1960 was a year that saw events of special concern to Jews dominate much of the world’s headlines. There was the spate of swastika daubings touched off by the desecration of a synagogue in Cologne, Germany. Quickly the epidemic spread until eventually hardly any country in the western world had not been touched by antisemitic or antireligious vandalism.

The capture of Adolf Eichmann in Argentina and the announcement of the trial again projected a situation in which Jews were in the forefront of the world spotlight.

As always, the *American Jewish Year Book* provides incisive interpretations of these explosive and significant events.

In addition, the 1961 volume presents two highly informative articles dealing with the United States and Canada:

Louis Rosenberg of the Canadian Jewish Congress commemorates another significant anniversary of Jewish communities in the English-speaking world in his article "Two Centuries of Jewish Life in Canada." Erich Rosenthal breaks down the figures of the United States Census and other population reports to compare population growth among Jews and other religious groups. This is another in the *Year Book*’s series which attempts to answer the question of whether Jewish population in the United States is likely to shrink, remain constant, or grow.

The present volume also offers detailed examinations of key issues in the United States and summaries of major programs in American Jewish life: the effect of the religious question in the 1960 presidential campaign; civil rights and civil liberties

*(Continued on back flap)*
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Preface

The two special articles in this volume deal with the United States and Canada.

"Jewish Fertility in the United States," by Erich Rosenthal, compares the fertility of Jews with that of other groups, religious and social. It is based in large part, though by no means exclusively, on the nationwide survey by the United States Bureau of the Census in March 1957, discussed in this YEAR BOOK in 1959 (Vol. 60). Professor Rosenthal's study is a major step forward in the demography, analytic as well as descriptive, of American Jewry.

"Two Centuries of Jewish Life in Canada, 1760-1960" is another in a series of essays commemorating significant anniversaries of Jewish communities in the English-speaking world, earlier ones appearing in volumes 56-58. The author, Louis Rosenberg of the Canadian Jewish Congress, has for many years contributed to the YEAR BOOK both regular and special reports on Canadian Jewry.

The special reports in the Review of the Year section deal with the three most conspicuous occurrences of concern to Jews—the swastika incidents (which are also treated in the reports on the countries where they occurred), the capture of Adolf Eichmann and its international repercussions, and religion in the American presidential campaign. The Eichmann trial itself, in process as we go to press, will be reported in the next volume.

We gratefully thank our colleagues for their devoted cooperation: Miss Claire Kelman for her editorial assistance and Mrs. Stella Ettlinger for her technical assistance, including the preparation of the index. Maurice Goldbloom and Mrs. Ruth Gould helped in the editing of articles, the late Moses Jung helped to prepare the Jewish calendars, Mrs. Gould and Mrs. Marjorie Rader read proof, Mrs. Lotte Zajac aided in checking references, and Mrs. Estelle Weinstein and Miss Rose Grundstein helped in the typing of manuscripts and index cards.

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