the country to Catholicism and to change the constitution. Suess' part in the revolutionary agitation. The death of the duke. Suess' arrest.

viii

### CONTENTS

# CHAPTER V

# THE COMMERICAL AGENT..... 137

The character of the Jewish commercial entrepreneur. State economy. The mercantilist efforts of the rulers. Their alliance with the Jews. The opposition of the Christian merchants. The Great Elector and the Prussian Court Jews. Moses Jacobson's commercial activity in Memel. The luxury trade of the Court Jews. The commercial activity of the Court Jews in Saxony. Bernd Lehmann as merchant. The economic activity of the Court Jews in the minor German States and in Frankfort on the Main. The Court Jews in the economic policy of Frederick the Great. The Court Jews as factors in the development of industry. The factories of Gumperts and Ulff in Berlin. The cotton factories. Pinthus Levi of Rathenow. Veitel Ephraim and Daniel Itzig as manufacturers. Moses Heyman and Daniel Kuh in Silesia. Jud Suess and the industrial development of Wuerttemberg. The banking enterprises of the Court Jews. The Court Jews as monopolists.

# CHAPTER VI

# The Master of the Mint..... 162

The currency system during the period of absolutism. The fiscal policy of the governments. The role of the Jews as gold and silver suppliers. The Austrian mint Jews. The Saxon mint purveyors. Moses Benjamin Wulff in Dessau. Jud Suess as mint entrepreneur. Israel Aron and Esther Liebmann in Prussia. The mint entrepreneurs of Frederick the Great. The Seven Years' War and the minting activity of Veitel Ephraim and Daniel Itzig. Their success. Their difficulties. Frederick the Great as the sole originator of the Prussian fiscal policy. The wealth of the mint lessees. Their losses. Judgment of their activity.

# CHAPTER VII

THE Shtadlan AND INTERCESSOR ...... 177

The Jewish community. Forms of Jewish communal life. The *sbtadlan*. The absolutist State and the Jewish community. Authority and power of the *sbtadlan*. Intermediaries between the government and the communities. Bernd Levi and the organization of the Prussian Jews in the West. Autocracy of the Court Jews. Jost and Esther Liebmann as the rulers of the Berlin community. Drach and Kann in Frankfort. The opposition of the communities to the Court Jews. Causes of the struggle. The social organization of the communities. Classes and groups. Controversies among the Court Jews. Bernd Levi and Elias Gumperts. The Model family and Elkan Fraenkel. The attempts of the Court Jews to preserve the Jewish

#### CONTENTS

autonomy. Their efforts to improve the political, economic and social position of the Jews. Eisenmenger and Samson Wertheimer. Manuel Texeira and the expulsion of the Jews from Vienna. Wolf Wertheimer and the expulsion of the Jews from Prague.

# CHAPTER VIII

The rise of new city communities. The founding of the Dresden community by Bernd Lehmann. The Cassel community and Abraham David. The importance of Leffmann Behrens for Hanover. Michael David and Hanover. The new communities of Schwerin, Munich, Bayreuth, Stuttgart and Ludwigsburg. The Austrian Court Jews and the Viennese community. Halle and Minden. The founding of the Koenigsberg and Breslau community. The Patrons. Synagogues and talmudical academies. Subventions to scholars. The new edition of the Talmud and Bernd Lehmann. The press of Moses Benjamin Wulff.

# CHAPTER IX

The patrician group. Their way of life. Houses. Luxury and magnificence. Religious and family celebrations. Duality of their existence. The Period of Enlightenment and the Jewish problem. The Period of the Baroque and the Jewish question. Suess' character. The religious sentiment of the Court Jews. The impossibility of a synthesis between Judaism and the spirit of the time. The spiritual and moral world of the Court Jews. Talmud and cabala. Tensions and contradictions.

# CHAPTER X

Destinies	247
Tyche. The vicissitudes of fortune. The fate of the Austrian Court Jews. The fall of Hinrichsen, Beer and Kann. The trial of Moses Ben- jamin Wulff. The imprisonment and torture of Leffmann Behrens' grand- sons. The tragic fate of Bernd Lehmann and his family. The end of Ruben Elias Gumperts. The fall of Elkan Fraenkel. The execution of Jud Suess. The Court Jew as the symbol of the economic revolution.	
Name of Design and	0.00

INOTES	AND	DIBL	IOGRA	ГЪНА.	••••	• • • •	•••	• • • •	•••	••••	••••	••••	269
INDEX.	• • • •		••••				•••		•••				297