REVIEW OF THE YEAR
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INTRODUCTION

Several tragic factors combined to make the period now under review probably the most sombre and disheartening twelve-month for Jews since the close of the World War. The breath-taking increase in the unconscionable ruthlessness of the Nazi drive against the Jews of Germany, especially after the seizure of Austria; the savagery of the sadistic maltreatment of Jews which accompanied that act of international banditry; the indications, all too numerous and obvious, that the pestilence of Nazism has spread to Poland, to Roumania, and to Hungary and has begun to infect other areas; and, finally the catastrophic deadlock in Arab-Jewish relations in Palestine—these developments, all of them symptoms of the breakdown of international morality, served to focus the attention of Jews in all other lands as never before on Central Europe and the Near East. The inter-governmental refugee conference at Evian-les-Bains, France, at the close of the period brought the Nazi regime in Germany, the chief cause of that breakdown, again before the bar of civilized world opinion, but, although condemnation was decisive and unqualified, it did not avail to stop or reduce the depredations of a criminal government which appears to have neither conscience nor regard for world opinion.

*The period covered by this review is from July 1, 1937 to June 30, 1938. It is based on reports in the Jewish and general press of the United States and a number of foreign countries.
I. UNITED STATES

In opening our Review, a year ago, we observed that there were indications that the Jewish community of the United States was again beginning to give to its domestic interests the major part of its thought and attention which had been focused on events abroad since 1933, when the present regime in Germany came into power. The turning of the screw of Jewish torture in Germany, the increase in the number of Jewish victims in that country by the addition of the 200,000 Jews of Austria, the intensification of anti-Jewish incitement in Poland, the moves to deprive Jews of citizenship and livelihood in Roumania, the legal sanction given to anti-Semitism by the enactment of a numerus clausus for Jews in the cultural and economic life of Hungary, and the recent tragic turn of events in Palestine, drew the attention of American Jews back to the Old World. Along with increased solicitude for the welfare of their brethren in lands of oppression, came a more widespread as well as more intense interest in the activities of domestic communal agencies of all kinds. Events of Jewish interest in Germany and happenings at home connected with them continued during the review period to occupy the foreground of the overseas interests of American Jews, with events in Palestine, Poland, Roumania and Hungary following close.

A. OVERSEAS INTERESTS

1. Reaction to Events in Germany

As in the previous review period, there were during the past one a number of events both at home and in Germany which were of special interest to the American people whose reaction to them indicated manifest and unmistakable disapproval of Nazi policies and procedures. •
a. United States Representation at Nuremberg Congress

On August 26, 1937, it was announced that the United States chargé d'affaires in Berlin had been instructed by the State Department to attend the Nuremberg Congress of the National Socialist Party. It was disclosed that this decision had been taken against the strong advice of Ambassador William E. Dodd, then in this country on leave of absence. It had become customary for the principal democratic powers, England, France, and the United States, not to be represented at the annual congresses at which democracy is held up to ridicule. This time, however, because Hitler, himself, as head of the State, had requested the attendance of representatives of the democratic countries for one day, the British and French Governments had accepted the invitation in order to avoid an open affront; and the government of the United States had followed suit.

The action of the State Department evoked a great deal of press comment, some of it condemnatory of American representation at the Nazi Party Congress, and several organizations protested against the action; but, there were indications that, on the whole, public opinion recognized that it would have been extremely difficult for the State Department to have acted otherwise in this very awkward situation.

b. Resignation of Ambassador Dodd

In view of Ambassador Dodd's known opposition to this step and other indications of his unmistakable disapproval of Nazi policies, the American public was not surprised when, on December 7, it was announced that, after four and one half years service at Berlin, he had tendered his resignation. On January 7, 1938, Mr. Hugh R. Wilson, Assistant Secretary of State was appointed to succeed Dr. Dodd.

In a statement to the press upon his return from Europe on January 6, 1938, Dr. Dodd declared that a representative
of a country of democratic ideals, such as the United States, could not successfully serve his Government in Nazi Germany. He vigorously condemned race hatred, war preparations, and treaty violations. He was especially outspoken in decrying the persecution of the Jews, who, he said, had served courageously on both sides in the World War and had come to the aid of the helpless Germans after it. In a region where religious freedom is denied and racial hatreds are cultivated, said Dr. Dodd, it was the duty of an American representative to “remind men of the significance of democratic civilization for which peoples have struggled since the sixteenth century.”

On January 13, in an address at a dinner given in his honor at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria, New York City, Mr. Dodd labelled German “Aryanism” a false doctrine, and charged that Hitler had killed “more personal enemies in five years than Charles II of England did in twenty years.” These statements evoked a protest from the German Ambassador, Dr. Hans Dieckhoff, who, without awaiting instructions from his Government, called upon Secretary of State Hull. While deploring the incident, Secretary Hull pointed out that the Federal Government has no control over the utterances of Dr. Dodd, who was no longer an official.

Dr. Dodd's address on January 13 was favorably received in the American press and he was immediately besieged with invitations to address groups throughout the country. Dr. Dodd spoke and lectured extensively and on repeated occasions condemned the brutalities perpetrated by the Nazi regime and emphasized the responsibility of democratic countries to preserve their free institutions and resist the inroads of authoritarian dogmas.

c. Utterances of Ernst Wilhelm Meyer

A sensation, similar to that created by the resignation of Ambassador Dodd, was caused in February, 1938, when at a dinner in New York City, tendered to him jointly by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, and the Universal Christian Council for Life and Work, Dr. Ernst Wilhelm Meyer, for sixteen years a member of the
German diplomatic service, and for six years first secretary of the German Embassy in Washington, who resigned from the service in May 1937, delivered an address in which he stated his reasons for his step. Assailing Hitlerism as anti-German and anti-Christian, Dr. Meyer declared that "Hitler and his regime have betrayed what I knew to be the lasting interests of the German Fatherland." He went on to say: "I could no longer conscientiously serve a government which I saw to be the foe of so many things I had been taught Germany stands for. The moral law and loyalty to the true Germany makes surrender to National Socialism impossible. I cannot do otherwise, whether as a German or a Christian."

Dr. Meyer listed the myth of Nordic superiority and anti-Semitism as among the anti-German traits of National Socialism. "It is the disgraceful opposite," he declared, "of German and Nordic for the government of almost 70,000,000 inhabitants to drive a helpless minority of less than 500,000 to destruction." Characterizing anti-Jewish persecution as evidence of moral and racial weakness arising out of the lowest human instincts, Dr. Meyer asserted that "Everybody knows that the German Jew has been a devoted and useful citizen of Germany. To deny this, means either ignorance or lying."

d. American Publishers and International Congress

On January 17, 1938, forty-eight of the outstanding American book publishers announced that they would not participate in the 1938 International Congress of Book Publishers to be held at Leipzig in June. In making public their reasons for this decision, the publishers asserted that "participation in a meeting in Germany, with all the implications of such cooperation, would be a contradiction of the very essence of our function as publishers." The statement went on to point out that the Nazi authorities had suppressed nine-tenths of the modern German writers whose works are published in English translations; that in Germany possession of such works is a criminal offense; that all manuscripts for publication are subject to
the approval of the government; and that censorship extends to science, art and culture as well as political utterances. The statement also referred to a resolution which the German Publishers Association had announced it would propose and support at the International Congress. This resolution favored the establishment of an international censorship agreement for the suppression of all books "libelling the head of a State or the sacred institutions of a State through misrepresentation of history." Declaring that in this country it was still possible to criticize any administration, the American publishers stated that this resolution would put American delegates in an impossible situation. "We cannot, in courtesy, give voice to our beliefs at a meeting in Germany, nor can we humiliate ourselves by going there and keeping silent about them."

Among the signers of the statement were John Day Co., E. P. Dutton and Co., Farrar and Rinehart, Harcourt, Brace and Co., Harper and Bros., Macmillan Co., and the Harvard, Oxford, and Yale University Presses. Their action was widely commended by the American press.

e. Attitude of Scientists and Educators

At its annual meeting in Indianapolis during the last week in December, 1937, the American Association for the Advancement of Science adopted resolutions expressing "grave concern" over the suppression of intellectual liberty and free expression, and denouncing the suppressor nations as "intolerable forms of tyranny." The scientists declared that "science is wholly independent of national boundaries and races and creeds and can flourish permanently only where there is peace and intellectual freedom." They resolved that an invitation be extended to the "British Association for the Advancement of Science and to all other scientific organizations to cooperate not only in advancing the interests of science but also in promoting peace among nations and intellectual freedom in order that science may continue to advance and spread more abundantly its benefits to all mankind."
This reaffirmed a previous resolution that had been presented by Dr. Robert A. Millikan and Prof. Henry Norris Russel, two of the nation's outstanding scientists, which declared that "the American Association for the Advancement of Science feels grave concern over persistent and threatening inroads upon intellectual freedom which have been made in recent times in many parts of the world. We regard the suppression of independent thought and its free expression as a major crime against civilization itself. We feel it our duty to denounce all such nations as intolerable forms of tyranny. There can be no compromise on this issue, for even the commonwealth of learning cannot endure 'half slave and half free'."

The dictum of the scientists that science "can flourish permanently only where there is peace and intellectual freedom" was supported by the report for 1937 of the Rockefeller Foundation, made public on March 24. In this report, Raymond B. Fosdick, president, declared that the efforts of several governments to impose uniform ideologies and circumscribe intellectual liberty have caused "the progressive disintegration of creative scholarship." Dr. Fosdick declared that "objective scholarship is possible only when thought is free — and freedom can exist only where there is tolerance, only where there are no 'keep out' signs against the inquisitive and questioning mind." The stifling of freedom in some countries, the Report declared, had affected the Rockefeller Foundation's program, and has prevented it from going into some fields into which it had formerly been interested.

f. Hitler's Fifth Anniversary

The fifth anniversary of Hitler's rise to power on January 30, 1933, was made the occasion for anti-Nazi meetings in various cities. On January 13, the Joint Boycott Council of the American Jewish Congress and the Jewish Labor Committee sponsored a mass meeting in New York City, at which former Ambassador William E. Dodd was the chief speaker.

On January 30 a mass meeting under the auspices of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League was attended by
almost 4,000 persons. The chief speakers were Representative Hamilton Fish, Jeremiah T. Mahoney, former Ambassador Dodd and Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, who directed the showing of the motion picture, "Modern Christian German Martyrs."

A protest meeting was also held on the same evening at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles under the auspices of the Hollywood Anti-Nazi League, which was attended by 10,000 persons. Among the speakers were Eddie Cantor, Dorothy Parker, Representative Jerry O'Connell of Montana, and Dr. Lechner of the American Legion.

At a meeting in New York City on the same evening, attended by more than 2,000 sympathizers, Dr. Hans Borchers, German Consul General, expressed the gratitude of the German nationals to Adolf Hitler on the fifth anniversary of his accession to power. Speaking in German, Dr. Borchers declared that National Socialism wished to establish more friendly relations with the rest of the world, based on mutual understanding, but was prevented from so doing by foreign misrepresentation. He expressed the view that their ambition was to blame for the oppression of Jews in Germany.

g. The Nazi Seizure of Austria

The events culminating in the resignation of Dr. Kurt von Schuschnigg and Hitler's march into that country, on March 12, left the world breathless because of dramatic suddenness and ruthlessness of execution. The American press, which had been calmly reviewing the five years of power of the Nazi regime, was completely shocked at this turn of affairs, which it termed the greatest European tragedy since the World War. While some editors did not consider Anschluss of Germany and Austria objectionable, if accomplished under democratic regimes and with the consent of the Austrian people, American public opinion was unanimous in its realization that Anschluss at this time would mean the extension of the Nazi program of religious persecution and extermination of political opposition.
Even prior to the actual invasion, nation-wide attention was directed to the action of Arturo Toscanini, world-famous conductor, who, disturbed by the increasing Nazi activity and influence in Austria, particularly the shake-up of the Schuschnigg cabinet after the Berchtesgaden conference on February 12 between Schuschnigg and Hitler, announced on February 16 that he had withdrawn from the 1938 Salzburg music festival, and that the Salzburg Festspielhaus would not, as planned, be the beneficiary of the concert to be held in New York on March 4 under his direction. This action was widely approved in the American press and was seen as consistent with the maestro's previous refusal to compromise with dictatorship governments, particularly the Nazi regime.

The brutality of the Austrian Nazis and their inhuman treatment of the Jews, completely disregarding human rights, evoked indignant protests from American groups.

On March 22 a manifesto was made public by the National Conference of Jews and Christians, signed by ninety-nine Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish leaders. Expressing the fear that Nazi coercion and oppression would be "relentlessly furthered in Austria," the declaration asserted that the three faiths "stand together on common ground in defending human rights and liberties." Among the signers of the manifesto were President Henry Sloane Coffin of the Union Theological Seminary, Dr. Robert J. Cannon, President of Fordham University, Dr. Cyrus Adler, President of the American Jewish Committee, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, President of the American Jewish Congress, and Dr. Edgar de Witt Jones, President of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

In a statement published on March 20 in the New York Journal and American and other Hearst newspapers, Dr. Adler stated that force alone could influence Hitler, as "there is no forum or bar to which decent world opinion can appeal from the unconscionable assaults of Nazi Germany." "The Jews of America," said Dr. Adler, "must steel themselves to carry the added burden of helping in every possible way the 200,000 Jews of Austria. What has happened to them has added fifty percent to the
responsibility of American Jews to bring aid to the Jews of Germany, a problem with which we have been coping during the past five years."

Germany's annexation of Austria and persecution of minorities was denounced also at the fifth annual luncheon of the Women's Division of the American Jewish Congress on March 30 at the Hotel Astor. The meeting was addressed by Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, and Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia.

On May 20, the Executive Committee of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America adopted a protest resolution stating that it viewed "with deep concern the extension to Austria of the inhuman persecution of the Jews which has already marked the conduct of the present German Government toward the Jews of their own country." The resolution continued: "As Christians we cannot view with indifference the new dangers which confront our Christian brethren in Austria, both Catholic and Protestant, whose religious liberty is destroyed with the loss of their political independence."

h. Proposed International Refugee Conference

The event which, more than any other single occurrence both in this country and abroad, crystallized the protest and indignation of the civilized world against the new Nazi campaign of sadism, and which brought to a focus the reaction of world public opinion to the plight of the tens of thousands of refugees rendered homeless by the recent events abroad, was the invitation extended by the United States Department of State to the countries of the world to cooperate in a common effort to facilitate the emigration of refugees from Austria and Germany.

On March 24, 1938, the State Department dispatched notes to thirty-three foreign countries proposing the creation of a special international committee which would seek ways and means to find new homes for the victims of persecution in Germany and Austria. Following is the summary of the notes as released by the State Department:

"This government has become so impressed with the urgency of the problem of political refugees that it has
inquired of a number of governments in Europe and in this hemisphere whether they would be willing to cooperate in setting up a special committee for the purpose of facilitating the emigration from Austria and presumably from Germany of political refugees.

“Our idea is that, whereas such representatives would be designated by the governments concerned, any financing of the emergency referred to would be undertaken by private organizations within the respective countries. Furthermore, it should be understood that no country would be expected or asked to receive a greater number of immigrants than is permitted by its existing legislation.

“In making this proposal the Government of the United States has emphasized that it in no sense intends to discourage or interfere with such work as is already being done on the refugee problem by any existing international agency.

“It has been prompted to make its proposal because of the urgency of the problem with which the world is faced and the necessity of speedy cooperative effort under governmental supervision if wide-spread human suffering is to be averted.”

According to The New York Times of March 24, the idea of making the appeal was said to have originated with President Roosevelt, who was deeply disturbed over the plight of religious and racial minorities as well as political victims in Austria and Germany, and who felt that the task of aiding them was of such magnitude that only a cooperative governmental effort could deal adequately with it. It was emphasized by the State Department, however, that no country would be expected to make any change in its immigration legislation.

The proposal of our government was widely hailed by church and labor organizations and by leaders of public opinion throughout the country. The American press supported the proposal with virtual unanimity. In the editorials commenting on our Government’s action, the press recalled the traditional role of the United States as a haven for the oppressed of all lands, stressed the fact that this country has reaped immeasurable benefit from
the high quality of the immigrants in the past, and pointed out that, within our present quota restrictions, we would again be the ultimate beneficiary in receiving the men and women of talent and distinction being cast out by the German government.

The executive committee of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, meeting on March 25, adopted a resolution expressing its approval of the State Department's action, as follows:

"We rejoice in the action of our State Department in appealing for international cooperation to provide a haven of relief here and in other lands for all refugees from Austria. We commend the cause of these new victims to the prayer and active support of the churches of America."

Jewish leaders were also quick to express their appreciation of our Government's action and to offer their entire facilities in carrying out any plan decided upon by the proposed international body.

On May 1, it was announced that Myron C. Taylor, former chairman of the United States Steel Corporation was named by President Roosevelt as American representative on the proposed committee. At the same time, the President named James G. MacDonald, former League High Commissioner for Refugees from Germany, as acting chairman of his Advisory Committee on Political Refugees, and the Rev. Samuel McCrea Cavert of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, secretary, pending the committee's permanent organization.

Other members of the American Committee appointed by the President were Paul Baerwald, chairman of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Bernard Baruch, Hamilton Fish Armstrong, editor of Foreign Affairs, the Most Rev. Joseph F. Rummel, Archbishop of New Orleans, James M. Speers, New York merchant, Basil Harris, vice-president of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, and Louis Kennedy, president of the National Council of Catholic Men.

On May 11, it was announced by Leland Harrison, United States Minister to Switzerland, that the forthcoming conference was to be held beginning July 6 at Evianles-Bains, France, and on May 16 the State Department
announced the appointment of Robert Pell, Divisional Assistant in the State Department, and George Brandt, foreign service officer, as assistants to Mr. Taylor at the international refugee conference.

A statement on the Evian Conference is given in the section headed "International Matters" in this Review.

2. Reaction to Events in Poland

The wretched plight of the Jews in Poland, aggravated during the review period, continued to fill their co-religionists in this country with anxious concern, especially on occasions when the oppressive measures rose to unprecedented heights. The first of these occasions was brought on by the major outbreaks which took place in Brzesc and Czestochowa in May and June, 1937, (see Vol. 39, pp. 412–416) which were the culmination of two years of anti-Jewish violence. These events evoked vigorous protests by Jews and non-Jews in the United States.

a. Protests Against Anti-Jewish Persecution

On July 9, 1937, an appeal to the United States Government on behalf of the Jews of Poland was read in the House of Representatives by Congressman Herbert S. Bigelow of Ohio. This appeal, signed by 130 Cincinnati clergymen of all denominations, charged that Poland violated treaty guarantees in the treatment of her Jewish citizens, and that the United States had a responsibility for the enforcement of the treaty since she was a party to the pacts which helped restore the independence of Poland. The same point was stressed when, on July 12, 1937, the American Jewish Congress submitted a memorandum to Secretary of State Cordell Hull urging that the United States Government intercede in a friendly manner with Poland on behalf of her Jewish population.

On September 23, 1937, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress, protested to Count Jerzy Potocki, Polish Ambassador at Washington, against the Polish Government’s failure to curb rioting and violence
against its Jewish population, and telegraphed Secretary Hull, asking him to make friendly representations to the Polish Government.

On September 24, the Federation of Polish Jews made public a letter to the Polish Ambassador in which it protested against the new wave of anti-Jewish disorders in Poland.

Replying, on October 6, to a letter from the Federation of Polish Jews in America, Pierrepont Moffat, Chief of the Division of European Affairs, wrote that the United States could not make representations to a foreign government with regard to matters not directly involving American citizens or interests. He expressed, however, the "sympathetic understanding" of our Government of the "natural concern of American Jews in matters affecting the Jewish population of Poland."

Notwithstanding this pronouncement, a delegation representing the Jewish People's Committee Against Fascism and Anti-Semitism, (organized in 1936), presented to Secretary Hull a petition appealing for American intercession in behalf of the downtrodden Polish Jews. This protest evoked from the State Department, through James Clement Dunn, Chief of Division of Western European Affairs, a statement similar to the Department's response to the Federation of Polish Jews.

b. Protests Against "Ghetto Benches" in Polish Universities

Scarcely had the protests over the anti-Jewish violence in Poland died down, when the public opinion of the world was again aroused by the institution of "ghetto benches," or the segregation of Jewish students in the Polish academic institutions, in October. Scientists, scholars, and teachers everywhere joined with some of their Polish colleagues in expressing their disapproval of these measures, which they regarded a threat to academic freedom and the traditional right of the free pursuit of knowledge, and a disgrace to institutions of learning.
On November 25, 1937, the establishment of "ghetto benches" was assailed in a letter to Minister of Education Sviatoslawski sent by Jerome Davis, president of the American Federation of Teachers, representing 25,000 teachers in the United States. The letter condemned "ghetto benches" as "the most serious possible violation of the solemn obligation assumed towards the minority peoples when the United States of America helped to free Poland from the yoke of centuries."

On December 6, 1937, the American Youth Congress, representing three million young men and women in the United States, sent a communication to the Polish Minister of Education protesting against the segregation of Jewish students in Polish academic institutions.

Ten days later, the text of an appeal of the American section of the International League for Academic Freedom, addressed to the Polish Minister of Education, was made public. The American section represents 994 teachers associated with 110 universities. With the appeal went an open letter to academic leaders in Poland, urging them to oppose such discrimination as "alien to the spirit of academic freedom and of free cooperation in the pursuit of knowledge that is so essential to the world of scholarship."

The officers of the league are: Dr. Alvin Johnson, president; Dr. Albert Einstein, Dr. John Dewey, and Professor Wesley C. Mitchell, vice-presidents; and Dr. Horace M. Kallen, secretary.

On December 19, 1937, the American Committee on Religious Rights and Minorities, of which Dr. Arthur J. Brown is honorary chairman, issued a strong appeal to the Polish Government to end the restrictions and repressions on the economic, educational, and political life of the Polish Jews. The statement declared that it was neither "just nor humane" for the Polish Government to seek a solution to its problems by persecuting Jews, and appealed to other Governments and the League of Nations to help Poland in "providing outlets for its surplus population." The officers of the Committee, in addition to Dr. Brown, are: The Rev. Dr. John H. Lathrop, chairman;
Michael Williams, vice-chairman; Carl Sherman, vice-chairman; and Linley V. Gordon, secretary.

Probably the most striking protest against "ghetto benches" in Poland was a statement signed by 179 non-Jewish American scholars, made public on December 20, 1937, by the Institute for International Education, of which Dr. Stephen Duggan is director. The signers included five Nobel Prize winners, eight members of the Committee on International Relations of the American Association of University Professors, 59 university and college presidents, and 107 deans and professors. The Nobel Prize winners signing the statement included Arthur H. Compton, Robert A. Millikan, Thomas Hunt Morgan, William P. Murphy, and Harold Urey.

Warning that "'ghetto benches' are the beginning of the regimentation of the academic life of Poland," the statement asserted that "regimentation may commence with oppression of Jewish students but freedom to learn will as surely disappear in Poland as freedom to teach has already disappeared in every totalitarian State." Declaring that the statement was "intended as a tribute to Jewish teachers and students in this evil day when their place in the life of scholarship is threatened with extinction," Dr. Duggan added that, "if time were not an element, it is evident that the appeal would as readily have been published with a thousand as with 179 signers."

A further condemnation of "ghetto benches" in Poland was made public on December 27, 1937, by the American Writers' Committee to Aid the Jews of Poland. Among the 33 signers of the protest were Van Wyck Brooks, Thornton Wilder, Archibald MacLeish, Lewis Mumford, Kyle Crichton, Clifford Odets, Genevieve Taggard, and Vardis Fischer. The Committee also announced a series of literary contests on the Jewish problem, open to Polish writers and students, for the purpose of bringing to the attention of the American people the plight of the Polish Jews, and of encouraging Polish liberal and democratic forces. The prize works are to be translated and published in the United States.
3. Reaction to Events in Roumania

The reaction in this country to events in Roumania centered about the six weeks rule of Octavian Goga as Premier, from the time of his appointment by King Carol on December 28, 1937, to his forced resignation on February 10, 1938. The unexpected appointment of Goga, one of Roumania's most outspoken Jew-baiters and leader of the openly anti-Semitic National Christian Party, filled Jews in the United States with grave fear for the welfare of their Roumanian co-religionists. The worst fears were justified when, immediately upon his accession to power, in line with the slogan of his party "Roumania for Roumanians!" Goga immediately launched a drive to deprive Jews of all their rights. His merciless persecution of an already harassed population, coupled with the brazenly false and misleading statements about his country's Jewish population which he released to the foreign press, outraged public opinion of this and other countries.

Long before Goga's rise to power, anti-Jewish agitation was very strong in Roumania, but few reports of it reached the general press in the United States. In August, 1937, however, the virulent anti-Jewish statement of Miron Christea, Patriarch of the Roumanian Orthodox Church, who later succeeded Goga as Premier, was reprinted in the American press. It was strongly denounced by The Churchman, Protestant Episcopal weekly, which declared in part as follows: "Nowhere else in the world, so far as we are aware, has the leader of a Christian communion made so black a statement. . If we have our pro-Fascist, anti-Semitic groups in this country . we have as yet sanity and decency enough to condemn them as composed of a lunatic fringe which, by its activities, has sacrificed the right to be called Christian. In no one of these groups is there a leader of prominence even remotely approaching that of the Roumanian patriarch, whose fantastic statement should deprive him, among his fellow religionists throughout the world, of the right to the Christian name."
On January 3, 1938, Senator James J. Davis of Pennsylvania introduced a resolution in the United States Senate, requesting the President "to communicate to the Senate, if not incompatible with public interest, any information in his possession concerning prospective edicts against Jews and other minorities in Roumania reported to have become the announced program of the Roumanian Government and to use his good offices to obtain a peaceful settlement of proposed threats to the well-being of these minorities."

On January 6, Congressman William Sirovich of New York introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives calling upon President Roosevelt to intercede "in the name of humanity against the shameful treatment" by Roumania of her religious and racial minorities; the resolution also provided for severance of diplomatic relations if negotiations failed.

A resolution similar to that sponsored by Senator Davis was introduced in the House of Representatives on January 25, by Congressman Hamilton Fish, Jr., of New York.

On January 6, 1938, Secretary of State Hull announced at a press conference that the United States could not intervene in the internal affairs of another country, except where treaty rights of American citizens were involved. He said, however, that our Government was observing with keen interest the situation in Roumania. A few days later, the press reported that, on January 12, Franklin Mott Gunther, American Minister, in the course of a visit which was described as "unofficial," had informed Premier Octavian Goga of Roumania that apprehension was felt in the United States on the general situation of Jews in Roumania and particularly on the anti-Jewish policy of the Goga Cabinet. After his visit to the Premier, Minister Gunther said: "I acted entirely unofficially. I observed that we have a large body of law-abiding Jews in the United States and that American public opinion would follow events here with eager interest."

At its 31st annual meeting on January 16, the American Jewish Committee adopted a resolution, calling attention to Roumania's violation of the guarantees embodied in the Minorities Treaty, expressing its appreciation of the
steps taken by the State Department in watching the situation sympathetically, and urging the passage of the resolution introduced in the Senate by James J. Davis of Pennsylvania.

At the same time, an emergency conference in New York City of Roumanian Jews and non-Jews, called by the United Roumanian Jews of America, unanimously adopted a resolution urging King Carol of Roumania to prevent "any acts by the present government which might remove the name of Roumania from the roster of enlightened and humane countries of the world."

On January 26, 1938, protest resolutions were adopted by the Jewish Labor Committee at a mass meeting held in New York City, at which 226 organizations were represented by 1849 delegates.

At an emergency conference on January 30, the American Jewish Congress appealed to the League of Nations to provide safeguards against further encroachment of the rights of Jews in Roumania and appealed to the United States Government to make representations to the Roumanian Government.

4. Palestine Problems

a. Report of British Royal Commission

The publication, on July 8, 1937, of the report of the British Royal Commission which had investigated the series of Arab outbreaks in Palestine beginning on April 10, 1936, aroused widespread discussion in the United States, in Jewish as well as non-Jewish circles. The consensus of public opinion appeared to be opposed to the Commission’s recommendations for the tri-partition of Palestine.

As was reported in last year's review, forecasts that this solution would be recommended had been received with strong disfavor in American Zionist circles. (See Volume 39, pp. 290–91). On the day of publication of the Commission’s report, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the Zionist Organization of America, issued a statement
calling the partition proposal "the greatest betrayal" of the Jewish people, and other Zionist leaders commented in similar vein. On July 15, 1937, the executive committee of Mizrachi, Orthodox Zionist body, adopted a resolution opposing the partition proposal and called upon Jewish congregations to protest against it during services for the Fast of Ab, July 18. On July 21, on the eve of sailing to attend the World Zionist Congress in Europe, Dr. Stephen S. Wise announced that, at a meeting of the American delegates, a resolution pledging "unequivocal opposition" to Palestine partition had been unanimously adopted.

At the Zionist Congress, however, the American delegation, numbering 91 of the 475 delegates, split on the issue of partition, a majority voting in favor of the resolution providing for negotiations with the mandatory power on the basis of the proposal.

Following the decision of the World Zionist Congress, there was a disposition on the part of American Zionists to refrain from public discussion of the partition issue, but there were many indications that the proposal was not all to the liking of important sections. At its annual convention in Atlantic City, N. J., on October 27, 1937, Hadassah, the women's Zionist Organization, adopted a resolution calling for the complete implementation of the mandate over an undivided Palestine, rejecting the Royal Commissions assertions that the mandate is unworkable and that Jewish and Arab aspirations are mutually irreconcilable, and declaring the readiness of Jews to reach a peaceful settlement with the Arabs. This resolution was endorsed by Junior Hadassah at its convention in Detroit, Mich., in November. The partition proposal was condemned in his opening address by Hirsch Manischewitz, president of the Federation of Palestine Jews in America, at its convention in New York City in December. Addressing the Zionist Organization of America on July 3, 1938, at its 41st annual convention, Dr. Wise, retiring president, again expressed his emphatic opposition to partition. He added, however, that he would abide by the final decision of the World Zionist Organization.

On March 28, 1938, the London Jewish Chronicle announced the results of a poll of American Jewish opinion
on the partition proposal, which it had conducted through its American bureau, under the direction of Louis Rittenberg. The poll revealed an overwhelming opposition to partition on the part of those canvassed. A total of 172 religious and lay spokesman throughout the nation responded to the Jewish Chronicle's survey; 148 of these (86%) are for the retention of the Mandate and categorically against, while 24 (14%) are either wholly or conditionally in favor of, the proposed partition. Participants in the poll — appearing in the form of a symposium — included Zionists and non-Zionists, national leaders in every wing of American Jewry: Orthodox, Conservative and Reform.

A detailed analysis of the Report of the Royal Commission and a critical examination of the partition proposal in the light of the Commission's Report was published in January, 1938, in a book entitled, "The Future of Palestine," written by Herman L. Weisman, New York attorney, a Zionist. It was released by the American Economic Committee for Palestine under the sponsorship of Prof. Felix Frankfurter, Dr. Bernard Flexner, Judge Julian W. Mack, and Sol M. Stroock. Attacking the plan from many angles, Mr. Weismann declared that for traditional Zionists partition involves the danger of 'creating "a Jewish State that could not live," while at the same time losing the hard-won guarantees under the Balfour Declaration. The volume offered a three-point program for implementing the Palestine mandate.

Another publication attacking the partition proposal appeared in May, 1938, under the imprint of the Zionist Committee for an Undivided Palestine. The pamphlet, entitled "Partition or Zionism?" was written by Abraham Revusky. In June, the Foreign Policy Association published a Headline Book on the subject entitled "The Puzzle of Palestine," by David H. Popper, of their research staff.

When, in January, 1938, the British Government published a White Paper announcing the appointment of a technical commission to work out, in Palestine, the details of partition, concern over the delay which would be caused by this new investigation and a demand for the execution of the mandate in the interim were expressed in
a cablegram sent by American Zionist leaders to the British Colonial office. At the same time, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, president of Hadassah, issued a statement expressing the view that the proposed investigation will reveal that partition is inherently unworkable and will lead to a new recommendation bringing peace to Palestine.

American non-Zionists were united in their opposition to the partition proposal. The decision of the World Zionist Congress was a profound disappointment to them, and, as mentioned elsewhere, at the meeting of the Council of the Jewish Agency which followed the Zionist Congress, the American non-Zionist representatives on the Agency, led by the late Felix M. Warburg, succeeded in securing the adoption of a resolution instructing the executive of the Agency to request the mandatory Power to initiate Arab-Jewish conferences in an effort to reach an accord which would make possible the maintenance of the status quo.

At the opening of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City on October 8, 1937, Dr. Cyrus Adler, its president, and non-Zionist member of the Administrative Committee of the Jewish Agency, expressed the opinion that the proposed partition would not make for peace in Palestine or for world peace. Dr. Adler later presented his views in a pamphlet entitled, "Observations on the Report of the British Royal Commission." On October 26, speaking at the midwest regional conference of the Council of Federations and Welfare Funds, in Minneapolis, Dr. Maurice J. Karpf, American non-Zionist member of the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, summarized the arguments underlying the viewpoints of both the advocates and the opponents of partition. At the fourth National Conference for Palestine, held in Washington, D. C., January 22 and 23, Dr. Karpf delivered an address in which he stated that non-Zionists oppose partition or crystallization of the status quo, and favor a democratic state in which Jews and Arabs may develop freely with assurances of non-domination of either group by the other.

In the meantime, the American Jewish Committee had discussed the subject of Palestine partition at its thirty-first annual meeting in New York City on January 10,
1938. The meeting, which was attended by Zionists and non-Zionists, unanimously adopted a resolution condemning the partition proposal as violative of the guarantees of the Balfour Declaration, and pledging cooperation in bringing about a “just, equitable, and workable solution of the Palestine problem.” Subsequently, the Committee published three pamphlets dealing with the partition of Palestine, two by Dr. Maurice J. Karpf, and one by Dr. Cyrus Adler, referred to above. The pamphlet by Dr. Karpf entitled, “Partition of Palestine and its Consequences,” was a reprint of the address which he delivered in October, 1937, in Minneapolis, and which was later published in the March number of the *Jewish Social Service Quarterly*. Together with his address, a condensed statement by Dr. Karpf of the attitude of American non-Zionists toward the proposed partition was also published and widely circulated.

Considerable public interest was aroused when, on April 18, 1938, in an address before the National Labor Committee for Palestine, Dr. Albert Einstein, world-famous physicist, expressed the view that he would much prefer a reasonable agreement with the Arabs on the basis of living together, to partition.

Lively discussions of the Royal Commission’s report took place in government circles. A few days before the report was published, Senator Royal S. Copeland of New York, in the course of a speech in the Senate, declared that the partition of Palestine would render the Anglo-American Convention of 1924 on the Palestine mandate just another “scrap of paper,” unless the United States is consulted before the plan is put into effect, in accordance with Article 7 of that Convention which requires the assent of the United States to any modification in the terms of the mandate. On July 27, 1937, Representative Leon Sacks (Dem., Pa.), introduced a resolution in Congress in opposition to partition. On August 10, forty-one members of the House of Representatives joined in appealing to the State Department to advise the British government that the proposed partition was “historically and naturally inapplicable” and “totally opposed to the spirit and the acceptance of the mandate of the British government.”
On the following day, Senator Copeland introduced a resolution proposing that the Senate express its "forthright indication of unwillingness to accept modification in the mandate without Senate consent." He was vigorously supported by Senator William H. King of Utah, president of the American Pro-Palestine Federation.

That the State Department had taken action, under the Anglo-American Convention of 1924, was disclosed on August 13, 1937, when Secretary of State Hull made public the fact that the Department had demanded assurances from Great Britain that the rights of the United States and of its citizens would be safeguarded in any changes in Palestine under the partition plan. The British government had replied that the United States would be kept fully informed of all developments.

b. Other Problems

The partition proposal as well as the continuing disorders in Palestine kept public attention in the United States focused on that country during the entire period, and the press gave considerable space to news, special articles, and editorial comment on the developing situation. Especially noteworthy was a series of fifteen articles by Phelps Adams, member of the staff of The New York Sun, published daily in that newspaper, beginning on January 28, 1938. Mr. Adams had visited Palestine, where he had studied reports, interviewed government officials, Arab and Jewish leaders, and others. Mr. Adams declared in his early articles that Britain's ambiguous promises, which have made Palestine "the twice-promised land," and the effort to rule by remote control, underlie the present troubles in the Holy Land. He surveyed the entire Palestine situation, and described Arab and Jewish ambitions and the achievements of the Jewish settlers there. He expressed the view that "the Arab community today... stands as one man in its determination to win its independence in Palestine at any cost." Mr. Adams did not express any personal opinion on partition, but concluded with the phrase of the Royal Commission's Report that the present situation was fundamentally a "conflict of right with right.'"
Jewish immigration into Palestine was another problem which aroused public discussion in the United States. Zionist organizations were unanimous in protesting against Great Britain's acceptance of the Royal Commission's proposal that the immigration of Jews be based not on the economic absorptive capacity but on the political absorptive capacity of the country, and the drastic cut in labor certificates instituted on the latter basis. The organizations were unanimous also in approving the firm measures taken by the British government in suppressing disorder, and in praising the Jews of Palestine for exercising restraint and refraining from reprisals in the face of attacks.

When, on March 24, 1938, the State Department's proposal initiating international action for the relief of refugees from Germany was announced, Zionist leaders and organization were quick to point out the advantages of Palestine as a haven of refuge, and to suggest that, in view of the critical situation, the restrictions on immigration should be eased. A resolution in this sense was adopted on April 26, at a reception in New York City, to Col. Josiah Wedgwood, Labor Party member of the British Parliament, sponsored by Hadassah and the Zionist Organization of America. On May 12, Representative Hamilton Fish, Jr., introduced in the House of Representatives a concurrent resolution requesting the Secretary of State to urge the British government and the proposed international refugee conference to obtain the lifting of Palestine immigration restrictions.

5. Assistance to Overseas Communities

a. Organizations for European Relief and Reconstruction

The growing concern of American Jews over the hardships of Jewish communities overseas was reflected throughout the year under review not only in increased activity on the part of the overseas agencies, but also by an increase in contributions to these agencies. At the close of its campaign for the calendar year 1937, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, the major agency rendering
aid to distressed European Jews, was able to announce that $3,350,000 had been pledged and the largest part of that sum collected. Against these collections, it was announced by Joseph C. Hyman, executive director, the J.D.C. had allocated $2,876,675 for its overseas program. The largest sum, $1,184,000 was devoted to aiding the Jews of Eastern European lands, chiefly Poland, where $945,000 was expended. For the aid of German refugees and for the support of refugee organizations, the J.D.C. appropriated $886,500, and for aid to the Jews in Germany, $660,000. In addition, Mr. Hyman pointed out, the Jews of Eastern Europe continued to be aided by the $1,000,000 in old funds which the J.D.C. had invested in the Jewish free loan societies in Poland, and by the $2,500,000 invested in credit cooperative societies by the American Joint Reconstruction Foundation, a J.D.C. affiliate.

The disturbed conditions abroad together with the reports of a rift between the Zionist and non-Zionist elements on the Jewish Agency for Palestine over the partition issue, prompted Mr. Hyman, in a notable address before the Council of Federations and Welfare Fund meeting in Pittsburgh, on October 17, to define the aims of the J.D.C. and its relationship to other organizations. “To confuse the public mind,” he declared, “by an assumption that the J.D.C. is either pro-Zionist or anti-Zionist or non-Zionist is misleading, untruthful. The J.D.C., in common with its policy in regard to all other activities the world over, has no desire to substitute for or compete with the activities conducted by any other competent, responsible organization. In Palestine itself, the J.D.C. activity today is conducted primarily through its investments in the Palestine Economic Corporation, and its contributions to the Hebrew University.”

The practical effect of this policy was revealed on February 11, when Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, chairman of the 1938 national campaign of the Joint Distribution Committee, and Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the national campaign of the United Palestine Appeal, signed a fund-raising agreement applicable in all cities where Jewish community drives are conducted by welfare funds that hold membership in the Council of Jewish Federations
and Welfare Funds. The pact provided that both organizations "agree to recommend to local welfare funds raising money for overseas and for Palestine activities, that the sums collected by such local Jewish welfare agencies for the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal for the year 1938, shall be distributed by such welfare funds to those two organizations in the proportion of 60% for the J.D.C. and 40% for the U.P.A." The J.D.C. and U.P.A., in all other respects continued to conduct their national drives separately, the agreement affecting their campaigns in only about 100 communities.

Shortly after announcement of the J.D.C.-U.P.A. agreement, a joint statement was issued by the J.D.C. and the American Ort that the two organizations would conduct separate drives during 1938. The Ort had been included in the J.D.C. drive in 1937. The statement, signed by Paul Baerwald, chairman of the J.D.C., and B. Charney Vladeck, chairman of the Ort, declared that the relations between the J.D.C. and the Ort had always been cooperative, that the J.D.C. has granted substantial aid to the Ort, and that, after much discussion, it had been decided to conduct separate fund-raising campaigns for 1938. On March 2, the Ort announced its separate nationwide drive for $450,000.

In contrast with his attitude toward the "competent, responsible organizations" engaged in raising funds for Palestine, Mr. Hyman in his Pittsburgh address condemned the "separate and competitive" campaign of the Federation of Polish Jews carried on during 1937. "The relatively small sums that have been raised are frequently collected at the expense of much larger potential income of the J.D.C.," he declared. "They seek to duplicate the work of the Committee in campaigns here and in service abroad. They create unfounded hopes abroad. They tend to divide and confuse the communities. They set an unwholesome precedent for separatist action on the part of any group that may be dissatisfied with the budgetary allotments of the one agency, the J.D.C., which has sought to do even-handed justice not alone to the Jews in Eastern
Europe, but to the requirements of Jews in other lands of distress and suffering."

In reply to Mr. Hyman's criticism, Zelig Tygel, executive secretary of the Federation of Polish Jews, declared, at a meeting in New York on November 4, 1937, that a number of Jewish leaders in Poland had urged the Federation to continue its fund-raising. A report for the year ending June 30, 1938, revealed that the Polish Federation had raised $96,000 during the preceding twelve months. It was also estimated that the individual landsmannschaft groups raised $150,000 for aid of the Jews in their native towns in Poland.

The 1938 fund-raising efforts of both the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal were launched late in January, 1938. At a meeting of its Plan and Scope Committee in St. Louis on January 23, the J.D.C. set its national quota at $5,100,000. Both campaigns benefitted by the growing realization on the part of Jews in this country of the greater needs abroad. The reaction to the events in Poland, Roumania, Austria, Germany, and Palestine raised the general standard of giving both in number and size of contribution to these funds. On June 30, Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, national campaign chairman and Isidor Coons, national campaign director, announced that the J.D.C. had raised approximately $2,500,000, nearly half of its quota for 1938, and that the campaigns in over 50 cities, in which it was a major beneficiary, had surpassed their goals. In many of these campaigns the U.P.A. was also a beneficiary and its campaign efforts were correspondingly successful.

The annexation of Austria by Germany, resulting in the loss of civil, legal and economic rights for Austrian Jewry, evoked grave concern in the spring of 1938 among Jews in the United States. In so far as conditions permitted, prompt emergency aid was rendered by the J.D.C. On May 22, it was revealed that the J.D.C. was making available about $1,000 a day for emergency assistance to Jews in Vienna, where with the help of these funds eight free kitchens were established; these kitchens fed about 9,000 people daily, and the facilities were later increased to care for more than 12,000.
On June 27, Joseph C. Hyman, executive director of the J.D.C., in an official statement on the extension of aid to the Jews of Austria, declared that efforts were being made to secure for the Jews of Austria the benefits of the experience and facilities of the Jewish organizations in Germany that had been dealing with a situation similar to that which was suddenly confronting the Jews of Austria. Mr. Hyman went on to say:

"Since the conditions now faced by the Jews in Austria have, within the last few months, become as acute as those with which the Jews of Germany have been obliged to cope during the last five years, the Joint Distribution Committee, the British Section of the Council for German Jewry, and other organizations seek to provide constructive assistance for the Jews of Austria along the same lines as for the Jews of Germany. Such service will be established by the Jewish community of Austria as soon as plans in which we are cooperating are completed and permission for the setting up of the necessary framework of organizations and institutions is granted. Representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee and of other Jewish organizations have been permitted to go to Vienna where they conferred with the officers of the Kultusgemeinde, the Vienna Jewish Community organization. Measures were taken to provide immediate relief for thousands who are penniless."

At the annual meeting of the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society on March 20, 1938, it was decided to create a transportation fund of $250,000 to aid refugees from European lands of oppression. Abraham Herman, President of the Hias, reported that during 1937 Hicem, (Hias working in cooperation with the Jewish Colonization Association, ICA) had given aid to 27,828 Jewish immigrants from central and eastern Europe. The Hicem had also been instrumental in directing the emigration of German-Jewish refugees with the aid of funds contributed for that purpose by the Joint Distribution Committee, the Jewish Colonization Association, and the British Section of the Council for German Jewry. These organizations contributed $270,000 for the transportation costs of these refugees. The J.D.C. gave $192,000 of this sum.
b. Organizations for Palestine Reconstruction

Among the numerous activities of organizations devoting their attention to raising funds for Palestine projects, the following are noteworthy.

According to an announcement of the United Palestine Appeal, central Zionist fund-raising agency, between $80,000 and $100,000 was raised through the "Night of Stars," held on November 17, 1937, at the Madison Square Garden, in New York City. At the National Conference for Palestine, held in Washington, D. C., January 22–23, 1938, Harold Jacobi, chairman of the Finance Committee of the U.P.A., reported that the U.P.A. had administered a total of $2,325,212.76 in 1937. Of this sum, $1,864,938.53 had been raised by the U.P.A., $336,000 through special activities of the Jewish National Fund, $3,594.39 received by the Palestine Foundation Fund in special gifts, and $120,679.44 raised by Hadassah for German Jewish youth immigration to Palestine under an agreement with U.P.A. On April 13, the U.P.A. announced that $2,230,000 had been spent during the preceding two years for the settlement of German Jews in Palestine. Reporting on the results of the U.P.A. campaign since January 1, 1938, at the annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America, on July 3–5, 1938, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver announced that $1,811,780.19 had been raised in campaigns conducted in more than 500 cities, towns and villages throughout the country; of this sum, $200,187.87 was raised by Hadassah for the settlement of German-Jewish children in Palestine.

In the annual accounting submitted to the Zionist Organization of America, Rev. Dr. Israel Goldstein, President of the Jewish National Fund, reported that $846,984.30 was raised in the United States by the J.N.F. for Palestine land redemption between June 1, 1937 and June 1, 1938, the highest amount ever raised in a single year. Of this amount, $347,416.71 was raised by the J.N.F. and $499,567.59 represented its share of the receipts of the U.P.A. During the same period the Fund remitted to its Jerusalem headquarters for new land acquisition, a total of $911,166.68. During the five year period of Rabbi
Goldstein's presidency, the American branch of the J.N.F. had raised the grand total of $2,353,575.57.

On October 7, 1937, Hadassah announced that it had sent $653,426 to Palestine for the fiscal year ending October 1. Of this sum $267,860 had been applied to the Hadassah medical and public health work in Palestine; $180,000, of which $29,000 was a contribution from the American Jewish Physicians Committee, went to the building fund of the medical center being constructed in Jerusalem; $180,000 to the Youth Aliyah movement for the settlement of German and Polish children in Palestine; and $80,000 for the Jewish National Fund.

On October 9 and 10, 1937, at a meeting called by the American branch of the Jewish National Fund, Louis Rimsky, treasurer, reviewed the financial operations of the Fund since its establishment in 1902. He reported that the Jews of the world had contributed $24,000,000 for Palestine land acquisition—exclusive of larger contributions recently obtained. Of this amount, American Jews had contributed $5,900,000. In response to an appeal by Dr. Chaim Weizmann by trans-Atlantic radio from London, the conference decided to raise $2,000,000 for 1937–38 and a special emergency fund of $250,000 for the acquisition of what is to be known as the “American Region” in the zone north of Lake Huleh, in Upper Galilee.

The annual convention of Hadassah, held in Atlantic City, October 27, 1937, voted a budget of $550,180, an increase of $60,000 over the previous year. The delegates also contributed $25,000 to establish a Felix M. Warburg Memorial Fund for social service work among Palestine children under the direction of Miss Szold. Ten thousand trees were also pledged by the convention for a Rose G. Jacobs Forest in Palestine, in honor of the retiring president. At the 14th annual convention of Junior Hadassah held in Detroit, November 25 to 28, it was reported that it had sent $70,000 to Palestine during 1937 to maintain its three educational institutions and to aid the Jewish National Fund in purchasing land; it adopted a budget of $66,350 for 1938, allotting $18,000 for the Jewish National Fund.
At its annual meeting on December 22–23, 1937, the American section of the Palestine Foundation Fund, which supports Jewish Agency projects in Palestine, announced that the Fund had aided more than 175,000 Jews from Poland, Germany, and other lands to settle in Palestine from 1933 to 1937, and that it had spent $31,000,000 since 1921 for the economic and agricultural development of Palestine; of this sum the Jews of America had contributed more than $15,000,000.

On February 23, 1938, a rally celebrating the inauguration of passenger service at Tel Aviv, was held in New York City under the auspices of the American Committee for Nachshon, Palestine Labor Maritime Corporation; it was attended by more than 1,000 labor Zionists. A resolution was adopted calling upon American Jews to increase their assistance in building the maritime industry in Palestine, the Tel Aviv port.

On May 25th, the Palestine Economic Corporation reported that the Corporation and its subsidiary had loaned or invested a total of $2,385,000 during 1937.

During the period under review, the American Friends of the Hebrew University continued to stimulate interest in, and support of, the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. It was greatly aided in its program by the visits paid to this country of members of the faculty of the University, who were warmly received in academic circles here and who gave many addresses and lectures. The most distinguished of these visitors was Dr. Hugo Bergmann, Rector of the Hebrew University, who came here in the spring of 1937 as the guest of the American Friends. Dr. Bergmann addressed meetings in many cities throughout the United States and Canada, and delivered lectures under the auspices of the Philosophy Departments of eight American Universities, including Columbia, Princeton, Harvard, Chicago and Johns Hopkins. Professor Gerhard Scholem, lecturer on Jewish Mystic Literature, and Dr. Walter Fischel, of the Department of Oriental Studies at the University, also delivered a number of lectures in this country.
Another prominent personality to visit this country as a guest of the American Friends was the Honorable Edwin H. Samuel, Deputy Commissioner for Migration for Palestine, and son of the Rt. Hon. Viscount Samuel, former High Commissioner of Palestine, who arrived here on April 30, and addressed meetings in many of the larger communities.

The American Friends also reported increased American support to the Hebrew University through bequests and additions in the number of contributing federations and welfare funds.

B. DOMESTIC INTERESTS

1. Anti-Jewish Movements

In the preceding review we noted a recession in anti-Jewish agitation following the 1936 presidential election campaign, and the rejection by the American people of the attempts of native and foreign agitators to introduce cleavages in our national life. The past year, however, has again witnessed a perceptible rise in such agitation, marked by the resumption by native Jew-baiters and Jew-baiting groups of their former activities, and by the active propaganda of the German-American Bund and the widespread opposition to it. These organizations were considerably emboldened by the new waves of anti-Jewish persecutions abroad and encouraged by the adverse economic conditions at home. To a great extent the agitation continued to have a political motive, much of its content being attacks upon the policies of the present administration on the pretense that it is in some way controlled by "the Jews." Controversial legislative measures proposed by the administration gave stimulus to such agitation, and the action of the government initiating the Evian refugee relief conference was eagerly exploited to frighten the public by distorting the project into a scheme for flooding the country with Jewish radicals who were being expelled from their native lands because of subversive activities.
a. Activities of Native Jew-Baiters

The past year saw attempts on the part of the various native Jew-baiting organizations to unite and to join forces with the foreign provocateurs, chiefly the German-American Bund. In fact, so thorough has been the Nazi infiltration among the native anti-Jewish groups that it is becoming increasingly difficult to separate one from the other. The chief indication of increased agitation has been the distribution on a large scale of scurrilous anti-Jewish pamphlets and stickers.

While indications of their activities were everywhere present, the native anti-Jewish organizations, with occasional exceptions, received virtually no public notice during the year. Such publications as *Industrial Control Reports* of James True, Washington, D. C.; the *Liberator* of William Dudley, Pelley, National Commander of the Silver Shirts, Asheville, N. C.; the *Christian Free Press* of Mrs. L. Fry and Florence Maxey, Glendale, Cal.; and many new ones, in addition to the innumerable writings of Robert Edward Edmondson, carried on a barrage of anti-Jewish attacks.

In August, a so-called American Christian conference was held in Kansas City, under the auspices of the newly formed American Nationalist Confederation, for the purpose of uniting the anti-Jewish agitation of the country, but only a few made their appearance. An attempt was also made in the East to form the American Nationalist Party, but this too proved unsuccessful.

What is thus far the most successful of the recent attempts of native anti-Semites to attract public attention has been the Senatorial campaign of Gerald B. Winrod of Wichita, Kansas, Fundamentalist preacher and notorious Jew-baiter, in the Republican primaries of that state. Winrod was repudiated by the church, the press, and the party leaders, and was defeated in the primary election on August 2, 1938.
b. The Edmondson Case

The past year has also seen the disposition of the oft-postponed trial of Robert Edward Edmondson, who was indicted in June, 1936, by the New York County Grand Jury on charges of criminal libel of Frances Perkins, Dean Virginia Gildersleeve of Barnard College, and "all persons of the Jewish religion." In April 1938, the American Civil Liberties Union, the American Committee on Religious Rights and Minorities, the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress, and the Human Relations Committee of the National Council of Women made a motion before Judge James Garrett Wallace, of the Court of General Sessions, before whom Edmondson was to be tried, requesting leave to file briefs as friends of the court, on the ground that the prosecution of Edmondson involved questions of public interest. The organizations requested the court to dismiss the indictment, pointing to the dangers inherent in such use of the criminal libel laws and declaring that it was better to suffer the activities of a bigot than deprive him of the right of freedom of speech and of the press. Stress was placed mainly on the fact that even the conviction of the defendant could neither serve a useful purpose nor be in the public interest, since the proceedings would make a martyr out of him and give undue publicity to his propaganda. The briefs also pointed out that under the laws of New York State there is no such crime as the criminal libel of religion.

On May 10th, Judge Wallace dismissed all three indictments. Agreeing with the points made in the briefs, Judge Wallace concluded that the law did not warrant prosecution for the criminal libel of a religion and declared that it was wiser to bear with the sort of "scandal mongering" of Edmondson's writings, which were the "outbursts of a fanatical and bigoted mind" than to deprive him of the right of free speech and make the criminal law an instrument of oppression.
c. Activities of Pro-Nazi Groups

In sharp contrast to the relatively unpublicized activities of our native organizations, the Nazi movement held the stage in this country during the past year owing to widespread resentment at their attempts to introduce alien ideas on American soil. The increased activities of the German-American Bund prompted the publication by several newspapers of feature articles stressing the un-American character of this movement, which resulted in a great deal of public discussion. This, combined with increasing opposition of religious and patriotic organizations and the legal action started by various groups to check the Bund activities, served to publicize this movement far out of proportion to its importance and strength.

The establishment of camps by the Bund, of which there are said to be 22 now in existence, attracted a great deal of public attention. The opening, on July 18, 1937, of Camp Nordland, at Andover, N. J., occasioned wide comment and led Representative William M. Citron (Dem., Conn.) to ask for an investigation by the State and Justice Departments. Similar requests were made by Representatives Samuel Dickstein (Dem., N. Y.) and Martin Dies (Dem., Tex.), and by war veterans groups in New Jersey.

On a number of occasions, the activities of Nazi sympathizers, in the face of stern opposition, led to rioting and disturbances in various communities. A flagrant incident of this kind took place at a meeting held by the German-American Bund in New York on April 20, 1938, in celebration of Hitler's forty-ninth birthday. The disturbances, which occurred when legionnaires attempted to heckle the Nazi speakers, resulted in the injury of at least 7 men and the calling of police reserves to protect the meeting.

d. Nazi Issue in New York Mayoralty Campaign

Immediately prior to the mayoralty election in New York City, considerable excitement was aroused in Jewish circles when a permit was granted by Police Commissioner Valentine for a parade by the Bund on October 30 through the Yorkville section of the city. On October 26, the New
York Branch of the Jewish War Veterans adopted a resolution calling upon Mayor La Guardia and the Police Commissioner to revoke the permit, fearing that the paraders would march in uniform of Nazi Storm Troopers under the swastika.

Replying to attacks made upon him by Jonah J. Goldstein, former Judge of General Sessions, and Dr. Samuel Margoshes, editor of the Yiddish newspaper The Day, the Mayor declared that the right of assembly and free speech was far more important than the welfare of any political candidate. He gave assurance that there would be adequate police attendance in order to prevent any disorder and requested the citizens to ignore the parade. He charged that the holding of the parade at this time, immediately prior to an election in which he was a candidate, was a "fantastic plot hatched by fanatics and picked up by Tammany Hall" in order to embarrass him.

The parade was held on October 30, with only 800 Nazi sympathizers marching under the eyes of a police guard of 1300. The parade was followed by an indoor rally.

An editorial in The Day on November 2, called for the defeat of the Mayor because of his issuance of the permit. This attack was characterized by the Mayor as a "last-minute" political distortion, and "an attempt by Nazis and Tammany Hall to use Jews as pawns to hurt their own people."

e. Exposures of Nazi Activities

During the review period many objective studies and journalistic exposés of Nazi and other subversive activities in this country were made.

An interesting study of Communist, Nazi and Fascist movements in this country was made by Frank C. Hanighen in the September, 1937, issue of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Hanighen revealed that the American Nazi Storm Troopers did not have over 4,700 members and constituted no direct threat to the American government, while the German-American Bund had about 20,000 members. The author observed that Nazi agitation "may exert considerable influence on American habits of thought," declaring that the
stimulation of anti-Semitism and the strengthening of "German nationalist feeling among German-born American citizens, and possibly among those of German extraction, were potential sources of danger to this country."

Widespread interest was aroused throughout the nation by a series of articles appearing in the Chicago Daily Times, beginning September 9, 1937, describing Nazi activities in the United States, as seen by three reporters who had secured their information by joining Nazi organizations.

f. Nazi Activity in the New York National Guard

On November 23, 1938, the New York Post revealed that a group of members of the 244th Coast Artillery, National Guard, had attended, in uniform, a Fascist ball given on the U. S. S. Illinois, a training ship of the New York Naval Militia. The ball was under the auspices of Rossiya, White Russian newspaper, and Nazis and Russian Fascists were present in uniform. On the basis of the recommendation of Major General William N. Haskell, Commanding General of the New York National Guard, who investigated the report, Governor Herbert H. Lehman issued an order forbidding such meetings in armories or training ships under the control or supervision of the Division of Military and Naval Affairs, and forbidding an officer or enlisted man to appear at such functions. The order also forbids National Guardsmen "to employ their status as National Guardsmen to further or promote any so-called nationalistic group or non-American political or racial cause."

g. Opposition to Nazi Agitation

The activities of the German-American Bund met with a great deal of opposition, which was evidenced by the public utterances of American statesmen and the nation-wide campaign of the American Legion and other patriotic groups to protect American institution from the inroads of foreign subversive elements.

At the opening session of the 19th annual convention of the American Legion, held in New York City on September
20, 1937, National Commander Harry W. Colmery denounced the reported intention of the German Government to organize Nazi groups in this country as "a gratuitous insult to our free institutions," and urged an investigation into Nazi camps in the United States. In his annual report Mr. Colmery declared that Americans have a right "to declare that there will be no Nazism, or Nazi demonstrations, and either to bar them from entry into this country, or to send out of it those who preach or practice it."

Addressing a dinner given on September 20, to Mr. Colmery, retiring Commander of the American Legion, Secretary of State Cordell Hull made what was considered as an unmistakable reference to Nazis in the United States when he said: "If ever our population of foreign birth should put America second, if ever it should subordinate American interests to the interests of some other country by accepting directions given by governments or political parties abroad, then indeed a situation would arise that would fill us with foreboding."

The view that membership in the German-American Bund would bar one from obtaining U. S. citizenship, was expressed by Common Pleas Judge J. Wallace Leyden, in addressing a class of 124 new citizens in Bergen County Naturalization Court.

On November 23, the citizens of Southbury, Conn. voted at a town meeting against permitting the German-American Bund to establish a camp in their community. This action was taken when it was learned that the Bund had acquired a 178-acre tract for a camp site. On December 14, the residents of the town voted to set up zoning regulations which would restrict that section of the town in which the camp site was located to farming and residential purposes only. The code forbids "marching or drilling, with or without arms, except by the regular armed forces of the U. S." within the town limits.

In May, 1938, Nazi rallies were prohibited by official action in Suffern, N. Y. and Lindenhurst, L. I.

On May 26, the arrest was ordered of all six officials of the German-American Settlement League, Inc., the corporation operating the Nazi summer camp at Yaphank, L. I., on complaint of the Disabled War Veterans of
America, through Roy P. Monahan, State Commander of the Disabled War Veterans, who charged a technical violation of Section 664 of the Civil Rights Law of 1923, requiring all oath-bound organizations to file a roster of members with Secretary of State. In the course of the trial, the State contended that members were required to take an oath before joining the Bund; this charge was denied by the camp officials.

On July 12, 1938, the jury of the Suffolk County Court, after being out fifteen minutes, found the defendants guilty as charged. The League was fined $10,000 and the defendants $500 each. The one-year prison sentences, imposed on all six defendants, were suspended, with the exception of that of Ernest Mueller, League president.

A policy of determined opposition to the spread of German-American bunds, was announced, on February 28, 1938, by Homer L. Chaillaux, National Americanism Director of the American Legion, who declared that the Legion had undertaken a nation-wide fight against the Nazi movements. Chaillaux called attention to recent disorders in Chicago, Buffalo, and Rochester, N. Y. which, he said, attested to the concerted effort of Brown Shirt groups to promote their "subversive activities which endanger the welfare of this Nation." He reported that the Legion's effort was greatly aided by opposition of the "average old German-American society" to Nazi tenets.

**h. Opposition by German-Americans**

There have been many indications during the period that many Americans of German origin openly disapprove and strongly resent the importation of Nazi doctrines in this country. Their disapproval increased in strength as the activities of the Bund received more and more unfavorable publicity. As a result, the Bund found itself thwarted in its attempts to establish new camps and even to hold meetings in many communities. Following are some of the more important incidents, indicative of the attitude
of the majority, but less vociferous, of the German-Americans:

In an editorial on October 8, 1937, commenting on the increasing anti-German feeling in this country, the Schenectady Herald-Journal, a German-language newspaper, declared that this feeling has largely been caused by the program of persecution and suppression of civil liberties in that country. This antagonism has been intensified, continued the article, by "the attempt to implant National Socialist ideas into this country," which will not only work to the detriment of Germany but will also embarrass Americans of German origin. This article was reprinted by other German-language newspapers in this country.

The Bund was unable to hold a midwestern regional convention in St. Louis on November 25 when Americans of German origin in that city refused permission of their halls for use by Nazi sympathizers. On March 18, 1938, officials of the Bund announced they were unable to obtain a hall to meet in Pittsburgh because of "threats and intimidation." In many other communities the Bund was discouraged from organizing local chapters when the citizens took action to prevent the entry of Bund members. Many German-American organizations also removed the word "Bund" from their titles in order not to be confused with the German-American Bund, while other groups, such as the German-American Citizens League of Illinois and the Turnverein of Milwaukee, strongly condemned Nazi activities in this country.

On April 3, more than 3,000 German-Americans attended the exercises at the formal opening of Deutsches Haus in Baltimore, which was to be the new headquarters of a majority of the Germanic societies and organizations in that city. Speaking at the exercises, Bruce Bair, State Commander of the American Legion, struck the note of the celebration when he declared that the building was being dedicated "to the old Germany you and I knew... to the things you and I believe in — Americanism, freedom of speech, freedom of the press and the right to free assembly."
i. Legislative Opposition

The Nazi movement in this country was also the target of official investigation in Massachusetts and New York, as well as of Federal inquiries.

On August 18, Attorney General Homer Cummings stated that he had requested J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to make a “cursory examination” of Nazi camps, and, if the findings warranted one, to make a more formal inquiry. On January 5, 1938, Mr. Hoover reported to the Department of Justice the results of the investigation which covered the nation-wide activities of the Bund for a period of five months. Commenting on the report at a press conference, Mr. Cummings stated that no recommendations were made for legal action against the organizations and that any possible action would be left to the discretion of the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice.

In October and November, 1937, the State of Massachusetts conducted an investigation into subversive activities. Addressing the Legislative Commission on October 13, John L. Spivak accused Edward H. Hunter of disseminating Nazi propaganda in New England through his Industrial Defense Association, which he founded in 1936, allegedly to fight communism. Later, testifying before the Legislative Commission, Hunter admitted writing, publishing, and circulating anti-Jewish and anti-New Deal pamphlets through his Industrial Defense Association headquarters in Boston.

On May 26, the House of Representatives adopted a resolution proposed by Martin Dies (Dem., Texas), for a Congressional investigation of un-American activities. The members of the committee, appointed by Speaker William N. Bankhead, include Martin Dies, (Dem., Tex.), chairman, Arthur D. Healey, (Dem., Mass.), John J. Dempsey, (Dem., N. M.), Joseph Starnes, (Dem., Ala.), Harold G. Mosier, (Dem., O.), Noah M. Mason, (Rep., Ill.), and J. Parnell Thomas, (Rep., N. J.). The hearings were scheduled to begin August 1, 1938.

Without any prior public notice, the New York State Legislative Committee, appointed to investigate sub-
versive activities, began on June 21, an inquiry into the German-American Bund. On that day, Sen. John J. McNaboe, chairman of the committee, questioned James Wheeler-Hill, national secretary of the Bund, Gustav Elmer, national organizer, Fritz Kuhn, Bund director, and others. At the sessions the Nazi officials admitted that their aims were similar to the aims of Nazism in Germany, that the purpose of the Bund was “to build an Aryan movement under the swastika to liberate America from the Jews,” that the Nazi salute was “the coming salute for the whole United States,” and that all the Jews were enemies of this country. They denied that these aims are contrary to the American Bill of Rights. After investigating both communism and nazism, Senator McNaboe announced on July 1, 1938, that “both these movements in this country are what might be called rackets,” and that both promoted class hatreds.

2. Movements for Better Understanding

In appraising the influence of the forces of ill-will in the United States and the effectiveness of the anti-Jewish agitation promoted by them, it must be borne in mind that, although these forces and their effectiveness are by no means negligible, at the same time the forces of good will are much more numerous and active, and the wholesome inter-group attitudes generated by them are much more in harmony with the American spirit than the heresy of inter-group hostility preached by imported agitators and native fanatics. During the past year the most active and effective agency of inter-group good will was again the National Conference of Jews and Christians, but, as we shall see, its efforts were supplemented by pronouncements and activities of a host of other organizations.

a. Activities of National Conference of Jews and Christians

The past year, the tenth in the life of the National Conference of Jews and Christians, was one of the most active in its history. The anniversary year saw the inauguration
of an intensive campaign to promote concepts of better human relations in the schools and colleges of the nation. The most notable work in the field was done in Massachusetts where, at the invitation of the State Department of Education, the Conference supplied speakers for annual Todd lectureships at the ten normal schools of the state.

Other work in the field of education undertaken by the Conference was the organization, at the University of Newark, in September, 1937, of a Department of Human Relations and, under the sponsorship of the Baltimore Round Table of the National Conference, the continuation of a series of lectures at Johns Hopkins University at which Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish scholars interpreted the history and philosophies of their respective faiths.

The second Institute of Human Relations was held from August 28th to September 23, 1937, at Williams College, Williamstown, Mass., on the general subject, “Public Opinion in a Democracy.” The radio, the press, and the motion pictures, regarded as shapers of public opinion, were discussed by leading authorities in these fields before large audiences comprising members of the three faiths, and views were interchanged on common problems. Two regional institutes were also held during the summer, one at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the other at Rockford College, Rockford, Illinois. The Conference also cooperated with the Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Virginia by conducting the program at several sessions of the Institute.

The year is noteworthy for the number of Round Tables established by the National Conference, including one in New York under the co-chairmanship of James W. Gerard, Gerard L. Carroll and Maurice Wertheim, with Reginald T. Kennedy as executive secretary. A new area of the National Conference was established for Iowa, Nebraska, and Colorado, with William Waymack, Pulitzer Prize editorial writer of the Des Moines Register and Tribune as chairman and Dean Willard L. Johnson of Drake University as secretary.

With the active cooperation of eight Catholic Bishops, four rabbis, a Southern Baptist minister, a Mormon, and a Presbyterian, a good will tour of eight states in the south-
west was made by National Conference pilgrimage teams during October, 1937. The largest single meeting of the tour was held at Berkeley, California, where the audience consisted of 4,000 University of California students. In Phoenix, Arizona, 7,000 high school children meeting at various assemblies heard the good will teams, through the cooperation of the Ministers Federation and the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Shortly before the tenth anniversary observance of the Conference, the organization suffered a great loss in the death, in December, of Newton D. Baker, its founder and Protestant co-chairman. Mr. Baker was later succeeded by Professor Arthur H. Compton, Nobel Prize scientist of the University of Chicago.

The double celebration of Brotherhood Day and the tenth anniversary of the National Conference on February 22, 1938, was perhaps the outstanding single event of the period. The message of inter-faith cooperation disseminated on this occasion by the National Conference through the mediums of local meetings or dinners, the press and the radio, penetrated into the remotest sections of the country. Also, in connection with its anniversary celebration, the National Conference received a notable message of congratulations from President Roosevelt, in which he emphatically reaffirmed our country's strict adherence to the doctrines of democracy and inter-group amity and respect.

In December, 1937, delegates from eleven New England colleges, attending an inter-faith conference at Brown University, Providence, R. I., held under National Conference sponsorship, resolved to organize inter-faith councils on their respective campuses, similar to that then functioning at Brown, and to hold two intercollegiate conferences every year. This was in line with a program for the establishment of inter-faith groups at 600 colleges throughout the country.

At the semi-annual meeting, on May 30, 1938, the executive committee of the National Conference adopted a resolution introduced by Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, general secretary of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, calling upon 'Americans of all races and creeds to abjure attempts to arouse one group of the
population against another, and to reject all propaganda directed against the reputation of any group”; deploring “the libelous propaganda being spread by irresponsible elements in this country against Jews”; and warning “members of religious groups who are countenancing such propaganda that anti-Semitism is but an opening wedge to the destruction of the rights and liberties of Christians.”

In its semi-annual report, Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, Executive Director, declared that religious tension in this country was growing as a result of the events abroad. The report, however, concluded with the statement that “the main stream of American thought continues along democratic lines” and that “the great majority of our people still give whole-hearted allegiance to the natural rights of American freedom.”

The executive committee authorized Dr. Compton to proceed with a four-year nation-wide survey, beginning with the academic year 1938–1939, on the influence of a college education on the religious and racial attitudes of American students. Dr. Compton will appeal to college presidents throughout the country to ask their departments of social science and religious education to direct the survey.

Further development of Religious News Service was reported at the executive meeting. The conference-sponsored syndicate, which releases impartial news developments of interest to Protestants, Catholics, and Jews, now has a clientele of over 200 secular and church papers throughout the country. Of this number, more than 100 are influential dailies which subscribe to the general news service, weekly cartoons, and feature articles.

The midwestern, southern, and California branches of the Conference continued their sectional programs. The midwestern region which, through the Chicago Round Table, holds monthly luncheon meetings, sponsored one hundred and nine Chicago meetings and twenty-nine radio broadcasts, and sent good will teams to address sixty-two meetings and to conduct thirteen broadcasts. The University Religious Conference at Los Angeles, the official representative of the National Conference in southern California, also celebrated its tenth anniversary this year. This
organization, founded originally as a campus group, now operates throughout the entire southern California region. In celebration of its tenth anniversary, it published a special issue of its quarterly in which there appeared a symposium on "Anti-Semitism as Christian Leaders See It." Rev. James M. Gillis, editor of the Catholic World and columnist for the National Catholic Welfare Conference News Service, declared that Catholics should defend Jews because they are fellow-sufferers of persecution and for the sake of justice.

b. National Rededication

Early in June, the National Conference joined with five other religious organizations representing Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish thought, and four non-church groups to sponsor a non-partisan organization to be known as National Rededication. The new organization will conduct a six-month educational program to be concluded with a national demonstration of "devotion to liberty and democracy" on December 15, the anniversary of the ratification of the Bill of Rights, part of the Constitution of the United States. The announced purpose of the organization is to "rekindle the public mind to the splendor of America's free institutions and to offer an opportunity for personal rededication to the principles of civil and religious liberty."


c. Other Good-Will Activities

The current year was marked by an extraordinary number of good will declaration by Christian organizations and leaders, in addition to protests by Christian leaders and
organizations against persecutions in particular European countries, which are recorded elsewhere in this Review. Undoubtedly the most significant trend to be discerned in these statements was the realization that anti-Semitism is but a forerunner of anti-Christianity and that it behooves the churches of America firmly to oppose anti-Semitism for the preservation of all religion.

The following are among the more notable general declaration made during the year:

At the Second World Conference of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) held in Swarthmore, Pa. on September 7, 1937, the commission on racial justice reported that Germany’s attitude toward the Jews is “a menace to the world.” The commission declared: “Friends should everywhere oppose any action designed to penalize people because of their religious belief, or of their race or the color of their skin.” On October 23, the Society of Friends announced that it would deal nationally with questions of racial justice through a new racial section of the American Friends Service Committee. In announcing this plan, the Quakers said, “The strain of anti-Semitism in the world today cries aloud for some concerted action such as Friends might give it.”

At the annual convention of the eastern district of the American Lutheran Church, on September 14, 1937, in the course of the principal address, which was on the subject of “The Christian’s Attitude Toward the Jews,” the Rev. Dr. O. C. Mees of Canton, Ohio, declared that “the first duty of Christians is to definitely oppose all manner of anti-Semitism. This opposition must not only be emphatic protest against actual persecution of the Jew, but must go deeper and give us a frame of mind which will permit us to exercise our Christian love toward the Jews.”

In Chicago on October 21, 1937, the Universalist General Convention condemned the “spirit of violence and racial antagonism prevailing in the world today which conspicuously manifests itself in the persecution of the Jews in Germany.”

On October 30, 1937, the World Alliance for International Friendship Through the Churches, in its newsletter to members, called upon all religionists to do all in their power
to stop the persecution of Jews. At its annual Convention in Boston, November 14, the World Alliance called upon all Christian churches to do their utmost in their effort to combat anti-Semitism.

Endorsement of the inter-faith councils of Catholics, Jews, and Protestants to promote good will in this country and an expression of hope that the persecution of the Jews in other countries will cease, were among the policies recommended to the National Methodist Student Conference, at its convention on Christian personality and social activity, in St. Louis, Mo., on December 31, 1937.

A disavowal of the "sin of anti-Semitism" as "un-Christian" and as a "threat to democracy and a denial of the fundamental principles on which this nation was founded," was made during February, 1938, in a manifesto issued by the Greater New York Federation of Churches to "their brethren and fellow citizens of Jewish race and blood," by over 200 clergymen of 14 denominations.

On March 21, 1938, the seventh Students Spiritual Convention, attended by 2,000 delegates representing seventy Catholic colleges and high schools in seven states, adopted a resolution offering sympathy to the Jewish people persecuted in various parts of Europe. On March 25, 1938, at the 139th session of the New York Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 300 ministers and laymen, vigorously protested against the persecution of minority groups, especially of Jews.

A resolution entitled "Our Christian Declaration in the Face of Jewish Suffering" adopted by the Christian Council of Atlanta, was read in all churches in that city and surrounding territory, on Sunday, March 27, 1938. At about the same time, a resolution denouncing oppression of Christians and Jews, was adopted by the National Catholic Educational Association, at its annual conference held in Milwaukee.

A striking example of good will in practice was given in Dallas, Texas, when the Rev. Dr. Valentine Lee of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation collected $1039.64 at the Good Friday (April 15, 1938) service in his church for presentation to the Joint Distribution Committee for the aid of Jews overseas. The money was accepted the
following night in behalf of the Joint Distribution Committee by Rabbi David Lefkowitz of Temple Emanuel.

The 155th Convention of the New York Diocese of the Protestant Episcopal Church, meeting on April 10, 1938, resolved to recommend the appointment of a committee to confer "with representatives of other Christian communities with a view to common action to express the sympathy of all Christian people with Jews and Christians abroad persecuted and proscribed for their race, religion, and opinion." Meeting a few days later, the New York East Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church adopted a similar resolution, pledging themselves to do everything in their power "to eliminate all un-Christian attitudes and practices among non-Jews toward Jews to the end that, by our united efforts, we may establish economic justice, universal peace, and world-wide brotherhood among all men."

Speaking at the 150th general assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, on May 25, 1938, Dr. Conrad Hoffman, Jr., urged that Presbyterians raise a fund to be turned over to Jewish relief organizations for assisting their co-religionists abroad. "The Church in America," he said, "has failed miserably to provide concrete aid for the persecuted abroad. Every denomination has protested against anti-Semitism, but none has gone out as a denomination to raise a fund to be turned over to our Jewish neighbors." A few days after Dr. Hoffman's address, the Presbyterian General Assembly expressed shock at the continuation of persecutions based on race, in Germany, Austria, and other countries, and it warned its 200 members of the "peril of the curse of anti-Semitism in America."

Meeting at the same time, in Milwaukee, the Northern Baptist Convention protested against "coercion and persecutions such as those suffered by our Hebrew brethren throughout the world." Baptists were urged to protest "all violations of fundamental democratic rights in our own land."

A manifesto pledging continued efforts towards improved international relations, and branding anti-Semitism a sin, was signed by ninety clergymen throughout Bergen County,
New Jersey, early in June, 1938. In the same month, the Legislature of that State adopted a resolution directing the Governor to appoint a commission, not to exceed fifteen members, to foster racial amity and understanding, and empowering him to set aside one day each year to be designated as brotherhood and good will day.

During the period under review two significant publications appeared, under the sponsorship of the Catholic Church, indicative of the attitude of American Catholics to anti-Semitism. One, entitled “The Church and the Jews,” is a translation into English of a memorial issued by noted Catholic European scholars. This translation was made from the German by the Rev. Dr. Gregory Feige of Brooklyn, New York, and was published under the auspices of the National Attitudes Committee of the Catholic Association for International Peace. It is a strong condemnation, from the viewpoint of Catholic theology, of anti-Semitism in general and Nazi racialism in particular. The other publication is entitled, “Why Are Jews Persecuted?” written by Dr. Joseph N. Moody, of the faculty of Cathedral College, New York, and published by The Sodality of Our Lady, a Catholic organization with headquarters in St. Louis, more popularly known as “The Queen’s Work.” It is an examination of the historical factors underlying anti-Semitism, an analysis of the stock anti-Jewish charges, and an unequivocal repudiation of Nazi racialism and the Nazi association of Jews with communism.

3. Jewish Communal Life

a. Communal Organization

The question of closer cooperation between, or greater coordination of the work of, the several organizations engaged largely or entirely in combating anti-Jewish agitation and safeguarding the civil and religious rights of Jews, was the focus of attention within the Jewish community during the past year. At the annual meeting of the American Jewish Committee, January 16, 1938, it was
reported that, following a year of discussion and study, the Committee, the Anti-Defamation League of B’nai B’rith, the American Jewish Congress, and the Jewish War Veterans had decided to form an Executive Committee of Cooperation in which each of the organizations would be represented by two members.

Early in May, 1938, the American Jewish Congress announced that, in order to mobilize the strength of American Jews in the struggle against Hitlerism, to create a “united Jewish front” and to “end existing divisions in Jewish life,” the Congress would hold elections for delegates to an extraordinary conference to be held in New York City in the fall of 1938, in connection with a meeting of the Executive of the World Jewish Congress. The right to vote was accorded to all Jews, eighteen years of age and over, upon registration and the payment of a fee of ten cents. Subsequently, the Congress announced that voters would be given the opportunity to participate in a plebiscite on four questions, to wit, 1) preference of the voter for the American Jewish Congress as the representative body to protect Jewish rights, 2) desirability of the re-organization of Jewish communities on a “democratic” basis, 3) establishment of an independent Jewish State in Palestine, and 4) continuance of the boycott against Nazi Germany.

The announcement of the proposed elections aroused discussion and opposition. It was pointed out that a united front could not be achieved, nor existing divisions in Jewish life eliminated, by elections held by only one of the several organizations; also that the plebiscite would reflect the opinion only of those adhering to the views of the American Jewish Congress on the questions being asked, because the registration blank indicated that the voter approved in advance of the purposes of the American Jewish Congress. The American Jewish Committee, the B’nai B’rith, and the Jewish Labor Committee, the other leading organizations in the protective field, publicly declared their opposition to the elections as announced, and in the proposed plebiscite. Subsequently, the Jewish Congress announced that it had decided to drop the four questions and to substitute one asking whether the voter
favored "a single, all-inclusive agency" for safeguarding the rights of Jews.

Notwithstanding this change, opposition continued, and began to assume the proportions of a nation-wide controversy. With a view to terminating the controversy, Edgar J. Kaufmann of Pittsburgh, Pa., called a conference of the local representatives of the four national organizations who agreed to call upon the parent bodies to send representatives to a conference to be held in Pittsburgh, for the discussion of ways and means for coordinating their activities. At Mr. Kaufmann's suggestion, Jewish leaders in a number of other communities followed the example of Pittsburgh.

The four national organizations assented, and their representatives met in Pittsburgh on June 13 and agreed to a plan which was subsequently ratified by the organizations. This plan provided that 1) a joint committee, in which each of the four organizations are to be represented by four persons of its choice, is to be set up to coordinate the work of the four bodies, which are to retain their autonomy; 2) questions involving differences of racial, national or religious philosophies are to be excluded from consideration; 3) the decision of any issue by a two-thirds vote of the entire body shall be binding upon all the constituent groups; 4) other organizations may be added to the joint committee upon the assent of five-sixths of the representatives of the original committee; 5) the American Jewish Congress would drop its proposed referendum.

As this review is being written, conferences are taking place looking to the establishment of the joint committee.

The elections of the American Jewish Congress took place as scheduled on June 25–27, 1938. On July 17, the Jewish Congress announced that incomplete returns (47 cities not having reported) indicated that a total of 698,993 persons had registered, and 351,674 had voted.

b. Religion

Unity in community organization, the inroads of secularization, the importance of the synagogue's regaining its former influence in the lay affairs of the community,
and the vital role of Judaism in preserving the Jewish group were some of the subjects stressed at the conventions of the congregational unions and rabbinical associations during the year.

At the silver jubilee convention of the United Synagogue of America, held in Chicago, on May 6-10, 1938, Louis J. Moss, its president, declared that its aim is to combat "the moral recession of the world," and that it is "trying to bring religion closer to the ordinary man and woman, making it a daily part of their lives not something remote from their existence."

The convention was addressed by Dean Charles W. Gilkey of Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, University of Chicago, who declared that "the 'will of God' as it is progressively revealed in the mind and conscience and social experience of man is the only final loyalty that can save our common life from division, futility, and failure."

In line with this tribute to the spiritual element in human life, Rabbi Solomon Goldman, speaking at the convention banquet, deplored the secularization of American Jewry and declared the synagogue was of prime importance in furnishing leaders for Jewish secular institutions.

Resolutions were adopted calling upon the great religions of the world to unite in combating the growth of secularism and the anti-religious attitude and in maintaining "the spiritual and divine basis of human life"; reaffirming its determination "to stand for and spread the great traditional methods" of Judaism; and calling upon all "men of good will" to oppose the persecution of the Jews.

The Women's League, the National Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, and the Young People's League of the United Synagogue held separate meetings in connection with the convention.

In an address at the opening of the fortieth annual convention of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations held in New York City on May 14, William Weiss, president, asserted that the future of Jewry rested with the Jews of America, and that the problem of the Jew can be met by practical measures to strengthen Jewish life in this country, which can be best accomplished through the influence of the synagogue and of Jewish education. Later,
Mr. Weiss announced that the Union had formulated a million-dollar program for Jewish education in America, coordinating religious education under the auspices of the National Orthodox Board of Education. The fund is to be raised in one-dollar gifts, and will provide for the support of the Yeshiva College of New York, the Chicago Theological Seminary, and other schools of higher Jewish learning, as well as for religious schools and Talmud Torahs attended by children. He announced also that a special $25,000 project would provide a subsidy of $500 to each of 50 rural communities throughout the country to help defray the cost of maintaining Hebrew school teachers in districts in which Jewish groups are too small to maintain such teachers unaided.

At its annual meeting, on June 19 in Atlantic City, the Executive Board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations approved the organization of a national association of Jewish youth and empowered its board of managers to call a youth convention to be held jointly with the 36th Council of the Union in Cincinnati next January. The Executive Board also set up a national committee on public information on Jews and Judaism to bring about widespread distribution among non-Jews of popular studies in Judaism. The Board approved the establishment of a Federation of Reform Synagogues in Greater New York which had been suggested in March by the New York Advisory Committee, with a recommendation for further study of details.

The growing movement for unity, and ways for making the synagogue a vital factor in Jewish secular life, were among the chief topics of discussion at the 49th annual meeting of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, held in Atlantic City on June 21, with more than 200 reform rabbis present.

In his presidential address, Rabbi Max C. Currick, of Erie, Pa., urged the uniting of Reform, Orthodox, and Conservative Jews in a strengthened Synagogue Council. "The Synagogue," Rabbi Currick declared, "need not establish its right to speak and act; even most of the unsynagogued would readily have conceded it before this, had we boldly and ably exercised it." Pointing out that
the different branches of American Judaism must join hands if this contribution of the Synagogue is to be made possible, Rabbi Currick recommended that local synagogue councils be organized in every community to stimulate and direct Jewish religious life; that a general convention or council, bringing together the representatives of the congregations of all three branches, be called at stated intervals; that one of the first questions studied and one of the first problems attacked by the strengthened organization be the problem of the unsynagogued; that the reorganized Synagogue Council be provided with ample funds to enable it to conduct not only such work as it has already undertaken but also a much wider program of systematic activity. He saw also a growing cooperation between the Church and Synagogue in confronting the enemies of all religion.

In one of several addresses on the place and work of the synagogue, Rabbi Samuel Wohl of Cincinnati advocated establishment of "preaching missions" — teams of two or three rabbis to visit communities and preach Jewish religious values. He also recommended organization of a religious public relations council to furnish news and features of a Jewish religious nature to the press.

Rev. Dr. David Lefkowitz of Dallas urged a union of the various groups in the synagogue against their common enemy, secularism and materialism. Rabbi Bernard J. Bamberger of Albany deplored the fact that the synagogue is "to this day . . . almost entirely dominated by men of means, and our people usually take it for granted."

The Central Conference reaffirmed the right of rabbis to voice their considered opinions on social questions, and appointed a committee of five to come to the aid of rabbis who have trouble with their congregations "by reason of their courageous espousal of ethical or religious principles."

The meeting also approved the report of its social justice commission, strongly condemning "the suppression of the traditional American rights of free assembly and free speech in Jersey City" and elsewhere; attacked employment discrimination by Jews against Jews; denounced the *numerus clausus* in universities; and recommended a study by its inter-racial commission of the
report of a recent rise of anti-Semitism among Negroes. The meeting also reaffirmed its stand for a Federal anti-lynching bill, a federal study of unemployment and a federal vocational retraining program. It reaffirmed its acceptance of the principles of collective bargaining, urged the C. I. O. and A. F. L. to renew efforts toward unity, and reasserted sympathy with the sharecroppers.

At the concluding session, the Conference adopted the recommendations of its Marriage and Family Committee urging Reform rabbis to require a 5-day interval between application for marriage and performance of the ceremony, a general medical examination of both parties, and preparation for an understanding of the problems of marriage and family life. It also adopted a resolution approving the refugee-aid proposals contained in the presidential message of Rabbi Currick, one of which was that the help of Christians should be sought in persuading the international Red Cross to assist in caring for refugees.

In his presidential message to the Rabbinical Assembly of America (Conservative) which met on June 27 at Tannersville, N. Y. for its 38th annual convention, with about ninety rabbis in attendance, Dr. Simon Greenberg of Philadelphia declared that no group can be truly representative of the American Jewish community which does not include representatives of organized religious life. He advocated the inclusion of representatives of the synagogue in the newly organized joint council (of the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress, B’nai B’rith, and the Jewish Labor Committee), declaring that this action would serve "as a check on the dangerous tendency to secularize Jewish life and to remove from the councils guiding Jewish destiny the voice of the only factor which gives meaning and content to the Jewish struggle for survival — the voice of the Jewish religion as expressed in its visible and organized aspect."

Reporting for the Committee on Jewish Law, Dr. Louis Epstein of Brookline, Mass., recommended that it proceed for the present with the work of implementing the previously-adopted resolution for solving the problem of the "agunah" (deserted wife) by permitting a dissolution of marriage. In view of the discussion which ensued, the
Rabbinical Assembly authorized Dr. Epstein to consult a number of leading rabbis in Europe and Palestine.

At a session devoted to adult Jewish education, Dr. Israel Goldman of Providence urged congregations to sponsor adult education units as independent institutions. Dr. Goldman said that the aim of adult Jewish education must be "to familiarize the adult Jew with the thought life of the Jewish people as expressed in its classic texts. It must Judaize the mind of the Jews so that he shall know who he is and what he is and thereby be made spiritually whole."

Suggestions for expanding the educational work of the synagogue and the educational functions of the Jewish Theological Seminary were made in addresses by Rabbi Samuel M. Blumenfeld of Chicago and Dr. Ben-Zion Bokser.

In the concluding sessions the rabbis listened to a plea by Dr. Louis Finkelstein, provost of the Jewish Theological Seminary, and pledged their best efforts to raise $100,000 in the coming year in order to obviate curtailment of the Seminary curriculum.

Establishment of machinery to check the abuses resulting from the presence of unqualified men in the rabbinate was proposed by Rabbi Jacob Freeman of Fall River, Mass., who suggested that supervision be undertaken by the Synagogue Council of America, central organization of all congregational and rabbinical associations.

Resolutions were adopted concerning the growing demand for Conservative rabbis throughout the country and the need for a permanent field worker to conduct placement work. The Assembly also voted that the Jewish Theological Seminary be urged to extend its rabbinical course to a five year term, providing for an extra year for apprenticeship with an actual congregation.

c. Education and Culture

In the field of educational and cultural activities there are several items of unusual interest deserving of record.

The Jewish Theological Seminary of America was very active, especially in continuing extension activities aimed
at spreading among the public a knowledge of the results of recent scholarly research. At a meeting held on December 8, 1937, Dr. Louis Finkelstein, Provost of the Jewish Theological Seminary, urged the organization of a world conclave of leaders of Jewish thought “for the purpose of considering the significance and development of our traditions,” and the establishment of lay discussion groups to offer criticism of organized Jewish life.

On January 11, 1938, an assembly was held at the Seminary inaugurating the second half-century of its existence. Chancellor Harry Woodburn Chase of New York University delivered the principal address, in which he said that the essence of civilization “is the advancement of the ideal of the freedom of religious opinions and of the exercise of religious practices.”

On February 6 the Seminary held its second annual Conference on Jewish Affairs. Edward M. Warburg presided and Rabbi Milton Steinberg delivered the principal address, which was followed by round table discussion on “The Future of Judaism in America.” Rabbi Steinberg urged a culture based on religion which would cause Judaism to “take on enhanced meaning and significance for the American Jew” and aid him to “bring into the general fund of American resources his enhanced personality and cultural wealth of which he is possessed.”

Addressing one of the round table conferences, Dr. Maurice J. Karpf, Director of the Graduate School for Jewish Work, urged a central fund for Jewish higher education, which might develop into a Jewish university in the United States. The fund would maintain such institutions as the Seminary, Dropsie College, Hebrew Union College, the Jewish Institute of Religion, and the Graduate School for Jewish Social Work. Dr. Karpf pointed out that the educational institutions were suffering severely as a result of the depression and the increased need for aid to the distressed Jews abroad. In another of the conferences, Joseph G. Brin, publisher of the Boston Jewish Advocate, urged increased use of the English-Jewish press.

On March 8, the Seminary marked the 25th anniversary of Dr. Joseph H. Hertz, the first graduate of the Seminary
as Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the British Empire in a radio broadcast from Station WHN.

On April 24th the Seminary opened a Conference on the Better Understanding of Judaism, which was attended by some 300 Rabbis and heads of congregations and Temple Sisterhoods, was opened by the Seminary on April 24.

On May 23, 1938, Dr. Cyrus Adler, president of the Seminary, announced plans for an Institute of Interdenominational Studies to be opened at the Seminary in October. The institute will offer to students of Bible and religious history four courses in various phases of Jewish history, life, and religion. Dr. Henry Sloane Coffin, president of the Union Theological Seminary, issued a statement welcoming the plan.

In June, the publication was announced by the Jewish Theological Seminary of a memorial volume in honor of the late Mrs. Linda R. Miller, patroness of Jewish scholarship. Among the contributors are Dr. Davidson, scholar in medieval Hebrew literature; Dr. Louis Ginzberg, professor of Talmud at the Seminary; Dr. Alexander Marx, librarian and noted bibliographer; Prof. Harry A. Wolfson of Harvard University; and Dr. Cecil Roth, English authority on Jewish history.

On December 11–12, 1937, Yeshiva and Yeshiva College held a two-day celebration of their fiftieth anniversary. The conference adopted a resolution calling for a $1,000,000 drive for the Yeshiva, which is the only college of liberal arts and sciences under Jewish auspices in the United States. Of this quota, $500,000 is to be applied to liquidate indebtedness, $100,000 as a maintenance deficit fund, $250,000 to establish chairs for Jewish scholars from Germany and other countries of persecution, and scholarships for gifted and needy students, $100,000 for a graduate school, and $50,000 for enlarging the library.

Gov. Herbert H. Lehman of New York, who delivered the principal address at the 16th annual Hanukkah dinner of the Jewish Educational Association, on Dec. 5, 1937, attended by 800 persons, declared that "a knowledge of the Jewish tradition will bring to the Jews of today a healthy sense of self-respect and increased spiritual
strength." Gov. Lehman described contemporary Jewish youth as "groping and confused" and held that the best way to combat anti-Semitism "is to show that our religion stands for the ethical principles that make good citizenship."

Increase in registration in Jewish religious schools in New York by about 1,000 pupils during the preceding year, was announced by Harry J. Liebovitz, president, at the annual meeting of the Jewish Education Association on May 8, 1938. Mr. Liebovitz stated also that $2,000,000 were spent annually by New York parents for the Jewish education of their children, and that the Association was doing everything possible to improve the standards of teaching in the schools.

Resolutions recommending steps to facilitate the advancement of Yiddish culture in this country, were adopted at the twelfth annual conference of the American section of the Yiddish Scientific Institute, which closed on January 9, 1938, in New York City, after a three-day session attended by 285 delegates. An academic bureau to help students desiring to write dissertations on Yiddish problems is to be set up, and Jewish centers are to be asked to include Yiddish lectures in their activities. A committee of fifteen was appointed in connection with the organization's plans for a central Jewish library and press activities.

Publication of the Yiddish translation of the Bible by the late Solomon Bloomgarden ("Yehoash"), noted poet and novelist, was announced on December 1, 1937. Its publication, together with the Hebrew text, is being planned by his heirs, the Yehoash Farlag Gezelschaft and a group of friends, who have formed the Yehoash Popular-Edition Bible Committee, headed by Dr. Chaim Zhitlowsky, which has issued an appeal to learned societies, charity federations, foundations, national organizations, religious institutions, and individuals to aid in the project.

The past year has seen an extension of efforts to bring an understanding and knowledge of Jewish problems and traditions to Jewish students in colleges and universities. The establishment of a new unit in the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations was announced in February, 1938. The new Foundation, B'nai B'rith's twelfth, is to be opened in the
fall of 1938 at the University of Indiana. Its director will serve not only the 400 Jewish students at that school but also the 75 Jewish students at Purdue University.

The establishment, in the summer of 1937, of the Jewish Culture Foundation at New York University, was another notable event in this field. The Foundation, which has completed its first year under the directorship of Abraham I. Katsh, was organized for the purpose of coordinating the religious, educational, social, and cultural activities of the existing Jewish organizations on the campus, of stimulating a knowledge and discussion of Jewish problems and affairs, and their relation to American life, and of providing a medium for inter-faith cooperation among the students in the Washington Square Center of New York University. Many discussions were held and cultural and educational activities carried on during the school year.

A number of noteworthy publications of Jewish interest were issued during the period under review. Outstanding among those belonging in the field of Jewish scholarship were the following:

S. W. Baron's *A Social and Religious History of the Jews* (3 vol.);
David S. Blondheim's posthumous work, *Les Glosses Françaises dans le Commentaires Talmudiques de Raschi*;
Boaz Cohen's *Index to Ginzberg's Legends of the Jews*;
Saul Ginzberg's *Historishe Verk* (Historical Works) in Yiddish (3 vol.);
Jacob Hoschander's posthumous work *The Priests and Prophets*;
Simon Hurwitz's *The Responsa of Solomon Luria (Maharshal)*;
 Jacob R. Marcus and Albert Bilgray: *An Index to Jewish Festschriften* (mimeographed);
Joseph Reider's *Commentary on Deuteronomy*;
Maxwell Silver's *The Ethics of Judaism*;

Outstanding among the publications in the field of modern Jewish life and problems were the following:
Abraham Ben-Shalom's Deep Furrows: Pioneer Life in the Collective in Palestine;
A translation of Ber Borochov's works under the title: Nationalism and the Class Struggle. A Marxian Approach to the Jewish Problem. Selected Writings;
A translation of A. D. Gordon's Selected Essays;
Maurice J. Karpf's Jewish Community Organization in the United States, based mainly on his contribution by the same title in the American Jewish Year Book, vol. 39, 5698;
Morris S. Lazaron's Common Ground, A Plea for Intelligent Americanism;
Oscar I. Janowsky's and Melvin M. Fagen's International Aspects of German Racial Policies;
Oscar I. Janowsky's People at Bay: The Jewish Problem in Central Europe.

d. Social Welfare Work

Several notable discussions were held in connection with the fifth annual conference of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, held in Cincinnati early in January, 1938. B. Charney Vladeck, Chairman of the Jewish Labor Committee, declared that the main problem in welfare work was whether the class interests of the supporters or the national interests of the constituencies would prevail. He called the Council the most powerful group in the Jewish community by virtue of its control of the purse-strings, and deplored the smallness of the amount given for overseas work by American Jews. E. J. Schanfarber of Columbus and Louis E. Kirstein of Boston stressed the need for councils to represent all phases of Jewish life.

Rabbi Solomon Goldman of Chicago expressed the view that, in a century or two, the Jews of Russia, France, Italy, and Germany will have largely disappeared, and the majority of the Jews in the United States and England will have been assimilated; he declared that good-will activities and philanthropy would not preserve American Jewry. In contrast to Rabbi Goldman's remarks, James Marshall, of New York City declared that the past twenty
years have demonstrated the failure of assimilation. A discussion on "The Position of the Jew in the Modern World," was participated in by Dr. Emil Lederer, of the Graduate Faculty of the New School for Social Research, Dr. Solomon Goldman, and Prof. Louis Finkelstein, provost of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

In a statement published in February, 1938, the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds reported that during 1936, the Jews of America, through 125 Federations and Welfare Funds, had contributed $15,169,803 for relief and reconstruction activities. Almost three-quarters of it went for local philanthropies, and a little less than 15% for activities outside the communities.

The funds for local causes, totalling $11,119,093, or 73.3% were distributed as follows: 30.5% for medical care; 29% for family welfare; 18.6% for orphan homes and other services to children; 3.3% for care of the aged; and 2.1% for job placement and vocational guidance work.

A total of $136,469 was disbursed for regional activities, of which 63.1% went for child care; 25.3% for care of the aged; and 11.6% for educational and cultural work. The $2,083,198 or 13.6% of the total, distributed for extra-local causes included $1,491,361 for overseas relief and reconstruction, 56.1% of it in Europe, and 43.9% in Palestine.

Welfare Funds contributed $445,665 to activities in five fields which are national in scope, including 34.5% for educational and cultural work; 29.1% for national hospitals and care of the tuberculous; 15% for protection of civil rights; 8% for immigrant aid; and 11.4% for coordination and research. Administration and fund-raising costs were $1,419,507, or 9.4% of the total. The remaining 3.7%, or $548,008, was used for repayment of loans, special funds, and other financial arrangements.

In her presidential address opening the fifteenth biennial convention of the National Council of Jewish Women, held in Pittsburgh, Pa., on January 23–28, 1938, Mrs. Arthur Brin outlined a future program for the Council which includes immigrant and naturalization aid, adult education for the purpose of preserving democracy and
reducing inter-group friction, continuation of peace propaganda, and sponsorship of an educational program among Jews "that will enable us to maintain our Jewish outlook and be a Jewish group of value both to itself and America."

On January 24 the convention held panel and round table discussions on peace education and action, national defence, the Japanese boycott, and neutrality, social legislation, anti-lynching, wages and hours, child labor, social diseases, and housing.

On January 26, the convention was addressed by Immigration Commissioner James L. Houghteling and assistant Secretary of State, George S. Messersmith. Mr. Houghteling opposed measures to liberalize entry restrictions for political refugees which would give the Commissioner the duty of determining who were refugees. Mr. Messersmith stressed the importance of giving adequate support to the trade agreements of Secretary Hull. These addresses were followed by a round table discussion on the subject, "Is there a Jewish predilection for radicalism?" introduced by Rabbi Herman Hailperin, Professor of Jewish history at Duquesne University.

The principal resolution adopted by the convention called for revision of the United States’ neutrality policy through legislation imposing embargoes on belligerent nations that evade the present neutrality act by fighting "undeclared" wars. The convention adopted also a resolution pledging the Council’s 200 sections throughout the country to raise $250,000 over a three-year period to finance the work of the German Jewish Children’s Aid committee.

At the annual meeting of the national council of the Jewish Welfare Board, on May 1, in response to a plea by Judge Irving Lehman, president, for additional funds to aid in the work of the Board, a resolution was adopted calling upon constituent societies to secure contributions from individuals and obtain allocations from local fund-raising organizations to aid the national board. A national finance council was organized, headed by Michael A. Stavitzky of Newark. Other resolutions advocated group insurance and pension funds for employes of Y’s and
Centers, establishment of vocational guidance and employment bureaus for their members, and extension of health education programs in connection with physical education.

Dr. Cyrus Adler, chairman of the Army and Navy Committee, reported that there are approximately 1,700 Jewish young men in the C.C.C. camps throughout the country, and, as a result of the Committee's work, these men are aware that there is "one organization that counts them as worthy members of the Jewish community." He reported that $40,478 was spent by the Board during the year for religious work in the Army, Navy, and C.C.C. camps.

Tribute was paid to the late Felix M. Warburg, vice-president of the J. W. B., and the late Harry L. Glucksman, its executive director.

Vocational problems and public relief policies were outstanding among the many questions discussed at the 39th annual meeting of the National Conference of Jewish Welfare, held in Washington, May 27–31, 1938, under the presidency of Harry Greenstein, executive director of the Associated Jewish Charities of Baltimore.

In one of the early sessions presided over by Louis H. Sobel, executive director of the Federation Employment Service, methods of vocational guidance and recreational counseling for Jewish youths were discussed. Fred J. Kelly, head of the Division of Higher Education of the United States Office of Education, who participated in this discussion, said that an emergency exists because 5,000,000 young persons, Jews and non-Jews, are without constructive occupation at school, home, or business. He advocated establishment of community councils in which agencies conducted by religious or cultural groups could cooperate in the establishment of the related programs for youth guidance that are needed today.

In other sessions, discussion centered upon the relief policies of the Federal Government, the problems of institutional child care, and questions relating to economic organization and the social philosophy of Judaism.

Several activities of the B'nai B'rith during the past year are noteworthy.
On November 25, 1937, Alfred M. Cohen, president, announced that the B'ni B'rith emergency relief fund was cabling a substantial sum to the Rev. Mendel Brown, secretary of the Jewish Emergency Relief Committee of Shanghai, for aid to Jewish victims of Japanese attacks.

On May 8, 1938, on the occasion of the fifteenth general convention of B'ni B'rith held in Washington, D. C., Mr. Cohen announced that the Order had spent close to $2,000,000 during the thirteen years of his incumbency on its various activities, exclusive of administration expenses, and that the membership of the Order is today the largest in its history. On May 9, a convention dinner was given in honor of Mr. Cohen, who was retiring from the presidency. Guests of honor included James Roosevelt, son of, and secretary to the President, and William B. Bankhead, speaker of the House of Representatives. On May 11, the election was announced of Henry Monsky, Omaha attorney, as international president of B'ni B'rith, to succeed Alfred M. Cohen of Cincinnati.

The problem of vocational adjustment and vocational guidance for Jewish youth has been the subject of much thought and discussion in social work circles during the past decade. During the past year, studies in this field were published by the newly organized B'ni B'rith Vocational Service, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Commission of Jewish Education) and the Conference on Jewish Relations. Several Jewish communities and social work agencies have also set up employment agencies, or departments of vocational guidance.

A significant step in the direction of coordination of efforts in this field was the Conference on Vocational Adjustment Problems and Programs, which was held on May 13–14, 1938, in New York under the joint auspices of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds and the Conference on Jewish Relations. This conference was attended by leaders of local and national Jewish agencies dealing with vocational problems, and a number of prominent educators, economists, and employment officials. It proposed the establishment of a National Council on Jewish Economic Adjustment, in which the following organizations are to be represented: The Amer-
ican Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, B’nai B’rith, Conference on Jewish Relations, Council of Jewish Federation and Welfare Funds, Jewish Labor Committee, and the Jewish Welfare Board.

A series of bulletins on Jewish employment problems were also published during the year by the Committee on Economic Adjustment of the Conference on Jewish Relations, with the aid of the American Jewish Committee.

The specific problem of discrimination in employment has also received the attention of Jewish organizations. During the past year studies on this subject was published by Rabbi J. X. Cohen of the American Jewish Congress. In various communities, also, the national and local agencies concerned with this problem have united their efforts in order to avoid duplication and increase their effectiveness. An example of such joint action was the establishment in Chicago, late in 1937, of the Bureau on Jewish Employment Problems under the sponsorship of the Chicago Division of the American Jewish Congress and the Chicago B’nai B’rith Council. In other cities, local community councils have attempted to cope with this problem.

The past year also saw a growing movement to coordinate and stimulate the activities of the Jews engaged in agriculture. At a conference held on Nov. 7 of 350 representatives of Jewish farmers in the East, it was decided to form a national fraternal order of Jewish farmers. A committee was appointed to formulate plans for the organization and the Jewish Agricultural Society was asked to call a national convention as soon as the plans were ready.

In its 38th annual report, the Jewish Agricultural Society stated that it was making substantial progress in aiding the 100,000 Jews living on farms throughout the United States, and that the improvement in the economic condition of the Jewish farms had continued for a third successive year.

During the year, 947 people came to seek the advice of the Society, which granted 316 loans totalling $121,362. The Society, whose general manager is Dr. Gabriel Davidson, also assisted German refugees who wished to settle on farms, prevented frauds in land sales, carried on a wide
program of agricultural educational work among the farmers throughout the country, sought farm employment for young Jews, and in other ways carried on its activities to promote a sane Jewish back-to-the-land movement.

e. Activities of Zionist Organizations

In addition to those described in the section of this Review headed "Palestine Problems" and "Organizations for Palestine Reconstruction," a number of activities of Zionist organizations will be recorded here.

About 2,500 delegates representing more than 300 chapters in 46 states, were present at the 23rd annual convention of Hadassah, which convened at Atlantic City on October 27. The convention marked the 25th anniversary of Hadassah's founding and was said to be the largest gathering of Zionists ever held in the United States. The convention adopted a resolution condemning the new Palestine ordinance establishing a political basis for immigration. The resolution declared that Jews had accepted in good faith the principle of economic absorptive capacity and had labored to bring about "a marked transformation of Palestine advantageous to Arabs and Jews"; and that the new ordinance violated the Mandate and the August, 1937 resolution of the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations recommending that the Mandatory Power continue the principle of economic absorptive capacity. Miss Henrietta Szold, who came from Palestine to address the convention, declared that Arab-Jewish relations constituted the acid test of the Zionist movement. She urged that the Zionist positions in Palestine be maintained and enlarged.

The National Labor Committee for Palestine held its 13th annual conference in New York City on November 27-29, 1937. It voted to raise $500,000 for the work of the General Federation of Jewish Labor in Palestine, and adopted a resolution protesting against the British curtailment of Jewish immigration to Palestine and the adoption by Great Britain of a political instead of an economic policy in governing such immigration.
At the seventh annual conference of the Federation of Palestine Jews in America, held at the Hotel Pennsylvania on December 18th and 19th, resolutions were adopted hailing the British Government's drastic action against Arab terrorism and asking that this policy be continued until peace is restored; protesting immigration restrictions; asking that the Zionist Organization help save the city of Safed from ruin; and recommending that a conference of all Zionist groups be called to establish a national committee to promote the sale of Palestinian goods in the United States.

The fourth annual National Conference for Palestine held at the Hotel Mayflower, Washington, D. C., on January 22-23, 1938, adopted a resolution urging Great Britain to lift immigration restrictions in Palestine and "to cooperate with the Jewish people in establishing the Jewish National Home on a basis essential to meet the needs of great masses of Jews."

In the principal address of the Conference, Secretary Harold L. Ickes brought special greetings from President Roosevelt of "deep and continuing sympathy for Jewish efforts to build a national home." Secretary Ickes declared that the success of the Palestine venture depended on the preservation of democracy and peace. Dr. Bernard Joseph, of London, England, legal adviser of the Jewish Agency, presented a comprehensive survey of the political situation in Palestine since the beginning of the Arab disturbances in April, 1936, and declared that if the proposal for a Jewish State failed, there was a danger of a "much worse alternative," including restriction of Jewish land purchase and closing of the entire hill district to Jews.

At the 41st annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America, held in Detroit on July 3, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president, declared that the International Refugee Conference at Evian, which was to open on July 5, would be a dismal failure unless Great Britain, at the instance of the United States, was prepared to open the doors of Palestine to mass immigration from Germany and Austria. Following Dr. Wise's valedictory address, a resolution was unanimously adopted by the delegates urging the
establishment of a special commission by the International Refugee Conference "to deal with the task of facilitating Jewish settlement in Palestine" in view of that country's "availability as a major center of Jewish migration." The resolution pledged the Jews of America to furnish the necessary financial and moral support to effect a large-scale settlement program in Palestine. Appreciation was also expressed to President Roosevelt and Secretary Hull for initiating the refugee conference.

In a resolution adopted on the closing day, the convention declared the readiness of the Z.O.A. to consider without prejudice the British Government's proposal for establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine, but reiterated the stand taken by last year's World Zionist Congress rejecting the plan of partition recommended by the Peel Commission. The convention urged American Jews to participate in the establishment of the Palestine Pavilion at the New York World's Fair and decided to accept the invitation of Grover Whalen, president of the Fair, to hold the next year's convention in New York. The convention also paid tribute to Dr. Wise, for forty years of service to the Zionist cause; to Dr. Israel Goldstein, for his efforts for the J. N. F.; and to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, for "signal service" as national chairman of the U.P.A. Dr. Solomon Goldman of Chicago was elected president of the Z.O.A. to succeed Dr. Wise.

f. Miscellaneous Events

Jewish organizations in the United States joined in the nation-wide celebrations commemorating the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Articles of the Constitution on September 17, 1787.

The Jewish Welfare Board arranged celebrations and speeches at United States Army and Navy posts; the B'nai B'rith, the Independent Order B'rith Abraham and Hadassah commemorated the occasion at their fall meetings; the American Jewish Committee adopted a resolution at its 30th annual meeting on January 10, 1937, calling upon all Jews of America to cooperate with the United
States Constitution Sesquicentennial Commission; Young Israel, the Y.M.H. A.'s and Y.W.H. A.'s, and the Hebrew schools throughout New York held special celebrations and assemblies; the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations issued a call to the 2,500 orthodox synagogues of the United States to mark the 150th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution by special prayers for the Government and sermons for the occasion; and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations adopted a resolution at the meeting of its executive board on June 6, 1937, expressing its whole-hearted approval of the plans for the commemoration and extending the cooperation of its member bodies in the commemoration activities.

On December 16, the New York Society of the Jewish Theological Seminary held a Constitutional commemoration meeting at the Seminary, with Judge Irving Lehman of the New York State Court of Appeals as the principal speaker. In his address on the Constitution, Judge Lehman declared that he feared no movement for dictatorships and growth of anti-Semitism in this country, because of the influence of religion, which he held to be in “irreconcilable conflict” with the totalitarian state.

The nation as well as the Jewish community suffered the loss of three outstanding Jews during the past year, Felix M. Warburg, internationally famous banker, philanthropist, and Jewish communal leader, and Henry Pereira Mendes, dean of the American rabbinate, both of whom died on October 20, 1937; and Benjamin N. Cardozo, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, who died on July 9, 1938. On July 19, a memorial radio broadcast was given over Station WHN, in New York City, in honor of the late Justice, in which Professor Morris R. Cohen of the University of Chicago, Judge Learned Hand of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, and Sol M. Stroock, New York attorney, all personal friends, presented various phases of Justice Cardozo’s life.
II. THE BRITISH EMPIRE

1. Great Britain

a. Christian-Jewish Relations

Anti-Jewish violence on the part of the fascist organizations, which had become a common phenomenon in London’s East End, was largely curtailed in the period under review. The chief factor that forced Sir Oswald Mosley’s British Union of Fascists to change their brawling tactics was the passage, in December 1936, of the Public Order Bill which prohibited the wearing of uniforms by political bodies. Financial difficulties and internal quarrels caused further curtailment of the activities of Mosley’s organization. The outdoor meetings in the East End, which had been scenes of most of the street brawls, were fewer in number and many of the paid agitators were dispensed with. Fascist publications also suffered and Mosley’s principal organ was changed from a weekly to a monthly. In addition, the newsdealers associations decided not to handle fascist papers any longer, an action based on their fear of the stringent British libel law which holds distributors as well as publishers and printers responsible for libelous statements.

Turning from his unsuccessful efforts to attract the masses, however, Mosley began a campaign among the ultra-conservative white collar groups and among small tradesmen, urging them to fight against Jewish competitors.

A number of minor incidents marked the first months of the period under review. Several Fascists, as a result, were fined or given light prison terms. Early in September, Mosley applied for a permit to hold a parade through London’s East End to commemorate the fifth anniversary of his organization. Following protests by communal organizations and public officials, Mosley finally held his parade and meeting in Southwark, which were broken up by anti-Fascists in a street riot that resulted in injury to eighteen and the arrest of sixty persons. A week later, Mosley was severely injured when struck by a rock at another street meeting in Liverpool.
At about the same time, Mosley suffered a severe blow from another direction when a British court awarded damages totalling $100,000 to the London Daily Telegraph and its publisher, Lord Cambrose, in a suit brought by them against Mosley’s paper Action. Mosley’s organ was accused of publishing an article in which it was asserted that Lord Cambrose was of Jewish descent and had intimate contacts with Jewish international financiers who, the article declared, had no sense of loyalty to the crown or the nation. In court, Roland Oliver, counsel for Lord Cambrose, declared that “in this free country it is nothing derogatory to be a Jew or to call a man a Jew who was in fact a Christian. To suggest, however, that all Jewish financiers are unscrupulous and unpatriotic and then to call a man a Jew is to libel him.” A few months later, it was revealed that A. K. Chesterton, “theorist” of Mosley’s movement and editor of Action, had resigned from the fascist organization.

In the meantime, Mosley’s candidates in the London municipal elections were badly beaten, coming in last in the three wards in which they ran. On January 27, 1938, further weakening of the movement was revealed when Mosley announced that The Blackshirt, his weekly publication would henceforth be published monthly because of financial considerations.

But while indications pointed to the weakening of the Mosley forces, which nevertheless continued their agitation on a smaller scale, there were evidences that anti-Jewish agitation had not been without effect. These effects were also revealed in the tendency to link Jews with communism. Thus, late in May, 1938, Lieut. Col. Charles Kerr, speaking before the Scottish Liberal National Association made the sweeping assertion that plotters against the Government are chiefly of the Jewish race. When called to task by Sir Maurice Bloch, chairman of the Glasgow Jewish Representative Council, Colonel Kerr recanted.

But, whereas such incidents as these were disquieting to British Jews, there were also, during the course of the year, a number of heartening incidents of understanding and sympathy in the attitude of Christians towards Jews.
Thus, an effort was made by Prof. Herbert Danby of Oxford University to check the insidious anti-Jewish propaganda fostered by Dr. Alfred Rosenberg, Nazi cultist, through distortion of the Talmud. In a pamphlet published by the Friends of Europe, Professor Danby pointed out that Rosenberg had distorted ancient Jewish law, history and legend by misquoting and taking quotations out of their context so as to give them a nonsensical, immoral or sinister meaning. Similarly, in an article published in the London *Evening Standard*, Dean William Ralph Inge, the famous “gloomy Dean,” refuted the recurring fiction that there were “Elders of Zion” seeking to dominate the world.

On March 28, 1938, George Bernard Shaw, the dramatist, in reply to the question “Do you think Hitler has solved the Jewish problem in a satisfactory way?” put to him by the London *Daily Express*, declared: “He has not solved it at all. He has created it. It has damaged his intellectual credit to an extraordinary extent. Europe could hardly have been more disagreeably surprised if he had revived witch-burning. Exiling of Einstein and confiscation of his property was Hitler’s most stupid single act and Einstein may yet be the winner.”

Expressions of good will emanated from church circles during the Easter holiday season in April. The *Church of England Newspaper* called upon Christians to “mark Good Friday of 1938 as a date when we will begin to cooperate with the Jews in removing the causes of race antagonism . . . It is now time for the Church to demonstrate by life and action that a Christian can have no part in hatred of any race.” At the same time Lord Clonmore, prominent Catholic layman, writing in the *Catholic Herald*, urged a Catholic demonstration of sympathy for the Jews.

From members of Parliament, too, there were expressions of understanding of Jewish problems. On May 8, Capt. Victor Cazalet, Conservative M.P., in appealing for a place of asylum for European Jews declared: “It is inconceivable that the world can look on much longer at what amounts to extermination of European Jewry without finding some place of refuge for them.” And late in June,
Commander Oliver Locker-Lampson, M.P., announced that he felt so strongly about the persecution of Jews that he had decided to set aside a sixth of his annual salary as a member of parliament for contribution to Jewish relief funds.

b. Reaction to Nazi Policies

Events in Germany during the period under review caused grave concern not only among British Jews but also among non-Jewish Britons in all walks of life, especially as it became evident that frequently these events affected not only Germany, but also England and English citizens. Early in August 1937, the Government ordered the expulsion of three German newspaper correspondents. British newspapers revealed that the expulsion was ordered because of the activity of these correspondents in spying on refugees from Germany resident in England. This was further brought out on August 24 in an article by Winston Churchill in the London Evening Standard in which he declared: "Ringleaders actively engaged in building of alien power within Britain will be asked to go home without delay." He asserted that Parliament "will concern itself seriously with the question of foreign organizations in Great Britain and the Ministers will be asked to show that they have effectual control." On September 10, Sir Walter Citrine, noted labor leader, reiterated, before the Trades Union Congress, that Nazi agents were intimidating German refugees in England. On May 15, 1938, the House Secretary assured Jewish leaders that refugees in England would be given fullest protection.

British Jewish leaders looked with concern not only upon the increasing distress of the Jews in Germany but upon the effect of Nazi propaganda in England. On November 23, in connection with the visit of Lord Halifax to Germany, Leonard G. Montefiore, co-chairman of the Joint Foreign Committee of the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the Anglo-Jewish Association urged that such propaganda be kept in mind during negotiations between the British Government and Germany. Again on March 6, 1938, Mr. Montefiore, as president of the
Anglo-Jewish Association, declared that Hitler's demands for cessation of British press criticism of Germany implied censorship of the British newspapers. Insofar as Jews are concerned, he declared: "We cannot accept the position that Nazi leaders should be free to bring what accusation they please about Jews and that we must submit to such things in silence because it involves criticism of foreign states. As long as Jews and Judaism are traduced and vilified, as long as these slanders are spread by Nazi sources to the four quarters of the world, we cannot allow silence to be imposed upon us."

The fear that anti-Semitism would be used as a weapon to revive British sympathy for Germany was expressed by Neville Laski, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews on March 20, shortly after the annexation of Austria by Germany. "Unless the situation is more critical," he declared, "there will be renewed efforts to revive somewhat the shaken faith of pro-Nazi sympathizers in England. Every effort will be made to persuade the British people that the Jews are using their influence in the direction of war. Ceaseless and pernicious anti-Jewish propaganda of a subtle character is going on in England, not only in the realm of foreign, but domestic politics."

It was, therefore, with great concern that Jewish leaders looked upon the publication of a book "Ourselves and Germany", by the Marquess of Londonderry, staunch supporter of Germany. Lord Londonderry declared that he regretted Nazi anti-Jewish utterances which "offend our more refined feelings in this country," but then quoted a letter he had written in 1936 to Reich Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop:

"As I told you, I have no great affection for the Jews. It is possible to trace their participation in most of those international disturbances which have created so much havoc in different countries, but, on the other hand, one can find many Jews strongly ranged on the other side who have done their best with the wealth at their disposal and also by their influence to counteract those malevolent, mischievous activities of fellow-Jews."
Once again on April 10, in submitting the report of the Joint Foreign Committee, Mr. Montefiore cited the danger that "the argument may find credence that Jews are an obstacle to what otherwise might be perfectly easy—an Anglo-German agreement," and that it was therefore necessary for Jews to spread knowledge of German foreign policy "acquired by bitter experience" outside Jewish ranks. At the same time, Mr. Laski pointed out that even the Austrian annexation and accompanying excesses were being used by British fascists to spread their doctrines among British tradespeople and the middle classes.

In the meantime, the question of Austrian refugees came before the House of Commons when on March 22, Capt. Victor Cazalet inquired why fifty refugees had been refused permission to enter England. In reply, Sir Samuel Hoare, Secretary for Home Affairs, asserted that while the Government desired to maintain the British tradition of asylum for victims of persecution, it was necessary to point out that the doors were not open.

While the Government proceeded cautiously, British organizations and leaders began to organize efforts in behalf of Austrian victims of Nazi hatred. At the annual assembly of the National Free Church Council at Bournemouth on March 29, the Bishop of Winchester declared: "I do not think Germany has any idea of the disgust and loathing with which the great mass of decent people throughout the Anglo-Saxon world read of these insults, outrages and cruelties committed upon men, women and children of the Jewish race in Vienna and elsewhere." The next day, a resolution was adopted urging the British Government to take steps to end this "scandal to humanity and civilization." On April 19, it was revealed that both Quaker and Catholic organizations had taken steps to bring aid to victims of Nazism in Austria. The Society of Friends (Quakers) announced that in conjunction with British and American Jewish organizations they would help finance a free dining room for 1,000 needy intellectuals in Vienna. Catholics announced that a committee headed by Cardinal Hinsley had been organized to aid Austrian refugees in England and was ready to cooperate with other relief organizations. British Jews, in the meantime, had
organized a special drive for funds to aid Austrian Jews and on May 5, 1938, it was revealed that about $830,000 had already been raised.

Church leaders throughout this period expressed their indignation at the Nazi treatment of Jews. On May 5, the Archbishop of Canterbury declared that he found it difficult to express adequately his sympathy for the unfortunate Jews of Austria. The Bishop of Worcester urged in the London Times that the "inhuman treatment" of the Jews in Austria and Germany be protested by British spokesmen during the Anglo-German negotiations. The Bishop of Chelmsford, writing in the Diocesan Chronicle, condemned the persecution of the Jews and the "absurd Hitlerist racialism." The Bishop of Chichester, in a sermon delivered at the West London Synagogue, declared that "one's whole humanity is humiliated" by the actions of the Nazis, and asserted that as a Christian he felt "it was not only Jewry that was at stake, but all humanity." On May 26, the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland adopted a resolution condemning the persecution of Jews in Central and Eastern Europe and declaring that "no church can be at the same time truly Christian and anti-Semitic." Finally, in a resolution adopted on June 24, the Assembly of the Church of England called upon all Christians to express their sympathy for those persecuted in Germany and Austria, not only by prayer but also by material gifts, and urged the British Government to make every effort to assist Jewish and "non-Aryan" emigration from Germany. In speaking on the resolution, Lord Wolmer declared: "I am one who is most anxious for a better understanding between our country and our great neighbor, Germany, but we cannot be silent on this issue. It is right that Germans should realize that this matter is one of the greatest bars to better understanding, and not only with the Anglo-Saxon race, but with Christian opinion the world over. We cannot be Christians and be neutral on this issue."

Further expressions of support for the refugees came from the medical profession when, on April 24, the noted medical publication, Lancet, criticized the complaint that the profession was being overcrowded as a result of the
influx of Jewish physicians from Germany and the threatened influx from Austria. The profession, *Lancet* declared, was not suffering from overcrowding, but from wrong distribution of medical men through the country. On June 7, a further effort on the part of physicians to help their refugee colleagues was revealed when Dr. John Ryle, Regius professor of physics at Cambridge and physician to the royal household, urged British medical schools and hospitals to offer free tuition to a number of Austrian medical students in line with a plan that had been set up in one London hospital.

President Roosevelt's invitation to the democratic countries to attend an inter-governmental refugee conference, issued in the spring of 1938, created a stir in England. Jewish organizations praised the initiative of the President, and discussion of the Evian conference was raised in the House of Commons by Eleanor Rathbone, independent Member of Parliament on May 19. Prime Minister Chamberlain announced in Commons on May 25 that not only Great Britain but the four British dominions also would participate in the Evian parleys. He declined, however, to convene a conference of dominion representatives to formulate an imperial policy on admission and employment of refugees.

On June 10, the London *Daily Telegraph* published an appeal to “all men of good will” from the Bishop of Chichester and Lord Sempill, urging support of the fundraising drive for refugees. On June 14, the Bishop of Chichester joined with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Cecil of Chelwood, Frederick Kenyon, Sir Wyndham Deeds and Otto Schiff, in presenting a memorandum on refugee assistance to the Home Office. The memorandum urged modification of regulations regarding refugees, facilitation of schemes for settlement and migration, and application of the Geneva convention regulating the legal status of those deprived of German citizenship.

The question of the Evian conference came before the House of Commons again on June 22 when Arthur Henderson, Laborite, urged that the British Government delegation to be headed by Lord Winterton persuade the conference to approach Germany for modification of the
disabilities placed on Jews. "The treatment of Jews in Germany has sent a feeling of horror throughout civilization," he said. "It seems to me that the Germans are animated by a kind of sadism run mad."

Great Britain was further stirred by the publication of the Nazi decree that all Jews in Germany, whether natives of Germany or citizens of other countries, must register all property in excess of 5,000 marks. This decree was looked upon as a prelude to possible confiscation of the property not only of German Jews, but also of property in Germany belonging to British Jews.

On May 13, it was revealed that the British Government had instructed its ambassador to Germany, Sir Neville Henderson, to ascertain the scope of the decree as it may affect British subjects. On June 17, it was revealed that Sir Neville had stated to the German Foreign Office that Britain intended to protect the assets and interests of British Jews. On June 23, Parliament was told by the Foreign Office that Sir Neville Henderson had been instructed to inform the German Government that the British Government claims the right to extend diplomatic protection to British subjects who are regarded under German laws as Jews and are thus deprived of liberty of property under the decree.

The German Government replied to the representations of the British on June 29 that although British Jews are required to register their German property, Germany would not require registration in cases of British Jews residing abroad, unless they are emigrés. Germany further conceded that where utilization of British Jewish property is contemplated, an examination will be made to assure observation of all rights established in the Anglo-German commercial treaty.

c. Reaction to Events in Poland and Roumania

The events in Roumania early in 1938 (see section on Roumania), that threatened citizenship and minority rights of Roumanian Jews, brought forth expressions of concern not only from leaders in British public life, but also official
representations from the British Government which is a signatory to the Minorities Treaty of 1919.

On January 5, 1938, the British Foreign Office announced that it had instructed the British Minister at Bucharest to remind the Roumanian Government "in the friendliest manner, of the interest which the British Government always has taken in the minorities treaty." On January 7, Commander Oliver Locker-Lampson, who commanded the only British unit to fight alongside Roumanian troops in the World War, cabled to King Carol that "The Goga Government is making it difficult for Englishmen to go on wearing Roumanian medals and supporters of Your Majesty look to you to restore those liberties in your land for which the armies of our two countries successfully combatted."

The question came before the House of Commons again on February 7, when Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden announced that the Government was studying the question of immediate action that "might be considered useful in these circumstances to protect minority rights" in Roumania, and that the Roumanian Foreign Minister had been informed of the British attitude. Upon the fall of the Goga Government in February, Eden informed Commons that the Government was continuing its representations with the new Roumanian Government.

British opinion in regard to conditions in Poland was most clearly expressed in connection with the establishment of "ghetto benches" in Polish schools and universities. On November 22, 1937, the Christian Students Organization joined with the Jewish Union Society at London University in a rally protesting against the "ghetto benches." The meeting adopted a resolution declaring that "authorization of a university ghetto is no less than the official sanctioning of that hooliganism which has recently dragged the honorable name of the famous Polish universities into the dust of infamy."

On December 10, the National Union of Students of England and Wales wrote the Polish Ambassador that "It is of supreme importance that universities hold fast to the principles of justice and equality with absolute firmness in the treatment of students without partiality
as to race or creed.” Leading student organizations and prominent university professors again condemned the establishment of “ghetto benches” at a public meeting in London on March 16, 1938, asserting that the system of segregating Jews was “contrary to university life, ordaining all students equals in search of truth and knowledge.”

Miscellaneous

On November 7, 1937, eight thousand Jewish war veterans, led by Defense Minister Leslie Hore-Belisha held their annual Jewish Ex-Servicemen’s National Remembrance Service. It was witnessed by 20,000 spectators.

On December 1, Maccabi House, new London headquarters of the famous sports organization, was dedicated, with Lord Melchett presiding at the ceremonies.

On March 21, 1938, Chief Rabbi Joseph H. Hertz was honored by the Jewish community on the completion of 25 years as Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the British Empire.

2. Eire

(Irish Free State)

The results of the Free State elections, held on July 6, 1937, were seen as a rebuke to anti-Semitism by Irish voters, when the Jewish deputy, Robert Briscoe, was re-elected to the Dail Eireann, despite vigorous anti-Jewish propaganda, and Deputy Patrick Beltin, who was attempting to have Shehitah, Jewish ritual meat-slaughtering, prohibited in Ireland, was defeated. During the election campaign, declarations of the equality of all citizens regardless of race or religion, were made by Finance Minister Sean MacEntee, on behalf of the Government, and by former President William T. Cosgrave on behalf of the Opposition.

On August 25, the Standard, leading Catholic journal of Dublin, published a condemnation of Jewish persecution
in Germany. The newspaper declared that "the Catholic church condemns unjust persecution wherever it is found," and "especially condemns the spirit of hatred" against Jews, "which is called anti-Semitism."

On December 15, the Dublin branch of Fianna Fail, Government party, demanded, in a resolution, the immediate suppression of the secret Christian Protective Association, which had recently launched a violent anti-Jewish campaign. The resolution declared: "We condemn the activities of a secret ring styled the Irish Christian Protective Association and call upon the Government immediately to declare the Association illegal. The people of Dublin have always been the most tolerant people and we call upon them to ignore the scurrilous propaganda directed against the Jewish people in our midst." It was reported that police authorities were investigating the organization which had distributed thousands of leaflets of a violently anti-Jewish character calling for a boycott of Jewish shops.

On January 4, 1938, reporting as utterly baseless a recent newspaper report of anti-Jewish violence, Deputy Briscoe and other prominent Jews informed the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that there was "not a single case of violence against Jews" and that the anti-Semitic movement was "so insignificant that the Government did not deem it worthy of notice"; Deputy Briscoe declared that the so-called Irish Christian Protective Association had few adherents and was of no consequence.

On December 29, Professor Selig Brodetsky, member of the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, reported an interview which he had had with President de Valera in which the latter had shown his "deep understanding both of the Jewish problem and Jewish aims in Palestine." On December 29, also, the formation of the first Zionist Revisionist Organization in Eire was announced, under the leadership of Deputy Robert Briscoe. Other members of the directorate are Professor Leonard Abrahamson of the Royal College of Surgeons, and Professor Joshua Demter of Trinity College.
3. Canada

a. Anti-Jewish Manifestations

Fascist activities, which had become an important political factor in the predominantly French Province of Quebec in recent years, were felt for the first time during the period under review, in several of the English-speaking provinces of the country, notably Ontario and Manitoba. With its accompanying anti-Jewish manifestations, the growth of the movement, led by Adrien Arcand and his National Social Christian Party, caused deep concern not only to the leaders of Canada's traditionally democratic parties, but also to the Jewish citizens of Canada.

The program of abuse and vilification against Jews reached the point where on September 16, 1937, the Canadian Broadcasting Commission issued a decree effective on November 1st that "no one shall broadcast abusive comment on any race, religion, or creed." Yet, such measures did not deter Arcand in his anti-Jewish propaganda efforts, and on January 3, 1938, he opened his 1938 activities by declaring in an interview with the Canadian Press that fascism in Canada will go "far ahead of anything yet conceived in Italy, Germany, Portugal or elsewhere..."

Arcand's activities came before Parliament on February 6, when J. S. Woodsworth, M.P., questioned Minister of Justice Ernest Lapointe concerning Fascist activities in Quebec. Lapointe declared that the Government would investigate to ascertain if "any military exercises, movements or evolutions without lawful authority," which are an offense under the criminal code, were being carried on. On March 3, Premier Maurice Duplessis of Quebec told the provincial legislature that "Quebec is in no danger from Fascism and never will be" as he denounced "a campaign in the United States directed against the Province of Quebec." Nevertheless, both in the Dominion Parliament and on the public platform political leaders noted the growing menace of fascism. Among these were Prime Minister Mackenzie King, Opposition leader R. B. Bennett, William Herridge, former ambassador to the United States, and Mr. Woodsworth, leader of the Cooperative Commonwealth group in the House of Commons.
There were evidences, however, that totalitarianism was not working out even in the ranks of the fascists themselves when, on May 20, it was revealed that Arcand had expelled from his party his two chief lieutenants J. E. Lessard and Dr. J. G. Lambert for "insubordination." These two immediately formed a rival group, claiming that most of Arcand's uniformed followers had rallied to their side. They accused Arcand of establishing a one-man rule contrary to fascist principles.

Arcand's propaganda activities such as the distribution of the violently anti-Jewish leaflet "The Key to the Mystery", the holding of mass meetings, and the placarding of Jewish stores and buildings with anti-Semitic slogans served to rouse Canadians to the dangers of fascism and brought forth expressions of anti-fascist opinion and efforts to check the anti-Jewish campaign.

On January 16, the City Council of Winnipeg, after an anti-Jewish poster had been found pasted to the doors of the city hall, denounced anti-Semitic fascist activities, and similar action was taken in Valleyfield, Quebec, and several other towns. The city of Kingston, for instance, refused to permit Arcand's party the use of any public building for its national convention.

Church groups, too, expressed vigorous disapproval of fascist anti-Jewish activities. Arcand's party was denounced by both the Anglican bishop and the Catholic Archbishop of Montreal. In a pastoral letter, the latter declared that the party's platform contained doctrines opposed by Catholicism. On May 25, the United Church, representing the Methodist, Congregationalist and Presbyterian churches of the dominion, also issued a statement condemning anti-Semitism.

The following day, Attorney General Gordon D. Conant declared significantly at a meeting of B'nai B'rith that there was no place in Canada for "any class or race yielding allegiance to any Government or any King other than our own King George" and that "every race, denomination and class in our country is free to speak and to act as they see fit. There will never be persecution or class distinction here."

On June 7, an investigation was ordered by National
Defense Minister Iana MacKenzie, when it was reported that five men in militia uniforms had attended a rally held by Arcand's party. It was pointed out that members of the militia had every right to take part in political movements, but not in the uniform of the service. It was further denied that fascism had made any headway in the ranks of the militia.

b. Immigration Questions

With Canada looked upon as one of the countries capable of absorbing some of the refugees being pushed out of eastern and central European countries, immigration problems were naturally of prime interest to the Jewish citizens of Canada. Early in 1938, the Montreal Star, one of the most important dailies in the country, suggested that a number of Jewish immigrants could be absorbed if such immigrants would settle in agricultural communities instead of in the towns.

Several days later, in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, immigration officials asserted that the Government would look with favor on the admission of Jews prepared to settle on the land, especially in the western provinces and, on June 15, J. H. Blackmore, Social Credit group leader, demanded in the House of Commons that the Government open Canada's doors to immigration; the country will never advance, he said, while the sparsely settled sections of the country remain unfilled. At the same time, it was revealed before the Senate in a discussion of the Turgeon Report on the Canadian Railways that a lack of immigration was the chief reason for their continued operation at a loss by the Government, and in the House of Commons, H. A. McKenzie, Liberal, during a debate on the budget, urged a less restrictive immigration policy to end the shortage of farm labor and promote the settlement of additional farm land.

c. Jewish Communal Affairs

Among the major developments of the Jewish community structure in the dominion during the period under review was the establishment in Toronto of a United
Jewish Welfare Fund, which opened its first drive on November 17, 1937. The funds to be raised were to be shared by nineteen welfare organizations engaged in local, national and overseas activities. The Welfare Fund is affiliated with the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds (of the U. S.).

On January 25, 1938, the Zionist Organization of Canada held its 25th annual convention and urged the British Government to increase Jewish immigration into Palestine. It also urged Canada, through the League of Nations, to invoke minority rights treaties in behalf of persecuted Jews in eastern and central Europe.

Other communal events of note included an agreement between B'nai B'rith and the Canadian Jewish Congress for united action in defense of Jewish rights; the dedication of the new synagogue of the Holy Blossom Congregation, Montreal, attended by Lord Tweedsmuir, governor general of Canada; the establishment of a Canadian Jewish Historical Society, and the induction of Rabbi William Margolis of New York as leader of the United Jewish Community of Ottawa.

4. Union of South Africa

As in the past four or five years, events connected with anti-Jewish movements occupied most of the attention of the Jews of the Union of South Africa. Reflection of European political tendencies coupled with political factors entirely local in character served to increase the activity of anti-Jewish elements within the Union of South Africa during the period under review. As heretofore, the major attack on Jews was carried on by the Nationalist Party, headed by Dr. D. J. Malan. In general, the agitation employed the same techniques as similar movements elsewhere, especially the dual charges of "Jewish control" of economic life, and Jewish responsibility for communism. It was clear, too, that, as in other lands, the anti-Jewish agitation in South Africa was being exploited to further larger political purposes. This was seen especially in the Nationalist attacks upon trade unionism and efforts to link cultural with political activities.
Toward the end of July, 1937, in an extensive tour, Dr. Malan reiterated his opposition to Jewish immigration citing "the vast and growing activities of the Jews and their ascendency in commerce." At Parys, he was asked whether Jews could become members of his Nationalist Party. To this he replied that if Jews were prepared to become Christians and lead Christian lives they would be permitted to join the Party. At the Nationalist Party Congress at Uitenhage, however, he stressed the "unassimilability of the Jew" and asserted that "he was not against the Jew as a Jew or as a race, but as a group representing a system—a system of controlling trading and credit." He was inclined to link Jews with "British Imperialists" and other "anti-national and non-national" groups. The Congress adopted resolutions urging an end to all Jewish immigration; the granting of trade and other licenses only on a proportional basis; and the disclosure of the names of Jews engaged in business.

The position of Dr. Malan toward Jews, however, was under constant attack from the organs and spokesmen of the United Party, then and now in power, and also from spokesmen for the Labor Party and the trade unions.

Besides the attacks of the Nationalists, Jews suffered also from the agitation of distinctly Nazi groups whose following was recruited almost wholly from the former German colonies. The so-called Shirt groups—Greyshirts and Blackshirts—served as dispensing agents for a great deal of imported Nazi anti-Jewish propaganda.

On August 7, 1937, the Blackshirts attempted to hold a public meeting on the steps of the Town Hall in Johannesburg, but the rally was broken up in a clash with anti-Fascists. Held later upon the Union Grounds, the meeting developed into a series of tirades against Jews and laudatory comment on the "corporate state." As a result of this and similar meetings, public and newspaper opinion expressed itself in favor of a Public Orders Act similar to the one in force in England. On August 23, furthermore, the Witwatersrand Conference of the United Party in Johannesburg went on record in favor of a resolution urging the Government to investigate the activities of all shirt movements in South Africa. A month later, a group of 100
members of Parliament urged the Government to prohibit the wearing of political uniforms and to strengthen the laws regarding race slander.

The effect of Nazi agitation was further reflected in the "German Day" address in Wartburg, Natal, of Defense Minister Oswald Pirow, early in October, in which he warned against the anti-German boycott and deprecated propaganda by those "enjoying" the "hospitality" of South Africa. He described a visit to Hitler and lauded the Nazi achievements in Germany. This address, which became known only after a report of it in the press of Germany was relayed to South Africa, evoked indignant condemnation by South African newspapers which vigorously repudiated the assertions that Jews are "guests," and called for a rebuke by his Cabinet colleagues of Pirow's appallingly clumsy and injurious references to South African Jewry."

Such a rebuke came from at least one member of the Cabinet when, on October 9, Education Minister J. H. Hofmeyr in an address at Paarl, asserted that it was not easy to stand up against anti-Semitism, but that it had to be done not in the interest of the Jews, but in the interest of South Africa as a whole. South Africa, he said, had a perfect right to select its immigrants, but those who had legally settled in the country had every right to be treated on equal terms with all others. He warned that anti-Semitism has often been used as an instrument to destroy democracy. Pirow was criticized also by members of Parliament. Minister Hofmeyr denounced anti-Jewish agitation again, before the first annual meeting of the Society of Jews and Christians, formed to promote understanding among the various religious groups.

Throughout the late Winter and Spring of 1938, the forthcoming general elections dominated the political scene. Public discussion of the "Jewish question" by the anti-Semitic elements was limited chiefly to questions of immigration. But it was evident that the Nationalists still entertained the hope of imposing some commercial and professional restrictions on Jews. This was evidenced by
the restatement of his anti-Jewish policy by Dr. Malan at the Piquetburg by-election in January, and the incitement of the Afrikaaners to organize their spending power to fight "Jewish control of business."

In the Piquetburg election, which was regarded as a test of strength for him, M. Weichardt, leader of the Greyshirts, suffered a resounding defeat. As a result, the Greyshirts were looked upon as an ineffectual group in the forthcoming general election. The Blackshirts, however, showed greater activity throughout this period, and there was evidence that an alliance had been established between the Blackshirts and Dr. Malan's Nationalists. At the same time, Johannes von Moltke, leader of a second Grey Shirt group, announced his decision to merge with the Nationalists and his willingness not to let his Nazism become a point of issue with the Nationalists.

Von Moltke, in the meantime, had suffered a severe defeat in the Courts when, on February 22, 1938, the South African Supreme Court made absolute an injunction, granted January 17, restraining von Moltke from using or publishing documents stolen from the offices of the Jewish Board of Deputies in Cape Town in June 1934. Von Moltke had utilized the stolen documents to write a book on the "Jews of South Africa" whose publication was thus interdicted.

Nazi activity was generally under attack throughout this period, as the press revealed the widespread network of Nazi organization stimulated from abroad. So deep was the impression made by these revelations on the English-speaking community that the subject was brought before Parliament. On February 18, in reply to a question, General Jan Smuts, minister of justice, commented extensively on the Government's attitude toward the Grey Shirt and similar movements. "Insofar as these movements were political and carried on their activities in a lawful way; no exception was taken to them," he declared. "If, however, their activities appeared subversive, they became subject to the Criminal Law. The police had instructions to keep a close watch on such possible criminal activities
by these movements, and also by communist and similar movements."

As the election campaign progressed, the Nationalists began to lay less stress on the so-called Jewish question, Dr. Malan’s right to South African leadership having frequently been questioned because of his anti-Jewish stand, and so when the Nationalist Party’s election manifesto was issued, early in April, it contained only a plank for further restriction of immigration, stricter naturalization control, and the establishment of a work permit system for aliens. This contrasted radically with the detailed anti-Jewish programs outlined in previous years. In his opening election speech on April 4, Dr. Malan made only passing reference to Jewish immigration and said nothing further on the “Jewish question.” Other Nationalist speakers, however, during the course of the campaign raised the cry that Jews were responsible for the growing business slump. This charge was refuted by General Smuts who declared that the slight business recession was caused by fear of a change in government engendered by Nationalist Party agitators.

The United Party as a whole, during the election campaign, rejected the idea of discrimination against Jews. Lesser parties, too, took clear stands against anti-Semitism, both the Labor Party and the Dominion Party also vigorously opposing Nazi activities. As the campaign progressed, spokesmen for the United Party, the Labor Party and the Dominion Party reiterated their opposition to any restrictions upon Jews.

The elections held on May 18, 1938, resulted in a decisive victory for Prime Minister Herzog’s United Party, which was returned to power with a total of 111 seats in the lower house of Parliament, 73 seats more than all other parties combined. The Nationalists elected 26 candidates to the House, the Dominion Party 8, the Labor Party 3, and the Socialists 1. A number of Jews won seats as candidates for the United Party and the Dominion Party, among them Bertha Solomon, first Jewish woman to sit in South Africa’s Parliament.
5. Australia

Events affecting Jews in Australia during the past year were concerned almost solely with Government declarations as to its immigration policy, which put an end to any hopes that the island-continent would receive a large influx of Jews from European centers of persecution.

On September 3, 1937, Prime Minister Joseph Lyons said, in a message on the occasion of the Jewish New Year, that the Jews were "in number but a small part of the population of Australia, but their leaders set a high standard of citizenship which is followed by the Jewish community generally."

On the same day, new regulations were announced under which only immigrants coming to fill jobs certified by prospective employers would be admitted to Australia. Previously, so far as Jewish immigrants were concerned, a guarantee by the Jewish community that the immigrant would not become a public charge was considered acceptable.

Replying, on January 18, 1938, to the publication in Melbourne newspapers of proposals for large-scale Jewish immigration in unsettled territories of Australia, federal authorities told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the Government looked with disfavor on any plan for mass immigration which encouraged racial segregation, but would continue as a matter of policy, to examine the merits of individual prospective immigrants. At the same time, Jewish organizations were warned to guard against giving premature publicity to immigration proposals without first submitting the details of such plans for the consideration of Government officials. This warning was given as a result of the arousal of a great deal of opposition to the publicity accorded plans for the settlement of Jews in the Kimberley region. At the end of March the Government again declared its official immigration policy, which was repeated on subsequent occasions, in a statement made to the press by Prime Minister Lyons, as follows: "Much as we sympathize with the sufferings of these people, the Ministry cannot permit a large influx of aliens into Australia. Admittance of Jewish refugees will be considered only as part of any general migration scheme, the basis of which is preference to suitable migrants of British stock."
III. OTHER WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

1. Belgium

Despite the anti-Jewish agitation carried on by the Rexists, (Belgian Fascist Party) and an intensification of anti-Jewish propaganda, believed to be German-inspired, no untoward incidents of any importance occurred during the review period.

a. Anti-Jewish Manifestations

On August 3, 1937, the newspaper *Le Pays Reel*, Rexist organ, demanded withdrawal of citizenship from naturalized Jews, limitation of Jewish business men, and a police watch to halt Jewish immigration and curb political activities of alien Jews.

On March 25, 1938, an intensification of anti-Semitic propaganda was reported, marked by the demands of the Rexist party and the National Flemish organization for an anti-Jewish boycott. Boycott leaflets, believed to have been printed in Germany, were distributed in many towns.

On April 5, reporting an interview with Leon Degrelle, Belgian Fascist leader, the London *Daily Telegraph* quoted him as saying that the Jews "present a problem," as a result of the alleged influx of a "flood" of foreign Jews into Belgium. Degrelle declared that his party was "fundamentally not anti-Semitic" but that the Jews "must be prepared to submit themselves to the law of a Nationalist State."

On May 10, a small group of Rexists staged city-wide anti-Jewish demonstrations in Brussels in spite of an official ban, shouting as they paraded, "Jews, go to Tel Aviv!" "Let's act like Germany and Austria!" An increase in anti-Jewish propaganda was noted in connection with the municipal elections held later in the month.

On May 19, the "Katholik Bureau voor Israel," a Catholic organization devoted to fighting anti-Semitism, was ordered to discontinue its activities, by van Cauwelaert, assistant to Cardinal van Roey, the Archbishop of
Mechelen, head of the Catholic Church in Belgium. This order followed the breaking up, by anti-Semites, of a lecture of the French Catholic writer, Oscar Deferenzie.

b. Other Events

In a letter to the Union of Jewish Associations, on November 29, 1937, Emile Vandervelde, former Foreign Minister, sharply criticized the "ghetto benches" in Polish universities. Declaring that, in the western countries "excesses arising from race hatred are unknown," Vanderwelde remarked that he had since his youth participated in protests against Jewish persecutions in Tsarist Poland. "It is painful," he continued, "to state that the old spirit of intolerance has not been extinguished in reborn Poland."

On March 28, it was announced that Professor Jacques Errera of Brussels University had been awarded the 500,000 franc Franqui Prize for "contributing to the raising of the scientific prestige of Belgium" by his researches in molecular composition. Professor Errera is a member of a famous Belgian Jewish family of scientists and scholars, other branches of the family having won renown in Spain, Syria, and Italy as far back as the fifteenth century.

On May 4, 1938, preliminary steps were announced for the establishment of a central Jewish representative body to coordinate the defense against economic and social discrimination. A meeting called by the Council of Jewish Organizations elected a provisional committee, instructing it to establish contact with other Jewish communities with a view to creating a united representative organization of Jews in Belgium.

On June 13, it was reported that 300 Austrian Jews, who were smuggled across the Belgian border in lorries by the German Gestapo under orders never to return to the Reich, were saved from deportation to Austria, after representations by Belgian Jewish leaders, who gave assurances that the victims would not become public charges and that arrangements would be made to transfer them to other lands.
2. France

a. Reaction to Anti-Jewish Persecution Abroad

Liberal groups in France were, as was to be expected, outspoken in protesting against anti-Jewish persecution in other countries, especially Poland and Roumania, during the review period.

The institution of "ghetto benches" in Polish universities evoked widespread indignation. In November, 1937, the practice was denounced by the famous physicists Mme. Irene Joliot Curie and Prof. Paul Langevin, and other notables. In the same month, twenty-five leaders in education and literature published a statement demanding "the earliest possible cancellation of the discriminatory, barbarous, and iniquitous" segregation. Another protest addressed to the Polish Ambassador pointed out that the practice is contrary to the Polish constitution and would be harmful to scientific progress.

At a mass meeting in Paris, on December 2, 1937, held under the auspices of the Committee for the Defense of Jews of Eastern Europe, General Brissaud Desmaillet urged that persecuted Jews be allowed to settle as farm laborers in France and French colonies. Dr. Boegner, head of the Protestant churches in France, joined in the protest, declaring anti-Semitism incompatible with Christianity. On the same day, the League for Human Rights adopted a resolution condemning "ghetto benches" in Poland, and congratulating those Polish scholars who had issued a public protest.

When, in January, 1938, Octavian Goga became premier of Roumania and announced his extreme anti-Jewish policy, French public opinion was quick to express its sense of outrage. *Le Temps*, leading Paris newspaper, reminded Goga, at the very beginning of his regime, that the minorities treaty was still in effect. The Committee for the Defense of Jews in Eastern Europe, headed by Senator Justin Godart, in a letter to Foreign Minister Yvon Delbos, urged the French government to act without delay to end the anti-Jewish persecution. A protest resolution was adopted by a large public meeting held in Paris.
on January 13. At the same time, Jewish holders of the highest French military decoration, the *médaille militaire*, telegraphed to King Carol, also a holder of the medal, appealing to him to avert an "undeserved, unjust, and cruel fate" for thousands of Jewish families.

b. Refugee Problems

The seizure of Austria by Nazi Germany in March, 1938, and the arrival in France of new contingents of refugees brought this problem sharply to public attention. In some quarters, anti-Jewish sentiment became more vocal. Fascist organizations exploited the crisis to spread anti-Jewish propaganda. On March 23, the government announced that aliens illegally settled in France were to be given the choice between settling on the land or leaving the country. It was estimated that this category included about 18,000 Jews. A plan for the colonization of these illegal entrants, elaborated by Philippe Serre, under-secretary of Labor, envisaged the legalization of their entrance, their naturalization, and grants of free land, all subject to their remaining in agricultural districts. The plan was to be financed by private organizations.

The French government early approved of the American suggestion for an international refugee relief conference. It named Senator Henri Berenger, former ambassador to the United States, as its representative to the conference which began at Evian-les-Bains, France, on July 6, 1938.

c. Anti-Jewish Manifestations

Outward manifestations of anti-Jewish feeling were few and unimportant during the review period. It is significant that, *L'ami du Peuple*, founded in 1928 by the late François Coty, cosmetics manufacturer, who published highly fantastic anti-Jewish articles in it up to the time of his death in 1934, went out of existence late in September, 1937.

In December, the police established the existence of a connection between the activities of Nazi agents and those of the "Cagoulards," a hooded terrorist band. Baron de
Poterre, leader of the latter, it was charged, had, under various aliases, operated as an anti-Jewish propagandist under German auspices in several countries.

In the same month, during a debate in the Chamber of Deputies, the Nazi racial theory was condemned by speakers of all parties, including the extreme Right.

In February, 1938, after a protest by the League to Combat Anti-Semitism, the authorities prohibited a public meeting which was to be held in Paris, under the auspices of an anti-Jewish organization.

In June, various municipal bodies and political organizations submitted demands to the French government to make a thorough investigation of Nazi agitation said to be rife in Alsace-Lorraine. It was reported that leaflets, tracts, and circulars, most of them mailed as first-class matter, had been flooding the province. Much of the propaganda material was anti-Jewish in character.

Considerable interest was aroused by a report that, at a meeting of his followers held at Casablanca, early in June, Col. François de la Rocque, founder of the prohibited fascist organization Croix de Feu, issued a warning against anti-Semitism as a danger to France.

d. Miscellaneous

In August, 1937, a “Jewish Modern Culture” booth was opened in the Paris International Exposition by Leo la Grange, under-secretary for sports and leisure.

Early in October, bowing to demands by the German Embassy, the authorities ordered the Palestine Pavilion at the Paris International Exposition to remove an exhibit which depicted the ousting of 80,000 Jews from Germany and the increase in the death rate among Germany’s Jews.

In February, 1938, the Foreign Office ordered the anti-Nazi exposition in Paris to remove some of the caricatures which were particularly offensive to leaders of the Reich;
brochures containing these caricatures were also ordered withdrawn from circulation.

An imposing monument, in memory of 6,000 French, and 2,000 American and British Jews, who died fighting in France during the World War, was unveiled at Douaumont, near Verdun, on June 19, in connection with the national celebration of the twenty-second anniversary of the battle of Verdun. The government was represented by Deputy Cesar Campinchi, and General André Weiller, a Jew, presided.

3. Netherlands

a. Immigration Policy

Faced with the possibility of an influx of refugees from Austria and Germany, the government, on March 25, 1938, announced measures to restrict the admission and residence of persons from these countries. The measures provide that only holders of passports which have been valid for at least two months and who are able to return to Germany or Austria would be permitted to live in the Netherlands. To obtain a residential permit, a person must show possession of 25 pounds, while to establish himself permanently, he must have 10,000 guilders.

On May 8, the Netherlands Ministry of Justice, in an order retroactive to March 1, advised police authorities that new refugees, wealthy or not, were undesirable. The order added that if a refugee’s life were endangered he could appeal to the Minister of Justice.

Replying to interpellations in the Second Chamber on June 11, Minister of Justice C. M. Goseling declared that the Netherlands, which was suffering from unemployment, could not admit additional refugees, although it was willing to share in the general discussion at Evian. Dr. Goseling promised, however, to mitigate the present restrictive measures in extraordinary cases.
b. Reaction to Nazi Agitation

On November 26, 1937, in the course of a debate in the Second Chamber, Minister of Justice Goseling denounced Dr. Rost van Tonningen, editor of a Dutch Nazi daily newspaper, for publishing violently anti-Jewish articles. Dr. Goseling said that the Government would take measures against the circulation in the Netherlands of publications of the Fichtebund of Hamburg, Germany, anti-Semitic "news agency."

The establishment of the Dutch Peoples Party, a new anti-Semitic party, the second in the country, this one headed by a well-known clergyman, Dr. Van Duyl, was announced on December 6.

On December 15, anti-Jewish speeches by Nazi members of the Dutch Parliament were met with angry cries by other members. Dr. Goseling jumped up and declared the nation's law did not differentiate as between citizens because of race or religion.

On December 27, the Algemeen Handlesblad (Commercial Gazette) demanded editorially that the Netherlands Government intervene to obtain reinstatement of Jewish agents recently dismissed by German firms in the country. The editorial declared: "If we have no say concerning the treatment of German Jews, the German Government cannot demand any say regarding the treatment of a Netherlands Jew."

On April 19, 1938, in an article in the newspaper of Leyden State University, the Catholic Rector Magnificus, Dr. J. A. J. Barge, declared that Nazi propaganda is poisoning academic life and will not be tolerated at the university. He threatened to expel from the university for several years "those spreading anti-Semitic hatred."

On April 22, charges of treasonable activity by Dutch Nazis were made in the States General by Jonkheer Bonifacius Christian de Savornin Lohman. The Jonkheer demanded Government action to check such activity.
c. Other Events

On December 27, 1937, the 38th annual convention of the Dutch Zionist Organization rejected, by a large majority, a resolution approving the stand on Palestine partition taken by the World Zionist Congress, and decided to continue the fight against partition within the World Zionist Organization.

On May 23, 1938, the German Consulate General in Amsterdam assigned separate entrances to its offices for “Aryans” and “non-Aryans.”

On June 23, it was reported that Dr. Ignac Oljenick, Jewish physician and rated as the greatest European brain specialist, treated for the second time in two years the daughter of German Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop. It was reported that the patient used a pseudonym to conceal the fact that the daughter of a high Nazi official was being treated by a Jewish physician.

4. Spain and Spanish Morocco

Evidences of Nazi propaganda and influence were noted in Nationalist (Rebel) Spain, especially Spanish Morocco, during the year.

On September 12, 1937, an anti-Semitic speech was broadcast over the Seville radio station by General Gonzalo Quiepo de Llano, aide of General Franco. “Our fight is not a Spanish civil war, but a war for western civilization against World Jewry,” the General said. He accused the Jews of seeking world domination and extermination of Christians.

According to a report of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency of October 3, rebel rule in Spanish Morocco was bringing in its train anti-Jewish persecutions and restrictions. The report stated that Jews were not allowed to hold religious
ceremonies in public, and that funeral processions were frequently attacked by mobs, forcing Jews to bury their dead at night and to take the coffins to the cemetery by a circuitous route. The report further stated that certain Spanish and Moslem groups had established special Phalangist organizations with the chief aim of provoking anti-Jewish incidents. Jews were being forced to pay the Franco government large sums of money, while a rigid anti-Jewish boycott was making it difficult for them to comply with the demands. The report accused Germans, who are numerous in Spanish Morocco, of helping to spread anti-Jewish propaganda by demanding in their newspapers the introduction of anti-Jewish legislation.

On January 24, 1938, General de Llano imposed a fine of 138,000 pesetas on the small Jewish community of Seville, threatening serious reprisals if the sum was not paid.

On April 19, a report from Tangier stated that Chief Rabbi Leon Jalfon, president of the Rabbinical Court of Tetuan, Spanish Morocco, had cabled General Franco a message of congratulations on the Rebel capture of Lerida. Rabbi Jalfon expressed his hopes for "the ultimate triumph of the Nationalist movement."

On June 23, it was reported that the anti-Jewish campaign in Spanish Morocco, which had practically ceased for a time, after an official order to Jewish merchants to sell only German and Italian goods, had again been renewed. In Ceuta, it was reported that the authorities were adopting Nazi methods in an attempt to oust the Jews from commercial and cultural institutions. In Larache, fourteen prominent Jewish businessmen were recently arrested under suspicion of having helped six Spanish officers to escape from Alcazarquivir to French Morocco. The authorities, it was stated, were demanding large sums as ransom for the arrested Jews, while well-to-do Jews were also being forced to contribute to special "funds" for "the glorious Nationalist army of Spain."
IV. GERMANY

Events in Germany affecting the Jewish population, during the review period, followed the same general course as those of the previous year, but at a much accelerated tempo. Especially after the resignation of Hjalmar Schacht as Minister of Finance, in November, 1937, the Nazi authorities appear to have cast off such restraints as may have been imposed by slight vestiges of respect for world opinion, in their drive to make living in Germany impossible for all Jews. After the conquest of Austria, the drive became even more ruthless and reckless than before. The events of the period, especially the Goering property registration decree, showed more clearly than ever before that the fanatically anti-Jewish elements in the Nazi party had definitely gained the upper hand, and that they are determined, cost what it may to the country, to complete the ruin of the Jews of Germany and place the resulting problem of preventing their annihilation on the doorstep of the civilized nations of the world for solution.

The restrictive measures are all-embracing and diabolically ingenious, and are enacted with bewildering rapidity. Economic restrictions are aimed at those who are still able to eke out a miserable existence. Social restrictions are calculated to remove the last vestiges of civil liberties and to isolate the Jews from the rest of the community. The restrictive measures are usually accompanied by vituperative and slanderous Jew-baiting propaganda. At the same time, the press, the radio, the schools, public placards, and addresses at the various conventions and assemblages serve as media for continuous and untiring preachment of the doctrine of hatred of Jews as a sub-human species.

Limitations of space make it impossible to present in this Review a complete account of the restrictive and oppressive edicts and of other measures to degrade the Jews of Germany. The examples given in the following pages will, it is believed, be sufficient to indicate the fiendish resourcefulness, the malevolent ingenuity, and the
unbounded capacity for cruelty of the Nazi oligarchy. As will be seen, the measures of the authorities were ably supplemented by the acts of zealous followers of the Nazi party.

1. The Net of Restrictions

a. Business Restrictions

On August 1, 1937, the Labor Front announced its intention to strengthen its drive against Jews in the real estate business, in an attempt to "Aryanize" the house and estate agency trade, by forming a new department to develop a network of informers against Jewish landlords and agents.

On August 10, the Ministry of Justice, through its organ Deutsche Justiz, announced new regulations governing "Aryan" patronage of Jewish retail shops, which were still enjoying a certain amount of freedom. German "Aryans" were advised not to trade in Jewish shops, while Nazi party members and government employees were forbidden to do so, under penalty of disciplinary court action. The Nazi juridical review, Nationalsozialistischer Rechtsspiegel, reported, in June, 1938, that a court granted a divorce to a husband who sued for divorce on the charge that his wife had purchased from Jewish shopkeepers despite his express ban.

On August 19, 1937, in a decree promulgated by Wilhelm Frick, Minister of the Interior, only Jews were permitted to patronize Jewish book shops, which at the same time, were forbidden to sell works of German "Aryan" writers, and were required to display posters announcing their Jewish ownership.

According to a ruling by the Land Court for Hereditary Farms in Celle, in April, the owner of a so called hereditary farm loses his reputation for honesty, which is essential for the right of the hereditary farmer, if he maintains commercial relations with Jews.

On June 16, 1938, a decree was published rigidly defining what constitutes a Jewish firm and ordering these concerns be listed in a special public register. In addition, the
Interior Minister was empowered to order that all shops owned by Jews be identified by a distinctive mark. In the same month, a decree issued by the Reich Ministry of Economics, banned Jewish brokers and stock jobbers from all German stock exchanges.

Under a decree of the Economics Ministry, published in February, 1938, no auctioneer licenses are to be issued to Jews and all present licenses of Jews expire July 31.

In the same month, the boycott against Jewish advertisers was joined by the Deutsche Verlag, which had taken over the properties of the house of Ullstein and announced, that beginning on April 1, it would close its publications to advertising by Jews. This action closely followed that of Scherl, another magazine publishing company, and others who had been barring such advertising for some time.

b. "Aryanization" of Industry and Commerce

In addition to official restrictions imposed by the civil authorities and by judicial interpretation by the courts, Nazi-minded businessmen also took steps to drive Jews out of industry and commerce, that is, to "aryanize" these fields. The process of "aryanization" has been going on ever since 1933, but until this year it was somewhat retarded because of the opposition of conservative elements who feared that too rapid ousting of Jews from business might cause serious economic dislocation. During the review period, however, such retardation appears to have ceased, and the "aryanization" process has begun to go ahead at great speed.

Shortly after the resignation of Dr. Schacht as Minister of Economics, the following four developments took place: 1) the creation of an "Aryan" organization known as "Adebe" in the clothing and leather industries for the ousting of an estimated 20,000 Jews from their jobs; 2) the slashing of raw material and foreign exchange quotas for Jewish enterprises in all industries; 3) a request sent to editors of all daily and weekly illustrated journals to refuse advertising of Jewish concerns; 4) clarification of the procedure whereby Jewish stores are "aryanized," in
which it is set forth that the good will of an establishment should not be considered in determining the price to be paid for it. The members of the "Adebe" pledge themselves not to buy from and sell to Jews.

The administration of the Prussian State Vineyards issued instructions that no wine be sold to "non-Aryans," in April, 1938. At the same time, the Union of German Wine Auctioneers decided to sell wine exclusively to "Aryan" merchants and agents and to expel members flouting the decision.

In August, 1937, the Jewish owners of Wertheim's, Berlin department store, were finally forced out, and the famous institution is now completely "aryanized." In February, 1938, announcement was made that Zufenhausen, Sihler & Co., one of the largest leather manufacturing firms in Germany, had passed into "Aryan" hands; that Wolf Netter & Jacobi, steel, tin and zinc concern established in 1833, was taken over by the "Aryan" Mannes Mann Iron Works; and that nearly 200 private Jewish banking houses, forming approximately half of the number which existed in 1935, had passed out of Jewish hands during the past two years. The "aryanization" of Jewish private banks continued with the transfer on March 7, 1938, of the Berlin branch of J. Dreyfus & Co. to Marck, Fink & Co. The concern was 70 years old.

World-wide interest was aroused by the announcement at the end of May, 1938, that the private banking house of M. M. Warburg & Co., of Hamburg, founded in 1797, was to become a corporation, and that the Warburg family and other Jewish members of the firm had resigned.

That the "aryanization" process was not always a smooth one was indicated in a statement issued by the National Bank of Essen, which pointed out that, in many cases, liquidation of Jewish firms is preferable to "aryanization." This and similar statements from other quarters were interpreted by informed observers as indicating that banks have suffered losses on loans to enable "Aryans" to purchase the businesses of Jews.

A new organization, "The Golden Fleece," was established to "aryanize" the leather industry. "Aryan" wares
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sold by "Aryans" henceforth bear the label "Golden Fleece."

A news report published in June, 1938, stated that, in the provincial centers of the Reich, the "aryanization" of Jewish businesses is being carried out with unprecedented ruthlessness.

c. Professional and Cultural Restrictions

On July 6, 1937, the Ministry of Education made public a decree forbidding Jews to qualify as physicians. The decree also stated that medical degrees already granted to Jews would not be renewed.

In July the Pariser Tageszeitung carried a report that Jewish newspapers in Germany would henceforth be forbidden to quote from German newspapers, periodicals, and books. According to the Tageszeitung, the above restriction had been announced by Hans Hinkel, Nazi Commissioner for Jewish Cultural Affairs. In addition, Jews were also forbidden to criticize the colonial policies of Italy or the policies of the Polish government.

The foreign section of the National Socialist League published on September 1, a list of "Aryan" attorneys in all parts of the world together with a warning that "to confide the defense of German interests to Jewish lawyers abroad is a hostile act against the German people and evidence of unpardonable indifference."

An order prohibiting members from giving music lessons to Jews, on penalty of expulsion and loss of the rights to continue teaching, was issued in October by the president of the Reich Music Chamber.

In November, the Minister of Education of Saxony followed the example of Bavaria by forbidding the teaching of Hebrew in universities, where it had been previously a required subject for theological students.

According to statistics published in November, 1937, Jewish physicians in Germany numbered 4,200 out of a total of 55,259. Nearly 60% of all the Jewish physicians are concentrated in the four largest cities — Berlin, Frankfurt, Hamburg and Breslau — 43.2% of them in the capital
city alone. Estimates in 1933 placed the number of Jewish physicians at about 8,000 out of a total of 52,000.

According to statistics published early in January, 1938, there were on the first of the year only 1,753 Jewish lawyers in Germany out of a total of 17,360; in 1933, there were 3,300 Jewish lawyers.

On July 16, 1937, the Nazi Ministry of Education made public new regulations governing admission of Jews to German schools. The new regulations provide that Jewish children must attend the general elementary schools if there is no room for them in the special Jewish schools. At the present time about 20,000 children, one-half the total number of elementary and secondary school age, attend Jewish schools, and Jewish community organizations are endeavoring to provide Jewish schools for all the children. In the higher schools, Jewish students, restricted to 1.5% of the total registration, are permitted to attend classes but cannot take examinations or participate in school activities.

A press report published in November, 1937, quoted Paul Joseph Goebbels, propaganda minister, as stating that, since 1933, no less than 3,000 Jews had been ousted from the theatre, the cinema, and the press. He declared also that German literature and the theatre had prospered both artistically and financially since the ousting of Jews. In this connection the comment of Ernest Newman, London music critic, is interesting. In an article in the Sunday Times, Newman said that the application of the race test to music had caused performances in Germany to sink to a state of "respectable mediocrity," and that the Reich "is already paying a heavy penalty" for the ban against Jews in musical organizations.

The Jewish press in Germany was deprived of its only means of obtaining news from abroad when, in November, 1937, the Gestapo, German secret police, closed the Berlin office of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency on the alleged ground that it had violated an agreement with the authorities that it would confine its activities to the dissemination of news within Germany. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency denied the charge that it had been sending news abroad.
d. Tax Laws Affecting Jews

In July, 1937, a new taxation law affecting Jews was announced in a joint statement issued by the Nazi Ministry of Justice and the Prussian Ministry of Finance. The law provided that Jewish charitable institutions were no longer to be exempted from taxation or the payment of court fees. The new law recognized as charitable institutions only those which minister to needy Germans, i.e., "Aryans." Jewish institutions were, therefore, automatically excluded. Another tax law affecting Jews was announced on July 20. This law requires persons exempt from military service to pay a 50% surtax on their income tax for the first two years, after which the tax will be reduced to 6%. Since Jews are legally barred from serving in the German Army they automatically come under the provisions of this law.

An amendment to the law, published on February 5, 1938, abolished exemptions from the income tax in the case of Jewish children, and on February 14, Jewish business women were forbidden to claim tax exemption during the twelve weeks of maternity leave allowed by law, and Jews were ordered to pay a tax on gratuities from employers for births and marriages, on which "Aryans" are exempt from taxation.

e. Registration of Property Decree

A world-wide sensation was caused when, on April 27, 1938, a decree was published signed by Wilhelm Goering, dictator in charge of promoting the four-year plan for German autarkie, requiring Jews owning property in Germany valued at less than 5,000 gold marks (about $2,000) to register it before June 30; Jews residing in Germany are required to register property abroad as well as in Germany. The fact that the decree indicated that it was promulgated in the interests of the four-year plan led to speculation as to its purpose. It was generally believed that it was the intention of the government to set its own value, naturally a very low one, on such property, and to give the owners a form of bond paying a nominal interest;
in other words, that the decree presaged the virtual confiscation of the property of Jews, which would be liquidated, and the proceeds employed to finance the four-year plan.

Because the text of the decree appeared to make it applicable not only to Jews of German nationality but also to Jews who are nationals of other lands, Great Britain, the United States and other countries filed protests with the German Foreign Office against such an interpretation on the ground that it was a violation of existing treaties which guaranteed their nationals, without discrimination as to creed or ancestry, rights of residence and commerce in Germany. Late in June, these protests were partially heeded when Minister of Economics Funk published an ordinance providing that Jews of foreign nationality living abroad are exempt from the requirements of the Goering decree, but that foreign Jews permanently residing in Germany must register.

In the meantime, it had been announced that, in accordance with an Italo-German commercial treaty signed at the end of May, Italian nationals living in Germany, including Austria, would not be affected by the Goering decree.

f. Communal Restrictions

Our Review for the previous year described the dissolution by the Nazi authorities of the German lodges of B'nai B'rith. On July 26, 1937, it was announced that the authorities were still liquidating the holdings of the organization and were expecting thereby to enrich the German treasury considerably. In Berlin, Storm Troops were reported to be in possession of the B'nai B'rith buildings, and in Stuttgart it was learned that the Nazis were dunning former members of the defunct chapters for dues of which they had been in arrears before the dissolution of the fraternal order.

According to a decree of March 31, 1938, Jewish religious communities lost all rights as public institutions and are henceforth to be considered private associations. The consequences are that 1) Jews are no longer automatically community members; 2) State agencies can no longer
be used as an intermediary for communal tax collection; and 3) the communities no longer enjoy exemption from corporation, capital and real estate taxes for synagogues. Dr. Leo Baeck, president of the Reichsvertretung, in a proclamation in connection with the new law, expressed the hope that all communities will continue to operate as hitherto and that members will give them their full support.

g. Other Restrictions on Civil Liberties

On August 19, 1937, it was announced that Berlin city authorities had placed inscriptions on 92 park benches in Teutoburger Platz bearing the legend "Jews Prohibited." Eight benches were reserved for Jews.

In the same month, the Minister of the Interior, Wilhelm Frick, promulgated a decree forbidding Jews to change their names. Permission to do so was given only to "non-Aryans" with a slight percentage of Jewish ancestry. In January 1938, another decree provided that children born to Jews in Germany may not henceforth be given "German names." All Jews who changed their Jewish first names into "German names" have to revert to the Jewish style. "Aryans" bearing the Jewish-sounding names will be given sympathetic aid in getting them changed if they can prove that they have no trace of Jewish blood in their veins.

In January, 1938, new passport regulations were issued providing that Jews may obtain passports to travel abroad only under one of the following six conditions: 1) if they are prepared to emigrate permanently; 2) if a near relative is seriously ill or dies in another country; 3) if the prospective traveler is proceeding in serious preparation for future emigration; 4) for reasons of health, in which case certification by a Government physician is required; 5) if the applicant is to consult children who ended studies abroad and are about to enter a business or profession; 6) if the applicant is desirous of making a business trip which will result in bringing foreign exchange into the country. In Berlin, wholesale cancellation of Jewish passports proceeded, the papers being marked "Not valid outside of Germany."
2. Anti-Jewish Agitation and Excesses

a. Official Hate Propaganda

On July 11, 1938, in an address before the First Congress of German Historians, Professor Wilhelm Grau, head of the Institute for the History of the Third Reich, took the occasion for some typical anti-Jewish tirades. He declared that Jewish financiers, and the Rothschilds in particular, were "despots seeking world dominance." The Rothschilds, according to Professor Grau, "introduced the rule of money into European politics." Declaring that Rothschild and Marx were brothers in blood and spirit, Professor Grau asserted that "National Socialism's victory struck the first real blow at an internationalism of this form."

On July 16, Das Schwarze Korps, organ of Hitler's Elite Guard, declared that German scientists were not to consider Jewish scientists as "models." According to the article, the term "Jewish scientist" must be extended beyond the purely racial concepts to include also "Aryan" scientists who continue to look up to Jewish scholars and are receptive to Jewish scholarship. Such "Aryan" scientists are to be classified as "white Jews" and considered as "representatives of Jewdom in German intellectual life" who "must disappear even as the Jew himself."

On July 21, an article in Das Schwarze Korps advocated the isolation of Jews in special compartments of sleeping cars on trains passing through Germany. According to the Havas News Agency the same article declared that the International Sleeping Car Company was considering the use of special cars for Jews.

The French periodical Races et Racisme reproduced an article appearing in Neues Volk of Leipzig, organ of the Nazi Racial Office, to the effect that Jews are incapable of speaking or writing pure German. In elucidation of this theory the writer of the article, Gerhard Kohler, explains that a work of art is definitely affected by the racial background of the creator. This background can manifest itself, for instance, in such physical characteristics as "the conformation of the mouth, the palate, and the larynx." "When the Jew, who comes from the Orient and Asia Minor, uses German, his use of it is rendered more or less
difficult by the specific structure of his speech organs. The same can be said of the Jewish poet who, using a medium of expression which does not belong to his race, cannot help but produce a style more or less Jewish, but never purely German."

On August 5, 1937, the publication of a teachers' handbook for use in the fall term was announced, entitled "The Jewish Question in Teaching"; it was written by Fritz Fink, a Nuremberg school councillor, with a foreword by Julius Streicher. This book has as its objective the injection of anti-Semitism into school children of all ages. The book is to serve as a guide for teachers in the systematic introduction of the "Jewish angle" in all phases of the curriculum. In the study of history, for example, the young children should be taught how the Egyptians and the Persians suffered at the hands of the Jews; that the Jews were mainly responsible for the decline and fall of the Roman Empire; and that the Jews were at the bottom of every national revolution and were responsible for the desperate plight of the modern states. According to the textbook a course in biology should point out the deterioration of the race through intermarriage with the Jew. Finally, the book urges the teacher to dwell constantly upon the fact that the Jewish God is unjust and merciless and demands that his people "oppress and exterminate non-Jews."

On July 27, 1937, the resurrection of the age-old "ritual murder" charge by Nazis was announced. A news report revealed that five Jews in Bamberg, Upper Franconia, were on trial for the alleged murder of a German child. The child was murdered in 1929 and authorities at that time reported as baseless the charge of "ritual murder." The Nazis had resurrected the case from the eight-year-old files and were holding the five Bamberg Jews in custody.

The ninth annual Nazi party congress at Nuremberg, which opened in September 7, 1937, was made the vehicle for advertising National Socialism's "great revolution," the Nazi racial policy. A proclamation by Hitler, read by another leader, denounced communism and declared that Russia was substituting a race of "Jewish parasites" for "real intellectual nationalists."
In the presence of Propaganda Minister Goebbels and other Nazi notables, Dr. Julius Streicher, notorious Jew-baiter, opened "The Eternal Jew," an anti-Jewish exposition, on November 8, 1937, in Munich. The opening had been advertised throughout Germany by the issuance of a special postage stamp signalizing the fact that, as the birthplace of the Nazi party, Munich was the starting point of the anti-Jewish movement. The exhibition consisted of portraits, maps, and charts intended to show the alleged malignant influence of Jews in the world. Among the portraits was one of Mayor F. H. La Guardia of New York City. Stress was laid, in the exhibit material, on the international activities of individual Jews and on the alleged responsibility of Jews for communism.

In his opening remarks, Streicher referred to Jews as "this race of criminals"; said that "this famed democracy of Western States is a measure of the Jews' power"; that "the Jew has become the ruler of the mightiest country in the world — America, and America has become the foundation stone of Jewish domination"; and that "only those nations will prevail who are aware that through the nation of Christ's murderers evil was brought into the world."

The propaganda at the exposition was given widespread publicity through pamphlets containing reproductions of the exhibits, with appropriate texts. The exhibit closed on February 4, 1938, three months after its opening.

b. Anti-Jewish Excesses

On the night of May 30, 1938, there began a series of raids by police on cafés and restaurants in Berlin which are frequented by Jews. On that night, 397 persons were arrested and were held, it was stated, "on political grounds," being charged with smuggling and violation of currency regulations. Similar raids were staged about two weeks later, not only in Berlin but also in other cities, at the same time as mass arrests of Jews were taking place in Vienna. The opinion was expressed in some quarters that these raids and arrests were being conducted to impress the forthcoming international refugee relief conference at
Evian-les-Bains, France. The number of arrests in mid-June was estimated at upwards of 2000. The raids spread terror among Berlin Jews, and many shops closed their doors as violent boycott activities were resumed.

As mob violence increased and the anti-Jewish crusade gathered momentum on all fronts, police, on June 18, placed a week-end ban on all Jewish gatherings. Jews were so terrorized by the menace of arrests that many did not sleep at home but wandered from friend to friend or to hotels. Later, the week-end ban on Jewish meetings was made nation-wide and prolonged indefinitely in at least one direction. Official orders were issued prohibiting meetings of adult education classes which had been organized by Jewish communities in all large cities of the Reich.

In the night of June 21, a hundred youths invaded the Jewish Manual Training School in the Pankoe section of Berlin, smashed windows, and forced several Jewish boys to paint anti-Semitic slogans on neighboring Jewish shops.

The Kurfuerstendamm, Berlin's most popular shopping center, and many other quarters of the capital, appeared like a replica of Vienna's Kaernterstrasse and Jewish quarters in the first days after Austro-German Anschluss. Sidewalks still showed the results of the carefully planned and executed paint-slinging anti-Semitic drive. The word "Jew" was smeared in thick red letters on the window of every Jewish shop, sometimes with a shield of David added, to fix in the minds of the people that these were stores for them to avoid entering at all costs.

3. Miscellaneous General Events

On July 18, 1937, the New York Herald Tribune reported that four Berlin Jews had been imprisoned for terms of from five to nine months for circulating copies of the letter written by Thomas Mann, the distinguished author, to the Dean of the University of Bonn upon learning from Berlin that his honorary degree had been revoked.

On July 24, United States newspapers featured prominently the report that Nazi party members and German officials and soldiers had been prohibited membership in
the Rotary International. The official anathema was uttered by Walter Buch, Nazi Chief Justice, who advanced as specific reasons for the prohibition the charge that Rotarians were "not anti-Semitic and were ruled by an international organization conceived in America." He declared that Rotary's friendly attitude toward the Jews was incompatible with National Socialism's philosophy. As a result of the Nazi proscription, the dissolution of the Berlin Rotary Club was announced a week later, and, on September 4, the forty-three Rotary Clubs in Germany, with 1,350 members, announced that they would dissolve "voluntarily" on October 15.

The German-Polish Convention for the protection of minorities of May 15, 1922, expired on July 15, 1937, and Germany was no longer bound to exempt Jews in German Upper Silesia from the anti-Jewish laws in force elsewhere in the Reich. Previously, on July 5, Hitler announced a series of anti-Jewish measures to become effective on July 15. These provided that all Jewish officials were to be removed from office on August 31; officials having one Jewish parent were to be permitted to retain their posts until December 31; all Jewish notaries public were also to be removed from office, as well as all Jews administering property for other persons; licenses issued to Jewish physicians, dentists, veterinarians, and pharmacists since January 30, 1933, were to be cancelled effective September 1, 1937.

On July 27, assaults against Jewish commercial establishments broke out in Beuthen and Ethiodenberg. On August 4, renewed anti-Jewish disorders occurred in Beuthen, Ratibor, and Hindenburg. In Ratibor, Jewish shops were painted with anti-Semitic inscriptions, while in the other cities crowds gathered before Jewish shops shouting anti-Jewish slogans. On August 26, it was reported that twenty-two Jewish-owned cafes were closed in the industrial region by order of the Gleiwitz police prefect, allegedly for violating sanitary and police restrictions. On June 16, 1938, numerous arrests of Jews in German Upper Silesia were reported by the Polish press, including 36 in Beuthen, 20 in Gleiwitz, and 100 in Hindenburg, all of whom were interned in concentration camps.
4. Jewish Communal Life

A threatened rift in the affairs of the Jewish community of Germany was averted when, on July 11, 1937, it was announced that the Reichsvertretung, general organization of German Jews, and the Berlin Jewish Community had settled their differences. Under this agreement all Jewish organizations of the country, Zionist as well as orthodox groups, will come under the jurisdiction of the Reichsvertretung, which is presided over by Dr. Leo Baeck. This agreement makes the Reichsvertretung the official representative body of German Jews in their dealings with German authorities as well as with foreign Jewish organizations. It will also act as the responsible organization for the administration of relief work in Germany, and, as such, will control incoming funds. The agreement further stipulated that schools and institutes for vocational training were to be established and supervised by the Union of Jewish Communities.

On July 23, it was announced that George Kareski, Nazi-appointed Cultural Director of the German Jews, had resigned from the Executive Board of the Berlin Jewish Community and also as head of the Ivriah Bank, co-operative bank for middle class Jews, which was in financial difficulty. He was succeeded to the former post by Dr. I. Schneidler. Kareski had previously been appointed to his position as Cultural Director over the protests of many of his co-religionists.

On September 15, memorial services for 12,000 Jewish soldiers who died in the World War fighting for Germany was held in Weissensee Cemetery by the Union of Jewish War Veterans. Representatives of all Jewish institutions attended.

A "one-dish day" was announced on October 8 for Sunday as the opening of the Jewish fund-raising campaign in Berlin to provide winter relief for needy Jews, who are barred from public relief. It was estimated that 81,000 Jews in Germany were dependent on aid from the Jewish Community.
According to a dispatch of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency of January 16, 1938, the Council of the Reichsvertretung der Juden in Deutschland appealed to the Reich Government not to contract further the economic possibilities of the Jews of Germany lest a considerable number be thrown on charity.

Blunt warnings that there was no future for Jews in Germany were given by several Jewish leaders toward the end of January, 1938, marking also the close of the fifth year of the Nazi rule. Dr. Heinrich Stahl, president of the Berlin Jewish Community, speaking to a synagogue assemblage, said: "To those among our youth who have not yet decided to emigrate, I say, there is no future for Jews in this country. Whatever changes may be forthcoming for us will probably not be for the better."

V. AUSTRIA

In the preceding Review (see Vol. 39, pp. 354–5), reference was made to the Austro-German treaty of July 11, 1936, whereunder Germany undertook to recognize the full sovereignty of Austria, and each country pledged non-interference in the domestic affairs of the other. It was observed that, while the treaty was outwardly reassuring, Jewish circles in Vienna were profoundly uneasy as to its probable effects. "It is certain that Austria Jewry has every reason to regard the new developments with great anxiety," declared Die Stimme, the principal weekly organ of the Jewish community of Vienna. It was evident that what was feared were the effects, on the economic position of Jews, of the increased influence to be given to the Nazi Party in the Austrian Government in accordance with provisions in the pact with Germany. Increased emphasis of Nazi agitation on Jew-baiting was also feared. No one foresaw the catastrophe that was to strike, with especially terrific impact upon the Jewish population, before the second anniversary of the Austro-German treaty.
I. Events Preceding "Anschluss"

The noteworthy events affecting Jews during the eight months (July, 1937, to March, 1938), preceding the seizure of Austria by Nazi Germany can soon be told. In view of what has occurred since, these events are of historical interest merely. They show that the fears of Austrian Jews of the further deterioration of their economic position were justified. At the same time, there were indications the Premier Schuschnigg did not have very much sympathy for anti-Jewish measures, but was unable to stem a virtually irresistible tide.

a. Official Anti-Jewish Measures

The exclusion of Jews from the practice of medicine was foreshadowed in a decree drafted by the Ministers of Justice and Social Welfare, according to a news report published in July, 1937. The decree included a clause prohibiting a physician from practicing unless he possessed a certificate of at least one year's service in a hospital. This would exclude Jews from practice because Jewish physicians have not been admitted to Austrian hospitals since 1933. The right of twenty-three Jewish physicians, who had served for a long time in Vienna hospitals, to claim employment from the city as assistant physicians, was recognized by the Supreme Court in October. The physicians had been ignored when appointments to vacancies in the municipal service were made.

In July, a Federal Court ruled that children of naturalized citizens do not acquire Austrian nationality unless included in the parents' naturalization. As a result, hundreds of Jews whose parents immigrated to Austria after the War faced loss of nationality. In July also, the Government prohibited the establishment of a society for the aid of Russian Jews on the alleged ground that an influx of Russian Jews into Vienna could be expected if such a society existed.
The "Aryan paragraph" was sanctioned by the Austrian Government for the first time, when, in September, the authorities approved the introduction into the statutes of the Association of Blind Musicians and Piano Tuners of a provision barring Jews from membership. In January, 1938, however, the Association was expelled from the Austrian Union of Societies for the Blind for refusing to rescind this amendment to its constitution.

The segregation of Jewish students in many secondary schools, despite protests, was reported in October. In the preceding month, Chancellor Schuschnigg had appointed two Jews as university professors. They were Dr. Alfred Axl, lecturer on orthopedic surgery, and Dr. Robert Wilhelm, lecturer on medical chemistry. In October, in an interview with the newspaper L'Indépendance Belge, Chancellor Schuschnigg declared there were no discriminations against Jews on racial grounds, but only against Jewish immigrants. The Chancellor made other gestures of good will when he made a contribution of 10,000 schillings to the Jewish winter relief fund and when, in January, he received the distinguished author, Sholom Asch, and assured him that the rights of Jews in Austria would not be restricted.

b. Anti-Jewish Manifestations

It was evident that, taking their cue from Chancellor Schuschnigg, the authorities did not encourage anti-Jewish manifestations, although political considerations made impractical any move that would antagonize the anti-Semitic supporters of the regime. For a number of months, during the review period, there were no unusual outbreaks of Jew-baiting. There was a noticeable increase of such incidents in the early part of 1938, especially after the ill-fated Berchtesgaden interview between Hitler and Chancellor Schuschnigg.

Jew-baiters were stimulated to increased activity when, early in October, 1937, announcement was made that the Director of Security legalized the wearing of anti-Jewish insignia. The anti-Jewish German Bund became more vocal, particularly in the provinces, and sent circulars to
members informing them that public wearing of the organization's badges was permitted. At the same time, the Artisans' Union of the Alsergrund section of Vienna, in which Jews had been enrolled by compulsion, sent circulars to members urging that they join the Fatherland Front and including leaflets which denounced Jews and demanded that "Christians buy from Christians only." In November, the Austrian Boy Scouts Union and "Jungvolk," youth organization, closed their doors to Jews. The Scouts explained their membership "already includes a sufficient number of Jewish children." In the same month, Le Soir of Paris reported from Vienna that the German Minister Franz von Papen had given 250,000 schillings to the Austrian anti-Semitic union to intensify anti-Jewish propaganda, particularly the pre-Christmas drive.

According to a Havas News Agency dispatch of December 17, show windows of a number of Jewish shops in the heart of Vienna were shattered in reprisal for the smashing, by a Jew, of a window in the German Tourist Bureau displaying a picture of Adolf Hitler. Numerous shop windows were broken in Viennese suburbs on February 4, 1938, by Nazis mounted on bicycles who threw iron bars through windows. In the same month, citing anti-Jewish excesses as a reason, Habimah, the Palestine Hebrew Theatre, refused to go through with scheduled performances in Vienna and environs.

Following the Berchtesgaden conference between Schuschnigg and Hitler, on February 12, 1938, tension over unchecked Nazi demonstrations mounted. In the midst of this, Chancellor Schuschnigg received the president of the Union of Austrian Jews and told him there would be no change in the Dollfuss Constitution of May 1934, which guaranteed equality of rights to citizens of all denominations.

A new and violently anti-Semitic newspaper, the Volksruf, making its first appearance February 23, stressed the necessity for anti-alien legislation, and asserted that it was impossible for Jews to be loyal both to Palestine and Austria.

On March 8, two thousand Nazis shouting anti-Jewish slogans demonstrated in the center of Vienna.
2. Events Following “Anschluss”

With the invasion of Austria, the Jews of that country went through, in the brief space of a few weeks, what their brethren in Germany had experienced more slowly, during the five years since the Nazi revolution. It seemed as if the Nazis were eager to apply the skill they had acquired in practicing their tactics on the Jews of Germany. Also, the tremendous increase in Hitler’s popularity in Germany, as a result of the Austrian coup, further emboldened them to wreak ruthless vengeance on the elements which had been loyal to Austrian independence, which, of course, included the Jewish population. At the same time, Austrian Nazis, released from the repressions imposed by the Schuschnigg regime, embarked upon an unrestrained orgy of anti-Jewish excesses which astounded and outraged public opinion in all civilized countries. The result was a wave of suicides, and a rush of Jews to the consulates of foreign countries in efforts to obtain permission to emigrate.

a. Legal Degradation of Jews

Immediately following the invasion, legal measures effecting the political, civil, and social degradation of the Jews of Austria followed one another in rapid succession.

The Jewish press was completely banned, all organizations except the Vienna Jewish Community’s executive staff were suppressed, and Vienna’s principal synagogues closed. The confiscation of Jewish property and “aryanization” of Jewish businesses proceeded apace. One of the first official decrees deprived the Jews of their citizenship. Another decree removed all Jewish judges and prosecutors from the courts. At the same time, many Jews, including a number of community leaders, were arrested. At the end of April, it was estimated that these numbered about 12,000. Mass arrests took place again at the end of May when, it was reported, about 1000 persons were taken into custody on suspicion of having violated the Nuremberg “race purity” laws. In June, there were two more round-ups, one toward the beginning of the month and another
near the close. A great many of those arrested were re-
leased, but a considerable number were sent to concentra-
tion camps. A proclamation of March 23 made the Nurem-
berg race and citizenship laws of 1935 the basis for exclud-
ing Jews from voting in the Hitler plebiscite on Anschluss, 
to be held on April 10. Other new curbs on Jews included: 
1) the refusal to Jewish students at Vienna University of 
permission to take examinations or to use the university 
library; 2) the barring of Jews from service as "lay 
judges," who sit with court judges to form the jury; the 
barring of Jews from acting as bankruptcy receivers; 
4) the barring of Jews who had cars in public garages from 
using them, while being forced to pay garage bills, gasoline 
costs and other charges; 5) the dissolution of B'nai B'rith 
lodges; and 6) the driving out of Jewish ritual slaughterers 
from abattoirs. In the same month, the Shoe and Leather 
Trades Union expelled all Jewish members and ordered 
all Jewish shoe and leather merchants to close their shops. 

Similar measures followed rapidly. In April, Vienna 
courts announced that Jews must obtain special permission 
from the police to sell land; the Nazi commissar for apoth-
ecaries ordered all Jewish apothecaries either to sell, or 
lease their businesses to "Aryans"; a decree reduced Jewish 
communities to the status of private organizations, depriv-
ing them of the right to levy communal taxes; and the 
Reich "flight tax" was extended to Austria and made 
retroactive to January 1.

In May, after the ousting of Jews from the Artists' Ring, 
Jews were dismissed from the chorus of the Vienna State 
Opera, and Jewish musicians were dismissed from the 
Radio Symphony Orchestra and the Vienna Symphony 
Orchestra without pensions or severance pay; a Govern-
ment ordinance excluded Jews from the Austrian cattle 
trade; Jewish tobacconists, most of them war invalids, or 
widows or orphans of war dead, were dismissed from their 
posts; 100 Jewish meat concerns were ousted from the 
Vienna abattoir and central market and replaced by 
"Aryan" dealers; and Jews were barred from serving as 
volunteers in the Austrian divisions of the German Army. 

In May, also, the application of the Nuremberg laws 
was extended to Austria. The ordinance of extension
included several modifications which were to apply in Austria only. The chief of these were: 1) indefinite postponement of pension rights granted in the Reich to dismissed civil servants who were war veterans; 2) more stringent requirements for pre-marriage investigation to assure "purity of blood;" 3) provisions for easier annulment of intermarriages.

On May 30, a wave of arrests, linked to the Nuremberg Laws, started. Some of those seized were sent to the notorious Dachau concentration camp, and some to Styria (Steiermark) to rehabilitate the areas devastated by recent floods. Many Jewish prisoners died in the Dachau camp. It was rumored that no less than 1000 arrests were made on this occasion.

In June, a decree of the Vienna Lawyers' Chamber prohibited "Aryan" lawyers from representing Jews in criminal cases. In the same month, Austrian state and municipal employees were notified that they would be dismissed without notice if they buy from Jews. At the same time, tax authorities ordered collection of taxes from "non-Aryan" business men with "exceptional sternness."

In the same month the Higher School Council ordered the removal from all school libraries of books by Jewish authors or those identifiable as Marxist, communist, freemason, pro-League of Nations, atheistic, ultra-mystic, Seventh Day Adventist or Christian Scientist in tendency. At the same time about 500 Jewish lawyers were given three weeks notice of dismissal from practice.

In the same month, a decree forbade the teaching of Jewish pupils in classes with "Aryans," beginning in September, 1938. The decree provides also that Jewish pupils of both sexes are forbidden to attend normal schools and business colleges reserved for non-Jews; and that the number of Jews admitted to secondary and business schools is to be limited to 2% of the total, the effect being, as the Voelkischer Beobachter put it, that only 450 Jews of the 6,000 then attending secondary schools in Vienna would be able to continue their education.

The enrollment of Jews in universities and higher technical schools had been the subject of a decree, issued
April 9 by the Minister of Education, Oswald Menghin. Its principal provisions were the summary dismissal of all Jewish members of the faculties, and the equally summary dropping of Jewish students registering for the first time for the Summer; registration of all Jews may be revoked at any time.

It was officially announced on April 8 that the Rothschild Bank had been taken over by the Austrian Credit Institute. Baron Rothschild remained in prison, all efforts of prominent foreigners to obtain his release, failing. Two more Jewish banks, the Ephrusi and Gutmann institutions, were placed under “compulsory administration” on April 19.

The distinguished psychiatrist, Sigmund Freud, after having been annoyed on several occasions by visits of secret police who rummaged among his books and papers, was permitted to proceed to London, but not before many appeals by distinguished scholars; rumors that a large sum was exacted from his friends as a condition for his release have not been confirmed.

b. Anti-Jewish Excesses

The invasion of Austria was followed by numerous individual unofficial acts of maltreatment of Jews as well as non-Jews who were known to have supported the independence of Austria. These continued for a number of weeks before the authorities obtained control over the situation.

Well known Jewish shops were looted, some of them expropriated, and all Jewish employes dismissed. Trucks loaded with stolen merchandise rumbled through the streets. Children, ranging in age from seven to ten years joined in the looting, especially of candy and toy stocks. Doors and windows of some synagogues were broken and the Holy Scroll torn up and burned. The offices of the Jewish Community were raided and all funds found there confiscated. Gangs visited Jewish homes after midnight, and forced Jews to accompany them to their stores to open them, and then looted them. Late in March, Storm Troopers, accompanied by police, began a systematic drive to purge bookshops of works by Jewish authors.
Jews were torn from Passover Seders by Nazi Storm Troopers and party officials and forced to spend an hour or more washing streets and buildings. Nazi Storm Troopers broke into Passover Sabbath morning services (April 16) at the orthodox Schiff Synagogue, and loaded a dozen worshippers on a truck to be taken to the nearest police station. There, some were photographed, while others were forced to wash windows and scrub walls for hours.

Early in April, Nazi Storm Troopers and the Gestapo started a drive to oust the Jews from Burgenland. A number were forced across the Czechoslovakian and Hungarian borders. In some towns where the “Judenrein” white flag did not yet flutter, the remaining Jews were deprived of all ordinary means of sustenance. Their shops were sealed and “Aryan” shops were forbidden to sell to them. While many Jews were forced to sign statements that they were swindlers and communists, some were compelled to sign declarations involving political implications, such as, that they had smuggled munitions from Czechoslovakia for the Spanish Loyalists. Entire families of Burgenland Jews were thrown into jail because they were unable to comply with the orders to leave. All Jews were expelled from: Frauenkirchen, Neusiedel-am-Lee, Wallern, Pamhagen, Goltz, Kitsee, Eisenstadt, Kobersdorf, and Rechnitz. On April 20, London newspapers confirmed earlier reports of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency about a group of 51 Burgenland Jews who had been cast adrift, without food or warm clothing, on a breakwater in the middle of the Danube. The authorities of both Czechoslovakia and Hungary refused to permit them to cross their borders, and they were forced to return to Austria where 35 were arrested and imprisoned.

Early in April, the Executive Board of the Jewish Community of Vienna issued a frantic appeal to its members for contributions to a fund of 800,000 schillings ($160,000) said to be necessary for the reopening of the Community’s offices and the resumption of its work. Later, reports from Prague asserted that the sum had
been demanded by the Nazi Party as a contribution to match a gift of the same amount given to the Schuschnigg regime.

Late in April, some 10,000 volumes, including old and rare examples of Hebraic and Rabbinical literature, comprising the library of the Vienna Jewish Theological Seminary, were removed by Storm Troopers.

On April 23, Dr. Israel Taglicht, Chief Rabbi of Vienna, while returning home from synagogue Sabbath services, was forced, until relieved by a Jewish passer-by, to picket two Jewish firms, holding a placard warning the public not to deal with them. In many cases Jewish owners were called out of their establishments and forced to carry boycott signs up and down the streets before their own doors. Bands of youths barred the doors of hundreds of Jewish shops. In the Jewish quarters several persons, one of them an old woman, were marched through the streets carrying "sandwich" signs reading, "This Swine Bought from a Jew," and "Stupid, Vulgar People Still Buy from Jews." On May 21, Nazis raided three synagogues in Vienna's Jewish quarter and plundered Jewish soup kitchens. They destroyed the property, tore up the Holy Scrolls, and drove out scores of worshippers, beating up some and cutting the beards off others.

Such actions were encouraged by the Nazi press. Thus, the Vienna edition of the Voelkischer Beobachter, Hitler's official spokesman, in its issue of April 26, announced a four-year "death sentence" on Austrian Jews and promised that every Jew would be driven out of the country by 1942 with nothing but the shirt on his back. The Deutsches Volksblatt of Vienna urged a "pitiless anti-Jewish boycott" until the last Jew is forced to emigrate from Austria.

At about the same time, the declaration that there was an "unbridgeable gulf" between an "Aryan" man and his baptized wife, in view of the former's membership in a party making anti-Semitism one of its strongest principles, came from the Supreme Court in Vienna in upholding a lower court's granting of a divorce on racial grounds.
c. Suicide or Flight

It is obvious that the effect of all these oppressive legal measures, the anti-Jewish agitation, and the acts of personal violence, was to make all the Jews of Austria realize that they were doomed so long as they remained. Many were driven to despair and sought release in suicide. On March 19, there were 54 Jewish funerals in one day. On March 21, there were 112 such burials. At the end of April, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was informed by a prominent person that he estimated the number of suicides until then at 2,000. The greater number of Jews, however, sought other means of escape from the inferno. Those who could at all manage to do so, left for other lands. At the end of May, it was estimated that an average of 500 weekly had emigrated during the preceding six weeks, — only a fraction of those seeking flight. Especially in the earlier weeks of the new regime, thousands of Jews stormed the foreign legations and consulates to apply for visas admitting them to other lands.

They were driven, in part, by fear inspired by such events as the speech of Goering after his entry into Vienna, following Hitler’s departure, in which he said: “Vienna is not a German city because 200,000 Jews live here. Vienna must become German again . . They (Jews) will be expelled systematically . . It is our will that in four years Vienna again become German Vienna and that the Jews be expelled.” The crowds before the consulates dwindled, however, when the harried Jews learned that immigration to other countries was generally surrounded with many onerous formalities to say nothing of difficulties. Jews not born within the present frontiers of Austria or Germany discovered to their dismay that, for immigration to the United States, they would have to be counted in the quotas of Poland, Roumania, or other lands whose quotas of visas were very small and had already been applied for by so many that it would be years before their own applications would be reached. No wonder that these Jews hailed the announcement of the international conference proposed by the United States, hoping that out of it would come salvation for them.
VI. HUNGARY

During the review period, the Hungarian Government surrendered to the demands and threats of the various political groups which, for one reason or another, advocated the reduction in the proportion of Jews in the economic and cultural life of the country. As a result of historical development, Jews had always constituted a large part of the middle class in Hungary as in other central and east European lands, in which the non-Jewish population had been divided into the landowning aristocracy and peasantry. In Hungary, especially, the Jews had a very large share in building up the country's finance, its commerce and its industry, and in developing its cultural life. Economic and social changes, which began in the latter quarter of the nineteenth century and were greatly accelerated after the World War, resulted in the entrance of more and more non-Jews into middle-class and urban occupations, in which they had to meet the competition of Jews. The desire of some non-Jews to reduce or eliminate this competition is one of the chief factors in the growth of post-war anti-Semitism in central and eastern Europe.

In Hungary, the movement to reduce the participation of Jews in the urban economic and cultural fields had been going on for several decades before the World War, but gathered considerable momentum after that conflict when the dismemberment of the Austro-Hungarian Empire accelerated the economic changes which came with the beginnings of industrialization. Agitation for the elimination of Jews from the professions led, in 1920, to the establishment of a numerus clausus for Jews in the colleges and universities. Agitation for their elimination from other fields continued and became the slogan of a number of political parties. During the past five years, the influence of Nazi Germany, especially following Germany's successes in the arena of international politics, lent new vigor to this agitations. The result, thus far, has been that the Hungarian Government yielded, and itself introduced the measure for the numerical restriction of Jews in all walks of life.
1. Official Anti-Jewish Policies

Anti-Jewish agitation during the period under review was marked by the participation of members of the Government, even though they did not belong to the anti-Semitic parties. Thus, in February, 1938, Finance Minister Fabinyi referred, in a public speech, to the necessity of giving the Christians their proper share in the trade of Hungary. "The Christian Hungarian population," he stated, "desires to conquer the positions which it voluntarily refused to occupy for many years." As if in reply to this declaration, ex-premier Stephen Bethlen issued a warning in the same month that emulation of Germany's anti-Jewish program would spell disaster for Hungary, and that the landowners and the intelligentsia who were flirting with Nazism would be the first to be utterly ruined.

About a month later, in a violently anti-Jewish speech, Education Minister Valentin Homan called for diminution of Jewish influence in Hungarian industry, trade and finance; he declared that Jews cannot be assimilated into the Hungarian race. This event was followed, a few days later, by a speech by Premier Koloman Daranyi who stated that the Jewish question in Hungary must be solved by reducing Jewish influence in trade, industry and in cultural life. In April, Justice Minister Edmund von Micecz publicly joined the chorus with the weighty assertion that "the important influence of Jews on Hungary's economy is diametrically opposed to national interests."

While these declarations were being made, government authorities took steps which made extremely disagreeable impressions on the Jews of Hungary. In November, 1937, thirty-six Jewish youths and girls were arrested following raids by police on four centers, where young Jews were being trained for emigration to Palestine; the young people had been denounced as allegedly carrying on bolshevistic and atheistic activities. Investigation failed to show that any communist propaganda was being carried on and the thirty-six young people were released, but were ordered to report to the police every second day. In the same month, more than five hundred Jews were seized in police raids, and some of them detained for
deportation when they could not produce proper identification papers. The raids were carried out during the night in Budapest's Jewish quarter, the police dragging men, women and children from their beds and rushing them by automobile to headquarters.

In April, 1938, the Government issued an order requiring stunning of cattle before slaughter, in effect prohibiting Shehitah, ritual slaughter. Chief Rabbi Ferenc Hevesi and other Jewish leaders made efforts to secure permission from the Government for a quota of kosher meat for orthodox Jews. The outcome of these efforts has not been reported.

In May, Karl Peyer, leader of the Social Democratic Party, charged in Parliament that secondary schools throughout the nation were completely nazified, with teachers preaching hatred of Jews to their pupils.

In the same month, one hundred Jewish employees of three Jewish firms were arrested on charges of hostile activity against the State, because, it was alleged, they had urged clients to boycott coffee houses, restaurants and theatres, and to refrain from shopping, as protest against the Government's anti-Jewish bill.

2. Anti-Jewish Manifestations

In view of the Government's attitude, it is not surprising that there should have been a number of anti-Jewish incidents during the period. These were all more or less true to form and will be briefly enumerated.

In August, 1937, the poet Josef Erdelyi published a ballad entitled "The Blood of Esther Solymosi," reviving the charge that the girl who was slain in Tisza Eslar in 1882 was murdered for Jewish ritual purposes.

In November, 1937, several hundred Budapest university students staged an anti-Jewish riot in which several persons were injured. In January, 1938, sixty persons were injured, five seriously, when about fifty youths belonging to the Hungarian Nazi formation known as "Arrow Cross" attacked a group of Jewish skiers on Mount Swabes, near Budapest.
In March, 1938, restrictions on Jews was one of the demands voiced at a great mass meeting under the auspices of Turul, the federation of rightist Hungarian deputies, held to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the revolution for Hungarian independence.

In April, while a government-appointed committee, most of them members of the extremist right wing of the government party, began a study of the Jewish question in Hungary, Nazis distributed pamphlets calling upon the Government to resign and advising Premier Daranyi to leave the country “before it is too late.” The pamphlets attacked Jewish landowners and called for adoption of racial laws based on the German standard. In the same month, the “Turul” Students’ Association demanded that Jewish journalists be barred from the Chamber press gallery, and the Hungarian Agricultural Chamber came out with a demand that Jewish ritual slaughter of cattle be forbidden.

In May, two hundred leaders of post-war nationalist movements founded the Union of Hungarian Protectors of Race, headed by the notorious “White Terrorist” Ivan Hejjas who stated that if the Jewish problem had been solved in 1919 (through pogroms), it would not exist today.

3. The Anti-Jewish Law

It was natural that the public agitation should be reflected in incendiary speeches in Parliament and in legislative proposals. Numerous outspokenly anti-Jewish measures were proposed almost daily during the session of Parliament. The proposals in these bills included revision of the citizenship of Jews, reform of land-ownership by Jews, and the reduction of the so-called predominance of Jews in economic life. The introduction of such proposals was stimulated by the knowledge that the Government itself was about to introduce a drastic measure.
On April 7, Premier Daranyi introduced in the Lower House of Parliament a "bill for more efficient protection of the social and economic balance" which embodied sweeping curbs on Jews in the economic, social and cultural life of the country. The bill provides that 1) chambers for the press, stage and films be established, in which Jewish membership will be limited to twenty per cent; Jewish war invalids, front-fighters and war pensioners will not be counted in determining the Jewish percentage; 2) wages and salaries paid to Jews by business firms and banks be restricted to 20% of the total; 3) the twenty per cent proportion be applicable to future admissions to the legal, medical and engineering chambers; 4) any undertaking employing fewer than ten workers be not permitted to discharge a Christian worker unless another Christian is employed to replace him; 5) trade and industry be given five years to put these measures into effect, but the press, stage and film industry be given only one year, and the textile industry, ten years.

The bill found few opponents. Even comparatively liberal deputies favored it because they believed it would check the agitation of extremist right-wingers. The Government did not remain very far behind these extremist elements when, in a statement explaining the bill, it declared that the Jews had obtained "a strangle hold over the entire Hungarian economic life." How this "strangle hold" was secured was not stated, but the declaration went on to say: "The solution of this problem is particularly urgent in view of the necessity of providing jobs for Christian youth and assuring the sons of Hungarian peasantry a chance for betterment of their social standing."

On April 21, Jewish organization submitted a protest to Parliament against the bill. The protest charged the project was unconstitutional because it violated the equal rights accorded to Hungarian Jews in 1867. The memorandum declared that Jews had lived in the country nearly 1,000 years and had always shown themselves patriotic citizens; it concluded with an appeal to the Catholic and Protestant clergy and to all good Christians.
But few "good Christians" responded to this appeal. One of them was the former Premier, Count Stephen Bethlen. Addressing a meeting of a Parliamentary joint commission, on April 24, he denounced the government's anti-Jewish bill as violating the principle of equality of rights, and insisted that the economic balance be achieved without infringement of the rights of Jewish citizens.

Further criticism of the anti-Jewish bill was voiced by Dr. Charles Rassay, leader of the Nationalist Liberal Party. Speaking in the Lower House, on May 6, he declared that acceptance of the bill would be a "veritable catastrophe," and that it should be rejected for constitutional and social reasons, as well as for reasons of foreign policy. At about the same time, thirty-seven of Hungary's most prominent artists, musicians and journalists published a joint protest against the proposed anti-Jewish bill.

The revelation that during the last cabinet of General Goemboes a secret statistical survey of the Jews of Hungary had been officially compiled by the Hungarian Government, was made in the newspaper 8 Oral Újsag, edited by Andreas Bethlen, son of Count Bethlen. According to this report, the secret statistical survey revealed that Jews were represented in Hungarian literature and art by 27%, in scholarship and science by 24.7%, in journalism by 31.7%, in music, 28%; in acting, 24.1%; in engineering, 30.4%; in the chemical industry, 45.1%. The report further revealed the following representation of Jews in commerce and industry: 50.9% of factory owners and leaseholders, 41.6% of factory directors, 53.7% of printers and publishers, 33.4% of industrial employees, 45.5% of businessmen, 52.8% of employees of trading enterprises, and 30.2% of shop assistants. The newspaper declared that, according to this survey, 22,583 Jews are in danger of being deprived of their livelihoods by the proposed Jewish law, which considers as Jews all those baptized since August 1, 1919.

On May 3, the United Christian Party decided at a meeting to vote against the Government's bill because of
the belief of the majority that the measure was unacceptable from the Catholic viewpoint. On the other hand, the Party's right wing, strongly anti-Semitic, abstained from voting on the ground that the bill did not go far enough. On May 11, the bill was attacked in the Chamber of Deputies by Count Georg Apponyi who declared that apart from its inhumanity, it contained unjustified charges against the Jews of Hungary.

The bill passed its second reading in the Lower House on May 13 over the opposition of the Social Democrats, the Democrats and several independents. After a brief debate the measure was adopted by the Senate on May 24. Late in June, the Government began execution of the bill by issuing a decree calling for submission of data by professional and business enterprises, and the appointment of commissars for enterprises not complying with the provisions of the law.

Even before the bill was introduced in Parliament, rumors about its scope filled the Jews with alarm. One effect of the tension thus induced was increasing recourse of Jews to conversion. Early in April, it was reported that the rabbinites of Budapest were besieged by hundreds of Jews wishing to leave their religion, while a Catholic priest actually warned the priesthood against the danger of admitting to the church thousands of "undesirable" converts motivated by material reasons alone.

An appeal for unity, patience and support of Jewish communal institutions in connection with the proposed anti-Jewish legislation was issued on May 1, jointly by Dr. Simon Hevesi, president of the Rabbinical Union, and Hofrat Samuel Stern, president of the Union of Hungarian Jews. The appeal branded as cowards those "deserters from Judaism" in the present difficult times who "not only dishonor themselves and their families but are bound to experience bitter disappointment."
VII. OTHER CENTRAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

1. Czechoslovakia

The only democratic country in a world of fascist and semi-fascist Central and Eastern European States, Czechoslovakia has firmly stamped out overt anti-Jewish manifestations. The government has consistently refused to tolerate any destructive activities of anti-Jewish organizations, fully aware that they are a menace to peace and, in view of Czechoslovakia's political status, a threat to the very existence of the State.

a. Anti-Jewish Manifestations

In May, 1937, the government upheld the decision of the district authorities who, following protests by Jews, had declared invalid a local ordinance of the city of Aussig, banning Shehitah.

The government ordered the police to confiscate all Jew-baiting papers, pamphlets and books as a result of growing anti-Semitic agitation in Slovakia. Father Hlinka, the leader of the Slovakian extremists, who are agitating for autonomy, was chiefly responsible for the anti-Jewish campaign, and was openly accused by government circles of maintaining connections with, and receiving moral and financial support from, the German Nazis.

The fact that the government would not condone overt acts of zoological anti-Semitism, however, failed to serve as a brake on the anti-Jewish activities of the Sudeten Germans. It is true that the Henleinist movement suffered a setback as a result of the suicide in jail, on November 5, 1937, of its "foreign envoy" Heinz Rutha, who had been held on immorality charges, but the Henleinist movement was not discredited in respect of its anti-Jewish policy. The purge of "Jewish elements" by the Sudeten German Party had long been overdue and, according to the Lidove Noviny, beginning May 1, both departmental and regional, as well as a central supreme party tribunals, were constituted to weed out all Jewish elements from the party.
At Theusing, a small town near Marienbad, in the Sudeten district, anti-Jewish rioting broke out on April 25, 1938, and windows of a synagogue and Jewish shops were broken.

At a conference of the Jewish party in Brno on May 16, it was disclosed that the 22,000 Jews in the Sudeten German districts were being terrorized by Konrad Henlein's Nazi party, and that the government was virtually helpless to check Jew-baiting in the German districts. Local Henleinist leaders, particularly in Karlsbad, Eger, and Teplitz, were forcing Jews to sell business concerns and real estate for insignificant sums, under threat of confiscation once the Henleinists assume power. Jew-baiting in the Sudeten area was forcing many Jews to move to Prague and other Czech cities.

Before the closing session of the conference, Ernst Frischer, its president, demanded protection against the brutality and the anti-Jewish boycott, being waged especially in the Sudeten German area, which was justified by the pretext that American Jews boycotted Sudeten German products. In the Czechoslovak Parliament, Deputy Angelo Goldstein made public a statement by the Joint Boycott Council of the American Jewish Congress and the Jewish Labor Committee, denying any boycott against Czechoslovak goods.

Several cases of Sudeten German boycott activity against Jewish and Czechoslovakian firms were established by the police in May at Teplitz-Schoenau. The members of the Henlein party who were found guilty were fined ten crowns. The Prague government on May 17, confiscated the Henlein papers Die Rundschau and F. S. and suppressed an appeal of the "chief of staff" of the F. S. (Freiwilliger Deutscher Schutzdienst), modeled after the S. A. (Sturm Abteilungen) in the Third Reich.

In June, it was reported that the German democratic organizations had lodged vigorous protests with the rector of the university and the Minister of Education against the distribution of pamphlets of an anti-Semitic character by Nazi students during lectures at the German University in Prague.
b. Refugees

According to a report of October 15, 1937, the Ministry of Interior worked out plans for the gradual removal of German refugees, most of them Jews, from border districts and main cities and their transfer to Bohemian and Moravian localities. According to a later report, this order was modified, and will be applied only to refugees for whom relief committees will not accept responsibility. A report of April 11, 1938, stated that twenty-three Austrian Jews, forced by the Nazis to cross the frontier from the Burgenland province into Hungary, had been transferred to Czechoslovakia.

The German language newspaper *Bohemia*, commenting on expulsion of Jews from Austria, declared in its issue of May 2, that this was the first example of radical expulsion following expropriation, and warned the Germans that such methods might some day be used against German minorities in European countries and overseas.

In May, 1938, the government barred fifty-one Jewish refugees who had been expelled from the Burgenland by the Nazis and had found temporary shelter on a French tugboat.

c. Miscellaneous

A bronze statue of Moses, the first Jewish monument in Prague, was installed by the city government on August 3, facing the famous Altneu Synagogue.

The "League Against Anti-Semitism" distributed on Christmas Eve in all churches 10,000,000 copies of a manifesto against anti-Semitism.

According to a report of the *Jewish Morning Journal* (New York City) on December 14, Count Schoenborn took charge of the Keren Hayesod campaign in Czechoslovakia. As a result of this unprecedented step by a Christian nobleman, many Czechs and Germans sent contributions to the Keren Hayesod Fund, in protest against the Nazi ideology. The above report also states that the three famous resorts, Karlsbad, Marienbad and
Franzensbad (all situated in the Sudeten German area) appealed to Hitler to remove restrictions placed on German Jews who wish to go to these resorts.

On August 18, 1937, the Congress of the Agudath Israel opened in Marienbad.

On February 27, 1938, the first World Congress of International Youth Against Anti-Semitism opened in Prague. At the same time, the Revisionist World Conference also took place there.

After the seizure of Austria by Nazi Germany, the Czechoslovakian Jews in the Sudeten area became panicky lest they also become victims of Nazism, and they began to liquidate their possessions, to such an extent that the Selbstwehr, Prague Zionist organ, of May 2, 1938, warned them against a “liquidation psychosis.”

d. Jewish Communal Life

Czechoslovak Jews mourned the death of President Masaryk who died on September 15, 1937. The presidium of the Prague Jewish community and the Rabbinical Council conveyed condolences, on behalf of the Jewish population, to President Benes and Premier Hodza. Special meetings to honor the great humanitarian were arranged by the Union of Jewish Communities.

The Agudath Israel, the extreme orthodox organization, and the assimilationist groups formed a united front against Zionism, according to a report to the Jewish Morning Journal of New York City, published on December 23, 1937.

In an official communiqué in connection with an audience given by President Benes to Rabbi Irving Frederick Reichert of San Francisco on December 3, the president stated on February 24: “The Jews in our country enjoy, with all sections of the population, full equality of rights, and with all other minority nations, the rights of a national minority. A large part of them regard themselves as a minority nation; another part prefers to be regarded merely as a religious community. Under the laws of our democratic state, they are free to regard themselves as either.”
2. Danzig

With the dissolution of the Catholic Center Party on October 21, 1937, the Nazis came into absolute, though unconstitutional, control of the Free City of Danzig. The advent of the Nazis to power sealed the fate of the Jewish community of over 10,000 persons (census of 1929), who faced a situation similar to that of Jews in Germany. "For Danzig-born Jews," Dr. Arthur Greiser, President of the Senate, announced in a speech on November 7, 1937, "we will institute the same laws as in Germany, while Jews who are foreign-born will have to leave Danzig whether they wish to or not."

The special international status of Danzig prevented, for the time being, the official introduction of the Nuremberg Laws and all they imply. This fact, however, had little bearing upon the situation of the Jews, who are subjected to practically all the disabilities of their fellow-Jews in Germany. Indeed, on October 29, 1937, a Jewish delegation which protested to the League of Nations High Commissioner in Danzig against the anti-Jewish riots on October 25 and 26, was informed that his office could not intervene in the Free City's internal affairs. This rioting, which assumed the proportions of a pogrom, marked the final victory of Nazi domination over Danzig. As most of the victims were Polish citizens, a protest was lodged with the Senate by the resident High Commissioner of Poland. In reply, the Senate gave assurances that measures had been taken to avoid a recurrence of the disturbances and that the cases cited in the protest would be immediately investigated. On October 28, the Summary Court sentenced eleven persons to jail term, and seventy others were held under arrest for participating in the anti-Jewish riots.

Scarcely had the riots subsided when the Jews were thrown into another panic, caused by arrests of Jewish businessmen and the confiscation of their property. Pres-

1 This section and that on Poland were prepared by Mr. Moses Moscovitz, member of the research staff of the American Jewish Committee.
sing their drive against the Jews, the Nazi authorities, on November 3, arrested a number of prominent Jewish business leaders and confiscated approximately 2,000,000 gulden of their property on alleged charges of tax evasion. On November 26, several Jewish industrialists were arrested and their property confiscated on identical charges. While these arrests were going on, Julius Streicher, then on a visit to Danzig, announced that the same “uncompromising methods” would be used equally against Danzig- and foreign-born Jews.

Meanwhile, the anti-Jewish boycott was intensified and official and unofficial measures were taken to humiliate the Jews and to hasten their elimination from economic and professional life. On October 20, Jewish traders were segregated in the market places and Jewish shops picketed by black-shirted Nazi police. On October 27, the Danzig municipality announced regulations barring Jews from public bath houses except one day a week at specified hours. The following day, the Medical Chamber forbade “non-Aryan” physicians from practicing at night or on Sundays. On the same day, a number of cafés and restaurants banned Jews from their premises. On March 5, the Senate published a decision effective April 1, barring Jewish patients from public hospitals and welfare institutions and dismissing Jewish physicians and nurses. On April 6, the Medical Association excluded Jewish physicians from treating social welfare patients unless they had been practicing in Danzig before 1914. On March 31, “ghetto benches” were decreed for Jews at Danzig resorts.

Finally, measures were taken by the Danzig authorities to force Jewish enterprises out of business. In November 1937, decrees were issued prohibiting building owners from renewing leases of, or renting property to, Jews, which meant the forcing of Jews out of business by the end of the year. In addition, direct pressure was brought to force Jewish businesses to liquidate. Thus, on November 26, a Jewish tobacco factory was confiscated and the management of another factory taken over by “Aryan” managers. Between January 20 and 23, 1938, three more large Jewish enterprises were transferred into “Aryan” control. On April 12, it was announced that one of the largest Jewish
gold and silversmith companies had been forced to liquidate because of action by the Danzig authorities.

These and other measures have resulted in the complete ruin of the Jewish community. At a conference of Jewish leaders in Danzig in November 1937, it was declared that the only hope for Danzig Jews lay in organized emigration. From that time on, there has been a gradual exodus of Jews from Danzig. On March 27, Polish newspapers reported that over 4,000 Jews had already left the Free City.

3. Denmark

On September 7, 1937, seven Nazi journalists were sentenced to imprisonment from 20 to 80 days by a Copenhagen court for printing malicious accusations against Jews. Danish law forbids the defamation of any religion recognized by the State. The accused were given separate trials.

On October 20, it was reported that the Danish Ministry of Justice had forbidden the issuance of marriage certificates to persons whose marriages are prohibited in Germany, i.e., forbidding marriage of German "Aryans" with "non-Aryans." Representations by the Berlin authorities were understood to have led to the issuance of the order.

On December 7, Dr. Lemvigh Mueller, "Fuehrer" of the German Nazi minority in Danish Slesvig, and two of his assistants were convicted of anti-Government activities by the Apenrade tribunal.

On January 20, 1938, the High Court confirmed the short prison sentences passed on three Nazi editors on September 7, and raised the sentences of two others.

On April 13, much concern was manifested throughout Denmark, when, at the final session of the Danish Folketing, a man in the visitor's gallery, later identified as Erik Westergaard, a member of one of the Danish Nazi parties, fired two blanks at K. K. Steincke, Minister of Justice. Simultaneously, pamphlets ridiculing the parliamentary system were showered down from the
gallery on the floor of the house. Westergaard was im-
mediately taken into custody. This event brought the
attention of the Danes to the increase of Nazi activity in
the country and led authorities to demand a full inquiry.

On the next day, at the annual congress of the Danish
Nazis at Haderslev in which 800 Nazis participated, bold
German revisionist claims were made by the party leaders,
Dr. Jens Möller, Dr. Harboe Kardel, and Fritz Clausen,
and a resolution was adopted making demands for "cul-
tural self-government" for the German minority, and
"commercial Anschluss" with Germany. Prior to the
meeting, despite an explicit ban on uniforms and foreign
flags, the Nazi Storm Troopers (Schleswigsche Kamerad-
schaften) marched through the streets of Haderslev with
flying Swastika flags and thinly disguised uniforms. This
evoked a counter-demonstration by Danish residents.

On April 24, police intervened at the staging of military
exercises by 240 Nazis at Nordre Birk, near Copenhagen.

On May 5, it was learned that German firms in Denmark
had begun to discharge all their Jewish employees, following
advice given by the German Chamber of Commerce of
Copenhagen.

A sensational renunciation of Nazism and anti-Semitism
was made public on June 2 by Captain C. Lembcke,
founder of the first Danish Nazi Party in 1930, who had
retired from political life in 1934 after serving a five-month
sentence for insulting Prime Minister Theodor Staunig.
Captain Lembcke announced his return to political acti-

ivity with the declaration: "I sincerely deplore my former
support of such German things as Nazism and such ab-
surdities as Jewish persecution. In is unworthy and un-
chivalrous for the Danish nation to attack a weak people."
He concluded by apologizing to the Danish and the Jewish
people, promising to fight this "confusion of national
consciousness."

On June 24, it was announced officially that the refugee
problem had been discussed at a Scandinavian inter-
governmental conference held at Copenhagen and Fredens-
borg on June 21 and 22, by representatives of Denmark,
Norway, Sweden, and Finland, and that joint action at
the Evian refugee relief conference was considered.
According to an official report issued on the same day, there were 1,278 German refugees in Denmark, 2,000 in Sweden, and 100 in Norway.

4. Italy

During the review period, the anti-Jewish agitation, which began in September, 1936, as a journalistic feature in a few Italian newspapers, assumed more serious aspects. The government had always previously given assurances that, despite the permitted attacks on Jews in general and on the loyalty of Italian Jews in particular, it had no intention to embark upon an anti-Jewish policy. But in July, 1938, it became clear that the government had decided to show its loyalty to the Rome-Berlin axis not only by words but also by deeds, even to the extent of sacrificing the welfare of the small, law-abiding, loyal, and useful Jewish population of the country. Following is a brief outline of the steps leading up to this fateful development.

The first ominous event during the review period was the participation by a delegation of Italian Fascists in the anti-Semitic congress held in Erfurt, Germany, in September, 1937. The delegation included General Namarra, Albert Olupin of the Fascist Institute of Culture, and Professors Botolli and Ebola, authors of anti-Semitic pamphlets.

Commenting on the publication of a calendar by the Jews of Tripoli, the newspaper Azione Coloniale, regarded as close to the Italian Government, declared that "nothing is said in the new calendar about a sense of loyalty of the Tripolitan Jews to Italy," and warned the Jews of Tripoli that they were failing to demonstrate sufficient loyalty to Rome.

In November, a new and popular-priced Italian edition of the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion" was published. In a foreward, the claim was made that the "Protocols" are genuine and prove the Jews are planning to dominate the world.
The Turin newspaper *La Stampa*, in its issue of December 28, attacked the Zionist Revisionist movement as "provoking with its brutal lack of tact a dangerous reaction among the Arabs whose religious and patriotic sentiments are hurt by the Jewish race."

Early in January, 1938, the Italian press came out with the demand that Jewish refugees be prohibited by law from settling in Italy. *Il Popolo*, Trieste, declared that "Italy must not be made the dumping ground for Jewish immigration." *Il Telegrafo*, Livorno, warned Italian Jews that an influx of their co-religionists would be dangerous.

The Italian press was virtually unanimous in supporting the tactics of Premier Goga of Roumania. *La Stampa*, Turin, commenting on events there, raised for the first time the issue of a *numerus clausus* in Italy, asking that only one Jew to each 800 students be admitted to universities. Italian press support of Goga's government was climaxd when Virginio Gayda, authoritative Italian spokesman, greeted Goga's "Crusade against the Jews, who are considered a danger to the Roumanian nation."

Hitting at the democratic countries and anti-Fascist opinion abroad by attacking Jews was a next step in the Italian press campaign. *La Stampa*, in a January issue, declared that Jewish domination of democratic countries was an accomplished fact, and had been achieved through methods outlined in the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion."

In similar vein, *Il Regime Fascista*, Cremona, charged that President Roosevelt was guided in his armament policy by "United States Jews" who want to destroy Christian civilization. At the same time, the hitherto pro-Jewish newspaper *Corriere Padano*, Padua, owned by Marshal Italo Balbo, published an article lavishing praise on the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion."

These repeated attacks appear to have aroused anxiety among Jews in Italy, for we find the government, on February 7, issuing the following reassuring statement: "The Italian Government acknowledges the existence of anti-Jewish tendencies in Italy but points out that these are not directed against Italian Jews, whose loyalty is recognized, but against international Jewry, which is anti-Fascist."
According to a dispatch from the correspondent of the New York Herald-Tribune of February 8, 1938, the Italian Government had taken measures against the publication of books, the production of plays, and radio broadcasts by Jews. This report was officially denied the following day by the Minister for Popular Culture, according to a dispatch from Arnaldo Cortesi, the Italian correspondent of The New York Times.

A few days later, a new anti-Semitic weekly, Il Giornalissimo, appeared. In its first issue, it featured a long interview with Giovanni Preziosi, editor of the Italian edition of the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," emphasizing the dangers of "international Judaism."

Especially with the approach of Hitler's visit to Premier Mussolini, the press campaign continued. Because of speculation both at home and abroad as to its significance, the government felt called upon to issue another reassuring statement on February 16. On that day, the official Informazione Diplomatica issued a statement, attributed to Premier Mussolini, which denied reports that the Government planned anti-Jewish restrictions, but reserved the right to act against Jews hostile to the regime, and to guard against recent Jewish immigration. It proposed establishment of a Jewish State somewhere outside Palestine as a solution of "the international Jewish problem."

About ten days later, the English newspaper, The Evening Standard, printed a report from Rome that stern orders to halt the anti-Jewish campaign had been issued by the Government to the newspapers.

Early in March, an official spokesman of the Propaganda Ministry denied reports published abroad that Italy was offering Jews colonization possibilities in Ethiopia. About a month later official denial was made of reports that foreign Jews had been barred from Italian schools. At the same time, rumors were circulating among foreign Jewish students at Pisa and Bologna Universities that difficulties would be put in the way of their continuing studies at the beginning of next term. In May, it became apparent that they would be excluded from Italian universities, when the Italian authorities notified 300 Jewish
students of Polish nationality, attending Pisa University, that they would be permitted to complete this year's studies and take examinations, but could not be given assurances regarding next year.

Elaborate precautions were taken by Italy for the safety of Hitler during his visit in Italy, at the request of the Gestapo (German secret political police). Many Jews were arrested, to be released only after the expiration of Hitler's visit.

Early in July, 1938, the government again felt called upon to deny that it had prohibited the publication of Italian translations of books by foreign Jewish authors, and had suggested that bookshops refrain from displaying the books of native Jewish authors. The government spokesman referred to the statement in Informazione Diplomatica of February 16, as the index to the government attitude toward Jews.

Right on the heels of this reassurance came the report indicating that the Italian Government had decided to come even closer to Nazi regime, by adopting its sinister, pseudo-scientific race theory. On July 14, at the request of the Minister of Popular Culture, the Italian press published the conclusions of a group of university professors who had been requested to study the race question, with special reference to Italy. The names of the professors were not made public for several weeks. Briefly summarized, the professors reached the conclusion that the Italian people belong to the Western Mediterranean branch of the "Aryan" race, are a homogeneous sub-race because they come from the same stock without any foreign admixture for a thousand years, and are European as distinguished from people of Asiatic stock; that Italian Jews do not belong to this "Italian race," and are an Asiatic and not a Mediterranean people, and can, therefore, never become assimilated; and that Italians should preserve their purely European physical and psychological characteristics, which are altered by crossing with non-European races, "which bring a civilization different from that of the millenary Aryan civilization." As this Review is being written, there are indications that the publication of this program is
expected to be followed by repressive acts against Italy's Jews. The racist theory has also drawn the fire of the Vatican which has denounced it as incompatible with Christianity.

Jewish Communal Life

In last year's Review we described the reaction of some Italian Jews to the anti-Jewish agitation, especially that in which adherence to Zionism was misinterpreted as incompatible with complete loyalty to Italy. This charge led some Italian Jews publicly to repudiate Zionism and to reaffirm their allegiance to Fascism (See Vol. 39, p. 373). Some of the anti-Jewish press articles also demanded that Italian Jews sever all ties with co-religionists in other lands.

Spirited resistance to such demands was expressed in September, 1937, in an unprecedented message "from the rabbis of Italy to their brethren," signed by all rabbis of Italy, Tripoli and the Aegean Islands, the first to be published in Italo-Jewish history. The name of Chief Rabbi David Prato of Rome headed the list of signers. Emphasizing that "Judaism is a unique whole," the message condemned Jewish elements in Italy which, under the influence of extremist Fascist ideology, were seeking to give their own interpretations of Judaism and to create a reformist synagogue in Italy divorced from the remainder of the world's Judaism.

This proclamation naturally deepened the cleavage within the Jewish community. Zionist members on the Executive Board of the Union of Jewish Communities resigned in protest against the attitude of the "assimilationist" members of the Board. These resignations reduced the membership of the Board to below the statutory two-thirds, and forced the government to appoint a commission to supervise Jewish communal affairs. Rabbi Disegni of Turin, who had signed the appeal of rabbis, resigned from the board of his community under the pressure of assimilationists.

The long-standing conflict in the Jewish Community was settled when the congress of the Union of Italian Jewish
Communities reached a compromise agreement on the composition of its Council and laid plans for continuation of the Union's activities. A single list of candidates was submitted for the Council elections, excluding the more extremist adherents of both of the "traditionalist" and the "assimilationist" viewpoints.

In October, 1937, Colonial Undersecretary Allessandro Lessona promised representatives of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities to consider recommendations for aiding the Falashas. The Union asked for the establishment of schools not only for Jewish education but for agricultural and vocational training as well. The Union's requests were based on the findings of Carlo Alberto Viterbo, a member of the Union's Board, after his return from an eight-month stay in Ethiopia to establish Jewish communities.

5. Switzerland

a. Anti-Jewish Agitation

Instances of Nazi anti-Jewish agitation were reported in Zurich, during the convention in that city of the World Zionist Organization, in August, 1937. On one occasion, one of the halls where some of the Zionists were meeting was covered with swastikas. On another occasion, tear gas bombs were thrown in a café where Zionist delegates were present. Nazis also distributed anti-Jewish leaflets on the streets of Zurich, copies of Der Stuermer, and handbills attacking the Government for permitting the Congress to be held in Zurich. On August 7, a threatened Nazi mass demonstration against Jews proved disappointing to the Jew-baiters when only about 100 persons gathered in front of the Stadttheater, where the World Zionist Organization was in convention.

On August 12, the Zionist Congress presidium was forced to protest to the police against repeated assaults by Nazis on delegates in the streets, after two prominent Jews were attacked and injured on the previous night.

In January, 1938, the Swiss National Front, Nazi organization, announced its intention to seek a referendum for a constitutional amendment "to regulate the legal
status of the Jews in Switzerland." This move, however, did not materialize because the National Front was unable to secure the required 50,000 votes.

b. Berne Protocols Trial

During the review period, an appeal was taken by the two Swiss Nazis who were convicted in May, 1935, by a Berne Court for disseminating the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion." (See Vol. 37, pp. 176-177). The appellants argued that Article 14 of the Cantonal Code, which prohibits the dissemination of "trash literature," under which they were convicted, did not apply to the "Protocols," which did not constitute "trash literature" within the meaning of the law.

On November 1, the Berne Cantonal Court granted the appellants' appeal and cancelled the fines which had been imposed in the previous decision by the lower court. While confirming that the "Protocols" were a forgery, the Court ruled that it did not constitute "trash" in the sense of the law, which, it held, aimed at protecting youth from obscene literature and thus was inapplicable to political incitement. The court denied the appellants' right to claim damages and costs from the Jewish Community, plaintiff in the case, declaring that "attacks such as contained in these writings are particularly vile, not only because they attack Jewish belief or certain Jewish attitudes, but because they are directed against a race. Because the court recognizes the inciting character of the writings distributed by the accused, it refuses to award them damages, despite the acquittal."

c. Nazi Espionage

During the year, Switzerland was also preoccupied in exposing and prosecuting Nazi espionage activities within her borders, which appeared to be increasing. On November 23, 1937, the government announced the arrest of Boris Toedli, a Swiss citizen, suspected of espionage activities on behalf of Germany. Police discovered in Toedli's home 300 documents and letters indicating that he and others were in constant touch with the Nazi government
and received funds and instructions for stimulating anti-
Jewish propaganda. Toedli, it was shown, acted as Berne
representative of the Weltdienst, an anti-Jewish "news
service" in Erfurt, Germany, as well as Gauleiter (Nazi
district leader) for Berne, and deputy leader of the Russian
World Fascist Organization which has headquarters in
Harbin, Manchukuo. Although born in Switzerland,
Toedli had lived most of his life in Russia, and, it was
asserted, had been brought to Switzerland by the Nazis
in order to use his Swiss citizenship to cover up his Nazi
activities. An official receipt was found, signed by Toedli
on May 5, 1935, acknowledging money from Germany
"covering the cost of the 'Protocols' trial." This evidently
referred to the Berne trial in 1935, mentioned above.
Among the documents were also papers indicating that
the German authorities finance the activities of White
Russian anti-Semites and aid them to the point of issuing
German visas to them.

On April 4 and 5, 1938, Toedli and Ernst Isler, secretary
of the Swiss National Front, were tried on the charge of
espionage in behalf of a foreign power, Germany, and of
violating the Federal law prohibiting issuing to the press
or to agencies of parties or governments information
injurious to Swiss citizens.

At the end of the two-day trial, the court declared the
defendants guilty and sentenced Toedli to three months'
imprisonment in absentia. (He had escaped from Switzer-
land after his implication in the espionage plot). He was also
fined 500 Swiss francs ($100), and was ordered to pay nine-
tenths of the costs of the trial. The co-defendant Isler, was
acquitted but was ordered to pay one-tenth of the trial costs.

German anti-Jewish legislation was the subject of litiga-
tion in a Swiss court, when, on October 5, 1937, the High
Court at Lausanne refused to recognize the German law
permitting the annulment of a contract between an "Aryan"
and a Jew, and dismissed a suit brought by the U. F. A.
Berliner Filmgesellschaft for annulment of a contract with
a Jewish firm. The court ruled that unequal treatment of
citizens fundamentally contradicts Switzerland's legal
system and practice.
VIII. POLAND

Introduction

The past twelve months have witnessed the further aggravation of the already appalling political and economic situation of the Jews. The forces of anti-Semitism, which had been let loose in 1935 following the death of Marshal Pilsudski, have in recent years become increasingly dominant in the political and economic life of the country. The former tacit acquiescence of the regime in the anti-Jewish activities of the anti-Semitic parties has given way to more open participation. The Camp for National Unity, which was organized for the purpose of consolidating the national forces of Poland and which enjoys the patronage of the highest dignitaries of the State, has become a powerful agent in the spreading of anti-Semitism. By formulating anti-Jewish platforms and by lending to these platforms the prestige and agencies of the State, the Camp has served to intensify the anti-Jewish atmosphere in Poland and to encourage and sanction the anti-Jewish activities of the traditional anti-Semitic forces in the country. The fight which has been carried on against the Jews in the economic field has of late been extended to the political field as well. Both representatives of the regime as well as the Endek, Nara and other groups in Poland are making increasing demands for open legislation to limit the rights of Jews.

Events during the period under review made it increasingly evident that the Jewish question has become a determining factor in the game of Polish politics. Anti-Jewish agitation, in which both circles close to the Government, and political parties have engaged, assumed such great proportions that few have had the courage to oppose it. In fear of its own existence, no less than for political expediency, the Government has continually met the anti-Semitic demands. In the measure that the regime was willing to compromise on the Jewish question, the demands of the anti-Semitic groups became bolder, until the regime has had to seize upon anti-Semitism to strengthen its own position.

1 See footnote, p. 226.
To this extent the Nationalists claim to have scored a great victory. They not only claim responsibility for all the recently enacted laws affecting Jews, but pride themselves on the fact that, although they have no share in the Government and in Parliament, it is they who actually set the tone to public life in Poland.

Aware of the precariousness of the situation, the Jews in Poland have been engaged in seeking ways and means of resisting the all-sided attack upon them and to maintain and strengthen their economic position. A concerted effort has been made to popularize the cooperative movement, to encourage vocational training, and to pool the resources of the various social and economic organizations for the common purpose of increasing the force of resistance of Polish Jewry. In this, they received the moral encouragement of the Polish Socialist Party and the Polish Democratic Clubs, who remained steadfast in their conviction that all citizens of the Polish Republic must be equal before the law.

1. The Jewish Question in National Politics

a. The Camp for National Unity

Since its organization, in March 1937, the Camp for National Unity has undergone a series of political and organizational changes. In respect of the Jewish question, however, beginning with the declaration of Colonel Koc on February 21st, 1937, the Camp maintained a consistent policy, and is driving ahead in the direction of advocating specific anti-Jewish legislation.

This was indicated early by a number of official and unofficial pronouncements. At the height of the Camp’s efforts to conciliate the Nationalist groups, in the hope of winning their cooperation in the work for national unity, one Ostoja, spokesman of the Camp, declared in an interview with the Warszawski Dziennik Narodowy, on June 26, 1937, the readiness of the Camp even to modify the Polish Constitution to reconcile it with the Camp’s ideology that the Polish nation is the sole master. Construing this show of the willingness of the Camp to compromise on
the Jewish question as a sign of weakness, the Nationalists became more extreme and demanded that the Government introduce anti-Jewish legislation as a price for the stoppage of the excesses against the Jews. Although the efforts of the Camp to come to terms with the Nationalists failed, its anti-Jewish policy tended to come closer to that of the Nationalists.

That "the Jewish minority constitutes an obstacle to the normal evolution of the State" was the brutally frank declaration of General Stanislaw Skwarczynski, who succeeded Colonel Koc as head of the Camp, in a nationwide broadcast on February 21, 1938. Reaffirming its policy in respect of the Jewish population, Skwarczynski added: "This fact must give rise to hostile feelings between the Polish nation and the Jewish minority. The Camp for National Unity, however, is opposed to all kinds of demagogic and irresponsible acts of terrorism upon Jews as harmful and beneath the dignity of the Polish nation. We see the solution of the Jewish problem in a radical decrease of the number of Jews in Poland. This is possible only by carrying out their planned emigration. This plan must take into consideration the interests of the State and must be fully realistic. The assimilation of Jews is not an aim of Polish policy in respect of the minorities. There are, however, individuals of Jewish descent who have shown by their entire life their real and profound connection with Poland, and for this reason they belong to the Polish national unity."

General Skwarczynski indicated how his policy was to be given practical application in a speech in Poznan, the stronghold of the Endek Party and anti-Jewish activity, on May 8, 1938. Praising the achievements of the Christian middle class in this province, the General called upon the people of Poznan to lead in the fight for the Polonization of commerce and industry to serve as instructor and educator, and to "become the foundation and model of an effective economic fight against the Jews throughout Poland."

The local leaders followed General Skwarczynski's example in their own declarations and speeches, with the result that the entire country became enveloped in one
consuming flame of anti-Jewish agitation. However, the
crowning achievement of a year and a half of intense Jew-
baiting was a resolution prepared by the chief of the
National Minorities Department of the Polish Government
and adopted by the Supreme Council of the Camp on
May 22, 1938, in which the policy of the Camp with regard
to the Jews is set forth in thirteen paragraphs.

The resolution begins with the premise that the Jews
are a group owing allegiance to world Jewry and with
separate national aims; that, because of their separate
political ambitions, they are a factor which weakens the
normal development of the Polish national and state
forces; that they constitute an obstacle to the social
evolution which is now taking place in Poland; and that
the power and greatness of Poland depend upon the
solution of the Jewish question. The resolution then
proceeds to declare that the Jewish problem can be solved
by the reduction in the number of Jews, to be achieved by
furthering their emigration to Palestine and to other
countries; to call for reducing the participation of Jews
in economic life by intensifying the economic activities of
the Polish nation and by reconstructing Polish social and
economic life; and to demand the removal of Jewish
influence upon Polish cultural and social life, and the
regulation of the question of Jews in the schools, uni-
versities and other educational institutions. This program
can be achieved, the resolution emphasizes, only by general
legislative measures.

Continuing, the resolution condemns all demagogic acts
which tend to make the Jewish question an instrument of
party-political competition, as well as all acts of violence
and barbarism against the Jewish population. But, while
condemning violence against Jews and attempting to
maintain order among the Polish population in the solu-
tion of the Jewish question, the Camp for National Unity,
the resolution goes on to say, demands of the Jewish masses
and of their leaders absolute loyalty to the needs of the
State and to the Polish nation, and warns that the inter-
national contact of the Jewish communities may not be
employed to the detriment of the interests of the Polish
State. Finally, the resolution disavows assimilation as a
principle of Polish policy, while recognizing that such individuals of Jewish descent who have merited being considered Poles, should be included in the membership of the Polish national community.

b. The Government

It is difficult to define the line of demarcation between the Government and the Camp for National Unity. The Camp is sponsored by the President of the Republic and by the Marshal of Poland, and practically all the members of the Cabinet have joined it. On many occasions, the Premier expressed the hope of seeing the day when the Camp for National Unity will be in a position to take over the government in its own name. Under these circumstances all utterances of the Camp are identified in the popular mind as expressions of government policy. But the Government itself, in its official capacity, has, during the period under review, done little to ease the tension created by the increased anti-Jewish agitation. On the contrary, by word and deed, the Government has helped to heighten this tension.

Thus, on January 24, 1938, Premier Skladkowski made a statement in the Sejm in which he declared that the minorities problem in Poland is not conditioned by the attitude of the Government but by the attitude of the dominant nation to the national minorities, and warned that all manifestations of hatred and intolerance towards minorities are a great blunder which sooner or later may avenge itself on Poland. But the conflict between the Jews and Poles, the Premier stated, is a conflict which arises out of economic forces, out of the social-economic transformations which drive the peasant into the town, and that this process not only must not be hampered but, on the contrary, must be supported by the Polish Government because of economic necessity. "This," the Premier added, "the Jews must understand, just as they must understand that the economic fight waged against them is not an encroachment upon their rights nor an attack upon them as citizens of the State." As citizens of the State,
Premier Skladkowski concluded, the Jews are entitled to live in peace, and he pledged the Government to continue on the road of kindness, equality of all citizens before the law, and the maintenance of peace. In a supplementary statement in the Senate on February 9, the Premier condoned the anti-Jewish boycott and at same time promised to punish all abuses which arise out of the boycott activities against the Jews.

This statement was hailed by the anti-Semitic press as a clear sanction of anti-Jewish activities and as a plain order to administrative officials not only not to interfere with, but to facilitate the economic fight against the Jews. In spite of his promise to maintain the equality of all citizens and to punish all violence, the Premier's statement was regarded by the Jews as a restatement of the Premier's "Owszem"* utterance eighteen months earlier. Nor could they accept the Premier's interpretation that the boycott against the Jews could be reconciled with the Polish Constitution.

The Premier's statement was carried a step further by Eugene Kwiatkowski, the Vice-Premier and Minister of Finance. Speaking before the Camp for National Unity in Katowice on April 24, 1938, he called for the elimination from economic life and the emigration of "non-Polish elements, particularly those who came into Poland during the past several decades and remain a foreign and sometimes even hostile body." At the same time, he emphasized that "we are bound, and we desire, to enforce the principles of the Constitution equally in regard to ourselves as well as to the other nationalities residing in the Polish State."

It is obvious that cumulatively such utterances of these and other ministers and high public officials, which are iterated and reiterated, are bound to widen the existing gulf between Jews and non-Jews.

*"Owszem," literally, "All right," has come to mean the implicit acquiescence of the Government in the anti-Jewish boycott. The use of this term by the Premier, in Parliament on June 4, 1936, to express his attitude on the economic fight against the Jews, greatly accelerated the boycott movement.
c. Parliament

Another tribune of anti-Jewish agitation was the Parliament. Regardless of whether the subject under discussion related to Jews or not, the Jewish question loomed large during parliamentary debates. With few exceptions, all Deputies and Senators demanded, in one way or another, the elimination of the Jews from economic and political life and definite steps by the Government in this direction. In general, the Deputies and Senators condemned anti-Jewish violence, although several of them openly defended the actions of the Nationalist youth. Frequently, the Government was requested to formulate a definite program against the Jews and to lend the power of the State to the anti-Jewish activities in the country.

Thus, for example, on December 21, 1937, during the discussion of the Budget, Deputy Zaklika demanded that the Prime Minister state the main outlines of the Government's program with regard to the minorities problem in general and the Jews in particular. Deputy Dudzinski, one of the extreme anti-Semitic deputies, demanded that the Government cease to be satisfied with merely "owszem" declarations, and that it cooperate openly through legislation in the campaign for the elimination of Jews from economic, cultural and political life. This, the deputy concluded, would spare the Government the trouble of suppressing violence, which undermines public order.

On January 24, 1938, Deputy Wojciechowski, rapporteur of the Government Budget, declared, in the name of the Budget Commission of the Ministry of the Interior, that the aggravation of the Jewish question in Poland was due to the excessive number of Jews, the anti-Semitic movement current throughout Europe, and the participation of Jews in communist activities. "The excessive number of Jews," the deputy declared, "is due to their post-war influx; they had received Polish citizenship only provisionally." He went on to attack all intervention from abroad on behalf of the Jews in Poland and appealed to the rich nations of the world, especially Great Britain, to "take away from Poland the Jews who came from Russia as temporary guests whom we cannot sustain any longer."
Then only will the anti-Semitic outbursts of the desperate and starved people cease.” Reiterating this stand on February 15, at the plenary session of the Sejm, Deputy Wojciechowski outlined a minimum program for improving the present economic situation in Poland, as follows: Industrialization of the country, particularly the development of agricultural industry; the Polonization of commerce, industry and handicraft; and the realization of this program without terrorism and violence.

The discussions on the Jewish question in Parliament were perhaps best summarized by Deputy Father Downar on February 10, when he said: “The Jewish question will not be solved by violence. This is contrary to Catholic principles; it undermines the prestige of the Polish State and does not produce the desired results. Only the Government, by ethical means, is in a position to solve this problem.” These means the deputy outlined as (1) facilitation of Jewish emigration; (2) expropriation of the Jews; (3) elimination of Jews from industry, commerce and handicrafts, both in the town and village. “I believe,” Father Downar concluded, “that the unanimous opinion of Polish society in this matter will encourage the Government to carry out the above program and thereby lessen the problem of unemployment and overpopulation in the village.”

d. Political Parties

Of the several score political parties and groups in Poland today, only the Polish Socialist Party and the recently organized Polish Democratic Party manifestly stood on the ground of equality of all citizens before the law. There are other parties, too, engaged in a struggle for a democratic regime. But not all in Poland who profess democracy see any contradiction between it and efforts to destroy the Jewish population.

It will be recalled that at its national Congress in 1935, the Peasant Party, the largest in Poland, and militantly fighting for a democratic regime, adopted a resolution in favor of eliminating the Jews from economic life and their emigration, in order to satisfy the needs of the village and
to reconstruct the economic system by the creation of a Polish middle class. This platform was reaffirmed in an editorial in the official organ of the Party on October 1, 1937. Although at the subsequent congress of the Party in February 1938, the Jewish question was not discussed (a fact which was interpreted in certain Jewish circles as a favorable sign) its present stand on the Jewish question is enigmatic and not definitely formulated. It opposes anti-Jewish pogroms and riots, and condemns the Nationalist Party for reducing all problems to the Jewish question, and regards their activities as harmful to the State. But the official utterances of its leaders tend to show that this Party, too, favors the economic elimination of the Jews.

The so-called Polish Labor Party, which was organized in 1937 under the aegis of Ignace Paderewski and other prominent Poles, for the purpose of defending democracy, is even more outspoken in its anti-Jewish attitude. It has gone on record as favoring the mass emigration of Jews and their elimination from economic and cultural life as the solution of the Jewish problem. During the Christmas season of 1937, it was especially active in the wide-spread boycott campaign against the Jews, and its organs have promoted anti-Jewish agitation.

Recently, the Labor Party followed the example of the Camp for National Unity in demanding that anti-Jewish measures be adopted as Government policy. On May 20, 1938, its Executive Council adopted a resolution declaring that it "deems it absolutely necessary to embark upon a systematic social and state policy to remove the influence of the Jewish element in Polish life" by encouraging the Polish element to take control over the economic life and by effectuating a mass and planned emigration of Jews. In justification of its attitude, the Council accused the Jews of constituting an obstacle to the normal development of the nation and of forming a separate and unassimilable group with a morality founded upon the Talmud. Like the Camp for National Unity, the Council of the Labor Party repudiated all violence, persecution and racism as contrary to the Polish national spirit and Catholic ethics. Similarly, the other conservative elements
have in the past year become very vociferous in their anti-Jewish agitation.

To maintain their positions, the Nationalist Endek and Nara parties have been outdoing the other groups in anti-Semitic acts and demands. Thus, in a speech, in Lodz, on May 31, 1938, the President of the Endek Party outlined its program of national unity as follows: "The unity of the nation cannot be attained by pronouncements or repeals to unity. The people gather around a clear and crystallized program of a Camp which has a definite ideology. Only those who agree to the following principles can count on the success of consolidation, namely (1) a nationalist state; (2) the popularizing of nationalist principles in political, public and private life; (3) a strong army as a mighty framework for the nation; (4) a sound economic structure based on a wide distribution of property; (5) the immediate revocation of political rights of the Jews and their removal from the territory of the Polish State."

The agitation of the Nationalists has reached the point of open incitement to excesses against Jews. In an editorial on June 13, 1938 replying to Colonel Miedzinski's invitation for cooperation with the Camp for National Unity in a pogromless drive against the Jews, Warszawski Dziennik Narodowy, leading nationalist organ, declared that the Jews had always committed treason against the Polish State and Army and, therefore, deserve to be killed by the Polish soldier in the name of the welfare of the State and the nation which he is defending. "Death must be meted out to the treacherous Jewry in Poland," the editorial concludes, "by depriving them of their political rights."

ey. The Church

Much of the campaign against the Jews in Poland is carried on in the name of Catholic principles. The Conservatives, the Labor Party, as well as the Nationalists, are known to be the most ardent supporters of the Catholic Church. Anti-Jewish campaigns are launched with solemn masses, and the churches serve as gathering places for Nationalist demonstrations. Individual clergymen, of
whom Father Trzeciak is a notorious example, have been actively engaged in furthering the campaign against the Jews. The pastoral letter of the Primate of Poland, Cardinal Hlond, entitled “The Catholic Moral Principles,” which was circulated on February 9, 1936, is accepted as the formulation of the official attitude of the Catholic Church in Poland towards the Jewish question. In this letter the Cardinal, while condemning violence and persecution, condones the anti-Jewish boycott, and warns against the “harmful moral influence of Jewry.” The letter is frequently utilized, especially by the Conservatives, to justify anti-Jewish activities.

In addition, some Catholic periodicals frequently indulge in anti-Jewish propaganda. A very recent example is provided by the editorial which appeared in the Sprawa Katolicka, organ of the Episcopate of Lomza, in May 1938. The editorial derides the Camp for National Unity for its alleged failure to carry out in actual life the Camp's program for the elimination of the Jews from economic life and for combating the Nationalists who carry out the anti-Jewish policy in practice. This is the reason, the editorial concludes, why the people have so little faith in its national unity campaign.

f. Poland's Emigration Policy

As heretofore, the Government continued its efforts to win recognition that the Jewish problem is an international one by stressing the need of Jewish emigration in international circles. On January 10, 1938, Colonel Beck, Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs, made a declaration to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Sejm in which he maintained that the debates at Geneva before the League of Nations on the question of emigration and access to raw materials have facilitated an understanding and recognition of Polish claims by other nations. “But,” Colonel Beck added, “one concrete problem, that of Jewish emigration, which forms an important part of our whole emigration problem, awaits solution by the League... This problem has lost its purely local significance and has become European in its scope.”
On June 20, 1938, in connection with the visit of M. Pierre Stoppany, Director of the Economic Relations Section of the League, and his associate, M. Baumont, for the purpose of investigating the population problems of Poland, the official Polish Telegraphic Agency issued a statement declaring that these visitors will also consider the question of finding outlets for the "surplus" Jewish population and that "the League, in its efforts to ensure world peace, must find a solution to these problems."

As a result of the Polish-French conversations in December, 1936, regarding the possibilities of immigration to the Island of Madagascar, a Commission of Inquiry, which was headed by Major Lepecki, Vice President of the International Colonization Society, and included Leon Alter, Director of the Jewish Emigration Society, and Solomon Dyk, expert on agricultural colonization, was dispatched to Madagascar. On December 30, 1937, following its return, the Polish Political Information made public a communique on the Madagascar question. It declared that the French Government had expressed its willingness to open up Madagascar to Polish emigrants, thus providing the possibility for the settling of a large number of Jews on the Island. The task of the expedition had been to ascertain the requirements for, and possibilities of, white immigration into Madagascar. The French Government, upon studying the report of the Commission, it was stated, had in principle expressed itself in favor of the colonization efforts. In conclusion, the communique warned that such an enterprise demands extreme caution since the Government is interested only in such immigration efforts as offer a guarantee of lasting success. For this reason, all forecasts of the scale of the proposed immigration to Madagascar were termed as premature (See also Vol. 39, pp. 314-16.).

On January 9, 1938, the Gazeta Polska published a statement of Major Lepecki in which he pointed out that the Commission was unanimous in its opinion that the Central District of the Island, covering an area of about 170,000 square kilometers, possessed climatic conditions which would make it possible for Jewish emigrants from Central Europe to be settled there. Only the northern part
of this area, however, was suitable for colonization because of a number of reasons, such as the density of population and the lack of fertility of the country. Continuing, Major Lepecki stated: "Madagascar may be suitable for immigration, and yet an immigration from Poland may not be possible. The Commission has merely given a positive answer to the first question."

Shortly afterwards, Leon Alter published a lengthy article in the Epoka of January 18, in which he emphasized that the French Government was anxious to avoid creating a Jewish problem in Madagascar which would result from a large Jewish settlement. In addition, he pointed out the tremendous difficulties to be overcome before colonization is undertaken.

In the meantime, M. Moutet, the French Colonial Minister, declared in an interview with a correspondent of the L'Union Marocaine that the Polish Commission of Experts merely studied the possibilities of agriculture and colonization in Madagascar. The Colonial Ministry of France merely granted to the Polish Commission facilities to explore the immigration possibilities but this had nothing in common with the evacuation plan favored by certain Polish Government circles. All these statements combined to dispel the illusions of this early and, at best, partial solution of the Jewish problem in Poland.

The desire for emigration of the Jews also colored Poland's attitude to the proposed partition of Palestine. The enthusiastic vision of a Jewish State in Palestine, in which the pro-Government press in Poland saw the approach of the end of anti-Semitism, soon gave way to practical considerations of the immigration possibilities provided by the proposals of the Royal Commission. "Poland is vitally interested in a large-scale Jewish emigration and that is the reason why Poland has always taken a favorable attitude towards Zionism," the Gazeta Polska stated on July 2, 1937. When it became evident that the boundaries of the proposed Jewish State were to be narrowly circumscribed, the Polish press demanded that the Government adopt a negative stand on the Report. If the future Jewish State will be as small as indicated in the Report, it maintained, Palestine will lose its importance to Poland as
a means of solving the Jewish question. On July 7, 1937, the Conservative Slowo of Wilno demanded that Poland, Roumania and Hungary, countries which are most deeply interested in Jewish emigration, should protest sharply against the partition plan.

On July 15, 1937, the Government declared that it has always been sympathetic to Zionism and that Poland has always supported this cause at Geneva. It welcomed the proposal for the creation of a Jewish State in Palestine. But, in view of the small area, of the unfavorable frontiers and the consequent limitations of the possibilities of immigration to the proposed State, the Government declared that it was making a careful study of the Royal Commission Report, in order to guide its action at Geneva. On September 21, the Polish delegate to the League, Mr. Komarnicki, declared officially that emigration is a fundamental necessity for the Jewish population in Poland and that the Polish Government would support the proposal of partition, provided the Jewish State would be large enough to absorb a large and compact Jewish emigration. The opinion of his Government, Mr. Komarnicki continued, was that the Jewish national home must not only become a center of spiritual and political life for the Jews but also create for the Jewish masses, and not only for a select portion of the Jewish people, a basis for an independent national and economic existence.

2. Legislation Affecting Jews

a. Law Regarding Polish Citizens Abroad

On March 25, 1938, the Parliament adopted a Government bill aimed primarily at the possible re-entry of Polish-Jewish citizens from Austria. The bill, which became a law on April 1, provides that those persons may be deprived of their Polish citizenship who (1) acted against the interests of the Polish Government while abroad; (2) spent a minimum of five years in continuous residence abroad after the re-establishment of the Polish State, and lost contact with it; and (3) while residing abroad, did not return to Poland within a definite period of time upon the
request of the Polish consular agents. The decision is to be made by the Minister of the Interior, who acts on the recommendation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and is not required to state the grounds for his decision, which is subject to immediate execution, and which may be appealed only to the Supreme Administration Tribunal. The loss of citizenship also applies to a man's wife and his children under eighteen years of age who are residing abroad with him. Persons who lost their citizenship on the basis of the new law may not return to Poland without permission of the Minister of the Interior, although they may be citizens of another State.

The law was railroaded through against the protests of the Jewish and Ukrainian deputies, who argued that it was unnecessary because the laws in force, as well as the Criminal Code, provide adequately for the circumstances alleged in the bill. Indeed, its anti-Jewish nature was summed up in an editorial in the Conservative Czas of April 6, which approved of the bill on the condition that "the organs called upon to execute this law will not interpret its paragraphs too freely", but, "if they will use their powers only for the purpose of barring the re-immigration of Jews, the law will prove to be a very useful act."

An index to the attitude of the Government towards the re-entry into Poland of Polish-Jewish refugees may be seen in the following. On June 15, the official Polish Telegraphic Agency announced that foreigners entering the country or overstaying their leave, as well as Jews, formerly of Polish nationality, seeking to settle in Poland after leaving Austria, are being interned in concentration camps. "The entry of such persons into Poland has to be regarded as harmful from the viewpoint of the State," the statement declared. "The Minister of Interior, therefore, has decided to send these undesirable persons to the isolation camp at Kartuz-Bereza. Action in this respect has already started."

b. Law Governing the Structure of the Legal Profession

On May 4, 1938, the Government Law for the regulation of the structure of the legal profession, which had been pending in Parliament since February 1937, came into
effect. In addition to increasing the qualifications for admission to the Bar,* the Law provides that upon consultation with the Supreme Bar Council, the Minister of Justice may close the list of admission of lawyers and law clerks, or both, for a definite period of time in definite districts or localities of the country, and define the categories of lawyers and law clerks affected by the closing of the rolls. The law provides further that after the list of admissions has been closed, the Minister may open the list to a limited number of lawyers or law clerks, or both. The Supreme Bar Council will admit such lawyers or law clerks upon the recommendation of the Regional Bar Councils on the basis of seniority and the personal qualifications of the candidates, which include their professional qualifications, their service to the State, etc. In case the Minister does not use his right to open the list to such persons, the Supreme Council of the Bar may, in exceptional cases, grant the right to the Regional Council to open the list of admission to a limited number of candidates.

The rapporteurs on the Bill, both in the Sejm and in the Senate, made it quite clear that the underlying motive of the Law is to restrict the number of Jews in the legal profession. On March 24, 1938, Senator Jeszke, reporting on it in the Senate, urged the adoption of the law in order to remedy a situation which "arose not only out of the disproportionately large number of lawyers in Poland, who belong to the national minorities, but also out of the large number of lawyers in general." For the same reason the bill was also strongly supported by the Union of Polish Lawyers which, on May 9, 1937, had adopted a resolution demanding a *numerus clausus* for Jews in the legal profession and which subsequently introduced the "Aryan paragraph" into the statutes of its organizations. Furthermore, anticipating the passage of the Law, the Bar Association of Lublin decided, as early as November 28, 1937, to restrict the number of Jewish lawyers in proportion to the percentage of Jews to the total population, and to close the rolls of admission of Jewish law clerks, as well as to assure the Polish Christian lawyers a majority

in the administrative Council. Finally, on May 29, 1938, the Sixteenth All-Polish Conference of the Union of Young Lawyers, which met in Poznan, approved of the Law for having fulfilled in part the Nationalist principles.

The Law was opposed by the Jewish and Ukrainian representatives in Parliament on the ground that such laws open an avenue for discrimination against the minorities. It was also opposed by the Polish Socialist Lawyers Union which, in a statement issued early in March 1938, declared that this law "is the result of the efforts of the Union of Polish Lawyers who, not possessing a majority in the legal profession, desires to increase its influence even at the price of the abolition of the self-administrative bodies of the profession."

The immediate effect of this Law was to close the profession, temporarily at least, to some 3,000 law students, law clerks, and lawyers who had not yet been admitted to practice. On June 10, the Minister of Justice decreed the closing of the list of admission of lawyers and law clerks for a period of seven years, to take effect immediately. This decree is to be enforced in the seven Appelate Regions of Warsaw, Katowice, Lublin, Poznan, Torun and Wilno. A number of the 3,000 persons affected are threatened with the permanent loss of their right to practice law, as the law provides that, upon the decision of the Regional Bar Councils, law clerks who are not admitted to the Bar within two years after the passing of their examinations, may be excluded from the profession. Although the decree presumably affects Jews and non-Jews alike, it is suspected that the exceptions which the law provides will be employed for the benefit of non-Jews only.

c. Law Limiting the Freedom of Medical Practice

The partial success of the Union of Polish Lawyers evidenced in the passage of this law encouraged the Union of Physicians of the Polish Republic to demand similar legislation. In a resolution adopted on May 29, 1938, the annual conference of the Union, which was held in Katowice, called upon the Executive Committee to work out, for submission to the government, an amendment to
the present law which would assure the Polish physicians
exclusive influence in the medical chambers.

But before the Executive Committee of the Physicians
Union could act, the State Council on Health decided, on
June 13, 1938, to propose a bill, which was subsequently
enacted into a law, to restrict the freedom of medical
practice by empowering the Minister for Social Welfare
to close the roll of admission of physicians in certain
regions whenever he deems it necessary. Although it is
ostensibly designed to force young physicians to settle in
small towns and villages, yet intense agitation to boycott
the services of Jewish professionals and the widespread
campaign to restrict the number of Jewish physicians
leave no doubt as to the eventual effect of this law on the
position of the Jews in the medical profession.

d. Bill for the Abolition of Shehitah

On March 25, 1938, the Sejm adopted the bill proposed
by Deputy Dudzinski to amend the Shehitah Law of
April 1936 to prohibit completely the practice of Jewish
ritual slaughtering. The bill, which is now pending in the
Senate, was adopted over the protests of the Minister of
Agriculture and the Minister of Education and Public
Worship, who objected to the Bill as unconstitutional and
likely to be detrimental to the agricultural and cattle
markets.

In the discussions of the Bill, the alleged humanitarian
reasons behind the original Shehitah Law gave way to
attacks on the Jewish religion and the alleged profit motives
of Shehitah. All objections of the Government proved
unavailing in the face of the vitriolic attacks on the Jews
on the part of the deputies and the Polish press, who made
no secret of their desire to eliminate the Jews from the
meat trade.

e. Bill Restricting the Free Trade in Cattle and Meats

Presumably as a counter proposal, the Government
introduced at the extraordinary session of the Parliament,
in June, 1938, a bill, prepared by the Minister of Agri-
culture with the approval of the Minister of Commerce and Industry, the aim of which is to limit free trade in the cattle and wholesale meat market. The bill provides that: (1) the Minister of Agriculture, after consultation with the Minister of Commerce and Industry, may order that the sale of cattle in certain provinces or prefects may take place only at market places or agricultural exchanges; (2) only economic organizations and sworn brokers may engage in the cattle trade; (3) the Minister may order that the sale and the slaughtering of cattle, for the purpose of selling the meat for the account of the agricultural producer in market places, may be done only by the agricultural producers, by their organizations and by sworn brokers, and on the exchanges by sworn brokers; (4) in localities where there are exchanges, only members of the exchanges may engage in this trade; (5) persons engaged in the cattle and wholesale meat trade may, at the discretion of the Minister of Agriculture, be required to meet certain qualifications and be subject to a system of registration. The fact that it was prepared by one of the experts who drafted the anti-Shehitah Law and that it was preceded by intense agitation to eliminate the Jewish middlemen from the trade, caused great apprehension among the Jewish cattle dealers who feared that this bill would accomplish the same purposes as the anti-Shehitah bill.


a. The National Government

These and similar policies were supplemented by official acts of discrimination against Jews both on the part of Government institutions and the municipalities. The most outstanding and far-reaching of these acts was the wholesale dismissal of Jews from the tobacco trade, by the Government Tobacco Monopoly, early in 1938. This followed very closely upon the resolution of the Christian Merchants Congress, in October, 1937, demanding that
Jews be barred from dealing in government monopoly articles. On October 12, a circular was sent to all tobacco dealers in Warsaw requesting them to include information concerning their religion in their future contracts with the wholesalers. On October 4, the Warsaw Moment reported that a decree was issued by the Ministry of Finance, which ordered all tobacco dealers to keep their businesses open during the entire week, thus forcing the Jewish dealers to violate the Sabbath under the pain of losing their livelihood.

According to preliminary estimates by Jewish economic organizations, close to 30,000 Jews, including war veterans and invalids, who are legally entitled to special privileges in concessions of Government monopolies, were deprived of their livelihood or of the greater part of their income when their licenses for the year, beginning March 1, 1938, were revoked. On March 2, a delegation of the Central Committee of Jewish Retailers and Small Merchants Association appealed to the Tobacco Monopoly, pointing out that reports from 200 towns in Poland show that less than one percent of the Jews had their tobacco licenses renewed, and that even the Jewish war veterans and invalids did not escape discrimination.

On October 8, the Moment reported that a number of Jewish importers from Gdynia, the new Polish port, appealed to the Government against the action of the Ministry of Commerce which ordered that their licenses, which expired July, 1937, and which had been extended for three additional months, shall not be renewed. According to the same newspaper of October 27, the chief military authorities informed the Jewish meat purveyors, who have been supplying the army for years, that their services will shortly be terminated. The Warsaw Hajnt of October 21, reported that concessions for the sale of liquor were being withdrawn from Jews without any reason in the Province of Lublin. According to the Warszawski Dziennik Narodowy of December 18, 1937, a number of Jews in Kobryn, Drohiczyn and Linow were given notice to liquidate their liquor business by January 1, 1938, because their licenses were to be given to Christian dealers.
b. The Municipalities

Discriminatory practices on the part of the municipalities brought additional hardships to the Jewish population. In the Provinces of Poznan and Pomorze the support lent by the municipalities to Endek activities resulted in the almost total elimination of hundreds of Jewish traders from the public markets and fairs and the loss of their livelihood. In other towns, as for instance Kalisz, the municipal authorities ordered the segregation of Jewish traders in public markets and the change of the fair days from weekdays to Saturdays and Jewish holidays. According to recent announcements, the Government has forbidden this practice.

In some cities, the municipal authorities have ordered the indiscriminate demolition of Jewish property ostensibly on "esthetic" grounds, but actually in order to force Jews out of business. During August and September of 1937, the Jewish central bodies in Warsaw were alarmed by reports of such acts from a number of towns, including Szydlowiec in the Province of Kielce, Wasowa in the district of Ostrow Mazowiecki, the town of Ostrow Mazowiecki, Garwolin, and Nowy Dwor.

According to the Moment of October 21, 1937, the municipality of Garwolin established and operated a shoe factory, ostensibly to give employment to hundreds of shoemakers in this shoe manufacturing district. But the competition of this factory, which refuses employment to Jews, threatens them with the loss of their livelihood. In Poznan and in other cities, the mayors ordered their employes to boycott Jewish business. In June, 1938, the City Council of Czestochowa adopted a resolution, introduced by the Endek councilmen, which in effect prohibits Shehitah. Finally, an increasing number of cases have been recorded in which municipal subsidies to Jewish institutions were either cancelled or severely curtailed.
4. The Anti-Jewish Boycott

The anti-Jewish campaign was most evident in the boycott, which covered a wide range of activities in the economic, professional, social and political fields.

a. Industry and Commerce

In the economic field, Jewish business and handicraft labored under the most trying conditions. With the moral and material encouragement of the State, the courts, the municipalities and social organizations, the economic boycott against the Jews reached into the farthest corners of Poland. By propaganda literature, local and national demonstrations and active picketing against Jewish shops and businesses, the leaders in the anti-Jewish boycott movement hoped to ruin the economic existence of the Jewish population. These activities were frequently accompanied by excesses and violence against the Jewish population and the destruction of their property which plunged the country into a state of chaos and disorder. These events were too numerous to admit of a detailed enumeration.

Various attempts have been made to render the anti-Jewish boycott as effective as possible by systematizing such activities. The All-Polish Congress of Christian Merchants, which opened in Poznan on November 12, 1937, was of special significance in view of the attendance of the President of the Republic, Ministers, high public officials and dignitaries of the Church, who lent the Congress a semi-official character. A resolution was unanimously adopted which, after heaping general abuse on the Jewish commercial class, called for the “Polonization” of commerce, demanding among other things “intense activity on the part of the Polish merchant class itself, the favorable attitude of the entire population, and the determined and adequate assistance on the part of the State.”
Local and national Polish economic organizations, too, have been very actively engaged in appealing to the Government to lend its assistance to the anti-Jewish economic boycott. For example, early in July 1937, the Christian Merchants Association of Warsaw submitted a memorandum to the Ministry of Commerce in which they demanded that the Jewish merchants be forbidden to employ Slavic-sounding names, that Jewish registered firms be forbidden to employ the suffix "Pol" as misleading the consumer into mistaking it for a Polish firm, that the Jewish Merchants Association be forced to issue to their members special insignia to be placed on the shops and letter-heads of their firms and on their merchandise, and that the Ministry of Commerce shall order the Department of Industry of the Warsaw Municipality to bar Jewish enterprises in streets inhabited mostly by Christians.

On July 16, 1937, the Union of Polish Restaurant Owners requested the City of Warsaw to order the Liquor Monopoly to restrict the issuing of concessions to Poles only, to force Jewish restaurants to display a sign "ritual" or "kosher", in order to distinguish them from Christian restaurants, and to prohibit Jews from opening restaurants in streets which are located in the center of the city or are inhabited by Poles. A request to the Ministry of Commerce to restrict the competition of Jewish bakeries also was made by the National Conference of Christian Bakers in Warsaw, on August 15, 1937.

On October 23, the Chamber of Handicraft in Lublin adopted a resolution demanding (1) that the Jewish guilds be completely liquidated; (2) that only a master who is a member of a guild shall have the right to carry on a handicraft workshop; (3) that Jews be barred from membership in Polish guilds; (4) that Jews be permitted to organize only branch unions but without the rights of guilds. Similar demands were made by the Chamber of Handicraft in Katowice.

In March 1938, the Christian Wine Manufacturers in Warsaw empowered their representative in the Sejm to introduce a bill which would limit the participation of Jews in the wine industry. On March 10, the Christian Merchants Association and Christian Small Merchants
Association submitted a memorandum to the Ministries of Commerce and Public Health requesting the removal of Jews from the fruit trade.

Often, these demands find their way into legislation. Thus, for example, on February 1, 1938, Deputy Budzinski demanded in Parliament that the Minister of Commerce force all merchants to display signs carrying their full names at the entrances to their businesses, a measure long advocated by the Endeks to facilitate the boycott. A week later, the official gazette of the City of Warsaw published a decree to this effect. Jewish leaders fear that this practice is to be extended throughout Poland.

b. Opposition to Jewish Economic Reconstruction

Bent upon the destruction of Jewish economic positions, in order to force the Jews to leave Poland, the Nationalists, naturally, are opposed to all efforts made by the Jews to reconstruct their economic life on sound and modern foundations, especially through such activities as those of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. Thus, during the past year the Endeks and Naras have been demanding the suppression of the Jewish Free Loan Kassas, which have become a symbol of Jewish economic reconstruction and which are practically the only source of credit available to the Jewish merchants, traders and artisans. The minimum program of the Nationalist students with regard to the Jewish question, published in the Nara ABC of June 6, included a demand for the suppression of the Kassas. The attitude of the Nationalists is the same in respect of all other measures which tend to aid the Jews in the maintenance of their positions in commerce, industry and the professions, because they consider such ameliorative measures to be contrary to the "Polonization" of economic life.

c. The Liberal Professions—The "Aryan Paragraph"

In the professional field, where the direct methods against the Jewish merchant and artisan cannot be employed to the same extent, the anti-Jewish boycott is
generally manifested in what has come to be known as the "Aryan paragraph" which calls for the exclusion of the Jews from a given association. The "Aryan paragraph" epidemic reached its height in May, 1937, with its adoption by the Union of Physicians of the Polish Republic, an act which was approved by the Government Commissariat of Warsaw on December 22, 1937. Since then, the "Aryan paragraph" has been extended to a number of less prominent professional organizations which had not yet excluded Jews from membership. In a number of organizations it was extended, along the lines of the Nuremberg Laws, to exclude also persons of Jewish descent back to the third generation.

Not all attempts, however, to force through the adoption of the "Aryan paragraph" have been successful. It was rejected by the National Conference of the All-Polish Union of Pharmacists which met in Warsaw on December 7, 1937. It was also voided in a number of sports organizations. In a circular, issued on February 3, 1938, the Government Commission of Sports declared the "Aryan paragraph" to be unconstitutional, but compromised on a *numerus clausus* for Jews and other minorities. But wherever it was introduced it is being strictly enforced. Thus, a special Congress of the Union of Physicians of the Polish Republic, convened in Poznan on October 17, 1937, dissolved the Krakow and Lwow and other local branches of the Union for their refusal to recognize the validity of the "Aryan paragraph."

5. Anti-Jewish Excesses and Violence

The wave of violence against the Jewish population, which culminated in the pogroms in Brzesc and Czestochowa in May and June, 1937, produced a temporary adverse reaction, especially since lawlessness became the order of the day and terrorism developed into a method of political struggle. This reaction, however, was neither deep-rooted nor long-lasting. In spite of sharp warnings and repressive measures by the Government and the official and unofficial condemnation of the employment of terrorism, individual and organized attacks upon the Jews
continued in various cities, towns and villages. Several Jews were killed, many were injured, houses were set on fire, entire families were driven out of a number of villages, and a great deal of property destroyed. In September, 1937, the Jewish press in Warsaw reported 350 cases of attacks upon Jews throughout the country, including the capital, during the month of August alone. On August 23, 50 Jews were wounded, several of them seriously, in riots which broke out in the town of Bransk. On September 17, anti-Jewish excesses, lasting intermittently for several days, broke out in Bielsk, Polish Silesia, in which a number of Jews were wounded. The destruction of property resulted in the ruin of the entire local Jewish population. The new year 1938 saw a renewal of violence. The murder of a Catholic priest by a Polish-Christian communist in Lubon on February 27, was utilized by the Nationalists to intensify their anti-Jewish campaign. The run on the Polish Bank on March 18 and 19, which was caused by the Polish-Lithuanian crisis, was followed by serious attacks against Jews in Warsaw. Anti-Jewish outbreaks followed a “ritual murder” charge in Dabrowa in the Province of Bialystock on April 5. On April 29, anti-Jewish riots broke out in Wilno, and on June 8, 15 Jews were injured in Warsaw. The stabbing of a Pole by a Jew in a street brawl in Tarnopol, Eastern Galicia, was the occasion for Endek incitement which resulted in serious anti-Jewish riots on June 11 and 12. On June 13, 12 Jews were injured, several of them severely, during disorders in the city of Przemysl. Army officers prevented further excesses.

The fact that these outbreaks have continued for almost three years, with only sporadic let-ups, has convinced the Jewish community in Poland that the Government was not taking adequate measures to protect Jewish life and property. They see indications that the anti-Jewish campaign is participated in and abetted by the regime. The measures taken by the police against the perpetrators of violence are often only half-hearted and are almost always undertaken too late to be effective. The incitement in the anti-Semitic press is permitted to go on without interference. Under such conditions, all condemnations on the part of the Government and spokesmen of the
regime have little effect against the widespread propaganda. That the Government is loath to take energetic measures against the Polish youth, which is actively engaged in these excesses, has been indicated by its apologists. Deputy Wojciechowski, for instance, declared in the Sejm on January 24, 1938: "If it is a question of the attitude of the youth towards the Jewish problem, naturally, the Polish Government must repress those who overstep the limits of the political and economic fight against the Jews. But the Jews must remember that neither the Polish Government nor the Polish people can ever forget that these excesses are committed by our children, our blood and our hope. In spite of all condemnations and repressions, the younger generation has always been and will always be close to our heart."

6. The Situation in the Universities

The campaign for the segregation of the Jewish students in the universities and other academic schools in Poland received official sanction on October 5, 1937, when the Rector of the Polytechnic Institute of Warsaw issued administrative regulations ordering the arrangement of the seats in the lecture halls in such a manner as to establish, in fact, a "ghetto" for Jewish students.* Within the next few days, similar regulations were issued in the University and the other academic schools in Warsaw. While nominally these regulations were issued for the purpose of maintaining peace and order in the academic schools, the anti-Jewish press hailed them as a Nationalist victory. By yielding to their demands, the Nationalists maintained, the academic authorities tacitly approved the fight waged by them against their Jewish colleagues.

The example set by the Warsaw rectors only served to encourage the Endek and Nara students to press successfully their demands for "ghetto benches" in the rest of the academic schools in Poland by force of violence. The pressure of students of the University of Wilno resulted

*The beginnings and earlier development of this movement are described in Vol. 39, pp. 416–25.
in official orders, issued on November 26, by Father Wojcicki, the rector, in which the segregation of the Jewish students in the lecture halls and class rooms along the lines adopted in Warsaw, was ordered. On November 24, the Rector of the University of Krakow ordered the setting aside of special seats for those who demanded the segregation of Jewish students, which, however, had the effect of introducing “ghetto benches.” A similar step was taken on December 15 by the Rector of the Academy for Foreign Commerce in Krakow. “Ghetto benches” were also introduced at the University and the Technical Schools of Poznan, although the Jewish students there constitute less than one percent of the entire student body.

The ghetto agitation was particularly violent in the University and Polytechnic Institute of Lwow. The pressure which was brought to bear upon the Rector of the University of Lwow, Professor Stanislaw Kulczynski, to introduce “ghetto benches,” proved unsuccessful. Encouraged by the strong support of Socialist and democratic elements in Poland, the Rector resisted for more than a month. As the disturbances continued, Professor Kulczynski decided upon a compromise. On November 5, he ordered a three-fold seating arrangement for Endek, Jewish and other students and announced a plebiscite for those Christian students who had no part in the agitation, to decide where they would prefer to sit.

Although the result of the plebiscite was a blow to the ghetto agitators,* it failed to restore order at the University. Consequently, on November 29, the rector closed down the school for a period of two weeks. The reopening of the University brought little change in the situation. Unable any longer to resist the increasing pressure and unwilling to assent to the introduction of “ghetto benches,” Professor Kulczynski resigned on January 7, and with him several professors and deans who thus expressed their solidarity with the rector. The following day the pro-Rector issued an order, officially instituting “ghetto benches.”

A similar situation developed at the Polytechnic Institute of Lwow where the incessant disturbances finally

*No figures were made public.
induced the rector to meet the demands of the Nationalist students. On December 9, a delegation of Endek students, which threatened with a strike, was informed that the authorities of the Polytechnic Institute had decided to institute "ghetto benches" along the lines of the practice in Warsaw and Wilno.

Finally, the Wawelberg School of Engineering in Warsaw, which was one of the first schools to institute and enforce "ghetto benches," presented a special problem. Founded in 1901 by the noted Jewish philanthropist, Hypolit Wawelberg, the school was taken over by the Polish Government after the war. The contract which was drawn up on May 24, 1919, between descendants of Wawelberg and the Government, provided expressly against any discrimination on account of race, nationality or religion in the enrollment of students, who were citizens of the Polish State. In view of the violation of this agreement by the introduction of "ghetto benches", the curator, at the end of November 1937, announced that he would appeal to the courts against these regulations.

The response of the Jewish students to the introduction of "ghetto benches" by the Rector of the Polytechnic Institute of Warsaw was a determined resistance. All Jewish students in Poland demonstrated on October 14 and 15 by a sit-in strike in their student houses. They also resolved not to occupy the "ghetto benches" and to remain on their feet in the class rooms and lecture halls until the regulations were revoked. From that day on, the Jewish students have been working under the most trying and intolerable conditions, exposed to physical attacks and all kinds of humiliations.

Encouraged by their success in the introduction of the "ghetto benches," the Nationalist students embarked upon what they called the second stage in their fight against the Jewish students by agitating for a numerus nullus, to bar completely the admission of Jewish students. The opening of the 1938 spring semester was marked by renewed violence which continued intermittently until the closing of the schools in May.

The months of May and June, 1938 witnessed the adop-
tion of a flood of resolutions by student bodies and professional groups in favor of such a *numerus nullus*. On May 29, at the extraordinary meeting of the Bratnia Pomoc (Polish Students Mutual Aid Association) at the University of Krakow, a five-point resolution was adopted demanding (1) exclusion of Jewish students from universities or academic schools beginning with the next semester; (2) exclusion of Jewish students from other schools in Poland or abroad from the University of Krakow; (3) non-recognition of diplomas received by Jews at schools in foreign countries; (4) the refusal of all loans and financial assistance to Jewish students and Jewish academic organizations; and (5) the appointment in the future only of persons of "Polish" nationality, as professors, instructors and assistants.

At the end of May, a memorandum signed by thirty student organizations, claiming to represent the entire Polish Christian student body of Wilno, was submitted to the Rector of the University of Wilno in which the rector was requested to take "definite and effective steps to introduce and enforce a rule that, beginning with the academic year 1938–1939, the University of Wilno will not admit students of Jewish nationality, Jewish religion, or of Jewish descent until the third generation." They did not ask for the exclusion of the Jewish students who have already been admitted. The memorandum also proposed that special departments for Jews be established at the Free Universities in Warsaw and Lodz. On June 12, a conference in Krakow, of representatives of the Polish Mutual Aid Associations of the universities and other academic schools in Poland, adopted resolutions calling for the introduction of the *numerus nullus* for Jews at all universities and other academic schools, beginning the following school year.

These resolutions were supported by the Endek and Nara parties and by the Nationalist professional organizations. The general conference of the Union of Physicians of the Polish Republic, which met in Katowice on May 20, adopted a resolution calling for a campaign for the introduction of a *numerus nullus* for Jewish students in the medical schools to be in force until such time as the per-
centage of Jewish physicians shall be reduced to the proportion of the Jews to the total population in Poland. The outlook for the future is extremely discouraging. The discussions in Parliament in January, 1938, indicated no early solution of the “ghetto benches” question. Already the academic year 1937-1938 showed a sharp decline in the number of Jewish students, which led the Nationalist press to proclaim the triumph of the *numerus clausus*, which they had long advocated. Now, with the increasing demands for a *numerus nullus*, the situation of the Jewish students is steadily deteriorating.

In spite of these adverse developments, the Jewish students have become only more determined to keep up their defense of their rights and the honor of the entire Jewish community in Poland. In this determination they had the moral encouragement of many of their Christian colleagues, some of the liberal professors, and a section of Polish public opinion.

Efforts, encouraged by the Church, to segregate Jewish children in elementary schools, continued during the year. On December 15, 1937, the Catholic Press Agency of Poland made public the resolutions of the First Polish Plenary Synod, held in 1936, in which the Polish bishops expressed themselves, in the form of a decree, in favor of the separation of Jewish and Catholic children in the schools, in order not to expose Catholic children “to religious and moral harm by the unnecessary mixing together of Catholic and Jewish youth and by entrusting Catholic children to teachers professing a different religion.” The publication of these decrees coincided with the agitation of the Nationalists for ghettos in the Polish public school system and were employed by them for this purpose.

7. Opposition to Jew-Baiting

The offensive against the Jews assumed such enormous proportions and its effect upon the political and economic situation was so overpowering, as to relegate that section of Polish public opinion which is opposed to Jew-baiting to a place of secondary importance. In the first place, the force of this opposition was scarcely commensurate
with the rampant forces of anti-Semitism. Secondly, this opposition usually found itself on the defensive and exposed to all kinds of attacks and defamations on the part of the Nationalists. Finally, it lacked the backing of power, authority and agencies commanded by the anti-Jewish elements.

As often before, the Polish Socialist Party, in the period under review, has been engaged in counteracting the propaganda of the Nationalists. To the Socialists as to the other liberal groups in Poland, anti-Semitism is but a disguise for reaction which is bound to affect equally the non-Jewish masses. "We know very well," the Socialist Dziennik Ludowy of October 9, 1937, declared 'that the aggressiveness of the Nationalists does not exhaust itself with the Jewish problem, and that they are ready at any moment to launch a powerful campaign also against other minorities and perhaps even against a large section of the Polish people which does not agree with their views. Endek-Nara Nationalism — this is the source of internal weakness, the promise of internal disunity which leads directly to the ruin of the State." The Polish Socialists were frequently engaged in driving off pickets from Jewish stores, and in demonstrations and protests against anti-Semitism.

On October 24, 1937, the Sixth Congress of the Trade Unions in Poland, affiliated with the Socialist Party, adopted the following resolution: "All Nationalist persecutions and agitation, which advocate the abolition of equality of rights in the country and the degradation and persecution of any person because of his origin, race, nationality, or religion, are contrary to the fundamental ethics of the proletarian movement which stands for the full equality of all working people... The Congress instructs the Central Committee to carry on a wide-spread campaign of enlightenment against chauvinism and anti-Semitism in cooperation with all brother organizations. The Congress declares that, in its efforts to free itself from the chains of capitalism and in its struggle for a Socialist Poland, the Polish working class will work in solidarity with all the workers of Poland without regard to nationality or religion."
The opposition to Jew-baiting gained added strength by the gradual organization of Polish democratic elements, led by Professor Michalowicz of the University of Warsaw. On June 12, 1938, a national conference of the Democratic Clubs, which were organized by Professor Michalowicz in 1937, opened in Lwow for the purpose of organizing a Democratic Party in Poland, to be founded on the principles of freedom of the individual, social reform, planned economy, and equality for all national minorities. The Democratic Party is to include, first of all, the Polish intelligentsia which has remained faithful to the traditions of Polish democracy and is to cooperate with the Peasant and Socialist Parties. At a preliminary conference of the Democratic Clubs on February 9, 1938, in Lwow, a resolution was adopted urging cooperation with the national minorities in the interests of a "strong, democratic Poland," adding: "We look to a common platform with the national minorities which will enable them to combine their own aspirations for a better future with the aspirations of the Polish people for a strong, democratic Poland."

The expression of Polish liberal public opinion was, however, most manifest in its protest against the "ghetto benches" in the universities. With Professor Michalowicz as the leading figure in the movement, individuals and groups active in liberal and democratic organizations or identified with the Polish Socialist Party, condemned this new regulation. His open defiance encouraged a number of Professor Michalowicz's colleagues to join the struggle. On October 23, 1937, the Council of the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Warsaw adopted a resolution protesting against the ghetto regulations. On October 29, fifty professors and instructors of the Warsaw academic institutions declared their full solidarity with this stand.

Indeed, from the first day of the introduction of the "ghetto benches" in Warsaw, letters and statements of professors and laymen have been appearing in the Polish Socialist and Jewish press condemning the actions of the academic authorities. On November 21, the Socialist
press published a protest, signed by one hundred liberal representatives of the Polish intellectual world, in which the students were called to resist the introduction of the measure. At the end of December 1937, the Executive Committee of the Socialist Trade Union in Poland adopted a resolution in which the "ghetto benches," the attacks on Jewish students, and the terrorization of professors who refused to submit to the Nationalist demands were condemned.

The resignation of Professor Stanislaw Kulczynski, the Rector of the University of Lwow, was the most forceful single protest and produced a profound effect. He decried the lack of protection against terrorism in the universities and warned that it would spell the end of academic freedom and the independence of science and learning. The reason for his action is given, as follows, in a letter addressed to the Polish press on January 11, 1938: "Because I did not want to place my signature on an act which is innocently called a 'regulation of the rectorial authorities' but which, in reality, is a promissory note extorted under the pressure of terrorism, to be cashed by political parties and to be covered by the University at the expense of its prestige and vital interests."

In the schools, the non-Jewish socialist and democratic students often expressed their solidarity with their Jewish colleagues by a demonstrative occupation of the "ghetto benches" or by remaining standing together with them throughout the lectures. In addition, they adopted protest resolutions at their meetings and sent letters of protest to the rectors of their respective institutions. At the closing of the school year, in May 1938, the Christian democratic and the Jewish students continued this campaign and distributed thousands of cards which contained the following appeal to the Minister of Education: "The undersigned student appeals to the Minister to defend, in the name of justice and equality, human and national honor. Polish democracy and the Jewish population of Poland demand of the academic authorities the withdrawal of the orders which instituted 'ghetto benches.'"
8. Jewish Communal Life

In the face of this critical situation, the Jewish community in Poland was confronted with the double task of counteracting the anti-Jewish campaign and of maintaining and strengthening its economic positions. Protests, demonstrations, proclamations, resolutions and fast days testified to the uncompromising determination of the Jewish population to continue the defense of its rights. In a proclamation, made public on May 26, 1938, the Jewish Club of Deputies and Senators replied to the thirteen-point anti-Jewish program of the Camp for National Unity* by declaring: "We firmly declare that the Jewish population in Poland will not bow before lawlessness. It will not renounce its citizenship rights which are guaranteed to it by the Constitutions of 1921 and 1935; it will not resign from the opportunities of its cultural, social and economic development, and it will not permit itself to be degraded to the status of helots and pariahs. Firmly convinced of its united and indestructible forces and fully conscious of its duties towards the State and ready to make sacrifices out of these duties, the Jewish population will fight on perseveringly for full equality before the law and for the full execution of the letter and spirit of the Constitution in regard to the three and a half million citizen-Jews."

a. Jewish Congress Movement

Simultaneously, attempts were made to create a united Jewish representative body, to speak in the name of all Jewish political and economic organizations and groups. Upon the initiative of the Jewish representatives in Parliament, a Temporary Representative Body of Polish Jewry was created in June, 1937. This body, as its name implies, was to serve as a temporary organization until the convening of a Jewish Congress in Poland, and included all orthodox and Zionist parties, with the exception of the Socialist "Bund", the Right Poale Zion, the People's Party, and the radical Zionists. The latter three groups were

*See page 241.
opposed to it precisely on the ground that the temporary body constituted an obstacle to the projected Congress.

On October 26, a preparatory conference for the purpose of organizing the Congress took place in Warsaw, which decided to convene the Congress in January, 1938. Although a majority of the parties which were represented in the Temporary Representative Body approved of it, the reservations set by some, and the strong opposition of the Bund, the orthodox Agudath Israel and the Zionist Revisionists, early forecast the collapse of all hopes of convening such a Congress in the near future. Nevertheless, on December 5, 1937 the Presidium of the Congress announced that elections would be held on January 30, 1938, and that the Congress would be convoked on the 20th of the following month. These plans were not carried out. On June 24, 1938, the Executive Committee of the Bund announced its decision to cooperate with the Council of Jewish Trade Unions, which is dominated by it, in the convocation at an early date of a Congress of the Jewish masses, to safeguard the rights of the Jewish population in Poland.

b. Efforts at Economic Rehabilitation

Similar attempts, but with greater success, were made to coordinate all the economic forces of the Jewish population in order to defend its economic rehabilitation. On November 25, 1937, at a conference in Warsaw, the Jewish Economic Committee reported that it is concentrating all its efforts to consolidate and coordinate the activities of the Jewish economic organizations in the country; also, that attempts were being made to create a permanent understanding among all the large Jewish organizations which are active in the field of constructive help, such as the Joint Distribution Committee, the Central Cooperative Bank (CKB), the ORT, and others. The Committee, it was further reported, was engaged in organizing the export of the products of Jewish artisans and small industries, a special Trade Committee, “TER”, having been established for this purpose.
Speaking of the future, the secretary pointed out that the Committee would strive to widen its work of consolidation, to campaign for the unification of the Jewish small traders' organizations, to enlarge its work of organizing the export of the products of Jewish artisans, to establish a Jewish Economic Club, to advise the Jewish economic organizations on the most vital questions of the day, to propagandize among the Jewish masses on the value of economic organization, on the nationalization and modernization of their workshops, and on the need of better adaptation to local and national requirements. Partly as a result of the activities of this Committee and partly as a result of the recent attacks upon Jewish handicraft, successful negotiations were started in April, 1938, for the purpose of uniting all Jewish artisans in Poland in a common organization.

The Central Jewish Merchants Association, on its part, has been engaged in popularizing commercial training among the Jewish youth. In addition to continuation courses for merchants and employees, the Association established a number of schools of commerce for the purpose of training boys and girls for commercial pursuits. Early in June, 1938, a High School of Commerce was opened in Warsaw, the first Jewish school of this type. In addition, the Association organized a School for Business Administration, giving one-year courses to Jewish high school graduates. Both the Central Jewish Merchants Association and the Jewish Small Merchants Union were active in countering the boycott and the attacks upon the Jewish merchant class. Thus, on November 29, 1937, the Central Committee of the latter proclaimed December a month of defense and propaganda against the anti-Jewish boycott. Over 100,000 posters and leaflets were circulated by the Union through its 400 branches throughout the country, exposing the attacks upon Jewish business and the motives behind the boycott.

The efforts to bring about the economic rehabilitation of the Jewish masses received the support and cooperation of the large Jewish reconstruction organizations. On July 2,
1937, the Joint Reconstruction Foundation, established by the American Joint Distribution Committee and the ICA (Jewish Colonization Association), which supports all Jewish self-help organizations in Poland, convened a conference in Warsaw of representatives of the latter organizations. Mr. Aronowici, its general secretary, declared that the Foundation would grant special credit facilities to the Jewish loan banks in addition to the credits already granted to them. Great satisfaction with the closer relationship which had been established between itself and the Foundation was expressed at a meeting of the Union of Jewish Cooperative Banks which was held in Warsaw on the same day. Continued support of the work of the Jewish Economic Committee, especially of its efforts to export products of Jewish artisans, was promised by I. Gittermann, director of the Joint Distribution Committee in Poland.

On July 12, 1937, a conference of representatives of the regional committees of the Central Society for the Protection of Children and Orphans, “Centos”, was opened in Rabki in the presence of Dr. Joseph A. Rosen of the Joint Distribution Committee. The Secretary reported that the Society had established a network of vocational training centers, labor exchanges, workshops, agricultural farms, etc., as well as a Central Pedagogic Commission in Warsaw to supervise the educational work of the regional committees. On December 29, the Central Committee of the ORT in Poland announced that it had enlarged its activities and that it had established vocational courses for Jewish artisans to prepare them for the necessary state examinations for their diplomas. The ORT also announced that it had opened a central workshop in Lodz, equipped with the most modern machinery, for Jewish artisans who cannot afford to install their own machinery.

All these activities correspond to the vital needs of the Jewish population. During the past two decades, great changes have taken place in the economic structure of the Jewish population which is tending in the direction of a more rational occupational distribution. A study made in
recent months of the results of the Census of 1931 disclosed a sharp increase in the percentage of economically active Jews, from 32.5% in 1921 to 37.5% in 1931, and a corresponding decline in the number of economically passive, from 67.5% to 63.5%. Similar changes have taken place in the distribution of Jews in the various occupations. The number of Jews engaged in industry and handicraft increased from 35.6% in 1921 to 45.3% in 1931. During the same period, the percentage of Jews engaged in commerce, insurance and transport, decreased from 38.9% to 38.3%. These figures are not conclusive and require qualification, but they indicate a definite trend towards a normalization of the economic structure of the Jewish population. Unfortunately, the pressure of anti-Semitism has barred a natural course of development. Since the Census of 1931, the Jewish situation in Poland has steadily deteriorated and much of the energies of the Jews have had to be expended in the immediate task of relief and resisting the onslaughts upon them, which greatly interfered with the work of reconstruction.

The Jewish Community labored under the double handicap of attacks from without and privation from within. In a statement issued on October 22, 1937, the Jewish Central Health Society, TOZ, described the appalling poverty among the Jewish population, especially in towns which have been subjected to Nationalist terrorism and the boycott. In a large number of towns, it was pointed out, 80% of the Jewish population lived on the verge of starvation. In other localities 60% of the Jews were in need of public assistance, while increasing demands were made upon the TOZ for distribution of free meals, especially among Jewish school children.

Partly as a result of the impoverishment of the Jewish masses and partly as a result of the severe curtailment in the revenues from Shehitah, the communal institutions were faced with a grave financial situation. On November 29, the presidents of the larger Jewish Communities held a conference in Warsaw at which they warned of an impending total financial collapse of their communities,
especially if the Government proposal to limit communal taxation should be passed. The conference also elaborated a plan for the creation of a Union of Jewish Communities, which was submitted to the Minister of Education and Public Worship.

c. Zionist Activities

The proposed partition of Palestine stood in the center of Jewish interest. The ideal of a Jewish State in Palestine aroused such overwhelming enthusiasm among the population that, on July 9, 1937, almost all the Zionist newspapers in Poland published editorials in which they warned against hasty and superficial conclusions. On the same day, a conference of all Zionist parties, held in Warsaw, adopted a resolution opposing the partition scheme, and elected an executive committee to conduct a campaign against it. The ensuing discussions revealed virtually unanimous opposition by Zionist groups to the partition of Palestine as proposed by the Royal Commission. However, in contradistinction to the Revisionists and the more radical members among them, the Zionists counselled prudence and discipline, admonishing that Jews “remove the thorns but not reject the rose.”

On November 21, 2,000 delegates from all parts of Poland, with the exception of Galicia, attended a Palestine Conference of Polish Jews in Warsaw. The Conference adopted resolutions calling for the strengthening of the “Yishuv” and the support of all Zionist activities. An appeal was addressed to the British Government to remove the present restrictions on Jewish immigration into Palestine and to stamp out Arab terrorism. The Conference also authorized the dispatching of a delegation to London to plead with the Government to satisfy the demands of the Polish Jews.

The results of the elections in Poland (except Eastern Galicia) to the Twentieth Zionist Congress showed that the League for Labor Palestine obtained 58,832 out of a total of 109,680 votes cast and secured 35 mandates. The
General Zionists Group A, (the Confederation) obtained 24,473 votes and 14 mandates; the Mizrachi 21,510 votes and 12 mandates; the General Zionists Group B (the World Union) 3,049 votes and 1 mandate; while the Jewish State Party obtained 1,816 votes and 1 mandate.

d. Other Events

On October 21, a memorial meeting in honor of the late Felix M. Warburg, took place in Warsaw, which was attended by representatives of all Jewish organizations, the Warsaw Rabbinate and others. In a message to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Professor Moses Schorr stated: "Polish Jewry is most deeply affected by the death of Mr. Warburg. He was a man of great magnanimity and large horizons. He was the first who even in the time of war placed himself at the head of the relief campaign for the Jews of Eastern Europe. He was also very broad-minded and had a keen eye for the future needs of Jewry."

On November 13, the Jewish Socialist Party, "Bund," convened a Congress to celebrate the 40th anniversary of its foundation, which was attended by 960 delegates, representing 280 local organizations in different towns in Poland and hundreds of guests from all over the country. Messages of greeting were received from Karl Kautsky, Emil Vandervelde, the Socialist Parties of Poland, France, Austria, Sweden, Denmark, the United States and other nations. Also from Major Clement Attlee in the name of the British Labor Party, Herbert Morrison, Sir Walter Citrine and others. Messages were also received from a number of Polish cultural organizations. In its message of greeting the Polish Socialist Party emphasized the solidarity of the Jewish and Polish workers in their fight against anti-Semitism and reaction.

On November 29, the TOZ celebrated the 15th anniversary of its activity in Poland. The chairman of the organization, Dr. Levin, paid a tribute to the late Felix M. Warburg, who had always been interested in the work of the TOZ. Dr. Leon Wulman, General Secretary of the
TOZ, stated that nineteen million Zlotys were invested in its work.

In the week of December 16, the Jewish Community in Warsaw celebrated the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Jewish Artisans School. Since its foundation in 1887, the school has grown into an important institution of vocational training. The celebration was attended by representatives of the Government, the Ministry of Education, and the Mayor of Warsaw.

In March, 1938, the Jewish cooperative movement celebrated the 15th anniversary of its organization. The celebration was utilized to propagandize the value of cooperatives among the Jewish population. On June 12, on the occasion of the celebration of "Cooperative Day", an appeal was issued urging the Jewish masses to help in the development of the movement. A survey of Jewish cooperative societies in Poland, published by the Yiddish Scientific Institute in Poland on June 22, showed that, in June, 1938, there were 755 such institutions in existence. This survey revealed that the Jewish cooperative movement in Poland is for the most part a loan and credit movement, 99% of all the cooperatives being credit institutions. There were 27 artisans and 9 agrarian trade cooperatives. There were no Jewish cooperative retail stores. The Jewish cooperatives have on the average 233 members, as compared with the Polish and Ukrainian cooperatives, which have two to three times as many members.

On June 27 and 28, Polish orthodox Jewry, together with other orthodox Jewish communities throughout the world, celebrated the completion of the second reading of the Talmud. The seat of the celebration was the Yeshiva of Lublin whose founder, the late Rabbi Meir Shapiro, initiated, on the eve of the Jewish New Year in 1924, the custom of reading a daily page in the Talmud. It is estimated that 700,000 Jews all over the world read the "Daf ha-Yomi", or "daily portion" of the Talmud, the entire reading of which takes about seven years.
IX. ROUMANIA

During the past year, the Jews of Roumania, long inured to an environment notorious for the virulence of its Jew-baiting and the severity of its anti-Jewish discrimination and excesses, experienced perhaps one of the worst years in their history. Unlike previous years, when the government was a silent, often willing, partner to the nation-wide anti-Jewish activities, the appointment as premier on December 28, 1937, of Octavian Goga, brought into power a regime whose avowed purpose was the destruction of the position of the Jews, and which set out immediately to execute its purpose. During the succeeding six weeks official decrees and legal measures aimed at Jews followed one another with lightning-like rapidity, accompanied by a country-wide truculent propaganda abetted by political leaders, the church, and intellectual and professional circles, and broadcast to an international audience as well. Fortunately for the Jews and for the welfare of the country, King Carol, alarmed at the serious dislocation of the nation's economy caused by the insane measures of the Goga regime and disturbed by the unfavorable repercussions abroad, summarily dismissed Goga on February 10, 1938.

These six weeks caused irreparable damage to the Jewish community. Although, following assumption by King Carol of dictatorial powers, some of the more notorious of the Jew-baiters were either dismissed from office or suppressed, and although some of the more injurious of the laws and decrees were rescinded, many of the regulations still remain on the statute books, are being slowly and quietly enforced, and are being supplemented by such unjustifiable government policies as the revision of naturalization, which will undoubtedly cause increasing hardships to the Jewish population.
i. Anti-Jewish Agitation

a. Political Party Alignment

At the beginning of the period under review it was announced that the formation of a national anti-Semitic front was under way as a result of the proposed merger of Professor Jorga's National Democratic Party with the National Christian Party, under the leadership of Professors Alexander Cuza and Octavian Goga, rabid anti-Semites. Also negotiating for a coalition with the National Christian Party were Marshal Averescu, famous war commander; Dr. Alexandr Vaida Voevod, leader of the Roumanian Front; and Prof. Georg Bratianu, leader of the National Liberal Party. It was said that the coalition hoped to come to power in the approaching national elections, and carry out an "Aryan legislation program." On July 26, 1937, it was announced that the Roumanian gypsies had joined with the National Christian Party. The gypsies are not only a voting force to be reckoned with, but also have great power as propagandists.

On September 12, the National Soldiers Front, an important and influential organization of Roumanian ex-servicemen, which includes the foremost Roumanian war heroes and military commanders, issued a proclamation ordering "a spiritual mobilization of all Roumanians against the vast Jewish plot which paralyzes the normal development of the economic and social life of the country."

At the same time, Corneliu Codreanu, the supreme commander of the Fascist anti-Semitic Iron Guard, also issued a proclamation announcing the "beginning of the commercial battle of the Legionnaires" (the Storm Troopers of the Iron Guard), and asserted that the Roumanians had in the past hundred years "lost our economic position to a foreign invading race." According to a press report, Corneliu Cordeanu stated that forty-eight hours after the victory of the Iron Guard, Roumania would ally itself with Italy and Germany.
There were indications, also, that the National Peasant Party, hitherto considered a strong democratic force, opposed to Jew-baiting, was veering to an anti-Semitic course. On July 28, in an announcement in the Nationalist paper *Curentul*, Jon Michalache, leader of the Party, declared that a "Jewish problem" existed in Roumania and that its only solution would be peasant co-operatives, education of youth, and government support for Roumanian elements to compensate for historical, social, national, and economic injustices. He also discussed with Polish statesmen visiting Bucharest the advisability of a joint Roumanian-Polish front to press, through the League of Nations, for international support for a policy of further Jewish emigration from both countries. On September 15, all doubts as to the Party's intentions were dispelled when Jon Michalache declared, before a meeting of 10,000 supporters at Topoloveni, that "the supremacy of Roumanian labor and the abolition of parasitic exploitation will solve the Jewish problem."

As general elections approached, almost all Roumanian parties, including the National Peasant Party, adopted anti-Jewish programs. The National Peasant Party signed an "electoral non-aggression pact" with the avowedly anti-Jewish parties, including the Iron Guard, providing for united resistance to electoral terrorism by the National Liberal Party, then in power and, therefore, in control of the election machinery. In a statement to foreign correspondents, Dr. Maniu, a leader of the National Peasant Party, declared that the election pact entered into with the anti-Semitic Iron Guard did not indicate a shift by the Peasant Party from its democratic program.

Only one Roumanian political party was consistently opposed to the anti-Jewish agitation — the Radical Peasant Party. On August 23, 1937, Carol Peter Petrescu, one of the leaders of this Party, submitted a memorandum to Parliament criticizing the anti-Jewish statement of Patriarch Miron Christea. (see section headed "Attitude of Church" below.) Petrescu pointed out that the action of the official censor in suppressing press comment on that
statement left the impression that the government endorsed Christea's opinion.

On September 21, in defiance of the current wave of anti-Jewish propaganda flooding Roumania, three leaders of the Radical Peasant Party came to the defense of Roumanian Jewry and placed their party in complete isolation on the Jewish question. Speaking at Chisinau and at the Transylvanian town of Turda, former Justice Minister Grigore Iunian, former Bucharest Mayor Demetri Dobrescu, and party leader Constantine Constaudache denounced anti-Semitism as a menace to the nation. Typical of these pronouncements is the statement of M. Iunian: "The greatest mistake being made in Roumania from the national viewpoint is being made by those persons fomenting racial and religious hatreds. Progress of the country will not be assured as long as an anti-minorities campaign threatens the well-being of five million citizens of non-Roumanian origin who demand to be allowed to remain good, peaceful citizens. The only good national policy is to promote understanding and brotherhood among all citizens."

b. Attitude of Roumanian Church

Dignitaries of the Roumanian church continued, during the past year, their support of Jew-baiting, under the leadership of the Patriarch himself. On August 19, 1938, a virulent anti-Jewish attack, attributed to Patriarch Miron Christea, appeared in the Bucharest daily Curentul. He declared that "the Jews have caused an epidemic of corruption and social unrest" and that it was "a national and patriotic duty to defend ourselves." He further stated that it was the duty of a Christian "to love himself first" and that it was "logical and holy" to "react against the Jews."

Later, it was reported that the Patriarch had sent a letter to Corneliu Codreanu, head of the terrorist anti-Semitic Iron Guard, giving him his blessing and encouraging
him in his activities. At the same time, Nationalist newspapers warned the Government not to interfere with Christea’s anti-Jewish activities.

On September 16, the Patriarch received the Palestine Arab propaganda delegation which appealed to Christea to bring the Church into the fight against the Jews. The Bucharest nationalist press featured a statement of the delegation violently attacking the morals of the Jews in Palestine, and calling on Christians to prevent destruction of the Holy Land by the Jews.

The lead of the Patriarch was followed by two other Church dignitaries in denouncing the Jews as “a plague” and demanding measures for their expulsion from Roumania. In September, Arch-deacon Jon Mota of Orastie suggested that the Jews be “isolated and burned out” like weeds, while Bishop Tit of Hotin urged an anti-Jewish boycott under the slogan, “Not a pin from a Jew!” In the same month, in the Porunca Vremii, Bishop Vartolomei Ramnic, charged that revolutions were caused by Jews, but that the victims were always Christians, and urged the expulsion of Jews and the confiscation of their property.

c. Miscellaneous Items

The establishment of a “pure Roumanian” zone with a radius of 500 metres around the churches of the town, was urged upon the Mayor of Jassy in July, 1937, by Prof. Nicolae Jorga, president of the Cultural League, a semi-official organization for education and religious propaganda.

On August 8, it was announced that Alexander Hood, program chief of the Government-controlled Roumanian Broadcasting Company, had been appointed to the editorial staff of the Tzara Noastra, organ of the anti-Semitic National Christian Party.

Permission to publish the spurious “Protocols of the Elders of Zion,” in the Ukranian language, was requested, in August, by a group of Ukrainians. The version of Julius Streicher, chief German Jew-baiter, was to be used, and 10,000 copies printed for distribution among Ukrainians in Bukowina.
2. Anti-Jewish Discrimination and Boycott

a. Discrimination in Professions

On July 11, 1937, at the meeting of the Bucharest Bar Association for the election of delegates to the Central Union of Roumanian lawyers, the official lawyers trade union, the anti-Jewish National Christian Party was victorious in electing a complete slate of its own representatives. Non-Jewish democratic lawyers abstained from voting as a protest against the arbitrary election methods and the refusal to allow the Jewish lawyers to vote.

A motion demanding the instant dismissal of all Jewish teachers from Roumanian schools was submitted to the Congress of Roumanian School-Teachers in Czernowitz, September 12. The motion would permit Jews to teach only in Jewish schools, and even in such schools Roumanian language, history, and geography would be taught only by "pure-blooded Roumanians."

Figures made public on October 21 by the Bucharest Bar Association revealed that for nearly two years a numerus nullus had been in effect against Jewish attorneys. From December, 1935 to September, 1937, not a single Jew had been admitted to the Association, membership in which is required before attorneys may practice; in the same period the Association admitted 1,919 non-Jews.

The example of the Bucharest Bar Association was followed by similar bodies in other cities. Medical unions and associations of engineers also moved for the "Roumanization" of their respective professions. A number of bar associations, and the Syndicate of Roumanian Journalists, dropped Jewish members from their rolls, pending the revision of the naturalization of such members, and continued to do this even after the government, in March, 1938, annulled such expulsions. On December 13, 1937, it was officially announced that a "ghetto" section had been ordered for Jewish reporters attending sessions of Parliament.
b. Cultural Restrictions

A movement for the introduction of "ghetto benches" in colleges and schools was begun, when on December 8, Professor Corneliu Cassassovici of the Bucharest Technical Academy ordered Jewish students to occupy special seats in the lecture hall. In January, 1938, medical students at Bucharest University announced they would boycott examinations unless Jewish lecturers were removed. In February, Christian students in Czernowitz adopted a resolution demanding a *numerus clausus* for Jews at Czernowitz University and threatening to strike if the demand was not fulfilled. As a protest against anti-Jewish agitation at the Bucharest Polytechnic Institute, its principal, Alexander Abasohn, a Jew, and one of the greatest engineering authorities in Roumania, resigned.

*A numerus clausus* for Jews on all teams representing the country in international matches, was introduced, in January, by the Roumanian Federation of Sports.

c. General Business Boycott

Two instances of agitation for a boycott of Jewish musicians were reported on July 26. Some gypsies requested the Government to take measures against Jewish musicians who, they declared, created unemployment among the gypsies, "the real exponents of musical art." At the same time the anti-Semitic newspaper, *Porunca Vremii*, published an editorial urging readers to boycott places of amusement employing modern orchestras, and listen only to gypsy music.

Under the slogan "Not a pin from the Jews," an anti-Jewish boycott campaign suggested by Bishop Tit of Hotin, was announced in the newspapers *Porunca Vremii* and *Bunavestire* on August 5, 1937. The rabidly anti-Semitic Fascist Iron Guard was taking the initiative in this drive by establishing cooperative stores in every section, and by utilizing these shops as centers of anti-Jewish propaganda. In a manifesto to his "trade battalions" of December 8, Zelea Codreanu stated that a chain of cooperative Iron Guard stores, selling goods at cost prices, were opening
every week in order to push Jews out of business. A boycott of all products manufactured and sold by Jewish firms was voted, on October 4, by the Syndicate of Roumanian Land Owners, comprising tens of thousands of farmers. A similar movement was launched, in November, by the Roumanian Cultural League, one of the most influential educational bodies, after an incendiary address by former Premier Jorga, its president.

3. Anti-Jewish Attacks

Two Jews were brutally attacked and severely injured in Czernowitz on July 21, 1937. On July 29, violent anti-Jewish disorders were reported in connection with the municipal elections. In Siret, Bukowina, thirty Jews were seriously injured when a band of youths terrorized the community, pillaged houses and prevented Jews from going to the polls. Troops had to be called from Radauti to restore order. In Panciu, followers of Prof. Cuza injured several persons, and damaged seventy houses and shops. Subsequent investigations revealed that the town's Mayor had aided the rioters, even to the extent of providing a brass band for them, and had sent the police chief out of town before the disorders.

A number of Jews were seriously beaten in anti-Jewish rioting in Buhusi, Moldavia, on September 2, when hooligans armed with clubs broke shop windows and attacked Jewish passers-by.

Jew-baiters assaulted Jews in the streets of Suczawa, Bukowina, on September 12 and 13. Meanwhile in Tighina, Transylvania, thirty young men, armed with revolvers, knuckle-dusters, and crowbars, attacked many Jews and smashed the windows of shops and houses. Three young Jews were taken to a hospital in grave condition. Another attack occurred in Tighina on the following day when twenty-four Jews were reported injured, several of them seriously, in disturbances which arose when a football game between the Jewish Maccabis and a Roumanian team, was halted by rowdies; fifteen arrests were made.

Serious anti-Jewish disorders occurred, on October 24, in the town of Vicovul Desus, Bucovina. A few days later,
several Jewish medical students, including a girl, were injured when an examination in the medical school of Bucharest University was raided by Jew-baiting students in an effort to evict fifteen Jewish students among the 400 non-Jews. The girl was reported in a serious condition.

There were serious anti-Jewish riots at Radautz, Bucovina, and in the village of Pocni, Maramuresh, on December 14.

On January 2, bands roam the streets of Bucharest compelling Jewish passersby to purchase swastikas. In the same month, members of the "Lancers," semi-military National Christian Organization, made a bonfire of Yiddish newspapers seized from Czernowitz newsstands.

Anti-Jewish feelings ran high in Bessarabia and Bucovina, following the national elections, on December 20, 1937, as peasants who had been promised during the campaign that Jewish property would be divided among Roumanians, besieged the offices of district commissioners demanding that the promises be fulfilled. As a result, Jewish refugees from villages streamed into the large towns.

Several Jewish lawyers were forcibly evicted from the Bucharest tribunal building, on January 20, by a group of attorneys. An armless Jewish war veteran, holder of several military medals, was badly beaten. Further attacks on Jewish lawyers in the court buildings and Jewish women students in Bucharest University's medical school were reported on January 30.

Serious anti-Jewish excesses broke out on February 4 in Moldavian villages. On February 15, the new prefect of Czernowitz closed the Cuzist headquarters and arrested 150 Cuzists and Goga "Lancers" for army court trial on charges of organizing anti-Jewish excesses. The prefect also prohibited publication of the notorious Nazi daily, the Czernowitzer Tagespost.

4. Protests Against Anti-Jewish Movements

Besides the leaders of the Radical Peasant Party, there were very few Roumanians of any distinction who had the courage to protest against the anti-Jewish propaganda of
haired which swept the country during the year. One of these was I. Negira, a member of the Tartarescu government. On August 13, in an address on the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of an annex to the Jewish Hospital at Vaslui, Negura said that he thought it useful "to stress the importance of democratic principles," at a time "of ruthless persecution of Jews and shameless incitements for the sake of creating strife among the population of this country."

In an interview with the newspaper Curentul, Mircea Djuvara, former Minister of Justice, declared that without the Jews Roumania would be in danger of economic collapse. Declaring that the Roumanian Jews were bound to their country and its people "with the strongest ties of affection," he said: "The policy to create an impassable gulf between us and our minorities can hardly be called patriotic. It will merely serve the interests of our enemies abroad and endanger our future economic progress."

On August 29, in the midst of the anti-Jewish agitation, it was announced that a group of Roumanian war invalids, all Christians, had sent a contribution to a fund started by the Jewish newspaper, Curierul Israelit, for the benefit of victims of recent anti-Jewish disorders at Panciu.

At a meeting of Jewish members of the Liberal Party at Calarasi, Bessarabia, on October 12, Vice Premier Ion Inculetz praised Jewish members of the Party as loyal citizens but denounced the Jewish Party. In reply to this attack, Dr. Meyer Ebner defended the existence of the Jewish Party in an article in the Ostjuedische Zeitung.

Public Health Minister Ion Constantinescu, at a mass meeting on November 1 of the Roumanian Cultural League, paid tribute to Jewish physicians. He asserted that while Roumanian doctors urged their elimination from practice, they themselves were "unwilling to go out into the country, while Jewish doctors go to the remotest districts." "It is not my fault," he said, "if I appoint Jewish doctors who are willing to help."

An association of Roumanian war invalids, widows and orphans, known as "Fatherland's Glory," according to a press report of February 1, petitioned the Minister of Justice in behalf of Jewish comrades who were lacking the
means to pay the fees required by the law for the revision of their citizenship; the petition requested that official certificates of membership in the association be accepted as sufficient proof of citizenship.

5. Government Policies

a. Law for the Protection of National Labor

On August 15, 1937, it was announced that the National Liberal (Tartarescu) Government was contemplating drafting a bill to modify the existing law for the protection of labor. The existing law was aimed at foreign nationals but makes no discrimination as between Roumanian citizens. In the proposed new law, it was announced, Valeriu Pop, Minister of Industry and Commerce, intended to introduce an "ethnic principle," making possible the employment of members of minorities only according to their ratio to the total population. On September 17, Pop issued an ordinance requiring all industrial and commercial firms, within three months, to hire persons of "Roumanian ethnic origin" for no less than 75% of unskilled positions, and 50% of administrative, technical, and skilled positions. This administrative action took the place of the proposed Bill for the Protection of National Labor, which had been shelved by Parliament for fear of international complications.

In a circular issued on October 11, Minister Pop notified industrialists that previous instructions on restricting the employment of foreigners and members of national minorities were not to be regarded as a compulsory order but as an urgent recommendation.

At the same time, Socialists and trade unionists decided to protest against Pop's instructions. The printers' union ordered its members not to take jobs from which members of a national minority were dismissed.

The Argus, leading economic daily, reported on October 25, a suddenly discovered dearth of "pure blooded Roumanians" who, according to the circular of Minister Pop, were to be given preference to the extent of from 50% to 75% of
all available jobs. Some business houses in Bucharest requested the Ministry of Labor to supply them with four hundred employees of so-called Roumanian ethnic origin. After a two-month search, the Ministry could produce only forty persons who could meet the ethnic requirements; of this number, only twenty qualified for the positions. The newspaper added that, despite willingness of banks and commercial enterprises to pay excessively high salaries to "pure blooded" Roumanians, candidates having such qualifications are not applying for vacant jobs. The Union of Roumanian Industrialists announced, on October 31, it would support Minister Pop's policy of promoting the welfare of "pure blooded" Roumanians, and that it had created an employment bureau through which it would supply its members with "ethnically qualified personnel."

b. Revision of Citizenship

In the preceding Review, we described agitation for the complete revision of naturalization acquired under the citizenship law of 1924. A bill to that effect was submitted in December, 1936. In February, 1937, it was announced that it would be dropped in favor of a new scheme to be drafted by the Government which would comply with treaties guaranteeing rights of minorities. The new scheme, it will be recalled, turned out to be a ministerial order requiring the prosecuting attorneys to appeal against all court decisions granting naturalizations which were, in the opinion of the attorneys, not sufficiently well substantiated; the burden of proving the legality of their citizenship rested upon the naturalized citizens. Thus, hundreds of recently naturalized citizens lost their citizenship by arbitrary court rulings.

On September 8, it was announced that new instructions had been sent by the Ministries of the Interior and Justice to the provincial authorities and courts ordering them to take drastic and immediate steps for the revision of all naturalization effected since the World War. Every entry in the Naturalization Register was to be re-examined and if there were the slightest doubt as to the validity of the
naturalization, it was to be brought to the knowledge of the Minister of Justice.

Subsequently, from time to time, the regulations were amended, often to the advantage of the Jews concerned, but the revision went on rapidly. No comprehensive report of the results was made public during the review period. According to a Jewish Telegraphic Agency report, the total number of Jews ordered to submit documentary proof of their citizenship was 395,183. Of this number, 143,254 are in Transylvania; 75,319 in Bucovina; 96,934 in Bessrabbia; and 79,676 in Old Roumania. The citizenship of those whose documents have not been submitted will be revised ex officis in accordance with the existing law regarding revision of nationality.

c. Anti-Zionist Measures

In the preceding Review we reported measures taken by the government to harass the Zionist movement. (See Vol. 39, pp. 446-47). Such measures continued during the period under review.

On August 8, 1937, an order of the Ministry of Education made illegal the singing of "Hatikvah," the Zionist anthem, in Jewish schools.

On September 27, it was reported that the recent government order prohibiting Zionist collections throughout Roumania had been confirmed by Premier Tatarescu. Police authorities informed Zionist officials that violation of the order would be punished by heavy penalties, confiscation of collected funds, and arrest of the Zionist committees. In further confirmation of the above report, it was disclosed, on September 29, that 98 persons had been arrested for possessing Jewish National Fund boxes. It was also reported that, in Bessarabia, the distribution of all Palestine propaganda material had been forbidden.

At the end of November it was reported that the ban on the collection of Zionist funds had been lifted by the government.
d. The Goga Regime

Ex-Premier Tatarescu, whose cabinet resigned on November 14, was again entrusted by King Carol with the formation of a government. Meanwhile, the political tension in the country gave rise to anti-Semitic propaganda of unprecedented ferocity. Premier Tatarescu formed his cabinet on November 17 in combination with the anti-Semitic National Democratic Party of Professor Nicolae Jorga. The anti-Semitic influence on the government increased greatly. The Premier announced that an electoral agreement has been concluded among the Liberals, Prof. Vaida-Voevod's anti-Semitic Roumanian Front, and the National Democrats, for a united list in the National elections to be held on December 20.

When none of the parties secured a majority vote at the elections, the world was amazed by the action of King Carol in asking Octavian Goga, co-leader with Cuza of the National Christian Party, to form a government.

Immediately after forming his cabinet, Premier Goga announced that the guiding principle of the new government would be "Roumania for the Roumanians." He immediately removed the majority of the departmental administrators, replacing them with members of his own anti-Semitic party. At the same time, the government suppressed three democratic dailies in Bucharest, all-Jewish owned, and dismissed the Jewish head of the official news agency. Although planning a series of sweeping anti-Jewish measures, Goga declared, in a telephone interview with the London Evening Standard, that he was not anti-Semitic in principle but wished to rid Roumania of foreign Jewish influence. The anti-Semitic measures, listed in the Nationalist daily, Curentul, included: 1) expropriation of land owned by Jews; 2) cancellation of licenses for Jews to sell wines and spirits, tobacco and cigarettes, and salt; 3) prohibition of Jews' establishing themselves as merchants in villages; 4) revision of pre-war naturalizations; 5) enactment of a journalism law
prohibiting Jews from writing for Roumanian newspapers; 6) a ban on State transactions with concerns backed by Jewish capital or run by Jewish management; 7) creation of a "Racist Militia" under control of the State; 8) regulations banning Jews from all government offices.

While the government sought to allay concern abroad regarding the extent of the cabinet's anti-Semitic program, the anti-Jewish drive continued. Several Jewish newspapers in Jassy were suppressed. The Czernowitz municipal administration was informed by a court that 154 more Jewish families had been deprived of citizenship, bringing the total denationalized Jewish families in Czernowitz to 376. Interior Minister Armand Calinescu deprived Jewish journalists of the right to possess railway passes. A special commissioner was named to the Roumanian Ministry of Commerce to enforce anti-Jewish measures. Besides those already listed, these were added: 1) forbidding Jews to live in a village in any capacity; 2) ordering all Jewish physicians who studied abroad and who began practicing in Roumania after 1919 to appear before a Health Ministry Commission which will revise the practitioners' roll; 3) a similar order to all Jewish engineers and architects.

On January 4, 1938, Prof. Cuza, Minister without portfolio, declared in Porunca Vremi that the government will not yield the "slightest part" of its anti-Semitic program. As if to confirm Cuza's statement, the Ministry of Public Health announced that Jewish physicians would be dismissed from the Health Department and replaced by Christian physicians. The Ministry also ordered revision of medical diplomas obtained abroad since 1919, most of which are held by Jews who had been compelled to study in foreign universities because of disorders or the numerus clausus at Roumanian schools.

At the same time, the Premier's office pressed the campaign to "Romanize" the nation's newspapers, issuing a circular ordering all papers immediately to submit lists showing "ethnical" origin of all employes.

All Jewish libraries and numerous Jewish-owned book shops in Bessarabia were closed by the authorities on January 14, allegedly as centers of communist propaganda.
The Arts Ministry requested all theaters in Bucharest to submit personnel lists to facilitate elimination of all Jewish artists in the National Theatre, National Opera and private theatres, subsidized by the government.

Ironically enough, in spite of the drastic measures directed against Roumanian Jewry, Premier Goga shook hands with Dr. Theodor Fischer, president, and Dr. Samuel Singer, vice-president of the Jewish Party, assuring them in a legthy audience that the Jewish population had no cause for alarm.

In an interview to the London *Daily Herald* on January 6, Premier Goga stated that "500,000 vagabond Jews, who allegedly entered as refugees from Russia, Hungary and Germany after the war, could not be regarded as Roumanian citizens." King Carol, however, in an interview with Al Easterman, correspondent of the London *Daily Herald*, estimated that 250,000 Jews entered the country illegally after the war. He added that, in appointing an anti-Jewish government, he had no alternative but to follow public opinion, and concluded with the statement that those Jews who entered the country by fraud do not come within the scope of minority treaties.

Meanwhile, district commissioners took advantage of the situation by introducing local anti-Jewish measures without awaiting orders from Bucharest. The authorities at Jassy prohibited Jewish butchers from selling non-kosher meat. Shehitah was entirely proscribed at Bihisu, Moldavia.

The Labor Ministry, according to the press of January 14, issued instructions for dismissal of all Jewish doctors from social insurance institutions.

A decree, issued on January 16, forbade Jews to employ Christian maids under forty years of age. Execution of this decree was suspended by the Labor Ministry on January 21, in order to prevent unemployment during the winter.

The Ministry of Education prohibited teaching of the Jewish religion in Government schools. On January 27, the Goga government announced its first confiscation of Jewish property in Czernowitz, Bucovina, for purposes of public utility.
Under a decree made public on January 30 by the Ministry of Labor, all Jewish waiters and waitresses in restaurants, cafés, and other public refreshment places were to be dismissed and their positions filled from the ranks of Christian unemployed.

On February 6, Premier Goga voiced a sharp warning that Roumania will not tolerate any interference in its domestic affairs in regard to the anti-Semitic program.

In an interview published by the Berlin Voelkischer Beobachter on February 9, Professor Cuza, Minister without Portfolio, warned of pogroms if Western Powers fail to provide emigration outlets for Roumanian Jews.

The policies of the Goga regime were the subject of international discussion and protest. Petitions to the 100th session of the Council of the League of Nations, charging violations of the Minority Treaty of December, 1919, which guaranteed equal treatment to all persons in Roumania belong to racial, linguistic, and religious minorities, were submitted to the League on January 19, 1938 by the World Jewish Congress, the Alliance Israélite Universelle, the Committee for Defense of Jews in Eastern Europe, and the Joint Foreign Committee of the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the Anglo-Jewish Association.

The organizations requested that the Council give these petitions "urgency procedure," calling for immediate discussion, but, as a result of the protest of the Roumanian delegation, headed by Foreign Minister Istrate Micescu, the Council decided to consider the petitions under "ordinary procedure" and set up a Committee of Three for this purpose, giving the Roumanian Government two months to reply. While this Committee, consisting of delegates of France, Great Britain, and Iran, watched developments closely, the Roumanian Government never replied to these petitions; specific action, it was said, would have to await the September, 1938, session of the Council. It was understood, however, that firm British and French diplomatic protests to King Carol against the anti-Jewish measures taken by Goga, were not without effect on that Government's subsequent change of policy.
e. Regime of Patriarch Christea

The dismissal of Goga as Premier, following international and domestic protest, was just as sudden and amazing as was his appointment.

No essential changes were expected in anti-Jewish regulations already issued, and the new government made it clear, indeed, that it would continue the policy of eliminating the Jews from economic and professional life. The government outlined a fourteen-point program promising economic, social and constitutional reform, including organized emigration of “surplus Jewish population.” Point 6 of the program declared that Roumania would attempt to make international agreements with other countries which claim a surplus Jewish population, to provide for their emigration.

On February 17, the Minister of Interior suspended all Yiddish and Hebrew newspapers.

On February 22, King Carol proclaimed a new constitution, strengthening the Government’s powers, limiting political activity, restricting national minority rights to those groups “settled for centuries on the soil of Greater Roumania,” and guaranteeing equality before the law to “all citizens of Roumania, irrespective of their ethnic origin or religion.” The charter, based on the Government program drawn up February 13 by Carol and his Cabinet, guarantees liberty to religious denominations only if they “are not prejudicial to public order, good morals, and public security.”

On February 24, King Carol rolled up a 99.8% vote in favor of his new dictatorial constitution in a plebiscite in which, for the first time, Jews were permitted to vote without hindrance.

Premier Miron Christea, on March 9, appealed in a letter to Chief Rabbi Jakob Niemirower for cooperation of Jews “in restoring spiritual peace, unity and brotherhood.”

The Agriculture Ministry issued an order on March 24, requiring the stunning of cattle and poultry before slaughter, in effect prohibiting Shehitah. On April 8, however, the Minister of Agriculture assured Chief Rabbi
Niemirower that no hasty action would be taken to enforce the decree.

On March 30, Premier Christea formed a new government, expected to be more democratic than the old one, dropping the rabid anti-Semite Vaida-Voevod.

On April 17, the Government took steps to smash what was described as a Fascist plot against the State and the person of King Carol, when it arrested Corneliu Zelea Codreanu and two hundred leaders of his proscribed "Iron Guard." In raids throughout the country on members of the organization, the police seized documents, which formed the basis for charges of espionage, sedition, and plotting against the State. On May 27, Codreanu was convicted of high treason by a military court and sentenced to ten years imprisonment; when released, he will be deprived of civil rights for six years.

On May 7, ex-Premier Octavian Goga died suddenly after suffering a paralytic stroke.

f. Provincial and Municipal Restrictions

Porunca Vremi, according to a Jewish Telegraphic Agency report of January 17, 1938, announced that the Mayor of Bucharest prohibited Shehitah, and that the authorities in the Bessarabian town of Baltzi forbade the Jewish population to speak Yiddish.

Following the lead of Bucharest, the Mayor of Constanza prohibited Shehitah.

In January, the Czernowitz authorities closed the offices of a number of Jewish organizations, including Misdeh, a cultural and social union, the Union of Bessarabian Jews, and the Hachshara of the Poale Zion organization.

On February 2, the Governor of Czernowitz ordered Jewish stores to remain open on Sabbath and all Jewish holidays.

According to a Jewish Telegraphic Agency survey, published on April 14, the process of "Roumanizing" industry, trade and professions, was continuing unabated
under the Christea government. This is no longer accomplished by the rash, spectacular methods of the Goga Cabinet, but methodically, quietly and thoroughly. Goga measures, such as elimination of Jewish civil servants, panel doctors and contractors, are retained. The anti-Jewish press is permitted to continue its campaign of hatred.

Slowly, remorselessly and on all economic fronts, Jews were being deprived of opportunities for employment. They were being turned out of government posts; large corporations refused to employ them; they were being forced out of the legal profession; and they were being driven out of the retail store and the small factory by the State-controlled National Bank, which refused to grant them credits.

6. Jewish Communal Items

On November 7, 1937, modern public baths having a capacity of 500 per day were opened at Chisinau for Jewish school children by a committee of the OSE, Jewish health society. The baths were built with the aid of funds from the Joint Distribution Committee. Arrangements have been made with all Jewish schools for compulsory use of the baths. Three similar establishments will shortly be opened in other cities.

On December 10, Dr. William Filderman who had resigned as president of the Union of Roumanian Jews, yielded to an appeal from thirty-nine members of the Executive Committee to withdraw his resignation.

On December 19, on the eve of the national elections, the Union of Roumanian Jews urged Jewish voters in a manifesto not to be intimidated by anti-Semitic parties threatening to prevent them from voting.

The Jewish Party failed to win a single seat in the national elections for a new Chamber of Deputies, on December 20. It obtained approximately 46,000 votes,
i. e., less than the two percent necessary for representation in Parliament.

*Curierul Israelit*, official organ of the Union of Jewish Communities, published an appeal urging the Jewish population not to lose courage and to continue its activities in a spirit of loyalty to the government. Elections, scheduled by the Jewish community for January 16, 1938, were canceled in view of the troubled situation.

On February 11, Chief Rabbi Jakob Niemirower was elected president of the Supreme Zionist Council on which all Roumanian Zionist parties are represented.

7. Miscellaneous General Events

On July 15, 1937, a Roumanian Palestine Trade Agreement was concluded in Bucharest. The agreement provides that the Roumanian government will grant during the year 1937–38 an import quota for Palestinian goods to a total value of £200,000, while Palestine will undertake to import Roumanian goods to a total value of £1,200,000 during the same period. Of the £200,000 worth of Palestine goods to be imported in Roumania, £150,000 worth will be citrus fruit.

On February 3, Patriarch Miron Christea issued an order forbidding the clergy to baptize Jews who are not Roumanian citizens.

According to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency of April 13, the Yiddish and Hebrew papers were ordered to appear half in Roumanian and half in one of the aforementioned languages.

A squadron of war planes was presented to the Roumanian government by the Orthodox Jewish Community of Roumania, to be known as King Carol’s Air Squadron.
X. OTHER EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

1. Bulgaria

A synagogue and the home of a Jewish resident were bombed in Varna, Black Sea resort, in July, 1937. A delegation of Jewish leaders protested to the Interior Minister M. T. Krasnovsky, who ordered the arrest of 140 Fascists.

In the same month, Bulgarian authorities issued residential permits to 200 Jewish families, living in Varna and Bourgas, threatened with deportation for reasons of uncertain nationality. The people involved claimed that they were Turkish nationals, but had no documents to prove this. After long negotiations, Turkey consented to issue provisional certificates of Turkish nationality to these families, thus saving them from deportation.

Reports that many Roumanian Jews were preparing to flee that country to escape anti-Semitic decrees planned by Octavian Goga's Nationalist Government, caused the Bulgarian Government, in December, to issue orders restricting immigration from Roumania.

In January, 1938, it was reported that German firms in Bulgaria were complying with a request of the Nazi Government to dismiss all Jewish employees. The manufacturers of the Bosch and Mercedes motor cars discharged all Jewish agents in Sofia, replacing them with "Aryans."

In February, one hundred and fifty prominent Jews received letters from Fascist organizations ordering them to leave the country or suffer the consequences. Windows of a large synagogue in Sofia were smashed.

In May, the authorities padlocked headquarters of Ratnitzki, anti-Jewish organization, confiscated its archives, and arrested several leaders.
2. Estonia

Improved political and economic conditions in this country are markedly reflected in the position of the 5,000 Jews in Estonia. With the routing of the Estonian Fascist movement, the so-called "Fighters for Freedom," anti-Semitic agitation, which for a short period last year caused deep concern to the Jewish community, has virtually ceased, and the local community, therefore, enjoys a state of security not shared by the Jews in the other Baltic States.

All elements in the population suffer from the small number of openings for professions. Because of this "over-production" of intellectual elements, the universities took measures to decrease the number of "intellectuals." Fears that a numerus clausus for Jewish students might be unofficially introduced proved groundless.

There is no semi-official anti-Semitism in this country nor a government policy of seeking to eliminate Jews from certain economic fields.

Culturally, Estonian Jews are not too happy about their position. Despite their cultural autonomy and a Jewish school system, a great number of Estonian Jewish children attend Estonian schools, as in times past they attended the Russian and German schools. Jewish communal life is greatly restricted—there are few Jewish communal endeavors, no Jewish newspapers, and little development of purely Jewish culture. A great many Jews, perhaps a majority, use Estonian as their principal language. According to the latest figures, the ratio of mixed marriages is 12.7 per thousand.

3. Greece

Early in the review period, the Athens Jewish Community submitted an address to the government expressing the gratitude of the Jews of Greece for the government's friendly attitude.

Late in July, 1937, the governor of Macedonia submitted a plan to the government for a housing project in Salonika to relieve a severe housing shortage in the Jewish
quarter of that city. The plan called for joint financing of the government and the Jewish community.

In October, a Palestine Arab delegation which was on tour of south European countries, arrived in Athens and urged the Greek Orthodox Archbishop and government officials to appoint a commission to investigate the Christian Holy places in Palestine.

In the same month, the Palestine Foundation Fund of Greece, which had been inactive for nine years, was revived and held a conference in Salonika.

Late in May, it was announced that six Jewish graduates of military schools had been appointed officers in the Greek Army.

4. Latvia

The Jewish situation in Latvia is much less favorable than that of the Jews in Estonia and in Lithuania. It appears that the Latvian regime is following a consistent policy of reducing the number of Jews in the economic and professional fields.

Reduction in industry and commerce is achieved by applying a recently enacted law giving the government authority "to take possession of any commercial enterprise in the country should this be in the interest of the State." A number of textile plants, breweries, tanneries, and chocolate factories, owned by Jews, have been taken over by the government under this law. The owners receive compensation, but are unable to re-invest the proceeds, and Jewish employees are dismissed. Jewish artisans are unable to open shops because they are excluded from membership in the corporative chambers of artisans.

Jewish graduates from law schools are refused membership in the bar associations and are thereby prevented from practicing. The enrollment of Jews in medical schools is effectively kept down by severe examinations; graduates find it well-nigh impossible to practice because they are excluded from service in the sick benefit panels.

Latvia's once prosperous Jewish community of 97,000 souls, in a total population of 2,000,000, is thus being
relentlessly pushed towards the brink of economic ruin as the Latvian regime determinedly presses on with its program of eliminating the minorities, and making Latvia a country for “Latvians” only.

5. Lithuania

Although there were sporadic anti-Jewish incidents, especially by Nazis in the Memel district, the Jewish situation in Lithuania was, on the whole, a peaceful one during the review period. Such anti-Jewish outbreaks as did occur were speedily quelled and the instigators punished. An effort to introduce “ghetto benches” in one of the high schools at the capital was sternly condemned and stopped. A new constitution came into force on February 16, 1938, the twentieth anniversary of Lithuania’s independence. It did not contain the minorities clauses in the former charter, but did include a guarantee of equality of all citizens regardless of race or creed. The President, Antona Smetona, and other officials, in addresses at various Jewish celebrations took occasion to praise the Jewish population, to pledge fair treatment to it, and to express gratitude for the part taken by Jews in important political centers to help Lithuania regain her independence.

Interesting events in Jewish communal life included the holding, in Kaunas, of the Baltic Maccabiade, Jewish sports festival, in which a thousand athletes from Lithuania, Latvia and Esthonia participated; and the establishment of a “Jewish Brides Cooperative” to provide members with dowries upon their marriage.

6. Soviet Russia

a. Jewish Farm Settlements

Events of Jewish interest in Soviet Russia during the year, as has been the case now for a number of years, were concerned chiefly with the work of the organizations in settling Jews on the land. As the year came to a close, reports indicated that the Government, considering its work in this field completed and its Jewish problem solved,
was preparing to liquidate these activities. American organizations operating in the Soviet Union were likewise preparing to liquidate.

On December 22, 1937, it was announced that Jews working on collective farms in the Crimea occupied 157,027 hectares (about 392,000 acres). They were organized in eighty-five farms, owning the land in perpetuity. The number of children under 16 of these farmers was 7,000. According to the report, the conditions of the Jewish farmers were very prosperous.

On December 27, President Michael Kalinin praised the Kalinindorf Jewish region in a telegram of greeting to collective farmers and other workers, on the tenth anniversary of the founding of the first Jewish region in Soviet Russia.

On January 3, 1938, it was reported that the Soviet Government was considering discontinuing its agreement with the ORT in Russia with a view to terminating ORT activities in the country, because of its belief that such activities were no longer necessary, as the Government authorities were carrying on the work. (The ORT reported that it had spent 6,000,000 rubles in 1937, chiefly for introducing new trades among Jews on collective farms.) This report drew from Dr. David Lvovitch, vice-president of the World ORT Union, a statement on January 5, in which he declared that the activities of the ORT had been conducted on the basis of five-year agreements between the ORT and the Russian Government, that the existing one terminated at the end of 1938, and that a new program was then being negotiated.

On January 21, it was announced, that the ORT was planning the transfer of part of its activities in Russia to the Government. The Ózet, Russian society for Jewish land settlement, would take over the work being done on the cooperative farms of the Crimea, the Ukraine and Biro-Bidjan, such as toy-making and millinery, while other agencies would take over re-training and other activities in small townships. The ORT would limit its activities in Russia to the training of the Jewish population for new trades, it being understood that trained artisans
would join cooperatives immediately on completion of their training.

The attitude of the Government to this entire problem of rehabilitation became known on June 23, when it was announced that it had begun liquidation of the Comzet, Government commission for settlement of Jews on land, which in its fourteen years of existence had directed the greatest Jewish colonization work in history. The reports indicated that a liquidation committee had been established to wind up the affairs of the Comzet, and also eventually to liquidate all foreign Jewish relief organizations operating in Russia, under a plan permitting them to transfer part of their investments abroad in foreign currency under existing agreements with the Soviet Government, while their work would be continued by local Soviet organizations without any suffering during the transitory period.

The American Jewish Joint Agricultural Corporation (Agro-Joint), the Jewish Colonization Association (ICA), and the ORT, it was reported, were all taking steps to liquidate their activities in Russia. The Agro-Joint alone, affiliated with the J. D. C., had invested $10,000,000 in colonies, workshops, apparatus, and equipment, about $5,500,000 of which will have been repaid by the end of 1938, representing funds invested since 1928 under an agreement in which the Soviet Government guaranteed repayment in dollars. The $4,500,000 invested in the four preceding years has been recovered in rubles and reinvested in the Jewish colonies. There are now 242 Agro-Joint colonies in the Crimea and the Ukraine. The Jewish colonization activities in Russia, it was revealed, cover 3,000,000 acres of land.

b. Biro-Bidjan

Addressing the fifth plenary session of the Ozet on November 30, 1937, Simon Dimanstein, president, blamed "unworthy elements" such as Trotskyites and Bucharinites for what he called recent wrecking activities in Biro-Bidjan, and urged the creation of shock troops to build
the region into a Jewish State based on the Stalin constitution. Discussing progress of the upbuilding work in Biro-Bidjan since the last plenary meeting in 1935, he reported that the region had greatly developed, particularly the industries, schools and agriculture; that collective farms had grown richer; and that house-building was being developed on a large scale.

As a result of the increasing apprehension among Jewish organizations regarding the tendency of Jewish settlers to leave and take up employment in industry and office work, it was reported on April 19, 1938 that an officially-inspired movement had been launched to keep the old settlers in Biro-Bidjan. At a meeting in celebration of the tenth anniversary of the beginning of the settlement of Jews in Biro-Bidjan, a group of pioneers appealed to the more recent settlers to remain in the region. The Jewish press in Russia has frequently voiced anxiety regarding the insufficient number of prospective settlers and the rapid turnover of colonists.

On May 17, President Mikhail Kalinin telegraphed “warm greetings to the workers, peasants and intellectuals of the Jewish autonomous region” of Biro-Bidjan on the tenth anniversary of the beginning of settlement there.

c. Other Events

On August 18, 1937, reports from Moscow indicated that Emes, the Yiddish Communist newspaper, was carrying on agitation for a renewal of atheistic propaganda in order to counteract evidences of a religious revival among Jews in Russia. The Emes reported that an energetic religious campaign was being conducted by rabbis “not without success”, and that, as a result, scores of children in the province of Mohilev-Podolsk had stayed away from school during the Passover holidays and had participated in the Seder ceremony. The newspaper went on to report that many children were receiving instruction from Jewish religious teachers in addition to their regular
schooling, and called upon regular school teachers to give anti-religious instruction to the children.

On January 20, 1938, the Polish Rabbis' Association of Warsaw informed the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that it had received reports from Russia telling of the arrests of many rabbis there.

On December 9, 1937, it was reported from Paris that a number of Jewish refugee physicians from Germany who were employed in Soviet hospitals, had been ordered to leave the country as a part of a general drive against foreigners. About eighty German Jewish physicians live in Russia, and it was feared that all would be affected if the anti-alien measures were carried out.

On December 21, it was announced that the Soviet Government literary publishing house, Goslitizdat, was preparing to publish in 1938, first in the Russian language and then in Yiddish, an anthology of medieval Hebrew literature, including works by Jehudah Halevi, Ibn Ezra, and others. The translations were being prepared by prominent Hebrew and Yiddish writers.

7. Yugoslavia

In spite of the increasing strength of German influence and agitation in Yugoslavia, especially during the persecution of Jews in Roumania by the Goga regime, and after the annexation of Austria, the Government and the people showed a marked resistance to anti-Jewish propaganda.

Thus, on December 19, 1937, Prof. Hondl, the rector of Zagreb University, flatly rejected a demand by students for introduction of "ghetto benches," similar to those instituted in Poland.

On December 27, the Ministry of Justice announced it was taking steps to prevent the recurrence of such anti-Jewish agitation as had been carried on by the German anti-Jewish newspaper, Erwache, the editor of which was
prosecuted at the instigation of the Union of Jewish Communities.

On March 3, 1938, Dr. Ragoliub Todorovic, vice-mayor of Belgrade and prominent member of the Yugoslav Radical Union, Government party, declared, at a conference of Belgrade Jews, that anti-Semitism is alien to the national spirit of the Serbs and that the Jews would continue to enjoy full security in Yugoslavia.

On April 7, Dr. Radenko Stancovic, one of Yugoslavia's three royal regents, gave similar assurances to Dr. Bukic, president of the Belgrade Sephardic Community as well as of the B'nai B'rith.

An interview with Dr. Vladimir Macek, leader of the Croatian Peasant Party and head of the United Opposition was published on May 5, denouncing anti-Semitism. On the same day sympathy for the Jewish people and Palestine upbuilding was also expressed by Regent Prince Paul in an audience granted to Dr. David Albala, vice-president of the Union of Jewish Communities.

The outbreaks in Roumania and Austria caused the Yugoslavian Government to take steps to prevent the influx of refugees from these countries and to keep careful check of the foreign Jews already in the country. On January 17, 1938, the Interior Ministry issued orders for a drastic check-up on all foreign Jews living in Yugoslavia in what was understood to be a preliminary to restricting their residence in the country. It was estimated that there were about 1,000 Jewish families of foreign citizenship, 40% Polish; the majority were small traders.

On June 1, it was reported that the authorities had granted temporary refuge to forty refugees from Burgenland, Austria, without visas, who had been forced across the border by Nazis. The Government took this action upon the intervention of the Union of Yugoslavian Jewish Communities and Sir Neill Malcolm, League of Nations High Commissioner for German Refugees.
XI. PALESTINE

1. The Partition Proposal

The Report of the Royal Commission for Palestine recommending partition of the country was published at the opening of the year under review. (See official summary in Vol. 39 pp. 503–556). The immediate effect was to divide all elements interested in Palestine into partition and non-partition camps. Palestine itself throughout the summer of 1938 seethed with excitement as factional groups among both Arabs and Jews prepared to fight the partition plan or to support it. Parliamentary debate in England flared into heated discussion, and reverberations were heard in Geneva at meetings of the Permanent Mandates Commission. Naturally, the World Zionist Congress at Zurich was the scene of a struggle between Jewish partition and anti-partition forces, while another chapter was written at the meeting of the Jewish Agency at which the non-Zionist representatives, led by the late Felix M. Warburg, came out unalterably against partition. In the meantime, Arab opposition to partition took the form of continued disturbances in Palestine.

a. Parliamentary Debates

Debate upon the question was opened in the House of Lords on July 20, 1937 by Lord Snell who placed the Labor Party on record against partition. The Royal Commission, he remarked, was recommending a “surgical operation which was more dangerous than the disease.” Lord Dufferin and Ava, speaking for the Government, replied that conditions in Palestine had become “intolerable to ourselves and a menace to those whose interest we are trying to protect.” He warned, furthermore, that the Government would not entertain any “large, substantial variations” from the Royal Commission’s plan unless Jews and Arabs jointly made proposals acceptable to the Government.

Nevertheless, Viscount Samuel, the first High Com-
missioner of Palestine, presented an alternative plan during the course of the debate. He urged that political expediency should become the gauge for Jewish immigration to Palestine, replacing the principle of economic absorptive capacity, and that Jews should limit themselves for a period of years to forty per cent of the country's population. He also urged Jews to recognize the "reality of Arab national aspirations," and that in return the Arabs should consent to the opening of the Transjordan to Jewish immigration. Lord Samuel's plan met with bitter criticism in Zionist circles.

The following day, debate opened in the House of Commons, and though the Government made a vigorous attempt to obtain unqualified approval of the Royal Commission plan, Commons adopted a resolution asking the Government to place the issue before the League of Nations before recommending a definite scheme to Parliament.

The Government's position was outlined by Colonial Secretary William Ormsby-Gore. The problem of Palestine, he declared, was "a problem not confined to Palestine but one that involves the whole of Jewry throughout the world and the whole Moslem world as well." He traced the conflicting claims of Jews and Arabs. In discussing the Arab position, he asserted that the British government had never admitted that Palestine west of the Jordan was included in the pledge that Sir Henry McMahon, then British High Commissioner for Egypt, had made to the Sherif of Mecca. He pointed out that the declaration had been approved by the Cabinet and the Allied Powers with the full knowledge of his pledge, and that the Arab delegates of the Peace Conference at Versailles fully recognized the unique character of Palestine. As for the Jews, he declared: "The pledge made by Great Britain and the other Allied Powers was not Palestine as a home for the Jews, it was a national home in Palestine and there is a distinction."

"But the whole effect of the Mandate," he said, "had been to deepen the breach between Jews and Arabs;" and he saw partition as the only hope of establishing peace between the two groups.
Despite this plea, however, the opposition introduced an amendment calling for a joint Parliament Committee that would closely examine the partition plan before any decision was reached. The amendment was introduced by Morgan Jones, as spokesman for the Labor Party. He suggested the calling of an Arab-Jewish round table conference similar to the procedure followed in the case of the Indian Constitution, and urged that Parliament be not committed to the scheme at this early stage, expressing skepticism as to whether the partition plan would work at all.

The extended debate saw vigorous criticism of the Government for undue haste and lack of careful planning, but it was evident that, although the Government was strong enough to avert a defeat, its proposals were unpopular. A compromise amendment was finally introduced jointly by David Lloyd George and Winston Churchill. The amendment, as adopted by Commons, instructed the Government to bring the partition plan "before the League of Nations with a view to enabling his Majesty's Government after adequate inquiry to present to Parliament a definite scheme, taking into full account all recommendations of the Government's White Paper." The amendment gave the Government an opportunity to withdraw from its attempt to force adoption of the partition plan and at the same time did not commit Commons to the principle of partition.

b. Discussion by Permanent Mandates Commission

The Palestine question came before the League at an extraordinary session of the Mandates Commission on July 30. Ormsby-Gore, representing the British Government, urged that the Mandates Commission accept the partition principle, but declared that the British Government was not committed "in detail to the particular scheme of partition outlined in the final chapters of the Royal Commission Report."

At the same time, a delegation, representing the Arab
Higher Committee, submitted a memorandum to the Mandates Commission asking abolition of the Palestine Mandate and establishment of an independent Arab state under a treaty with Great Britain similar to the one with Iraq. Two days later, however, a memorandum was submitted to the Mandates Commission by an Arab delegation headed by the Foreign Minister of Iraq which declared that an agreement between Arabs and Jews could be achieved without dividing the country. The memorandum urged the establishment of Palestine as an independent state with the Jews accepting the position of a minority group.

In the meantime, the Mandates Commission had proceeded to examine the Palestine question anew and to accept the Royal Commission Report only as one of the proposed solutions to the problem. The hearings continued for three weeks and, on August 22, a report was submitted to the League Council. An official summary of the report, made public by the League Secretariat, expressed the Mandates Commission's view that the statement by the Royal Commission and the British Government that the Mandate was unworkable actually made the Mandate unworkable. The League body favored the partition proposals of the Royal Commission in principle, but advocated a period of political "apprenticeships" for the two states, either under a canton system, or under separate mandates until such time as each could give proof of ability to govern itself. It foresaw, however, that unless there was an improvement in Arab-Jewish relations, the fixing of boundaries between the two states, no matter how wisely done, would give rise to new conflict and new suffering. The full text of the report was made public a few weeks later and revealed that the Mandates Commission had placed the blame for the 1936 riots upon the Arabs and upon the failure of Great Britain to establish martial law. It further held that British action in restricting Jewish immigration to 1,000 a month was a violation of the Mandate which set up economic absorptive capacity as the principle of Jewish immigration.
c. Action by Zionist Congress

By this time the World Zionist Organization had held its historic and stormy 20th biennial Congress in Zurich, followed by an even stormier meeting of the Council of the Jewish Agency for Palestine. The party caucuses and group meetings which preceded the opening of the Congress on August 3, revealed the growing strength of those factions favoring partition, despite a vigorous opposition. The American delegation had come pledged to oppose partition, but a number of delegates announced that they did not feel bound by the action of the American Zionist Congress. It soon became evident that Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, would recommend partition and that the opposition forces would be led by M. M. Ussishkin, president of the Jewish National Fund.

The Congress opened in a tense atmosphere. In a dramatic address that foreshadowed his plea for acceptance of the partition principle propounded by the Royal Commission report, Dr. Weizmann denied nevertheless that the Mandate was unworkable. "Underlying the report there is a fundamental misconception," he declared. "The report's main thesis is that the Mandate is unworkable. That is a proposition which we deny and our denial is supported by the record of achievement in almost every direction since 1922. In fact it is not the Mandate which is unworkable. The difficulty is that it has been administered half-heartedly by an administration which failed to make a really serious attempt to work it."

Definite recommendation that the partition principle be accepted was made by Dr. Weizmann next day. At the same time he assailed the proposals that had been made by Viscount Samuel in the House of Lords. Replying to Dr. Weizmann, Mr. Ussishkin denounced the yielding of any part of the Mandate, declaring that "what we are offered is a Jewish State in name but not in substance."

The debate was continued behind closed doors after the Congress voted 285 to 115 to hold all discussions on the partition issue in camera. As the debate continued it became evident that sentiment for the acceptance of Dr.
Weizmann's proposal was increasing. Dr. Weizmann himself made an urgent appeal for its acceptance, asserting that 2,000,000 Jews could enter the Jewish state within twenty years at the rate of 100,000 annually.

On August 8, in an all-night session, Dr. Wise bitterly assailed the partition plan and asserted that the Jews would be guilty of violating a trust if they accepted it. Dr. Weizmann addressed the delegates again and again in support of his proposal and was supported by David Ben-Gurion, leader of the Labor Zionists. Mr. Ben-Gurion saw in the establishment of a Jewish state the "beginning of redemption awaited 2,000 years."

On August 10, as debate drew to a close, Mr. Ussishkin and Dr. Weizmann clashed again. Mr. Ussishkin asserted that there was no economic basis for the proposed state and said he was unable to see how it could support itself and cover its state budget. In reply, Dr. Weizmann declared that "the thing for us to do is to make the best of what we are offered." He concluded by appealing to the Congress to accept the partition principle and leave the rest for the future. A further last-minute appeal was made by Dr. Wise, who accused Dr. Weizmann of smothering criticism of Britain and Mr. Ben-Gurion of coming around to support partition as a result of the 1936 Palestine disorders. Mr. Ben-Gurion replied that he would have supported partition as early as 1935, were such a proposal offered.

The next day the Congress voted overwhelmingly to adopt the majority resolution which empowered the incoming Executive—without committing itself or the Zionist Organization—to negotiate with Great Britain and to report to a special Congress if a plan for a State arose from the parleys. The resolution also rejected the conclusions of the Royal Commission that the Mandate was unworkable and held that the partition scheme proposed by the Commission was "unacceptable." It directed the Executive to resist infringement of Jewish rights "internationally guaranteed by the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate." The roll call vote, taken midst the uproar, was 300 to 158, with 27 abstaining.
A minority resolution, introduced by Dr. Wise, called on the Congress to oppose the dismemberment of Palestine and to seek fulfillment of the Mandate. It was supported by the Mizrachi Organization, the Jewish State Party of Palestine, the Hashomer Hatzair (Laborite Youths), a majority of Group B General Zionists, a small number of Group A Zionists, including Dr. Wise and Robert Szold of New York, and 14 of the 18 Hadassah delegates.

After the storm of the partition debate, which had been marked throughout by bitter personal clashes between the leaders, had died down, the Congress quickly disposed of the remainder of the agenda.

A budget of 365,000 pounds (about $1,825,000) for Palestine colonization and other normal activities during the coming year was approved, and Weizmann was elected President of the World Zionist Organization for his seventh two-year term. The Executive was also re-elected with three assistant members added. In addition to Dr. Weizmann, the Executive included David Ben Gurion, Selig Brodetsky, Isaac Gruenbaum, Rabbi J. L. Fishman, Dr. F. Rottenstreich, and Moshe Shertok. Ussishkin was re-elected President of the Zionist General Council, supreme Zionist body in intervals between Congresses, and was given the right to sit with the Executive. The assistant members named to the Executive were Abraham Dobkin, of Palestine; the Rev. Maurice L. Perlzweig of England, and Moshe Shapiro, representing the Mizrachi Laborites.

The Congress also elected seventy members to the Zionist General Council and instructed the Council to establish a political committee in London, which is to cooperate with the Executive on all political matters. Those elected to the political committee were Lord Melchett, Prof. L. B. Namier, Harry Sachar and Leonard Stein, all of England; and Rabbi Meier Berlin and Berl Katznelson, of Palestine.

d. Jewish Agency Action

On August 11, the day that the World Zionist Congress adopted its resolution to negotiate with the British Government on the setting up of a Jewish State, the late Felix M. Warburg and a group of American non-Zionists, sailing to
participate in the meetings of the Council of the Jewish Agency in Zurich, issued a statement declaring that "the Zionist Congress speaks only for its own members and not for the Jews throughout the world who are not directly affiliated with it."

Foreshadowing the determined anti-partition stand to be taken by the American non-Zionists at the Agency meeting, Mr. Warburg declared: "We believe that no lasting peace in Palestine can be obtained until the parties directly affected, namely the Jews and the Arabs, have been given a full opportunity to endeavor to arrive at a peaceful understanding. We shall strive to arrive at a peaceful adjustment not only with non-Zionists but with the Zionists as well, and then with a united front, go forward to treat with representatives of the Arabs in a spirit of lasting peaceful understanding for the solution of our great common problem, for the upbuilding of Palestine and to avert partition of Palestine, a land too small to be divided."

This stand was reiterated by Mr. Warburg, as the spokesman of the American non-Zionists, on August 17, at a non-Zionist caucus that preceded the opening of the Agency Council sessions the next day. He urged non-Zionists to "cool off the hotheads in the ranks of Zionism favoring Palestine partition," declaring he wanted Palestine to "live in peace, not in broken pieces." He reiterated that peace should be concluded with the Arabs before negotiations with the British Government are begun.

Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency, as spokesman for the Zionists, replied to Mr. Warburg at the opening meeting of the Agency Council the next day. He declared that there would be no retreat on the part of Zionists from the stand taken at the Zionist Congress and that it was up to the Agency Council now "either to approve, reject or modify" the Zionist Congress resolution.

Mr. Warburg's response was a further plea for a round-table conference between Jews and Arabs, indicating that American non-Zionists might be compelled to leave the Agency if the Council decided on a policy which did not call for peaceful negotiations with the Arabs prior to negotiations with Great Britain. "Every perfection of the
scheme for a Jewish State will be more irritation to the Arabs," he said. "I beg you do not let down your ideals for something that only seems like a State."

The following day, August 19, Dr. Judah L. Magnes, president of the Hebrew University, introduced a resolution on behalf of the American non-Zionist bloc, calling for the establishment of a committee comprising Zionists and non-Zionists in equal number to negotiate with the League of Nations, Great Britain and the United States to consider the best method of establishing an Arab-Jewish bi-national state in an undivided Palestine. He warned that the creation of a Jewish state without the prior consent of the Arabs would lead to an Arab-Jewish war, stating, "I do not want to see a Jewish state conceived and born in warfare." In reply, Dr. Weizmann declared that bi-nationalism could provide no basis for negotiations and that efforts to negotiate with the Arabs had been fruitless. He expressed willingness, however, to accept the committee provided for in the resolution.

The split between the Zionists and the non-Zionists came dramatically the next morning when the American non-Zionists walked out of a meeting of the Political Committee of the Agency Council as it became evident that a vote would be forced immediately on the Magnes resolution and the resolution adopted at the World Zionist Congress. After the American non-Zionists, led by Mr. Warburg, had left, the Zionist resolution was voted upon and carried by a large majority.

Immediately efforts were begun to heal the breach. Professor Norman Bentwich, British non-Zionist, introduced an amendment to the Zionist resolution providing for negotiations with the Arabs for cooperation in an undivided Palestine as well as approving negotiations with Great Britain looking toward the establishment of the Jewish State. Dr. Weizmann in the meantime met with Mr. Warburg to see if a compromise could be reached.

While the compromise measures were being worked out, the Agency Council adjourned its sessions. The new resolution, finally presented to a plenary session of the Council, on August 22, provided both for negotiations with Great Britain on the establishment of a Jewish State and
for conferences with the Arabs to seek a peaceful settlement in an undivided Palestine. In introducing the resolution as the result of the negotiation between the Zionist and non-Zionist leaders, Dr. Weizmann lauded the statesmanship of the non-Zionist representatives of the Council, Mr. Warburg, Sol M. Stroock and Max D. Steuer. At the same time, he stressed the ties to Great Britain declaring: "Come what may the Jewish people will remain bound to Britain by unbreakable ties of gratitude and good will."

The resolution, adopted by the Council, which summarizes the resolution of the Zionist Congress, follows:

1. The fifth session of the council of the Jewish Agency for Palestine takes note of the political resolution adopted by the twentieth Zionist Congress and expresses its agreement with its main conclusion.

2. The council rejects the assertion of the Palestine Royal Commission that the Palestine Mandate has proved unworkable. The council directs the executive to resist any infringement of the rights of the Jewish people internationally guaranteed by the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate. The council condemns the "palliative proposals" put forward by the Royal Commission as a policy for implementing the Mandate, which involve an arbitrary curtailment of Jewish immigration, abandonment of the principle of economic absorptive capacity as a basis for immigration policy, and severe limitations on Jewish land settlement.

3. The council expresses its strongest opposition to His Majesty's Government's decision to fix a political high level for Jewish immigration in all categories for the next eight months, which it regards as a violation of Jewish immigration rights and undertakings repeatedly given in this regard by His Majesty's Government and confirmed by the League of Nations.

3. The council reaffirms the declaration of its previous session expressing readiness to reach a peaceful settlement with the Arabs of Palestine based on a free development of both the Jewish and Arab peoples and mutual recognition of their respective rights. It directs the executive to persevere in its effort to this end and with
this object in view, to request His Majesty's Government to convene a conference of Jews and Arabs of Palestine with a view to exploring the possibilities of making a peaceful settlement between Jews and Arabs in and for an undivided Palestine on the basis of the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate.

4. While regarding the partition scheme put forward by the Royal Commission as unacceptable, the council empowers the executive to enter negotiations with a view to ascertaining the precise terms of His Majesty's Government for the proposed establishment of a Jewish State. In such negotiations the executive shall not commit either itself or the Jewish Agency, but, in the event of the emergence of a definite scheme for the establishment of a Jewish State, such a scheme shall be brought before a special session of the council for consideration and decision.

With the partition resolution settled, the Council meeting quickly disposed of non-Zionist demands for parity on the Executive of the Agency. Although the non-Zionists did not achieve complete parity on the Executive, nevertheless, they increased their strength from the ratio of 3 to 7 to a ratio of nominally 5 to 7. The two new non-Zionist members are Mrs. Edward Jacobs of New York City, and Dr. Arthur Ruppin of Jerusalem. The other non-Zionist members, re-elected to the Executive, are Maurice J. Karpf of New York, Maurice Hexter, and Werner Senator of Jerusalem. An indication of the nature of this compromise was noted in the fact that the two new non-Zionist members of the Agency's Executive belong to the Zionist Organization. The seven Zionist members of the Executive are David Ben Gurion, Selig Brodetsky, Eliezer Kaplan, Fisher Rotenstreich, Itzhak Greenbaum, Rabbi Fishman, and Moshe Shertok. The Council also gave Mr. Ussishkin and Nahum Goldman ex-officio seats on the Executive with a right to vote on political issues. Dr. Weizmann was re-elected president of the Executive.

The Agency also elected a political advisory committee of thirteen members, six non-Zionists and seven Zionists, to assist in negotiations. The non-Zionists were Felix M.
Warburg, with Max Gottschalk of Belgium as his deputy, the Marquess of Reading, Sir Osmond d’Avigdor Goldsmid, Lionel Cohen, Neville Laski, and Prof. Herbert Speyer. The Zionist members include Lord Melchett, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, Rabbi Meier Berlin, Berl Katznelson, Prof. Namier, Harry Sacker, and Leonard Stein. Lord Melchett was elected chairman of the Council of the Agency, with Morris Rothenberg of New York as joint chairman.

The Budget Committee approved the budget of £365,000 (about $1,825,000), voted by the Executive for the coming year, urging, however, that in view of the increased needs, it should be increased to at least £600,000 (about $3,000,000).

e. League Council and Assembly

The scene of discussion of the Palestine partition issue shifted once more to the League of Nations when at the opening session of the Council of the League on September 10, Council President Juan Negrin of Spain was empowered to appoint a sub-committee to study with rapporteur Antonescu of Roumania the report of the Mandates Commission. The sub-committee brought in a recommendation that the Mandates Commission report be accepted and, on September 15, British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, addressing the Council, asked that the British Government be authorized to appoint a new commission to go to Palestine to work out a partition scheme. The following day, the Council unanimously adopted a resolution authorizing Great Britain to establish such a commission to pursue “the study of the problem of Palestine’s status while concentrating on a solution involving partition of the territory.” The Council, however, withheld its opinion on partition until a detailed plan would be proposed.

In the meantime, the Assembly of the League adopted a resolution which authorized the Sixth (Political) Commission to discuss the reports of the Palestine Administration and the Mandates Commission. The Sixth Commission opened its proceedings on September 17, and debated the Palestine question for a full week. When debate closed, the Sixth Commission adopted a resolution recom-
mending that opinion on the British partition proposal be reserved in view of the fact that the League Council had authorized Britain to continue examination of the problem. During the course of the debate, both Lord Cranborne, British Foreign Under-Secretary and M. Paul Boncour of France made this point. The representatives of Egypt, Iran, and Iraq protested the partition of Palestine as offering no solution to the Arab-Jewish problem and as being unacceptable to the Arabs. The representatives of Czecho-Slovakia, speaking in the name of the Little Entente, urged an increase in Jewish immigration to Palestine, while Poland and Norway urged that the proposed Jewish state be given larger territory. Statements sympathetic to the Jews were also made by representatives of Lithuania, Latvia and Haiti, while Eamon de Valera, president of the Irish Free State (now Eire) condemned partition as “the cruellest wrong that could be done any people.”

In the meantime, the heralded Pan-Arab Congress had been held at Bludan, Syria. Meeting on September 12, the Congress failed to achieve the stature of a Pan-Arabic meeting, restricting itself to discussion of Palestine affairs and adopting the view of the Arab extremists in Palestine, in resolutions calling for abolition of the Balfour Declaration, abolition of the British Mandate, stoppage of Jewish immigration, and conclusion of an Arab-British treaty on Palestine similar to the Anglo-Iraq treaty.

f. The Woodhead Technical Commission

Throughout this period it had been repeatedly reported that Sir Arthur Grenfell Wauchope would retire as High Commissioner of Palestine. These reports were finally confirmed when on December 3, the British Colonial office announced the appointment of Sir Harold Alfred MacMichael, governor of the Tanganyika Territory in Africa, as successor to Sir Arthur. He became the fifth High Commissioner since the establishment of the Mandate. A month later, just before Sir Harold was to assume his duties in Palestine, the British Government issued a White
Paper defining the scope of the new partition commission which had been authorized by the League of Nations. The new commission, after due study, was to recommend boundaries for the proposed Arab and Jewish states and to examine and report on economic and financial questions involved in partition. The commission was to be largely a technical body and its functions were to be "confined to ascertaining the facts and considering in detail the practical possibilities of the scheme of partition."

On February 28, 1938, three of the four members of the Partition Commission were named by the Colonial Secretary. Sir John Woodhead was appointed chairman and Sir Alison Russell and A. P. Waterfield as members of the Commission. The name of the fourth member, Thomas Reid, chairman of the League of Nations Commission superintending the election in the Sanjak and Alexandretta, was revealed on March 30.

The announcement of the White Paper caused the London Executive of the Jewish Agency to issue a statement deploring the delay and suspense that the extended investigation by the new commission would cause.

The Partition Commission arrived in Palestine on April 27 and held its first informal session the following day. Announcement was made that the commission would make a tour of the country and would begin formal sessions within a fortnight. The meetings began on May 16 but were held in camera. The first session was attended by Dr. Chaim Weizmann, David Ben Gurion and other members of the Jewish Agency. Pinchos Ruttenberg, founder of the Jordan hydro-electric works, testified before the Commission on May 22, and Chief Justice Harry H. Trusted appeared at the closed session the following day. Dr. Weizmann, Ben-Gurion and other members of the Jewish Agency political department testified in camera on May 25. They were followed, a few days later, by District Commissioner Robert E. H. Crosbie, Sir Charles Togart, adviser to the Palestine Police, Northern District Commissioner Morris Baily, and Health Director Col. George W. Heron.

The Commission then went on a week's tour of Tiberias and the Transjordan, returning on June 10 to resume executive sessions. Testifying before the Commission
again were Mr. Ben-Gurion, Moshe Shertok and Bernard Joseph of the Jewish Agency, and Zalman Lipschitz, chief engineer of the Palestine Land Development Corporation. Others who testified were General Robert Haining, commander-in-chief of the British forces in Palestine, Major Clark and Captain Kullians of the general staff, and Neville Barbour, protagonist of the Arab case.

The Partition Commission held its first public hearing on June 20 when Prof. Benjamin Akzin, acting president of the New Zionist Organization, appeared before it. Professor Akzin denounced partition as "a scheme to close Jewish immigration, because in those areas where it is permitted, it is impossible, and where it is impossible it is permitted." He asserted that any effort to execute a partition plan would meet with "justifiable" resistance from both Jews and Arabs."

At a second public session on June 22, James Ashton, representing the World State Volunteers, urged the establishment of an Arab state in both Palestine and the Transjordan with the Jews in a minority status. The next day the Commission resumed in camera sessions and received a memorandum from the Va'ad Leumi, whose executive committee testified on June 27.

In the meantime, the Jewish Agency for Palestine had submitted its annual memorandum on the development of the Jewish national home to the League of Nations. In an accompanying letter, Dr. Weizmann, as president of the Agency, urged the removal of restrictions on immigration and the reduction to a minimum of the "period of uncertainty" in which Palestine was finding itself. He also urged the regularization of the status of illegal immigrants in Palestine in line with the recommendations of the Peel Royal Commission; a continued effort upon the part of the Government armed forces to check terrorism; a reinterpretation of Article 18 of the Mandate to enable Palestine to conduct its own commercial negotiations with other countries; and the extension of long term Government loans to agriculturists and manufacturers.

On June 9, the Permanent Mandates Commission met in Geneva to hear the British report on the Palestine adminis-
tation for the year 1937. During the hearings, stress was laid on the continued disorders in Palestine and doubt was expressed as to the legality of restriction of immigration. Sir John Shuckburgh, deputy undersecretary of the Colonial Office, appeared before the commission for the British Government. He pointed out that Britain could not act more quickly on partition because the League Council had decided that the mandatory power could not adopt any decisive measures without League authority. He declared that both the rioting and the restrictions on immigration were linked to the larger partition problem.

2. Arab Disorders

The immediate effect of the publication of the Royal Commission Report, at the beginning of the period under review, had been to increase the number and violence of the sporadic disorders that had become a common phenomenon of Palestine life. The disorders resulted in scores of deaths and hundreds of injuries during the course of the summer months of 1937, and were climaxed by the dramatic murder by three Arabs of Lewis Yellend Andrews, district commissioner for Galilee, and his bodyguard Constable Peter R. McEwen, on the steps of the Anglican Church in Nazareth, on September 26.

The assassination created a furore in both England and Palestine and brought the tension in the country to a high pitch. *The Times* of London, editorially condemned the Palestine administration for its "incapacity to protect one of its ablest servants." It declared that "the methods of conciliation" had failed again. The Palestine government, in the meantime, took immediate and drastic steps. A reward of $50,000 was posted for the capture of the Arab terrorists who had slain the officials, and hundreds of Arab leaders and suspects were arrested. Many of them were sent to concentration camps.

On October 1, the Government delivered the blow designed to smash the power behind the terrorist activities. Acting on the power granted it by the Palestine Defense Order in Council, the Government conducted raids upon
the homes of the members of the Arab Higher Committee, arrested its members, announced the outlawing of the Committee and all its affiliates and deposed the Grand Mufti, Haj Amin El Husseini, as president of the Moslem Supreme Council, a government-paid office. The Mufti took refuge in the Mosque of Omar in Jerusalem where he remained surrounded by British troops. Other Arab leaders were taken aboard a warship to be sent into exile to the Seychelles Island in the Indian Ocean.

Vigorous military action was also taken and border patrols increased to prevent further disorder, as Arab resentment against the drastic measures grew. But despite these military precautions, acts of violence continued and Arabs began to organize a strike in protest against the arrests and the outlawing of the Arab Higher Committee. On October 14 and 15, the wrecking of a train carrying British troops, and a pitched battle between Arabs and police resulted in a total of nine deaths. A 7:30 curfew was established in Jerusalem and military activity increased as the violence continued to spread.

While attention was drawn to the growing number of deaths and injuries resulting from the disorders, the Grand Mufti escaped to Syria from his sanctuary in the Mosque of Omar, leaving behind him an inflammatory manifesto bidding Arabs to continue fighting for their freedom.

Though the military took drastic action and heavy collective fines were levied against Arab towns, the list of dead and injured and the losses in property damage continued to mount throughout the months of October and November. About a third of the famous Balfour Forest in the Nazareth Hills, for instance, was destroyed by fire, on October 27, the loss being estimated at $150,000, while a single attack by Arab terrorists on the settlement of Kirviat Anavim caused the death of five Jewish colonists on November 9. The immediate result of this incident was the establishment of military courts empowered to take summary action and to impose death sentences upon terrorists.

A week later serious disturbances broke out in Jerusalem, resulting in two bloody days of street fighting. Troops
patrolled the streets with machine guns in armored cars and a stringent curfew law was established. Some fifty Zionist-Revisionist youths were arrested, and the Jewish Agency issued an appeal against retaliatory action by Jews against Arabs.

Evidently bent upon checking the terrorist disorders by means of the military tribunals, British troops and police continued to make scores of arrests and, on November 24, a military court condemned to death seventy-year old Sheikh Faryan Essadi in Haifa for possession of arms in violation of emergency regulations. He was hanged at Acre prison three days later. The execution was a signal for further demonstrations, bombings, and terrorist acts, not only in Palestine but also in neighboring Arab countries.

The violence continued unabated throughout December and into the new year, resulting in wide property damage and death to scores of Arabs, Jews and British troops and constabulary. The heavy sentences pronounced by the military tribunals seemed to have little effect, although two more Arab terrorists were hanged and a large number sent to prison for long terms. On several occasions British troops engaged terrorist bands in fierce battles, but such punitive expeditions did not succeed in putting an end to the guerrilla warfare. Arab bands continued to attack unprotected villages and travelers on the highways. One such attack, on January 10, resulted in the death of Prof. James Leslie Starkey, head of the British Wellcome Archeological Expedition in Palestine. A punitive military expedition sent to Hebron, where the murder took place, failed to capture the assassins. On January 30, High Commissioner Wauchope’s home was fired upon.

A major engagement took place on February 1 and 2 in the Jenin district in Central Palestine, British troops operating on land and in the air against a large Arab band. More than thirty Arabs were known to have been killed and the rest finally retreated, splitting up into little groups to continue their guerilla attacks. A second major engagement took place at Jenin a month later, this time resulting in forty-five Arab dead.

On February 4, an army court for the first time sentenced a Jew to death. The Jew was Ezekiel Altman, a
special policeman, accused of killing an Arab boy. Pleas for mercy made by Jewish leaders finally caused the military authorities to commit the sentence to life imprisonment. By February 15, the military courts had tried eighty-one Arabs, sentencing eight to death, nineteen to life imprisonment and forty-two to shorter terms, and acquitting only twelve.

But such rigorous enforcement of the regulations, coupled with increasing military action failed to stem the disorders. Throughout the months of March, April, May and June the violence continued and the death toll rose steadily day by day. Loss of life was greatest among the Arabs, themselves, for the Arab terrorists attacked not only Jews, but the more moderate leaders of their own people. British troops also inflicted heavy casualties upon organized bands of Arab terrorists in the northern section of the country where they were concentrated.

This period was marked by the retirement of High Commissioner Wauchope and the assumption of his duties by the new High Commissioner, Sir Harold Alfred MacMichael. The military command also changed hands, but these changes in Government control had no effect upon the Arab terrorist campaign. April 19 marked the conclusion of the second year of the terrorist activity. In that time, it was estimated, 160 Jews had lost their lives and about 600 had been wounded. In the year from April 19, 1937 to April 19, 1938, it was estimated, 250 Arabs, 55 Jews and 16 Britons had been killed, about 200 Jews and 14 Britons and many hundreds of Arabs wounded.

Of special concern to the British authorities at this time, was the effective sabotaging by terrorists of the Palestine railways. Bridges were continually being blown up and tracks destroyed. This did not affect commercial traffic greatly, because such traffic in Palestine is carried chiefly by trucks and buses. The railway, however, is of great military importance, and the Arabs proved that small bands of mauroauders could effectively cripple the roads in a short time.

Toward the close of the period under review, a Jew was
convicted and executed for the first time in modern Palestine annals. The sentence was passed by a military tribunal and stirred up world wide interest and protest. On April 21, three Jewish youths, Abraham Shein, Sholom Sorabin and Shlomo Ben Joseph, were arrested in the hills between Safed and Rosh Pina and charged with firing upon an Arab bus. The trial was held early in June and, on June 3, the court in Haifa declared Sorabin insane, and condemned Shein and Ben Joseph to death.

The drastic sentence, despite the fact that no one had been injured by the shots that the youths had allegedly fired, increased the tension of an already tense atmosphere in the Jewish community. Pleas were made by the Chief Rabbis and other Jewish leaders for clemency, and even British newspapers such as the Manchester Guardian urged commutation of the death sentences. On June 24, Major-General Robert H. Haining, commander-in-chief of the British forces in Palestine, commuted Shein's sentence to life imprisonment, but confirmed the death sentence upon Ben Joseph.

All efforts to save Ben Joseph were without avail. On June 28, a general strike was called by Jews in Jerusalem, Haifa, Tel Aviv and other cities. Stringent police measures were taken to prevent demonstrations and overt acts. On the following day, Ben Joseph was hanged in Acre prison. His death caused anti-British demonstrations and criticism not only in Palestine but throughout the world.

In an address in Parliament on June 15, Malcolm McDonald, who had replaced William Ormsby-Gore as Colonial Secretary, reported that 102 persons had been killed and 249 wounded in the five months between January 1 and May 31, 1938. As the period under review closed, however, the number of deaths was nearly doubled by a new outburst of rioting in which there were evidences that some Jews were beginning to retaliate against Arab terrorism, despite the pleas of Jewish leaders against retaliatory action. The British armed forces engaged in several major conflicts with Arab bands and the Government ordered additional troops and military equipment to Palestine.
3. Economic Conditions

Economic activity in Palestine during the year receded from the levels of 1935 and 1936. The Royal Commission report only served to increase the uncertainty in the country, and the recurring acts of violence, the restricted immigration and the failure of citrus crop further slowed business activity. Unemployment rose steadily and the purchasing power of both small shopkeeper and manufacturer dropped. In the spring of 1938, it was estimated that there were 8,000 to 9,000 Jewish unemployed in Palestine. Naturally, such conditions gave rise to strikes and other signs of economic unrest. In Jerusalem, the city's 1,200 Jewish and Arab shopkeepers threatened to go on strike unless the Government would force rent reductions. The Jewish Merchants Association pointed out that business for many retailers had dropped more than fifty percent while rents had gone up as much as a hundred per cent. Sit-down strikes and other demonstrations were staged by unemployed during the year in Tel Aviv, Petach Tikvah and other cities.

But despite these conditions, the essential soundness of the economic structure was not damaged. Business indices on a per capita basis were uniformly lower in 1937 as compared to 1935. Actually, however, the 1937 levels surpassed those of 1935 in many instances. This was due to the considerable increase in the Palestine population during the two years.

At the beginning of the year under review, the population of Palestine, according to Government statistics, totalled 1,316,767. Included in this figure are 809,394 Moslems, 386,084 Jews, 109,769 Christians, and 11,520 others. The grave economic conditions, furthermore, seemed to be responsible for a marked movement of Jewish population away from Palestine. Statistics available up to October, 1937, showed that during the preceding 22 months, 9,000 Jews had left the country and did not return. This movement was offset by the immigration to the country, but, for the first nine months of 1937, the number of Jews in Palestine increased by only 114 and there was a slight decline in the ratio of Jews to the total population.
Immigration as a whole during 1937 was sharply curtailed, only 10,536 Jewish arrivals being registered. Of these thirty-four percent were German Jews.

Jewish investments in Palestine during 1937, according to a survey by the American Economic Committee for Palestine, totaled £5,849,000 or about $29,245,000. About half of this sum, £2,881,700, was invested in building construction. Nevertheless, building activity was sharply curtailed in 1937 and was one of the chief indices reflecting the general economic uncertainty. The area in square meters of new buildings authorized in Jerusalem, Jaffa, Tel-Aviv and Haifa declined by 21 percent in 1937 as compared with 1936, and fifty-two percent as compared with 1935.

According to the Palestine Economic Corporation, imports of merchandise were fourteen percent higher than in 1936, but eleven percent lower than in 1935. Exports on the other hand increased sixty percent over 1936 and thirty-eight percent over 1935. Export of manufactured goods increased thirty-five percent, but the citrus industry had a poor season for the second successive year. Initial prices were better than in the previous year, but fell as the season progressed, improving slightly again in February and March. A total of 11,200,000 cases was exported by April, 1938. Other branches of farming showed good yields, although Jewish farmers had to meet strong competition and suffered from disorganized marketing.

The number of Jewish settlements increased by nineteen during the year and the Government announced the appropriation of £50,000 for exploratory water drilling in the Jordan Valley and Beersheba that may accelerate further settlement. A government survey, in the middle of 1937, also ascertained that there were 6,300 Jewish industrial enterprises in the country employing 27,300 workers. The annual production of these enterprises was valued at approximately £9,000,000 and the capital invested in them at £12,700,000.

It is interesting to note that despite the unsettled conditions, the cooperative movement continued to grow. A total of 151 new Jewish cooperatives and 60 new Arab cooperatives registered in 1937, and total deposits in all
The use of electricity for power increased by twelve percent during 1937, and postal, telephone and telegraph receipts by 127 percent. Cargo handled in Palestine ports also increased and, although railway operation showed a decline, increases were registered in bus travel. The growing importance of Tel Aviv as a port is also shown by the cargo statistics. Tel Aviv received 97,300 tons of cargo, which compares well with Jaffa's 126,840 tons.

XII. OTHER COUNTRIES

1. Egypt

Events affecting Jews in Egypt, as well as other countries in the Near and Middle East, concerned chiefly the reaction of the people to events in Palestine, especially in protest against the policies of Great Britain. They often took the form of anti-Zionist demonstrations, frequently accompanied by riots, disturbances, and attacks on the Jewish population. The situation was aggravated by the activities of exiled Arabs from Palestine, who took refuge in neighboring Arab countries and carried on strong propaganda.

On November 2, 1937, anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, a delegation of Moslems called at the British Embassy to protest against the Balfour Declaration.

On December 19, it was reported that the Egyptian authorities had refused a visa to Sheikh Adil Arslan, Syrian Arab leader who represented the outlawed Palestine Arab Supreme Committee at Geneva. Sheikh Arslan had on other occasions been barred from Egypt.

Sympathy for the Palestine Arabs was expressed on January 31, 1938, by Prince Mohammed Ali, heir apparent to Egypt's throne, in receiving Auni Bey Abdul Hadi, exiled former secretary of the Palestine Arab Supreme Committee, in the presence of Sir Ronald Storrs, former Governor of Jerusalem, and Sir Horace Rumbold, member of the Peel Royal Commission on Palestine.
During the months of April and May, anti-Zionist demonstrations and riots took place in Egypt. On April 28, Moslem youths paraded through the principal streets of Cairo and Alexandria, shouting, “Down with the Jews!” and “Throw the Jews out of Egypt and Palestine!” Premier Mohammed Mahmoud Pasha told Chief Rabbi Chaim Nahum Effendi that severe measures would be taken against agitators who posted placards in the streets. On April 29 and 30, students at the University of El-Azhar, Moslem center of learning, declared a hunger strike, as a protest against partition of Palestine, and staged “a silent demonstration” against Zionism; it was estimated that 2,000 students paraded through the streets of Cairo. Renewed demonstrations were staged by the students during the month and, on May 13, police guards blocked their attempted attack on Haret El-Yahud, the Jewish quarter of Cairo. Police also arrested persons distributing leaflets calling for a boycott of Egyptians Jews for “supporting the Zionists.” In an anti-Jewish demonstration at Tanta, Lower Egypt, on May 15, an unconfirmed report declared that 2 Jews had been killed.

On May 30, forty members of Parliament, headed by Education Minister Ali Allonba Pasha, appealed to Egyptian Jews to repudiate Zionism.

On June 15, thirty-eight students were arrested when a group demonstrated in the streets, shouting “Palestine for the Arabs!” following a meeting of the Moslem Youth Association. On the same day, two senators, speaking in the Upper House, criticized Jewish business houses for increasing Egyptian unemployment by hiring only Jews, and for boycotting the Arab language.

On June 16, the Government press condemned “the attempt to create a Jewish problem” in connection with a campaign for an anti-Jewish boycott launched in universities by Senator Abd-El-Meguid. The press also hailed the announcement of Premier Mohammed Mahmoud Pasha that Egypt is closed to refugees and that only six of them had been admitted in the past three years.
2. Iraq

A dispatch to the London Times on July 19, 1937, reported that two Jews were killed in Baghdad in rioting following an anti-Zionist demonstration.

The Arabic daily, Adifoa, (Jerusalem) reported on October 7 that Iraq had spent 20,000 pounds (about $100,000) in the past few years for anti-Jewish and anti-British propaganda, bribing newspapers in Syria, Egypt, and Palestine.

New anti-Zionist demonstrations were reported during the months of December 1937, and January, 1938. On January 23 it was reported that sixty youths has been arrested following one such demonstration in which Jewish shop windows had been smashed. On the same day, it was reported that a new Pro-Palestine Committee had been formed in Baghdad, headed by Dr. Amin Roukayha, former head of Palestine Arab bands.

It was announced on April 23 that the Iraq Government had cabled instructions to its Consul-General in Vienna to facilitate immigration of Austrian Jewish physicians. The Jerusalem Christian Arab daily, Falastin, reported on June 2 that 200 German Jewish physicians had been invited into Iraq by the Government.

3. Syria

In an official statement issued on October 13, 1937, Premier Jamil Bey Mardam announced that, as a result of representations made by the French Government and with the cooperation of both France and Great Britain, the Syrian Government had taken strong action against arms smuggling and illicit migration across the border into Palestine. It had been reported on previous occasions that the outlawed Arab Higher Committee had been buying arms in Damascus to be smuggled into the Holy Land. The presence of the fugitive Mufti of Jerusalem in Beirut was subsequently reported.

Allegations which were made that Syria was assisting revolts in Palestine elicited a vigorous denial by Premier
Jamil Bey Mardam, in addressing the opening of the Syrian Parliament on November 19.

Following a visit in Damascus of Baldur von Schirach, head of the Hitler youth organization of Germany, it was announced on December 5, that the armed extremist Arab National Youth Organization had threatened a boycott of Arab merchants who bought "Zionist goods from Palestine." Accompanied by fifteen Nazi agents, von Schirach, it was reported, conferred with Nazi representatives in the Near East and decided to establish closer contact with Arab youth groups, to increase propaganda in existing German schools in the Near East, and to establish others.

Anti-Jewish demonstrations, a strike, and opening of a campaign to boycott Palestine Jewish products were reported on April 28, coinciding with the opening of the inquiry of the Woodhead Palestine Partition Commission.

As agitation against the Commission spread in Damascus, the Syrian Parliament, on May 1, unanimously adopted a resolution against the proposed partition of Palestine, and telegraphed a protest to local representatives of foreign powers.

On May 4, Shafek Bey Suleiman, prominent Moslem attorney, was arrested and sent to Beirut for trial before a French military court on charges of heading an organization smuggling arms for terrorists going to Palestine from Syria and Lebanon.

Several Arabs were wounded when, on May 13, the police fired on a large demonstration in Beirut, which marked the launching of "Pro-Palestine Week," in protest against British policy in Palestine and the plan of partition.

The diplomatic correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph reported on June 7 that British Foreign Secretary Lord Halifax had drawn the attention of French Foreign Minister Georges Bonnet to the activities of the exiled ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, who was disseminating disturbing propaganda from Beirut throughout the Middle East. According to the correspondent, the French had been unwilling to intercede, fearing to prejudice their relations with the Syrian nationalists in view of the impending termination of the French mandate over Syria.
On November 15, 1937, the Syrian Government announced that the Jewish Agency for Palestine had donated 2,000 Syrian pounds for the aid of flood victims.

4. Turkey

According to the Havas News Agency, twelve German-Jewish refugees in Turkey were offered, in August, 1937, the choice of citizenship and conversion to Islam, or expulsion from the country. This decision, it was said, followed recent orders, later countermanded, requiring a number of Jewish refugees holding important positions to leave the country on short notice. No reports regarding the outcome have reached this country.

In November, a bill to bar admission of all foreign Jews into Turkey was introduced in Parliament by former Agriculture Minister Sobrit Ropprak who explained that he was prompted to do so by the failure of foreign Jews to assimilate. Early in January, 1938, despite agitation in the press which warned against an influx of Jews fleeing from Roumanian anti-Jewish measures, the Turkish Parliament rejected the measure.

In line with the government policy to promote Turkification, the Ministry of Education issued an order, in December, 1937, appointing Government commissioners for all Jewish and other minority schools, with unlimited powers both in regard to curriculum and general financial administration. It was expected that this measure would lead to the closing of many of these schools.

In June, 1938, the Minister of Health declared that there was no truth in reports that the government had been negotiating with Germany for the immigration of 200 Jewish physicians and other scientists.

5. Mexico

The Jewish community of Mexico, throughout the period under review, was faced by the threat of restrictive legislation and harassed by hostile agitation carried on by the more reactionary elements in the country, very often under
the whip-lash of Nazi propaganda. The year passed, however, without the enactment of any of the proposed restrictive legislation, chiefly because of the opposition voiced by President Cardenas and all but the ultranationalistic wing of the Government party. Some concession to the agitators was seen, however, in the establishment of an immigration quota law and an inquiry into the status of all aliens in the country. But these measures failed to satisfy the anti-Jewish elements.

Chief agitators against the Jews was a new Mexican Nationalist Front, described by the Mexican Labor News Service as "openly fascist in character and made up of disgruntled political ‘outs’, small business men and local admirers of Hitler, Mussolini and Franco" engaged in attacking the "Cardenas administration and the labor movement under cover of a ‘patriotic’ campaign" against Jews and communists. By October, 1937, however, the agitation of this group had succeeded in obtaining the approval of a special Senate committee to a proposal to halt Jewish immigration into the country, although the Minister of Interior had ruled that restrictions against a particular race was illegal.

In the meantime, action against Jews was fostered among the small traders and shop-keepers with whom Jews most frequently came into competition, and anti-Jewish propaganda continued to appear in a section of the press. It soon became evident, however, that the restrictive legislation would not make any headway in Parliament and this was stressed by Government spokesmen who sought to reassure the Jews of the country and to offset the fascist propaganda. The general effect was to further a noticeable swing to a general anti-alien drive.

Among the first signs of this was the establishment late in November of the first immigration quota system in the history of the country. The quotas limited Eastern European countries such as Poland, Roumania and Lithuania to 100 immigrants each during 1938, and permitted Western European countries, including Germany, 5,000 immigrants yearly. The restrictions, however, failed to satisfy the anti-Jewish groups who insisted the quotas would result in the influx of a large number of Jewish immigrants.
The following month, Deputy Ismael Falcon introduced in the Chamber of Deputies a bill severely restricting the economic and other activities of all aliens. His proposals received the support of some Government groups, but was vigorously attacked by others and it became evident that it could not pass without amendment.

The anti-alien drive took a new turn as 1937 drew to a close, when the Department of Interior ordered a check on the occupations of all immigrants, which meant expulsion for all those found in vocations other than those which they had specified on entering the country. An Interior Department spokesman declared that there was no anti-Jewish motive behind the investigation, and this was borne out by the fact that of the 120 immigration permits annulled up to February, 1938, only two were those of Jews. Pending completion of the investigation, immigration and naturalization were temporarily suspended.

Reports that the Interior Department was planning to eliminate Jews from Mexico continued to appear, however, until the Government Press Department, on May 12, warned newspapers that "to publish such material is to encourage rumors and untruths that are launched by foreign groups in opposition" to the Government.

Mexico's first Zionist conference was held in Mexico City from March 1 to 4, 1938. The conference voted to raise 100,000 pesos for Palestine.

At a meeting called by the Mexican B'nai B'rith in February, a Federation to Combat Anti-Semitism was organized to act as official spokesman in all matters pertaining to the Mexican Jewish community.

6. Other Latin American Countries

a. Argentina

Strong support of democratic institutions and vigorous opposition to the encroachments of fascism marked the year in Argentina. The nation was rededicated to the principles of democracy on the inauguration of its new president, Roberto Ortiz, in the spring of 1938. The general
trend of political events was revealed early in the review period when Foreign Minister Carlos Saavedra Lamas submitted to all countries with which Argentina maintains diplomatic relations the draft of a multilateral treaty for recognition of the principle of asylum for political refugees. He also announced on July 29, 1937, that he would place his proposal before the Pan-American Conference the following year.

In the meantime, action was taken to prevent the spread of Nazism and racial propaganda. On September 20, 1937, an Argentine court sentenced Wilhelm Wilke, Nazi agent, to three years and nine months in prison for organizing attacks on synagogues and democratic newspapers. Six of his aides were also sent to prison. A week later leading members of both houses of the national legislature addressed a rally organized in Buenos Aires by the National Committee Against Racism and Anti-Semitism.

Just prior to his inauguration, President Ortiz declared, on February 18, 1938, before a group of Jewish press correspondents, that the nation would not tolerate racial persecution during his regime.

Throughout the spring of 1938, Argentine newspapers carried on a vigorous campaign against Nazism. They asserted that persons of German origin opposed to that doctrine were being boycotted and terrorized. A demand that German schools be shut down, as centers of Nazi propaganda, was voiced both by newspapers and by the Governor of the southern province of La Pampa.

On May 10, 1938, the three principal South American powers, Argentina, Brazil and Chile, according to newspaper reports, agreed on a common policy in combating Nazi influence. It was asserted that the German ambassador to Argentina had been requested to see that all Nazi organizations in the country were dissolved. At the same time, following an investigation that disclosed that schools for German children were conducted contrary to Argentine education regulations, President Ortiz issued a decree placing all schools operated by foreign organizations under Government supervision. The text of the decree, made public on May 11, expressly forebade the dissemination of political and racial propaganda in schools
operated by foreign organizations. It also forebade instruction in all ideas contrary to the principles of the Argentine Constitution.

On May 26, the people of Argentina celebrated the 128th anniversary of its establishment as a republic by rededicating the country to the republican, democratic form of government and repudiating fascism and other forms of dictatorship.

Jewish farm colonies operated in Argentina by the Jewish Colonization Association won high praise and a number of prizes at the agricultural exhibit in the province of Entre Rios in December, 1937.

On March 15, 1938, it was revealed that the Argentine consul in Warsaw, Poland, had ceased to issue visas to prospective immigrants. A few days later, after intervention by the Polish Minister to Argentina, the Government ordered the issuance of visas to be resumed.

The First South American Pro-Palestine Congress concluded its sessions on May 12, urging Britain to permit increased Jewish immigration to Palestine and praising President Roosevelt for calling the inter-governmental refugee conference at Evian, France.

b. Brazil

Unsettled political conditions in Brazil, during the course of the review period, caused apprehension in the comparatively small Jewish community of the country. But as the year progressed and President Getulio Vargas, despite the establishment of a corporative type of government, outlawed fascist, Nazi and anti-Jewish agitation, this apprehension was eased. Throughout the summer of 1937, Integralistas, Brazilian fascists, clashed with democratic elements of the country. On a number of occasions, such clashes resulted in street riots in which many persons sustained injuries, and some were killed. A National Democratic Front was organized to combat the advances of the Integralistas at the forthcoming election.

The situation changed suddenly, however, when, on November 10, 1937, President Vargas dissolved the government and promulgated a new constitution that established
a corporate state. The country was placed under martial law and Vargas' term of office extended until a plebiscite on the new constitution could be held. The establishment of the new government, however, did not at once end the fears of the 40,000 Jews of the country who had noted not only increasing anti-Jewish propaganda in the press of the country, but a growing unfriendliness in certain government quarters.

The atmosphere began to clear, however, when shortly after his coup, President Vargas outlawed the Integralistas and showed in other ways that he did not intend to follow the pattern of European dictatorships. On January 12, 1938, the Government announced that it had suspended deportation orders against 800 to 1,000 Jewish immigrants, mostly German refugees, illegally resident in Brazil, until a new immigration law giving them special status could be drafted. While the new immigration machinery was being organized, President Vargas told American newspaper correspondents on February 15 that his Government had no anti-Semitic leanings and that foreign Jews would continue to be welcomed to Brazil "without prejudice."

Further evidence of his liberal attitude was given on May 6 when a decree was issued allowing foreigners who had been in the country illegally for four months to appear before immigration officials and have their immigration papers recorded. The decree gave preference to agricultural immigrants and gave the Government power to suspend the entry of immigrants "of given races or origins." Official spokesmen declared, however, that the latter clause was not aimed at any particular race, but was a prerogative the Government wished to retain.

In the meantime, the Government continued to wage a campaign against the outlawed Integralistas and foreign pressure groups. On March 20, police arrested 600 Integralistas in an alleged plot to assassinate President Vargas. On April 19, drastic restrictions were imposed on schools, newspapers and other organizations conducted by foreigners in the country. The regulations, observers declared, seemed aimed especially at the German and Italian elements in the country. Shortly afterward, Brazil joined with Argen-
tina and Chile in a common policy to combat the spread of Nazism. On May 11, the Integralistas staged a spectacular attempt to assassinate Vargas and his family in the presidential palace. The attack on the palace was repulsed and the revolt crushed.

c. Ecuador

On January 19, a Presidential decree ordered the expulsion of several hundred Jewish immigrants. These immigrants, it was declared, had failed to settle on farms as stipulated in their special entry permits. They were given thirty days grace, but before this period expired the order was rescinded, after intervention by Jewish organizations, and the immigrants were permitted to remain. At the same time, Col. Alberto Enriquez, head of Ecuador's provisional military government, declared that his government was free from "foreign doctrines." "Ecuador welcomes all foreigners no matter to what race or nation they belong, who come into the country to work at agriculture or useful industries, instead of increasing the number of unemployed, or enlarging parasitic trade, which brings no benefits to the citizens in general," he said.

d. Paraguay

A press report from Buenos Aires on October 5, 1938, asserted that the Jewish community of Paraguay had appealed for the help of Jews in the United States, because the Paraguayan Government had expelled several prominent members of the community, long resident in the country, on the charge of communist activity. On December 2, however, Home Secretary Parades of Paraguay assured the Hias-Ica Emigrant Association that Paraguay was not anti-Jewish and that the organization could continue its activities on behalf of Jewish immigrants.

In April, 1938, it was reported from Vienna, that the Paraguayan consulate was seeking to enlist Austrian Jews as colonists who would be prepared to bear arms against Bolivia if the Chaco dispute were to break out anew. This report was subsequently denied.
e. Uruguay

Democratic groups in the German community joined with the Jewish Committee Against Anti-Semitism, in December, 1937, in its campaign against the infiltration of Nazism into the country. In March, 1938, virtually all political parties in the country were represented at a conference in Montevideo which mapped a program for combating anti-Semitism and racialism. At the same time, the Ministry of Interior banned all radio broadcasts which tended to incite against races, religions or nationalities.

On April 4, President-elect Alfredo Baldomir declared that Uruguay was ready to admit a number of refugees and other European Jews in line with plans that would be made at the Evian conference.

XIII. INTERNATIONAL MATTERS

i. Aid for Refugees

a. Action by the League of Nations

Efforts in behalf of the refugees from Germany, who, as the year under review progressed, presented an increasingly grave international problem, were guided largely by the growing realization on the part of private organizations dealing with the problem as well as League of Nations circles, that no settlement could be reached without close international cooperation and the establishment of some permanent inter-governmental body. The efforts culminated in the refugee conference at Evian-les-Bains, France, called by President Roosevelt, and in the establishment of a permanent body with headquarters in London.

The establishment of a permanent refugee body by the League of Nations was urged in London on July 27, 1937, by a group of notables, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Noel-Buxton, Lord Cecil, and Sir Wyndham
Deeds. The British Foreign Office was urged to propose such a plan at Geneva as a substitute for the Nansen Office and the High Commission for German Refugees, both of which were to be terminated at the end of 1938.

This proposal was echoed in September, 1937, in the annual report of Sir Neil Malcolm, League High Commissioner for German Refugees. Pointing out that "no appreciable progress has been made in the emigration and settlement of refugees", he emphasized that without effective international cooperation every attempt to improve refugee conditions must fail. He reported that 16,000 refugees had left Germany between September 1936 and September 1937, with 35,000 remaining in European lands and not permanently settled. He urged the convocation by the League of an inter-governmental conference to adopt a convention regulating the status of refugees and the creation of a system for improved cooperation between private agencies, the High Commission, and the various governments.

In February, 1938, following a recommendation made to the League Assembly in October, 1937, an inter-governmental conference adopted a convention for German refugees modelled on the Nansen convention of 1933 governing stateless persons. Under the terms of the convention, refugees were to be given passports and the right to work in the countries signing the convention if they complied with one of the following conditions: residence in the country for three years; marriage to a national of the country of residence; parenthood of a child who is a citizen of the country. The following day seven governments signed the convention which went into effect in March. The signatories were Great Britain, France, Belgium, Spain, the Netherlands, Denmark and Norway. Four additional countries signed a codicil recommending the establishment of a special commission in each country to deal with refugee questions. The annexation of Austria by Germany shortly after the signing of the convention, however, added new complications as the definition of refugee did not cover those forced to flee from Austria. Efforts were immediately begun to bring Austrian refugees under the terms of the convention and on June 12, it was
announced that two paragraphs defining “Austrian refugee” had been added to the convention.

In the meantime, the special committee on international assistance to refugees named by the Council of the League of Nations submitted its report on future aid to refugees. The committee urged the consolidation of the High Commission for German Refugees and the Nansen Office for “stateless” exiles resulting from the World War, into a single organization under a League High Commissioner. The report of the special committee was adopted on May 15.

b. Inter-Governmental Conference at Evian

While this action was being taken through League channels, aid for the refugees came from an entirely new quarter. In a notable public statement on March 24, 1938, President Franklin D. Roosevelt urged the holding of an inter-governmental conference with a view to finding a permanent solution of the problem, and invited the democratic nations of the world to attend such a conference. The inter-governmental meeting was set for July 6 in Evian-les-Bains, France, and the President’s invitation was accepted by thirty-two nations.

When the conference opened, delegates from thirty nations and observers from the major organizations engaged in refugee work were present. As Myron C. Taylor, the American delegate, left Paris for Evian, he was presented with a memorandum from the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and further memoranda on the refugee situation were presented by the World Council for German Jewry, and other Jewish organizations.

The conference was formally opened by Senator Henri Berenger of France, as chairman, but the keynote was sounded by Mr. Taylor. In a frank and clear statement of purpose, he urged the establishment of a permanent inter-governmental committee to deal with refugee problems and the focusing of immediate attention upon the “most pressing problem of political refugees from Germany.” The ultimate object, however, he declared, should be to establish an organization concerning itself with all refugees “wherever governmental intolerance shall have created a
refugee problem." He also urged the documenting of refugees who are now without governmental protection, and the coordination of various efforts in their behalf. Concluding his address, Mr. Taylor declared: "The problem is no longer one of purely private concern. It is a problem for inter-governmental deliberation. If the present currents of migration are permitted to continue to push anarchically upon receiving states, and if some governments are to continue to toss large sections of their populations lightly upon a distressed and unprepared world, then there is catastrophic human suffering ahead which can only result in general unrest and in a general international strain which will not be conducive to the permanent appeasement to which all peoples earnestly aspire."

Mr. Taylor was followed on the rostrum by Lord Winterton, chief of the British delegation, who announced that Britain was examining possibilities for the settlement of refugees in its East African colonies, but pointed out that the United Kingdom, itself, could not be considered as capable of absorbing any considerable number of refugees. His address was notable, however, for its warning to Germany that it must facilitate emigration by permitting the refugees to withdraw a larger part of their possessions than heretofore. He also warned other potential refugee-producing countries not to remain under the false impression that persecution of minorities will help them to get rid of these minorities by emigration.

The conference, which had opened in a cynical atmosphere that presaged its failure, was considerably heartened by the strong stands taken both by the United States and Great Britain. But it was evident that a great many points of conflict existed, and that the greatest clash would come over the establishment of a permanent body and the definition of the scope of that committee's activities. On July 8, the two sub-committees of the conference began their sessions, one receiving statements from the various governments as to immigration possibilities, and the other memoranda and evidence from the large number of Jewish and other refugee organizations, that had sent observers to the conference, on the scope of their work and the needs of the refugees. Among those who appeared before the second
sub-committee were Rabbi Jonah B. Wise for the Joint Distribution Committee; Dr. Arthur Ruppin for the Jewish Agency; Prof. Norman Bentwich for the Council for German Jewry; Lord Marley for the World Ort Union; and Eduard Oungre for the Jewish Colonization Association.

The governmental delegates who appeared before the first sub-committee to state the immigration possibilities in their countries were on the whole non-committal. Some, however, were blunt in their statements that their countries had already taken as many refugees as they were willing to absorb, and others that their countries had no intention of admitting any refugees. A number of nations, though, notably a group of Latin American countries that included Mexico, Peru, Chile, Ecuador, Venezuela, Colombia, and the Dominican Republic, signified their desire to cooperate with President Roosevelt and expressed a particular interest in agricultural immigrants.

In the meantime, organization of the conference had been completed and Mr. Taylor had been named its chairman by acclaim. On July 10, Sir Neil Malcolm, the League High Commissioner for German Refugees, addressed the conference and stressed the necessity of inducing Germany to adopt a more generous policy on transference of capital by emigrants. The following day one public session was held and then the proceedings were conducted in camera. The major points of difference had evidently been adjusted in private conferences.

On July 12, it was revealed that the delegates of the United States, Great Britain and France had finally come to an agreement and had drafted a resolution proposing the establishment of a permanent refugee body whose next meeting would be held on August 3 in London. The resolution recommended the setting up of machinery to give practical effect to President Roosevelt’s proposals for aid to refugees; the regulating of involuntary emigration due to political or racial oppression; and the planning of a long term program for the coordination of emigration within existing immigration laws of the various countries. The resolution also called for efforts to obtain permission for refugees to remove larger portions of their capital from
the countries of emigration; for bringing within the scope of the permanent committee those who desired to emigrate as well as those who have already been forced to emigrate; and for recognition of the economic and social problems of the nations that were ready to offer asylum to the refugees.

When the resolution came before the conference for adoption, however, it was amended to limit the scope of the committee to work in behalf of refugees from Germany and Austria, although Mr. Taylor had originally expressed the hope that the organization would concern itself with refugees "wherever governmental intolerance shall have created a refugee problem."

The conference closed after brief remarks by the leading delegates.

2. Miscellaneous

Heeding the protests of religious groups, the Council of the League of Nations, in October, 1937, dropped the question of calendar reform from its agenda on the motion of Maxim Litvinoff, Soviet Foreign Commissar, who had been appointed rapporteur on the matter. The motion was consented to by Augustin Edwards of Chile who had placed the question on the agenda.

The world congress of Agudath Israel, orthodox Jewish organization, was opened in Marienbad, Czechoslovakia, on August 18, 1937. The congress was stirred by an internal conflict over proposals to negotiate with the New Zionist Organization for a united front against the partition of Palestine. The congress closed on August 24 with the adoption of a unanimous resolution rejecting proposals for the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine.

The World Federation of Polish Jews Abroad held its second annual conference in Antwerp from August 23 to 25 and received messages of sympathy from leading public men throughout the world on the plight of the Jews in Poland. The conference adopted a resolution protesting against the Polish Government's failure to prevent anti-Jewish excesses.
The World Ort Union held its annual congress in Paris on August 27. It adopted a budget of $820,000 for 1938 to continue its work of promoting Jewish vocational training in Eastern and Central Europe. The Ort Union also adopted a resolution thanking the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee for its moral and material support.

The World Ose Union, association for the promotion of health among Jews, celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary at a conference in Paris early in September, 1937. It reported that 70,000 Jewish children in Eastern Europe had received medical treatment in its institutions in the course of the year. A twenty-five year history of the organization, which recounted its work during the World War period and the part played by American Jews through the Joint Distribution Committee, was published on the occasion of the anniversary.

On May 16, 1938, the second Sephardic World Conference was held in Amsterdam; it was attended by delegates from twelve countries. It voted to raise $500,000 for the creation of a Sephardic rabbinical seminary in Jerusalem.

The International Labor Conference, meeting in Geneva, on June 22, 1938, adopted a resolution condemning discrimination against workers because of race or religion. The resolution was introduced by Leon Jouhaux of France.