American Jewish Committee

OFFICERS*

President
JACOB BLAUSTEIN

Chairman, Executive Committee
IRVING M. ENGEL

Chairman, Administrative Committee
SIMON H. RIFKIND

Executive Vice President
JOHN SLAWSON

Honorary President
JOSEPH M. PROSKAUER

Honorary Vice Presidents
HERBERT H. LEHMAN
SAMUEL D. LEIDESDORF

Vice Presidents
ELY M. AARON
GUSTAVE M. BERNE
HERBERT B. EHRRMANN
MAX FREEDMAN
BEN HERZBERG
FRED LAZARUS, JR.
ALBERT H. LIEBERMAN
LESTER W. ROTH
RALPH E. SAMUEL
JOSEPH WILLEN

Secretary
EDWARD A. NORMAN

Treasurer
MAURICE GLINERT

Associate Treasurer
SIDNEY S. MOYER

* Elected at the 46th Annual Meeting, January 1953.
OBJECTS OF THE COMMITTEE

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

—Extract from the Charter
HIGHLIGHTS OF 1952
BY IRVING M. ENGEI
Chairman, Executive Committee
The American Jewish Committee

As chairman of your Executive Committee, mine is the happy privilege of bringing to you a report of our progress—the achievements we proudly record, the obstacles we surmounted, and the ordeals we survived—in 1952.

Let us begin with a matter of most immediate concern to us—expressed and open anti-Semitism here at home.

The Status of Anti-Semitism

We know from our scientific studies that anti-Semitism in New York or in California, solid anti-Negroism in an otherwise not-so-solid South, anti-Mexicanism in Texas, anti-foreignerism the country over—these all have a great deal to do with each other. We know that anxious and distressed people tend to hold a frantic grip on their prejudices and that the targets of their hatred are readily interchangeable.

This is also known to the experienced rabble-rousers. In recent years they have eagerly produced new targets which are sufficiently diffuse to interest many who would shun outright, recognizable bigotry.

In 1952, for example, their favorite targets did not at first glance appear to be Jews. They were more often UN and UNESCO, the public schools, "human rights," "subversive textbooks," and the like. In all their operations, of course, they alleged an overwhelming concern with the threat of Communism to America, and this served as the bait that attracted some very respectable support to the ranks of some very unscrupulous demagogues and racists.

Last year, for example, we witnessed—and fortunately were able to do something about—a renowned and respected Protestant clergyman circulating the John Beatty book, Iron Curtain Over America, to over one hundred bishops throughout the country. When we called this clergyman's attention to the actual contents of the book, which is but an up-to-date version of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, he stated that he had not previously had the opportunity to read it but had lent his name to its promotion when it was represented to him as an important expose of Communists in our midst. Immediately after our meeting he contacted the hundred or more religious leaders to whom he had written, stating categorically that the book was a threat to religious harmony, and that he profoundly regretted his earlier and unwitting support of it. Incidentally, 25,000 copies of that book have already been circulated and it is still being actively promoted. Its publication and distribution were made possible by sizable contributions from a number of influential business and industrial people from all parts of the country. To many of these people we were able to demonstrate the evil nature of the book. Some, of course, we could not and cannot reach, for they constitute the "hard-core" of anti-Semites whose names are associated with every major anti-democratic movement in the country.

Last year we also witnessed—and fortunately were able to do something about—an eminent and respected New York department store executive distributing
so-called anti-Communist pamphlet written by the notorious Gerald Winrod in his customary style.

Last year we witnessed—and used our every influence to stem—an organized campaign in this country conducted by Arab propagandists with the cooperation of well-known American anti-Semites. Cleverly master-minded to exploit those who felt a legitimate humanitarian interest in the Arab situation, including many influential educators, legislators and opinion molders, its underlying purpose was to weaken the position of Jews in the United States. Its repetitive theme: United States friendliness to Israel is contrary to the best interests of America and a product of the machinations of "an international Jewish conspiracy."

It is, to be sure, a bewildering and frightening experience to see several religious leaders, respected businessmen, and teachers in our schools and universities, unwittingly betray their own intelligence and even their own country in their support of such enterprises.

But by way of reassurance, you should know that we have mobilized all our available skills and resources to cope with these various manifestations. We maintain a constant vigilance over the mounting stream of pamphlets, tracts, and books, which we suspect may be nothing more than dressed-up versions of anti-Semitic assaults of recent years. We have become expert in sorting out the "charges" and the "lines" and tracing them to their infamous sources. We have been successful in identifying—and whenever we deem it appropriate, in exposing—the supporters, both knowing and unknowing, of a great many of these ventures.

Today the counteraction to anti-Semitism is not so much a secret intelligence operation as in days gone by. The people, the activities, the literature of concern to us—they are all public and publicized. Ours is the task of analyzing with discernment these public activities around us.

It is our task to recognize, relate, and expose those who would, for example, strike intercultural education from the public schools' curricula, those who publicly describe the Human Rights Declaration as "degenerate propaganda" and those who, under cover of "anti-Communism," would dishonestly exploit such vital American issues as immigration, the strengthening of the UN and the determination of loyalty of public servants.

For underlying all these charges and activities is a deep and pervasive contempt for fundamental human rights—and the malevolence common to all these movements may eventually bring about their coalescence into an anti-democratic and anti-Semitic movement of considerable proportions.

The Antidotes

We know of no antidote for this other than education—education at every level and at every opportunity—short-range, immediate and preventive education of adults, and the longer-range, more hopeful education of children. We saw a fine example of quick and effective adult education, more akin to "inoculation," in connection with the 1952 election campaigns.

In the primaries in early spring, several states were flooded with anti-Semitic literature and the poison pens worked frantically right up through the time of the midsummer national conventions. Our Executive Committee last May suggested that leaders of the three major religious faiths issue a public statement condemning racial or religious bigotry in connection with the election campaigns. Such a statement was secured. It urged candidates "to take all necessary measures to prevent any expression of racial or religious bias by their adherents" and citizens "to reject political arguments based on racial or religious prejudices and to rebuke those who make such appeals." It suggested the establishment in every community of "nonpartisan" and "nonsectarian" committees to keep "a watchful eye" on campaign activities.

Signers of the statement included Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill, President of the National Council of the Churches of Christ; Bishop Edwin V. O'Hara, of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Kansas City, Mo.; Rabbi Simon G. Kramer, President
of the Synagogue Council of America, and Jacob Blaustein. This statement was widely published in the general press and endorsed and distributed by both the Republican and Democratic National Committee Chairmen to all their state and local units. In poster form, it was disseminated to church groups, including ministerial associations, to editors of the religious and the general press, and to civic and communal leaders. Immediately following the election, the same individuals issued a second statement—equally well received by press and wire services—stating that “climate of opinion” had been “totally opposed to bigotry” and urging “continuous public education” to achieve complete elimination of “misguided appeals” in all future campaigns.

“But,” we are continually asked, “isn’t prejudice so deeply ingrained that it can never be really eradicated?” To this our answer is No. Science has established that children are born free of prejudice. We are certain that it is possible to rear them so that they remain that way. But the school, the church, the home, and the community must combine to make this happen. And year after year we have played a role in bringing about important developments in each of these areas—developments that progressively and reciprocally encouraged and supported each other.

Public Education

Consider first the school, the classroom, the earliest testing ground in which small human beings either learn to adapt themselves or undergo a failure that affects them in later years. Our scientific studies tell us a good deal about the frustrated, unhappy child-grown-to-man. He inevitably falls prey to his own bitterness—and often is to be found among the prejudiced. It is in the classroom, too, that children are, or should be, taught the facts about the world and the country in which they live, about the workings of democracy, and the character and the responsibilities of those who live under it. And almost 90 per cent of this country’s school-age children are in public school.

For all these reasons the AJC has made public education a major area of concern and will continue to do so, even if the happy day should come when the schools are no longer under attack by subversive, anti-Semitic, and anti-democratic individuals and organizations.

In 1952 our activity combined a defense of the schools with affirmative efforts to initiate, expand, or improve programs of intergroup and intercultural education.

Last year I detailed for you the kind of broad-scale education program we conducted to alert the general public to the assaults upon the schools and the character of those who led these attacks. We prepared fact sheets, pamphlets, radio and television programs, and conferred with labor educators, youth leaders, veterans, and other civic groups. I spoke, too, of our close cooperation with the U.S. Office of Education and the National Education Association, and our cooperation in the preparation of pamphlets and other material, for distribution to teachers, education officials, community leaders, and the like. These activities continued—vigorous and telling—into 1952.

The American Legion, some of whose posts had participated in attacks on the public schools, dramatically reversed its stand at its national convention last fall. At that time the Legion adopted a commendable resolution which the National Education Association is currently distributing, calling upon “every member of the American Legion to be on the alert in his community, to know the schools and to recognize these attacks when they occur, and to stand ready to support and defend them against all enemies.” The director of AJC’s Veterans Division is chairman of the American Legion’s subcommittee on education.

In 1952 we continued to lend assistance to educators and to publishers in establishing criteria for selection of textbooks. A Commentary article (February 1952), “What To Do About ‘Dangerous’ Textbooks,” written by an AJC staff member, was reprinted in pamphlet form, and with a special introduction by the U.S. Com-
missioner of Education, and a concluding statement by the Director of the Public Education Association, was given distribution to educators, religious and other community leaders, and radio and press commentators. Reprints of Commentary's article, "Scarsdale's Battle of the Books," helped many communities to resist the pressures on their local boards of education, libraries, etc., to "purge" the reading lists and textbooks in daily use.

We also cooperated closely with the National Citizens Commission for Public Schools; headed by Roy Larsen of Life magazine, its membership includes influential organizations not heretofore active in school-community problems. The AJC, for example, is a member of an interim planning committee of the Commission on which are represented such organizations as the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the American Farm Bureau Federation, the United Steel Workers of America, and the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. This group is hopeful that their efforts will bring about closer school-community ties, and in many communities will encourage the development of school-community councils with the dual purpose of warding off attacks and promoting intercultural education in the schools.

Because of our conviction that properly trained teachers are a sine qua non for any genuine progress in our educational institutions, we have continued a close working relationship with the Bureau of Intercultural Education, and throughout 1952 we have continued to lend support and assistance to human relations workshops for teachers in a number of universities and teacher training institutes throughout the country. We have also encouraged the establishment of two new human relations centers—both in Catholic universities—one in Catholic University in St. Louis, and the other at Loyola College in Los Angeles.

Incidentally, our AJC school calendar (ten cents each) was a best seller in 1952, some 40,000 having been utilized in the public schools throughout the country. This small item performs a subtle and effective service by alerting otherwise unknowing teachers and school administrators to the Jewish holidays along with all other holidays. It has served to increase understanding, and certainly acceptance, of religious differences among the teachers and the youngsters and, recognizing this, several of the State Education Journals have recommended it highly to their teacher readers.

Interreligious Activities

You are, of course, familiar with the pioneering studies of Protestant Sunday school textbook and lesson materials undertaken over the past twenty years by the AJC in cooperation with Drew Theological Seminary.

In the fall of 1952, an extremely significant development occurred in this field. Yale University Divinity School announced the launching of a two-year survey to determine the extent of racial and religious bias and prejudice in Protestant church literature currently in use in this country. The survey is to be conducted under the direction of a faculty committee of the School and it is intended—according to Yale's recent public announcement—to place the findings in the hands of church leaders, religious educators, writers, and publishers. As the survey progresses, it is planned to call to the attention of the writer or publisher any examples of bias or prejudice along with the Study Committee's suggestions as to how these might be eliminated. Examples of positive handling of religious subjects will also be culled from survey readings and these, too, will be brought to the attention of the appropriate persons.

You should know that this survey was made possible through the initiative of the AJC—and we made a grant to the Divinity School for this specific purpose.

Last year I reported the gratifying progress evident in the manner of teaching about Judaism, as well as in the substance of the teaching in many of the Protestant and Catholic schools. In the months just passed, AJC and ADL have cooperated closely with the National Council of Churches of Christ in the planning and execution of special leadership training courses for ministers and religious
The many cooperative undertakings between our agencies and the Council's Department of Intergroup Education, which had just been established when last I reported to you, have proved mutually helpful and most encouraging. Meetings with top Protestant leaders were established on a regular basis in 1952, not alone for discussion of religious education but on issues and problems of concern to all of us: church-state matters, immigration, UNESCO and Human Rights. Cooperative programs of education and social action were undertaken with sufficient frequency to give us genuine reason for encouragement.

Earlier, I spoke of Catholic universities' evolving interest in human relations workshops. I think you should also know that the Catholic Biblical Association, which is responsible for parochial school texts, has expressed appreciation for our assistance in the preparation of material on Jews and Judaism. And the National Catholic Welfare Conference continues to consult with us frequently on news reports affecting Catholic-Jewish relations.

There will be an opportunity at one of this week-end's round table discussions for those of you who are interested to analyze the important trends in religious life today, particularly as they affect intergroup activity. Immediately pertinent to this report, however, is the fact that since the war's end there has been a steady increase in church membership, which is now at its highest point in our history. A concomitant of this—and one very much in evidence during 1952—is the inevitable competition among the largest religious groups for moral and spiritual leadership, not alone in this country but throughout the world.

Against this background, therefore, the illustrations of intergroup cooperation that I have cited become all the more significant, and we are acutely conscious of the need to intensify such efforts and to enhance the common meeting ground we have been able to develop even in this atmosphere of growing parochialism.

It is against this background also, that the church-state controversy will continue to rage, and because of it both the effort to introduce religious education into the public school curriculum and the effort to obtain public funds for support of parochial schools stand better chances of acceptance today. Nevertheless, throughout 1952, AJC continued its cooperation with the Institute on Church and State, lending our educational facilities and resources to promote greater understanding of the traditional American principle of separation of church and state.

There are even within our own ranks differing views with respect to our position, as is evidenced by Will Herberg's article in November's *Commentary*, "The Sectarian Conflict Over Church and State" from which *Life* magazine quoted extensively in an editorial this past December. The nature and extent of our future activity in this area is a matter for your serious consideration this weekend.

**Education About Jews and Judaism**

Negative attitudes toward Jews are attributable to many causes. Misinformation about them is but one; lack of information is another. Opportunities for Christian adults to learn about contemporary Jews and Judaism are shockingly sparse—aside from the organized educational programs of the church where, as you have just heard, progress is evident and gratifying.

In 1952, therefore, we expended time, energy, and resources to continue to inform the American public of the cultural and religious heritage of Jews, demonstrating particularly how it is synonymous with fundamental American values.

Most of you have seen, or heard about, the immensely successful article "What Is a Jew?" which appeared in *Look* magazine last June and was reprinted in the *Reader's Digest* in August. It was written by the head of AJC's Interreligious Division who, incidentally, has received thousands of letters—a large percentage from Christians—expressing appreciation of the article's clarity and superlative presentation of little-known or little-understood facts about Jews. The magazines in which it has now appeared have a combined circulation of 33,000,000, extending into South America, Canada, and the major cities of Western Europe.
In 1952, AJC also sponsored television programs reaching an estimated audience of 75,000,000. Morning Chapel celebrated its fourth birthday on the air last November (1952), and Television Chapel received many plaudits when it televised, for the first time, an actual Sabbath service conducted in a temple. A third program, The Week in Religion, undertaken last spring (1952) at the invitation of the Dumont Network under the joint sponsorship of AJC and the Synagogue Council of America, is a sixty-minute show presented every Sunday evening, the first third of which consists of current news relating to the Jewish faith.

Commentary, the magazine we all proudly consider to be the outstanding journal of opinion in the area of Jewish affairs, has helped impressively to inform Christians about contemporary Jews and Judaism. In November, Time magazine devoted an entire two pages to reprinting excerpts from Elliot E. Cohen's article, "Free American Citizen, 1952," which appeared in the September issue of Commentary. Commentary's mounting prestige and impact has over and over again been evidenced in 1952 by the insistent demands for reprints of its articles by government agencies here and abroad, by universities and other educational institutions, and countless civic and communal groups.

National Organizations and Community Action

We would be less than human were we not to feel a genuine sense of pride over the acclaim given to AJC activities by America's reading and listening public. But in 1952 as in previous years, perhaps some of our most exciting progress evidenced itself in areas in which the Committee itself, while largely responsible for stimulating and encouraging favorable developments, could not—in the interest of effectiveness—be publicly identified with the salutary results.

You know, for example, that AJC's Youth Division has importantly furthered programs of intergroup relations in those youth-serving organizations with which it works within the framework of the National Social Welfare Assembly. Twenty such organizations belong to that Assembly. In my report to you last year I told of the one-day Consultation on Prejudice and Discrimination held in December 1951 and for which the Director of our Youth Division had the major planning responsibility. At that time, you may recall, the country's leading youth-serving organizations—the Girl Scouts, the Boy Scouts, the Camp Fire Girls, the YWCA—unanimously agreed that "... the problem of better intergroup relations was well within its scope of interest and responsibility," and those organizations recorded their desire to make elimination of prejudice and discrimination a matter of prime consideration in all phases of their activity.

In 1952, we saw some concrete evidence of this avowed interest. The Girl Scouts of America, anxious to promote sounder and healthier attitudes among their youngsters, sponsored a lively illustrated pamphlet, You and the Other One, which we helped to produce last spring. Its purpose was to guide camp counselors in utilizing the play hours of the summer camping experience to instill respect and understanding of racial, religious, and cultural differences among the children, along with a sense of the importance of being able to get along with all people in camping, as in other aspects of living. Following this summer's experience with the pamphlet and the program it suggests, the Girl Scouts enthusiastically propose to use it, not only during the camping season, but also in connection with pre-camp training programs and leadership training activity. Both The New York Times and the Herald Tribune, incidentally, did fine feature stories on You and the Other One and its implications for direct and effective attitude education of millions of young people. Copies have also been distributed through the American Camping Association to reach ultimately 2,000,000 young people who go to camp each summer.

The Camp Fire Girls, following their Triennial Conference in May 1952, which included a special session on "Human Relations Frontiers for Camp Fires," currently have a special committee studying that organization's policies and practices in intergroup relations.
The YWCA, holding a three-day seminar for its program directors this month, sought the help of AJC in planning its discussions on ways and means of making the “Y” membership more “inclusive” of different economic, racial, cultural, and occupational groups. Featured on their agenda was a fundamental consideration of the dynamics of prejudice, the factors that make for exclusiveness, and a consideration of the prejudiced personality—all based upon the Committee’s *Studies in Prejudice*.

To reach workers in year-round recreational facilities, AJC has also been discussing with New York University the possibility of incorporating into the training courses of public recreation leaders, the fundamentals of intergroup relations; and this fall (1952), at a conference held in Indiana University, we participated, together with the National Council of Churches and the National Catholic Welfare Conference, in workshops on recreation designed especially for youth leaders of these organizations.

Examples of chapter activity in similar community intergroup programs are numerous and a continuing source of gratification.

New York, for example, has acted to coordinate the activities of the many organizations concerned with intergroup programs in the public schools of this city. In California, chapters aided the planning and financing of the University of Southern California’s Workshop on Intercultural Education. In Chicago, our chapter helped reconstruct that city’s Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination. In Seattle, the AJC chapter’s influence was noticeable in that city’s annual “At Home” visiting program, which last year stressed intergroup understanding. And in 1952, chapter initiative helped the *Panel of Americans* to continue on its impressive way and resulted in its sponsorship by a dozen more universities throughout the country.

**The Application of Science to Intergroup Relations**

The findings of our Department of Scientific Research relating to prejudice and techniques for dealing with it continue, of course, to influence greatly our entire program. Moreover, in 1952 our scientific work took some new turns. Following a series of conferences with several eminent social scientists and practitioners, we decided to concentrate upon gathering together, organizing, and analyzing recent findings and new knowledge gleaned from research and actual experience in the field of prejudice. In compact and usable form, we plan to make this available to all workers in this field. And we will, of course, be subjecting our own AJC materials and program to constant evaluation in the light of these current findings.

During the last year we also completed a particularly significant study in Trenton, N. J.—probably the first research effort of its kind—a study of Jewish community life and the attitudes of individual Jews toward their Jewishness and the problems affecting them both as Jews and as Americans. Some 500 interviews have been completed and results are now being studied and analyzed.

Our five-volume *Studies in Prejudice* has become a classic in the field. *The Authoritarian Personality*, one of the major studies, is now a standard text in many of the nation’s leading universities. And a particularly exciting development is Harper’s recent decision to publish a one-volume provocative and readable treatment of prejudice for a general audience based upon the major findings in the *Studies*.

**Civil Rights**

I hope you have all read our little pamphlet, *The People Take the Lead*, which we released on Bill of Rights Day, December 15, 1952, in commemoration of the fifth anniversary of the report of the President’s Committee on Civil Rights.

In it, we reported “unprecedented progress” in civil rights in the 1948-52 period—progress attributable to the efforts of “the people over the land” who, through their church groups, veterans’ organizations, labor unions, civic and community groups of all kinds, have determinedly joined forces to wipe out discrimination in
employment, housing, education, and other vital areas. The victories they have scored have been manifold: the imposing list of administrative, legislative, and judicial actions of so many states certainly bears witness to this.

If the temper of our nation on this question is to be judged by the reaction of the nation's press to this report of ours, then indeed we have further reason to be heartened. Editorials—not mere news stories—based on the People Take the Lead appeared, for example, in the Pittsburgh Press, The New York Times, the Minneapolis Morning Tribune, the Cincinnati Post, the Peoria Illinois Star, the Indianapolis Times, the Birmingham Post, the New York Herald Tribune, and the Winston-Salem Journal-Sentinel. A special fact sheet for radio and TV commentators was picked up by the Associated Press Radio News in its broadcasts over approximately 800 stations.

Chapter Activity

But we have done more in 1952 than make public the country's record in civil rights as you, who come from chapters all over the country, can well testify. For this has been an area of chapter activity that has shown striking vitality in the past twelve months and our own AJC'ers were often a significant force in initiating the activities cited in the progress report just mentioned. Some chapters, working on their own or in cooperation with other community groups, conducted fact-finding surveys and prepared reports on problems of discrimination. Chapters in San Francisco and Pittsburgh prepared memoranda dealing with precedents for campaigns of education on the need for FEP legislation. Essex County, N. J., compiled an audit of discriminatory housing in that area. Wisconsin investigated the extent of resort discrimination in that state and submitted its findings to appropriate public officials.

Chapters have also cooperated with other community groups in educational campaigns in connection with anti-discrimination measures. San Francisco concerned itself with housing segregation in cooperation with the California Conference of Social Work; Chicago was active in efforts to establish and defend non-discriminatory housing; Seattle cooperated with the city-wide committee on Fair Employment Practices; Dallas and New York are working with their housing authorities to achieve genuine non-discrimination policies.

Chapters have also dealt directly and forthrightly with specific cases of discrimination. Los Angeles, for example, persuaded Jewish home builders to end policies of discrimination in their sales. Seattle concerned itself with allegations of discriminatory hiring practices by the Office of Price Stabilization in Alaska. And our newest chapter, Miami, which was welcomed to the fold in March 1952, actively cooperating with the equally young Dade County Council on Human Relations, has been working toward the development of positive programs, including educational work with the police force and guidance to public health, employment, housing, and welfare officials.

National Activity

Our national office, of course, lent aid and assistance to these efforts whenever and wherever it was requested. Often we suggested activities that seemed to us advisable on the basis of the country-wide inventory we maintain. We gave aid and assistance, to the extent our resources permitted, to Community Relations Councils, local Mayor's Committees and several State Committees Against Discrimination. We cooperated with many other national organizations in educational campaigns in which we were all interested.

AJC's Civil Rights Department and the New York Chapter played a major role in the planning, preparation, and promotion of the fourth annual National Conference Against Discrimination in Housing held in New York last May (1952). The conference was attended by more than 300 delegates from forty cities, representing over 70 private and public agencies.
Our National Labor Service was invited to participate in a great many of the more important conferences and conventions of both CIO and AFL during 1952. In this way, and of course in the day-by-day contacts we maintain and the materials we make available to union educational directors over the country, we have been able to develop or to extend labor's interest in many issues of mutual concern, that is, immigration, public schools, education in connection with Communism, etc. In all these areas labor has been an invaluable ally, but it is in civil rights, understandably, that it has been most vigorous. A new fair practices pamphlet, for example, prepared by AJC a few months ago and entitled *Your Rights Under FEPC*, will be distributed in quantities of many thousands by the United Steelworkers and the United Automobile Workers unions with their own imprints and a special message to the leaders of their locals.

And you should know that the civil rights film, *The Challenge*, which AJC produced in cooperation with a number of labor and civic organizations in 1951, has received two national awards in the educational film arena. During 1952, it was shown on TV to audiences estimated at 15,000,000—this in addition to repeated showings at hundreds of community and organization gatherings all over the country.

You doubtless read in early December (1952) of the Brown Case now pending in the Supreme Court. The question of the constitutionality of segregation in the public schools will be determined here for the first time and the AJC was one of six agencies—the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), the Japanese-American Citizens League, the American Ethical Union, the American Civil Liberties Union, and the Unitarian Fellowship for Social Justice, were the other five—to outline its views on this question in an *amicus* brief. We have maintained that the act of segregation itself implies inequality, for "that which is unequal in fact cannot be equal in law." We await the Court's decision with deep interest, for we know only too well that the preservation and advancement of the rights of one minority group means greater security for all.

In 1952, we also sought to advance two major causes of direct concern to Jews. One was the problem of discriminatory resort advertising, the other the matter of discrimination in admissions to medical schools.

### Resort Advertising

Now there are those—and many Jews are among them—who are inclined to make little of what they consider to be the "purely social" kind of anti-Semitism that is involved in resort discrimination. But we do not feel this way, because all our studies on the nature of prejudice offer convincing evidence that social discrimination, generally condoned, creates a public temper and a climate of public sentiment as potentially dangerous for Jews as it is threatening to democracy itself.

In mid-summer 1951, therefore, we gave select but country-wide distribution to a memorandum prepared on this subject by our New York Chapter. Though based largely on this city's newspapers, the resorts advertising in New York papers are located the country over. At that time, however, for a number of reasons, we could make little headway toward eliminating in advertising such phrases as "nearby churches." Those states that prohibited discriminatory advertising had enforcement provisions requiring criminal prosecution or suit for penal damages, and this type of remedy we felt to be entirely unsuited to the problem.

We were, however, instrumental in bringing the subject before the New York State Commission Against Discrimination in July 1952. We then brought our survey up to date and entered into negotiations with several newspapers, seeking a conference solution of the problem. Regretfully, I must report that we have been unsuccessful thus far with the New York *Journal-American* and the *Daily Mirror*. Negotiations are currently under way with *The New York Times*.

The New York State Commission Against Discrimination held hearings in early December (1952) in an effort to settle this question. In preliminary meetings that we convened with representatives of the Protestant and Catholic group, the former
were agreeable to the suggestion that the phrase "churches nearby" be modified to read "near all houses of worship" or "near churches and synagogues." The Catholic group, however, was strongly opposed to this, insisting that the word "church" must stand alone and "house of worship" did not, in their view, include churches.

As of this date no decision has been announced by the State Commission. But you may be sure that we will not only continue but will intensify our efforts in this area. For while we are fully cognizant of the difficulties confronting us, we are equally cognizant of the implications of a do-nothing policy in connection with one of the most blatant and persistent violations of the spirit, and often the letter, of so many hard-won civil rights statutes on the books today.

**Discrimination in Medical Schools**

With respect to discrimination in admissions to medical schools, the situation is no less fraught with difficulties, the primary one being to establish firm proof of discrimination. Incidentally, an article in the January issue of *Commentary* prepared by an AJC staff member graphically depicts this problem, and we hope it will help to educate the opinion molders who read *Commentary* to the dangers implicit in the present situation.

Thus far I believe our major contribution in this area—and a most significant one in my view—has been in unearthing, analyzing, and calling attention to the facts as we see them. We have insisted that the appropriate public officials, as well as officers of two important medical schools in this state, see our evidence and hear our views. That is as much as I can report as of this moment; but here, as in the preceding area, it is our feeling that considerable work lies ahead for us, and we do not intend to shirk it. The quality and volume of the facts with which these officials are being confronted provide a subtle and, I believe, a most effective kind of pressure, and I think it not overly optimistic to predict that we may expect to see some change in attitude reasonably soon.

**Immigration**

You know something of our activity in connection with the McCarran Immigration Act. When, at the invitation of the President's Commission on Immigration and Naturalization, I testified last fall in behalf of the AJC and ADL, I stated categorically that our concern here was not for the small number of Jews in Europe who seek to emigrate here, but for the health of American democracy and the effect of these racist statutes upon the position of the United States in the world scene.

Considerable educational activity has been carried on in connection with this legislation from early spring of '52 right up to the present moment. We testified on two occasions before the President's Commission just mentioned. We provided nonpartisan facts and figures to major candidates of both parties. Many of our chapters cooperated with other civic and denominational groups in educational activities in their own communities. The *Economic Outlook*, CIO's widely read publication (circulation of 50,000 to labor leaders and opinion molders) devoted an entire issue to an analysis we helped to prepare of the present legislation.

In my testimony before the Commission I urged, among other things, that quotas be assigned on a "first-come, first-served" basis without regard to national origin or place of birth; and that the number of immigrants admitted be related to the determined needs of this country.

I called attention to the problems arising under the new legislation because of its requirement that new immigrants state on their visa application "race and ethnic classification." The AJC subsequently prepared a detailed memorandum which it submitted to the President's Commission, urging the elimination of this requirement, and recommending that the "Dictionary of Races or Peoples" drawn up by the immigration authorities be discarded as obsolete. Our press release on this issue was carried in newspapers throughout the country.
On January 1, 1953, when the President's Commission issued its superb report urging the preparation of new legislation "based on humanitarian principles designed to fulfill our duties and obligations to suffering mankind and adequate for our needs and for our security," it was received with acclaim by the press of the country and an astonishingly large number of influential citizen organizations of all kinds.

Editorials in the dailies over the country called upon the new Administration—President and Congress alike—to take necessary action immediately to redeem the pledges made during the election campaign to eliminate the "unfair" and "racist" provisions of the McCarran Act.

While at this moment it would seem that all these educational efforts are bearing fruit and that the present climate of opinion in this country favors a liberalized immigration policy, nevertheless we must face the fact that an opposition group, still relentless in its all-out support of the McCarran Act, is strongly entrenched in this country, and that further educational efforts must be exerted if the un-American provisions of that measure are to be eliminated.

Communism: The Enemy of Judaism

Whether in connection with the battle for liberalized immigration policy, or on the battleground of the public school, the United Nations, or in the civil rights arena, again and again we have exposed those who were tearing down institutions precious to democracy under the pretext of fighting Communism.

As Jews, moreover, we have also long felt an added responsibility to expose, at every opportunity, the outrageously false claims of the Communists that they are the great protectors of minority rights and the firm protagonists of civil liberties.

Commentary published a number of fine articles throughout the year on the Communist mistreatment of Jews and other minority groups. Many of these were reprinted for distribution abroad by the State Department and picked up by the Voice of America. Our Library of Jewish Information, which sponsored the publication by Syracuse University Press of The Jews in the Soviet Union, by Solomon M. Schwarz, has completed a second volume, now ready for publication: The Jews in the Satellite Countries. Arrangements have been completed through our representative in Israel for a Hebrew edition of the first volume and a French edition, in digest form, is also under way.

Of much more than passing interest, I feel, is a forty-page monograph recently sent to us and entitled "Aspects of Soviet Anti-Semitism," which had appeared in the fall (1952) issue of the Antioch Review, a scholarly journal of considerable influence. The document, replete with references to our studies, vigorously reaffirms Dr. Schwarz's principal conclusions, and the editors inform us that never before has an article of this length been published in their journal.

We also expended some time and effort in countering the influence of the Communist-inspired Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs. The hope of that group, of course, was to give currency to the idea that a political and anti-Semitic "frame-up" was responsible for their sentence, and the Communists lost no opportunity to inject the issue of the Rosenberg's Jewish origin into their every discussion of the matter. Memoranda providing full details about the Communist machinations on this issue were made available to rabbis, educators, writers, opinion molders, and to community leaders through our chapters and the CRC's, in order to render ineffectual the attempted exploitation of the Rosenberg case by the Communists for their own evil purposes.

Then suddenly, in the last weeks of 1952, this program of ours was given tragic impetus. The Prague trial and the arrests in Moscow and Budapest flashed dire and unmistakable messages to pro-democratic peoples everywhere. As Dr. Slawson has told you, our concern is to transcribe those messages so that every American will understand them. Americans everywhere, regardless of race or religion, must come to realize that the Soviet's new and public policy of anti-Semitism may well
provide the basis for a merger of world-wide anti-democratic forces: the Communists, the Germans in Europe, the Arabs in the Middle East, the fascist countries in South America. For the second time in a generation Jews may well become the scapegoat of restive and fearful peoples, anywhere in the world. The further fact that 2,500,000 Jews now living in Iron Curtain countries are in the most immediate and extreme danger of their lives must also be made clear to all people in our own and other democratic countries.

Immediately upon the heels of the release of the story from Prague, we issued a public statement warning of an evolving totalitarian coalition which has the U.S. as its target and anti-Semitism as its cementing force. Carried as an important news story of the AP and UP, it appeared in The New York Times and Herald Tribune and all the other leading papers throughout the country. It was also the subject of an editorial in the Herald Tribune on the day following its release. I believe that reprints of that editorial together with my own letter published in The New York Times were sent to you.

The Director of our Paris Office promptly called a press conference there, at which he stressed Slansky's early use of his official position within the Communist hierarchy to destroy every vestige of the religious, cultural, and communal life of the Jews in Czechoslovakia and at the same time to make it impossible for them to emigrate to Israel. The Paris stories were given wide and prominent attention in the European press and radio and in the American press as well. But on this and other aspects of the European story you will hear a good deal more from Mr. Shuster himself during the weekend.

At the request of the Voice of America, Jacob Blaustein recorded a statement on the significance of these events as we viewed them, and this was translated into Hebrew and beamed to Israel ten times during the day. AJC's opinion was also carried as the "shirt-tail" to the first story reported in The New York Times of the arrest of the Moscow doctors.

AJC staff also secured the complete text of the trials from the Voice of America and analyzed those events in a special bulletin, The Anti-Semitic Nature of the Czechoslovak Trial, and was given key distribution to rabbis and other religious and communal leaders within three weeks after the story broke. And many of you have doubtless seen the Peter Meyer article on this same subject in the January issue of Commentary—which also presents a fine analysis of the situation confronting us today.

For the plight of those Jews behind the Iron Curtain today we feel an anguish and an overwhelming fear. We do not yet know what immediate action can be taken to insure their safety.

But we do know what we must do and can do here in our own country together with all the allies we can muster. The stark, stalking, murderous program which the Kremlin has publicly embarked upon, and its world-wide implications, must become the springboard for as intensive a program of education as this Committee has ever been responsible for.

Plans for such a program were drawn up in the last weeks of 1952 and it is to have four major objectives:

1. To alert American public opinion to the use of anti-Semitism by the Kremlin as a weapon of conquest against the free world, and to the fact that the security of our own country requires immediate and universal rejection of the Kremlin policy;
2. To demonstrate again and again how Communism is the very antithesis of liberalism, and how, while it preaches a creed of social and religious equality, its practices deny such equality;
3. To make it eminently clear that Jews are traditional and consistent foes of Communism and therefore inevitable targets in the current Soviet campaigns; and finally
4. To impress upon the remaining few in this country—Jew and Gentile—who may still be receptive to Communist ideology, the fact that the Communist wolf can and does wear many kinds of clothing—sheep’s or otherwise. In Germany he
may appear as the brown sheep of neo-Nazism, in Czechoslovakia as the black sheep of anti-Semitism, and in France as the white sheep of "peace" and national independence.

I profoundly hope that by the time it is necessary for me to report to you again next year on our accomplishments in 1953, I will be able to tell you that our efforts helped Americans to recognize and to resist this latest Communist challenge to peace and to freedom.

United Nations and UNESCO

Within the past year, we witnessed an ominous dwindling of support for the United Nations, traceable in large measure to the activities of those same xenophobic and racist groups in this country to whom I referred earlier in this report. These super-patriotic "150 per cent Americans" have attempted to influence the ranks of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and many of our largest and most influential women's groups. And the Committee, along with many religious and civic organizations, considered itself duty-bound to join a nation-wide effort to defend and to restore confidence in the UN. For clearly, we cannot hope to gain support for a UN Genocide Convention, or a UN International Covenant on Human Rights, unless a far more positive attitude prevails toward the UN itself.

For the celebrations of UN Week, October 19-25, 1952, for example, AJC prepared a variety of materials distributed mainly by the American Association for the United Nations and the National Citizens Committee for United Nations Day—a clearing house of some hundred organizations under the sponsorship of the State Department. We prepared TV and radio spots, newspaper features, cartoons, and leaflets, all stressing the relationship between human rights and the maintenance of peace. AJC radio recordings, Headliners Speak for the UN, were heard over a thousand radio stations, and UN—What's in It for You?, a feature item written in our office, appeared in 325 newspapers. It would not be an overstatement to say that we have helped importantly to make of UN Week an event of primary educational importance.

Of particular relevance to our work—and incidentally most threatened at this time—is the work of UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which conducts on a world scale many of the educational activities to which AJC has devoted itself for many years. UNESCO's National Commission brings together outstanding citizens from many lands—community leaders, teachers, social scientists—to plan and execute programs that will educate the people of the world for peace. UNESCO has helped in the rebuilding of war-torn schools and universities and in the training of teachers for them; it has revised textbooks originally prejudicial to one or another racial, religious, or ethnic group. Incidentally, one of its most valuable long-range efforts which has especially roused the ire of the bigoted in this country is its monumental series, The Race Question in Modern Science.

AJC was elected to membership on the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO this last fall. In recognition of Dr. Slawson's eminent qualifications for this task, he has been designated to serve as AJC's representative for the three-year term of membership. Gratifying, too, was UNESCO's selection of AJC in 1952 as the recipient of a grant to undertake a special research project for the Race Studies Division on legislative experience in the United States as a means of reducing discrimination.

The third National Conference of UNESCO last January included a complete exhibit of AJC's activities in the field of civil rights and liberties, public education, immigration, and genocide. An extensive memorandum on human rights the world over, prepared by our Foreign Affairs Department was one of the "working papers" given to all delegates. Last year the U.S. Committee for a Genocide Convention distributed many thousand copies of an AJC-prepared leaflet, Who is Holding Up the Genocide Convention? And finally, our continuing affiliation with the Con-
sultative Council of Jewish Organizations (consisting of the American Jewish Committee, the Alliance Israélite Universelle, and the Anglo-Jewish Association) enabled us, in 1952, to press further for appointment by the UN of an Attorney General for Human Rights—the subject of considerable debate in months gone by. We still hope this may be a major item on the agenda of the spring meeting of the Human Rights Commission.

Last summer the Women's Division of the Methodist Church sensed alarming signs of disaffection for UNESCO and UN among its 1,800,000 members, and sought our aid in countering the inroads being made upon their membership by the Minute Women, a new but effective and rabidly isolationist organization which was also invading other church organizations. Accordingly, You Hold the Key to Human Rights, an eighty-two-page guide to social action based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, was published in June 1952 under the imprint of the Methodist group. Written and prepared by AJC staff members, this is the second such pamphlet on the same subject prepared for the same organization. It details ways and means of and resources for, initiating and sustaining community educational activity in three major fields covered in the Declaration, i.e., equality of opportunity, freedom of expression, and full and equal education. If you have not seen it, I commend it to your attention. It is practical, provocative, and eminently readable. UNESCO has designated it a "best-seller," and considers it to be the most effective publication in this area yet produced. Circulation of You Hold the Key, 15,000 to date, has been mainly to the women's church groups, although requests for it are being received daily from many civic organizations and just recently the CIO indicated its desire to have the pamphlet in some quantity.

There is no doubt in my mind that the UN and UNESCO must not only be supported but strengthened, and we in the AJC must work vigorously to that end. For as of this time it is the only instrument that offers even a promise of progress in the maintenance of peace and the advancement of human rights here and beyond our own borders.

**AJC on the International Scene**

Over and beyond its activity in connection with the UN, AJC's traditional concern for the security of Jews the world over was sharply in evidence in several sectors of the globe: in Central Europe, in Israel, the Near East, and Latin America.

From the director of our European office, Zachariah Shuster, you will hear during the course of this meeting a full analysis of the problems of Jews in Europe and North Africa. I will cite here only the highlights of our activity in these areas.

**Germany**

At our last Annual Meeting, and in fact at every meeting this organization has held since the end of the last war, we have looked upon developments within Germany with deep concern. We sought every opportunity to encourage and to aid in the democratization of that country. We urged the inclusion of human rights provisions in the contractual agreements between the Western Allies and Germany. In cooperation with the United States Government we initiated a comprehensive human rights project to insure that the new German state would incorporate the concept of equality for all racial, religious, and ethnic groups. Through widespread educational activity in this country and in cooperation with the American occupation forces, we have consistently urged that the Germans give substantial evidence of their readiness to take their place among the democracies of the world as they prepared to regain their sovereignty.

It was within this framework, in fact, that we insisted that swift settlement of restitution claims be considered an important indication that Germany was at last prepared to assume obligation—at least in a material sense—for the unspeakable moral crimes committed during the Nazi regime.
Surmounting countless obstacles then, the lengthy parallel negotiations with Western Germany conducted by Israel and by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany were successfully concluded last fall. Our President, Jacob Blaustein, serving as a member of the Praesidium of the Conference, was compelled to make three separate trips to Europe for meetings in London, Paris, the Hague, and Germany. At these sessions and at the intervening meetings in New York and Washington, the AJC was particularly helpful in moving these negotiations along through its special contacts with our own government officials here and within Germany.

The agreements concluded call for payments totalling $822,000,000 in goods, to be paid by Germany over a fourteen-year period. Of this, $715,000,000 is to go to Israel in satisfaction of her claim for reimbursement of the cost of resettling and rehabilitating Nazi victims who sought refuge there; $107,000,000 is to be used for compensation to Jewish victims of Nazi persecution outside of Israel, with a separate agreement between the Conference and the Government of Israel stipulating that Israel will convert this amount into currency for distribution as directed by the Conference Praesidium.

While we regard this as an accomplishment of the first magnitude, a grave responsibility now rests upon the Conference, namely, to see that these agreements are carried out, to allocate funds received from Israel, and to supervise the use of funds once allocated to Jewish relief organizations.

Overriding all of this, of course, is the necessity of stemming at every point the perilous and rising influence of the neo-Nazis and fascists presently flourishing in Germany. Last September, for example, the neo-Nazi Socialist Reich Party was officially banned by the West German Government and shortly thereafter was reported to have disbanded. One month later, however, the AJC publicly disclosed that the Party still maintained an active officially registered agent in this country, a young American-born and American-trained businessman whose function it was to publicize the Reich party in this country, a party which he described as incorporating only "the best features" of Hitler's party. The threat presented by these forces at this time to all who value democracy and democratic principles is surely a leading problem of our day.

Austrian Restitution Laws

Last summer, prompt intercession by the American Jewish Committee forestalled efforts by the neo-Nazis in Austria to reverse the existing satisfactory provisions in Austrian restitution laws, and to grant amnesty to thousands of still active Nazis, restoring their civil rights and property and enabling those who were public employees to regain their positions.

The combined efforts of our European office and our staff here, plus our President's discussions with President Truman, were largely responsible for the unanimous veto of this proposed legislation by the four-power Allied Control Council for Austria. United States public opinion condemned the Austrian proposal and the U.S. pressure placed upon the Austrian Government resulted in invitations issued to Jewish organizations to participate in negotiations involving indemnification and the establishment of a Jewish heirless property fund.

At the time of the veto, our European director received many messages of congratulations, including one of gratitude from the Jewish Community Council of Vienna. Significantly, while The New York Times considered the veto action important enough to make it the subject of a special editorial and considerable favorable comment also appeared in the leading European newspapers, the pro-Nazi press in Austria and Germany severely attacked Mr. Blaustein and the Committee for its active intervention, to which they attributed the defeat of the amnesty action.

In calling your attention to the situation confronting Jews in Germany and Austria, I have cited only the most acute of the trouble spots in Europe. As Mr. Shuster will report to you, the steady growth of totalitarianism, both of the Right
and the Left, in all European countries with the exception of Great Britain, bodes no good for the security of Jews in those countries. In most of them, moreover, Jewish communities are small, without influence and essentially defenseless. They are largely dependent upon the good will and the democratic practices of their non-Jewish neighbors; apart from this they must rely primarily upon the help—political, social, and economic—of the Jews in the United States. For the AJC this means that our efforts in these countries must be continued and intensified.

Israel

In the months past you have had periodic reports from our President including, among other matters, our continuing relationships with, and our activity in behalf of, Israel.

Certainly an extremely important aspect of the negotiations with Germany was the public recognition, and Israel's own acceptance of the fact, that she spoke only for herself and her own citizens and not for "world Jewry." This was indeed a practical demonstration of the new consistently maintained by the AJC.

Similarly, Zionist pressures within the Knesset notwithstanding, Israel, after formal protest by the AJC, refused to grant the World Zionist Organization the recognition it has been so eagerly seeking, as "the representative of the Jewish people" the world over.

Throughout 1952, encouraged by both the U.S. Government and the Government of Israel, we also continued to further Israel's requests for American economic and military aid, in the conviction that such aid was demonstrably in the best interests of both countries. Our premise has, of course, been confirmed, as Israel has abandoned her semi-neutralist position and firmly aligned herself with the western democracies at this most critical moment in world events.

Near East

Our concern with Jewish communities in the Moslem countries is a relatively recent one. Since the annihilation of European Jewry, the 800,000 Jews in those lands constitute one of the few remaining centers of Jewish population. They became important sources of immigrants to the new State of Israel and these communities were, of course, in grave danger during and following the war between the Arab states and Israel. In the face of the rapidly growing Arab nationalism, the need to protect the rights, and even the physical safety, of Jews in the Moslem and Arab world, became a matter of some urgency.

You know of our earlier successful efforts to secure a special law—which we later helped to extend—that would permit citizens of Iraq to emigrate to Israel. There have also been problems in Iraq in connection with a series of trials of Jewish citizens accused of treason and acts of terrorism. We intervened in their behalf through our own government and through the King and Regent of Iraq. We also encouraged the National Council of Churches of Christ and other organizations to protest the trials. Although two of the prisoners were executed, subsequent sentences were not at all so harsh, and we have reliable information that many of the prisoners have since found their way to safety outside of Iraq.

Latin America

The situation for Jews in the several dictator-ruled countries of South America continues, of course, to be a precarious one. For while these countries have not been openly anti-Semitic, if Jews were to oppose the governing regimes retaliations of an anti-Semitic nature would be inevitable. Recent events in Russia and Eastern Germany, moreover, promise anti-Semitic and fascist powers in these South American states powerful allies around the world.

In the face of all this, the traditionally apprehensive local Jewish leaders in these countries—most of whom wish to make Latin America their permanent home—are now even more disturbed by their inability to deal with the complex situa-
tion confronting them. In 1952, we continued to lend assistance to them from our office in Buenos Aires, providing materials for the internal education of the peoples of those countries with respect to the nature of Judaism, and for the Jews themselves, instruction in dealing directly with anti-Semitic situations. Our Yiddish news digest for Latin-American newspapers, Yedies, is today regarded as an institution by the Latin American Jewish press. Our staff person there was largely responsible for a manual on the Jewish religion distributed in the tens of thousands to the public schools. Our pamphlets on the resurgence of Nazism in Germany and on the nature of genocide, translated into Spanish, were given wide distribution in the countries south of the border. The AJC was responsible for the completion and distribution of the first survey of Latin American Jewish communities published in Spanish and Yiddish.

A particularly dramatic illustration of AJC's influence in that part of the world occurred last May (1952) in Costa Rica. For some time we had been watching the anti-Semitism manifestations there and suddenly, in early May, we were alerted to plans for a political rally scheduled later that month, which its leaders planned to turn into a public anti-Semitic demonstration. We immediately contacted the U.S. State Department Office of Inter-American Affairs which, in turn, cabled our ambassador in Costa Rica and instructed him to inform the Costa Rican government of its concern in this matter. We also alerted American newspapers, press associations—not only those who had correspondents in that area, but also those who might arrange to send correspondents—to make known both to the government and to the organizers of the demonstration their presence and their intention of covering the event fully. Almost immediately then, the Costa Rican Government imposed certain prohibitions and regulations upon the organizers, and the demonstration was ultimately cancelled entirely. The long-range problem in Costa Rica is, of course, still with us, and you may be certain that we are dealing with it in cooperation with the Costa Rican Jewish community.

Intra-Jewish Affairs

If this were 1949 my report would end here. But it is not and it does not. When in 1949 we really set in motion our program of education directed to American Jews, we were largely concerned with the prevalence of nationalist-separatist ideology in this country related, of course, to the establishment of Israel as a state. During 1952, and particularly in connection with the MacIver-NCRAC discussions, it became manifest that those who were then advocates of Jewish nationalism are now turning their energies in the direction of Jewish communal affairs here in America. This was evident in their drive to constitute Jews as a separate enclave within the larger American community, and to impose upon them a central authority having jurisdiction over the affairs of all American Jews.

This is explainable of course—as was their earlier enthusiasm for immigration to Israel—in terms of their underlying pessimism about the future for Jews in any country where they are a minority, including the United States. Dr. Slawson has spoken to you about this problem. I would add only that, in my view, our educational activity surrounding the NCRAC controversy in the past year was of prime importance. It was vital not alone in terms of institutional survival but, more importantly, because of the need to make unmistakably clear our attitude about Jewish life in America today: our confidence in the future of Judaism as long as American democracy prospers; our belief that diversity is the keystone in Jewish life as it is in American life; our conviction that anti-Semitism, like so many other diseases in our society today, is curable in large measure; our further conviction that the fight against anti-Semitism must be carried on, not by Jews alone but by Jews working together with their Christian fellow-Americans; and, finally, our rejection of any concept of a political loyalty to any country but America, even as we recognize the spiritual ties and sentiments that link Jews throughout the world.

We have for sometime been convinced that self-acceptance and self-understanding
are a sine qua non for every Jew. In a small, but we hope and believe, effective way we have furthered this understanding through our pamphlet series *This Is Our Home*. There have been ten pamphlets in that series to date; they have gained remarkable popularity in 1952, and are today utilized widely by Jewish adult education programs conducted on university campuses, in local community centers, and in temples and synagogues.

The discussion guides prepared for our chapters have had a wide appeal for other Jewish community groups as well. And during this past year we have particularly urged that our chapter members recognize the importance of serving on boards of temples, synagogues, and other Jewish communal organizations, and indeed accept this as one of the responsibilities of membership in an AJC chapter.

Incidentally, the *American Jewish Year Book*, Volume 54, treating with events in 1951-52, is now available. The *Year Book* continues to be regarded as the up-to-date authoritative chronicle of Jewish affairs and Jewish life the world over.

**Anglo-Jewish and Yiddish Press**

I cannot leave this matter of influencing Jews without referring to some very significant developments in connection with the Yiddish and Anglo-Jewish press.

As recently as three years ago one could read that press from cover to cover and find that whenever references were made to the Committee, they were almost always critical or outspokenly hostile. As recently as some months ago a sympathetic treatment of AJC’s position with respect to the NCRAC controversy would have required a “needle-in-the-haystack” search. But the situation is changing gradually. In fact, hardly a day now passes when one or more of these papers, historically opposed to the Committee, does not carry some complimentary reference to one or another aspect of AJC’s program. There is even beginning to be a note of open-mindedness on AJC’s position with respect to the NCRAC.

Considerable attention has been given to all the material we released on the status of Jews in the Soviet Union, on the Rosenberg trials, and, more recently, in connection with the Slansky trials.

Immediately after our Executive Committee meeting last fall, *The Day* devoted special articles and editorials to Jacob Blaustein’s report on the condition of European Jewry. In March, the oldest Yiddish weekly in the United States, *Der Amerikaner*, published a front page photograph and biography of Jacob Blaustein which, naturally, also devoted a great deal of space to the AJC.

*Hadoar*, a Hebrew weekly in New York, in a long article on the current Jewish communal crisis, writes about the AJC: “The major issues and the vital forces in Jewish communal life have always been international and not local. Thus, for example, the Annual Reports of the American Jewish Committee have been read with great interest all over the world for their insights into the Jewish situation.”

*Bittaron*, influential Hebrew quarterly, commenting on the NCRAC controversy, says, “The truth is that the government in Washington trusts only the AJC and no other Jewish organization... this is a fact whether one approves or disapproves of it, and one must take it into consideration.” The *Jewish Morning Journal* ran two articles on an interview with John Slawson concerning AJC’s position on the NCRAC controversy, and these articles were almost entirely supportive.

The *Forward*, in a lead article by Dr. B. Hoffman, veteran Yiddish journalist, says: “The AJC must be credited for the Jewish cultural work which it does in the English language. In this area the Committee has made tremendous strides...”. Praising *Commentary* in his weekly column, S. Niger, foremost Yiddish literary critic, wrote in *The Day*: “*Commentary*’s aim is not to spread ‘propaganda’ but ‘knowledge and enlightenment.’” And in the *Forward*, Dr. Hoffman wrote in October, 1952: “We must recognize that the AJ Committee has in recent years come closer to our Jewish Jews. It could be said that the wall which stood between the leaders of the AJC and the Jewish people has at last been broken down.”

There are many such items in our files.
Last fall, the *National Jewish Post*, an important Anglo-Jewish paper, devoted two full-page stories to the work of AJC in the fields of radio and television. It described the Committee as "the pioneering organization in the field," referring to the head of our Radio Division as "probably the single best informed source on Jewish radio and television," and cited with praise the various programs for which the Committee has been responsible. It did not stop there, however. It effectively related this record of experience and achievement to the MacIver Report, pointing to the Committee's "know-how" and competence in this field—a vital point in the light of MacIver's suggestion that such work should henceforth properly be conducted by religious organizations such as the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC). It is worth noting that in the last ten years the Committee activity in this area has many times been accorded high praise and even special honors by the radio and television industry's leading publications, namely, *Variety* and *Billboard*, and last spring we won the educational award for television and radio given by Ohio State University's Institute for Education by Radio and Television. But until the *Post's* recent orchids, the Anglo-Jewish press could hardly be described as "enthusiastic" with respect to any phase of the Committee's work.

All this did not happen by chance. Almost a decade ago, the Committee began to realize that the time was at hand when it must no longer work solely for Jews, it must also work with Jews. That we have conscientiously and so effectively moved in this direction, I believe, is one important reason we have emerged from the NCRAC controversy this fall, not a shattered, depleted organization, but one prepared and equipped to assume vital and responsible leadership in affairs affecting American Jewry in community after community.

**Conclusion**

This then is my report and it includes only the highlights of a very full year. Some of you may feel optimistic because of what you have been told. Some of you may feel apprehensive. But unless I have failed in my mission today, all of you must feel that here is a program and an organization that merit your support, not alone because of what we have been able to do in the past, but because of the magnitude of the work still before us, and, above all, because in this report, as in America itself, you believe—as I do—that there are the roots of, and the hope for, a better future.
REPORT OF THE SIXTY-FIFTH YEAR

OFFICERS
(as of August 1, 1953)

President
JUDGE LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL

1st Vice President
CHIEF JUSTICE HORACE STERN

2nd Vice President
EDWIN WOLF, 2nd

3rd Vice President
SOL SATINSKY

Treasurer
MYER FEINSTEIN

Secretary and Executive Secretary
LESSTER ZUSSMAN

Chairman, Publication Committee
DR. JACOB R. MARCUS

Editor
DR. SOLOMON GRAYZEL

Honorary President
J. SOLIS-COHEN, JR.

Honorary Vice Presidents

SAMUEL BRONFMAN ........................................... Montreal
LEE M. FRIEDMAN ............................................. Boston
JAMES MARSHALL ............................................. New York
SAMUEL I. ROSENMAN ....................................... New York
PHILIP SLOMOVITZ ............................................ Detroit
MICHAEL A. STAVITSKY ..................................... Newark
LEWIS L. STRAUSS ............................................. New York
Trustees

PHILIP W. AMRAM* .................................................. Washington
WALTER H. ANNENBERG* ........................................ Philadelphia
HARRY W. BAUMGARTEN* ........................................ New York
SAMUEL H. DAROFF* .................................................. Philadelphia
DR. BENJAMIN FINE* .................................................. New York
JOSEPH FIRST* ........................................................ Philadelphia
BERNARD L. FRANKEL* .............................................. Philadelphia
DR. M. LEO GITELSON* .............................................. New York
JACK A. GOLDFARB* .................................................. New York
AL PAUL LEFTON* .......................................................... Philadelphia
JUDGE BENJAMIN LENCHER* ........................................ Pittsburgh
JUDGE THEODORE LEVIN* .............................................. Detroit
HOWARD S. LEVY* ...................................................... Philadelphia
PHILIP W. LOWN* ......................................................... Auburn
JOSEPH MAYERHOFF* .................................................. Baltimore
SIDNEY NEUMANN* .................................................... Philadelphia
DR. KURT PEISER* ...................................................... Miami
LOUIS M. RABINOWITZ* .............................................. New York
FRANK J. RUBENSTEIN* .............................................. Baltimore
SAMUEL S. SCHNEIERSON* ............................................ New York
BERNARD G. SEGAL* ................................................... Philadelphia
LOUIS H. SILVER* ........................................................ Chicago
HARRY STARR* ............................................................... New York
DEWEY D. STONE* ....................................................... Brockton
ROGER W. STRAUS, JR.* .................................................. New York
MORTON H. WILNER* ................................................... Washington
HOWARD A. WOLF* ...................................................... Philadelphia

Publication Committee

RABBI BERNARD J. BAMBERGER ........................................ New York
DR. SULO W. BARON ....................................................... New York
DR. SAMUEL BELKIN ..................................................... New York
DR. JOSHUA BLOCH ........................................................ New York
RABBI MORTIMER J. COHEN ............................................. Philadelphia
DR. ISRAEL EFROS ........................................................ New York
DR. AZRIEL EISENBERG ................................................ New York
RABBI H. W. ETTELSON ................................................. Memphis
RABBI OSCAR Z. FASMAN .............................................. Chicago
RABBI JULIAN B. FEIBELMAN ......................................... New Orleans
RABBI ABRAHAM J. FELDMAN ............................................ Hartford
IRVING FINEMAN .......................................................... Vermont
RABBI LOUIS FINKELSTEIN ............................................. New York
BERNARD L. FRANKEL ................................................... Philadelphia
RABBI SOLOMON B. FREEHOF ........................................... Pittsburgh
DAVID J. GALTER .......................................................... Philadelphia
DR. NELSON GLUECK ..................................................... Cincinnati
RABBI JUDAH I. GOLDIN ................................................ New York
RABBI ROBERT GORDIS ................................................ Rockaway Park
DR. ABRAM J. HESCHEL ................................................ New York
DR. LEO L. HONOR ........................................................ Philadelphia
DR. LOUIS L. KAPLAN .................................................... Baltimore
DR. MORDECAI M. KAPLAN ............................................. New York

1 Term expires in 1954. 2 Term expires in 1955. 3 Term expires in 1956.
THE SIXTY-FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

The sixty-fifth Annual Meeting of The Jewish Publication Society of America was held on May 10, 1953, at the Warwick Hotel, 17th and Locust Streets, Philadelphia, Pa., at three o'clock in the afternoon. The Honorable Louis E. Levinthal, president of The Society, presided. In attendance were members of The Society from various parts of the country, members of the Publication Committee, and members of the Board of Trustees.

Report of the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee takes pleasure in presenting this report. We unanimously recommend the following as officers, honorary officers, and trustees of The Society, the officers and honorary officers for a one-year term, and the trustees for terms as designated.
OFFICERS

JUDGE LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL, President (5th term)
CHIEF JUSTICE HORACE STERN, 1st Vice President (42nd term)
EDWIN WOLF, 2nd, 2nd Vice President (5th term)
SOL SATINSKY, 3rd Vice President (1st term)
MYER FEINSTEIN, Treasurer (1st term)
LESSER ZUSSMAN, Secretary & Executive Secretary (4th term)
DR. JACOB R. MARCUS, Chairman, Publication Committee (5th term)
DR. SOLOMON GRAYZEL, Editor (15th term)

HONORARY PRESIDENT
J. SOLIS-COHEN, Jr.

HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS

SAMUEL BRONFMAN, Montreal
LEE M. FRIEDMAN, Boston
JAMES MARSHALL, New York
SAMUEL I. ROSENMAN, New York
PHILIP SLOMOVITZ, Detroit
MICHAEL A. STAVITSKY, Newark
LEWIS L. STRAUSS, New York

TRUSTEES

The following trustees have completed their terms of office and are recommended for re-election to three-year terms:

SAMUEL H. DAROFF, Philadelphia
DR. BENJAMIN FINE, New York
DR. KURT PEISER, Miami
HARRY STARR, New York
DEWEY D. STONE, Brockton
ROGER W. STRAUS, JR., New York

The following are recommended for election as trustees to three-year terms:

JOSEPH FIRST, Philadelphia
SAMUEL S. SCHNEISSERT, New York
BERNARD G. SEGAL, Philadelphia

Respectfully submitted,
EDWIN WOLF, 2ND, Chairman
SAMUEL H. DAROFF
BERNARD L. FRANKEL
FRANK J. RUBENSTEIN
LESSER ZUSSMAN, Secretary

The report of the Nominating Committee was adopted unanimously.

Sol Satinsky, Treasurer, gave the financial report for the year 1952 (as printed on page ——). The Treasurer's report was accepted unanimously. A motion was made expressing the appreciation of the members for the time and effort which Mr. Satinsky had devoted to the affairs of The Society during his four years as Treasurer.
The Executive Secretary, Lesser Zussman, reported on The Society’s activities in the area of fund raising and welfare fund inclusions. These activities received concentrated interest during the year past and the outlook is optimistic.

Dr. Jacob R. Marcus, Chairman of the Publication Committee, reported on the titles proposed for publication in 1954 and titles and projects being considered for later years.

The President, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, submitted his annual report.

Dr. Harry M. Orlinsky, member of the Publication Committee, presented an address on "The Role of Jewish Scholarship in the Revised Version of The Holy Scriptures." The address was enthusiastically received and it was moved that it was the sense of the meeting that steps be taken to explore further the ideas advanced by Dr. Orlinsky regarding the need for a revised version of the J.P.S. translation of The Holy Scriptures.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
LESSER ZUSSMAN, Secretary

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
FOR THE YEAR 1952

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

There are moments in the lives of institutions, as well as of individuals, when it is pardonable to indulge in retrospection and reminiscence. This is such a moment. As we mark the sixty-fifth anniversary of our Society, we naturally look back to that historic meeting of outstanding American Jewish leaders called together in Philadelphia on June 3, 1888, to establish a nation-wide organization with the ambitious purpose of publishing in English worthwhile books of Jewish interest.

In our review of the past, however, we should not forget that the first attempt to form a Jewish Publication Society in this country came much earlier than sixty-five years ago. In the material gathered by Emily Solis-Cohen for her biography of Isaac Leeser, which we hope will soon appear, we have from Leeser's own hand the inspiring account of how, almost single-handed, he brought that organization into existence. In addition to his exacting duties as rabbi and the amazing variety of his personal activities as author and editor, as translator of the Bible and publisher of religious books, Leeser established, in 1845, the first American Jewish Publication Society. The plan he formulated was designed to "establish a secure abode for Jewish literature in the United States through enlisting all Israelites in its growth." His aim was to "publish works of literature through which Israelites in name may become Israelites in knowledge." Leeser's Publication Society succeeded in producing fourteen books, but after a precarious existence of six years it finally succumbed when all its stock of books and plates, unfortunately uninsured, was destroyed by fire.

Nor should we fail to recall the second publication society which came into existence in New York City in the early 70's, as an offshoot of the Board of Delegates of American Israelites, that first experiment in the national organization of American Jews for the protection of the civil and religious rights of our people at home and abroad. After two years, during which it distributed translations of a few books by foreign authors to its 200 members, that publication society was liquidated, a casualty of the financial panic which afflicted our country at that time.

One may suggest various reasons for the failure of the two earlier ventures and for the happy outcome of the third attempt, our Jewish Publication Society of
America, which, despite an almost constant lack of adequate financial support and despite recurring adversities and vicissitudes, has somehow managed to survive. Indeed, in view of the many works of high literary and scholarly merit bearing the imprint of our publication society throughout the six and a half decades of its existence, we have reason to congratulate ourselves not merely on the survival of our organization, but also on its valuable contribution to the dignified and creative survival of Judaism in America.

All three publication societies had essentially the same objective; but, in constitutional structure and in method of operation, ours has been radically different from its ill-fated forerunners. The publication society of 1845 was the shadow of one man, a distinguished and gifted personality, but nevertheless one man, with his own outlook; and the publication society was conducted in accordance with his individual convictions and predilections. The second publication society, that of 1872, was an adjunct of an organization primarily devoted to the defense of Jewish rights. Our Society throughout its history, differing from its predecessors, has represented no single individual or organizational point of view; it has been and is the spokesman of Klal Yisroel—Universal Israel—seeking to preserve and enrich the totality of our spiritual and cultural heritage as Jews.

Dr. Solomon Solis-Cohen and Rabbi Joseph H. Krauskopf, who jointly issued the call for the initial meeting of our Society in 1888, were considerably different from each other in their background and training, their viewpoint and opinions. They nevertheless combined to form The Society because they realized that Jewish literature and culture must be shared in common by all the children of Israel and cannot be regarded as the monopoly of any section or group of our people. Judge Mayer Sulzberger was not exaggerating when he delivered himself of the following sentiment on the occasion of The Society's 25th anniversary: "Avoiding all narrowness, we have succeeded in welding into one body men whose views were strictly traditional and orthodox, on the one hand, and men who were scarcely conscious of having any views at all, on the other hand, and yet all, whether consciously or subconsciously, recognized that in some way, somehow they were related to one another by a common tradition and by some unformulated opinion."

It is interesting to note that the Publication Committee has operated continuously in accordance with the procedure established at its first meeting in 1888 under the chairmanship of Judge Sulzberger. A resolution was then adopted which provided that "the consideration of questions concerning manuscripts submitted and the question of literary judgment shall be referred by the Chairman of the Publication Committee to subcommittees to be appointed by him, and the action of said subcommittees shall not be final, but shall be presented to the Publication Committee with a full statement of the subcommittee's reasons." Despite its obvious and inherent disadvantages, this democratic process, on the whole, has functioned satisfactorily. The entire committee has collectively accepted and assumed responsibility for the decisions reached by a majority of its members. Differences of opinion and occasional delay may be unavoidable, but there are the compensating benefits of cooperation and unity.

We may also take pride in the fact that our Board of Trustees has invariably approved the recommendations of our Publication Committee, and to the extent that was feasible it has uniformly acted upon them. What Henrietta Szold, the first and extremely gifted secretary of the Publication Committee, said in 1913 is still true: "The Board has regarded the Committee as its literary ministers, and it has vested them with all but powers plenipotentiary."

It should also be noted that both the Board of Trustees and the Publication Committee have invariably acted with complete understanding of the primary purpose of our Society. We seek to stimulate Jewish literary productivity, not to monopolize it. We do not claim sole guardianship of American Jewish culture. We welcome the development of all other meritorious publication enterprises in our area of service. We regard them as complementary to, and not competitive with, our own. And we have constantly maintained the most cordial and harmonious
relations with scholarly and commercial publishers interested in books of Jewish content.

**Publication Program**

For 1952:

Our first publication, in January, 1952, was *Unambo*, by Max Brod, translated from the German by Ludwig Lewisohn and co-published with Farrar, Straus and Young, Inc. Our first printing of 3,300 copies is nearly exhausted, 3,092 copies having been sold and distributed. A second printing is now being planned.

The second title of the year was *The Last Revolt*, by Joseph Opatoshu, translated from the Yiddish by Moshe Spiegel. Of the 4,000 copies printed, 3,397 were sold and distributed during 1952.

The third title of the year was *Fallen Angels*, by Bernard J. Bamberger, published in July. Of the 5,000 copies printed, 2,567 were sold and distributed by the end of 1952.

The fourth title of the year was an excellent juvenile entitled *Stories of King David*, written by Lillian S. Freehof and lavishly illustrated by Seymour R. Kaplan. Of the 4,800 copies printed, 3,024 were sold and distributed during 1952.

The fifth title of the year, published in January, 1953, was *The American Jewish Year Book*, Volume 54, co-published with the American Jewish Committee. Of the 4,000 copies printed, the Committee took 1,400 and we took 2,600. The complete edition was sold out within a month after publication.

Two other volumes scheduled for publication in 1952 did not appear until 1953. The first of these titles is *Early American Jewry*, Volume II, by Jacob R. Marcus. This book was delayed by our decision to add a 150-page summary to Volume II which covers both volumes in the set and thus greatly enhances its value. A printing of 3,600 copies came off the press in April 1953, 2,600 of which were shipped against advance orders and requests.

The second title held over until 1953 was *Don Isaac Abravanel*, by Benzion Netanyahu. Publication was delayed by the necessity of having proofs and other material shipped back and forth between our office and the author in Israel. The book is now on the press and completion is expected late in May. A printing of 4,000 copies is planned, of which 1,797 have already been selected by our members.

For 1953:

It is gratifying to be able to report that for 1953—the year marking our sixtieth anniversary—a record number of publications has been planned and that the twelve books to be published this year are sufficiently diversified to please both the layman and the scholar.

The Book of Jonah, illustrated by Jacob Steinhardt and hand-lettered by Franziska Baruch, presents the Hebrew text and English translation of this significant Bible story. It will be published in quarto size and beautifully bound.

*Israel Between East and West*, by Raphael Patai, appraises the new state as a bridge between the Occident and the Orient. Economic attitudes, artistic interests, social habits, educational and cultural problems, and many other aspects of the complex situation caused by the “ingathering of the exiles” is considered.

*A Treasury of Jewish Letters*, in two volumes, compiled by Franz Kobler, is a co-publication with the East and West Library. The sublime messages of Israel’s great spirits alternate with the plain and moving letters of simple unknown Jewish men and women.

*The Life and Thought of Franz Rosenweig*, by Nahum N. Glatzer, co-published with Schocken Books, Inc., is an extremely valuable addition to Judaica in English. It portrays the religious philosophy of a man whose faith was tested and tempered in the fires of physical adversity.

*Personalities and Events in Jewish History*, by Cecil Roth, is a collection of informative and stimulating essays by the esteemed English author and historian.
The essays present a picture of Jewish life during the Middle Ages and modern times.

Joel, by Nora Benjamin Kubie, is a co-publication with Harper and Brothers. The novel presents the story of a young Jewish refugee who reaches maturity with a profound understanding of both his new country and himself.

The Well of Gerar, by Ruben Rothgiesser, translated from the German by Harry Schneiderman, is an historical novel of adventure. Rothgiesser is a gifted storyteller, and we welcome the opportunity of publishing another of his works.

For the Sake of Heaven, by Martin Buber, translated by Ludwig Lewisohn, is a republication with the addition of a new foreword by the author. This novel will serve as an excellent prelude for an understanding of Martin Buber and his place in religious thought.

The American Jewish Year Book, Volume 55, edited by Morris Fine, is co-published with the American Jewish Committee. This extremely valuable reference work continues a series unbroken since 1899.

A Bibliography of J.P.S. Publications, 1888-1952, compiled by Joshua Bloch, presents every title published by The Society during the past sixty-four years. It may well be considered a bibliographical history of The Society from 1888 to 1952.

The Spiritual Values of Life, by Horace Stern, is an inspiring collection of selected addresses on Jewish themes delivered during the last three decades by an outstanding American Jew.

Reprints

During 1952, we reprinted ten of our prior publications as follows: 31,000 copies of the Bible, making a total of 516,000 in print; 14,600 of Pathways Through the Bible by Mortimer J. Cohen, making a total of 65,000 in print; 4,000 of A History of the Jews by Solomon Grayzel, making a total of 29,750 in print; 1,500 of Let Laughter Ring by S. Felix Mendelsohn, making 15,600 in print; 2,000 of Sabbath; The Day of Delight, by Abraham E. Millgram, making 14,800 in print; 2,500 of The Purim Anthology, by Philip Goodman, making 7,500 in print; 1,000 of Man Is Not Alone, by Abraham Heschel, making 5,500 in print; 1,000 sets of The Jews: Their History, Culture and Religion, by Louis Finkelstein, making 5,400 sets in print; 1,000 of Judaism and Modern Man, by Will Herberg, making 3,741 in print; 500 sets of A Social and Religious History of the Jews, Volumes I and II, by Salo W. Baron, making 3,000 sets in print.

The following table shows the number of new books published and prior publications reprinted annually during the past decade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>New Books</th>
<th>Reprints</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1945</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Publication Distribution

We distributed 82,086 books during 1952, of which 31,455 were selected by our members, 48,166 sold to members and the trade, and 2,465 distributed as free books.
This compares with a total of 79,878 in 1951, of which 34,748 were selected by our members, 41,868 sold to members and the trade, and 3,262 distributed free.

Our Bible sales are steady, with 25,536 distributed in 1952 compared with 23,319 in 1951. *Pathways Through the Bible* is still our best seller next to the Bible, with 8,581 copies in 1952 compared with 7,095 for 1951.

Many difficulties have been encountered in exporting to foreign countries, where we believe there is a large potential market. We are encouraged by the fact that our government has set up the Mutual Security Administration program whereby publishers are licensed to export books to certain foreign countries and be paid in U. S. currency. H. M. Snyder and Company is acting as our export agent for this program in all countries other than Great Britain and Continental Europe.

Membership Statistics

Our membership in 1952 was slightly in excess of 1951, with 8,743 as compared to 8,712. Of the 8,743 members enrolled at the end of 1952, 1,753 were new members and 6,990 were renewals. As to classifications of membership, 4,572 were enrolled at $5.00, 3,503 at $11.25, 216 at $22.50 and 452 at $25.00 and higher.

It is apparent that The Society must undertake a vigorous membership campaign in order to increase its enrollment. Our improved financial condition will permit a limited expenditure for this purpose, and we are hopeful that the intensive effort which is contemplated will produce the desired results.

Jewish Book Month and Religious Book Week

The Jewish Book Council, in which we are active participants, continues to provide the impetus for planning appropriate activity during Jewish Book Month. More communities than ever before are participating in the important work of focusing attention upon Jewish literature and culture.

In connection with Religious Book Week, we are pleased to note that the National Conference of Christians and Jews specially recommends *Judaism and Modern Man* and *Joel* from our list of new books.

The Schulman Fund For Bible Studies

Friends of Dr. Samuel Schulman met at a dinner in New York City on May 15, 1952 and, through their generous contributions, made a gift to The Society in Dr. Schulman’s honor. This gift is to be used for the publication of books in the field of Biblical literature.

Board of Trustees and Officers

I am sincerely grateful to my fellow-officers and trustees for the assistance and support which they gave me during the past year. My particular thanks go to Sol Satinsky, who is giving up his important office as Treasurer after completing four years of devoted service. Since he assumes the office of 3rd Vice President, we shall continue to have the benefit of his broad experience and sound advice. I welcome Myer Feinstein as our new Treasurer and am certain that his extensive experience in communal affairs will mean much to The Society as he undertakes the important and difficult job of guiding our fiscal affairs. Also, my thanks to Lesser Zussman, our Executive Secretary, for his devoted management of The Society’s business affairs.

Publication Committee

The influence exerted by The Society in the field of Jewish books is, in the final analysis, the responsibility of our Publication Committee. That our books continue
to receive widespread appreciation and acclaim is a tribute to the efforts of this committee, which serves under the distinguished leadership of its chairman, Dr. Jacob R. Marcus, and our able Editor, Dr. Solomon Grayzel. To these men, who devote themselves to the task of selecting the best books obtainable, go the thanks of our entire membership.

Necrology

We mourn the loss of two officers and one author who passed away since we met at our last Annual Meeting. In May, 1952, we lost Dr. Henry Cohen of Galveston, Tex., who was an officer of The Society since its early days in 1894. In June, 1952, we lost Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach of Philadelphia, who was an officer of The Society since 1919. Several months ago, in February, we lost Rabbi S. Felix Mendelsohn of Chicago, author of Let Laughter Ring. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved families of these men.

The Unique Character of the Society

I recently read that the plagiarism it is hardest to avoid is the plagiarism of ourselves. I hope I shall be forgiven if I repeat what I said at the anniversary dinner meeting of The Society in 1927: "If the God of Judaism is to be not only the God of our fathers but also the God of our sons and daughters, the culture of our people must be recorded and perpetuated by the written word. Our Society for thirty-nine years has been popularizing Jewish scholarship, publishing and distributing good works on Jewish ethics and religion, Jewish history and biography, Jewish fiction, poetry and essays. Many of the books are as eternal as the people whose life and philosophy they mirror." The only change I now find necessary to make in these words is to substitute "sixty-five" for "thirty-nine" years.

The unique character of our Society and its important position in American Jewish life have recently been recognized in an unusual manner. The will of the late Jacob R. Schiff, a successful New York attorney who died on January 10, 1949, contained the following provision:

The income and principal of my residuary estate shall be paid over to such public, charitable or educational corporations in such amounts as may be directed by the Committee of three hereinafter appointed, bearing in mind that it is my wish that such corporations shall be selected for such donations as in the opinion of the said Committee will through their work or their manner of conducting their work tend to further the ideals of American democracy. . . The said Committee shall be composed of the Presidents for the time being of Columbia University, the College of the City of New York and the Jewish Publication Society of America located at Philadelphia, Pa.

It is a fair assumption that Mr. Schiff regarded our Society as an institution which promotes the ideals of American democracy, both through its program of activity and the manner of conducting it. We pay tribute to his memory for the high compliment he paid our organization in his last testament. Moreover, it is gratifying to report that on June 16, 1952, the Committee, composed of Dwight D. Eisenhower, then President of Columbia University, Dr. Harry N. Wright, then President of the City College of New York, and myself, as your President, made an allocation of $150,000 to the Jewish Publication Society of America. Our Board of Trustees has established The Jacob R. Schiff Library of Jewish Contributions to American Democracy, and has appointed a special committee to plan the preparation of a series of authoritative, scholarly, and popular books on American Jewish history and biography.

As we approach the tercentenary of the establishment of the first Jewish community in our country, it is important that a determined effort be made to record the dramatic epic of American Jewish history, to reveal how from early colonial days
Jews have played an integral and honorable part in the building and preservation of our American civilization. My distinguished colleagues on the Jacob R. Schiff Fund Committee and our Board of Trustees believe that the publishing of this kind of history and biography is one of the best ways of promoting and spreading the ideals of American democracy.

May I express the hope that men of means and of vision will soon provide us with additional financial resources adequate to our needs in the other important areas of Jewish literature and learning? It is indeed gratifying to observe that there has recently been a noticeable awareness on the part of many leaders throughout the country that our Society is entitled to generous support from community welfare funds as well as from individual donors. After a long and intimate association with The Society, I am satisfied that there is nothing wrong with our organization that money cannot cure. Happily, we possess spiritual values in abundance; what we need is material substance with which to realize our ideals.

In the archives of our Society are to be found many eloquent orations and stirring exhortations on its behalf. But it seems to me that never was it more important than now to heed the teaching of our sages of old: "Not preaching but doing is the chief thing." Is it not challenging to recall that when Isaac Leeser launched the first Publication Society he declared: "The time for action has come!" Can there be any doubt that 108 years later the time has indeed come for action, for enthusiastic, energetic, realistic, effective action on the part of all of us?

Respectfully submitted,

LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL, President
TREASURER'S REPORT

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>Dec. 31, 1952</th>
<th>Dec. 31, 1951</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$8,389.95</td>
<td>$7,986.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>15,590.37</td>
<td>16,126.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes Receivable</td>
<td>3,158.95</td>
<td>2,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>72,527.84</td>
<td>88,919.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan to Classics Fund</td>
<td>4,374.01</td>
<td>6,738.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building</td>
<td>67,899.86</td>
<td>67,899.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plates, copyrights, plant and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>equipment</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid publication costs</td>
<td>13,003.70</td>
<td>14,429.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid insurance</td>
<td>3,955.76</td>
<td>4,621.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid interest</td>
<td>51.11</td>
<td>38.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>$188,953.55</td>
<td>$209,161.86</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notes payable</td>
<td>$40,979.69</td>
<td>$37,298.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans payable</td>
<td></td>
<td>14,125.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans from funds</td>
<td>29,232.37</td>
<td>26,845.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>24,293.16</td>
<td>39,007.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customers' deposits</td>
<td>343.33</td>
<td>470.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued expenses</td>
<td>396.15</td>
<td>1,418.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withholding taxes</td>
<td>953.75</td>
<td>808.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortgage payable</td>
<td>14,000.00</td>
<td>17,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus reserves</td>
<td>12,499.15</td>
<td>6,518.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus</td>
<td>66,256.55</td>
<td>65,169.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>$188,953.55</td>
<td>$209,161.86</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMPARATIVE PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended</th>
<th>Dec. 31, 1952</th>
<th>Dec. 31, 1951</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dues</td>
<td>$89,476.85</td>
<td>$87,305.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>2,879.10</td>
<td>5,244.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special contribution from</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustees Fund</td>
<td>13,301.79</td>
<td>16,600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>114,858.07</td>
<td>104,022.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent received</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
<td>4,999.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>148.41</td>
<td>148.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>6,672.70</td>
<td>3,587.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>$232,336.92</td>
<td>$221,909.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses and publication costs</td>
<td>231,249.89</td>
<td>199,359.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Profit for Year</strong></td>
<td>$1,087.03</td>
<td>$22,549.56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>