

Max Bondy

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Max Bondy (born 1892 in Blankenese , † 1951 in Boston , Massachusetts) was a German educational reformer and founder of the Jewish rural residential school . After repossession, and escape from Nazi German dictatorship in 1937, he became a U.S. citizen.

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Childhood and Youth

Max Bondy was born on 1892 in Blankenese the son of a Jewish merchant family, was born. He studied in Freiburg im Breisgau art history and was largely on the ideas of the German youth movement influenced. He was nationally minded and volunteered at the First World War in part. After graduation, he began to take interest in education.

progressive education

Together with Ernst Putz he founded in 1919/20 Sinntalhof in Brückenau his first school. In 1923 he founded with his wife Gertrud a school in Gander home in Lower Saxony. This school was moved in 1929 to Marienau Lüneburg in order. Together with his wife, a Viennese psychoanalyst, the Sigmund Freud knew personally, he formed the "school community" of the boarding school school Marienau . Teachers and students should be a friend and as socially engaged and responsible to help people "in the strong responsiveness to their individuality," to shape.

Victims of National Socialism

With the takeover of the Nazis, the school life difficult. The "Jewish school" as the school Marienau was called from the outside also came under the influence of the German National Socialist repression. withdrawn in 1937 the Jewish headmaster Max Bondy permission to run the school. Bondy was to receive for the school community Marienau 108 000 Mark, a financial penalty, which he got not. 58 000 Mark served the compulsory repayment of mortgages and 50,000 marks were on a "blocked account" of the Dresdner Bank from access by the Jewish owner of Bondy fixed before. The management of the school of Marienau took over the former teacher and her husband Christoph Probst , Dr. Bernhard Knoop from the boarding school Schondorf am Ammersee , making a change from progressive to the more conservative wing of the boarding school idea took place. ^[1]

The couple Bondy went with his two children over to Switzerland (England) into exile in the United States (Lennox).

After the Shoah

In 1945, after the end of the Shoah tried Bondy, Victims of National Socialism, his former property, in Marienau go back to school than to get re-education "of the Germans to devote" and its future international school education to join a network. However, this was denied because he had now taken American citizenship and was allowed to purchase at this time no property in Germany. Very bitter about this decision, he experienced the end of the compensation negotiations, not more. Max Bondy died in 1951 in Boston to blood cancer .

Max Bondy's progressive education today

The succession of the school management had Bernhard Knoop. In the following years came the emergence period of the boarding school Marienau by the Jewish headmaster Max Bondy, under the influence of the youth movement, largely forgotten. Only in the mid 1980s, with the then new head teacher Wolf-Dieter Hasenclever , a founding member of the Baden-Wuerttemberg Open, has worked the past. An archive was created in 1989, which was established in the newly built Max Bondy House. In turning to the "ecological humanism" ^[2] , with German-Israeli exchange programs and an environmental awakening movement of

