SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 8, 1908.

OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
MAYER SULZBERGER, Philadelphia

VICE-PRESIDENTS
JULIAN W. MACK, Chicago
JACOB H. HOLLANDER, Baltimore

TREASURER
ISAAC W. BERNHEIM, Louisville, Ky.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
JOSEPH H. COHEN, New York
HARRY CUTLER, Providence, R. I.
EMIL G. HIRSCH, Chicago, Ill.
J. L. MAGNES, New York
LOUIS MARSHALL, New York
JACOB H. SCHIFF, New York
ISADOR SOBEL, Erie, Pa.
CYRUS L. SULZBERGER, New York

SECRETARY
HERBERT FRIEDENWALD, 356 Second Ave., N. Y. City

MEMBERS AND DISTRICTS

Dist. I: Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina. 2 members: (1911); Montague Triest, Charleston, S. C. (1909).
Dist. II: Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee. 2 members: Jacques Loeb, Montgomery, Ala. (1913); Nathan Cohn, Nashville, Tenn. (1913).
Dist. IV: Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri. 3 members: Morris M. Cohn, Little Rock, Ark. (1909); David S. Lehman, Denver, Col. (1911); Elias Michael, St. Louis, Mo. (1910).
Dist. V: California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington. 3 members: Max C. Sloss, San Francisco, Cal. (1911); Harris Weinstock, Sacramento, Cal. (1912); Ben. Selling, Portland, Ore. (1912).

Dist. VI: Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Wyoming. 4 members: Henry M. Butzel, Detroit, Mich. (1909); Emanuel Cohen, Minneapolis, Minn. (1910); Victor Rosewater, Omaha, Neb. (1909); Max Landauer, Milwaukee, Wis. (1912).

Dist. VII: Illinois. 7 members: Edwin G. Foreman (1909); Emil G. Hirsch (1913); B. Horwich (1912); Julian W. Mack (1913); Julius Rosenwald (1910); Joseph Stolz (1909), all of Chicago, Ill.; Samuel Woolner, Peoria, Ill. (1911).

Dist. VIII: Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, West Virginia. 5 members: Louis Newberger, Indianapolis, Ind. (1910); Isaac W. Bernheim, Louisville, Ky. (1912); David Philipson, Cincinnati, O. (1909); J. Walter Freiberg, Cincinnati, O. (1911); E. M. Baker, Cleveland, O. (1913).


Dist. X: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia. 3 members: Harry Friedenwald, Baltimore, Md. (1910); Jacob H. Hollander, Baltimore, Md. (1910).

Dist. XI: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont. 3 members: Isaac M. Ullman, New Haven, Conn. (1911); Lee M. Friedman, Boston, Mass. (1912); Harry Cutler, Providence, R. I. (1911).

Dist. XII: New York. 17 members: Nathan Bijur (1911); Joseph H. Cohen (1912); Daniel Guggenheim (1913); Leon KamaiKy (1913); Edward Lauterbach (1912); E. W. Lewin-Epstein (1913); Adolph Lewisohn (1912); David H. Lieberman (1913); Morris Loeb (1909); J. L. Magnes (1911), all of N. Y.; Abram J. Katz, Rochester, N. Y. (1913); Louis Marshall, N. Y. (1913); H. Pereira Mendes, N. Y. (1910); Simon W. Rosendale, Albany, N. Y. (1911); Jacob H. Schiff (1910); Isidor Straus (1912); Cyrus L. Sulzberger (1910), all of N. Y.

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 8, 1908

The second annual meeting of the American Jewish Committee was held at the Hotel Astor, New York City, on Sunday, November
8, 1908. The President of the Committee, Judge Mayer Sulzberger, called the meeting to order, and the following report of the Executive Committee was read:

MEETINGS

Meetings have been held on December 1, 1907, January 26, March 22, May 10, October 8, and November 7, 1908.

DEATH, RESIGNATIONS, NEW MEMBERS

Your Committee reports with great regret the death, on April 27 last, of our member of the Executive Committee, Rev. Dr. Jacob Voorsanger, an earnest participant, it will be recalled, in the proceedings of November 10, 1906, when the Committee was established.

At the meeting held on May 10, 1908, the following minute was adopted:

"The Executive Committee of the American Jewish Committee has learned, to its profound regret, of the death of one of the members of the Executive Committee, the Reverend Dr. Jacob Voorsanger, of San Francisco, Cal.

"The Committee acknowledges, with gratitude, the aid given it by Dr. Voorsanger from its inception and mourns the loss to it of his sturdy manhood, his ripe judgment, and his loyalty to Judaism.

"The members of the Committee would record also their sense of personal loss in his death, and they desire to extend to their colleague’s bereaved family, the expression of their sincere sympathy."

On December 27, 1907, Mr. Sigmund Sichel, a member from District V, tendered his resignation, which was accepted with regret on May 10.

On January 25, 1908, Mr. Ambrose Guiterman, a member from District VI, tendered his resignation, which was accepted with regret on March 22.

On February 17, 1908, Prof. Morris Loeb tendered his resignation from the Executive Committee, which was accepted with regret on March 22, and on the same day, Mr. Isador Sobel was elected to succeed him.

On May 10, 1908, Mr. Jacob H. Schiff was elected to the Executive Committee to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Dr. Voorsanger.

There are, therefore, three vacancies in the General Committee, two in District V, and one in District VI, which should be filled at this meeting. On October 8, Emanuel Cohen, Esq., of Minneapolis, Minn., was invited to become a member from District VI, to fill the vacancy, and has accepted.
The removal of Dr. Cyrus Adler to Philadelphia leaves a vacancy in District X, which should also be filled at this meeting.

Your attention is directed to the fact that since the Committee was organized, Oklahoma has become a State of the Union. No provision has been made for giving that State representation on the Committee, though Arizona and New Mexico are included in District III. This omission should be rectified at this meeting.

**ADVISORY COUNCILS**

Earnest efforts have been made to put in operation the plan for an Advisory Council in each district.

The difficulties occasioned by the necessity of carrying on this work by correspondence have rendered it impossible to complete the Advisory Council in any one district, though substantial progress has been made in all but Districts III and V.

The method of procedure has been to request the members to send in nominations for the number to which each district is entitled. These nominations were then acted upon by the Executive Committee. Those confirmed have then been invited to become members of the respective councils. Of those invited some have not accepted, thus leaving vacancies, which it will require careful deliberation and some time to fill.

The results so far accomplished are as follows:

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Making a total of 320

No more important work devolves on the members of this Committee than that of assisting in the formation of the respective Advisory Councils. When their organization is complete to the full membership of 600, they will form an effective body, prepared in any emergency to advise and assist this Committee in its work.

The general work of your Committee would be much promoted if each district chose a secretary, as provided in the plan for the
Advisory Councils. To date only two districts (IX and XII) have local secretaries. In the absence of a secretary for each district, communication with the members is rendered unnecessarily cumbersome and prevents the welding of the members of each district into a compact body. Two districts, IX and XII, have had meetings, and in District XII the successors of those whose terms expire this year have been elected by the local Advisory Council, as provided in the Constitution. It is to be regretted that other districts have not taken similar action, or, at least, where this was not possible, have not by correspondence elected the members whose terms expired. During the ensuing year, when further efforts will be made to perfect the organization of the Councils, it is hoped that more meetings will be held and more advantage taken by the members of their rights and privileges. A special effort will be made to organize the Councils in those districts in which vacancies on the General Committee occur during 1909, so that the successors to the outgoing members may be elected by those thoroughly familiar with the district which is to be represented.

As bearing on an effective organization we are pleased to call attention to an important movement now on foot in the city of New York having as its object the welding of the Jewish community of the city into a compact elective organization, and of making the representatives of this organization the constituency of the American Jewish Committee. Informal conferences have been held between Mr. Marshall and the Secretary, representing the Executive Committee, and Dr. Magnes, Rabbi Jaffe, and Messrs. Bublick, Pinski, Semel, and Dorf, representing the proposed organization, who agreed upon a memorandum to form the basis of co-operation between the projected "Community" and the American Jewish Committee. (For the memorandum as adopted see pp. 46, 253-4; for an account of the formation of the "Community" and its constitution see pp. 44-54.)

Should this plan become effective, there are probably one or more other districts whose circumstances sufficiently resemble the situation in New York to warrant consideration of the question whether the new system may be extended.

A meeting of the Advisory Council of District No. XII was held on October 25 last in New York, which was attended by about fifty members. A statement was made to the meeting by Mr. Cyrus L. Sulzberger, the temporary Chairman, outlining the activities of the Committee and considerable interest was shown in its work. The Council organized by the election of a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Treasurer, and a Secretary, and elected the following as successors of the five members of the Committee whose terms expired: Daniel Guggenheim, Leon Kamaiky, E. W.
Lewin-Epstein, and Louis Marshall, of New York, and Abraham J. Katz, of Rochester. The first four are re-elections and Mr. Katz succeeds Judge Louis W. Marcus, of Buffalo.

INFORMATION AND STATISTICS

Since the last report, there have been received at the office twenty-six weekly and four daily Jewish papers, published in this country, and three weekly and one monthly periodical, published abroad. These have been carefully examined and the important articles indexed, and except in the case of a few of the newspapers which have been bound, the articles deemed worthy of preservation have been cut out and filed. In addition, the current magazines have been examined and articles of Jewish interest have been procured and indexed.

The material collected by the former Statistical Bureau, maintained in the Hebrew Charities Building, has been re-arranged and classified, and during the past year 3932 index cards have been written and 2190 articles classified and filed. A small number of volumes useful for purposes of reference have been purchased from time to time and the collections relating to immigration legislation have been considerably extended. A number of public documents relating to this subject, supplementing those already collected, were procured, so that there is now on file a fairly adequate collection of the published documents relating to federal immigration legislation in this country. In this instance, as in the case of the Year Book, the expansion of this branch of our work is hampered by lack of funds. The expense of running this branch of the work has been $884.11; and your Committee recommends an appropriation of $1000 for its continuance.

Recently attention has been directed to criminality among the Jews of this country. The attempt was made some months ago to procure data respecting this subject in several of the larger cities other than New York, but having no appropriation for paying investigators, reliance had to be placed upon volunteers and the results were not altogether satisfactory. Inasmuch as considerable time is required to make any investigations of this sort, it is not reasonable to expect volunteers to do it. No scientifically prepared statistics on this subject are compiled by any branch of our government, as is done in some European countries. As the results abroad demonstrate a decidedly lower percentage of criminality among Jews than among Christians there is reason for believing that properly compiled statistics in this country would show analogous results. Inasmuch as the immigration restrictionists have charged from time to time that immigrants fill our public charitable institutions, it would be wise also to investigate and determine how large a percentage of these dependents are
Jews. These are only some of the subjects which it will be necessary to investigate.

In order to use these statistics to the greatest advantage, a census of the Jews of the United States ought to be taken. The estimates now available are based too largely on conjecture and hypothesis. If the efforts of the Committee are to succeed, it is necessary to know the numbers and capacities of our constituency. To begin with, an experiment might be made by taking a census of one city having a small Jewish population.

In the future, if the work assumes larger proportions on the lines suggested, further appropriations ought to be made.

**AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK**

In accordance with the resolution adopted at the last annual meeting, your Committee undertook the preparation of the manuscript of the American Jewish Year Book for the year 5669 (1908-9) under the editorship of the Secretary. The publication and distribution, the Jewish Publication Society of America continues as before.

In the volume before you, the customary calendars and lists, whose utility has been proved by publication in previous Year Books, have been retained, and in view of the interest taken of recent years in the enforcement of Sunday laws throughout the United States, a special feature has been made of an able article on the Sunday laws of the United States, prepared by Albert M. Friedenberg, Esq., and generously furnished by him to the Committee. A report of the activities of the Committee was also included.

The Jewish Publication Society agreed to expend a sum not exceeding $1500 per annum in the publication and distribution of the Year Book. This has enabled us to issue the volume only by keeping it within the smallest possible compass. The cost of compiling the manuscript since Dec. 1, 1907, when the work was taken over, has been $573.53. The bill from the Publication Society has not yet been received, so that a complete statement of the cost of the volume cannot be made now, though it is thought it will not exceed $1000. Your Committee recommends that an appropriation of $1000 be made for the continuance of the work.

The Secretary is now proceeding with the work of editing the volume for next year. The book is of singular usefulness to the Jews of the United States and is practically indispensable to the Committee for the proper carrying on of its work.

In order to form some idea of the annual increase in the communal activities of the Jews of the United States, there was printed this year a list, in briefest form, of Jewish organizations that came into existence between July 15, 1907, and August 7,
1908, that is, since the previous Year Book was issued. This fills thirty-two pages. No attempt could be made to get precise data respecting the organizations listed, the information published being procured from the Jewish papers and clippings from the daily papers.

During the course of the past year there have been added to the number of Jewish organizations in existence as many as six hundred or thereabouts. If this rate of increase should continue—as is probable—there will be by August, 1910, when the new directory is to appear, at least 1800 Jewish organizations in the country, of whose activities and membership no printed record will have been previously made. As indicating the growth and distribution of the Jewish population in the United States, such information is invaluable. Your Committee recommends, therefore, that funds be provided to keep a full record of all organizations. This could probably be done at a cost of about $800 to $1000 per annum.

With the limited means at our command, it has not been found possible to furnish the members of the Committee, who are not members of the Publication Society, with copies of the Year Book. It is highly desirable not only that this should be done, but that each member of the Advisory Council in each district should also be furnished with a copy. No better method of informing our members and the Jews of the country of at least a part of the activity of the Committee is at our command. The expenditure involved would amount to about $250.

CONSTANTINOPLE FIRE

On March 16, 1908, a cablegram to the Hon. Oscar S. Straus from Messrs. Isaac Fernandez and Robert Levy, of Constantinople, stating that fire had destroyed 600 houses and rendered 6000 Jews destitute, was referred to this Committee by Dr. Adler. This was considered at a meeting of your Committee, held on March 22, and it was determined to raise $1000 in this country for the sufferers. The sum of $1015 (5537.60 francs) was promptly raised and remitted to the Alliance Israélite Universelle for distribution, they having opened a fund for this purpose. Proper acknowledgment has been received from them as also from Messrs. Fernandez and Levy.

SAN FRANCISCO FUND

At the last Annual Meeting this fund amounted to the sum of $36,293.22. Since that time additional subscriptions have brought the total to $37,947.74. You will recall that at the last annual meeting further methods of raising additional sums were discussed and were referred to your Committee for action.
At the meeting held on December 1, a Committee consisting of Dr. Magnes, Chairman, Judge Sloss, and Mr. Joseph H. Cohen, were appointed to carry out your ideas. At this meeting also, Judge Sloss, who was present, suggested and was authorized to send one of the San Francisco rabbis to visit, at the expense of the San Francisco Fund, the cities of Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, and other coast cities, for the purpose of soliciting funds, with the view to extending these visits to other portions of the country if success was met with. In accordance with this resolution, Dr. Nieto visited Portland and other cities and succeeded in procuring the sum of $1,135. As the results were not as successful as had been hoped, no further efforts were made.

A change was made in the distribution of the funds collected, by reason of the fact that the Russ Street Synagogue, which was to receive 20 per cent, received a gift from Mr. William Wolf of the Synagogue property formerly owned and occupied by the Geary Street Synagogue. On this account this Synagogue, which had received a small sum, was not further included in the distribution of the funds.

On April 15, 1908, the sum of $5,000 was remitted to Judge Sloss and on September 21, the balance in the hands of the Treasurer to the credit of the Fund, $1,015.79, was remitted to Judge Sloss, so that all the sums collected have now been forwarded. A report from Judge Sloss has been received, giving a detailed account of the disposition made of the funds, and will be found below.

Inasmuch as no contributions have been received since May last and there appears to be little likelihood of any further sums being collected, your Committee recommends that collections for the fund be closed, and it be discharged from further responsibility.

INTERNATIONAL JEWISH ORGANIZATION

In March last, a conference was held in Berlin, under the presidency of Dr. M. Horwitz, which was attended by distinguished individuals and representatives of Jewish organizations of Berlin, Frankfort, Moscow, Hanover, Copenhagen, Berne, and Vienna, for the purpose of establishing an international Jewish organization to deal with the problems of Jewish oppression in various countries of Europe, Asia, and Africa, and particularly to consider a method of colonization.

Under date of June 10, your Committee received a report of this conference, and was invited to lend its adhesion to the project. A Committee of the conference was appointed to further develop the proposed organization, and in July last we were invited by the Committee to send delegates to a second conference, to be held in Berlin on September 19-21.
In view of the impossibility of getting so important a matter adequately considered during the summer months, your Committee took no action upon the invitation, beyond acknowledging its receipt.

The conference was held at the time appointed and was largely attended by representatives of many European organizations of England and the continent (except France), and by important individuals, and on motion of Dr. Paul Nathan, adopted the following resolution, and appointed a Committee to carry out its purposes:

“This meeting held in Berlin on September 20, 1908, declares its agreement with the unanimous decisions of the meeting of the 29th March last, and regards as an urgent desideratum the formation by the great Jewish organizations, of a general organization with permanent headquarters without interference with the independent activity of the respective constituent organizations in their own fields.

The general organization so formed shall have as its purpose the consideration and determination of such problems of Jewry as the constituent organizations in their individual capacities do not feel competent to handle. The endeavor shall be to promote mutual understanding with a view to procuring united action.

The conference announces the necessity that all large Jewish organizations having similar aims, shall become constituents of this general organization, and will endeavor to bring about the representation in this organization of all countries where there is an active Jewish population. Finally, this conference expresses the hope and the earnest wish that organizations which have not yet lent their adherence do so as soon as possible.”

In the meantime another proposition, which had its origin in a suggestion of Mr. Jacob H. Schiff, was received from the Jewish Colonization Association. This looked to the establishment of a special Bureau by the Jewish Colonization Association at Paris. This Bureau was to be the central office of an International organization to be composed of the Jewish Colonization Association, the Alliance Israélite Universelle, the Deutsche Konferenz-Gemeinschaft, the Hilfsverein, the Anglo-Jewish Association, the Israelitische Allianz of Vienna, and the American Jewish Committee, each of which was to be represented by two delegates with but one vote.

In view of the possibility that the imperfect harmony existing between the German and French organizations might tend to clog useful action, your Committee did not feel at liberty to give its adhesion to either scheme without further effort by the European organizations to arrive at a more perfect understanding. Your
Committee, therefore, at the meeting held on October 8, adopted the following resolution:

"Pending the completion of arrangements by the Jewish organizations of France, Germany, Great Britain, Austria, and other countries, looking to concerted action in the interest of oppressed Jews, the American Jewish Committee reserves action on the several invitations extended to join an international organization, declaring, however, that in view of events now transpiring in the East, which must necessarily affect our brethren, it is deemed imperative that co-operation be speedily effected."

This was transmitted by cable to the I. C. A. and to Dr. Nathan. Such is the present status of this important matter, and your Committee feels that however desirable co-operation among the Jewish organizations of Europe and this country may be, it cannot be achieved until the European organizations themselves devise an effective scheme of co-operation.

**IMMIGRATION**

Your Committee is happy to be able to report that during the year the immigration problem has not been acute from the point of view of federal legislation.

The investigation carried on by the United States Immigration Commission has not been concluded, nor have they had any hearings, though it is understood that the Commission will make a preliminary report to the next Congress. Proper steps have been taken that in case hearings are held, your Committee will be duly notified.

The extraordinary decrease in immigration and the great increase in emigration which have taken place in the past twelve months have had the effect of silencing or moderating the restrictionists for the time being. There is, moreover, an appreciation by the public of the fact that Congress having appointed a Commission to investigate the subject, no action should be taken until that Commission makes a complete report.

Mention may be made of the appointment, under a law passed at the last session of the New York legislature, of a commission to investigate the effects of immigration in the State of New York. Governor Hughes appointed Louis Marshall, Esq., chairman of that commission.

**THE PASSPORT QUESTION**

Appreciating the great importance of the Passport Question, your Committee has devoted much time to its consideration. (See report in American Jewish Year Book, 5669, pp. 248-254.)

We are happy to report that the administration of President Roosevelt has given unequivocal evidence of its earnestness in
the effort to maintain the rights under American passports of all citizens, without distinction. The latest and most emphatic expression on this subject is the published letter of Secretary Root to Mr. Jacob H. Schiff, under date of October 19, 1908 (see pp. 41-2).

The letter of Secretary Root is the most important advance that has been made by our government to protect the rights of Jewish citizens of this country in Russia. For forty years there has been more or less diplomatic writing ending in nothing practical. At last Secretary Root has boldly taken the position that Russia must observe the treaty of 1832, or otherwise this government will terminate it and the treaty of 1887, and thus leave Russia and ourselves without any treaty. The letter of Mr. Root to Mr. Schiff shows all this.

We hope that this may be the beginning of the end of the passport question, which is big with possibilities for the benefit, not only of American Jews, but also of Jews in Russia. Nevertheless our efforts cannot be relaxed. Diplomatic negotiations are usually slow. The matter with which we are dealing has more than ordinary difficulties. The hostility to Jews entertained and evinced by the Czar's government is an historical fact. Every obstacle that can be devised to thwart the purposes of the American government will be interposed. We are, however, in the right, and in the end, right will and must triumph.

That the incoming administration will loyally and energetically pursue this policy we are well assured. (At this point the speech of acceptance of Mr. Taft, July 28, 1908, and his speech of October 26, at Brownsville, were quoted, see pp. 40-1.)

We are glad to record that the National Conventions of both the leading parties saw the wisdom and justice of adhering to the stand taken by their predecessors. The Republican party re-adopted the plank of 1904, and the Democratic party adopted in a revised form the plank of 1904—perhaps more forcible than the latter. It is gratifying to note, also, that the Independence party convention adopted a similar plank, so that it may fairly be said that the whole citizenship of the United States, regardless of party affiliations, has boldly spoken in assertion of the equal rights of all American citizens without distinction.

THE CASE OF DR. DUBOUCHET

In April last, your Committee learned of the expulsion from Odessa of Dr. Chas. W. Dubouchet, a leading surgeon of that city, though not a Jew. Dr. Dubouchet is an American citizen, who was at one time Vice-Consul at Odessa. It is well authenticated that his expulsion from Odessa was largely due to the fact that during the pogroms he had harbored a number of Jewish refugees
in his house and had been otherwise sympathetically active in their cause. As Dr. Dubouchet has been forced to lose practically his whole fortune by reason of the haste with which he was compelled to leave Odessa, and as he spoke of coming to this country to lodge a claim against the Russian government with the Department of State, your Committee took steps to inform Dr. Dubouchet that if he came to this country for that purpose, we would be pleased to see that he obtained proper legal advice and that his case would be looked after in every way in our power. As yet, however, Dr. Dubouchet has not been able to come to this country, and has not forwarded any papers in his case, hence our inability to take any further action in his behalf.

THE CASE OF DR. LURIA

Beginning in June last, communications were received from Dr. G. A. Luria, of Johannesburg, S. A., explaining that he was an American citizen, but that he was deprived of the right to register as such at the American Consulate, and that steps were being taken to have his naturalization cancelled. Upon investigation, it appeared that he had also communicated with Mr. A. S. Solomons, who had brought his case to the attention of the Department of State, which Department had acted unfavorably on his application.

As his case involves an interpretation of the naturalization laws of the United States, the matter was referred to Mr. Albert M. Friedenberg and Mr. Marshall for investigation.

FINANCES

It is with much regret that your Committee reports that they have not received the financial support during the year that was expected. It will be recalled at the last annual meeting, it was voted to raise the sum of $12,500 for the expenses of the Committee, apportioned as follows:

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<th>District No. 1, $250</th>
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<th>District No. 7, $1500</th>
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As considerably less than the above amount has been paid into the treasury, it is plain that a more effective financial system must be devised, if our work is to be carried on successfully, and it is expected that this matter will be dealt with in the report of the Finance Committee.
BOSTON SAILOR EPISODE

On September 29 last a report appeared in the daily press that a sailor had been excluded from a synagogue in Roxbury, a suburb of Boston, for the reason that he wore the uniform of the United States Service. The statement was so absurd that no attention would have been paid to it had not the newspaper report printed remarks alleged to have been made by the Secretary of the Navy. In the opinion of your Committee, it was on this account thought necessary to investigate the matter on the spot and to procure affidavits from the persons involved. On October 15 the Committee was able to put the facts before the President and the Secretary of the Navy. On the same day the Secretary of the Navy wrote to the rabbi of the congregation expressing his satisfaction that the report was unfounded. As a statement had been widely published that the act might be imputable to an orthodox Jewish custom, it was considered important publicly to protest against this reflection upon a large section of the Jewish community.

POLICE COMMISSIONER BINGHAM'S CHARGES

In the September number of the North American Review, Police Commissioner Bingham, of New York City, published an article which charged in substance that the Jews of New York committed fifty per cent of the crimes in that locality, although they constituted but twenty-five per cent of the population. Great excitement was engendered by the publication, which was widely disseminated, and occasioned comment unfavorable to the Jews throughout the world. The Committee, believing the subject as essentially within its jurisdiction, a conference was arranged with the representative of General Bingham, who thereupon published an unqualified retraction of his charges, and an admission that they were not based on any facts or statistics whatsoever. This retraction was published in the October number of the North American Review and in the press generally, where it received extensive comment, which has to a great extent obviated the mischief of the original publication.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

It is gratifying to report that the cordial relations established between the Jewish organizations of this country and Europe continue without interruption. For providing us with elaborate reports respecting the regulations under which passports are issued in England, France, and Germany, we are under obligations to the Anglo-Jewish Association, the Alliance Israélite Universelle, and the Hilfsverein der Deutschen Juden.
Other matters of importance are under consideration, but as no conclusions have been reached, it is deemed inadvisable to make more specific reference to them.

ACTION ON REPORT

On motion of Mr. Isaac W. Frank, the report of the Executive Committee was received.

On motion of Dr. Adler, the minute on the death of Rev. Dr. Voorsanger, as expressive of the esteem in which Dr. Voorsanger was held by the members of the Committee, was adopted by a rising vote.

The recommendations of the Executive Committee, embodied in the report, were acted upon, as follows:

FINANCE

Mr. Marshall, on behalf of the Finance Committee, reported that the method hitherto pursued of raising the amounts required for the general expenses of the Committee by annual assessments, had proved successful in only three of the districts. The Committee thought that some other plan should be adopted and recommended that the endeavor be made to raise a Guaranty Fund of $30,000, which it was thought would be adequate to carry on the work of the Committee, along its present lines, for the next three years, and that a special committee should be appointed to carry out these recommendations.

On motion, the report of the Finance Committee was received, and the recommendation that a special committee be appointed to endeavor to raise a Guaranty Fund of $30,000 for the next three years was adopted. On motion of Mr. Marshall, it was resolved that the committee consist of five members. The Chairman appointed the following: Jacob H. Schiff, chairman, Adolph Lewisohn, Edward Lauterbach, Isaac W. Bernheim, and Julius Rosenwald. (Mr. Schiff having asked to be relieved of the chairmanship, Mr. Bijur was appointed in his place, and Mr. Guggenheim was added to the Committee.)

INFORMATION AND STATISTICS

The recommendation for an appropriation of $1,000 for carrying on the work of collecting information and statistics, was adopted.

AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK

The recommendation for an appropriation of $1,000 for continuing the preparation of the manuscript of the American Jewish Year Book was adopted. The recommendation respecting
furnishing the members of the Committee and members of the Advisory Councils with copies of the Year Book was laid on the table.

It was resolved that out of the general appropriation, the Secretary be authorized to expend a sum not exceeding $1,000 for preparing and keeping up to date a list of Jewish organizations throughout the United States.

SAN FRANCISCO FUND

A report from Judge Sloss describing in detail what disposition had been made of the San Francisco fund was read, and in abstract is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RECEIPTS</th>
<th>EXPENDITURES:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$37,650.79</td>
<td>Bush Street Synagogue $3,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Geary Street Synagogue 28,703.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Russ Street Synagogue 136.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jewish Educational Society 500.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total $32,840.53
Balance on hand $4,810.26

The distribution originally contemplated was upon the following basis: Bush Street Synagogue, 10 per cent; Geary Street Synagogue, 60 per cent; Russ Street Synagogue, 20 per cent; Jewish Educational Society, 10 per cent. The Bush Street Synagogue has received approximately its quota. The Geary Street Synagogue has received 60 per cent and the major part of the 20 per cent which would have gone to the Russ Street Synagogue, had such appropriation not been rendered unnecessary by reason of the gift of a building to the congregation by Mr. Wm. Wolf. Of the balance on hand, it was stated that the greater part belongs to the Jewish Educational Society. The remainder, after the last mentioned obligation is paid, it is intended to distribute between the Russ Street Synagogue and the Geary Street Synagogue in such proportion as may be determined.

Judge Sloss having asked for an expression of the views of the Committee as to the distribution and disposition of the balance of the fund on hand, on motion of Judge Mack it was resolved that the thanks of the Committee be tendered to Judge Sloss and his Committee for their services in distributing the San Francisco fund; that the distribution as reported by him be approved; that the balance on hand, intended for the Jewish Educational Society, be held until such time as they establish themselves, and that the
remainder be distributed in the discretion of Judge Sloss and his associates.

The Executive Committee was authorized to discontinue efforts in behalf of the fund.

NEW YORK COMMUNITY

The plan providing for the formation of a United Jewish Community in Greater New York which shall become the constituency of the American Jewish Committee, was considered by paragraphs. After extended discussion participated in by Messrs. Newberger, Marshall, Loeb, Lauterbach, Schiff, Magnes, Weil, Mack, Frank, Friedman, and Cyrus L. Sulzberger, the Committee voted to approve the formation of a Community in Greater New York, and adopted the plan submitted, with amendments, as follows:

"On the conditions hereinafter specified, a call for the formation of a Jewish Community of the City of New York shall be issued, which is to be signed by a committee of twenty-five of the proposed new organization, and by the New York members of the American Jewish Committee. These conditions are:

(1) It is expressly understood that the American Jewish Committee shall have exclusive jurisdiction over all questions of a national or international character affecting the Jews generally.

(2) The membership of the American Jewish Committee is to be increased, so that the Twelfth District shall have allotted to it twenty-five members.

(3) These twenty-five members are to be elected by the Jewish Community of New York City in such manner as it shall determine by proper by-laws, it being understood that citizenship of the United States is one of the qualifications for membership of the American Jewish Committee.

(4) These twenty-five members of the American Jewish Committee shall at the same time constitute the Executive Committee of the Community.

(5) As such Executive Committee, they shall have jurisdiction over all questions of a local character, or which shall specifically affect the New York Community itself, subject, however, to the right of any two members of such Executive Committee who shall be members of the Executive Committee of the American Jewish Committee to appeal to the latter from any action determined upon, if they shall certify that in their opinion the action proposed to be taken shall trench upon the jurisdiction of the American Jewish Committee, in which event a special meeting of the Executive Committee of the latter shall be held within ten days to consider such appeal. All action by the New York Community
as to the subject matter of the appeal shall be suspended until the
decision of such appeal, which decision shall be final.

(6) It shall not be within the province of any member of the
Executive Committee of the American Jewish Committee chosen
from any other district, to take such appeal or to interfere with
the action of the New York Community."

It was resolved that upon the foregoing plan becoming opera-
tive, the Executive Committee be empowered to divide the present
District No. XII into such districts as may be deemed expedient,
and to make such other amendments to the Constitution as may
be found necessary—such amendments to be submitted for ratifi-
cation either to the next annual meeting of the General Com-
mittee, or to a special meeting, should one be called.

Officers were elected as given on p. 237.
The following were elected to fill vacancies or expired terms:
District II: Nathan Cohn, Nashville, and Jacques Loeb, Mont-
gomery, to succeed themselves, terms expiring 1913.
District V: Harris Weinstock, Sacramento, to succeed the late
Rev. Dr. Voorsanger, term expiring 1912; Ben Selling, Portland,
Ore., to succeed Sigmund Sichel, resigned, term expiring 1912.
District VI: Emanuel Cohen, Esq., Minneapolis, Minn., to suc-
cceed Ambrose Guiterman, resigned, term expiring 1910.
District VII: Emil G. Hirsch and Julian W. Mack, Chicago, to
succeed themselves, terms expiring 1913.
District VIII: E. M. Baker, Cleveland, O., to succeed himself,
term expiring 1913.
District IX: Felix Fuld, Newark, to succeed Louis Hood, and
Mayer Sulzberger, Philadelphia, to succeed himself, terms expir-
ing 1913.

(For the Constitution, etc., see American Jewish Year Book,
5669, pp. 238 et seq.)