American Jewish Year Book 1962

A Record of Events and Trends in American and World Jewish Life

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE and
JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA
For more than six decades the American Jewish Year Book has offered a uniquely comprehensive account of Jewish life in this country and throughout the world. In this latest volume, appearing after the trial of Adolf Eichmann—and through him, of Nazism—the background, the trial, and the judgment are covered extensively.

In a long section of 130 pages, Volume 63 of the Year Book presents the full text of the indictment; a summary of the trial by Léon Poliakov, the noted authority on Nazism and antisemitism; a survey of press reaction, general and religious, in the United States, and an analysis of the verdict.

The highlight of the section is “European Jewry Before and After Hitler,” by Salo W. Baron, Professor of Jewish History, Literature, and Institutions at Columbia University, who testified at the trial. Dr. Baron gives us a moving and impressive portrait of a people whose creativeness — cultural, social, and economic, Jewish and general — was nothing short of astounding.

Of special interest also is the article on civil rights, which records that in
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THE LONG special section on the trial of Adolf Eichmann, which commanded the world's attention in 1961, consists of: (1) "European Jewry Before and After Hitler," by Salo W. Baron; (2) "The Proceedings," by Léon Poliakov; (3) "America's Response," by George Salomon; (4) "The Judgment," by Sidney Liskofsky, and (5) "Text of the Indictment."

Professor Baron's article, based on the memorandum that he prepared for his own use when he was invited to testify at the Eichmann trial in April 1961, is a moving account of the Jews and the Jewish communities of Europe destroyed by Hitler, an analysis of the Nazi policies leading to the destruction, and an assessment of the effects of the catastrophe. It is followed by a remarkable exchange between Professor Baron and Eichmann's attorney, taken from the transcript of the trial. The editors are grateful to Professor Baron for permission to publish his article, which has also been issued by the American Jewish Committee as a preprint from this volume. "America's Response," as its title indicates, describes public reaction to the trial in the United States. Reactions to the trial elsewhere are described in the articles on the various countries.

"The Curriculum of the Jewish School," by Samuel Dinin, surveys recent trends and is supplemented by a selected bibliography which should prove useful to educators and parents.

For the first time in a number of years there are reports on the Jewish communities of Spain and Portugal.

The editors mourn the passing of Solomon F. Bloom, professor of history at Brooklyn College, a close and valued friend who was long a member of the YEAR BOOK Advisory Committee.

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 helped in editing and translating articles and Mrs. Ruth Gould in editing. Henry Levy, Joint Distribution Committee director in Latin America, contributed information on Argentina. Rabbi Naftoli Richter prepared the
Jewish calendars and Mrs. Martha Jelenko gave editorial assistance in the section on the Eichmann trial. Mrs. Faye Geiger read proof, Mrs. Lotte Zajac aided in checking references, and Mrs. Estelle Weinstein and Miss Rose Grundstein helped in typing manuscripts and index cards.

We are also grateful to Sidney Feinberg for his design of the new YEAR Book typography.
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