

thousand years can hardly be accounted for in this manner, for numerically the Jews have always been a dwindling minority group; and it may be doubted if the virulence of anti-Semitic currents in modern Germany, the cradle of "scientific antisemitism," with a Jewish population less than one percent of the total population, is proportionately less than in modern Poland, with nearly fifteen percent of Jews out of the total. Nor can one explain the almost hysterical activities of the Inquisition against Protestants in Spain during the sixteenth century by their threatening numbers, since they are known to have been but a negligible proportion of the whole people; or the strong anti-Protestant attitude that persists even to this day in that land. Following such a mathematical lead, an observer of contemporary American life would surely be puzzled to understand how it was that in some sections of the country where Catholics were least numerous and least known, their Protestant fellow-Christians should dislike them most vigorously and most extravagantly misunderstand them; or how it came about that in communities harboring relatively few Negroes, the color-line should be drawn with a precision and finality that would do honor to the most relentless anti-Negro center in the Black Belt. Nor would such an explanation fit better in the case of the violent outbreaks of anti-foreign sentiment in present-day China with a few thousand Occidentals facing three or four hundred million Orientals. No; the secret is not in mere numbers; rather is it to be sought in the character of the historic relations between the groups involved and in the quality of the social tradition with reference to these contacts that are handed down to later generations.

But there is an added fact to be noted. Groups tend to keep alive prejudices by transmitting them to the younger generations; formally, through direct teaching and informally through the imitation of the prevalent social attitudes of elders, the ostensible aim is to foster group loyalty. Members must be indoctrinated against the danger of falling away. Thus, once the group is well on the way in its corporate life, its desire to keep intact and to preserve its identity is usually clearly marked. Efforts to disrupt it, either from within or from without, are opposed. In the past, one of the ways in which groups have attempted and to a large degree successfully, to achieve this aim, was to accentuate boldly and deliberately, differential traits of its own members. "Others may feel and think and act thus and so; but we feel and think and act differently." Not the least effective among the methods to sustain this sense of difference and thus to set the group apart from other groups, is to recreate periodically especially through commemorative festivals, something of the emotional crises through which the group passed in its struggle against antagonistic groups. It is in this connection that prejudices tend to become in-

stitutionalized. The massive engines of School, Church, Government, Press, Public Opinion, are all utilized in this process of institutionalization. It is as if a vast reservoir of social influences were kept filled to the brim, ready to be tapped in an emergency, and yielding a flow of emotional trends to buoy drooping group spirit and self-assertion, or if need be, to keep the group from sinking to the bottom in a sea of self-abasement and despair. Often among members of submerged groups there is developed a callous indifference to disabilities together with a profound contempt for those who impose them. It is the only way to save their souls alive. One frequently observes this among Negroes in modern white communities; and it was a not uncommon attitude among Jews in medieval days, surviving down to contemporary times in societies that still persist in treating them as virtually a proscribed people.

If thus far our analysis has seemed to proceed chiefly from the viewpoint of the group resisting interference or domination, it is easily shown that the same factors are at work when the problem is approached from that of the group seeking to maintain its mastery. In accordance with a general psychologic principle, the greater the obstruction to carrying out its intentions, the greater the effort expended to overcome the resistance. Not only economic and social prerogatives are felt to be at stake. That elusive, yet highly prized thing called "prestige" must be saved at any cost. History offers many instances of group conflicts in which the dominant group displayed a stubborn opposition, fatal in the end, when a far-sighted wisdom, to say nothing of a spirit of fair dealing, would have prompted a strategic retreat based on genuine concessions. Witness the great historic revolutions, bloodless as well as bloody, in which entrenched social-economic classes, blinded by power and "prestige" were dislodged by the violent up-thrust of suppressed groups; and for all we know, we may be today the slow-witted observers of the gathering storm that will ultimately dash the restive East against the dominating West. Under the terrific emotional stress of such crises, it has been and always will be both natural and easy to make the generalized charge against antagonists that they are all "traitors" or "rebels" or "ingrates" or "upstarts," and that therefore they must all be opposed to the bitter end. This generalization which lifts individual dislikes to the dizzy heights of social prejudice, serves to stiffen the fighting mood by strengthening the illusion that the doom of the group is at hand.

A complete search for the tap-roots of prejudice, would, no doubt, also trace the causes of group-conflict as such. As a major problem in sociology, this has been explored and the general outlines of the answer are fairly clear. Differences in interests, real and imagined, in the struggle for life-opportunities, furnish the chief motivating forces; in-

cluding under the notion of interest not alone the narrowly economic interest, but those larger strivings for status and dominion. The proximate causes are always clashes between contending individuals who quarrels, in one form or another, the different groups make their aim. As applied to the origin and growth of prejudices, this broad finding is amply borne out by analyses of specific historic situations.\*

\*The remaining notes left by Dr. Drachler were too fragmentary to permit preparation for publication. It was evident, however, that in elaboration and substantiation of his thesis he had planned to cite a number of historic instances illustrating various types of prejudices having their origins in conflicts of individuals and groups. One of these is so striking that it is included in this note although the author intended it as part of the text. It relates to the trial of Susan B. Anthony for the crime of voting before women were given the right to vote.

The hour for the trial had arrived. The distinguished judge on circuit, an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, had taken his place on the bench. Before him, in their proper places, were the members of the jury, the prosecuting attorney and two eminent counsel for the defendant. The accused, composed and dignified, was seated within the bar—a woman of striking mien, past fifty-three years, her ample hair brushed back over a high forehead and bound in a large and vigorous knot, keen and steady eyes behind spectacles, a sharp, straight nose, firm yet sensitive lips and a chin that spoke of fight. The court-room, on this June afternoon in the year 1873, was crowded with villagers from Canandaigua, New York State, where the trial was being held and with many prominent persons from far and wide. The prisoner was charged with a crime: being a female, she had, on November 5, 1872, knowingly voted for a candidate for representative in the Congress of the United States, without having a lawful right to do so. Counsel for the defendant, in an impassioned argument lasting three hours, attempted to convince Judge and jury, on legal, constitutional and moral ground that the accused had the right to vote. The crux of the matter, he argued, was that the crime charged consisted not in the act done but in the fact that it was done by a woman and not a man. The prosecuting attorney, with equal fervor, in a two hours' harangue, urged conviction. The arguments over, the Judge, without leaving the bench, delivered his opinion written before the trial: under the Constitution of the United States, the prisoner had no authority to vote, as females were not citizens of the United States. He then directed the jury to bring in a verdict of guilty. Disregarding the demand of counsel for the defendant that the jury be permitted to bring in its own verdict, the Judge ordered the clerk to take the verdict. Counsel demanded that the jury be polled. The Judge refused and discharged the jury, several of whom freely admitted later that they would have voted for a verdict of "not guilty."

The next day an appeal for a new trial was made. It was brusquely denied. Then spoke the Judge, ordering the defendant to stand: "Has the prisoner anything to say why sentence shall not be pronounced?" Back came the firm reply: "Yes, Your Honor, I have many things to say; for in your ordered verdict of guilty you have trampled under foot every vital principle of our government. My natural rights, my civil rights, my political rights, my judicial rights are all alike ignored. Robbed of the fundamental privilege of citizenship, I am degraded from the status of a citizen to that of a subject; and not only myself individually, but all of my sex are, by Your Honor's verdict, doomed to political subjection under this so-called republican form of government." Sternly warned by the Judge that he will not let her go on and say another word, the prisoner continued unheeding, rising to a passionate and bitter denunciation of the unfairness of the court and the injustice toward women. "I ask not leniency at your hands, but rather the full vigor of the law," she cried, and sat down. "The prisoner will stand up," ordered the Judge. She rose again. "The sentence of the Court is that you pay a fine of \$100 and the costs of the prosecution." Then came the final blast of defiance: "May it please Your Honor, I will never pay a dollar of your unjust penalty . . . not a penny shall go to this unjust claim. And I shall earnestly and persistently continue to urge all women to the practical recognition of the old Revolutionary maxim: 'Resistance to tyranny is obedience to God.'" "Madam," spoke the Judge. "The Court will now order you to stand committed until the fine is paid."

The drama was over. The trial of the United States of America vs. Susan B. Anthony had passed into history.—M. J. K.

## Notes from the National Committee on Transients

(of the National Conference of Jewish Social Service)

### National Registration

REGISTRATIONS of Jewish transients are coming in at the rate of about 1,000 per month. Sixty-one cities have participated in the National Registration System thus far, though the number registering on any given day fluctuates with the seasons and other factors. Correspondence is passing back and forth in the effort to isolate these elements, to assure a steady flow of registrations from all of the cities participating in the experiment. It is gratifying to watch the steady increase in mail at the central office, mail pertaining largely to community programs and methods of treating transients. The volume of information and experience being accumulated at the office promises well for the ultimate formulation of more adequate procedures in the care of transients.

Duplicate registrations are being recorded in increasing numbers. Several transients have reached the distinction of registration from 15 different cities. Registration started last spring, has proceeded through the summer and fall, and is now going into the winter.

The monthly volume has not fluctuated seriously thus far,

in spite of the expected rise and fall anticipated because of industrial influences, moving crops, weather, etc. However, the analysis, at the end of the year, will give actual figures to measure these flows. Right now the Southeastern cities are registering most heavily.

### Clearances

Mr. A. S. Rosichan of Cleveland, J.S.S.B., presented to the Ohio Conference at Toledo in October 1930, the results of one year's clearance by the five "northern tier" cities, ranging from Buffalo to Detroit. The whole report is full of interest . . . we select a few points. In a limited area 985 individuals passed through the five cities leaving only 1,501 registrations. The amount of duplication, as was also found in the western regionals, is smaller than anticipated. The favorable feature implied is a chronic group small enough for possible isolation and case work application; the unfavorable, that the problem is larger than we think and points to a casual relationship with general factors beyond

the scope of individual case work treatment. The National Committee on Transients is fortified in its purpose of searching for these factors on a national scale.

The regional analysis seems to show that it is possible to predict with reasonable accuracy the route which a transient will take when interviewed in a given city. Here again the National Registration system can follow the migrant to his trail's end or on his rounds.

The possession of regional clearance information was found to be of concrete benefit in the individual interviews with transients.

The report also points to the possibility of uniform transient policies growing out of a regional experience.

All in all, the report is an important argument for continuing experimentation on a regional basis.

Representatives of a number of cities in the States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, met in Nashville in November and organized a Southeastern Regional Bureau. Instead of using the clearance method now operating on the Pacific Coast and in Northern Ohio, Southeastern Clearance is trying the alternate method, registering all clients through Atlanta, as the central city, as well as through the National Registration office. The key cities in the Southeastern Regional are—Louisville, Lexington, Nashville, Memphis, Chattanooga, Knoxville, Jackson, Atlanta, Birmingham.

Of particular interest in this plan are two factors, first, an effort which is to be undertaken by each of these key cities to organize the surrounding small communities and to administer centrally, transient care, through funds collected from these surrounding communities. The second feature is an attempt to secure in each of the local communities the active cooperation of the Achnosis Orchim groups with their traditional viewpoints on the care of wanderers.

Mr. Herbert Kohn of the Nashville Federation was Chairman of the meeting and Mr. Edward M. Kahn of Atlanta, is responsible for the further developments of the plan.

Several other areas are talking about setting up clearance systems. However, the National Committee has felt that regional clearance must for the time being function on an experimental basis and that there is no particular value in stimulating such developments unduly. On the other hand, if there is considerable interest in the local community or in a group of communities for undertaking clearance, the National Committee will be as helpful as it can be, particularly in the way of passing on information regarding the regionals already in operation. One essential element in clearance which has come out of the Northern Ohio experi-

ment and which is being accepted in the Southeastern, is the fact that clearance offers opportunities for improved service to transients as much as it does to control restriction of their movements.

Meanwhile, discussion in the National Committee is still centered around the possibility of national clearance. Thus far no concrete plan has as yet resulted from all the discussions that have been held within the Committee and between interested individuals. It is probable that some experimental device will have to be set up on national clearance before any final plan can be worked out.

The National Council of Jewish Women has indicated its interest in participating in the work of the National Committee on Transients. In the smaller communities, especially those which have no organized Jewish social service agencies, Council Sections are much concerned with the problem of transients and Miss Landman, Field Secretary and her Social Service Committee are working with Mr. Astrofsky in plans for some type of registration from a limited group of such small cities, through the local Council Section.

Some experiment may also be undertaken in cooperation with a limited group of local Sections, in the direction of formulating transients treatment plans on a community basis. This may take the form of intercommunity cooperation, wherein a small city, adjacent to a large organized community, may turn its entire problem over to the large community for treatment, according to a definite understanding of fiscal and social responsibility.

#### Non-Sectarian Developments

Everyone is trying to get light on this matter of transients. The whole United States is represented in recent studies or those under way.

The Department of Public Welfare in Georgia is recording for one year the movements of transients and migrant families.

Twenty-six counties in California and a group of cities in Washington and Oregon conducted for six months an inter-county and inter-state clearance of migratory families. The 1,600 adults and 2,100 children registered resulted in the continuance of clearance in California and the development of interstate Social Service Exchange Service.

The Southeastern Colorado Confidential Exchange representing ten towns began to register transients and migrant families in 1927 and appears by this time to have affected the traffic as well as developed uniformity of treatment.

The Southwestern Confidential Exchange including

Texas and Oklahoma is operating along similar lines with clearance on automobile families.

Seven counties in Missouri are banded together for mutual help in the handling of transients and non-resident families.

Dr. Wilson of University of Kansas\* made a state-wide study of transients and automobile families through the League of Kansas Municipalities and the Kansas Conference of Social Work. In one year about 14,500 single transients were registered, among these over 1,000 women.

These studies all deal with transient families, though the studies grew out of concern with transients.

Jewish transient families are beginning to appear in the Southeast, but from the registrations received by the National Committee on Transients it appears that the Jewish transient problem is one of the wandering male. Are there no Jewish transient families or are we not getting them?

The National Committee is registering transient families though the number thus far reported is very small. We welcome registrations and information on the subject.

The National Association of Travelers Aid Societies is

\* See the December 1930 Family for a discussion by Dr. Wilson on the Transient Family.

interested in efforts made in a number of communities, notably Louisville, to centralize all non-sectarian local work with transients in the local Travelers Aid Society.

The central transients' bureaus set up for the shelter and treatment of transients either through the influence of Community Chests or municipalities are functioning in a number of cities. In several, Los Angeles, Duluth and Dayton, Jewish transients are given treatment as part of the general plan, with the local Jewish agency standing by, either as an interested observer or as an active participant. The National Office is interested in learning about these various plans and would like to hear from as many cities as are working along these lines or developing other special features.

#### Administration

Ralph Astrofsky of the New York Committee on Homeless is continuing as Secretary and Consultant for the National Committee; the national registration and the administrative detail are being carried by the Bureau of Jewish Social Research through Emma S. Schreiber of the staff. The Committee has made an appeal to one of the Foundations for a subvention to make it possible to continue this work through the fiscal year.

## Appointments

Miss Jessie Josolowitz, formerly staff member of the Jewish Social Service Association, New York, is now the executive director of the Jewish Family Welfare Society, Providence, R. I. Miss Josolowitz was a member of the first class of the Training School for Jewish Social Work.

Eugene Lerner, formerly case worker with the Child Guidance Department of the Jewish Social Service Bureau of Brooklyn, has succeeded Milton Goldstein as a worker for the Jewish Guidance Bureau, Newark, N. J.

Miss Edna Goldstein has joined the staff of the Jewish Guidance Bureau, Newark, N. J.

Miss Charlotte Locker, head resident of the South Side Neighborhood House, Minneapolis, has accepted a position as head resident of the Jewish Settlement House, Seattle, Wash. Mrs. James Kantrowitz has assumed the position at the South Side Neighborhood House.

Miss Grace Gordon, formerly girls' worker at the Emanuel Cohen Center, Minneapolis, has accepted the position as B'nai B'rith worker at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn., succeeding Miss Gertrude Shayne Silverman, who is to be married to Dr. Harold Friedman, Detroit. Miss Belle Shalit is the new girls' worker at the Emanuel Cohen Center.

Edward M. Kahn, executive director of the Atlanta Federation of Jewish Charities, was re-elected secretary-treasurer of the Atlanta Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers.

Mrs. David Olbum has joined the staff of the Jewish Family Welfare Association, Pittsburgh, as a case worker.

Maurice Klynn has been appointed supervisor of the Big Brother Association, Cleveland.

Miss Ruth Cohen is field secretary at Bellefaire, the new Jewish Orphan Home at Cleveland.

Miss Florence Cohen, medical social worker of the North End Clinic, Detroit, has been awarded a scholarship for graduate study at the New York School of Social Work by the Michigan District of the American Association of Hospital Social Workers.

Miss Selma J. Sampliner, supervisor of the North End Clinic Social Service Department, Detroit, has been appointed instructor of social case work in the new department of Nursing Education in the College of the City of Detroit.

Fred R. Movshin has been appointed Boys' Worker of the Jewish Day Nursery and Neighborhood House, Newark, N. J.