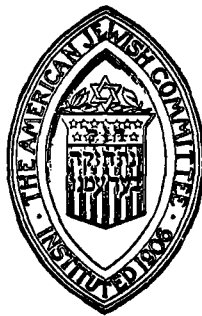


THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT



1936

OBJECTS OF THE COMMITTEE

“The objects of this corporation shall be, to prevent the infraction of the civil and religious rights of Jews, in any part of the world; to render all lawful assistance and to take appropriate remedial action in the event of threatened or actual invasion or restriction of such rights, or of unfavorable discrimination with respect thereto; to secure for Jews equality of economic, social and educational opportunity; to alleviate the consequences of persecution and to afford relief from calamities affecting Jews, wherever they may occur; and to compass these ends to administer any relief fund which shall come into its possession or which may be received by it, in trust or otherwise, for any of the aforesaid objects or for purposes comprehended therein.”

—*Extract from the Charter.*

OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OFFICERS

President, CYRUS ADLER

Honorary Vice-President, ABRAM I. ELKUS

Vice-Presidents { IRVING LEHMAN
 { LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN

Treasurer, SAMUEL D. LEIDESDORF

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- | | |
|---|---|
| CYRUS ADLER (1937)*
<i>Philadelphia, Pa.</i> | SOLOMON LOWENSTEIN (1938)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> |
| CARL J. AUSTRIAN (1939)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> | JAMES MARSHALL (1939)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> |
| JAMES H. BECKER (1937)
<i>Chicago, Ill.</i> | LOUIS B. MAYER (1937)
<i>Culver City, Cal.</i> |
| JOHN L. BERNSTEIN (1938)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> | GEORGE Z. MEDALIE (1938)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> |
| DAVID M. BRESSLER (1937)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> | JULIUS L. MEIER (1937)
<i>Portland, Ore.</i> |
| FRED M. BUTZEL (1938)
<i>Detroit, Mich.</i> | LOUIS J. MOSS (1937)
<i>Brooklyn, N. Y.</i> |
| JAMES DAVIS (1938)
<i>Chicago, Ill.</i> | MRS. DAVID DE SOLA POOL (1937)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> |
| ABRAM I. ELKUS (1937)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> | JOSEPH M. PROSKAUER (1939)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> |
| LEON FALK (1939)
<i>Pittsburgh, Pa.</i> | MILTON J. ROSENAU (1938)
<i>Chapel Hill, N. C.</i> |
| PHILLIP FORMAN (1939)
<i>Trenton, N. J.</i> | JAMES N. ROSENBERG (1939)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> |
| ELI FRANK (1937)
<i>Baltimore, Md.</i> | SAMUEL I. ROSENMAN (1939)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> |
| MRS. M. L. GOLDMAN (1937)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> | WILLIAM ROSENWALD (1939)
<i>Philadelphia, Pa.</i> |
| SIMON M. GOLDSMITH (1938)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> | RALPH J. SCHWARZ (1938)
<i>New Orleans, La.</i> |
| HAROLD HIRSCH (1938)
<i>Atlanta, Ga.</i> | HORACE STERN (1937)
<i>Philadelphia, Pa.</i> |
| HENRY ITTLESON (1937)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> | ROGER W. STRAUS (1939)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> |
| LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN (1938)
<i>Boston, Mass.</i> | LEWIS L. STRAUSS (1939)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> |
| SIDNEY LANSBURGH (1939)
<i>Baltimore, Md.</i> | SOL M. STROOCK (1937) <i>Chairman</i>
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> |
| ALBERT D. LASKER (1937)
<i>Chicago, Ill.</i> | AARON WALDHEIM (1939)
<i>St. Louis, Mo.</i> |
| FRED LAZARUS (1938)
<i>Columbus, Ohio</i> | FELIX M. WARBURG (1939)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> |
| IRVING LEHMAN (1938)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> | WILLIAM WEISS (1938)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> |
| SAMUEL D. LEIDESDORF (1938)
<i>New York, N. Y.</i> | HENRY WINEMAN (1939)
<i>Detroit, Mich.</i> |
| WILLIAM M. LEWIS (1937)
<i>Philadelphia, Pa.</i> | MORRIS WOLF (1939)
<i>Philadelphia, Pa.</i> |

Secretary

MORRIS D. WALDMAN

Assistant Secretary

HARRY SCHNEIDERMAN

461 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Cable Address, "WISHCOM, New York."

*The year given after each name is the date on which member's term expires.

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 5, 1936

The Twenty-Ninth Annual Meeting of the American Jewish Committee was held at the Hotel Astor, New York City, on January 5, 1936.

Judge Irving Lehman, Vice-President, called the meeting to order and announced that, owing to illness, Dr. Cyrus Adler, President, was unable to attend the meeting and preside.

At the suggestion of Isidore Wise, Esq., of Hartford, that the meeting be opened with prayer, the Chairman called upon the Rev. Dr. Moses Hyamson of New York City, who did so.

The following Corporate Members were present:

Community Representatives

CONNECTICUT

Hartford: Isidore Wise
New Britain: Morris D. Saxe

ILLINOIS

Chicago: Bernard Horwich

MARYLAND

Baltimore: Sidney Lansburgh

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston: Felix Vorenberg
Springfield: Henry Lasker
Worcester: Joseph Talmo

MISSOURI

St. Joseph: Harry Block

NEW JERSEY

Jersey City: Harry Goldowsky
Plainfield: William Newcorn
Trenton: Phillip Forman

NEW YORK

Brooklyn: William Liebermann

Freeport: Samuel M. Levy

New York: Carl J. Austrian; Simon Bergman; John L. Bernstein; David M. Bressler; David A. Brown; William Fischman; Mrs. Maurice Goldman; Henry S. Hendricks; Stanley M. Isaacs; Joseph J. Klein; Arthur K. Kuhn; A. M. Lamport; Irving Lehman; Solomon Lowenstein; James Marshall; Isidore D. Morrison; Henry Moskowitz; Louis J. Moss; Joseph M. Proskauer; Harold Riegelman; Wolfgang Schwabacher; Roger W. Straus; Lewis L. Strauss; Sol. M. Stroock; William Weiss

White Plains: P. Irving Grinberg

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia: Justin P. Altman; Al Paul Lefton; Victor Rosewater

Scranton: Leon M. Levy

Wilkes-Barre: J. K. Weitzenkorn

RHODE ISLAND

Providence: Archibald Silverman

VIRGINIA

Richmond: Edward N. Calisch

WISCONSIN

Madison: S. B. Schein

Members-at-Large

Louis Bamberger, Newark; Eli Frank, Baltimore; Herbert J. Hannoeh, Newark; Louis E. Kirstein, Boston; S. D. Leidesdorf, New York; Charles J. Liebman, New York; Julian W. Mack, New York; George Z. Medalie, New York; Reuben Oppenheimer, Baltimore; Lessing J. Rosenwald, Philadelphia.

Delegates from Organizations

HADASSAH: Mrs. Edward Jacobs.

HEBREW SHELTERING AND IMMIGRANT AID SOCIETY OF AMERICA: S. Dingol, Harry Fischel, Abraham Herman, Jacob Massel, Samuel O. Telsey.

INDEPENDENT ORDER B'RITH ABRAHAM: Samuel Goldstein, Leon Sanders, Max Silverstein.

INDEPENDENT ORDER FREE SONS OF ISRAEL: Alexander Bernardik, Max Ogust.

ORDER OF UNITED HEBREW BROTHERS: Max E. Greenberg.

WOMEN'S BRANCH OF THE UNION OF ORTHODOX JEWISH CONGREGATIONS OF AMERICA: Mrs. Joseph M. Asher.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA: Mrs. David Kass, Miss Sarah Kussy, Mrs. Samuel Spiegel.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S LEAGUE OF THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA: Harry H. Goebel.

There were also present the following Sustaining Members and other guests:

Moses J. S. Abels, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Abba Abrams, New York.

Paul Baerwald, New York; Mrs. Grace Allen Bangs, New York; Albert G. Baum, Alexandria, La.; Irving Berkelhammer, New York; H. J. Bernheim, New York; Julius I. Bitterman, Jersey City, N. J.; I. L. Brill, New York.

Emanuel Celler, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Theodore Charnas, New York; A. B. Cohen, Scranton, Pa.; Elias A. Cohen, New York; Samuel M. Cohen, New York; Herman J. Cohn, White Plains, N. Y.; Isidor Coons, New York.

Miss Alice R. Emanuel, New York.

Ernest H. Feilchenfeld, New York; Benjamin G. Feinberg, New York; Rabbi and Mrs. Abba Fineberg,

Niagara Falls, N. Y.; William M. Fletcher, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Albert M. Friedenberg, New York; Miss Ruby Frisch, New York; W. F. Fuerst, New York; Mrs. Felix Fuld, Orange, N. J.

Joseph E. Gilbert, New York; Walter F. Gips, Scarsdale, N. Y.; Harry L. Glucksman, New York; William Goebel, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mrs. Blanche P. Goldfarb, New York; Arthur J. Goldsmith, New York; Milton Goldsmith, New York; Leo Gottlieb, New York; Louis Gutman, New York.

Benjamin C. Hartstein, New York; John Haven, Utica, N. Y.; Edward Herbert, New York; Levi Hershfield, New York; Mrs. Joseph Herzog, New York; Samuel A. Herzog, New York; Moses Hyamson, New York; George W. Hyman, New York.

A. L. Jaffe, Brooklyn, N. Y.

M. J. Karpf, New York; A. D. Katcher, New York; Miss Eleanor Kay, Arverne, L. I.; Edgar J. Kohler, New York; Alfred E. Kornfeld, New York; I. Henry Kutz, New Rochelle, New York.

Jacob Landau, New York; Morris S. Lazon, Baltimore, Md.; Edward H. Lebovsky, Watertown, New York; Mrs. Irving Lehman, New York; Rabbi B. L. Levinthal, Philadelphia, Pa.; Israel H. Levinthal, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Herman Lissner, New York; Samuel Littauer, Union City, New Jersey.

Dr. M. Manges, New York; Sidney J. Markovitz, Philadelphia, Pa.; Jean Mathias, New York; Mrs. Albert J. May, New York; W. D. Minkin, Detroit, Mich.

Mrs. Clarence S. Nathan, New York; Mr. and Mrs. Edgar J. Nathan, Jr., New York; Miss Rosalie Nathan, New York; Henry Necarlsumer, New York.

Bernard Postal, New York.

Miss Reta Rabinoff, New York; Charles Reiss, Forest Hills, L. I.; Philip Rosenblum, Brooklyn, N. Y.;

William Rosenwald, Philadelphia, Pa.; Julius Roten, New York; Louis Rudner, Trenton, N. J.
 Manuel S. Sachs, New Haven, Conn.; Alex N. Sack, New York; Mrs. Henry B. Sanger, New York; Eliot Saxe, New Britain, Conn.; Leon Schaeffler, Forest Hills, L. I.; Albert D. Schanzer, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Miss Stella J. Schifrin, Rochester, N. Y.; Louis Schlesinger, Newark, N. J.; Samuel Schulman, New York; S. Seiferheld, New York; Louis B. Shipper, Trenton, N. J.; Jacob Silverblatt, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; Miss Anna F. Skolsky, Hartford, Conn.; Frank H. Slater, Hartford, Conn.; Miss Elvira N. Solis, New York; J. Solis-Cohen, Jr., Philadelphia, Pa.; Louis Soll, New York; Rudolph G. Sonneborn, New York; Mr. and Mrs. Milton Steiner, New York; Max D. Steuer, New York; N. I. Stone, New York; Nathan Sweedler, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Emil Tas, New York; J. Garfield Trager, Scarsdale, N. Y.

Benjamin Vine, Trenton, N. J.

Leon G. Wertheim, New York; Mr. and Mrs. Wolfe Wolfensohn, New York.

PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT

At the request of the Chairman, Mr. Sol M. Stroock, Chairman of the Executive Committee, presented the Report of the Executive Committee for the past year.

Upon motion of Mr. William Liebermann of Brooklyn, N. Y., the Report was unanimously approved.

Rabbi Edward N. Calisch of Richmond, Va., made a statement with regard to relations between Jews and non-Jews in the State of Virginia generally and in the city of Richmond in particular.

Rabbi Morris S. Lazaron of Baltimore, Md., presented a statement of his views with regard to the present emergency, based upon his observations in Germany and in various parts of the United States.

REPORT OF HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES FROM GERMANY

Upon motion of Mr. Joseph M. Proskauer, the following resolution with regard to the services of Mr. James G. McDonald, High Commissioner for Refugees (Jewish and Other) Coming from Germany, who had, on December 27, 1935, on the occasion of his resignation, submitted a final report to the League of Nations, was unanimously adopted:

On the occasion of his resignation as High Commissioner for Refugees (Jewish and Other) Coming from Germany, the American Jewish Committee extends to Mr. James G. McDonald its gratitude and its appreciation for his unstinted and courageous efforts on behalf of those thousands who have been forced to flee from oppression.

Carrying through his appointed mission under the most adverse conditions, Mr. McDonald gave to the great task which he undertook a wide experience in public affairs and a wholehearted desire to enlist the sympathies and the aid of the entire world in the cause which he so faithfully served.

The American Jewish Committee expresses the hope that the League of Nations, to which Mr. McDonald addressed his strong and noble plea for intercession to "avert existing and impending tragedies," will act in conformity with its principles to call the German National Socialist Government before the bar of international justice.

The complete text of remarks made by Mr. Proskauer in moving the adoption of the resolution, is printed as an appendix to this report (pp. 645-647).

AFTERNOON SESSION

Mr. Sol M. Stroock, Chairman of the Executive Committee, presided at the afternoon session of the meeting.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Mr. Samuel D. Leidesdorf, the Treasurer of the Com-

mittee, presented a report on the financial condition of the Committee, which was unanimously accepted. This report is appended.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Chairman announced, that, in pursuance of the usual practice, the President had, in advance of this meeting, appointed a committee to nominate successors to the officers and those members of the Executive Committee whose terms expire at this meeting, and additional members of the Executive Committee. The nominating committee consisted of the following: Mr. Samuel D. Leidesdorf, of New York City, Chairman, and Messrs. Joseph J. Klein and Arthur K. Kuhn, of New York City; B. Horwich of Chicago; Harry A. Hollzer of Los Angeles; William Newcorn of Plainfield; and Ralph J. Schwarz of New Orleans.

The Secretary presented the following report of the nominating committee:

“For members of the Executive Committee, to serve for three years, we recommend that the following, whose terms expire today, be re-elected:

Carl J. Austrian	Louis B. Mayer
James H. Becker	George Z. Medalie
John L. Bernstein	Julius L. Meier
James Davis	Louis J. Moss
Phillip Forman	Mrs. David de Sola Pool
Eli Frank	Joseph M. Proskauer
Mrs. Maurice L. Goldman	Milton J. Rosenau
Simon M. Goldsmith	James N. Rosenberg
Harold Hirsch	Samuel I. Rosenman
Louis E. Kirstein	Ralph J. Schwarz
Sidney Lansburgh	Roger W. Straus
Fred Lazarus, Jr.	Lewis L. Strauss
Samuel D. Leidesdorf	Aaron Waldheim
William M. Lewis	Felix M. Warburg
Solomon Lowenstein	William Weiss
James Marshall	Henry Wineman

Morris Wolf

"For additional members of the Executive Committee, we recommend the following:

Leon Falk, Jr.

William Rosenwald

"For officers, we recommend the re-election of the present incumbents, namely,

For President, Dr. Cyrus Adler

For Honorary Vice-President, Abram I. Elkus

For Vice-Presidents, Irving Lehman and Louis E. Kirstein

For Treasurer, Samuel D. Leidesdorf

"With regard to the places on the Executive Committee which still remain vacant, we recommend that the Executive Committee shall be empowered to fill these vacancies in its discretion, provided, however, that persons so elected shall serve as members of the Executive Committee only until your next Annual Meeting."

Upon motion, the report of the nominating committee was adopted and the Secretary was requested to cast one ballot for the nominees of the nominating committee, which he did, and announced the election of the several nominees.

MEMBERSHIP-AT-LARGE

Upon motion, duly seconded, the Secretary was requested to cast one ballot for the nominees for membership-at-large suggested by the Executive Committee in its Annual Report, which he did, and announced the election of the several nominees.

REPORT ON ORGANIZATION MATTERS

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Mr. Morris D. Waldman, Secretary, presented the report on organization matters which is printed on pp. 635-42 below.

Upon motion, duly seconded, this report was accepted.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS

On motion, duly made and seconded, resolutions adopted by the Executive Committee in memory of deceased mem-

bers and of Professor Sylvain Lévi, President of the Alliance Israélite Universelle, and of Lord Reading, were unanimously approved by a rising vote.

MESSAGE FROM DR. ADLER

The Chairman read the following telegraphic message which had been received from Dr. Adler:

"Sincerely regret inability to attend annual meeting the first I have missed since the foundation of the Committee. Please present my greetings to all the members. I trust that the Committee will adequately recognize the distinguished services of James G. McDonald to the unhappy refugees from Germany whom German spokesmen commenting on McDonald letter have called with true German courtesy human garbage. The universities of America, England, Turkey, and South America have grown the richer through these exiles while the universities of Germany are degraded and humiliated. I would like to suggest that resolutions be adopted endorsing the campaign of the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal. Finally we must set our own house in order in our respective communities. We should give all support to synagogues and schools and to all Jewish institutions for religious and moral training to the end that the Jewish community of America be without shame or reproach."

Upon motion, it was unanimously agreed that the recommendations of Dr. Adler be approved and be embodied in appropriate resolutions to be spread upon the Minutes of this meeting.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

Following is the text of the resolutions prepared in accordance with the foregoing motion:

The American Jewish Committee, impressed with the gravity of the dangers facing Jews of other countries, recognizing that vast funds are imperatively needed in order that millions of human lives may be salvaged from

fear and poverty, and confident that the traditional liberality of the American Jewish community will be maintained in this great crisis, call upon their co-religionists wholeheartedly and generously to support the campaign of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee for overseas reconstruction and relief.

The American Jewish Committee, having in 1918 adopted a resolution expressing its readiness to cooperate in the establishment in Palestine of a Jewish center; and noting with thankfulness that, under Divine Providence, Palestine has, during the past three years, served as the most hospitable refuge for Jews fleeing from Nazi oppression in Germany; wholeheartedly endorses the campaign about to be launched by various organizations for funds to finance Jewish settlement and other activities in Palestine, and calls on all its supporters and friends to give generously to these funds.

The American Jewish Committee, deeply concerned, lest, in this period of stress, the institutions of Judaism be weakened, and recognizing that at the present time their preservation is especially necessary, urges that full support be given to all Jewish institutions for religious, moral, and communal training.
Upon motion, adjourned.

MORRIS D. WALDMAN

Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE

To the Members of the American Jewish Committee:

We are meeting at a time when the conditions in the world are so grave, difficult and confused as to give the statesmen of our own country, and even in a greater degree, those of Europe, cause for the utmost anxiety. These very conditions aggravate the situations with which your Executive Committee has to deal, but also necessitate a self-restraint imposed by the need of seeing things in their true perspective.

During the past year, the twenty-ninth in the existence of the Committee, the situation of the Jews of Germany and its effects in our country continued to absorb the greater part of the attention and activity of your Executive Committee. These situations are carefully studied and, whenever possible, such action is taken as, in the opinion of your Committee, is likely to be helpful and constructive.

The events of the past year in Germany are well known to you all. We shall, therefore, not record them here, but merely present a brief interpretation of their significance, to be followed by an outline of the course of events in other countries of special interest to the American Jewish Committee.

I. THE JEWISH SITUATION IN GERMANY

During 1935, it became clear that all hope that the Nazi drive on the Jews would at least not deprive them of the possibility of a mere existence, was illusory. In fact, though there were indications that some elements of the population are out of sympathy with this drive, yet it was even more manifest that the Nazi regime is bent upon the complete extermination of those Jews who are unable to uproot themselves from a land in which they have the same right and in many cases a better right to live than their oppressors. Any suggestion that, despite all hardships, there is even a slim prospect that a remnant of Jews could somehow remain in Germany was bitterly resented by the Nazi

authorities. Thus, when, in May 1935, Herr Heinrich Stahl, president of the Berlin Jewish Community, upon returning from a visit to Palestine, publicly urged the Jews of Germany not to be too precipitate about leaving the country but to do everything possible to make sure that they were not going from bad to worse by emigrating, he was ordered by the authorities to refrain from repeating such advice. Similarly, the meeting called last June by the Central Verein deutscher Staatsbürger jüdischen Glaubens, was forbidden by the authorities because it was known that some of the leaders of that organization believed that many Jews would have to remain in Germany and that these should do everything possible to adapt themselves for survival. But the determination of the government to make such adaptation virtually impossible was clearly shown by its encouragement of vocational training to fit Jews for emigration, and its condemnation of such efforts when aimed at rendering Jews capable of re-ordering their lives in Germany; in March last, such efforts were formally forbidden in the following circular issued by Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, Minister of Economics:

"The Reich and Prussian Minister of the Interior informs me he does not consider it advisable to prevent or hamper instruction courses in the manual crafts for Jews willing to emigrate, because the measure that promotes the emigration of Jews must be welcome.

"Illegal labor that might be feared from individual Jews, thus trained, in manual trades should adequately be met by police measures. The independent pursuit of a manual craft as a standing trade is opposed by the provisions of the third ordinance regarding the preliminary reconstruction of German manual trades, dated January 18, 1935."

While the Nazis are at one with regard to the objective of exterminating the Jews, there appear to be two conflicting views as to the manner in which this objective is to be achieved. The adherents of one view would lull foreign opinion to sleep by eschewing any spectacular measures, such as pogroms, which may arouse unfavorable comment in foreign countries, and would concentrate efforts on the

less lurid but far more effective steps to crush the Jews, by so-called "legal" means alone. The more fanatical Nazis, however, chafe at such a time-consuming policy. They favor and employ such measures as violently driving Jews out of places in which they live, or forcing their exodus by making life in such places unbearable. This faction of the Nazi party is led by such fanatics as Streicher who, in many parts of Germany, exhibits posters of a naked person, on which there is the legend: "This is how the Jews must leave Germany!" It was impatient members of the more extreme wing of this radical faction who were responsible for anti-Jewish riots in Munich in May 1935, and for similar outbreaks in Berlin in July.

These violent tactics were regarded with displeasure not only by many in the general population who have not approved the persecution of the Jews, but also by the more conservative Nazis, who favor the more refined, though equally destructive, effects of "legal" action which can deprive the entire Jewish population, at one stroke, of the means of livelihood. Such legal acts do not so readily expose the government to criticism by foreign governments and are not sufficiently sensational to be reported in the outside press, whereas outbreaks of violence may involve a foreign national and are often regarded as having "news value" by foreign correspondents.

A series of decrees of this kind was announced with much ostentation at the Nazi Party Day celebration (Der Parteitag der Freiheit) held at Nuremberg last fall. On September 15, 1935, at the bidding of Herr Hitler, the Reichstag without discussion unanimously approved two statutes, the first dividing the nationals of the Reich into two classes,—Staatsangehörige (subjects of the state) and Reichsbürger (citizens of the Reich), with Jews excluded from the latter class. The second statute, announced at Nuremberg bore a title humiliating not only to Jews in Germany but also to Jews everywhere else in the world: "Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor."

This law forbids marriage between Jews and "persons of German or racially related blood," and declares extramarital sexual relations between members of these two

groups to be "race defilement," a criminal offense punishable by imprisonment at hard labor; furthermore, Jews are forbidden by this law from employing female domestics "of German or racially related blood" below the age of 45 years; finally, the law forbids Jews from flying the German flag. At the same time, possibly as a reaction in part to the occurrence in New York harbor of a raid on the German steamer "Bremen" in the course of which the swastika was torn from the mast of the ship, announcement was made that the swastika is hereafter to be the official emblem of the Reich. In announcing the new flag of the Reich, Hermann Wilhelm Goering, President of the Reichstag, explained the meaning of the swastika in the following words:

"This emblem was also for us a symbol of our struggle for our very own race. It was the symbol of our struggle against the Jews as race destroyers. Therefore, it is obvious that when in future this flag shall wave over Germany no Jew will dare raise this holy symbol. The new flag shall also prove to the world that Germany will remain true to the swastika through all eternity. Whoever insults this flag insults this nation."

Later, in November 1935, ordinances for the effectuation of the Nuremberg decrees were published. These ordinances aroused no little amazement outside of Germany because they appeared to be a back-down from the severity of laws previously enacted. The basic "Aryan paragraph," introduced in the laws of April 1933 and after, affected all persons who had even one Jewish grandparent in their ancestry. The November 1935 ordinances, however, declared that persons who have no more than two Jewish grandparents are to be classed as "half-caste Jews" and may become Reichsbürger who are to enjoy full political rights, unless they belong to or join the Jewish community or are married to Jews. There appears to be no reason to doubt that this loophole was created for the special accommodation of certain individuals formerly classified as "non-Aryans" whom the Nazi leaders do not wish to proscribe.

Furthermore, it is easy to see how the new citizenship

law makes possible a far simpler solution of the problem of the Jews than the "Aryan paragraph." With Jews excluded from citizenship, it is now necessary merely to exclude, "non-citizens" from this or that right or calling, in order to destroy the opportunities of Jews to maintain an existence in Germany. The words "Jew" and "Aryans" need not even be mentioned.

The Nuremberg laws no longer refer to "Aryans" and "non-Aryans"—terms which were previously employed to give the Nazi decrees an air of scientific make-believe. Instead the terms are "persons of German or racially related blood," on the one hand, and "Jews," on the other. This change in nomenclature may be explained by the fact that the Nazis found the distinction between "Aryans" and "non-Aryans" offensive to the population of other countries, particularly Japan. It will be recalled that in December 1934, Dr. Wilhelm Frick, Minister of the Interior, had declared that Germany's race policy does not aim at Japanese or Hindus to whom he referred as "ancient nations of high culture." There may also be another reason for the discarding of the term "Aryans," namely, that it had been repudiated as a racial designation by the entire scientific world. In this connection it is interesting to note that according to the terms of the "Law for the Preservation of German Blood and German Honor," marriage with "persons of German or racially related blood" is forbidden only to Jews, and not to Negroes, Asiatics, or American Indians.

It would seem, therefore, that, for foreign consumption at least, the Nazis have officially abandoned their pseudo-scientific race dogma as the justification for their unconscionable crimes. This is indicated not only by the changes in phraseology already noted, but also by the fact that, in announcing the new legislation, Herr Hitler delivered himself of a virulent tirade in which he sought to change the Nazi front by repeating the stock falsehood that communism and "the Jews" are identical. Herr Hitler repeated this falsehood in November 1935 in an interview with the president of the United Press.

It would be a grave error, however, to infer that the official retreat from the "Aryan" race dogma signifies any

recession in the Nazi persecution of the Jews. Non-Jews who had only one or two Jewish grandparents and were formerly classed as "non-Aryans" have been promoted to the class of "half-caste Jews" and are under certain conditions eligible for admission to citizenship with the enjoyment of full political rights, including the holding of public office. But the lot of the 480,000 Jews in Germany is not a whit improved by this concession to "non-Aryans." On the contrary, although the Nuremberg laws merely placed the stamp of official authority upon what had already been done without the express sanction of law, yet the promulgation of these humiliating edicts was regarded by the Jews of Germany as closing the door to all hope for any *modus vivendi* in their own land. There was apparent an immediate increase in the number of would-be emigrants and there is no doubt that, were it not for the nearly insuperable obstacles, the number who seek refuge in foreign lands would be swelled tremendously.

Owing to restrictions on immigration now effective in all lands, it is impossible for those German Jews, who have no means or are without relatives willing and able to guarantee their maintenance, to depart for other countries. Because of restrictions on the transfer of capital from Germany, even those who have means are unable to secure permission to enter another country, because they cannot withdraw enough on which to live elsewhere. There is no other recourse for such persons than the following: They must liquidate their property which, under present conditions, cannot be done except at a great loss; then, if, more than 50,000 marks are involved, they must give up twenty-five percent to the government as *Reichsfluchtsteuer* (an "exodus tax" which was in effect before Hitler came to power); they must convert the proceeds of liquidation into *Sperrmark* (earmarked currency), which are convertible into foreign currencies (at a discount varying between 25% and 50%). The net result of this process is that the person involved has been deprived of a considerable part, not less than 75% and, in most cases, 90% and even more, of the real value of his property.

According to the report submitted in July, 1935, to the Governing Body of the League of Nations by the High

Commissioner for Refugees from Germany, the total number of refugees up to that time was not less than 80,000. Of this number, 36,000 had been settled in overseas countries, principally Palestine (27,500) and the United States (6,000); 18,000 have been repatriated in eastern and central European countries, and from 5,000 to 10,000 have been settled in the western European countries in which they had sought refuge; while approximately 15,000 are still unplaced. The plight of thousands of these, said the Commissioner in his report, is grave and may soon become desperate, unless the present tendency to deny to unsettled refugees opportunities to work is reversed. The High Commissioner concluded his report by suggesting the definite liquidation by the end of 1935 of the Commission, and the transfer of its responsibility to a new organization directly responsible to the League of Nations.

It must be a source of gratification to Jews everywhere that Palestine is, providentially, serving as the most important haven of refuge for the stricken Jews of Germany. At the same time, in view of existing limitations of Palestine, and considering the right of an individual to migrate to the country of his choice, efforts to find new homes for these unfortunate brethren in other parts of the world must be earnestly prosecuted because the problem becomes graver with every passing day.

There is scarcely any doubt that the Nuremberg ghetto laws, as they have aptly been called, necessitate a more effective agency for dealing with the increasing number of refugees. Besides, that there is a likelihood of even more drastic measures by the Nazi regime was plainly stated by Herr Hitler in his address to the Reichstag. In one place, he said:

"In order to reach an amicable relation between the German people and the Jews, the government will try to bring about legal regulation However, should this not work, we shall have to take it up once again. If Jewish agitation, within and without Germany continues, we shall then re-examine the situation."

In another place in the same address, referring to the "Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor," he said:

"The second law is an attempt at the legal solution of a problem, which, if it fails, must be turned over to the National Socialist Party for final solution."

It is in such threats that the virulence of the Nazi persecution becomes apparent. After depriving the Jews of elementary human rights and inciting the population to heap unspeakable indignities upon them, the Nazi regime makes it well nigh impossible for them to escape, while at the same time taking every step to deprive them of their property and means of livelihood; and, having them in a trap, threatens to hold them as hostages for the submissive acceptance by their fellow-Jews abroad of the oppression of their brethren in Germany. A mere recital without comment indicates quite plainly that, whereas the Nazis' purpose was to degrade the Jews, it has resulted in the degradation of the Germans.

These intolerable conditions were brought to the attention of the League of Nations by Mr. James G. McDonald, High Commissioner for Refugees coming from Germany, in his letter of resignation and final Report to the Council on December 30th, 1935. In what was characterized by the *London Times* as a "devastating report," the High Commissioner condemned the policies of the National Socialist government as the real cause of the refugee problem. These policies Mr. McDonald said "constitute a source of unrest and perplexity in the world, challenge the conscience of mankind, and are a menace to the legitimate interests of the states affected by the immigration of German refugees." "Fresh collective action" by the League of Nations and the states of the world is necessary to avert the "existing and impending tragedies." This intercession the High Commissioner said, is not without precedent; in fact, the protection of the rights of minorities had become part of the public law of Europe.

Annexed to Mr. McDonald's letter of resignation, is a documented and detailed analysis of the discrimination suffered by "non-Aryans" in Germany. It describes the legislative basis for the treatment accorded the German Jews and those Christians defined as "non-Aryans," and demonstrates that the purpose of the government is "to eliminate Jews and Christians of Jewish ancestry from all

public and semi-public institutions, from the liberal professions and from intellectual and cultural life; to restrict their opportunities as businessmen, employees or laborers; and to segregate them as a group of outcasts." The further application of these basic laws which presage "the complete liquidation of all economic enterprises owned by Jews" as the objective of National Socialist policy are also dealt with. Furthermore, the Nazi boycott against the Jews is continuing with "the greatest intensity." Increasingly, Jews are being made to live under ghetto conditions: many towns exclude them from their territory and forbid them to buy real estate.

The report also describes in detail the way the Courts of Germany have not only failed to "safeguard the rights of equality and liberty which have become the basis of all civilized legal systems," but "have even been transformed into instruments for the extension and application of the racial principle to matters regulated by formal legislation or unreachd by administrative decree." The Courts have in effect, the report states, applied as a fundamental law the principle of the inequality of race and blood as a decisive judicial rule in all cases brought before them.

As a result of this program of discrimination, Mr. McDonald points out, the "non-Aryans" in Germany have been placed in the status of "unwelcome guests" whose emigration has been made necessary and inevitable. Returning refugees have been placed in "education camps"; thousands of individuals have been denationalized because they were Eastern European Jews; no measures of retraining of "non-Aryans" have been sanctioned except those which are intended to prepare Jews for emigration. Yet, in leaving Germany, refugees are faced with the virtual confiscation of their property by reason of the currency regulations.

Whereas in Germany the official reaction to Mr. McDonald's resignation and Report was characterized by the insolence and truculence which have come to be associated with the Nazi attitude, the press of the United States as well as of the rest of the world gave considerable space to the report and expressed its sense of horror at the Nazi government's continuing persecutions. The representation,

made to the League of Nations by Mr. McDonald will, it is to be hoped, influence that body, out of regard for the enlightened conscience of the entire civilized world, to consider measures calculated to improve the situation described in the report, and to protect those who have been deprived of elementary human rights.

II. OTHER CENTERS OF INTEREST ABROAD

Many of the observations in the following paragraphs are based on information obtained by the Secretary of the Committee, who spent several months in Europe last summer, in the course of which he discussed the situation of the Jewish communities in various countries with leaders of these communities. In general, also outside of Germany, the situation continues to grow worse than it was in 1934.

AUSTRIA

In Austria, hostility to German National Socialism is outspoken. There are, however, forces which foster anti-Jewish agitation, and those elements which are influenced by it are in agreement with part of the program of National Socialism and therefore susceptible to its influence. For this reason, the Jewish situation is always precarious. In addition, it must be kept in mind that the overwhelming majority of the Austrian Jews, more than 90%, are crowded together in Vienna, forming more than 10% of the total Viennese population. Furthermore, since the percentage of Jews in the liberal professions is high, the tendency to restrict them always finds sympathizers. During 1935, the Chancellor, Dr. Kurt von Schuschnigg, issued statements intended to remove misgivings in this direction and to assure the Jewish part of the population that no discrimination against them is intended. These assurances, however, do not silence persistent charges that discrimination, as against Jews is being practiced in public service and in the professions.

DANZIG

In the Free State of Danzig, the Nazi regime, which is closely connected with, and receives instructions from, the German Nazis, is still in power, though it failed, in the elections on April 7, 1935, to receive that two-thirds majority vote which would have enabled the Danzig Nazis to make of the Free State an outpost of Naziism. This result was generally considered as a set-back for the Hitler government, which had been very actively helping the Danzig Nazis in the election campaign. Economic conditions in Danzig, as described in our last Annual Report, have not undergone any change. Many individual acts of boycott and discrimination against Jews were reported, and communications received by your Committee show that the Jewish community of Danzig does not feel that conditions are settled. Complaints of discrimination made against the Nazi government by various elements of the population were received by the League of Nations, and in September 1935, after a Committee of Jurists had been heard, it was announced that the Danzig government had promised to live up to the obligations of the constitution of the Free City, and especially would not introduce the "Aryan" legislation and policy. That the Nazi-controlled government will adhere to those promises is doubtful, as there are indications that the Nazis do not consider themselves bound by any legal obligations. Besides, reports persist that the government is continuing anti-Jewish discriminatory administrative acts. On the other hand, in spite of enormous propaganda, the vote cast for the Nazis in April 1935, while higher than 50%, showed that their prospects for getting a two-thirds majority at a future election seems to be slight. There is, therefore, some basis for the hope that, however bad conditions may be, legal measures which would seriously aggravate them, are not very likely. A definite change for the worse would, however, be in store if Nazi attempts to cast off League control should finally succeed. Attempts in this direction were reported on December 13, last, and since the attitude of the League of Nations is not yet known, the situation cannot yet be considered as quite clear.

SAAR BASIN

It will be recalled that, before the Saar plebiscite of January 13, 1935, a Franco-German agreement was announced protecting the inhabitants of the Saar for one year, from any discrimination because of race or faith. The plebiscite had the expected result. Since the German victory was expected, it was not surprising that about 90% of the vote favored Germany. The Jewish situation was influenced by the Franco-German agreement only to the extent that, temporarily only, those Jews who were domiciled in the Saar since January 13, 1932, had a year's respite before they were to feel the full impact of the Hitler regime. Today, a week before this respite expires on January 13, 1936, while exact figures are not yet available, it is already generally known that a large number of Jews have left the Saar Basin and have become refugees in the same general sense as those Jews who have left Germany itself. Besides, there were several occurrences during 1935 which show that even this Franco-German agreement was violated by the Nazis. From time to time German high officials had to remind their subordinates that the "Aryan" policy could not yet be applied to the Saar territory.

BERNE PROTOCOLS TRIAL

It will be recalled that when the Committee met a year ago, there was pending in Switzerland a suit brought by the Jewish community against distributors of the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," on the ground that this book is forbidden as scurrilous and indecent literature in the sense of laws in the Canton of Berne. A feature of the trial, which attracted world-wide attention, was the submission of an expert opinion on behalf of the defendants, by Lieut.-Col. Ulrich Fleischhauer, a notorious Jew-baiter, who is director of Weltdienst (World Service), an anti-Jewish propaganda center, in Erfurt, Germany. This opinion, which was recently published in book form and covers not less than 416 large closely-printed pages, repeats over and over again all accusations against the Jews made during the centuries of persecution. In addition to others,

a famous Swiss scholar, C. A. Loosli, a non-Jew, was heard for the Jewish plaintiff. The Court found the defendants guilty but, in order to avoid making martyrs of them, imposed light sentences. At the same time, the judge declared the Protocols an obvious forgery and a piece of indecent literature, and emphatically rejected Fleischhauer's lengthy opinion. The judgments found general approval and sympathetic comments throughout the world, except, of course, in the German Nazi press. It has recently been learned that the Nazis are making every attempt to prevent the decision from becoming final, and have not only filed an appeal, but have also started several new suits against the witnesses and experts, in order to cast doubt upon their evidence and revive discussion of the matter.

As already mentioned, the Committee kept in close contact with the Berne trial and was able to be of assistance in the furnishing of documents and other materials.

ROUMANIA

The Jews of Roumania continue to be confronted with the necessity for resisting movements aimed at depriving them of their equality of rights. These movements are occasionally manifested in outbreaks of violence, especially by students. A law for the protection of national labor in Roumania, enacted in July 1934, aroused misgivings among the Jews, both in Roumania and abroad. There appears, however, to have been no foundation for any serious fear of discrimination against the Jews, as a result of this law. On March 21, 1935, your Committee addressed an inquiry on the subject to Mr. Charles A. Davila, the Roumanian minister to the United States, who assured your Committee that all "fears concerning the way the Roumanian National Law will be put into effect were unfounded."

When on September 12, 1935, the Associated Press reported an impending march of supporters of the Roumanian National Peasant Party to Bucharest, connected with which was a threat against what was referred to as "sinister Jewish influence at the Palace," your Committee

addressed a letter to the Roumanian Legation at Washington, expressing the concern of the Committee with regard to this report, and asking for information on recent political developments in Roumania. The reply received by the Committee contained assurances that any party entrusted with the formation of the Government of Roumania considers it a duty to defend all categories of citizens and that there would never exist in Roumania a governmentally fostered anti-Semitism.

Within the past few weeks, however, reports reached us that anti-Jewish activities, endangering the safety and even lives of the Jews of Roumania were being favorably received by the highest circles in the country. Your Committee immediately telegraphed to the Roumanian Minister to the United States requesting him to convey to his government the expression of our profound concern, and to obtain all possible information as speedily as possible. In his reply, the Minister expressed his conviction that the report received by your Committee was inaccurate and stated that, nevertheless, he was communicating with the foreign office of his government. Your Committee transmitted the information it had received to the American Jewish Congress and the B'nai B'rith, who, we understand, took steps along similar lines. Subsequently information was received from the Roumanian Minister that he had been authorized by the Prime Minister to state that the reports concerning anti-Jewish agitation are entirely unfounded, that the most complete order and quiet reign throughout the country and that such sporadic student manifestations as had taken place were of no consequence whatever, and that measures have already been taken to prevent their recurrence.

POLAND

According to information received by your Committee, the same forces are now operating in Poland as have been operating in Germany during the past few years. Both the Socialists and big business up to recently have been the chief bulwarks against anti-Semitism. Unemployment has weakened the forces of Socialism against anti-Semitism. The Government, susceptible to public opinion in

Poland, was never able therefore to combat anti-Semitism as strenuously as it may have wished. It is feared that the National Democrats who constitute the largest party, have been strengthened by the death of Pilsudski, and are laboring with might and main to acquire power. The easiest way for them to get it is to pursue an anti-Semitic policy. Jewish votes which formerly also served as a protective factor, are now, under the new Constitution, of no avail. It has been stated that Jewish office-holders have been removed. This was not so under the Pilsudski Government, although even under that Government no Jews were appointed to vacancies. For example, in Galicia, there were, up to recently 280 notaries. The number has been increased to 360. Of the 280, only 10 were Jews. Of these, it was reported 8 have been removed. Jewish physicians are being dismissed from the Krankenkassas, and from municipal health services. New restrictions have been placed upon private schools, including the Jewish schools. It appears to be the intention of the government to do away with minority schools. High standards have been established to which the Jewish schools as a rule cannot attain. These new regulations in some instances, make change of location of school buildings necessary, demand recreation halls, gymnasiums and laboratories, insist upon assured budgets for the entire year, and control the appointment of teachers on the basis of loyalty to the government. This applies to trade schools as well as to ordinary schools. Municipal subventions for social welfare institutions have been considerably reduced. The policy of the government authorities seems to be to discourage institutional care of children, and results in the closing up of child-caring institutions on the advanced theory of family care for dependent children; at the same time no subventions are being given for such care. The attempt to develop trade training among the Jewish youth is severely hampered. In the government trade schools the Jewish youth are sometimes persecuted and discriminated against. The Jewish trade schools are overcrowded. It is very difficult to place young Jews with master artisans because, owing to the high qualifications for master artisans demanded by the new law, there is a serious lack of

Jewish masters. Non-Jewish masters do not accept Jewish apprentices. There are a great number of trained workers whose qualifications are not recognized owing to the fact that they were apprenticed to masters lacking the qualifications demanded by law.

Another serious situation is threatened by the expected enforcement by the Ministry of the Interior of a recently enacted law to subject those engaged in commerce and industry to examinations to determine whether they are fit to carry on their businesses. The test will be whether they have enough capital, are efficient, and know the Polish language.

Owing to constitutional changes, the Jewish population now has only a negligible representation in a parliament which in itself is powerless. Under the amended constitution, virtually all the power is vested in the President of the Republic. The Ministers are all dependent upon him and are appointed by him. The new political system is based on the corporative idea. Economic groups such as the artisans, peasants, merchants, elect the deputies. The government has seen to it that the majority in the management of these groups are their own men. The Endeks (National Democrats) are gaining headway everywhere. For example, in Lodz, which has a population of 600,000, of which the Jews constitute 200,000 and the working men 100,000, the Endeks nevertheless attained a majority in the Municipal Elections. In Posen and Lemberg the Endeks are also in the majority. One possibly hopeful element in the situation is the fact that the Endeks are friendly to France, and not to Germany, although they have adopted the Nazi theories, and use the Nazi slogans for their propaganda.

According to recent news reports the perennial anti-Jewish riots in the colleges again broke out last fall but, contrary to the usual practice, they continued for a number of weeks into December because the Endeks, who egg on the students in order to embarrass the administration, believe that the government is weakening. As soon as the 1935 riots began in October, the government closed the Warsaw colleges, but the outbreaks spread to provincial centers. Knowing that drastic moves by the gov-

ernment to suppress the outbreaks would prove unpopular, the rioters were bolder in 1935 than in preceding years and resorted to the use of bombs with which they demolished several synagogues. In some places Jews have been beaten to death.

It has been reported, nevertheless, that the authorities made earnest efforts to maintain order, though these efforts did not have uniform success in all parts of the country.

PALESTINE

Your Committee continued to watch with interest developments in Palestine. The existence of the recognized Jewish Agency for Palestine made it unnecessary for the Committee to take any action on matters affecting that country.

III. ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE

Following is a statement of the more important measures taken by your Committee in connection with events in Germany, and with matters of domestic concern.

REPRESENTATIONS TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

When, in July 1935, a series of outbreaks of physical violence against Jews occurred in Berlin, your Executive Committee joined with the American Jewish Congress, the B'nai B'rith, and the Jewish Labor Committee in making representation to the United States Department of State. A delegation consisting of representatives of the four bodies waited upon the Hon. William Phillips, Under-Secretary who in the absence of Hon. Cordell Hull, was Acting Secretary, and submitted a remonstrance in which attention was called to events that had just occurred as well as to continuing persecution not only of Jews but also of Catholic and Protestant groups and liberal democratic elements in general, and the Government of the United States was requested to protest against the racial and religious persecutions that now prevail in Germany, and to take

every step consistent with international practice to inform the German government of the outraged sentiments of the American people. The complete statement follows:

July 26, 1935.

"Honorable William Phillips,
Under Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

"Dear Sir:

As representatives of the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress, the B'nai B'rith and the Jewish Labor Committee, with whom are associated practically all Jewish national organizations in the United States and hundreds of organized Jewish communities, the members of which are American citizens, we respectfully draw your attention to events that have caused us and millions of our fellow-citizens, both Jewish and non-Jewish, grave alarm and distress.

"The reports that have recently come from Germany have shocked and horrified us. They indicate a continued policy and system of oppression and persecution which grows in intensity from month to month. The physical attacks upon innocent men and women have only been part of a series of onslaughts upon our fellow-Jews. They are accompanied by other forms of attack, involving further and greater humiliation and injury to a defenseless minority, whose members are being thus persecuted solely for reason of birth or religion. These attacks, in various forms, are the outcome of a continuous campaign of calumny and slander, approved, encouraged and directed by high governmental authorities. The government controlled press and radio have been incited to develop this campaign. The reign of terror has taken the form of physical assaults upon Jews; of an economic boycott; of the deprivation of fundamental civic and political rights; of their forcible expulsion from the economic, professional and cultural life of the country; and of continuous vilification on grounds of religion and race of its Jewish citizens. This persecution has already led to the emigration of 90,000 refugees

whose destitution and homelessness constitute a grave international problem, and whose utter helplessness in foreign lands is deeply distressful to their brethren in the United States, who are unable to rescue them from their terrible plight, which humanity and brotherhood would require. While effecting Jews most severely, this reign of terror is also beginning to effect the lives of numberless Catholics and Protestants and liberals of every description to whom the German Government is denying the elementary rights of religion and of conscience; nor can any enlightened people fail to deplore the depths to which Labor has been reduced by the deprivation of their fundamental right to organize and maintain their own self-protective institutions.

"It is inconceivable that the American Government should stand passively by and neglect to lift its voice against these assaults upon humanity, or to utter its condemnation of the violation of the fundamental principles of human rights. Our country has traditionally recognized its moral and legal right, as well as its duty to speak in behalf of those persecuted for their religious beliefs and for minority groups or races deprived of their just rights.

"There is ample American precedent for such a policy 'in the interest of humanity and that guardianship of humanity which belongs to the great republic,' as Charles Sumner declared in the United States Senate as far back as 1870. The history of our diplomatic relations with other powers is replete with examples of far-sighted and nobly inspired attempts to intercede for the oppressed of all nations and creeds. These attempts have sprung from high altruistic motives. But the maintenance of world peace, which is a vital concern of the American republic, now more essential than ever before, is endangered by the growth of a spirit of persecution and prejudice and race hatred, which may spread into other civilized nations if allowed to develop unchecked. As a matter of the defense of our own free institutions and democratic ideals, it behooves the American Government to endeavor, through representations and protests and such other international procedure as may be feasible, to remind the government practicing such methods that they cannot be viewed on our

part without demur. Only recently our President, in recognition of this fact, declared that 'he is in entire sympathy with all people who make it clear that the American people and the Government believe in freedom of religious worship not only in the United States, but also in other nations.'

"In the light of the lofty humanitarian traditions by which our Government's foreign policy has been guided throughout its history; in the light of the danger to world peace and to democratic institutions of government in this unleashing barbarism and race hatred, and of the threat to American citizens who are Jews, that is explicit in the policy of the German Government of organizing attacks upon, and denying the rights of all Jews in Germany,

We respectfully call upon the Government of the United States to protest against the racial and religious persecutions that now prevail in Germany, and to take every step consistent with international practice to inform the German Government of the outraged sentiments of the American people.

"The official protest of the American Government may yet be effective to rescue our Jewish brethren in Germany, and to make impossible an extension of the persecutions against the millions of Catholics and Protestants who are suffering for their religious convictions.

"We are confident that in expressing these views, our Government will speak not only for the millions of our brethren in this country, but for all Americans of all races and creeds, who have throughout history given, repeatedly, evidence of their horror of oppression and of their concern for the preservation of the fundamental rights of civilized humanity."

CARL J. AUSTRIAN
SIDNEY WALLACH
For the American Jewish
Committee

LOUIS LIPSKY
SAMUEL MARGOSHES
For the American Jewish
Congress

LOUIS FABRICANT
M. D. ROSENBERG
For the B'nai B'rith

JOSEPH SCHLOSSBERG
NATHAN CHANIN
For the Jewish Labor
Committee

The Acting Secretary orally gave the delegation assurances of the sympathy of the government of the United States, which were briefly embodied several days later in the following letter addressed to the signatories of the remonstrance:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

July 29, 1935

MR. CARL J. AUSTRIAN,
MR. SIDNEY WALLACH,
For the American Jewish Committee

MR. LOUIS LIPSKY,
MR. SAMUEL MARGOSHES,
For the American Jewish Congress

MR. LOUIS FABRICANT,
MR. M. D. ROSENBERG,
For the B'nai B'rith

MR. JOSEPH SCHLOSSBERG,
MR. NATHAN CHANIN,
For the Jewish Labor Committee

New York, New York.

Sirs:

I have given careful study to the views embodied in the letter of July 26th last, which you presented on behalf of the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress, the B'nai B'rith and the Jewish Labor Committee, with respect to recent occurrences in Germany affecting various religious and racial groups there.

I fully understand your solicitude regarding the experiences which these groups are reported to be suffering in Germany. The concepts of religious freedom and liberty of conscience for all constitute the most fundamental principles of our own civilization and political faith. This being so, the American people are always sympathetic to the maintenance of these concepts in the United States as well as in other nations.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) WILLIAM PHILLIPS
Acting Secretary

The exchange of letters was thereupon released to the newspapers of the country by the State Department, and served to focus public attention on the situation in Germany. The press unanimously condemned the suppression of freedom and the persecution of minorities in Germany, and voiced the sympathy of the American people for the victims of this oppression.

The position of the government and the people of our country was also expressed, several months later, by the President of the United States. Speaking at San Diego, California, on October 2, 1935, Mr. Roosevelt declared that "despite what happens overseas, the United States of America shall and must remain . . . unentangled and free." He then went on to say:

"Our national determination to keep free of foreign wars and foreign entanglements cannot prevent us from feeling deep concern when ideals and principles that we have cherished are challenged.

"In the United States we regard it as axiomatic that every person shall enjoy the free exercise of his religion according to the dictates of his conscience. Our flag for a century and a half has been the symbol of the principles of liberty of conscience, of religious freedom and equality before the law, and those concepts are deeply ingrained in our national character.

"It is true that other nations may, as they do, enforce contrary rules of conscience and conduct. It is true that policies that may be pursued under flags other than our own are beyond our jurisdiction. Yet in our inner individual lives we can never be indifferent and we assert for ourselves complete freedom to embrace, to profess and to observe the principles for which our flag has so long been the lofty symbol."

It is interesting and instructive to compare the explanation of the significance of the flag of the United States, with General Goering's interpretation of the symbolism of the swastika, quoted above.

And, in the same connection, attention should be called with appreciation to the following significant paragraph in

the annual message to the Congress of the United States, submitted by the President, last Friday evening:

"We have sought by every legitimate means to exert our moral influence against repression, against intolerance, and against autocracy, and in favor of freedom of expression equally before the law, religious tolerance and popular rule."

STATEMENT ON JEWS AND COMMUNISM

In the course of his address before the Reichstag at Nuremberg on September 15, 1935, in referring to the steps already taken against the Jews of Germany, Herr Hitler made no mention of the discredited Nazi race dogma. Instead, he sought to spread the idea that the Nazi anti-Jewish legislation was intended to curb the activity of Jews as communists. Referring to alleged efforts of the Russian branch of the Communist International to spread "hatred among peoples," Herr Hitler said:

"As we, taught by our own experience and as we can ascertain through the experiences of other States, do not expect anything to result from protests and representations to Moscow, we are determined to meet communism in Germany with more effective measures of National Socialism.

"The party convention left no doubts that National Socialism will not curb in the most radical fashion any attempt by Moscow Bolshevism to gain a foothold in Germany or instigate a revolution in Germany.

"Furthermore, we must notice here, like anywhere else, mostly Jewish elements are at work exclusively. They appear as agitators among and separators of people."

In view of the fact that, in many countries, especially the United States, many fair-minded persons had been deceived into condoning the crimes of Hitlerism by the false plea that the Nazi movement is a bulwark against an inundation of communism, and in view also of the fact that

the companion falsehood that the Jews of Germany constituted the head and front of the communist movement in that country had gained considerable credence, it was deemed advisable by your Committee and other organizations to issue a public statement exposing the facts. Accordingly, on October 21, 1935, such a statement was issued jointly by the American Jewish Committee, the B'nai B'rith, and the Jewish Labor Committee. Inasmuch as copies of this statement have been sent to all of you, it will not be read here. Copies of this statement have been widely distributed, and many persons, Jewish and non-Jewish, have expressed their approval of both the statement itself and its publication. Numerous requests for additional copies have been received.

DR. ADLER'S INTERVIEW WITH THE UNITED PRESS

That the importance which was attached to this subject was fully justified is indicated by the fact that Hitler undertook to spread the same view in the United States through an interview which he gave to Mr. Hugh Baillie, the president of the United Press, which was published in American newspapers on November 27, 1935. In this interview, Hitler was reported as having said:

"The necessity of combating Bolshevism is one of the fundamental reasons for Jewish legislation in Germany.

"This legislation is not anti-Jewish but is pro-German.

"Through these laws, the rights of the Germans shall be protected against destructive Jewish influences."

In the same interview, Hitler stated that the Jews had sought to usurp cultural leadership and had overcrowded the intellectual profession whereas tens of thousands of demobilized officers had had to take jobs as street cleaners, chauffeurs, and the like. Hitler then went on to say that "practically all Bolshevik agitators in Germany had been Jews."

Shortly after this interview was published the United Press expressed the desire to publish comments on it by

the President of your Committee, and sent a representative to obtain a statement from him, which was widely published on December 5, 1935.

In his reply, Dr. Adler pointed out that scientists had demolished the racial theory Nazis have advanced as the justification of their program. "So, like a good strategist in a bad cause, Hitler abandons the race theory and now declares the Jews are Bolshevists," Dr. Adler said. He ridiculed the contention that the Nazi anti-Jewish program is necessary to protect Germany and the rest of the world from Communism.

"It seems," Dr. Adler declared, "that some men have short memories. Hitler is quite old enough to remember, if he wishes, that it was Germany which made possible the Bolshevik revolution in Russia."

"Although the Kerensky government," he went on to say, "had declared itself on the side of the Allies and proposed to continue to fight on their side, it was the German army that Hitler is now endeavoring to restore which actually made possible the Bolshevik revolution; the Germany of the Kaiser, of von Hindenburg, of Ludendorff and the other great generals of Germany's army attempted in this way to break down the Eastern front so that Germany's strength could be concentrated on the Western front, against the armies of France, England and of the United States."

Dr. Adler also noted Hitler's assertion that Jews had sought to usurp the cultural and intellectual professions while tens of thousands of officers, demobilized after the war, had been obliged to take jobs as street cleaners, chauffeurs and such.

"Those officers who in times of peace had been trained for professional occupations naturally went back to those occupations," Dr. Adler said, adding that "during the empire Jews were not permitted to become officers in the German army but were allowed only to fight and be killed in the ranks."

Dr. Adler said the Aryan superiority race theory "has become the laughing-stock of the scientific world."

“Not even German anthropologists and ethnologists were willing to defend it at the International Anthropological Congress held in London in 1934. And more recently that theory has been demolished by Professor Julian Huxley, son of the great Thomas Huxley and himself a great authority, and by Professor Haddon, the most distinguished anthropologist in England.”

EDUCATIONAL WORK

Your Committee continued its enlarged educational activities to enlighten American public opinion, with two main objects. The first is to keep our fellow-Americans informed as to the situation in Germany,— the significance of the measures and propaganda against the Jews, and the companion measures of oppression of other sections of the German population. Our second objective is to promote, in every way possible and in cooperation with all other organizations that are similarly interested, a healthy public opinion toward, and understanding of, all the groups of our population.

In particular your Committee found it necessary to keep informed of the propaganda of Nazi and native anti-Semitic agitators in this country, and, by an intensive and methodical study of thousands of reports, and newspaper clippings, keep abreast of the state of public opinion in various sections of the country.

With the above purposes in view, your Committee has engaged in the publication and distribution of a large number of books, pamphlets, and informative documents of various descriptions, both directly to the press and to individuals. Among these, there was a revised edition of the White Book issued early this year, which has come to be regarded as a standard work on the subject of the Nazi discriminations against the Jews. This book was circulated among the press, prominent individuals, and libraries throughout the country, and uniformly evoked praise for its dispassionate presentation of the subject. Editorial opinion on the White Book was highly commendatory and approval of the book was given by a number

of non-Jewish organizations, notably the Catholic Diocese in New York, which included the White Book in its list of recommended readings.

Your Committee was also of assistance in the writing, printing, and distribution of the late Herman Bernstein's book, "The Truth About the Protocols of the Elders of Zion," along with a number of other booklets and pamphlets exposing that notorious fabrication.

This educational work, with publications, radio addresses, special celebrations, educational studies, press material, etc., has secured the cooperation of several hundred representatives in a large number of cities throughout the United States. It is needless to point out that the existence of a number of avowedly anti-Semitic organizations has made it essential that this activity normally of considerable scope be expanded still further and carried on on a much larger scale than ever before.

In addition, the large number of inquiries from all over the country that have come into the office of the Committee make it necessary to collect, digest, and classify many thousands of facts bearing on the situation in Germany, the Jews in Europe, and the Jews in America. For this purpose numerous newspaper clippings, pamphlets, and books in several languages are acquired, indexed, and filed for quick reference. The staff of the American Jewish Committee as a result has been kept busy in the preparation of its material needed in the drafting of letters to the press; the assembling of evidence for use by students, writers, lecturers, etc., the preparation of articles, pamphlets, addresses and bulletins and the guidance of a number of enterprises having for their object the enlightenment of American public opinion in regard to the Jews and the charges spread by anti-Semitic agitators.

OLYMPIC GAMES

During the public discussion of the propriety of American participation in the Olympic Games, because these are to be held in Germany, your Committee cooperated in efforts to acquaint the American public with those condi-

tions in Germany which, in the opinion of all liberal elements in America, should move all fair-minded persons against extending indirect help and approval to the Nazi policies through participation in these games.

IMMIGRATION

Through the Committee on Jewish Immigration Policy, a sub-committee of the Joint Council, your Committee has cooperated with efforts for the removal of administrative hindrances to immigration to the United States, which, in the light of the present emergency, were unnecessarily burdensome. The attention of the immigration authorities has been called to the fact that this emergency has reached a more acute stage as a result of the promulgation of the Nuremberg decrees.

Your Committee has also joined with other national bodies, non-Jewish as well as Jewish, in working for the passage, at the forthcoming session of Congress, of a bill which was introduced the preceding session by Representative John H. Kerr. This bill provides for the deportation of criminals and other undesirable aliens and also contains provisions which tend to remove certain hardships affecting innocent resident aliens under our present laws. A considerable number of the members and friends of the Committee have volunteered to cooperate in promoting the passage of this bill.

ANTI-JEWISH AGITATION IN THE UNITED STATES

In the past year the anti-Jewish movement in the United States continued to be carried on by a large number of individuals and groups. This movement failed, for the most part, to enlist much interest and support among the American people, particularly since a number of the anti-Semitic agitators were exposed as cranks and racketeers whose irresponsible incitations made them the laughing-stock of the decent-minded people of the country.

At the same time, the agitation is continuing and in some sections of the country is thriving as a result of unsettled economic and political conditions. These movements are

fostered by adventurers with varied motives, who seek to capitalize discontent for the promotion of pernicious doctrines directed primarily against the Jew, but also against the fundamental principles of our democracy. The high tension prevailing in some parts of the country as a result of existing economic and political factors, the imminent election campaign, and the continued propaganda of malicious anti-Jewish libels make it imperative that all liberal forces in this country be on their guard more than ever the forthcoming year.

Nazi propaganda as such has, we believe, suffered a decline since, as was pointed out in the report a year ago, the Blood Purge of June 30, 1934 and the investigation of the special Congressional committee headed by Representative John W. McCormack. The chief factors in this decline were: (1) the open opposition of representatives of the decent and respectable German-American elements in various parts of the country which, in one way or another, dissociated themselves from the Nazi movement; (2) certain acts on the part of the Nazi leaders here which outrage public opinion such as acts of vandalism against shops of Jews and against synagogues, especially in New York City, and their vigorous efforts, during the elections of November 1934, to inject the Nazi issue into local politics in various parts of the country; and (3) dissension within their own ranks which bared the ignoble struggle for power and control of funds, and exposed the movement as being to a great extent nothing short of a "racket."

The disrepute into which the Nazi movement here has fallen is not unknown to the Nazi leaders in Germany. Your Committee has reason to believe, however, that efforts to influence public opinion in this country have not been abandoned by the propaganda authorities in Germany, but that such efforts are likely to be made along much more skillful and subtle lines and on a wider front.

The forces working for good-will between various elements in the population also deserve a share of the credit for the fact that the anti-Jewish agitation, which has been greatly stimulated since 1933, has not taken deeper root in the minds of the American people. Exceptionally effective in this direction has been the National Conference of

Jews and Christians which, by means of such instrumentalities as the celebration of Brotherhood Day and the holding of the Institute on Human Relations at Williamstown last August, has been doing excellent work in the direction of realizing its aim "to make America safe for differences." The Christian churches in general have been alive to the dangers of inter-group strife and have raised their voices against all efforts to create dissension in the American population. There is no way of calculating the effect of the many-sided efforts in this direction, but there can be no doubt that the seeds sown during all these years have borne some fruit and that the continuing activities along these lines are effectively counteracting the pernicious aims of Jew-baiters.

In our educational work, we endeavor to cooperate with the efforts of others to spread good-will, disseminating information calculated to supply the public with facts which are, after all, the most powerful antidotes to the poison of prejudice and misrepresentation.

LAWYER'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The rising flood of anti-Jewish literature and agitation has given increasing importance to the question of legal protection against the dissemination of these malicious libels, and the Committee has received numerous inquiries regarding existing legal remedies and the advisability of securing additional protection against the continuous dissemination of defamatory propaganda.

In order to study this question and to secure the soundest opinion on the existing remedies and on recommended legislation, a Lawyers' Advisory Committee was established, to whose attention these problems were presented. This committee, which consists of Messrs. Carl J. Austrian (chairman), Norman Adler, Walter Derenberg, Melvin M. Fagen (secretary), Leo Gottlieb, Philip W. Haberman, Jr., Benjamin A. Hartstein, Frank J. Prince, and George Trosk, all of New York City, has met regularly; has seen and analyzed numerous examples of scurrilous literature; has evaluated existing legal provisions, particularly with regard to group libel; and has considered various

suggestions for further action, including those submitted by individuals and organizations. This Committee has also been in close touch with similar advisory bodies set up by other Jewish organizations.

The Lawyers' Advisory Committee has reached the general conclusion that, although it is easy to understand the desire of many Jews to avail themselves of the legal protection to which they are entitled, due consideration must be given not only to the legal questions themselves, but to other factors which are just as, or even more, important: namely, the possibility of evoking undesirable publicity; the need of avoiding the intrusion of selfish publicity-seekers; the difficulty of bringing an action which will not make a martyr of the defendant; and the paramount necessity of refusing to take any action that would violate the constitutional guarantees of freedom of speech, of the press, and of assembly. In such cases, it may be the part of wisdom to adopt other means of defending the civil rights of Jews, principally, a long-range program of education against this deep-rooted, but not insoluble, prejudice. Such a program is being comprehensively carried on at the present time by the American Jewish Committee.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK

Volume 37 of the American Jewish Year Book, issued last September by the Jewish Publication Society of America, was compiled, like all the volumes of this series since 1909, in the office of the American Jewish Committee. The current volume was the seventeenth to be edited by the Assistant Secretary of the Committee. This volume contains a number of special articles, of particular interest among which is the article on Maimonides, as the world-wide celebration of the 800th anniversary of the birth of this brilliant sage was the most important event of the past year in the cultural life of the Jewish people. A sketch of the life and works of this scholar was prepared by Dr. Solomon Zeitlin. The other special articles are: The Jews in Agriculture in the United States, by Dr.

Gabriel Davidson, General Manager of the Jewish Agricultural Society; and biographical sketches of three distinguished Jewish leaders in our community who died during the preceding year: Adolph S. Ochs, Max J. Kohler, and Edwin Wolf. These sketches were contributed by Louis Rich, Hon. Irving Lehman, and Simon Miller.

Besides these special articles, Volume 37 contains the usual directories and lists and the Twenty-Eighth Annual Report of this Committee.

SATURDAY SESSIONS IN NEW JERSEY NORMAL SCHOOLS

You will recall that, in our report of your Committee last year, we informed you that our cooperation had been solicited by leaders of the Jewish community of New Jersey in connection with the introduction of Saturday sessions in the normal schools of the state. At the suggestion of your Committee, a brief on the subject was prepared by Mr. Louis E. Levinthal of Philadelphia, and was submitted to the State Department of Education at the request of the State Director.

In June 1935, we were informed by our New Jersey correspondents that the educational authorities of the state had decided to discontinue Saturday sessions in the normal schools.

COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Your Committee continued, during the past year, to interchange information with other organizations engaged in kindred activities, and to cooperate with such bodies. We continued to be in close touch with the Board of Deputies of British Jews, and maintain a lively correspondence with its president, Mr. Neville Laski, who with Mr. Leonard Montefiore, is co-chairman of the Joint Foreign Committee of the Board and the Anglo-Jewish Association. We maintain contact with the Alliance Israélite Universelle, the Jewish Colonization Association, the Canadian Jewish Congress, and the South African Board of Jewish Deputies.

As has already been mentioned, the Secretary of the Committee spent several months abroad last summer, in

the course of which he conferred with the representatives of some of these and of other bodies, thus obtaining, at first hand, information regarding the situation of the Jews in various countries.

Through the Joint Consultative Council, established in June 1933, representatives of the Committee exchange views with the representatives of the American Jewish Congress and of the B'nai B'rith. In several directions where unanimity of views obtained, joint action followed. In addition, the Committee has, throughout the year, consulted with and enjoyed the cooperation of a number of organizations, notably, the B'nai B'rith, whose President, Honorable Alfred M. Cohen, and Secretary, Dr. I. M. Rubinow, were in frequent communication with us, and whose Anti-Defamation League was kept in close touch with the work of our education department; the Jewish Labor Committee, the National Council of Jewish Women, the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society, and many others, Jewish and non-Jewish, whose cordial association and cooperation have been of invaluable assistance to your Committee. The Committee also discusses matters of common interest with the leaders of the Jewish Labor Committee.

In connection with our cooperation with kindred organizations, your Committee regrets that it must record the death of two outstanding leaders of Jewish communities abroad,—Professor Sylvain Lévi, the renowned scholar, who was for many years President of the Alliance Israélite Universelle, and Lord Reading who was formerly an active leader of the British Jewish community and, when official duties forced him to withdraw from such activity, was frequently consulted by his former colleagues and was always eager to give them the benefit of his counsel. Your Executive Committee, at its meeting last evening, adopted the following minutes which, we are confident, express the views of all American Jews who had knowledge of the distinguished careers of these two men and of their services to the Jewish communities of which they were members.

RESOLUTION ON RUFUS DANIEL ISAACS, LORD READING

The Executive Committee of the American Jewish Committee, has learned with deep sorrow of the passing of Rufus Daniel Isaacs, Lord Reading.

His pre-eminent capacities for public service and his genius as a jurist and administrator made him one of the commanding figures of our day. His life was a record of outstanding achievement and of distinguished usefulness to his country. As an elder counsellor of the British Empire, his abilities were ever above party, above race or religion or nation, and his attainments brought honor and glory to his country.

Yet, in the moment of his greatest triumph, he did not forget that he was a Jew, that in Germany his co-religionists were being oppressed and humiliated. It will long be remembered how, in 1933, speaking in the House of Lords, he asked the government he had served so well to convey to the German leaders the sense of outrage of the British people at the unconscionable arbitrary oppression of a defenseless minority.

The life of Lord Reading brings glory moreover to the country which, true to its traditions of freedom and equality, made it possible for him to develop his genius, to exercise his talents, and to contribute so nobly to its welfare.

RESOLUTION ON SYLVAIN LÉVI

The Executive Committee of the American Jewish Committee learned with deep sorrow of the death, on October 31, 1935, of Professor Sylvain Lévi, President of the Alliance Israélite Universelle. A distinguished scholar, who has made notable contributions to the culture of France and of the world at large, Professor Lévi devoted himself also to the cause of the betterment of the lot of Jews in all parts of the world. The Committee extends to the Alliance Israélite Universelle its sympathy in the great loss which that organization as well as the entire Jewish community of France have sustained in the death of Professor Lévi.

In the foregoing report your Executive Committee has restricted itself to a brief statement on some of the important matters to which it gave attention and study during the past year. With the cooperation and the moral and material support of a great many friends, individuals as well as communities, your Committee has striven earnestly, conscientiously, and, we believe, intelligently to deal with many and various problems. In doing so, we have ever borne in mind that our aims are, in the last analysis, the preservation of the principles of democracy on which the institutions of our beloved country are founded, and therefore, that we could confidently rely on the co-operation of all agencies and forces in American life which stand for the preservation of these principles. The realization that we are not alone, but that the enlightened press, the clergy, and, in general, all patriots, are making common cause to combat movements which seek to spread bigotry and dissension has given us courage to go forward toward the achievement of the aims for which the Committee was instituted.

Respectfully submitted,
THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

REPORT ON ORGANIZATION MATTERS

1. NECROLOGY

The Committee suffered the loss of the following Community Representatives since the last Annual Meeting:

Herman Bernstein, New York City, August 31, 1935
Sol Kiser, Indianapolis, Indiana, November 21, 1935
Albert C. Lehman, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, July 25,
1935
Maurice Rosenthal, Fort Wayne, Indiana, December 24,
1935

Minutes expressing the Committee's sense of loss were adopted by your Executive Committee.

2. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

At the Annual Meeting last year a resolution was adopted to amend the By-Laws, providing for an increase in the membership of the Executive Committee. Some weeks after the Annual Meeting, the Legislature of the State of New York amended the charter of the Committee permitting the increase of the membership of the Executive Committee from thirty to fifty. In accordance with the resolution adopted at your last Annual Meeting, the Executive Committee elected the following persons to membership to serve until your Annual Meeting today:

Carl J. Austrian, New York City
John L. Bernstein, New York City
Phillip Forman, Trenton
Mrs. M. L. Goldman, New York City
Simon M. Goldsmith, New York City
Sidney Lansburgh, Baltimore
William M. Lewis, Philadelphia
Solomon Lowenstein, New York City
Louis B. Mayer, Los Angeles
Louis J. Moss, New York City
Mrs. David de Sola Pool, New York City
Aaron Waldheim, St. Louis
Henry Wineman, Detroit
William Weiss, New York City

3. CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

Your Committee takes pleasure in reporting that all the persons elected to Corporate Membership at your last meeting, on January 6, 1935, and whose names appear on pages 80-83 inclusive, of the Twenty-Eighth Annual Report, agreed to serve.

The following Corporate Members tendered their resignation:

Julian M. Bamberger, Salt Lake City, Utah
Max de Jong, Evansville, Indiana

During 1935, the Council of Young Israel Synagogue Organization and the United Roumanian Jews of America withdrew from their affiliation with the Committee.

In accordance with the provisions of the by-laws, the following Nominating Committee, empowered to name candidates to succeed those members whose terms expire today, and to fill existing vacancies, was appointed:

Harry Block, St. Joseph, Missouri
 David M. Bressler, New York City, Chairman
 Henry S. Hendricks, New York City
 Bernard Horwich, Chicago, Illinois
 Julian H. Krolik, Detroit, Michigan
 Isidore D. Morrison, New York City
 Benjamin Natal, Camden, New Jersey
 George Newman, Pittsfield, Massachusetts
 Joseph H. Schanfeld, Minneapolis, Minnesota
 Isador Sobel, Erie, Pennsylvania
 Henry M. Stern, Dayton, Ohio
 Victor Rosewater, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
 Isidore Wise, Hartford, Connecticut

Following is a list of the nominees of the Nominating Committee:

STATE	CITY	NOMINEES
Alabama	Birmingham	Milton H. Fies
Connecticut	Danbury	Nathan Spiro
	Hartford	William P. Haas
Delaware	Wilmington	Aaron Finger
Georgia	Savannah	Edmund H. Abrahams
Illinois	Chicago	Max Adler
		James H. Becker
		J. L. Block
		Abel Davis
		James Davis
		Max Epstein
		Sol Kline
		Jacob M. Loeb
		Abraham W. Gellman
		Indiana
	Indianapolis	
Kentucky	Louisville	Fred Levy
		Charles W. Norris
Louisiana	New Orleans	Ralph J. Schwarz
	Shreveport	A. B. Freyer
Massachusetts	Boston	Felix Vorenberg
	Fall River	Edward Adaskin
	Haverhill	Louis Hartman
	Holyoke	Benjamin Evarts
	Lawrence	B. H. Ziskind
	Lowell	Maurice Barlofsky

*STATE	CITY	NOMINEES
	Malden	Elihu A. Hershenson
	Peabody	Joseph B. Grossman
	Quincy	Hyman J. Routtenberg
	Somerville	Joseph Weinberg
Montana	Butte	Edward M. Chase
New Hampshire	Manchester	Harry Goldowsky
New Jersey	Jersey City	
	Paterson	
	Plainfield	William Newcorn
	Trenton	Phillip Forman
New York	Brooklyn	Harry E. Lewis
		William Liebermann
	New York City	Benjamin Altheimer
		David A. Brown
		Stanley M. Isaacs
		Joseph J. Klein
		Arthur M. Lamport
		Samuel M. Levy
		James Marshall
		George W. Naumburg
		Harold Riegelman
		Bernard Semel
		*Dr. Samuel Schulman
	Binghamton	Charles R. Rosenthal
	Buffalo	Eugene Warner
	Rochester	Mortimer Adler
	Schenectady	Lewis Lurie
	Yonkers	*Morris M. Einson
North Dakota	Fargo	D. M. Naftalin
Pennsylvania	Altoona	Isaiah Scheeline
	Philadelphia	Justin P. Allman
	Pittsburgh	Edgar J. Kaufmann
	Wilkes-Barre	J. K. Weitzenkorn
Texas	Fort Worth	U. M. Simon
	Houston	Nathan H. Colish
Vermont	Burlington	Samuel Lisman
	Montpelier	E. L. Segel
Virginia	Roanoke	Morris L. Masinter
Washington	Seattle	Emanuel Rosenberg
West Virginia	Huntington	David Gideon
Wisconsin	Madison	S. B. Schein

In the following communities, in which the Committee receives its support from local federations or welfare funds, the nominations were made by the Boards of those organizations:

*Elected to fill vacancies

STATE	CITY	NOMINEES
Arkansas	Little Rock	Louis B. Siegel
California	Los Angeles	Harry A. Hollzer
	San Francisco	Jesse H. Steinhart
	Fort Wayne	Nathan L. Salon
Indiana	Fort Wayne	Henry M. Butzel
Michigan	Detroit	Isadore Levin
Missouri	Kansas City	George Oppenheimer
New York	Syracuse	Benjamin Stolz
Ohio	Cincinnati	Samuel Ach
		David Philipson
		Julius L. Meier
Oregon	Portland	

The national organizations which are affiliated with the Committee designated the following delegates for the year 1936:

AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY, A. S. W. Rosenbach.

B'RITH SHOLOM, A. Sigmund Kanengieser, Martin O. Levy

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS, Morris Newfield

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL JEWISH WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS, Mrs. Samuel J. Rosensohn

THE FREE SONS OF ISRAEL, Simon M. Goldsmith

HADASSAH, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Mrs. Alexander Lamport

HEBREW SHELTERING AND IMMIGRANT AID SOCIETY OF AMERICA, S. Dingol, Harry Fischel, Abraham Herman, Jacob Massel, Samuel A. Telsey

INDEPENDENT ORDER B'RITH ABRAHAM, Samuel Goldstein, Max L. Hollander, Leon Sanders, Max Silverstein

JEWISH WELFARE BOARD, Joseph Rosensweig

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JEWISH SOCIAL SERVICE
Fred M. Butzel

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN, Mrs. Maurice L. Goldman

ORDER OF THE UNITED HEBREW BROTHERS, Max E. Greenberg

PROGRESSIVE ORDER OF THE WEST, A. D. Bearman
 RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY OF THE JEWISH THEOLOGICAL
 SEMINARY OF AMERICA, Elias L. MARGOLIS
 UNION OF ORTHODOX JEWISH CONGREGATIONS OF
 AMERICA, Benjamin Koenigsberg, William Weiss
 UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA, Louis J. Moss
 WOMEN'S BRANCH OF THE UNION OF ORTHODOX JEW-
 ISH CONGREGATIONS, Mrs. Joseph M. Asher
 WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF
 AMERICA, Mrs. David Kass, Miss Sarah Kussy, Mrs.
 Samuel Spiegel
 YOUNG PEOPLE'S LEAGUE OF THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE
 OF AMERICA, Harry H. Goebel

Your Committee takes pleasure in nominating the fol-
 lowing persons for Membership-at-Large, to serve for one
 year:

Louis Bamberger, Newark
 Leo M. Brown, Mobile
 Solomon Elsner, Hartford
 Jacob Epstein, Baltimore
 Leon Falk, Jr., Pittsburgh
 Eli Frank, Baltimore
 Hiram J. Halle, New York
 Herbert J. Hannoeh, Newark
 Harold Hirsch, Atlanta
 William L. Holzman, Omaha
 J. J. Kaplan, Boston
 Louis E. Kirstein, Boston
 Fred Lazarus, Jr., Columbus
 Samuel D. Leidesdorf, New York
 Monte M. Lemann, New Orleans
 Austin T. Levy, Harrisville, R. I.
 Reuben H. Levy, Kingston, Pa.
 Chas. J. Liebman, New York
 Julian W. Mack, New York
 Louis B. Mayer, Culver City
 George Z. Medalie, New York
 Henry Morgenthau, Sr., New York
 Reuben Oppenheimer, Baltimore

Milton J. Rosenau, Chapel Hill, N. C.
Lessing J. Rosenwald, Philadelphia
William Rosenwald, Philadelphia
Morris Rothenberg, New York
Henry Sachs, Colorado Springs
Frederic W. Wile, Washington
Henry Wineman, Detroit
Leo Wolman, New York

4. ACTIVITIES OF FIELD REPRESENTATIVE

During the year 1935, Rabbi Abba Abrams continued to coordinate the work of the Committee in various Jewish communities. He revisited many cities and brought the message of the Committee to 79 cities in 25 states, 42 of which were new cities. During the past 2 years Rabbi Abrams brought the program of the Committee to the attention of 158 cities in 36 states and the District of Columbia:

ARKANSAS: Hot Springs, Little Rock

CALIFORNIA: Long Beach, Los Angeles, Oakland, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, Stockton

COLORADO: Colorado Springs, Denver, Pueblo

CONNECTICUT: Bridgeport, Danbury, Hartford, New Britain, New Haven, New London, Norwich, Stamford, Waterbury

DELAWARE: Wilmington

IDAHO: Boise

IOWA: Des Moines, Sioux City

KENTUCKY: Louisville

MAINE: Bangor, Portland

MARYLAND: Baltimore

MASSACHUSETTS: Boston, Brockton, Chelsea, Fall River, Lynn, Malden, New Bedford, Quincy, Springfield, Taunton, Worcester

MINNESOTA: Minneapolis, St. Paul

MISSOURI: Kansas City

NEBRASKA: Lincoln, Omaha

NEW JERSEY: Atlantic City, Camden, Jersey City, New Brunswick, Paterson, Perth Amboy

NEW YORK: Albany, Mt. Vernon, New Rochelle, New York City and Metropolitan area, Yonkers

OKLAHOMA: Ardmore, Oklahoma City, Tulsa

OREGON: Portland

PENNSYLVANIA: Pittsburgh

RHODE ISLAND: Providence, Woonsocket

TENNESSEE: Chattanooga, Memphis, Nashville

TEXAS: Beaumont, Dallas, El Paso, Ft. Worth, Galveston, Houston,
San Antonio, Waco

UTAH: Salt Lake City

WASHINGTON: Seattle, Spokane, Tacoma

WISCONSIN: Milwaukee

5. REMOVAL OF OFFICES OF THE COMMITTEE

On November 1, 1935, the offices of the Committee were removed from 171 Madison Avenue to 461 Fourth Avenue.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

To the Members of the American Jewish Committee:

The receipts of the Committee for the twelve months ending December 31, 1935 were \$155,829.40, a sum considerably higher than the receipts during the preceding fourteen months, as reported at the Annual Meeting, January 6, 1935. There was a balance of \$6,551.26 on hand at the beginning of the year, making the total to be accounted for \$162,380.66. The expenditures amounted to \$125,414.33 leaving a balance on hand of \$36,966.33, part of which was designated for certain special purposes by the donors. In the light of certain commitments that have been made for educational work which will have to be met within the near future, this is a comparatively small balance. The audited report will be incorporated in the printed proceedings.

I think it is fitting that the names of the communities which have increased their appropriations should be made known to you. They are:

ARKANSAS

Little Rock

CALIFORNIA

Long Beach

Los Angeles

Sacramento

San Diego

San Francisco

CONNECTICUT

Hartford

New Britain

New Haven

New London

DELAWARE

Wilmington

COLORADO Colorado Springs Denver	IOWA Council Bluffs Des Moines Sioux City
KENTUCKY Lexington Louisville	NORTH CAROLINA Goldsboro Greensboro
LOUISIANA Shreveport	OHIO Cincinnati Cleveland
MASSACHUSETTS Fall River New Bedford Worcester	OKLAHOMA Ardmore Tulsa
MICHIGAN Detroit	OREGON Portland
MISSOURI Kansas City St. Louis	PENNSYLVANIA Johnstown Kingston
NEBRASKA Lincoln Omaha	TENNESSEE Chattanooga
NEW JERSEY Paterson Perth Amboy South Orange	TEXAS Dallas El Paso Houston San Antonio Waco
NEW YORK Buffalo Mount Vernon New Rochelle Rochester Schenectady Troy	WASHINGTON Spokane WISCONSIN Milwaukee

To all of these communities as well as to the many other communities that continued their helpful interest and support, and especially to the members and friends of the Committee in these places who solicited the funds on our behalf we desire to make cordial and grateful acknowledgment.

Though the routine overhead and administrative needs of the Committee are carefully budgeted, it is quite impossible to budget those needs which arise from day to day or week to week, which are of an emergency character. As has been pointed out by our Secretary, though we have applied the funds entrusted to us to very good advantage, much more can and should be done. How much, will depend upon the degree to which the Jews of the United States realize the seriousness of the problems with which the Committee is dealing and their confidence in the effectiveness of the Committee's efforts. Though we have resorted only meagerly to publicity, we are gratified to know that whenever, and wherever opportunity has been afforded to learn of the work of the Committee, uniform confidence has been expressed.

But cheers, encouraging as they are, are not enough. It is important to realize that at this time, unhappily, the fundamental issue in Jewish life is security and peace of mind. All our personal and communal interests depend upon that. And to the extent that the Committee is trying to protect the Jews in the enjoyment of that security it merits their support to the fullest extent. Properly and naturally we look to the members of the Committee to make this clear to their fellow Jews in the places in which they live.

Respectfully submitted,

S. D. LEIDESDORF,

Treasurer.

ADDRESS OF THE
HONORABLE JOSEPH M. PROSKAUER

Offering a Resolution on the Resignation and the Final Report of
James G. McDonald, High Commissioner for Refugees
(Jewish and Other) Coming From Germany

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Before I read the resolution which relates to the McDonald report, it seems fit to say a few words with reference to that document. I have no doubt that it has been read, and thoughtfully and prayerfully read, by every man and woman within the sound of my voice. Yet too much attention cannot be paid to its words and to its implications.

The history of civilization is made up of chapters written by great men on great and fundamental subjects, and in a great and human way. The statement of Commissioner McDonald which was issued within the past month constitutes a worthy chapter in that great record of the world's eternal struggle for justice and for freedom.

The paper seems to me to state four sanctions for its closing request that the Nazis be arraigned at the bar of the world's justice.

The first sanction is that of human pity which animates the heart of every right-thinking man and woman. As I read his moving account of the horror of the suffering and torture inflicted on our brethren in Germany, even to the little children, it seemed to me that here at least is one great Christian who, in his life and his action, personifies the appeal of the Christian hymn,

"Oh, Brother Man, fold to thy heart thy brother,
Where pity dwells the peace of God is there."

The second sanction was his demonstration that he was appointed the Commissioner by the League of Nations for refugees, Jewish *and others*, coming from Germany. For it must be said of us that in our just and pardonable concern for our own Jewish brethren, we do not perhaps sufficiently emphasize that the Nazi brutality finds its victims not merely in the "non-Aryan," but in the non-Nazi. The roll of the great men of Germany who have

suffered from this torture and oppression has been made doubly impressive by the emphasis which Mr. McDonald has placed thereon.

The third sanction is that, quite apart from pity, quite apart from sorrow, quite apart from concern for the specific victims, this program of the Nazis is an attack on the fundamentals of all that we call civilization. The whole history of civilization has been one continuous struggle to realize the words of Voltaire, "I differ from all you say, but I will die in defense of your right to say it."

The concept that a state may exterminate all those with whom it finds itself in disagreement is a concept that carries within itself the potentialities of destruction for every man and woman in the world. If it is the Jews in Germany today, it may be the Protestants in some other country tomorrow. If the non-conformist in Germany may be destroyed and if the world will sit silent while that destruction is being consummated, then the world has confessed itself bankrupt in its own endeavor to preserve and continue the struggle for civilization. And as I read Mr. McDonald's paper, that sanction leads inevitably and logically to the fourth. And here, he has sounded a note that should be a clarion blast to every right-thinking man, be he Jew or Christian. That note is: No, the world is not bankrupt morally, the world is not helpless, and there are practicable justifications for arraigning Nazi Germany at the bar of international justice.

We sometimes overlook, I believe, that the League Council itself recognized this principle when it stated in the resolution by which Mr. McDonald's office was established, (referring to the refugees coming from Germany) "That their presence in those countries constitutes an economic, financial and social problem which can be solved only by international collaboration."

And I see before me men versed in the principles of international law who will tell you Mr. McDonald spoke by the book when he pointed out that oppression within Germany, which caused Jews and other non-conformists to face the alternative of dying of starvation within Germany or emigrating under conditions which force them to leave their life savings within Germany, imposed a burden

on other countries, which burden gave them, in turn, the right to protest that the Nazi defiance that non-conformist oppression was a matter of internal politics, was untenable in a world where the alleged German regulation of its own internal affairs resulted in disaster to other countries of the world.

According to the research of some scholars which was put at my disposal, that has always been the doctrine of this country of our loyalty and of our love.

In 1891, referring to the policies pursued by Russia towards our Jewish brethren, President Harrison wrote these words:

“The banishment, whether by direct decree or by no less certain indirect methods, of so large a number of men and women is not a local question. A decree to leave one’s country is, in the nature of things, an order to enter another—some other. This consideration, as well as the suggestions of humanity, furnished ample ground for the remonstrances which we have presented to Russia.”

Change a few words there and you have the basis of the indictment of Germany which Mr. McDonald voices.

And later, when John Hay was Secretary of State, we had to deal with the Roumanian situation. He stated these principles to govern the American policy:

“Should these causes for emigration originate in the act of another sovereign state to the detriment of its neighbors, it is the prerogative of an injured state to point out the evils and make remonstrance, for with nations, as with individuals, the social law holds good that the right of each is bounded by the right of the neighbor.”

And so Mr. McDonald has given us heart, courage and confidence, to believe that these sanctions will move the enlightened public opinion of the world to strike down this recrudescence of mediaeval barbarism.

Mr. Chairman, it is because of this faith that I offer the following resolution.*

*For text of resolution, see p. 596, above.

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