Opinions

THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE TRIAL

Volumes have already been written about Eichmann and the Eichmann trial and the

flood is not likely to subside.

Much loose thinking has been shown, especially by comments by outsiders on the question of legality and also in regard to other pertinent fatcors of the trial.

It was most refreshing to see the Australian news magazine "The Bulletin" feature an excellent background reading article about the permanent mental effect of Nazi persecution on former camp inmates, but especially an editorial on the question of legality of the case.

This editorial should be a "must read" for our readers and we are elswhere quoting from it.

The editorial says rightly what should have been much more emphasized from other quarters—that arguments about the trial legality are mere trivia.

Certainly there was little legal precedent—certainly he was "kidnapped". But when on the one hand we have the agent of a state which slaughtered millions of people under its control and on the other hand a set of laws that allows no way of dealing with him, do we do nothing or do we change the law the editorial asks.

Obviously we change the laws.

But even more than this the editorial raises one very important point and comes up with an answer that must needs make us feel proud and hopeful.

If the Eichmann trial does what the Nuremberg trials failed to do and establishes some precedent for dealing with the new type of totalitarian murders, the world will be permanently in Israel's debt.

This we can only say, we fervently hope will

happen.

In the meantime this contributes a vital and important thought to the discussions on the reasons and the "raison d'etre" for the trial, and one that deserves wide acclaim and acknowledgment.



"Israel will not change her attitude on the Arab refugee problem and will continue to oppose repatriation of the refugees to Israel as suggested by US President Kennedy in his letters to five Arab rulers. A natural exchange of population has taken place between the Arabs, who left Israel, and the Jews, who came from Islamic countries. Israel is quite ready to contribute towards the absorption of the refugees in the Arab countries by paying a considerable amount as compensation for their property left in Israel, but this question involves the consideration of Jewish accounts and properties blocked by Arab countries.—Israel Prime Minister, Mr David Ben Gurion.



"There has rarely been a moment in Jewish history that has appeared, on the surface, as pleasing as the present epoch. Jews enjoy equal rights in almost every country of the world; the Nazi war criminals are dead, and Eichmann stands in the dock in the Jewish State."

—Dr Nahum Goldmann at the silver jubilee of the World Jewish Congress.



"The Prime Minister of Israel is a lovable and human character, but not without his faults and foibles. His lightning tour of the world and his conversations with leading Western statesmen must be taken as a serious indication of concern that the West should re-examine its attitude towards Israel's isolation in the Middle East".—Mr R. N. Carvalho, president of the Anglo-Jewish Association.