ANNUAL REPORT

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# THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE OF B'NAI B'RITH

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Submitted by Richard E. Gutstadt, Director

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#### TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF B'NAI B'RITH:

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith herewith submits its report for the year 1941. Comment with respect to specific departments of the League's activities are not required, since the report is sufficiently comprehensive to reveal the manifold activities which engaged the attention of the League's staff. It will be of interest, however, to the Executive Committee to learn that within the year, additional Regional Offices have been set up at Miami, Florida, with Mr. William Boxerman in charge; at Denver, Colorado, with Mr. Harold Saks in charge; a part-time office at Atlanta, Georgia, under the direction of Mr. Julian V. Boehm, and another at Columbus, Ohio, under direction of Mr. Allan Tarshish.

Your Director would like, at this time, to convey herein his appreciation for the magnificent cooperation and guidance of Chairman Sigmund Livingston, who has been constant in his presence at the National Executive Offices, and also upon many occasions, at the offices in New York. His unfailing interest in the operations of the League, and his intelligent guidance has been of incalculable advantage. It is also meet and proper that we express to Mr. Phillip W. Haberman, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Eastern Regional Office, the debt of appreciation which we owe to him for the profound interest which he has, without interruption, displayed in conducting the affairs of his Executive Committee. To Mr. Edmund Waterman, Chairman of the New York Advisory Council, we are likewise indebted for his great loyalty, and to the members of the New York Executive Committee and the Advisory Council, as well as to the members of the National Executive Committee, upon whose time and energy we have made repeated demands, we desire to express our deep appreciation.

Gratefully, likewise, do we acknowledge the omnipresent desire to serve, which has been manifested by the President of the B'nai B'rith, Henry Monsky, and the Secretary, Maurice Bisgyer, who, without hindrance, have given of themselves upon every occasion, when request has been made.

To the members of the Anti-Defamation Commission and to the members of the Executive Committee of B'nai B'rith, with whom frequent contact is maintained, we are likewise grateful, for on no occasion, when request has been made upon them, have they failed to give unstintingly of themselves.

Services of this character, combining with the voluntary efforts of the hundreds upon hundreds of League representatives throughout the country, have made possible what we believe to be a signal contribution to the preservation of democratic values in our country, and likewise, to a clarification of group relationship in this country. We are convinced that many areas of irritation are on the way to removal through the painstaking, and, we hope, intelligent methods which have been adopted to clarify the thinking of the misinformed. We are not so naive as to believe that the Utopia has by any means arrived. Many and difficult problems lie immediately before us, and the efforts of all right-thinking citizens must be recruited to dispel the vestiges of ancient and libelous slanders and prejudices which militate against an American solidarity so acutely required in these times of national and international stress.

Our country's involvement in a second world war submerges for the moment some aspects of our problem, but it projects others into a sharper focus. The evidences, unfortunately, are not lacking which indicate that traditional and recent enemies of freedom and liberty are whetting the edges of their hatreds in order more effectively to utilize such advantages as may be seized upon as a result of the collective distress and tragedy to which Americans. in common with other peoples, will be subjected as a result of war. The perceptible gains which have been made in the last decade by organized anti-Semitism will not be lightly surrendered. Even the urgent need of our common country will not suffice to eliminate the advantages which have been made by the forces of reaction and bigotry. The manifestations, however, must perforce be more guarded, their attacks more subtle. Under the pressure of agencies of government concerned with stamping out fifth columnist activities, they will find it more difficult to foment in public the dissension which has for so long been an important part of their stock in trade. Their attitudes, however, have not changed overnight, and we must be vigilant, even as heretofore, to expose pitilessly all efforts, whether superinduced by foreign or domestic influence, to establish responsibility or war guilt upon our people.

Your Anti-Defamation League has given much consideration to the current situation. It has attempted to devise a program for the future, which shall meet the changing demands of the moment, for with such rapid transition in the relation and attitudes of men, it is of paramount importance that our program remain flexible and easily adjusted to the present requirement of the immediate period.

Your Director may only give complete assurance that insofar as the intelligence and the disposition of the League personnel is concerned, no sacrifice will be deemed too great to be made for the preservation of those freedoms so essential to life and in conserving the security and the good repute of the Jewish people of America.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard E. Gutstadt

Director

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# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE

#### 1941

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In a year marked by continuous crises in national and international affairs, culminating in the tragic surprise attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith kept pace with swiftlymoving world events by modifying, adapting and expanding its program to meet Jewish defense requirements.

The American people's understandable anxiety concerning the increasing menace of the Second World War, and the prospect of American intervention as a combatant nation, resulted in an intensification of the charge that the Jews were warmongers using their alleged power to drag this nation into a "shooting war." Well-known anti-Jewish personalities and agencies were quick to capitalize on public apprehension, and the isolationist-interventionist debates all too often led to a dragging-in of the spurious but dangerous "Jewish warmongering" allegation.

It served Axis interests to have this canard exploited to the utmost in the United States. German agents, native American fascists, Rumanian and Ukranian nationalists, the Ku Klux Klan, pamphleteers, and racketeering "news services" lent themselves to promulgation of attacks on the Jews, thus sidetracking public attention from the looming shadow of the Axis.

Other factors entered into the picture of intensified race hatred, rabid nationalism, and fremetic anti-alienism during 1941. The rapid expansion of defense industries, and the consequent disruption of many private industries, prompted the whisper that Jews were manipulating defense contracts to serve their own interests, and that they were the principal gainers therefrom. An example of this new type of propaganda was the mid-summer propaganda that "Jews are behind the aluminum shortage," which seriously impeded the aluminum drive undertaken by the government in good faith and earnostness.

#### RANKIN AND LINDBERGH

The year 1941 was marked by several notable incidents in which virulent anti-Semitism was clearly noted. One incident concerned an attack upon the Jewish people by indirection as warmongers, made by Congressman John Rankin on the floor of the Congress, which led to a heated rejoinder by Congressman Edelstein of New York who subsequently fell dead after a heart attack brought on by his indignation at Rankin's allegations.

Charles A. Lindbergh, In his September 11th address in Des Moines, Iowa, was more specific. With an utter disregard for truth, he charged that the Jewish people, together with the British and the Roosevelt Administration, were responsible for the moves toward war which he deplored. In his address, he repeated the customary un-truths about alleged Jewish domination of the press and the motion-picture industry.

# THE SENATE MOVIE QUIZ

Anti-Semitish manifested itself in a striking manner in the fall of 1941 when the senatorial sub-committee investigating alleged warmongering propaganda in the motion picture industry alicited condemnation generally in the press of the nation both because of the manner in which the quiz was conducted and the obvious intent of the isolationists to embarrass Jewish film personalities.

Of the sub-committee of five men, four were outstanding isolationists, who saw their much-publicized query crumble under the avalanche of criticism which greeted their "case" against the industry. As Wendell Willkie, chief counsel for the industry, pointed out, the movie people "are opposed to the Hitler regime in Germany; they have watched with horror the destruction of a free life within Germany and the ruthless invasions of other countries by Nazis."

Cooperation was extended by the Anti-Defamation League to legal counsel for the motion picture industry, and it subsequently was brought out that Nazi and Italian fascist motion pictures, which had been shown in American theaters without hindrance for several years, had not been condemned.

As predicted, once the desired publicity had been obtained, the promulgators of the motion picture inquiry seemed content to let their quiz die suddenly, and there appears to be little possibility of a re-suscitation of the inquiry which might seriously embarrass the isolationists who fostered it.

The events of December 7 and after were, in a sense, vindicative of the cinematic depictions of the Axis.

# THE FORD MATTER

Through the interest of Mr. Benny Friedman, formerly all-American football star from the University of Michigan, the Ford Company, in January of this year, indicated a desire to place itself squarely on record as opposed to the stimulation of anti-Semitic prejudice in this country. An invitation was extended to the Anti-Defamation League to have its Director discuss the subject with Mr. Harry Bennett, Chief of Personnel of the Ford Company. Your Director visited Mr. Bennett on December 30, 1941, spending several hours at the Ford plant. He pointed out the series of distressing incidents and activities which seemed to justify the belief that Mr. Ford's attitude was unfriendly, and that his great prestige and influence was being used by unscrupulous people throughout the country for the purpose of stimulating anti-Semitic organization.

Mr. Bennett was shown some of the correspondence between Honorary President Alfred M. Cohen and Mr. F. C. Liebold, going back as far as 1933 and 1934, through which correspondence it was made to appear that Mr. Ford was familiar with the content of the correspondence, all of which, it subsequently developed, was not the case. Upon request, a lengthy memorandum was submitted, which, we are assured, was read completely by Mr. Ford, who expressed his great indignation over the false light in which he had been placed.

The automobile magnate then sent a letter to Chairman Livingston, for which letter he authorized whatever publicity and other utilization we deemed advisable.

Special consideration to the letter was given by the Executive Committee of the Anti-Defamation League, both in Chicago and New York, in consultation with outstandingly prominent public relations men. With their collaboration, material was prepared for the Associated Press, the United Press, International News Services, the radio commentators, etc. The item was seized upon as news of world-wide importance. The United Press, which controls much dissemination of American news in the Latin Americas, released the material in Spanish. It received a very wide coverage and enthusiastic reception. Already we have more than one thousand newspaper clippings, indicative of the wide recognition given the importance of the item in the press.

As further evidence of the attitude of the Ford Company, we deem it of importance to say that on a number of occasions since the visit to Detroit,. the Ford Company has been in touch with the Anti-Defamation League. Information of considerable importance has been transmitted by Mr. Bennett, who gives every indication of complete sincerity in the desire of the Ford Company to remove all question with respect to its attitude.

At this juncture we may express our gratification not only at the content of the original letter to Mr. Livingston, but at the several evidences of desire to sincerely cooperate which have come from the Ford Company.

## COOPERATION OF OTHER AGENCIES

Gratifying cooperation was afforded the A.D.L. during the year by numerous non-Jewish agencies concerned with the preservation of minority freedoms in this time of civil stress. Excellent cooperation has been forthcoming from clergymen, the press, and public officials who recognized in totalitarianism a threat to the security of all Americans, and not merely those of the Jewish faith.

As never before, the League rendered vital aid to law enforcement agencies and government departments interested in the detection of subversive and treasonable activities. With the enforced closing of Nazi and Italian consulates in the United States, and the disbanding of the German Library of Information and the German Railroads office, anti-Jewish propaganda was shifted to the American organizations which had played the Axis game by fomenting racial and religious dissension.

# THE COMING OF WAR

With the declaration of war against the United States by the Axis powers, following the Pearl Harbor attack, came a feeling that unity had been forged by that catastrophic event and the reciprocal opening of hostilities on the part of the United States. It is true that some anti-Jewish organizations and leaders have "gone underground" for the time being, while they re-organize their "line" and find some other vulnerable spots at which to attack the Jewish people.

In general, however, we may expect future attacks from the following sources:

- 1. Nazi and Nazi-influenced groups numbering some 98 active agencies and 619 organizations which have at one time issued anti-Jewish literature.
- 2. Such part of Rumanian, Hungarian, Ukranian, Italian and other elements of foreign nationals as have been actively pro-fascist.
- 3. Fundamentalist religious groups, including individual leaders and assemblies of individuals within recognized church groups. Liberal church agencies are interested in re-educating Fundamentalists concerning the Jews and Judaism.
- 4. Non-descript individuals (the racketeering fringe) impelled by the lure of economic or political gain from their anti-Jewish activities.
- 5. Industrial and commercial interests with apprehensions over alleged Jewish control of wealth and industry, asserted dominance in Communism, and imputed control of troublesome leadership in organized labor fields.
- 6. Super-nationalistic elements with anti-alien programs.
- 7. Political enemies of the national Administration who have selected Jews as the most vulnerable targets in their attacks.

With the sharpening of the war and intensified prosecution of disloyal and subversive elements, it is expected that anti-Semitism of a flagrant nature will be driven underground for the time being, while the subversivists become more covert in their plans and forays. But a temporary period of receptivity to genuine educational efforts concerning the Jew and Judaism --together with reasons for anti-Semitism--now is open to defense agencies, by virtue of widespread detestation of the Axis and its ideology.

We are given the chance to establish measurably same public thinking on the so-called "Jewish question." We are likewise presented with an opportunity to reveal the creation of a false Jewish issue for the purpose of deluding and dividing the American public in a time of stress--a device first pioneered and popularized in Axis-dominated Europe.

# THE SPEAKERS BUREAU

Though all reports of Speakers Bureau activities have not been filed, a total for 1941 of 4500 addresses before non-Jewish groups is indicated. These addresses were financed or arranged by the Speakers Bureau, or reported to the Bureau by members who have been serviced with material for speakers' notes by the League's educational department.

The roster of speakers filling engagements for the League included many persons whose activities have brought them national recognition, including:

Rev. W.C. Kernan, noted publicist and religious leader of Bayonne, N.J., author of "The Ghost of Royal Oak" and militant radio challenger of Father Coughlin; Dr. Gerhart Seger, former member of the German Reichstag and editor of the anti-Nazi weekly, "Neue Volkszeitung"; Dr. Paul H. Douglas, faculty member of the University of Chicage and noted civic reform advocate; John C. Metcalfe, former chief investigator of Nazi and Fascist Activities for the Dies Committee; Benny Friedman, all-American football star; Dr. David D. Vaughan, writer and lecturer, also professor of social ethics at Boston University, and numerous other personalities.

Lecture tours, arranged by the Bureau through the cooperation of rabbis and A.D.L. representatives, are an important phase of the Speakers Bureau program. Dr. Josef Dunner, author of "If I Forget Thee," sociologist and writer, completed a full schedule of speaking engagements for the League during the latter half of February, 1941. Within a two-week period, Dr. Dunner toured the Southwestern states, giving a total of 24 addresses before audiences numbering up to 2,000 persons each.

In January, William D. Saltiel, former City Attorney of Chicago, toured the Southeastern states of Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee and the Carolinas, speaking before important civic groups, service clubs and school convocations. In the middle west and western states, Leo Lania, distinguished emigre author and former Berlin correspondent for the Chicago Daily News, addressed numerous non-Jewish organizations of consequence.

As an example of the coverage of the nation afforded by the Speakers Bureau, the recent tour of Rabbi Raphael Levine, formerly of London, England, may be cited. This speaker with an outstanding message on wartime unity was booked intensively in the middle-west. His addresses were enthusiastically received, and club officials, educators and clergymen joined in praising his tour as a contribution to the upbuilding of national morale.

Below is a table showing the cities, organizations and approximate audiences hearing Rabbi Levine on this tour sponsored by the League:

CITY	ORGANIZATION	ATTENDAN	CE
Grand Rapids, Mich.	Grand Rapids College	350	
Michigan City, Ind.	City High School	1,000	
Michigan City, Ind.	Lions-Rotary Joint Mtg.	100	
Elgin, Ill.	'Elgin High School	1,000	
Elgin, Ill.	Northern Ill. District	r	
0	Kiwanis	125	
Sheboygan, Wis.	Sheboygan High School	1,200	
Sheboygan, Wis.	Junior High School	500	
Sheboygan, Wis.	Rotary Club	100	
Columbus, Ohio	Methodist Ministers Assn.	40	
11 FI	Central High School	1,000	
. 11 11	Kiwanis Club	200	
tt t1	Radio Station WHKC	25,000	(estimated) -
Hibbing, Minn.	Rotary Club	50	
11 11	Hibbing High School	1,200	/
Chicago, Ill.	Wells High School	700	/
17 17	Von Steuben High School	750	
11 11	Lakeview High School	1,000	
Madison, Wis.	Central High School	800	1
11 11	Rotary Club	240 ·	Į.
17 11	First Baptist Church	250	d and a second se
Flint, Michigan	Kiwanis Club	100	1
Grand Rapids, Mich.	YMCA Men's Club	50	1
Waukegan, Ill.	Township High School	2,400	/
tr - 11	Kiwanis Club	60	· A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
	Total:	38,265	L.

Although the coming of war to the United States has occasioned a reorientation of the Speakers Bureau program, almost all speakers booked by the A.D.L. in 1941 made a notable contribution to democracy and interfaith understanding by utilizing such themes as "Democracy at the Crossroads," "The Strategy of Terror," "Our Covenant With Freedom," "How to Make Democracy Work," and "What Do We Defend?"

It is expected that the year 1942 will see an intensification of addresses concerned specifically with the Jews, Judaism, and the reasons for anti-Semitism from a historical, economic and political viewpoint. The Bureau thus hopes to take advantage of public receptivity to such addresses by minimizing the talks which heretofore have been based on pro-democracy, patriotic appeals, and to specialize in addresses specifically based upon bringing about a proper understanding of the Jew.

A questionnaire recently sent to members of the Speakers' Buroau revealed that the large majority believe that America in war-time requires intensified speaking programs designed to foster genuine interfaith understanding which will withstand the propaganda blows of Axis agents and sympathizers which are certain to become noticeable. A proper understanding of the Jew, his history, cultural pattern, and economic problems, together with an appreciation of the Jew's contributions to American democracy, are the to-be-desired goals of the Anti-Defamation League Speakers' Bureau for 1942.

# REPORT OF THE A.D.L. RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

Created to furnish scientifically reliable data on various aspects of A.D.L. work, as well as to render service to writers, scholars, investigators, periodicals and clergymen, the Research Bureau, with a staff of trained specialists, is maintained and operated in the manner of a scientific laboratory. Data on innumerable aspects of the social, economic and political life of the United States are received daily; studied, indexed and correlated with other information bearing upon Axis activities; democratic problems, Jews and Judaism.

Among the vast material handled by the Research Department in 1941 were 250 books that were specifically read and analyzed, 40 leading weekly and monthly magazines; approximately 750 issues of subversive and anti-Semitic publications, and pamphlets; leaflets and news items running into thousands.

As with government agencies devoted to the study of propaganda, the task of the Research Department is to sift facts from fancies, to analyze and appraise all of this vast material, and to pass on information of value which can be utilized to foster interfaith understanding and anti-Axis activities. Part of the laboratory equipment of this department is a serviceable library of standard books on Jewish and general subjects, numerous government publications, bearing on all phases of American life, an up-to-date pamphlet and tract file, and a cross-indexed newspaper file.

Requests frequently come in from our regional offices for information concerning Jewish participation in various fields, and for projects of a research nature to be undertaken in order to meet specific problems existing in particular areas. A typical example of this is the request that was received from our Tri-State office in Denver. Vicious rumors were started in that region that the silk hosiery industry was monopolized and controlled by Jews, who allegedly had started a false rumor of the shortage in silk hosiery in order to make profit from the women of the country. An investigation was made by interviewing the principal factors in the silk hosiery industry, and by a check of the hosiery mills in the country. This investigation proved that less than five percent of the silk hosiery mills are owned or controlled by Jewish interests.

One notable project completed by the Research Department was the refutation of a vicious, anti-Semitic book entitled WAR! WAR! WAR! by "Cincinnatus." Analysis and legal research were made of the equally vicious book, THE OCTOPUS, which constituted a direct attack upon the

Anti-Defamation League. A refutative analysis was made of the article, "The Jewish Problem in America," by Albert Jay Nock, published in the June and July issues of the ATLANTIC MONTHLY.

Assistance was rendered in the preparation of a book concerning fallacies and threats implicit in the Nazi political and economic system, a volume which subsequently enjoyed excellent reviews and a satisfactory public sale. Translations from the Latin-American press and from foreignlanguage newspapers, as well as from the Yiddish press, are made continuously by translators in the department, as a service to scholars, periodicals and the fact-finding department of the A.D.L. Assistance was also rendered to a church federation in a metropolitan American city in preparing material to be used in non-denominational religious teaching.

In an effort to keep the staff abreast of current developments in the Jewish field, an A.D.L. "school" was organized six months ago. Other outside informal study groups have been organized and some are in the process of organization.

# Latin-American Activities

The work of the Anti-Defamation League in Latin-American affairs has been increased. This interest is due to the penetration of Nazi and Fascist propaganda of the nations to the south. Correspondence has been conducted with representative Jewish contacts in Cuba, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, Guatemala, and Uruguay. Reports in Spanish, Portugese, Yiddish and German were received periodically from the Latin-American countries. These reports deal with Jewish community affairs, good-will movements, democratic trends and Fifth Column activities.

The League distributes books in both English and Spanish to the Latin-American countries, whose religious, political and economic leaders have welcomed works of a pro-democratic nature. Books concerning America and democracy were shipped to the leading libraries and schools of Mexico, Argentina, Uruguay, Ecuador, Colombia, Cuba and the Dominican Republic, to enable German-Jewish refugees stationed in those nations to learn English and to become informed concerning the American way. The address of Vice-President Henry A. Wallace, delivered in Chicago in March, 1941, was translated into Spanish and given wide publicity in Latin America.

The Research Department has collaborated closely with a nationallyrecognized agency on Latin-American affairs, for the purpose of strengthening Pan-American ties. The facilities of the department have been made available to this agency, and numerous reports on subversive activities in other nations have been cleared through these offices.

#### Legislative Activities

A significant activity carried on by the Research Department centers around legislative work in both Congress and state legislatures. Among projects initiated during the first half of 1941 was a survey of all bills introduced into the state legislatures, concerned with civil rights, aliens, propaganda, scurrilous literature, group, race, or religious libel and slander, subversive groups, military and quasi-military uniforms, and released time for religious education.

Copies of all legislation received were sent by this department to the Public Relations Committee of the General Jewish Council. Of interest to the department is information on convictions under the Selective Service Act of 1940, a file on which is maintained, showing convictions, appeals, etc. Another file has been opened on newspaper and magazine reactions to the statements of Congressman Rankin of Mississippi concerning the Jews and war, which precipitated a rebuttal by Congressman Edelstein of New York who subsequently died of a heart attack.

The Congressional Record is received daily and culled very carefully for legislation bearing on matters affecting the status of the Jew in America. All anti-Jewish material appearing in the Record is filed by this department, following careful study and consultation with other agencies. There is in preparation a compilation of state statutes, dealing with discrimination against aliens in various professions and statutes relating to criminal libel and slander.

In the special legislation studied, were the twelve bills introduced into the Illinois Legislature by Assemblyman Dale, which would have required full citizenship before licenses would be issued to applicants desiring to engage in certain professions and occupations. These bills received the careful attention and study of the A.D.L. legal department. They passed the House with little opposition, and, after a committee of seven had appeared to testify against the bills, they passed the Illinois Senate. Subsequent to their presentation to the Governor for signature on June 17, a special committee interviewed the Governor urging his veto of the bills. A special memorandum on the constitutionality of the proposed laws was prepared and submitted to the attorney-general who in turn advised the Governor that in his judgment the proposed legislation was unconstitutional.

The support of the <u>Chicago Daily News</u> and agencies engaged in work similar to that of the League was obtained, and the Governor vetoed the bills on June 22, thus keeping aliens from becoming public charges due to their enforced inability to earn a livelihood while waiting for citizenship.

Representatives from seven states submitted proposals for legislation similar to the New Jersey Rafferty Law (race hate law). It was indicated to them that the advisability of such legislation, as well as its constitutionality, was highly questionable, and they were counseled to withhold such proposed legislation until the Rafferty Law had been adjudicated by the New Jersey Supreme Court. The subsequent decision of the New Jersey Supreme Court, holding the law unconstitutional, bore out the wisdom of such advice.

Legislation to be introduced into Congress, relating to the anonymous distribution of scurrilous literature in the course of political campaigns, was given serious consideration. Cooperation was given to an appropriate bill drafted and submitted by Senator Gillette, which bill was introduced Proposals in eight or ten states relating to released time for religious education for public school children were subjected to close examination by this department, and opinions on the constitutionality of such bills were prepared and submitted when requested.

# Labor VE

Of special significance was the publication of a spurious magazine, published monthly, which, by its very name, implies that it represents organized labor. Viciously anti-Semitic statements and articles have appeared in this publication.

Various labor unions, better business bureaus, newspapers and many other organizations were contacted. Through these media, action was taken denouncing the magazine. Resolutions were passed by labor unions, advertisements appeared in local newspapers, giving publicity to these resolutions, and the advertisers/in many fistances through personal contacts, were apprised of the vicious nature of the magazine and the attitude of legitimate labor groups to this publication. All of this resulted in a notable reduction of the advertisements appearing in the magazine which has fallen into disrepute.

A promising plan, recently initiated, is the establishment of a working relationship with the educational departments of leading labor organizations. (Submitted by Moses Jung, Director)

# REPORT OF EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

In the past year, it has been the task of this department to counteract the avalance of propaganda pouring into this country, and to immunize the American public to a large degree against accepting carte blanche the many canards and distortions hurled at the Jewish people by professional anti-Semites and credulous native American dupes.

During the single year 1941, we more than doubled the previous threeyear record of literature and book distribution. Numerous libraries and schools have expressed their gratitude for books enabling their readers and students to understand the Jewish people and Judaism in the face of the propaganda enslaught against them.

# ADL LITERATURE DISTRIBUTION:

During 1941, the League distributed a total of 8,071,564 pamphlets, leaflets and reprints.

#### ADL BOOK DISTRIBUTION:

We are privileged to report that a total of 16,680 books were distributed by the League in 1941. All volumes, directly or indirectly, concerned the welfare of the Jewish people and of democracy.

# FIRESIDE DISCUSSION GROUPS:

The expansion of the Fireside Discussion Groups project was marked by the addition of 717 new study units. There are now 3723 Fireside groups meeting regularly, reaching approximately 160,000 persons. We list below the 32 pamphlet titles published thus far:

- 1. Introductory
- 2. Myth of Jewish Economic Dominance
- 3. Truth About the Protocols of Zion
- 4. Ritual Murder Accusation
- 5. Facts About Fictions Concerning the Jew
- 6. Aryan & Nordic Myth
- 7. Three Questions Jews Must Answer
- 8. Jews as Nobel Prize Winners
- 9. Our Economic Area
- 10. How Far Zionism?
- 11. Two Pillars of Humanity: The Bible and Judaism
- 12. Debt of Christianity to Judaism
- 13. Jews in the American Ensemble
- 14. Jews in Medicine & Science
- 15. Jews in American Philanthropy
- 16. Jews in Music

- 17. Jews in American Literature
- 18. The Jew and His Faith
- 19. The Tragedy of Poland
- 20. Reform Judaism
- 21. Previewing the Jewish State
- 22. Hitler's Communism Unmasked
- 23. The Right Career
- 24. The Jews in Italy
- 25. Questions & Answers Concerning the Jew
- 26. The Vocational Adjustment of Jewish Youth
- 27. The Broadcasters' Code
- 28. Conservative Judaism
- 29. Planning Tomorrow's Job Today
- 30. Orthodox Judaism
- 31. Jews in Law
- 32. Americans All

(Submitted by Sidney B. Lavine, Director)

#### REPORT OF COMMUNITY SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Within the purview of this newly-organized department lie such matters as employment discrimination, Jewish behavior problems, discriminatory advertising, numerus clausus admissions of Jewish students to universities, and specialized schools, and the relations of Jewish people with their fellow citizens of all faiths.

Good-will activities to be carried out by communities are charted in this department, and programs are devised for schools, service clubs, and business and professional groups.

# Negro-Jewish Relations

Intensified anti-Semitism among Negroes in the major cities with heavy Negro and Jewish populations was a social phenomenon of 1941. It is explained by the fact that the Negro groups were especially subject to propagandizing by anti-democratic forces who saw in the economic distress of the colored citizen an opportunity to create animesity against democracy. This animesity in turn engendered sharp feeling against the Jewish people, which was fanned by some Negro agitators, a few influential Negro newspapers, and isolationist leaders among the colored. Experimental work with a Negro newspaper syndicate, under the guidance of an experienced colored public relations man, was undertaken by the League in 1941. Approximately 25 Negro newspapers are presently publishing "What Will Happen to the Negro if Hitler Wins?" a well-documented series of articles which depicts graphically the probable position of the colored citizen under a totalitarian government. Upon the popular reception of this series and other articles prepared in cooperation with the ADL, all of which stress the need for the Negro to be on guard against attempts to pit him against other faiths or races, depends the nature of future work in the Negro field.

Distinguished Negro public officials, editors, clorgymen, union officers, and nationally-recognized white leaders have lauded the series as an outstanding contribution to national unity at this time.

A number of projects have been undertaken additionally to assist Negro protective and improvement agencies in the solution of specific problems challenging the Negro! Jewish business and civic leaders in Negro neighborhoods have been contacted by the ADL in order that their cooperation might be assured in planning activities designed to lessen frictions and tensions between Jews and Negroes. As a result of such efforts, a message stressing the necessity of cooperation with Negroes has been wellreceived by several hundred Jewish merchants in Negro districts of Chicago, and it is expected that further efforts in this troublesome field will be carried on by ADL committees in other major cities having large colored populations.

# Group Ethics

Perhaps the most significant aspect of the community service department is that dealing with brainess and professional ethics on the part of Jews. Admittedly, Jews offend in ne larger proportion than do non-Jews in either business or the professions. However, reports from various sections of the country indicate an increasing hostility toward Jews as a result of unethical practices ongaged in by a small minority of Jewish individuals.

In a recent conference with the manager of the Botter Business Bureau of Chicago, the League was advised that in the last two years there has been increasing evidence of anti-Semitic feeling in the inquiries and complaints concerning business firms which are brought before the Bureau. This portends dangerous tensions unless forthright efforts are made to deal with the problem internally--i.e., the intervention of Jewish organizations in cases wherein individual Jews give offense to the general community.

The first step was the development of a basic "self-improvement" program for such trades as credit jewelry, credit clothing, furniture, lean companies, pawn shops, furs, automobile accessories, and general merchandising, where reports of unethical practices on the part of Jewish factors in these trades are particularly noticeable. The cooperation of the Better Business Bureaus and of responsible Jewish leaders within these trades has been obtained. Another step of importance was the organization of entire trade croups (within Chicago, using that city as a laboratory) into solfpolicingbodies in order to secure a uniformly cooperative attitude. The crodit jewelry trade, in which there is much abuse, was selected as the basis for the experiment. Committees of credit jewelers cooperated with the ADL by calling a meeting of all Jewish credit jewelers, who agreed to the establishment of a uniform code of ethics in the Chicago area after the League's representative presented flagrant cases of abuse which had been supplied by non-Jewish sources. The favorable attitude toward the ADL's interest in trade ethics of credit jewelers, as evidenced by men in attendance, indicates that some of the irritants which previously helped generate anti-Semitism will be eliminated.

In all, more than 200 business firms in categories noted previously have been contacted with a view toward the settlement of individual complaints and the cooperation of business men in the improvement of trade practices generally.

#### Other Service Department Activities

We also have been concerned with problems of employment discrimination, particularly as related to discriminations against Jews in defense industries. Matters of national rather than local interest were considered under this category.

Considerable effort has been expended to combat social discrimination against Jews in hotels, resorts, schools, colleges, etc. Supplementing this activity and attempting to eliminate discriminatory phraseology from advertising media, the League approached the five metropolitan Chicago newspapers as well as smaller community newspapers with conspicuous success.

Negctiations with the Chicago newspapers resulted in an agreement by all to eliminate racial and religious specifications, i.e., "Gentile Only," "Gentiles Preferred," and the substitution of such phrases as "selective clientele" or "restrictive clientele." The publications of professional societics, motor clubs, and national magazines also have been contacted in order to secure elimination, if possible, of cffensive and prejudicial phraseology from advertising. (Submitted by Abel E. Berland, Director)

#### FACT FINDING DEPARTMENT REPORT

#### General American Scene

In January of 1941, the Fact Finding Department issued a report briefly diagnosing the political, social and economic developments of the past few years in relation to the problem of anti-Semitism and stated that the coming year would show a unification of all un-American elements under the banner of some slogan designed to keep America cut of war, i.e., the general policy of appeasement. This observation was borne out by political trends of the year which was ended, however, in a temporary set-back for isolationism because of the Japanese aggression in December. At that time, Verne Marshall's "No Foreign War Committee " held the center of American attention but was soon succeeded by the "America First Committee." Regardless of the specific label or name attached to any group, the general program was the same. An investigation of the "America First Committee" definitely revealed that numerous subversive, anti-Semitic and pro-Hitler groups were actively supporting the Committee. In many instances, Committee officials denied knowledge of the insidious ponetration into local chapters by anti-Jewish agitators.

In a survey made of twelve cities, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Cleveland, Akron, Chicago, Kansas City, Portland and Los Angeles, we found that in most of the America First units there were at least one or more individuals influential in the activities of the respective unit who had been associated with un-American organizations or who was regarded by the Jewish community as of highly questionable friendliness to our people. Although we may concede that the rank and file of the membership were sincere Americans honestly interested in poace for America, the ovidence indicated that a considerable amount of the impetus and force behind the movement emanated from individuals more concorned with a victory for the Axis powers.

As the events in Europe reached an ever increasing crisis, it had an accelerated affect on the appeasement movement in this country. Intensification of mombership drives, meetings, issuance of literature, etc., resulted. The anti-Semitic canards from Berlin, at first confined to the more extreme and discredited members of the Committee, were soon to emanate from more influential members of the fascist group; So we find the abortive movie quiz conducted by Senators Wheeler and Nye and the speech of Charles Lindbergh at Dos Moines, Iowa. The fascists, always wrapped in the flag of the United States, were now slowly but surely bringing the Jewish question out into the open, purposely intending to make the matter a subject of every day discussion in American homes. The attack against the Jew was a prelude to what was to follow in the political campaigns of 1942, if the analyses and forecasts of prominent observers may be accepted as correct.

#### Foreign Groups

The fact that many native Americans were now taking up the cudgels for Germany in no way lessened the activity of the Berlin Propaganda Ministry. Foreign groups were cultivated and propagandized to an even greater extent. The German successes in the Balkans brought new racial and national groups within its sphere of influence and control. No sooner had these European countries fallen in the path of the Nazi war machine then immediately a fascist organization was set up in this country and overtures towards placating the particular national or racial group began.

For example, the Creatian fascist group came into existence as soon as the Creatians in Europe alligned themselves with Germany in fighting the Serbs. The usual type of Nazi propaganda made its appearance among the Creatians, written, of course, in their own language. The Macedonians, who also disliked the Serbs, had their cwn fascist committee organized and began to agitate actively in favor of Germany.

The largest Macedonian settlement is located in Indianapolis, and it was in that city that the majority of activity was centered. The above two examples are cited only to illustrate how completely thorough is the German propaganda machine. It never relaxes and never misses a single opportunity to create dissension and fighting among outside countries.

Important strides were made against the Ukrainian fascists who constituted the biggest danger and menace among the Slavs. Work against them will be further reported under the title of Government Collaboration.

The Italians curtailed their activity considerably. This was due, however, not to any change of heart regarding Mussolini or democracy, but rather to the inferiority complex usually prevalent in most Italians and neurished once more as a result of the ignominious account given by the Italian military forces.

The German fascist groups also ceased most of their activity contenting themselves with allowing the Steuben Society to carry the ball for them and in joining fascist groups, American in character, such as the "America First Committee."

#### Government Collaboration

An cutstanding piece of work was done in 1941 with the Special Defense Unit of the Department of Justice in Washington. The chief objective of this board was to prosecute persons and groups guilty of violating the Voorhis Registration Act. Working with the board for close to a year, the League gave aid in compiling evidence sufficient for indictments of . close to one hundred individuals and organizations. In many of these cases, the entire brief was prepared and compiled in the offices of the League. The board was ready to prosecute, but the outbreak of the war made the peace time procedure unnecessary, and so far as we know all of these individuals have already been picked up by the FBI and incarcerated.

Also, the funds of the Ukrainian National Association, in the sum of six million dollars, has been frozen on the order of the State Department. The League submitted evidence with the specific request that the Association's funds be frozen immediately after a similar procedure had been taken with the German and Italian Embassies.

#### Present Program

Several weeks after the war, the head of the Fact Finding Department conferred with representatives of the various aforementioned government agencies concerning the advisability of carrying on the League's future investigations into subversive activities. It was the unanimous opinion of these men that under no circumstances should the League in any way decrease its investigations. On the contrary, the government men felt that now more than ever they needed every bit of help they could get. Accordingly, the department has continued with the work of checking on fascistic groups and individuals; the only modification is that now it immediately reports all and sundry details to the proper governmental departments. Prior to the war, the policy was to wait until a certain amount of evidence had been accumulated unless, of course, the particular piece of information was deemed of immediate importance.

Any illusion that the present war will act as an immediate break-up of further anti-Semitic agitation, should be immediately shattered. For about a week to ten days after December 7th, the anti-Semites were very moderate in their language. They were in a state of uncertainty and decided to go easy for a while, but when the immediate shock left them they apparently realized that it would be pretty difficult to hold them guilty of any legal violations were they to voice their hatred of the Jew, and the barrage has started once more.

A check on numerous publications, including "The Broom," "Publicity," "X-Ray," "The Beacon Light" and "Social Justice," and the "Gallilean," indicates that they are still engaging in vicious Jew baiting. As a matter of fact, their utterances are also viciously anti-Democratic and anti-Administration. Meetings have already been hold by many of the subversive groups, and a program for continued anti-Semitic operations was fully discussed.

There will be attempts by anti-Semites to contact the next of kin of American war casualties as well as business men not in defense industries who have suffered financially. This effort to spread defeatism already has been noted.

#### The V Committee

The work of the V Committee in the past year was responsible for handling over fifteen hundred and fifty assignments. All of these cases were handled with intelligence and dispatch. The fact that this work was done by volunteers illustrates what an important contribution, from the standpoint of budget alone, the V Committee has made. A good portion of the material uncovered by the V.Committee has been turned over to the government agencies.

(Submitted by Miles M. Goldberg)

#### REPORT OF EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

Because of the completeness of the description of conditions as contained within the report nationally of the Anti-Defamation League, it is unnecessary to make any larger references to them here. Naturally, the same war problems, propaganda, rumors and accusations and heightened consciousness of a Jewish question were all equally marked along the Atlantic Seaboard. The changing situation, with its accompanying manifestations of major importance, necessitated comparable changes within the structure and activities of the Eastern Regional Office. One of the most marked developments was the much closer cooperation with Government representatives and with the general press. The never-ebbing stream of officials and journalists came to the office in search of the helpful material and concrete evidence which would further their own constructive purposes. Without going inte detail at this point, it is sufficient to note that this collaboration resulted in a public expose and apprehension of many subversive elements which theretofore had conducted themselves in fancied immunity.

Situated in New York City, the Eastern Regional Office - through its Advisory Council and staff - had the additional responsibility of representing the Anti-Defamation League largely in negotiations and meetings with other Jewish organizations, such as those within the General Jewish Council. From out of these meetings, a much closer understanding has resulted. The American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League were able to launch their Joint Defense Appeal, conceived in order to prevent a duplication of appeal to the communities and to eliminate other duplication of effort: A Coordinating Committee of the General Jewish Council was formed, and its regular meetings likewise have brought about more effective operations in the defense field.

As a part of its endeavors, this office has sought to further a program of democratic education in certain Jewish circles. It has attempted the modification or elimination of such improper practices reported to it which were of a nature to bring disrepute or prejudice to the Jewish community. For example, when it learned of objectionable advertising by a few Jewish religious leaders in the Bronx section of New York, it called together and obtained the cooperation of a number of recognized rabbis for taking certain action in this matter. The office has had the assistance of prominent Jewish business men in handling reports of unethical practices by several Jewish firms. The Newsletter, published by the Eastern Regional Office, is mailed to approximately 2500 persons in about 300 cities, and it has become recognized as a very valuable medium for keeping local leaders familiar with current problems and events, and it, too, has served, therefore, in this special field of Jewish education.

The League has been concerned with attempts to prejudice the attitudes of other groups. In New York subversive elements tried to create anti-Semitism even among the Negro population of the city. Misunderstandings were furthered because of the employment problem of the Negroes and because of rumors and stories that colored demestic workers were being exploited unfairly by Jewish housewives. Although the League found many of these reports to be grossly exaggerated, it instituted a project for free employment centers for these houseworkers. After the project had been referred to in praise by Mayor La Guardia, it was taken over by the State authorities as an official venture. Also developed and still continuing is the Harlem chapter of the New York Council For American Traditions, and under the sponsorship of outstanding Negroes it has been conducting large meetings and a general campaign for a truer understanding of democracy.

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Specific complaints of discrimination in employment against Jews by important commercial and industrial organizations likewise were handled. In practically every instance where the charges were found to be true, the representations of this office were given considerate attention and were followed by the desired changes in policy. When the United States embarked upon its vast defense program, the Government became interested in instances of religious and racial discrimination in plants handling defense orders. A Governor's Committee to Eliminate Discrimination in the Defense Industries was set up in New York, and the League took an active part in it from its very inception, and it supplied both it and the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices with evidences of such discrimination. The office continues even now to assist these official agencies in investigating instances of discrimination against Jews within the defense industries.

The assistance given by this Eastern Regional Office to Government departments extended further. A manual elaborating upon the meaning of our democratic institutions and the dangers from which they must be safeguarded is being prepared by the United States Office of Education for use by teachers and possibly in the Army camps. This handbook is intended to make certain that Americans will remain conscious of the real purposes and ideals for which this nation is presently engaged in war. Many of the facts enumerated in the manual were supplied and several of the sections drafted by the League.

A pageant, "The Road To Freedom," was presented under the auspices of the New York Board of Education. So as to make this pageant more effective and to stimulate similar projects by other school systems, the League saw to it that 500 copies of the printed version of the pageant were sent to superintendents of boards of education in all parts of the nation. Scores of responses have been received indicating that unusual success has been achieved in so interesting other educational authorities in this program.

Another accomplishment of the Eastern Regional Office's educational department deserves comment. Members here believed that it was not sufficient simply to distribute copies of the "Skeleton of Justice," the book telling of the cruel shortcomings in the Nazi system of "Justice." Reviews were therefore prepared of the book and sent to law reviews throughout the country, and many of these legal publications reprinted the reviews and thereby brought the basic message of the volume to countless numbers of attorneys and jurists.

In all, the Literature Department distributed 3585 books and nearly 170,000 pamphlets, reprints and leaflets in 1941. This last figure does not include the further sum of approximately 215,000 leaflets and booklets of Appreciate America which were similarly distributed. The office also disposed of about 1,190,000 Appreciate America stamps and 1700 posters.

A statistical study of cases of all types shows that 870 of them were handled by the office during the year. It must be borne in mind that some cases, by their complex nature, fall within overlapping or several classifications, and the selection of each case for its proper category is of necessity one calling for study and the exercise of judgment:

Books	139	Cases
Economic Discrimination	104	17
Hotels & Resorts	43	<b>11</b>
Investigations		
(Exclusive of those		
in other categories)	320	11
Magazines, pamphlets	203	<b>t1</b>
Newspapers	99	11
Organizations	321	ŤŤ
Propagandists	495	11
Radio	59	ft

TOTAL

1,870 Cases

Besides the foregoing activities, conducted as a part of the ordinary undertakings of the several departments of the office, there were several projects of national importance. Prominent among these were the press services in which the League has been directly interested. One of these press services is prepared specifically for labor publications, and its weekly editorials, on the inter-relationship of labor and democracy, have been carried by 317 weekly and monthly journals. It has been estimated that the reading public seeing these beneficial pieces numbers 10,000,000.

A second press service is intended for rural newspapers, and its weekly inspirational messages have been reprinted in 407 such publications. Out of about 300 Negro papers in the country, 178 are making use of a third press service designed to emphasize to Negro leaders why their best interests are tied irrevocably to democratic principles. This is an important contribution to the solving of Jewish-Negro problems when considered in the light of the work maintained by the Chicago headquarters of the League in popularizing the anti-Nazi columns of Chandler Owen. (See Chicago Report.)

Yet another press service is one sent each week to the religious periodicals. Approximately 60 of the most important Protestant publications in America either reprint the editorials regularly or utilize them as the basis for editorial comment. Numerous clergymen receive the same material for use in the preparation of their sermons.

The service described immediately above is one of the undertakings of a religious institute founded and headed by a well-known minister. All of the efforts of this institute are devoted to the creation of inter-faith understanding and the emphasis that true Christianity and real democracy are inseparable. This movement also aids in the creation of radio scripts on allied subjects for clergymen. Finally, it presents to ministers, through special bulletins, specific facts about the dangers to religion from the prejudicial propaganda and subversive bodies which have sought to divide America. Material service and close cooperation have been extended to what is possibly the outstanding educational radio program in the nation. This program, currently in its third year, relates through recorded broadcasts the manner in which Americans have won and presently enjoy their civil and religious liberties. Approximately 425 stations carry this program, and about 1,200 school systems utilize its records as a part of their curricula.

The transcriptions have been requested by Junior Bar Group Seminars, CCC Camps, Army cantonments, women's clubs, etc., and approval of the War Department for use in the camps and training services has been granted. During 1941, an extensive exploitation of the transcription series was made through the distribution of folders, special patrictic stamps, display posters, radio spot announcements, and other techniques.

A handbook for listeners containing 96 pages of vital historical information is distributed by the sponsoring organization, and this manual has proved of value to teachers, students and writors. It is interesting to note that the program received unusual recognition in a booklet dealing with broadcasting for youth and published by the National Association of Broadcasters. These recordings were given outstanding space in the study and are officially recommended.

Another type of educational undertaking was conducted through the assistance of Mr. Leo Lania, a distinguished emigre writer and lecturer. Mr. Lania induced a number of prominent exiles to write articles on the challenge to democracy. Those stories, telling of instances in the writers' native lands of sabotage to liberty, were published in more than a score of the largest metropolitan newspapers. They were disseminated through the cooperation of the International News Service and were reprinted in such papers as the Cleveland Plain Dealer, the Washington Post, the Denver Post, the Memphis Commercial Appeal, and others. It was also sent to Latin America, where it was used by various significant newspapers.

#### TRI-STATE REGIONAL OFFICE

Established in May, 1941, to serve Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming, the Tri-State Regional Office of the A.D.L., located in Denver and directed by Mr. J. Harold Saks, is sorving an area where prejudice and religious animosity abound despite the relative sparsity of population.

In numerous communities where no Jewish families reside, fears and doubts concerning the Jews have arisen, giving rise to a receptivity to anti-Semitic propaganda in areas which, ironically, have had practically no contact with the Jewish people. Another factor conducive to anti-Semitism is the summer resort life for which Colorado is famed; for numerous wealthy Easterners, who travel to Colorado for vacations or for permanent residence, have introduced their antipathy to Jews which is psychologically based on their fear of losing material security in a world at war. It is important to bear in mind that Colorado's position as a stronghold of the Ku Klux Klan in the '20's, at which time Klan membership was virtually a pre-requisite for the holding of public office, has aided leaders of the revived KKK in 1941 who have recruited numerous members in the state as a part of their national membership drive.

The A.D.L. office in Denver has established contacts throughout the region with newspapers, clergymen, school officials, and leaders of civic and service groups, leading to active cooperation in the promulgation of better understanding among all faiths. All B'nai B'rith units in the three states serviced by this office have cooperated with their entire man-power, facilities and influence.

Nine patriotic and historical technicolor movie shorts were presented to the Denver Public Schools by the Americanism Committee of the Denver B'nai B'rith, with the cooperation of this office. Many pieces of literature were distributed to clergymen in this area by the A.D.L. in conjunction with the Denver office of the National Conference of Christians & Jews. With the aid of the YMCA, speakers provided by the League's Speakers Bureau were brought to Denver to address the local high schools on pro-democratic themes -- a project which received widespread approval and publicity. In the relatively brief time this office has been operating, 53 addresses before more than 18,000 people have been arranged, and with the signing up of Siggfried Wagner, distinguished short wave radio propaganda expert, with the Mutual Broadcasting System. listeners of approximately forty radio stations will hear this speaker's analyses of Axis broadcasts and his warnings against the Axis technique of sowing racial and religious dissension. (Mr. Wagner is a member of the A.D.L. Speakers Burcau and cooperates closely with the Tri-State Office.)

Sets of the Universal Jewish Encyclopedia have been furnished by this office, with the cooperation of the Denver Lodge, to the Denver Public Library and to the library of Denver University. In addition, 200 other volumes have been placed by the A.D.L. on the library shelves of high schools, universities, colleges and churches in this area, covering the following cities: Denver, Golden, Gunnison, Greeley, Grand Junction, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Monte Vista, Durango, Montrose, Brighton, Alamosa and Trinidad, Colorado; Cheyenne, Casper and Laramie, Wyoming; and Albuquerque, N. Me

In addition to utilizing book distribution, this office has made regular approaches to persons and agencies influencing public opinion, through the mailing of pamphlets, booklets, reprints and other printed material. Approximately 20,000 pieces have been distributed in the tristate area since the opening of this office in the spring of 1941.

Contact has been maintained with the FBI and other government agencies, with reference to subversive activities, and this office has kept a constant surveilliance of anti-Semitic agitators within the three states covered by this office. The help of newspapers has been instrumental in exposing anti-Semitic persons and agencies whose activities are a detriment to the public welfare. Editorial condemnation of Lindbergh's Des Moines address was forthcoming, as were articles and feature stories exposing the efforts of the KKK to reinstate itself as a potent force in Colorado public life.

The A.D.L. wishes to give recognition to those members of the Tri-State Regional Advisory Council who so generously gave of their time, thought and influence in shaping the program for the new Tri-State Office. Appreciation is due Melvin H. Schlesinger, the committee chairman, whose daily counsel has proved of inestimable aid in the proper functioning of this office; Edwin Wittelshofer, the vice-chairman; Walter M. Simon, Abe G. Gertz, Charles Rosenbaum, Milton Anfenger, Leo Altman, Gilbert Sanders, L.W. Ilfeld, Daniel Taichert, Max Fleischer, and Joseph Fogel, as well as numerous others whose cooperation has proved valuable.

# REPORT OF STATE OF WASHINGTON AND BRITISH COLUMBIA OFFICE

Aid in the formation of a city-wide "I Am An American" Day was contributed by the director of this office, who reports an attendance of several thousand persons and abundant press publicity stressing the insistence of the rally on the "four freedoms." As a result of the director's efforts, the observance committee organized itself into a permanent group composed of representatives of every service and fraternal order in the community.

This office actively aided the Department of Naturalization with reference to applications for citizenship papers made by persons who had been members, or who were connected with, such subversive organizations as the Silver Shirts. In virtually all cases, citizenship was denied questionable applicants, who in many cases received reprimands from the presiding judge for their un-American preachments and conduct.

Close contact has been maintained with dealers in scrap metal, some of whom allegedly violated government orders with reference to a ceiling on prices and other regulations. At a meeting of forty scrap metal dealers, the ADL representative obtained the cooperation of the dealers present, and forwarded much information to the national ADL offices based upon conferences held with men in the metal industry.

Close contact has been maintained with government investigative agencies, and this phase of anti-defamation activity has been synchronized with the work of the fact-finding department of the Chicago national headquarters. Labor organizations likewise have extended cooperation to this office, and much literature as well as books have been distributed to leaders of labor, libraries, schools, clergymen, etc.

# REPORT OF WASHINGTON OFFICE OF THE A.D.L.

The shifting political and economic currents of the turbulent year 1941 found this office engaged in numerous activities of a public relations nature, undertaken in a spirit of patriotism and intended to focus public attention on the myriad activities of Axis agents and their native honchmen.

Urgent matters which had the attention of this office in 1941 included the abuses of the franking privilege on the part of congressmen chiefly within the isolationist sphere; the foreign propaganda agent act; the Federal Grand Jury investigation of subversive abuses of the mail frank, which investigation is not completed as yet; and Nazi infiltration into huge commercial firms.

Another newsworthy event of 1941 which received the close attention of this office was the Senate sub-committee's investigation of alleged warmongering films produced and distributed by the motion picture industry. Because of the introduction of numerous prominent Jewish names into this investigation, and the manner in which anti-Semites, so-called isolationists and others tried to exploit the quiz, the League deemed it advisable to cooperate in efforts to expose the "investigation" as a smear campaign which could lead to the limitation of freedom of expression and to bigoted witch-hunts, unless publicly rebuked.

Excellent newspaper contacts have been maintained by this office, and numerous Washington correspondents and writers have proved cooperative and have received cooperation in disseminating information concerning subversive activities and personalities during the year. Editorial counsel was extended to the head of a leading newsletter service in this country, whose proposed article on "Jews in Government Service" threatened to be unfair and incompatible with the facts. The factual data submitted by the League's representative was accepted and incorporated in a book on the Washington scene being prepared by the aforementioned writer and will do much to dispel the belief that Jews predominate in government service at the nation's capital.

As a result of war-time conditions, it is expected that intensified cooperation will be forthcoming from the Washington office of the ADL, in view of the new propaganda attacks upon the Jews and democracy which our enemies are concocting. Responsible officials in numerous branches of government service have welcomed the counsel and data provided by the ADL office, which has been actuated by a desire to provo helpful to our government in this time of crisis.

# REPORT OF THE NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL OFFICE

In connection with the usual activities maintained by this office, it is of interest to note that every cooperation and resource has been extended to the various free government movements which were in the public eye during the year. Among agencies assisted were the France Forever Society and the Mazzini Society, both of which were appreciative of the pronotional efforts given their programs by the A.D.L.

Assistance was furnished Boston University's Y.W.C.A. in its efforts to organize a committee to counteract discrimination against Jews, both on and off the campus. The organization gives promise of valuable service along this line in the near future.

A special project of significance is as yet incomplete. This involves the presentation of material showing the growth of anti-Semitism in America to leaders of an important religious group who have evinced concern over this menace to the democratic way. It is hoped that the project will be successfully applied first to the New England area, whereby all clergymen of this group will work as a unit to reduce manifestations of racial and religious hate.

This office has lent every cooperation to Professor Harlow of Smith College, who has initiated a class in "Hebrew Contributions to American Civilization." Material was supplied to the class for an exhibition of evidences of the contributions which have been made by various ethnic and religious groups.

In conjunction with the American Jewish Committee, this office aided in the planning and financing of a tour of leading New England communities by Benjamin Kaufman, national commander of the Jewish War Veterans of America. B'nai B'rith lodges as well as Jewish War Veterans' posts cooperated, and the commander was greeted in numerous cities by civic officials and excellent newspaper publicity, which gave prominence to the fact that Mr. Kaufman was recipient of the rare Congressional Medal of Honor, awarded for his valor and patriotism in the first World War.

In addition to arranging radio broadcasts, this office aided in publicizing such programs as "You Decide," "Lest We Forget," and the program of Rev. W.C. Kernan's Christian Institute for American Democracy. With regard to special work with newspapers, magazines and book publishers, it is of interest to note that numerous conferences were held with the editors of the ATLANTIC MONTHLY, following publication of the much-discussed "Jewish Problem in America," by Albert Jay Nock. Permission was granted by the publishers for the examination of numerous manuscripts received following publication of the above article, and these manuscripts were forwarded to Chicago for study and utilization by the educational department of the A.D.L. In Quincy, Mass., during the national aluminum drive, rumors were spread to the effect that Jewish junk dealers were counseling housewives to sell their aluminum rather than contribute it to the defense effort. Newspapers were contacted and two articles and several pictures depicting large contributions of metal by Jewish junk dealers appeared on the front page to counteract this unfounded story.

Important material concerning local manifestations of the Christian Front has been furnished to a small group of Irish-Catholics, who in turn have been responsible for the preparation of a series of newspaper articles now appearing in the BOSTON TRAVELER, dealing with the un-American aspect of the Front. This project has met with success and gives promise of a drastic lessening of Christian Front influence which yet prevails in numerous areas with large Irish population. Wherever it could be done, the activities of the Front and its leader, Francis P. Moran, were exposed, and material culled from reports of Front meetings was transmitted to interested government agencies.

In advancing the APPRECIATE AMERICA program, in conjunction with the national offices, this office placed poster displays in important Massachusetts newspapers, and distributed literature to labor unions, to a selected list of Unitarian ministers, as well as to service clubs, church groups and civic rallies in this area. The book, "Speak Up for Democracy," was placed on numerous library shelves in New England.

# REPORT OF PORTLAND, OREGON OFFICE

An important piece of work for which this office furnished the impetus was the planning and securing of legislation which would make impossible a repetition of the unpleasant experiences incident to the Congressional candidacy of one Kenneth Brown. (Brown, an avowed anti-Semite, purchased four pages of space in the official Voters'Pamphlet of the state of Oregon, and devoted the entire space to vicious attacks upon the Jews.)

As a result of much effort, three bills were drafted and introduced into the legislature following the procurement of civie and press support for the measures. The measures were passed by both houses and duly signed by the Governor, thus becoming law. These laws provide that no material of a hate-inciting nature may be inserted into the official Voters' Pamphlet, and prohibits the display of any cut showing the uniform or insignia of any organization promoting racial or religious intolerance.

In common with other ADL offices, this regional office cooperated closely with federal, state and city law enforcement agencies following the state of alarm which prevailed following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Frequent expressions of gratitude for information have been received by the director of this office from official agencies, which recognize in the Anti-Defamation League an organization with extraordinarily valuable files on anti-democratic activity in this country since 1933. The director of this office serves as vice-chairman of the Northwest Institute of International Relations, which is sponsored jointly by Reed College, the University of Oregon, Portland Public Schools, American Friends Service Committee, and the Congregational-Christian Council. Each year the Institute is staffed by a faculty of experts on international affairs and foreign relations, who address a student body consisting of college and high school teachers. Numerous articles in the press, with appropriate editorial comment, are accorded the annual sessions of the Institute, which has achieved marked regional recognition because of the pro-democratic nature of its programs and the liberality of its student body and faculty. In 1941, the ADL gave financial recognition to the Institute because of work fostered by it in the field of bettering interfaith relations.

As secretary of the Oregon Inter-faith Council, the ADL director is active in all affairs of the organization, which serves as an excellent medium for the distribution of much material provided by the League. Twelve new Fireside Discussion groups have been initiated by this office during 1941, and cooperation with B'nai B'rith and other Jewish agencies is unflagging. The ADL director has on numerous occasions made reports in person to lodges in this area, and this office is recognized in Portland by the Jewish community as the prescribed place for the registering of complaints involving alleged discrimination, the reporting of suspicious individuals or organizations, etc. There have been numerous occasions on which the office checked hysteria growing out of the report of imaginary or distorted incidents concerning anti-Jewish activities.

# German Mauser Incident

Evidence was first obtained by this office on an incident which proved of interest to Army Intelligence and to the F.B.I. In 1936, acting through the German consul in Portland, the Nazi-minded "German War Vetorans" applied for and received fifty German Mauser rifles, to be used ostensibly for parades and drills. The firing pins had been removed from the rifles before issuance by the national guard. It was learned subsequently that the firing pins had been restored, and that the guns were fired frequently in target practice. Whereupon the Army demanded return of the loaned arms, and most of the guns have been recovered and are now in the proper hands.

Translated articles from the Nazi paper, Nachrichten, long a troublesome organ in Portland, were made available by the ADL to the editors and publishers of local daily and weekly newspapers. Information on Nazi activities was sought frequently from the ADL by these journalists, who used material thus obtained as the basis for special feature articles and editorials in condemnation of Nazi activities in America. One editorial in a leading daily, which was written following the presentation of certain material by the ADL, was brought to the attention of <u>Nachrichten</u> advertisers and contributed much to the termination of the un-American activities of this Hitlerite organ.

#### REPORT OF SAN FRANCISCO A. D. COMMITTEE

In cooperation with the San Francisco Jewish Survey Committee, many of whose members also are members of the Anti-Defamation Committee, this unit has pushed through to completion numerous activities of a pro-democratic nature during the year 1941. A major project of the year was the preparation and mass distribution of the JOE DOAKES booklets, small, sprightly cartoonand-text pamphlets of which 190,000 were distributed in two editions.

As special projects, meetings with scrap metal dealers and burlap bag factors are worthy of mention, for at these meetings it was stressed that national defense and unity demanded that profiteering on defense materials be made a grievous offense. Excellent cooperation was elicited from dealers who attended these conferences.

In cooperation with the national ADL headquarters in Chicago, speakers were booked continually before schools, service clubs, forums, churches and colleges, as a part of the League's nation-wide speaking program. Among speakers booked were Dr. Gerhart H. Seger, former member of the Reichstag; Countess Morag Zamoyska, Polish Christian refugee from the Nazi terror; Leo Lania, distinguished journalist and emigre; and Dr. Frank Munk, Czech economist and educator. Excellent publicity was accorded speakers in the press and by radio stations, which contributed much to the successful dissemination of their respective messages.

Numerous radio programs were arranged or publicized by the local Anti-Defamation Committee, and friendly cooperation with newspapers was effected on the basis of which agreements were reached governing the adoption of a policy against acceptance and publication of discriminatory advertising. Publicity on proper Jewish activities are channeled through the Anti-Defamation Committee, and editors have been most cooperative in publicizing new programs concerned with interfaith betterment and Americanism which received their initial impetus from the committee.

# REPORT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA OFFICE

Many and varied activities, all directed in channels which lead to an improvement of conditions of our people in their relationships with their fellow citizens, have characterized the work of this office during 1941. Problems of long standing, added/by new aggravated situations arising out of America's defense program and the bitter isolationist-interventionist debates, have vitally affected the lives and welfare of minority groups in this region as in other sections of the country.

During the year, this office worked in close collaboration with the Los Angeles Jewish Community Committee, and has directed the anti-defamation activities of 27 B'nai B'rith lodges in Southern California. Regular meetings of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Council of Southern California have been hold with uniformly large attendance of representatives from each lodge. In addition, regular monthly meetings of volunteer service workers are hold, at which sossions numerous details concerning anti-defamation work have been imparted to these accredited workers. Much credit for the successful operations of this group belongs to Brother Jerome L. Ehrlich, newlyelected president of Los Angeles Lodge, as well as to the workers led by Brother Ehrlich.

#### Discrimination in Defense Industries

The work of this office with respect to racial and religious discrimination in defense industries has been of paramount importance during 1941. Information concerning alleged discrimination was gathered from many sources, contacts were made with officials of aircraft companies and state employment office heads; discussions were held with government defense representatives, and all of these efforts were made to effect an improvement in discriminatory employment practices which had acquired national notice. Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles was favorably inclined to representations made by the body of which the ADL office director was a member, and a civic sub-committee to deal with this problem was established as an integral unit of the city's Defense Council.

The director subsequently appeared before the President's Committee on Fair Employment practice, at a public hearing in Los Angeles, not only on behalf of Jewish complainants, but upon the premise that our government must not permit inequalities to be visited upon any minority group. It can be stated that B'nai B'rith's interest in this aspect of defense work has proved of marked value in ameliorating discrimination and in pointing the way for a more equitable policy on the part of defense plants in the near future.

# Bill of Rights

Of outstanding character has been our participation in general community and national projects, such as the nation-wide Bill of Rights observance. During this observance more than 200,000 copies of the Bill of Rights were distributed to schools, churches, and civic organizations. This office supplied 700 copies of Monroe E. Deutsch's book, "Our Legacy of Religious Freedom," to the Los Angeles ministerial association which made its own distribution of this valuable work.

In cooperation with the representative of the University Religious Conference, the office director made numerous field trips and established contacts in outlying communities for the proper observance of Brotherhood Week in this area. Throughout Southern California, scores of meetings addressed by speakers provided by the ADL have been held. before non-Jewish organizations and audiences. Activity on behalf of the "Appreciate America" program was centered on the placing of mats in district and suburban newspapers having a total circulation of 444,700. The cumulative effect of this material, together with the continuous speaking program maintained by this office, has been of inestimable value in providing a better understanding of democracy in these troubled times.

#### REPORT OF FLORIDA REGIONAL OFFICE

Heightened anti-Semitism in Florida, brought about to a large extent by the isolationist movement, the revived Ku Klux Klan, and other factors, has been evidential of the wisdom which prompted the opening of this office.

The Klan, though disavowing anti-Semitism, has distributed numerous pieces of literature designed to foment hatred and distrust of the Jew. Combatting of this reactionary and potent force is made difficult by the fact that little stigma attaches to membership in the southern branches of the order, and numerous public officials, including police officers, are members of the Klan and extend it every cooperation.

# Discrimination

On the general question of discriminatory advertisements worded in an obnoxious manner, it can be stated that an agreement likely will be forthcoming with the <u>Miami Herald</u>, a newspaper which has proved a stumblingblock in this respect in the past. The publisher finally has agreed to elimination of objectionable wordings--which is highly important because of the numerous resort and hotel ads carried in the paper--and this office has submitted its recommendations as to how a change of policy can be effected without embarrassment to the newspaper.

One advantage to be noted was the discontinuance in 1941 of the Hotel and Apartment Guide Book issued by the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce. This publication, though it contained 38 percent Jewish advertising, encouraged the insertion of the words "gentile," "gentile clientele," etc., in advertisements of hotels and resorts owned or operated by non-Jews. The booklet previously had been sent to prospective Florida visitors in all sections of the country, resulting in the artificial creation of religious prejudice in visitors even before they arrived in the state.

#### The Internal Scene

A pressing need exists for intensifying A.D.L. information among the Jewish community in Florida to the end that this office may increasingly be called upon to relieve tense situations resulting from unethical practices, obnoxious behavior, and other shortcomings of some elements in the community. A case in point is the experimentation by this office with a motion picture film concerned with proper and improper conduct, behavior, attire, etc., on the Beach--for Jews have been subjected to sharp criticism because of their alleged pre-dominance among offenders against propriety and decorum.

Jewish hotels are being contacted and the permission of owners and managers for showing of this film is being sought. To date, a satisfactory and affirmative response has been recorded. A leaflet concerned with proper conduct and attire now is in preparation and shortly will be distributed in large quantities to hotels having Jewish clienteles.

Representations made by this office against improper behavior has indirectly resulted in the formation of a Lummus Park Hotel Association consisting of all hotel owners in the area between Fifth and Fifteenth Streets. Through the association it was possible to exert pressure upon the authorities for a more stringent enforcement of the bathing-suit ordinance. Some 50,000 cards warning bathers to be properly attired have been distributed, and several models wore employed to demonstrate proper and improper dress on the streets and beaches. Cooperation in this educational program was forthcoming from the Miami newspapers, with the result that objectionable attire has sharply decreased.

#### Pro-Democratic Activities

This office has instituted a Florida Educational Service through which, for a period of months, weekly releases were dispatched to newspapers of the state. These releases dealt with not only anti-Nazi themes, but emphasized the relationship between anti-Semitism and totalitarianism.

This office was instrumental in obtaining and preparing a weekly half-hour program sponsored by the Round Table of Christians & Jews. This program has paved the way to utilization of the Round Table as an excellent medium for the release of material provided by the Anti-Defamation League.

Much help has been given to this office by the Miami Daily News which has proved most liberal in the publishing of favorable editorials, reprinting vital material, and treating news concerning Jews and Judaism with impartiality and understanding. At Bradenton, Fla., a vicious anti-Semitic sheet known as Commonwealth was made the subject of a condemnatory editorial in the Daily News and copies were distributed throughout the South in communities which the publisher of the offensive magazine intended to visit on a speaking tour. His efforts were successfully thwarted, thanks to this action.

#### REPORT OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA OFFICE

Numerous meetings have been held between members of the local ADL Committee and non-Jewish leaders, both lay and religious, with reference to the inroads of anti-Semitism upon national unity. To the credit of our non-Jewish collaborators, it can be stated that they were quick to see the connection between subversive propaganda ostensibly aimed at the Jews, and the Axis plan to foment American discord under the time-proven "divide and rule" program for world dominion. At one session with the Christian clergy attended by members of the ADL Committee, frank representations were made by the Jewish group in regard to the teaching of the Crucifixion story in bible classes. Equally frank conversations upon common Jewish canards, such as the alleged Jewish domination of finance and industry, were held, and the results of the meeting were salutary. All clergymen present pledged themselves to war militantly upon intelerance, and requested copies of factual material distributed by the League which they in turn desired to present to their congregants.

The unsavory incident concerning an Atlanta Jewish lawyer who defended the Ku Klux Klan in a notorious flogging case, praising their history and their actions, evoked national publicity. The suggostion was made by the ADL Committee to the Solicitor General to secure the cooperation of liberal Christian ministers who would appear in court and support the Solicitor General in his case against the brutal floggers, despite the desire of Governor Talmadge to extend clemency to the Klansmen.

The publicity-seeking outburst of **the** Klan's Jewish lawyer provoked a respected Methodist minister of Atlanta to issue a sharp reprimand to the attorney, which was roundly applauded in the press and pulpit of the nation. The ADL Committee, in close consultation with non-Jews of prominence in Atlanta, deemed it wise not to make a public disavowal of the Lawyer's un-American stand, for to do so would be to tie him closely to the Jewish spokesmen, and the so-called "Jewish issue" might have resulted from an organized opposition on the part of Jewish agencies against the offender.

A noteworthy by-product of this incident was the determination on the part of the ADL Committee that in the future, instances such as this wherein the good name of the Jewish community is affected would bring about a call by the ADL for a meeting to be attended by the presidents or representatives of all Jewish agencies in the city. However, votes on action would be made as individuals and would not necessarily bind the memberships of the representatives at such defense conferences called by the ADL.

# JOINT FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES of the AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE and the ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE

Beginning with March 1, 1941, the American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith initiated the fund-raising program under the name of the Joint Defense Appeal of the American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. Contacts were immediately established with Welfare Fund communities, and with non-funded communities. Independent fund-raising was carried on in New York City and in Chicago. A total of something over \$1,600,000 has been actually pledged, and something over \$1,000,000 actually paid in. At the writing of this supplementary report, the J.D.A. has in bank approximately \$170,000. Without endeavoring to give the deatil of the campaign, we may indicate with some little satisfaction that 117 communities increased for the joint arrangement by \$253,759 over what they had contributed to the two agencies operating individually in 1940. Twenty-seven communities decreased by \$3,060, for reasons of lateness of our appeal and other circumstances. Sixty-nine communities that had never before given, contributed in 1941 \$15,418.75, and 49 communities gave \$49,990.

Twenty-six communities have made unofficial commitments, or will conduct independent campaigns for an estimated income of \$121,900, as opposed to \$36,369 contributed in 1940. Sixty-one communities who gave in 1940 in the amount of \$18,023, have not as yet contributed for 1941. This represents, then, a total of 349 communities upon which we depend for \$601,768.75, as against \$250,120 contributed by the same 349 communities in 1940.

In addition to this, the city of New York has had pledged the amount of \$702,384.36, of which approximately \$600,000 has been paid. The city of Chicago, in which the Anti-Defamation League conducted the campaign with a special limited set-up of the J.D.A. functioning out of Chicago, raised \$230.080.75.

The representatives of the Anti-Defamation League took a conspicuous part in the campaign, being associated with speakers of the American Jewish Committee in presenting the needs of the Joint Defense Appeal in a very large number of communities.

A meeting has been held with members of the American Jewish Committee, and with Mr. Joe Willen, who directed the campaign for 1941, for discussion of plans for the 1942 campaign. It has been agroed that the campaign shall immediately proceed to organization, and be initiated March 1. The quota to be set up will depend upon the necessities as they are made clear from tho programs of the two agencies joined in the Joint Defense Appeal.

There has been much closer cooperation and interchange of thought between the A.J.C. and the A.D.L. within the last year. Staff members and special activities committees are in constant communication and clear carefully before the initiation of new projects. It may be said with certitude that very little duplication of activities obtains, and that in such cases, it is more intelligent to speak of intensification rather than duplication.

In connection with the campaign as conducted in Chicago, it is important to comment upon the unstinting cooperation of Chicago B'nai B'rith Lodges and B'nai B'rith Women's Auxiliaries, who have made signal efforts toward the quota set up and realized.