

MEMBERS AND DISTRICTS

Dist. I: Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina. 4 members: Leonard Haas, Atlanta, Ga. (1922); Montague Triest, Charleston, S. C. (1918).

Dist. II: Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee. 3 members: Otto Marx, Birmingham, Ala. (1918); Levi Rothenberg, Meridian, Miss. (1920); Nathan Cohn, Nashville, Tenn. (1918).

Dist. III: Arizona, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas. 5 members: Maurice Stern, New Orleans, La. (1919); Isaac H. Kempner, Galveston, Tex. (1921).

Dist. IV: Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri. 5 members: Morris M. Cohn, Little Rock, Ark. (1919); C. D. Spivak, Denver, Colo. (1918); Henry Wallenstein, Wichita, Kan. (1918); Jacob Billikopf, Kansas City, Mo. (1920).

Dist. V: California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington. 7 members: Max C. Sloss, San Francisco, Cal. (1921); I. W. Hellman, Jr., San Francisco, Cal. (1922); Ben Selling, Portland, Ore. (1922); Emanuel Rosenberg, Seattle, Wash. (1919).

Dist. VI: Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Wyoming. 9 members: Henry M. Butzel, Detroit, Mich. (1919); Emanuel Cohen, Minneapolis, Minn. (1920); Victor Rosewater, Omaha, Neb. (1919); Nat. Stone, Milwaukee, Wis. (1922).

Dist. VII: Illinois. 8 members: A. G. Becker (1918); James Davis (1919); M. E. Greenebaum (1918); B. Horwich (1922); Julian W. Mack (1918); Julius Rosenwald (1920); Joseph Stolz (1919), all of Chicago, Ill.; W. B. Woolner, Peoria, Ill. (1921).

Dist. VIII: Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, West Virginia. 6 members: Samuel E. Rauh, Indianapolis, Ind. (1920); Isaac W. Bernheim, Louisville, Ky. (1922); J. Walter Freiberg, Cincinnati, O. (1921); David Philipson, Cincinnati, O. (1919); Edward M. Baker, Cleveland, O. (1918); Louis Horkheimer, Wheeling, W. Va. (1920).

Dist. IX: City of Philadelphia. 6 members: Cyrus Adler (1918); Ephraim Lederer (1922); B. L. Levinthal (1920); Louis E. Levy (1919); M. Rosenbaum (1920); Mayer Sulzberger (1918).

Dist. X: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia. 5 members: Charles Van Leer, Seaford, Del. (1919); Fulton Brylawski, Washington, D. C. (1920); Jacob H. Hollander, Baltimore, Md. (1920); Siegmund B. Sonneborn, Baltimore, Md. (1920); E. N. Calisch, Richmond, Va. (1922).

Dist. XI: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont. 6 members: Isaac M. Ullman, New Haven, Conn. (1921); A. C. Ratchesky, Boston, Mass. (1922); Harry Cutler, Providence, R. I. (1921).

Dist. XII: New York City. 37 members: Isaac Allen (1920); Joseph Barondess (1919); S. Benderly (1920); Louis Borgenicht

(1920); Elias A. Cohen (1919); Samuel Dorf (1920); Julius J. Dukas (1919); Mrs. Wm. Einstein (1918); Harry Fischel (1920); William Fischman (1920); Israel Friedlaender (1919); Henry M. Goldfogle (1918); Jacob Kohn (1920); David Kornblueh (1920); Herbert H. Lehman (1918); Leo Lerner (1918); Adolph Lewisohn (1918); William Lieberman (1919); J. L. Magnes (1918); Louis Marshall (1920); H. Masliansky (1918); Jacob Massel (1918); H. Pereira Mendes (1918); Eugene Meyer, Jr. (1919); Leon Moisseiff (1918); S. Neumann (1920); S. Rottenberg (1920); Leon Sanders (1920); Jacob H. Schiff (1919); Bernard Semel (1919); P. A. Siegelstein (1920); Joseph Silverman (1920); I. M. Stettenheim (1920); Cyrus L. Sulzberger (1920); Israel Unterberg (1919); Felix M. Warburg (1918); Jacob Wertheim (1919).

Dist. XIII: New York (exclusive of the City). 3 members: Simon Fleischmann, Buffalo (1920); Benjamin M. Marcus, Olean (1921); Horace Wolf, Rochester (1918).

Dist. XIV: New Jersey and Pennsylvania (exclusive of Philadelphia). 4 members: Felix Fuld, Newark, N. J. (1919); Isaac W. Frank, Pittsburgh, Pa. (1922); Isador Sobel, Erie, Pa. (1921); A. Leo Weil, Pittsburgh, Pa. (1919).

Members-at-Large for 1918: Herman Bernstein, Nathan Bijur, Abram I. Elkus, Irving Lehman, Oscar S. Straus, all of New York City; Herbert Friedenwald, Baltimore, Md.; Albert D. Lasker, Chicago, Ill.; Jacob M. Loeb, Chicago, Ill.; S. Marcus Fechheimer, Cincinnati, O.; Chas. Eisenman, Cleveland, O.; Albert W. Well, New Haven, Conn.

DELEGATES FROM ORGANIZATIONS

Lee K. Frankel, National Conference of Jewish Charities.
Samuel C. Lampert, United Synagogue of America.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 11, 1917

The Eleventh Annual Meeting of the American Jewish Committee was held at the Hotel Astor, New York City, on Sunday, November 11, 1917. Louis Marshall, Esq., presided, and the following members were present: Cyrus Adler, Isaac Allen, S. Benderly, Jacob Billikopf, Nathan Bijur, Louis Borgenicht, Samuel Dorf, Julius J. Dukas, S. Marcus Fechheimer, Harry Fischel, William Fischman, Simon Fleischmann, Isaac W. Frank, Lee K. Frankel, Israel Friedlaender, Felix Fuld, Leon Kamaiky, Jacob Kohn, David Kornbluh, Samuel C. Lamport, Ephraim Lederer, Irving Lehman, Louis E. Levy, William Lieberman, Julian W. Mack, J. L. Magnes, H. Masliansky, Jacob Massel, H. Pereira Mendes, Leon Moisseiff, S. Neumann, Morris Rosenbaum, Julius Rosenwald, Leon Sanders, Jacob H. Schiff, Bernard Semel, Joseph Silverman, Isador Sobel, Oscar S. Straus, Cyrus L. Sulzberger, Israel Unterberg, Charles Van Leer, and Felix M. Warburg.

Regrets at their inability to attend were received from: Isaac W. Bernheim, Fulton Brylawski, Henry M. Butzel, Emanuel Cohen, Nathan Cohn, Harry Cutler, James Davis, J. Walter Freiberg, Herbert Friedenwald, Henry M. Goldfogle, M. E. Greenebaum, Leonard Haas, Jacob H. Hollander, Louis Horkheimer, Henry S. Hutzler, Isaac H. Kempner, Herbert H. Lehman, Leo Lerner, Otto Marx, Victor Rosewater, Ben Selling, M. C. Sloss, C. D. Spivak, Maurice Stern, Joseph Stolz, Montague Triest, Isaac M. Ullman, A. Leo Weil, and Jacob Wertheim.

DEATH OF ABRAM J. KATZ

The President announced the death of Abram J. Katz, of Rochester, during the past week, and upon motion the following resolution was adopted unanimously by a rising vote:

We learn with sorrow of the death of our esteemed associate and friend, Abram J. Katz, and pause in our deliberations to enter upon our minutes an expression of the deep regret that we all feel at the passing of this kind-hearted gentleman, this loyal Jew, and this public-spirited citizen, who was ever ready to respond to the voice of duty.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee presented the following report:

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE:

When the Committee met on November 12, 1916, it had completed ten years of its activity during all of which time our beloved country enjoyed the blessings of peace, both at home and with the other members of the family of nations. To-day we meet under entirely different circumstances. After patiently suffering many affronts and numerous acts of violence in defiance of the rights of our people, America has taken up arms in defence of its national integrity and honor, and has joined with the other nations that for the past three years have warred vigorously to safeguard their liberties.

As was confidently anticipated by all who knew of the American Jew's love for America, the many members of our faith who are serving the United States in important capacities, the thousands who, less conspicuously but as needfully, are helping to make up the rank and file of the Army and Navy,

and that great host of workers in civil life who are pursuing the every-day tasks which are vital to success bring conviction that the Jews of America are just as loyal to the ideals of the United States and just as eager to live and, if need be, to die for them as is any other of the component parts of our citizenship.

That our Government is convinced of this is evidenced by the eminent positions of trust and responsibility to which our brethren have been called. Among them are to be found several of the members of our organization and of our Executive Committee who have conspicuously aided the Government in the work of the Council of National Defence and of its Executive Board, in the Liberty Loan Committee, entrusted with the placing of the Government's War Loans, and in the drafting of the Soldiers and Sailors' Allowance Compensation and Insurance Act, and in many other ways. Our coreligionists throughout the country have shown commendable interest and industry in connection with the launching of the two gigantic loans, as a result of which our armed forces will be completely and generously equipped, and thanks to which the greatest war of history will be brought to a speedy and successful conclusion which shall add new guarantees to human liberty, for all time destroy autocracy and upon such terms as we trust and pray will leave no seed for a future harvest of blood.

It is not at this moment known how many of our young men are serving in the United States Army and Navy. But unquestionably it is far above our proportion of the population. Of those above draft age many are serving the nation as volunteers in Washington and elsewhere in all kinds of military and civil activities.

Upon those who stay at home devolves a special duty toward our coreligionists who are to bear the brunt of the battle. We must do everything in our power to extend to them such aid and comfort as will in a measure mitigate their physical hardships and will encourage and hearten them to endure privation and suffering. Your Committee is happy to report that this necessary and helpful work is being undertaken by an organization which was instituted with the help of members of your body and the present head of which is a member of your Executive Committee. The Jewish Board for Welfare Work in the United States Army and Navy was formed almost immediately after the declaration by our Government that a state of war existed. It is composed of representatives of the following organizations:

Agudath ha-Rabbonim,
Central Conference of American Rabbis,
Council of Jewish Women,
Council of Y. M. H. and Kindred Associations,
Independent Order B'Nai Brith,
Independent Order Brith Abraham,
Jewish Chautauqua Society,
Jewish Publication Society of America,
National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods,
New York Board of Jewish Ministers,
Order Brith Abraham,
Union of American Hebrew Congregations,
Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations,
United Synagogue of America.

At a meeting on April 15, 1917, your Executive Committee adopted a resolution expressing its willingness to co-operate with the Board and favoring the passage by Congress of a bill

providing for twenty chaplains-at-large in the Army. Of this number it is expected that several will be Jewish ministers. Thanks to this bill, which became a law during the closing hours of the past session of Congress, the spiritual welfare of Jewish young men in the military forces of the Government will be ministered to by rabbis just as the spiritual welfare of non-Jews is safeguarded by clergymen of the Christian churches.

Your Committee has recently been informed by the Alliance Israélite Universelle, that a number of the leading Jews of France are planning to establish in Paris a social center for American soldiers of our faith, where they could attend to their correspondence, read newspapers and books, and meet with French Jews who would interest themselves in our compatriots. The Alliance itself has generously offered the use of a part of its building for this center.

Your Committee believes that an effort should be made to collect and record as much statistical and other information with regard to the participation of Jews in the military and civilian activities of the United States in connection with the war as is possible to procure. With this end in view an arrangement has been made with the Jewish Publication Society of America, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the American Jewish Historical Society, and other organizations to prepare the material for a monograph on the Jews in the wars of the United States with special attention to the present war. In this work the Committee itself and also its Bureau of Statistics is to co-operate. Your Committee feels certain that the possession of adequate information of this character will be of interest to all Jews.

RUSSIA

At the Tenth Annual Meeting, your Committee, in its report, was silent as to the condition of our brethren in the Russian empire. It was impossible to describe the misery of our coreligionists which was, we venture to say, well known not only to Jews but to all people. As was pointed out in the Committee's publication "The Jews in the Eastern War Zone," the wretched condition of our brethren was due in large measure to the exceptional status which they occupied before the war. The conditions never looked more hopeless than in the winter of 1916, but the war, which so amply demonstrated the inhumanity of the condition of subjugation under which the Jews suffered, also demonstrated the inefficiency and corruption which honeycombed the Russian Government and which threatened to betray the Russian people. A radical and thorough-going change was inevitable, and it came in the guise of the almost miraculous revolution which electrified the world in the spring of the present year.

Your Committee greeted the event with great rejoicing. On March 21, 1917, the President, in the name of the Committee, sent the following cablegram to Prof. Paul Miliukov, the then Minister for Foreign Affairs in the Provisional Government established by the Revolution:

Every Jew hails free Russia's advent with prayer, thanksgiving and pledges for co-operation. The ideal of human rights now proclaimed by you and your associates with the voice of liberty has caused the horrible spectre of absolutism to vanish forever and the true Russia long hidden from the world to rise triumphant.

The tremendous upheaval caused by the Revolution naturally resulted in great confusion and in the attempt on the part of various groups to dominate the Government. Just at the time when our country formally recognized that a state of war between the United States and Germany existed, and pledged its all to help put an end to the conditions which brought about the greatest war in history, Russia, one of the allies upon whose assistance a great deal of reliance had been placed, became the scene of internal dissension which threatened to nullify this assistance and to place upon the other allies, including the United States, the tremendous burden of supplying the deficiency threatened to be created by Russia's defection. Rumors of a propaganda for the conclusion of a separate peace between Russia and the Central Powers reached this country, and caused a great deal of anxiety among the friends of the Russian people. Your Committee felt moved to express to our coreligionists in Russia this anxiety and the view that such a separate peace was regarded by the Committee as disastrous not only for the Jews, but also for the whole Russian people. At the suggestion of the Committee our Department of State sent on April, 1917, the following cablegram to Prof. Miliukov :

American Jewry is alarmed by reports that certain elements are urging separate peace between Russia and Central Powers. A separate peace may, in our opinion, lead to the ultimate restoration of an autocratic Government and the degradation of the Russian Jews below even their former deplorable condition. We are confident Russian Jewry are ready for the greatest sacrifices in support of the present democratic Government as the only hope for the future of Russia and its people. American Jewry holds itself ready to co-operate with its Russian brethren in this great movement.

To this cablegram, Prof. Miliukov replied as follows :

The Russian Provisional Government is very appreciative of the sympathy which the authorized representatives of American Jewish citizens are so good as to accord to its effort to assure the triumph of the great principles of democracy, of liberty, and of equality of all Russian citizens, without distinction of nationality or religion.

As regards the uncertainty shown by the American Jewry on account of the rumors of agitation of certain elements for a separate peace, I can assure them that these rumors are wholly without foundation; no Russian party, whatever its political program, has contemplated or could contemplate the eventuality of a separate peace with the foreign aggressor.

The great danger which menaces new Russia and the entire world, if heed should be paid to the efforts which have for their end the maintenance of the fearful German militarism, is only too well known here.

In May of this year it was suggested by a number of European Jewish organizations that a commission made up of representatives of several Jewish national organizations of the allied countries be sent to Russia to greet the Provisional Government in the name of the Jews of these countries and to endeavor to impress upon our Jewish coreligionists in Russia the necessity for Russia's vigorous participation in the war.

Your Committee deemed conditions in Russia too confused for such a step, and advised against the plan which was subsequently abandoned.

Following the Revolution, the censorship which had formerly prevailed, with the result that very little authentic information with regard to many Russian matters, especially such as concerned the Jews, was permitted to reach the United States,

was relaxed and subsequently abolished altogether. In view of this fact, your Committee discontinued its work in the direction of having the Russian newspapers and magazines read and pertinent information extracted and published.

MEMORANDUM ON JEWISH DISABILITIES IN RUSSIA

Last year your Committee reported that it had in contemplation the preparation of a memorandum on Jewish disabilities in various belligerent countries, so that it might be in position to appeal for the amelioration of these conditions, should an opportunity arise during the war, or in connection with an eventual peace conference. Your Committee is now happy to report that such a memorandum, confined, however, to the Russian empire, has been completed.

The memorandum will make up a book of more than 500 pages. It will give the historical background of anti-Jewish legislation in Russia, and will show how the various restrictive laws originated and how they were developed and interpreted by judicial decisions and administrative regulations. The book will expose the whole fabric of legal persecution and restriction in various fields of life and activity; in separate chapters it will bring out clearly and graphically the net of laws and administrative orders which rendered the lives of the Jews of Russia so miserable that one might well believe the charge that the Russian reactionaries' mode of solving the Jewish question was truly expressed in the well-known formula: one-third to be converted to the Greek Church; one-third to emigrate to America; and one-third to die of starvation in Russia.

The book will contain chapters on the legal restrictions respecting domicile, education, land-holding, commercial pur-

suits, professions, agriculture, etc. In every case there will be exact quotations from the statutes, the history of the events which led up to their enactment, an account of the important decisions of the Russian Senate respecting the application of the law, and a survey of its effect upon its victims. Your Committee feels satisfied that the publication of this work will serve to show the world the enormous stride towards civilization which is certain to result from the abolition of the special laws against the Jews brought about by the Russian Revolution.

Your Committee also has in its possession considerable information with respect to Roumania and other countries in which the status of the Jews differs from that of the general population.

INTERNATIONAL JEWISH CONFERENCE

Shortly after our country entered into the war against the German empire, your Committee was invited to send delegates to a conference of representatives of Jewish organizations in allied countries which it was proposed to convene in a European city. The purpose of this conference was to discuss the situation of the Jews in various countries and if possible to reach an agreement as to the action to be taken by Jewish organizations on behalf of our coreligionists.

Your Committee did not consider the time opportune for this conference, declined the invitation, and advised against the project. Shortly after this correspondence took place, the Russian Revolution occurred. This was another argument against the plan advanced, which was thereupon abandoned.

PALESTINE

In the spring of this year, the attention of your Committee was referred to a cablegram from Dr. M. Nordau and Prof.

Yahuda, of Madrid, Spain, stating that they had received reports about the wholesale massacre of the Jews of Palestine. The cablegram stated further that the writers had approached the Spanish Government, and suggested that the Jewish organizations in America cable to the king of Spain pleading for his intervention and that the diplomatic representatives of the neutral states be asked to call the attention of their respective Governments to this matter.

Your Committee transmitted to the Department of State the information received from Doctors Nordau and Yahuda. Our Government had already been informed of the situation, had directed our minister to Sweden to request the Swedish Government to lodge a protest against the alleged atrocities with the Government of Turkey and her allies. The Spanish Government also entered a protest through its ambassador at Constantinople. There has been no further communication on the subject, nor has there been any official confirmation of the reports referred to.

MOROCCO

That the condition of the Jews in Morocco is improving and is about to be placed on a firm legal basis is indicated by the statement of General Lyautey, recently Minister of War of France, and again Resident-General of the Protectorate of Morocco, that he intends to prosecute vigorously the work initiated by him before the war, to define the legal status of the Jews as French citizens and in this way put an end to their legal persecution at the hands of native tribunals. Recently, in a letter to Prof. Nahum Slouschz, whose explorations in Morocco and other regions of North Africa have contributed

valuable information concerning the Jews in those regions, General Lyautey stated that he intends to prosecute Jewish reforms in the most vigorous manner.

INTERNATIONAL PRO-FALASHA COMMITTEE

It will be recalled that shortly after the outbreak of the European war, the Committee agreed to co-operate with the International Pro-Falasha Committee in the work of ministering to the economic needs of the Jews of Abyssinia and in the educational work which the Pro-Falasha Committee had undertaken in that country under the supervision of Dr. Jacques Faitlovitch. The Committee at that time appropriated the sum of \$5000 for this work, and agreed to supervise the collection of annual subscriptions to this work made by American Jews. Due, however, to the war, it was not possible for Dr. Faitlovitch to proceed to Abyssinia.

JEWISH ORPHAN ASYLUM, SOFIA, BULGARIA

Due to the existing state of war, your Committee was unable to transmit to the Jewish Orphan Asylum, Queen Eleonore, of Sofia, Bulgaria, the annual appropriation of \$500 for the years 1916 and 1917. This money is being held to the credit of the institution, and will be transmitted at the earliest opportunity.

IMMIGRATION

When the Committee met last year, the bill restricting immigration to the United States by the imposition of a literacy test had been passed by the House of Representatives, and was ready for action by the Senate at the succeeding

session of Congress in December, 1916. Your Committee reported that it had been active in endeavoring to mitigate the harshness of the literacy test provision and in having certain other amendments introduced which would secure for the immigrant a full measure of consideration in the operation of the law. At the same time your Committee persisted in opposing the passage of the bill because of the literacy test.

On January 8, 1917, the Senate by a vote of fifty-six to ten passed the immigration bill, which was then sent to the President for his signature. The President returned the bill without his approval and accompanied by the following broad-minded veto message:

I very much regret to return this bill without my signature. In most of the provisions of the bill I should be very glad to concur, but I cannot rid myself of the conviction that the literacy test constitutes a radical change in the policy of the nation which is not justified in principle.

It is not a test of character, or of quality, or of personal fitness, but would operate in most cases merely as a penalty for lack of opportunity in the country from which the alien seeking admission came.

The opportunity to gain an education is in many cases one of the chief opportunities sought by the immigrant in coming to the United States, and our experience in the past has not been that the illiterate immigrant is as such an undesirable immigrant. Tests of quality and of purpose cannot be objected to on principle, but tests of opportunity surely may be.

Moreover, if this test might be equitably insisted on, one of the exceptions proposed to its application involves a provision which might lead to very delicate and hazardous diplomatic situations. . . .

Despite this disapproval of the President, the bill was passed by both Houses by what was claimed to be the two-thirds majorities required by the Constitution, although some doubt has been expressed upon this point.

The Committee succeeded, after various hearings before the Committee of the House of Representatives and conferences and correspondence with members of Congress, in securing a modification of the literacy test, for the purpose of exempting from its provisions those who were subject to discrimination because of their race or faith in the lands of their nativity. The adoption of this amendment affords renewed evidence of the spirit of justice which permeates the American people, and is an eloquent recognition by the Congress of the United States of the right of asylum. It reads:

That the following classes of persons shall be exempt from the operation of the literacy test, to wit: All aliens who shall prove to the satisfaction of the proper immigration officer or to the Secretary of Labor that they are seeking admission to the United States to avoid religious persecution in the country of their last permanent residence, whether such persecution be evidenced by overt acts or by laws or governmental regulations that discriminate against the alien or the race to which he belongs because of his religious faith.

After the bill had passed the House of Representatives, the Senate undertook to amend it by the insertion of a clause in Section 3 of the act, which excluded from admission to the United States, among others, "the natives of any country, province or dependency situate on the Continent of Asia west of the one hundred and tenth meridian of longitude east from Greenwich and east of the fiftieth meridian of longitude east from Greenwich, except that portion of said territory situate

between the fiftieth and sixty-fourth meridians of longitude east from Greenwich and the twenty-fourth and thirty-eighth parallels of latitude north.”

Although this clause purported to deal with any country, province, or dependency situated on the Continent of Asia, the boundaries of latitude and longitude which were specified included a substantial part of European Russia. They also embraced the most civilized parts of Siberia, including the cities of Tomsk, Tobolsk and Irkutsk, its chief commercial centers. The passage of this clause in the form in which it was adopted by the Senate would, under the then existing relations between the United States and Russia, have been most unfortunate. It would have afforded Russia a convincing argument against the making of a new treaty with the United States in lieu of that which had been abrogated, and would have embarrassed the United States in its efforts to enforce the principles laid down in 1912 and 1916 in the political platforms of the Democratic, Republican, and Progressive parties in respect to the *sine qua non* of such a treaty. It would have been argued, had this clause been adopted, that the United States was discriminating against natives of the Russian empire. In consequence of the arguments presented on behalf of the Committee, the proposed clause was amended so as to eliminate any territory belonging to the Russian empire, both in Europe and Asia.

Happily the recent march of history will in all likelihood render these amendments comparatively unimportant, but under the conditions which existed at the time of the passage of the act they were of primary importance.

It has not been possible, due to the immense falling-off in the number of immigrants because of the war, to observe the operation of the literacy test, or to arrive at any conclusions as to its consequences. The Revolutionary Government in Russia has by a single stroke abolished all the onerous and humiliating restrictions which had for generations rendered the life of the Russian Jew so wretched. It is a question whether this action will bring about such a modification in the situation of the Jewish population in Russia as will curtail immigration from that source, which for several decades has contributed the bulk of Jewish immigrants to the United States. It is to be hoped at least that the removal of educational restrictions will reduce to a minimum the number of Jewish immigrants from Russia who would not be able to pass the literacy test. At the present abnormal time it is impossible to make any forecasts as to the immigration of Jews to this country.

JEWISH CONGRESS

Last year your Committee reported that, following a number of conferences with other organizations, it had agreed to participate in the convening of an American Jewish Congress for which the date originally set was September 2, 1917. Your Committee was invited to nominate six delegates to the Congress, but due to its postponement from September 2 to November 18, and subsequently to the close of hostilities, the Executive Committee has deferred such nomination.

UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION CIRCULAR

In February of this year the attention of your Committee was called to the fact that in a circular issued by the United States Civil Service Commission regarding an examination for

“Clerk qualified in modern language (male)” a statement appeared that “preference will be given to eligibles who are under no disability to visit the Russian Empire.” The President of your Committee immediately addressed a communication to the Civil Service Commission asserting that such a statement “constitutes a disregard of the declared policy of the United States and a tacit recognition of the discrimination practised against a part of our citizenship by the Government of Russia.”

In response to this protest, the Committee was informed that the objectionable language would be omitted in future editions of the circular. This was done.

PENNSYLVANIA CIVIL RIGHTS LAW

Your Committee wishes to call to your attention the passage by the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania of a law “to prevent the publication and distribution of discriminating matter against any religious sect, creed, class, denomination or nationality and to punish the same.” It is similar in aim to the amendment to the Civil Rights Law adopted by the New York Legislature at the instance of this Committee several years ago. The Pennsylvania Law prohibits the publication by any person connected with any public place of accommodation, resort, or amusement “intended or calculated to discriminate or actually discriminating against any religious sect, creed, class, denomination or nationality in the matter of furnishing or neglecting or refusing to furnish to them” the accommodations of such places. The person who is guilty of the violation of this law is liable to a penalty of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500 “to be recovered by the person

aggrieved thereby," and will be guilty of a misdemeanor carrying a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 or imprisonment from thirty to ninety days, or both fine and imprisonment.

BUREAU OF JEWISH STATISTICS AND RESEARCH

During the past year the Bureau of Jewish Statistics and Research of the Committee, which is maintained with the co-operation of the New York Foundation, has been engaged mainly in the work of making a census of Jewish religious organizations in the United States. The work was done at the request of the Bureau of the Census of the Department of Commerce, which is engaged in taking a religious census of the country. Dr. Samson D. Oppenheim, the Director of the Bureau, was appointed special agent of the Bureau of the Census, and was authorized to collect certain information with regard to Jewish congregations throughout the country. The work of collecting the data has occupied the Bureau for the past seven months, and Dr. Oppenheim is now proceeding to tabulate the information gathered. The Bureau took advantage of this opportunity to collect, besides the information desired by the Government, a great volume of other data which will be of considerable value as the basis of a more reliable estimate of the Jewish population of the United States than has thus far been possible.

The Bureau of Statistics has also collected information respecting the operation of the draft law upon the Jewish population, and is now engaged in supplementing this with other facts respecting the participation of the Jews of the country in the war.

The American Jewish Year Book, 5678, the nineteenth issue of that publication, issued by the Jewish Publication Society of America, which has received much favorable comment, was prepared under the direction of the Bureau of Statistics. Besides the permanent lists of Events for the year, National Organizations, New Local Organizations, Rabbis and Instructors, Jewish Periodicals, the usual calendars, and the section on statistics, the Year Book has several interesting special features. Among these is an extensive survey of the Jews of Latin America by Harry O. Sandberg, Assistant Trade Expert of the Pan-American Union, an article on Jewish rights at International Congresses by Max J. Kohler, an account of the steps taken in this country on behalf of Jewish war relief work which was prepared in the office of the Committee, and an article on the new English translation of the Bible recently published by the Jewish Publication Society of America after many years of preparation. In addition to these features, there have been incorporated in the Year Book a Jewish Calendar for one hundred years and several interesting tables with regard to Jews in American universities. The Year Book contains also in permanent form the Tenth Annual Report of the American Jewish Committee.

MEETINGS

Meetings of your Executive Committee have been held on the following dates: December 17, February 11, April 15, May 16, June 20, September 23, and November 10.

DEATHS

Your Committee reports with great sorrow the death on December 27, 1916, of Moses R. Walter, a member-at-large

from the State of Maryland, and on March 8, 1917, of Ceasar Cone, of Greensboro, a representative of the State of North Carolina. Your Executive Committee at its meeting on April 15 adopted the following resolutions expressive of its sentiments:

The Committee records its sense of loss in the death of Moses R. Walter, of Baltimore, Md., who was a member-at-large since November, 1913, prior to which date he was chairman of the Baltimore Advisory Council of the Committee for several years. Mr. Walter's learning, experience, and influence as one of the foremost members of the bar of his State were always at the call of the Committee and he manifested a deep interest in all the details of its work. His loss has deprived the Committee of an active worker and friend.

The Committee has learned with sorrow of the death of Ceasar Cone, a member from Greensboro, N. C., who was an active colaborer of the Committee since his election on January 1, 1909. Every call made upon him for assistance met with a wholehearted and immediate response, and he made many sacrifices to participate in the councils and to co-operate in the work of the Committee. His affability, courtesy and modest demeanor will be ever remembered by all who knew him. In him the Committee has lost a willing and industrious member and a sincere friend and well-wisher.

Your Committee reports with sorrow the death on September 30, 1917, of Isaac N. Seligman, of New York. Mr. Seligman, though not a member of the Committee, was a generous contributor to its funds for many years, and responded promptly whenever called upon for co-operation.

The Committee is pained to report the recent death of Samuel I. Hyman, of New York, a representative of the Jewish Community (Kehillah) on the Committee. Mr. Hyman

was for a number of years an active and helpful member of both the Jewish Community of New York City and of the larger community of the United States and was a fine type of an American Jew who, while a strict observer of the traditions of Judaism, was at the same time a loyal and patriotic citizen.

REMOVAL OF OFFICES

During the year the offices of the Committee and the Bureau of Statistics, which were formerly in the Hebrew Charities Building, 356 Second Avenue, New York City, were removed to 31 Union Square, West, as your Committee found that more space was needed than could be provided in the Charities Building.

FINANCES

A statement of the receipts from the various districts follows:

District	Sustaining Members	Contributing Members	Total Amount
I	\$15.00	\$42.00	\$57.00
II		27.00	27.00
III	135.00	71.00	206.00
IV	202.00	119.00	321.00
V	165.00	104.00	269.00
VI	220.00	117.50	337.50
VII	1,385.00	133.00	1,518.00
VIII	330.00	182.50	512.50
IX	1,000.00	102.00	1,102.00
X	260.00	56.00	316.00
XI	286.32	83.00	369.32
XII	7,835.77	221.75	8,057.52
XIII	100.00	55.00	155.00
XIV	189.00	151.00	340.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$12,123.09	\$1,464.75	\$13,587.84

A statement of receipts and disbursements follows:

RECEIPTS

Balance on Hand, November 1, 1916	\$2,035.86
Contributing Members	1,457.75
Sustaining Members	12,967.33
Unexpended Balance from "The Jews in the Eastern War Zone" Fund	1,245.60
Appropriated from Emergency Trust Fund for Prepara- tion of Memorandum of Jewish Disabilities in Russia	4,250.00
	<hr/>
Total to be Accounted for	\$21,956.54

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries	\$4,072.00
Postage	247.18
Books and Periodicals	50.81
Stationery and Printing:	
Reprint of 9th Annual Report.....	\$ 86.20
10th Annual Report	293.91
Miscellaneous	168.89
	<hr/>
	549.00
Telephone and Telegraph	222.54
General Expense	411.98
Furniture and Fixtures	228.89
Rent	665.00
Clipping Service	223.80
Temporary Clerical Help	84.75
	<hr/>
	\$6,755.95

Meetings:

10th Annual Meeting	\$212.60	
Pro-rata Share Hotel Astor Conference	35.00	
Executive Committee Meetings ...	25.00	
		272.60
Bureau of Statistics	2,000.00	
Transportation	123.02	
Membership Campaign	501.26	
Printing and Distributing Committee's Edition of "Jewish Disabilities in the Balkan States," by Max J. Kohler, Esq.....	211.50	
Russian Information Bureau	751.49	
Memorandum on Jewish Disabilities in Russia	6,153.03	
		<u>\$10,012.90</u>
Total Disbursements		\$16,768.85
Balance Unexpended		5,187.69
		<u>\$21,956.54</u>

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Cash:

Petty Cash Fund	\$50.00	
Union Exchange National Bank.....	600.00	
Balance with Treasurer	4,537.69	
		<u>\$5,187.69</u>
Balance in Income and Expenditure Account		\$5,187.69

During the past summer your Committee had printed a pamphlet entitled "The American Jewish Committee; A Brief Statement of its Organization, Aims and Work" and sent a copy of this pamphlet together with a letter to a considerable list of persons with a view to securing additional Contributing Members. In view of the present state of affairs and of the many calls which are being made upon the generosity of the Jewish people, the results of this campaign are to be regarded as gratifying. The following is a memorandum of the new contributors secured in this way:

MEMORANDUM OF NEW CONTRIBUTORS

Number	Contribution	Total
49	\$ 1.00	\$ 49.00
1	1.50	1.50
31	2.00	62.00
1	2.50	2.50
21	3.00	63.00
51	5.00	255.00
21	10.00	210.00
1	12.00	12.00
8	25.00	200.00
—		—
184		\$855.00

MEMBERSHIP

Your Committee begs to report that Messrs. Felix Fuld, of Newark, New Jersey, Jacob M. Loeb, of Chicago, and Irving Lehman, of New York, who were elected to membership at your last annual meeting have agreed to serve. The vacancy in District X caused by the resignation of Dr. Harry Friedenwald was referred to the Advisory Council of that District, which elected Mr. Siegmund B. Sonneborn to fill the vacancy.

Your Committee did not deem it opportune to take any action towards putting into operation the modifications in the apportionment of members agreed upon at the special meeting of the General Committee held on May 14, 1916, pending a new estimate of the Jewish population of the United States by the Bureau of Statistics of the Committee. It is expected that such an estimate will be completed within the next few months, when your Committee will immediately set about to make the changes decided upon.

The terms of the following members expire this year :

- | | | |
|----------|-------|--|
| District | I. | Leonard Haas, Atlanta. |
| District | III. | Leon M. Jacobs, Phoenix.
J. H. Stolper, Muskogee. |
| District | V. | Harris Weinstock, San Francisco.
Ben Selling, Portland. |
| District | VI. | Max Landauer, Milwaukee. |
| District | VII. | Bernard Horwich, Chicago. |
| District | VIII. | I. W. Bernheim, Louisville. |
| District | IX. | Ephraim Lederer, Philadelphia. |
| District | X. | Henry S. Hutzler, Richmond. |
| District | XI. | Lee M. Friedman, Boston. |
| District | XIV. | I. W. Frank, Pittsburgh. |

Successors are also to be chosen at this meeting to the following members of the Executive Committee whose terms expire on January 1, 1918 :

Isaac W. Bernheim,	Julius Rosenwald,
Samuel Dorf,	Cyrus L. Sulzberger,
	Mayer Sulzberger.

Your Committee recommends the election of the following as members-at-large:

Herman Bernstein, New York City.

Nathan Bijur, New York City.

Abram I. Elkus, New York City.

Charles Eisenman, Cleveland.

S. Marcus Fechheimer, Cincinnati.

Herbert Friedenwald, Baltimore.

Albert D. Lasker, Chicago.

Irving Lehman, New York City.

Jacob M. Loeb, Chicago.

Oscar S. Straus, New York City.

Aaron Waldheim, St. Louis.

Albert W. Weil, New Haven.

ACTION ON THE REPORT, ETC.

Upon motion, the report of the Executive Committee was received.

The report of the Bureau of Statistics and Research was presented by Dr. Cyrus Adler, the chairman of the committee in charge of the Bureau.

Mr. Louis E. Levy, President of the Jewish Community of Philadelphia, presented a report on behalf of that organization which is printed as an appendix to this report.

Dr. J. L. Magnes, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Jewish Community of New York City, made a verbal report of the work of that organization during the past year,

and stated that he would present a formal report in time for publication.

RESOLUTION OF LOYALTY

The President on behalf of the Executive Committee introduced the following resolution, which was adopted unanimously by a rising vote:

It seems fitting that at this the Eleventh Annual Meeting of the American Jewish Committee—the first since our entrance into the war—at which are gathered representatives from all parts of the country, expression be given to the love, the devotion, the gratitude, and the loyalty which fill our hearts and souls toward the United States of America, the land where we were born or which with open arms adopted us, the sacred shrine of liberty and equality, where tyranny cannot exist, where human rights have ever been triumphantly maintained, and where justice and righteousness have reached their highest development. We recognize in the war, in which the entire American people is now engaged, a condition unsought but inevitable, a conflict willfully and deliberately thrust upon a peace-loving nation that dreamt not of spoils or conquest, and the direct consequences of machinations long concealed which threatened our repose, our independence, our honor, and even our cherished freedom.

In common with our fellow-citizens of every race and creed, we renew our allegiance to our Government and to its flag which symbolize the most precious hopes of mankind; we pledge to them our unstinting and wholehearted support; and we dedicate to the perpetuation of American ideals and institutions, to the maintenance of the honor of our country and the preservation of the principles for which it stands, our lives, our possessions, and those we hold most dear, to the end that liberty shall not perish from the earth.

Upon motion of Mr. Dorf, it was resolved that a copy of the resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States.

PLACE OF TWELFTH ANNUAL MEETING

A communication was presented from the Chamber of Commerce of the City of Philadelphia inviting the American Jewish Committee to hold its next annual meeting in that city.

After discussion, it was resolved that it was not advisable to decide upon the place for the next annual meeting so long in advance, and that the matter be left to the discretion of the Executive Committee.

STATISTICS OF JEWS IN MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICE

The matter of collecting complete and accurate statistics of Jews in the military and naval service of the United States was discussed, and, upon motion, it was resolved that the Bureau of Statistics be directed to make every effort to secure data of this character, and that the Executive Committee be empowered to appropriate for this work such a sum as it may deem proper for its efficient prosecution.

PATRIOTIC EDUCATION

Discussion was had as to the greater necessity for promoting education in the ideals and principles underlying American institutions and particularly as to the issues involved in the present war.

Upon motion, it was resolved that the Executive Committee be directed to consider and to put into effect means for promoting educational activities in this direction either by the

independent action of the Committee or by co-operation with other agencies devoted to the same objects.

ROUMANIA

The following communication from Dr. P. A. Siegelstein, President of the American Union of Roumanian Jews, was presented:

LOUIS MARSHALL, ESQ.,
PRESIDENT, AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE.

Dear Sir:

Having learned through the medium of the press of the annual convention of your Committee, I hasten to write these few lines in the name of the American Union of Roumanian Jews, a national organization with branches all over the Union and Canada, and to respectfully submit for your consideration and action:

First: The present status of the Jew in Roumania.

Second: The advisability of appealing to our Government in his behalf.

The plight of the Jews in Roumania is more pitiful from every standpoint, civic or economic, than that of any of our brethren in any part of the war zone. Figures of speech are not powerful and adequate to describe it; and yet, for reasons unknown, whenever and wherever we made an attempt to bring the matter to the attention of our American coreligionists, and through them to our Government, we were told and warned not to say or publish anything derogatory to Roumania, this being inadvisable, she being one of our allies.

Moreover, we are to be satisfied and content because \$75,000 was sent to Roumania, which under the best of circumstances is only like a drop in the ocean and entirely

insufficient to cope with the situation or satisfy the imperious hunger of the 250,000 Jews in Roumania.

The method of persecution, oppression, ill-treatment and abuse, of our unfortunate brethren adopted by the authorities, both civil and military, are such that tend to exterminate and annihilate them long before the war will be over, and when will we consider the time opportune to appeal to our Government to intervene in their behalf in order to bring about their emancipation and attain for them the right to live as free men.

Trusting that you will seriously consider my appeal and take such immediate step in the matter as you may deem proper to bring about the desired result, I beg to remain,

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) DR. P. A. SIEGELSTEIN, *President*.

The President, on behalf of the Executive Committee, announced that this subject was engaging the earnest attention of the Committee.

DISCRIMINATION BY GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS AGAINST JEWISH CARPENTERS

Dr. H. P. Mendes, on behalf of a Conference of delegates of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations, the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of America, the New York Board of Rabbis, and the New York Board of Jewish Ministers, drew the attention of the Committee to the anti-Jewish attitude of contractors engaged in building cantonments for the United States Government in the matter of advertising for and employing carpenters. The President stated that this matter had already been taken up by the Executive Committee with the Secretary of War and was receiving due consideration.

ELECTIONS

The Committee on Nominations made the following recommendations:

For officers:

For President: Louis Marshall.

For Vice-Presidents: Cyrus Adler and Julius Rosenwald.

For Treasurer: Isaac W. Bernheim.

For members of the Executive Committee to serve for three years from January 1, 1918:

Isaac W. Bernheim,	Julius Rosenwald,
Samuel Dorf,	Cyrus L. Sulzberger,
Mayer Sulzberger.	

To fill expired terms or vacancies:

- District I. Leonard Haas, Atlanta, Georgia, to be re-elected for term expiring 1922.
 Bernard M. Cone, Greensboro, North Carolina, to succeed Ceasar Cone (deceased), for term expiring 1921.
- District III. Bernard M. Friedman, Tucson, Arizona, to succeed Leon M. Jacobs, Phoenix, Arizona, for term expiring 1922.
 Marion M. Travis, Tulsa, Oklahoma, to succeed Jacob H. Stolper, Muskogee, Oklahoma, for term expiring 1922.
- District IV. Henry Wallenstein, Wichita, Kansas, to fill vacancy existing in State of Kansas for term expiring 1918.

- District V. I. W. Hellman, Jr., San Francisco, California, to succeed Harris Weinstock of same city, for term expiring 1922.
Ben Selling, Portland, Oregon, to be re-elected for term expiring 1922.
Emanuel Rosenberg, Seattle, Washington., to fill vacancy existing in State of Washington, for term expiring 1919.
- District VI. Nat. Stone, Milwaukee, Wisc., to succeed Max Landauer of same city, for term expiring 1922.
- District VII. Bernard Horwich, Chicago, Ill., to be re-elected for term expiring 1922.
- District VIII. Isaac W. Bernheim, Louisville, Ky., to be re-elected for term expiring 1922.
- District X. Rabbi E. N. Calish, Richmond, Va., to succeed Henry S. Hutzler of same city, for term expiring 1922.
- District XI. A. C. Ratchesky, Boston, Mass., to succeed Lee M. Friedman of same city, for term expiring 1922.
- District XIII. Rabbi Horace Wolf, Rochester, N. Y., to succeed Abram J. Katz (deceased), for term expiring 1918.
- District XIV. Isaac W. Frank, Pittsburgh, Pa., to be re-elected for term expiring 1922.
- At Large Herman Bernstein, Nathan Bijur, S. Marcus Fechheimer, Herbert Friedenwald, Albert D. Lasker, Irving Lehman, Jacob M. Loeb, Oscar S. Straus, Albert W. Weil, Abram I. Elkus, Charles Eisenman, Aaron Waldheim.

There being no other nominations, the Assistant Secretary was requested to cast one ballot for the nominees of the Committee on Nominations, which he did, and announced the election of the several nominees.

Upon motion, the meeting adjourned.

REPORT OF THE BUREAU OF JEWISH STATISTICS AND RESEARCH OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

TO THE COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF THE BUREAU OF JEWISH
STATISTICS AND RESEARCH :

Gentlemen :

The principal labors of the Bureau of Jewish Statistics and Research during the past year have been (a) the preparation of the American Jewish Year Book for 1918, and (b) the making of a Census of Jewish Religious Bodies in the United States. As to the contents of the Year Book, the following salient facts may perhaps properly be brought to the attention of this Committee: In view of the state of international affairs, the editors of the Year Book decided upon a quartet of timely leading articles for the current issue, upon these topics: A Survey of the Jews of Latin America, A Historical Review of Jewish Rights at International Congresses, An Account of Jewish War Relief as Contributed by the Jews of this Country, and an essay on the New Jewish Translation of the Bible, together with a brief advance statement of the results of the Census of Jewish Religious Bodies, mentioned above, and a short sketch of the life and works of the celebrated Jewish sculptor Moses Ezekiel who died in March of this year. In the way of new features, there were initiated a Hundred Year

Calendar, a List of Federated Jewish Charities in the United States, and a new Directory of Rabbis and Instructors in Jewish Colleges, the last similar list having been published in the Year Book fifteen years ago. Other noteworthy additions are the List of American Institutions of Learning in which Hebrew or Yiddish is taught, and certain statistics showing the enrolment of Jewish Students in American Colleges and Universities.

The special articles of the next Year Book (the twentieth of the series) will be on the following subjects:

The Jewish Population of the United States.

The Jews of Serbia.

The Jewish Welfare Board.

The Collection of Jewish War Statistics.

Federation for the Support of Jewish Philanthropic Societies.

Jewish Welfare Work in the United States Army and Navy.

A year ago the Committee in charge of this Bureau decided that it would be advisable to have a numerical estimate, or so-called census, made of the Jews in the United States. An effort to institute such an enumeration had accordingly just been planned, when, shortly after the commencement of the present calendar year, the Bureau of Census of the United States Department of Commerce, made a request to the chairman of this Committee, that he recommend some person who might be able to conduct for that department an inquiry which should result in a census of Jewish Congregations and Rabbis. This census was to constitute a part of the Census of the Religious Bodies of the United States, to be made by the Government for publication in 1918. The inquirer was duly referred to the Director of the Bureau of Jewish Statistics, and as

a sequel, arrangements were entered into whereby this Bureau was employed to undertake the work in question. Your Director was appointed a Special Census Agent, a small sum of money was granted to pay for some of the extra work involved, and part of the printing was furnished by the Washington authorities, while the use of the frank was freely given to this Bureau.

The methods employed in carrying out the wishes of the Census Bureau have been fully described in the latest American Jewish Year Book. Briefly they consisted of the sending out through the mails, of various forms of questionnaires, "follow-ups," etc., to all rabbis and congregations in the country, except in New York City, where canvassing was used as a means of obtaining the data sought. Where there was no congregation or rabbi, as in the case of very small towns, the name of some Jewish business-man, in lieu of that of a rabbi, was selected—generally from Bradstreet's. In this division of our labors we were greatly aided by Mr. Jacob Billikopf of the American Jewish Relief Committee. In the City of New York the investigation was carried on personally by agents of the Bureau of Education, the results of their canvassing being kindly loaned by Dr. Benderly to the Bureau of Jewish Statistics, thus saving us a considerable amount of labor and expense.

The Census Bureau was desirous primarily of securing, in general, details regarding the following: Number of Jewish communicants; number, names and addresses, income, expenditure and indebtedness of congregations; number, location and value of synagogues and affiliated buildings, and certain other financial statistics concerning congregational and

religious school expenses, outlays for charitable purposes, etc., salaries of rabbis and similar matters. The Bureau of Jewish Statistics was principally concerned with the work of ascertaining the number of Jews in each town or city throughout the nation. The inquiries sent out covered both interests. The contract with the Government has been completed, the last of the schedules prepared for Director Rogers having recently been shipped to Washington. It is gratifying to be able to state that on the whole our labors have been considerably more successful than could reasonably have been anticipated, in view of the many difficulties encountered and the small funds available. As to the Jewish population returns, these have, for the great majority of the states, cities, and towns throughout the United States, running from insignificant localities of less than one thousand inhabitants to the metropolis itself, been painstakingly assembled, and in the Year Book for 1919, if not earlier, the resulting statistics will be set forth at length and discussed in detail.

It may here be added that, besides the two major labors of this Bureau, a considerable amount of work in the way of assembling statistical material, during the past year, in relation to the following topics, has also been effected: Jewish Women's Organizations, Jews in the Army and Navy of the United States, Jewish Communal Workers, Jews in Government Positions, Jewish Athletes and Athletics, Temporary Congregations, Jewish Defectives, Jewish Delinquents, and an Index to the articles of all the Year Books. This Bureau has likewise been engaged in collating material for a work, to be published in the future, on the subject of the Jews in the Wars of the United States. Several volumes for use in this con-

nection, with regard to former conflicts, and a large quantity of data in relation to the current war, have been collected, and, of course, one of the Bureau's chief activities during the next twelve months, will be the assembling, classification, and correction of many kinds of data, now coming in, with regard to Jewish soldiers, sailors, and civilians engaged in the service of the Government during the present struggle. Plans have been made whereby, with the co-operation of the Council of Young Men's Hebrew Associations, etc., there will, it is expected, eventually be recorded in our files the names of practically all Jewish soldiers and sailors in the service of the nation, together with a list of all Jews employed by the Government in any quasi-military capacity.

The office of this Bureau has been removed to No. 31 Union Square, and its relations with the American Jewish Committee have thus been rendered much closer and more intimate, greatly to the advantage, it is believed, of both organizations.

Respectfully submitted,

SAMSON D. OPPENHEIM,

Director.

REPORT OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY (KEHILLAH) OF NEW YORK CITY

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE:

At the eighth annual convention of the Kehillah, held on April 28-29, 1917, the following resolution was passed:

Be it Resolved, That the Executive Committee be authorized to make every effort and to take all necessary steps to make the Kehillah a genuinely democratic organization. In accordance

with the general outlines of the plan presented to this Convention, and as one step towards this end,

Be it Further Resolved, That the Trustees of and donors to the Bureau of Education of the Committee of and donors to the Bureau of Industry, be requested to take such steps as may be necessary to establish the Bureaus on a firm basis independent of the Kehillah.

The purpose of this resolution was twofold: in the first place, to give the research Bureaus an opportunity of developing unhampered; and, in the second place, to clear the way for a genuinely democratic Kehillah.

The Administrative Council of the Kehillah, together with the Executive Committee, has drawn up a plan of democratic Kehillah Organization. This plan divides New York into 18 Kehillah Districts with 100 Kehillah Neighborhoods. The Districts and Neighborhoods are divided in accordance with their Jewish population. An elaborate study of the Jewish population of New York has been made showing the distribution throughout the city of New York's 1,500,000 Jews. The new plan of organization provides for representation in the Kehillah through organizations and through individuals. *The Kehillah Register*, which is soon to be issued in connection with the Special Convention of the Kehillah [January 13], shows that there are about 4,000 Jewish organizations of different kinds in New York City.

It is not the function of the Kehillah to do the work of these 4,000 Jewish organizations or of any one of them. These 4,000 Jewish organizations spend upwards of \$8,000,000 per annum. Nor is it the task of the Kehillah to collect this money. It is, however, the task of the Kehillah to draw up an annual Com-

munity Program, and to endeavor to see to it that this Program is carried out year by year. The chief force that the Kehillah can exercise is the force of public opinion.

The Jewish problem in New York City has many aspects, and no one organization, however powerful, can hope to cope with all of its details. It therefore becomes the more necessary to create a platform upon which Jews of all parties and views may meet for the purpose of considering not only the Jewish To-day in New York City, but the Jewish To-morrow. One of the chief needs of a great community like that of New York is to distribute Jewish responsibility as far as possible over every street and every house and every family. This can be done only in genuinely democratic ways, and the plans of the Kehillah provide for a thoroughgoing reorganization on democratic principles.

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. MAGNES,

Chairman, Executive Committee.

REPORT OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF PHILADELPHIA

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE:

Gentlemen:

The proceedings of the Jewish Community of Philadelphia during the year 1916-17 may be summarized as follows:

During the early course of the year the Community, through its representatives before the Congressional Committees on Immigration, co-operated with the American Jewish Committee and other organizations in opposing the inclusion of the

objectionable literacy test in the then pending and subsequently enacted Immigration Bill.

At proper season during this period letters were sent to the local federal and state officials, county and city authorities, and to the heads of the public schools enclosing a calendar of the Jewish holidays of the current year and requesting leave of absence for employees or pupils desiring to be excused on those religious occasions. Most of these letters elicited favorable response, the Superintendent of Public Schools especially requesting two hundred and fifty additional copies of the calendar for distribution through that department.

Articles concerning the Jewish holidays, specially prepared with a view to publication in the daily press, were sent to the various local newspapers as occasion required.

The moral and religious instruction of the Jewish prisoners in the Pennsylvania Eastern Penitentiary is being furthered by the Community in co-operation with the local district organization of the B'nai B'rith. The work is being carried on through the instrumentality of Dr. Joseph Medoff, who visits the prison twice a week and whose enthusiastic services have been fruitful of very desirable results.

The general effort made during the past summer of mobilizing the older boys of the public schools for work on farms had the co-operation of the Kehillah through a committee specially organized for the purpose. This committee was afforded the assistance of the local society for the Protection of Jewish Immigrants through its paid officials, and succeeded in placing a number of Jewish boys with Jewish farmers who were calling for help.

The Equal Rights Bill promoted by the Community at the 1915 session of the Legislature of Pennsylvania and which, after passing both Houses, was vetoed by the Governor for technical reasons, was re-introduced at the recent session in a form modified as required, and, being passed by the Legislature, was approved by the Executive. This measure is practically similar to that recently enacted by the Legislature of the State of New York.

At the request of the Director of the Bureau of Statistics of the American Jewish Committee, the Assistant Secretary of the Community gathered the statistics of the temporary congregations in Philadelphia during the recent high holidays. This list is being tabulated and will shortly be sent to the Bureau.

The Jewish Educational Board authorized by the Community has effectively promoted the organization in the southeastern section of the city of a Young People's Congregation for Friday evening religious services, which gives promise of becoming an important factor in the religious activity in that section.

In compliance with a formal request from the Section of Co-operating Organizations of the Food Conservation Commission at Washington, the Community, through its constituent organizations, is co-operating in a concerted effort for the conservation of food.

Ephraim Lederer, Esq., whose term as a representative of the Community on the American Jewish Committee expires at this meeting, has been re-elected for the ensuing term of five years.

The annual quota of \$900.00 requested from the Philadelphia Community by the Committee was over-subscribed,

and the sum of \$965.00 has already been sent to the Committee on this account.

The seventh annual meeting of the Community will be held on Sunday, November 18, 1917.

Respectfully submitted,

LOUIS E. LEVY,

President.

SPECIAL MEETING.

At a special meeting of the American Jewish Committee, held in New York City on Sunday, April 28, 1918, the following statement relative to the attitude of the Committee with respect to the declaration of the British Government favoring the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people was adopted:

The American Jewish Committee was organized primarily to obtain for the Jews in every part of the world civil and religious rights, to protect them against unfavorable discrimination, and to secure for them equality of economic, social, and educational opportunity. These will continue to be its objects.

The Committee regards it as axiomatic that the Jews of the United States have here established a permanent home for themselves and their children, have acquired the rights and assumed the correlative duties of American citizenship, and recognize their unqualified allegiance to this country, which they love and cherish, and of whose people they constitute an integral part.

This Committee, however, is not unmindful that there are Jews everywhere who, moved by traditional sentiment, yearn for a home in the Holy Land for the Jewish people. This hope, nurtured for centuries, has our whole-hearted sympathy.

We recognize, however, that but a part of the Jewish people would take up their domicile in Palestine. The greater number will continue to live in the lands of whose citizenship they now form a component part, where they enjoy full civil and religious liberty, and where, as loyal and patriotic citizens, they will maintain and develop the principles and institutions of Judaism.

When, therefore, the British Government recently made the declaration, now supported by the French Government, that "they view with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object," the announcement was received by this Committee with profound appreciation. The conditions annexed to this declaration are regarded as of essential importance, stipulating as they do that "nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country." These conditions correspond fully with the general purposes for which this Committee has striven and with the ideals of the Jews of America.

The opportunity will be welcomed by this Committee to aid in the realization of the British declaration, under such protectorate or suzerainty as the peace congress may determine, and, to that end, to co-operate with those who, attracted by religious or historic associations, shall seek to establish in Palestine a centre for Judaism, for the stimulation of our faith, for the pursuit and development of literature, science, and art in a Jewish environment, and for the rehabilitation of the land.