

THE YEAR

5667

BY LOUIS H. LEVIN

The wide dispersion of the Jews, the autonomy of their communities, the loose and anomalous attachment of men of the highest distinction to Jewry, the indifference of the great majority to the development of their brethren in distant lands, make the happenings of a Jewish year seem, at first sight, a series of unrelated incidents—so many honors, so many deaths, so many gifts, so many synagogues. There is much in the grist of a year having the significance only of an isolated fact. This fact may find place in a *Culturgeschichte*. For present purposes it has only local value. The larger meaning of the passing year, its mass and contour are determined by events which touch the roots of that Jewish solidarity so commonly invoked, so hard to define, so cherished, so elusive and exaggerated, and yet so real.

However we may choose to characterize Jews in the aggregate, it is not their religious activity that gives unity and organic character to the force they exerted or felt in 5667. Synagogues and rabbinical schools have grown apace in America; in Tunis a rabbinical school was opened, and by the will of an eccentric Parisian millionaire, M. Daniel Osiris, a large sum is available for synagogue-building. The two sets of facts have no composite meaning, save one of arithmetic.

Even the election of the Haham Bashi of Jerusalem, important enough in the Eastern world, causes no ripple on these shores; and American religious achievements, if they are not

regarded in the East with sadness, are neglected with pleasure.

But one touch of pogrom makes all the Jewish world kin. There is no country in which Bialystok and Siedlce have not aroused discussion and cast a shadow, have not touched to the quick the consciousness of Jews scarce aware of their Judaism. The Russian volcano has spouted death and destruction, inducing sympathetic adjacent disturbances, and scattering victims to every land and clime. If the destruction has aroused impotent pity in beholders from afar, fleeing multitudes have given every community opportunity to repair some of the colossal damage. In rousing the Jewish spirit, in scattering bits of Russia throughout the world, that country has given the reviewer of the Jewish year a key to the Jewish universe. The quickening of the Jewish consciousness is the one bright spot in a long panorama as black as the Black Hundreds.

RUSSIA

The year 5667 has a familiar aspect—the Eastern maelstrom and its resulting eddies. Under the pall of the threatened pogrom, the Jew has trembled at the advance of the Union of Genuine Russians as a political and public power; has witnessed the Government's manipulation of the Duma election, and endless trafficking among endless political groups; has become conscious of his own political failure to gain proportionate representation in the Duma. Before the active campaign of the Black Hundreds, Jewish self-defense, inadequate and almost futile, all but vanished.

The year opened with the terror of Siedlce, where the art of pogrom-making had reached its last refinement, still upon

the Jews. Artillery made its appearance as a pogrom instrument, and the result had the swiftness and completeness of modern machine methods. The manner more than the extent of this pogrom made it a thing apart. It stupefied the Jews; it caused Stolypin to say and to mean that there would be no more of the kind, though his determination to solve Jewish questions in a liberal way has wavered since the bomb wrecked his home and nearly destroyed his household.

Siedlce was followed by great activity on the part of the Union of Genuine Russians, which, according to the "Sevodnia," numbered, in September, 1906, forty-five thousand adherents, many in public, military, and professional life, even Jewish members among them—Guryland, editor of the "Russiya," and Efron-Litvine, the playwright. Not content with the destruction of life and property, the Siedlce pogromists clamored for the arrest of the Jews, who, according to their version, had precipitated the massacre by an unprovoked attack upon the soldiers. Some two hundred unfortunates were caught, and were to be tried by the officers who had taken part in the riots. Prompt representations to Stolypin secured the release of all except three; but the audacity of the plan added new terrors to the Jewish situation. In Odessa and Melitopol there was panic, and, in fear of outbreaks on the Day of Atonement, a deputation asked the Governor, General Kaulbars, for protection, which was promised, the Governor adding significantly, "but in the event of the assassination of even one member of the Union of Genuine Russians, Odessa will be inundated with blood." The statement gives a good idea of the attitude of officials and of the Union of Genuine Russians. The Jews are hostages for them, and have to pay even for the work of non-Jewish terrorists. As a final touch,

the Union gave a testimonial to the soldiers for their bravery at Siedlce; and it is curious to note that soldiers who lost their reputation in actual war, and commanders disgraced by the exposures of a Kuropatkin, receive their honors from a mob of "patriotic" anarchists for cheap and easy murder.

POGROMS

The record of pogroms and pogrom agitation is continuous, and ranges from actual murder and robbery to abortive improvisation, as at the funeral of Captain Sienkiewitz in Odessa, in February. Odessa, dominated by the Genuine Russians and "governed" by Kaulbars, and Kishineff, where Krushevan's ardor for Jew-baiting never faltered, were probably the scenes of the most thorough campaign of incitement. But Elizabetgrad, Simferopol, Ekaterinoslav, Alexandrovsk, Minsk, Kiev, and Lodz had their qualms, and smaller towns their attacks and fears, all fears culminating in the surcharged pre-Easter atmosphere. Ten different Governments in the Pale sent representatives to Stolypin in April, to protest against open preparations for Easter pogroms; and, true to his promise, influenced perhaps by the knowledge that the pogroms were being discussed by public men in other countries, he ordered Governors to avert the impending attack, and street placards acquainted the crowds with the attitude of the Government. The riots were prevented, and the Genuine Russians retaliated with a demand for the dissolution of the Duma. The action of the Prime Minister opened a breach between the Government and the Union, and the St. Petersburg police were instructed to visit its meetings, and disperse those that were illegal; but the outspokenness of the

second Duma drew them together again in opposition to the common enemy.

The Russian public is well acquainted with the genesis of these excesses and occasionally an official tells the unvarnished story. The public prosecutor in Wilna, during some proceedings in October, declared that the massacres in that city were produced by the agitation of reactionary parties. The official investigation at Siedlce, under President Novosilcoff, found "abuse and misuse of authority," and the report of Captain Pjetuchoff, of the Gendarmerie's Administration, in Siedlce, lays the blame, with complete frankness, upon Colonel Tichanowsky, who directed the soldiers. The Memoirs of Prince Urusoff, ex-Governor of Kishineff, in which the pogrom of that city is charged to official incitement, attracted wide attention only on account of their high authority. The year furnishes a number of instances of judicial pogroms, farcical trials on shadowy charges, followed by summary execution according to the forms of law. In Riga six Jewish lads, from sixteen to nineteen years of age, were executed for alleged robbery, and in Odessa three boys were shot for supposed complicity in the throwing of a bomb a year before, all preferring death to labor in Siberian mines. The second Duma made the belated and futile declaration, that four Jewish boys hanged at Odessa were executed without legal warrant. They died no less by the hand of the pogrom than those who fell at Kishineff and Bialystok.

UNION OF GENUINE RUSSIANS

In the Union of Genuine Russians we see the familiar reactionary association operating in the name of patriotic nationalism, but really in behalf of narrow and selfish interests.

They develop in a Russian environment the outlook and principles of the French Nationalists. They have consistently fought the extension of Jewish rights, and have made themselves *foci* of disorder. On the first of May they asserted the existence of nine hundred organized *depots*. They undertook an effective campaign by telegraph, protesting, in September, from Kishineff to the Czar, against the abolition of the percentage restriction on Jewish students; in October, against the admission of Jews to universities; in November, to everybody against everything. A sample of their telegrams, which at one time exerted a real influence on the authorities, is the message sent to Stolypin during the latter part of November. "Do not ruin Russia," it implored. "Do not drive us into pogroms."

Nevertheless, the Government gave the Union the status of a legalized organization, a privilege denied to the Constitutional Democrats. Count Konovnicyn, president of the Odessa branch, announced, after an interview with the prime minister, that it had the sympathy of the Government; and since the dissolution of the Duma sympathy has been ostentatiously expressed in the name of the Czar. It had the militant support of General Kaulbars, Governor of Odessa, the city which became the hot-bed of Genuine Russianism, until the general subsided somewhat under the literary task of preparing his answer to Kuropatkin's strictures. Father John of Cronstadt blessed the Union, Pobiedonostszeff supported it. Its proclamations were printed by the presses of the Prefect of St. Petersburg, and there exist marginal notes by Trepoff. In the spring, Archbishop Vostergoff inspired a journey to Jerusalem for the consecration of a holy banner by the Patriarch, to be used in a crusade in Southern Rus-

sia. The attempt at a religious upheaval failed, the few stragglers to Palestine and their banner being lost to sight for the present. The Minsk branch of the Union theatrically offered ten per cent of their income toward the expense of expelling the Jews, if the Government would declare them foreigners; and they did not stop at assassination. A man coming from the office of the "Viech," the organ of the Union in Moscow, shot and killed, on March 26, Dr. Gregory Jollos (1858-1907), editor of the liberal paper "Viedomosti." Everywhere this organization, countenanced by the authorities, supported by men in public life, constantly agitated against the Jews, bulldozed ministers, terrorized communities, and endeavored by every artifice to excite the dormant passions of the Russian multitude.

THE GOVERNMENT

The attitude of the Russian Government, or rather of Stolypin, has not been clear even from the opportunist point of view. An Octobrist himself, he would be expected to carry out his "strong-hand" reforms in leisurely fashion; but the exaggerated activity of the Genuine Russians, the antagonism in his own cabinet, where Wassilitchikoff declared for the disfranchisement of the Jews, and Kokovcheff opposed any relaxation in anti-Jewish measures, so impeded the plans of the Government as to earn for the cabinet Pobiedonostzeff's contemptuous characterization, "irresolute cabinet." Rumors of reforms were strong early in 1907, and the text of a measure was given out in the first part of October, with the statement that Stolypin was convinced, that the Jews ought to have more rights, but the press was soon expressing his fears that emancipation might create a crisis. A month later

the Council of Ministers was busy discussing the Jewish problem, and the Information Bureau was said to be at work classifying, systematizing, and elaborating legislation for the Jews. Then came semi-official information that the Jewish question must be settled by the Duma; and increased activity of the Genuine Russians led to the announcement, in December, that it would take until the autumn of 1907 to gather the information needed by the cabinet. Soon thereafter there were renewed rumors of mild reforms, coupled with a skepticism as to Stolypin's ability to remain at the head of the cabinet. Bureaucratic reaction was so strong that the belief was common in January that the cabinet would fall. Pobiedonostzeff openly advocated a change.¹ Then more investigation, more dissensions, more predictions of Stolypin's fall. Before February the Government's plan was said to be ready for presentation to the Duma, which became the scene of Jewish legislation, and where it was conspicuous by its absence. The situation is summed up in the saying that the prime minister is Octobrist and the court camarilla Genuine Russian, and the camarilla has prevailed.

THE ELECTION

The Duma was selected after a campaign full of incidents significant of the Government's desire to get a body to its own liking. It fought undesirable candidates; it reduced the representation of dangerous constituencies. At Smolensk the police threatened to expel Jewish voters; at Nowzilekow

¹ Born at Moscow, 1827; died March 23, 1907. In his will he expressed the wish that the Holy Synod should take care of schools and newspapers, and that the Jews should not be allowed to participate in their management. He also hoped that no Jew would be allowed to live in a Russian town.

(Tchernigov) they permitted only meetings of the Right; it was impossible to hold meetings at Kovno; at Homel the Jews complained that though they constituted sixty per cent of the population, they could not participate in the election committee; in Riga Jewish voters were doctored off the list. The intimidation was carried so far that in the agricultural colonies of Kherson the Jews concluded that by staying away from the polls they could prevent pogroms. At the Wilna conference of Bundists, in January, complaint was made of the reduction of the number of Jewish voters. Harassed from without, the Jews displayed little political instinct in mustering their remaining strength in favor of their own candidates. Participation in the Viborg Convention had disqualified the strongest Jewish members of the first Duma, and in the absence of candidates like Vinaver, Ostrogorsky, and Lewin, Jewish election committees dickered with any group that would make a promise, and even undertook to support non-Jewish, in preference to Jewish, candidates. The Zionists (authorized by the Congress at Helsingfors) added to the confusion by entering the fray as a political party. They drew up a platform differing mainly in expression from the principles avowed by one group or another, and so aroused anti-Zionistic feeling that in the heat of the campaign a group decided to organize, within the Society for Jewish Rights, a special national group composed of non-Zionist elements to combat Zionism. Among the group were Vinaver, Ostrogorsky, and Scheftell.²

² Dubnow's Jewish National party seems to have taken no formal part in the elections. This party is based on Dubnow's theory that the Jews constitute a nation, but they can find a national home in any land, being nationally Jewish mainly for the purposes of conservation.

The importance of participating in the election was generally conceded. The Bund abandoned its non-participation policy, and took up with the Socialist Democratic party, though it maintained its local organization. By supporting the Left instead of the Cadets, it cut loose from the mass of Jewish voters. The Jewish Territorialist Labor Party managed a joint platform with the party of Peaceful Regeneration in Odessa; but the Poale Zionists gravitated toward the radicals. The Zionist-Socialist Labor Party, after deciding to join with any helpful group, determined, at its second conference, on an independent election campaign, but under the flag of the Socialist Democratic Party. The final principle was plain dicker, and the Central Committee for the Promotion of Equal Rights expressly authorized connections in any promising quarter. There were wranglings in local committees and a split at Minsk. Jewish parties opposed each other at Grodno, Volhynia, and Odessa, where the opposition was particularly warm. In Wilna the Jewish committee broke with the Bundists, who compassed the defeat of Grusenberg, selected to succeed Shmaryahu Lewin, Dubnow having refused the nomination. In Poland the Jews turned to the Polish Progressives, with whom the Hasidim formed a *bloc*, in the hope that with Polish autonomy would come recognition of the Jewish language and internal economy. But the "Kolo Polskie" agitated for Polish autonomy without mentioning the Jews,³ and a bill granting the Poles self-government was early introduced in the Duma, while Shapiro, one of the four Jewish deputies, was explaining that the time was not opportune to introduce Jewish legislation, and Mandelberg,

³ In democratic Finland, the Jews are excluded from citizenship.

the Socialist from Irkutsk, announced that he was going to take up the Jewish question from the Socialist point of view. No one placed much hope in the five baptized members, though some were men of ability. The Jews were represented in the second Duma by Shapiro (lumber dealer), Zionist; Mandelberg, Socialist; and Bramson (lawyer) and Rabinowitz (engineer), Cadets, the party which came off badly in the elections. Contrast this actuality with a forecast like Syrkin's, who had thought that the Jews could elect in Volhynia two delegates, Vitebsk two, Grodno two, Kiev three, Podolsk two, Bessarabia, Kherson, Poltava, Tchernigov, Ekaterinoslav, Minsk, Courland, Kovno, Mohilev, and Wilna each one.

The general desire to avoid doing anything to hasten the dissolution of the Duma made the dangerous Jewish question taboo. Interest in Jewish emancipation declined with the decrease in Jewish representation and intellectual force. There was little to induce non-Jewish delegates to pull Jewish chestnuts out of the fire. The Jews did not grasp the idea that it is intense personal interest and deep conviction, not paper platforms, that support prolonged struggles. The belief was prevalent that the radical parties would not permit the Government to continue the existing intolerable restrictions, but the Right in the Duma was strong, and no one could have predicted what the usual legislative compromise might bring forth.

A year of intense and continuous anti-Jewish agitation, without major pogroms, but with all their terror and disturbance, of political activity balked by Governmental opposition and Jewish incoherence, ending in the practical elimination of the Jews from the body attempting to set Russia on

her feet, and a return to the old hopelessness, is the story of 5667 in the home of half the Jewish population of the world.

ROUMANIA

It is only a stone's throw from Kishineff to Jassy, and the extreme agitation at the former place was naturally felt across the Pruth, among a people allied in religion to the Russians, and having a home-made Jewish question. If a Russian minister can advocate for his country the plan adopted by Roumania, it is not unlikely that the compliment will be reciprocated. Yet the Russian situation differs widely from the Roumanian. In Roumania the form of government is settled, and it is free from the whole series of forces heralding the advent of a new era in Russia. But the "politics" with which King Charles has to deal is decadent, and he frankly told the committee which waited on him in March, that the country had degenerated politically. In Russia the student body, with characteristic daring and single-mindedness, openly encourages and sympathizes with the Jews, and on occasion demands the extension of their rights. The universities of Roumania see in the Jews only an agrarian and economic danger. The agrarian trouble is the Government's real difficulty. According to one authority there are 1257 landowners to four million peasants, and a national debt of three hundred million dollars, which they have to carry. Decadent political parties offer to meet the situation with the national solution, long drilled into the masses and exemplified across the north-eastern border—the oppression and spoliation of the Jews.

The riots that began at Podul Ilviei, on March 13, insofar as they were directed against the Jews,—and they appear to

have been agrarian rather than specifically anti-Jewish,—were the culmination of a series of disorders, and an outbreak was foreseen by many observers. In December anti-Jewish societies dispersed a Zionist meeting and clubbed the assemblage. The press took the hint, and “liberal” papers, notably the official organ “Vointza Nationale,” began the familiar anti-Semitic campaign. Venomous articles were followed, on December 23, by an attack on a meeting at Craiova by several hundred students, who broke furniture, smashed heads, and committed other excesses. The next day they turned their attention to the shops, and the president of the community, Emanuel David, had to invoke military aid. An investigation by the judicial authorities discovered only peaceful students, and they came to the conclusion that the attack had been made by unknown hooligans. To a deputation of three the Procureur-General gave assurance that there would be no more outrages; nevertheless to the “Tzara” the situation appeared critical on December 28. It did not improve, and two weeks later Dr. Gaster, in London, called attention to the fact that Roumanian Jews were without protection to life and property, that murderers received light punishment, that professors were conducting an anti-Semitic crusade, that the anti-Jewish press was growing everywhere, and that artisans had raised the cry of more restriction. Almost at the same time Carmen Sylva in “Mode von Heute” was singing the praises of the Jews. “They are the only people,” said the royal authoress, “who do not live to see decay. They remain firm and strong, united, helpful to each other, healthy, and prolific, and this they owe to one man, the greatest ruler the world has ever seen, Moses.”

These gifts have not rendered the Jew immune from attacks, and in February the punishment of two students who had beaten a Jew provoked an assault on Jewish houses and shops. The Jews were solaced with fine sentiments. "We regard all men as equal; this includes the Jews also," remarked M. Sturdza, prime minister, with significant awkwardness. Dr. Petrini, a liberal; Jonescu, Minister of Finance; and Carp, a former premier, spoke in a liberal strain. These commendable expressions had no practical effect, for in March the peasants broke out in riot, and went from town to town in Moldavia burning estates, looting shops, sacking towns. Botoshani was the seat of violence, and Vasuli, a town of eight thousand, was devastated. The Government, taken off its guard, gave the revolt an opportunity to spread. Troops were drawn up to protect Jassy, and the rioters were finally shown a strong hand. They subsided before the impossible task of coping with rapid-fire guns, not before they had destroyed much Jewish property, more non-Jewish, and had driven thousands from their homes. Jews, of course, came in for incidental beatings; but worse was their economic and territorial dislocation. Neighboring countries were watchful, and Bulgaria ordered its prefects to harbor refugees, while pressure was brought to bear by Austria for the "protection" of the Roumanian frontier. Peace restored, the question became again the struggle for common rights, accentuated by the hardships occasioned by the uprising. In the midst of these difficulties the Minister of the Interior "causes all Jews who have not fulfilled the stipulations of Article V, affecting the organization of rural communes, to be expelled," and Jews were driven from villages into the districts of Jassy and Dorohoi.

THE EFFECT

Closely connected with events in Russia and Roumania, and following naturally from the continuous emigration of Jews to all parts of the world, we see, first, the activity of organizations anxious to ameliorate conditions in those countries and to organize and regulate emigration itself; second, the work of other bodies in receiving and disposing of immigrants; and, finally, the progress of the Jews in their new homes. Much of the work of the Jewish Colonization Association (the ICA), the *Alliance Israélite Universelle*, the *Hilfsverein der Deutschen Juden*, and the *Israelitische Allianz* of Vienna may be grouped under the first head; the Baron de Hirsch activities, immigration leagues, removal associations, agricultural and technical organizations, and the thousand and one charitable, philanthropic, and educational undertakings designed to meet the need of immigrants or of their children, and even the Zionist and Territorialist movements, fall into the second class; while such scattered phenomena as the penetration of the Jews to the heart of Africa, the actual formation of a community at Nairobi, East Africa, the growth of the community at Nagasaki, the appearance of the Yiddish theatre at Buenos Ayres and Paris, and, in general, the rise of older Jewish settlements into greater prominence, and conditions in all large communities growing out of the sudden accretion of a new Jewish population, may be considered under the third head.

HOW HELP IS EXTENDED

The work of the ICA in 5667, in the absence of the annual statement, cannot be specifically described; but the addition of some two thousand immigrants to Palestine in 1906 will

probably make itself felt among the colonies that organization has in charge. In Canada its representative, Mr. Osmond E. d'Avigdor-Goldsmid, made an examination into its possibilities as a place for further Jewish colonization, and increased ICA activity there is probable. In this country its enterprises continue their familiar routine, showing generally increased accomplishment. The Industrial Removal Office, for example, with 6922 removals makes its largest annual exhibit. The purchase of an additional tract of one hundred thousand hectares of land in Argentina evidences the growth of its extensive interests in South America. As to Russia internally, the presentation in London to Mr. Jacob Feinberg, the ICA's agent at St. Petersburg, in appreciation of his labors in distributing relief to pogrom sufferers, indicates the closeness of its attachment to the creating centre of Jewish distress; and it has undertaken the Roumanian emigration work. By virtue of its great resources and widespread activities, it continues to be the premier Jewish aid association.

The disorders in Roumania found the *Alliance Israélite Universelle* in close touch with the storm centre, and it was quick to offer relief and prevent a flight of refugees, its agent, M. Astruc, being particularly active and helpful. While its educational work, on which it spent in 1906, 1,220,000 marks out of a total of 1,481,027, is overshadowing its efforts at relief, it is still a factor in helpful endeavor in Southeastern Europe. Perhaps it was a tribute to the standards of the *Alliance*, with its 134 schools, that the meeting of the *Deutsche Conferenz Gemeinschaft* of the *Alliance Israélite Universelle* at Frankfort resolved that more German should be taught in its schools. The German section of the organi-

zation took the important step of absorbing the Jewish illustrated magazine "Ost und West," a Berlin publication hitherto Zionistic in sympathy.

No organization has been more effective in ministering to the wants of Eastern Jews than the *Hilfsverein der Deutschen Juden*, under the able management of Dr. Paul Nathan, its vice-president. Last September he submitted a pessimistic report after an interview with Stolypin and Kokovcheff; and at the same meeting, the *Hilfsverein*, whose efforts are not all absorbed by Russian events, resolved to enlarge its educational work in Palestine, open a second Kindergarten in Jerusalem, and subvention the Von Læmmel School. Its Palestinian activity called forth the criticism, that the Anglo-Jewish Association taught English, the *Alliance* French, and the *Hilfsverein* German, in their Palestinian schools, whereas the children need Arabic and Hebrew. The German association sent trained teachers to the East, to Bulgaria as well as to Palestine, and in order better to regulate emigration, it formed at Hamburg, with the B'nai B'rith, an immigrants' bureau, for the purpose of helping and directing travellers to other countries. It was broad enough to vote funds for the Falashas of Abyssinia. Its fifth annual report showed a membership of fourteen thousand (increased from 9,500), the establishment of home industries in Galicia, giving employment to twenty-five hundred persons, educational institutions in Roumania, Bulgaria, Turkey, especially in Palestine (a total of twenty-seven schools), besides work in Morocco and the regulation of emigration from Russia. Its budget for the year puts its expenditure at 1,476,138 marks.

When the Roumanian riots broke out in March, Dr. Nathan hastened to Bucharest, fortified with a telegram from the

American Jewish Committee guaranteeing a fund equal to whatever the *Hilfsverein* would use to meet the Roumanian situation. With the aid of a local committee, he attempted to get an accurate idea of actual losses, interviewed Sturdza, Prime Minister, and Bratiano, Minister of the Interior, and before returning to Berlin, made arrangements with the *Israelitische Allianz* of Vienna, as the association best situated strategically to take charge of the Roumanian matter, a charge which at a conference in Vienna, on May 5, participated in by the *Hilfsverein*, the *Alliance* of Paris, the *Allianz* of Vienna, and a number of other associations, including some Roumanian, was transferred to a central committee in Vienna, whose duty will be merely that of affording relief.

If the *Israelitische Allianz* of Vienna was less pronounced in its internationalism, it was still a valuable ally in repairing Jewish losses. Its president, David Ritter von Guttman, announced, in November, that it had sent 77,000 roubles to Bialystok and 60,000 to Siedlce. It also undertook the betterment of the economic condition of the Jews of Galicia, which had for years cried out for improvements.

EMIGRATION

Apart from the problem of relieving distress in Russia and Roumania were questions connected with organizing and directing emigration. Austria guarded its frontier, and would not permit a wild scramble through its territory. Orderly emigration, however, took place, in what numbers is not yet known, but such an incident as the emigration of eighty families from Jassy to Canada, implies a considerable exodus. Through Germany immigrants were hustled as energetically as usual, though they were no longer bathed and

disinfected at the border; and the despised Russian Jew helped to swell the revenues of the Emperor's favorite steamship line. Along the route Jewish associations aid and direct him, and if he reaches New York, he finds agents at the pier to protect his rights and speed him on his passage. If he remains in New York, he is lodged and established, his children are prepared for the public schools, employment is found for him and his family. Finally, if the city does not avail, he is placed upon the land.

These processes are familiar, and not peculiar to 5667. The year is specially connected with the operation of the English Aliens Act, which went into effect January 1, 1906, and the passage of a new immigration bill in America. The Aliens Act, created largely by temporary overcrowding in parts of London, has been consistently opposed by English Jews as un-English in sentiment, unnecessary, and wantonly cruel. The Board of Deputies by resolution declared the act disappointing and unsatisfactory. Its inconsistencies drew an essay from Mr. Herbert B. Bentwich; and the spectacle of a rejected immigrant returning triumphant in the cabin was received with a jeer. An appeal to Home Secretary Gladstone for a liberal construction and administration of the law brought no change in the methods of the examining boards; and the tragedies familiar in our ports are repeated in England. In the first year of the law, from among 64,311 immigrants, there were 294 expulsions.

In America there was fear of drastic anti-immigration legislation, and a determined fight was made against a bill which threatened unnecessary hardships. The objectionable provisions fell by the wayside; the educational test was rejected, as was the provision for examining emigrants at the port of

embarkation. The head-tax was raised to \$4, and bond was permitted to be given for those who would otherwise be excluded on account of poor physique. A number of organizations rendered excellent service in opposing objectionable provisions in the bill, notably the newly-organized American Jewish Committee, the Liberal Immigration League, of which Nissim Behar is secretary, and the B'nai B'rith. Congressman Bennett led the fight in the House of Representatives, but in the Senate liberal ideas had no champion. Further legislation will probably be postponed until a report is made by the commission authorized by the bill, consisting of Senators Dillingham of Vermont (chairman), Lodge of Massachusetts, Latimer of South Carolina; Representatives Howell of New Jersey, Bennett of New York, Burnett of Alabama; Commissioner Chas. P. Neill, Professor J. W. Jencks, and Wm. R. Wheeler. The head of the department having immigration in charge (since January 1, 1907) is the Honorable Oscar S. Straus, Secretary of Commerce and Labor, prominently identified with all Jewish movements, one of the five members of the ITO geographical committee, merchant, lawyer, writer, publicist, the first Jewish member of an American cabinet.

THE SOCIAL SPIRIT

The awakening of the Jewish consciousness by the Russian disasters is one of the commonplaces of current Jewish history; and fortified by the aroused social spirit which distinguishes our times, the social, philanthropic, and educational work among the Jews shows growth and vigor. It would take volumes to do justice to the work of individual institutions. The year has been distinguished not only by

new ventures, but by constant effort to bring existing organizations to the highest efficiency. In America the federation of institutions is the most striking example of this tendency, and during the year Baltimore federated its institutions, Boston began a more comprehensive federation, and New York, after agitating the matter, settled on a Permanent Council of Communal Institutions, a purely advisory body. Even Hoboken federated. The Hebrew Education Society of Brooklyn, the Educational Alliance, Young Men's Hebrew Association, and the Harlem Federation of New York, are attempting settlement federation, and in Cleveland fraternal orders and synagogues, some fifty organizations, are trying to come together.

ITO AND ZIONISM

Neither the ITO nor the Zionist movement is yet a factor in the practical work of re-establishing Jewish refugees. Outside of England, the ITO has not been conspicuously active, though Mandelstamm has a following in Russia,⁴ and Vienna and Roumania have seen some activity. The Russians promptly introduced Territorialism into politics, where it added to the political *mélange*. Standing pointedly for present and practical action, the ITO will appeal to the masses only when it is ready to move; and its committee in search of land for autonomous colonization—Rothschild, Straus, Simon, Nathan, Mandelstamm—is so distinguished that its selection will command universal attention. During the year rumor had it that ITO-land had been found in

⁴At the Territorialist conference at Kiev, the three Russian Territorialist sections were represented. Jassinowski was temporary, and Mandelstamm permanent, chairman.

Australia, where white immigration is wanted; in Canada, where the premier has pronounced against autonomous colonization; and at last in East Africa, the rejected stone being suggested as the corner-stone; but the plans of the ITO, if it has any, have not been disclosed. More definite and important is the supplementary department for the regulation of immigration. This is financially independent, and Leopold de Rothschild is treasurer. It is connected with the proposed diversion of immigration from New York to Galveston, the first step of which is the Jewish Immigrants' Information Bureau at Galveston, with Morris D. Waldman in charge. The ITO will work in harmony with the Industrial Removal Office, and Mr. Cyrus L. Sulzberger will direct the American end of the undertaking, to which, according to report, Mr. Jacob H. Schiff is willing to contribute a half-million of dollars. The arrival, at Galveston, on July 1, of the first batch of immigrants, 66 men, 6 women, and 15 children, in pursuance of the new plan, marks the beginning of an important experiment in the handling of Jewish immigration to this country.

The drifting of Jews into Palestine, the rise of many associations for specific work in the Holy Land, the success of the Anglo-Palestine Company, the growth of Bezalel (Schatz's arts and crafts school), have given rise to Zionist discussion, whether the Herzlian program of charter before development shall obtain or not, and the question is the most serious one of policy likely to be discussed at the Eighth Zionist Congress (The Hague, August 14 to 20). Nordau and Marmorek are for a diplomatic campaign, and see only Choveve Zionism in present methods, with prospect of harder bargaining the more the land is developed. If the report be true that a pro-

posal to buy a large tract of land in Palestine will be presented to the Eighth Congress, their opposition could no longer be safely delayed. The feature of the Zionist year was the trip of Mr. David Wolffsohn to South Africa and Palestine, where he stirred enthusiasm, and whence he brought new impressions. In South Africa, strong Zionist territory, he was received with honor, welcomed by officials, and accorded every consideration. Herr Jacobus Kann reported to the Zionist Greater Actions Committee that in Palestine he discovered the lack of good colonizing immigrants, and he does not favor the purchase of more land by the National Fund,⁵ though he considers every purchase of land by a Jew a Zionist gain. He expressed the opinion, that it was too early to say that the Bezalel schools answered a practical need. The financial institutions of the movement evince sound progress, the Jewish Colonial Trust and the Anglo-Palestine Company showing a balance available for distribution to their shareholders.

Zionism generally continues its widespread activity, and something more than anti-Semitism or Russian persecution must be adduced to explain the sustained interest, despite the lack of dramatic announcements with which Herzl kept the Jewish world on the *qui vive*. There was nothing in last year's developments to satisfy a longing for excitement, and the movement seems able to stand a quiet year, the severest test to which it can be put. Progress by gradual development has been the plan pursued. There have been local events of interest, but without vital connection with Zionism itself.

⁵ On September 30, the amount to the credit of the Fund was 1,400,000 francs. It was legalized in England and registered as "Juedischer Nationalfonds, Limited."

The plan for an orphanage at Jerusalem for pogrom orphans fell through. The Anglo-Jewish Association refused to appropriate its balance of a Kishineff Fund for an orphanage in Palestine, as requested by the Zionist Actions Committee. A country home of 250 acres, established at Kiryath Sefer by Belkind, was substituted.

As has been stated, Zionists injected Zionism into the Russian elections with disastrous results; in Galicia there was the same cause, and a like effect was obviated only because the Zionist party was regarded simply as the party of the Jews, while in Vienna Schalit and Bloch fought so violently over Zionism that the "Neue Freie Presse" remarked that the solidarity of the Jews was a myth. They would not act together when they could. In South Africa, Zionists asked candidates to the Transvaal Parliament to commit themselves on Zionism, and over thirty candidates gave their ideas of the movement. In England important Zionist events were the acquiring of the London "Jewish Chronicle" by Mr. L. J. Greenberg (though it was mainly, it appears, a business venture), Mr. Greenberg's retiring from the secretaryship of the English Federation, and the election of Dr. Gaster as president of the Federation, which probably marks a new era in English Zionism.

The suspension of Rabbi Emil Cohn in Berlin has caused much discussion in Germany, and aroused the attention of observers elsewhere. The communal authorities maintain that the rabbi in speaking on Zionism in public and in advancing Zionistic views to the director of the Mommsen Gymnasium violated an express contract, but this is denied by Rabbi Cohn. The incident is a characteristic by-product of Zionism. In America a dispute having some of the features of

the German case has ranged about the withdrawal of Professor Max L. Margolis from the faculty of the Hebrew Union College. His re-adhesion to Zionism and his Zionist utterances, even if not made in the class-room, could not but be received with disfavor by a college which considers the movement inimical to Judaism as interpreted by the college. Details are still in dispute, but the net result of his resignation and that of two other professors has been to create a belief among Zionists that their Zionism made them *personæ non gratae*. If the resignations have served to draw a more rigid line between Zionist and non-Zionist, they have also rallied both to the support of their own standards.

DEVELOPMENT OF JEWISH CENTRES

The extraordinary growth of Jewish population outside of Russia is due to the Eastern forces of expulsion; yet Jewish immigration to this country has declined during 1907. The following comparative tables have been furnished by Mr. Frank P. Sargent, Commissioner-General of Immigration:

JEWISH IMMIGRATION FOR THE EIGHT MONTHS ENDING APRIL 30, 1906

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| From Austria-Hungary | 8,592 |
| From Roumania | 2,554 |
| From Russia | 75,617 |
| Total from all countries..... | 92,831 |

FOR THE EIGHT MONTHS ENDING APRIL 30, 1907

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| From Austria-Hungary | 10,836 |
| From Roumania | 1,955 |
| From Russia | 64,063 |
| Total from all countries..... | 83,086 |

Only the Austria-Hungarian immigration held out, and the Russian declined fifteen per cent. The active South African

Jewish community, estimated at fifty thousand, is not thought to have increased. Hard times restrict more effectually than immigration laws. The rapid growth of communities has been in places accompanied by a relaxation in the Jewish standard of morals, and charitable associations tell tales of desertion and court records stories of moral disorder. The opening of the New York Jewish Protectory for juvenile delinquents, if it testifies to Jewish delinquency, is no less eloquent of the aroused desire to repair character wherever it has broken down. As we have probably passed the maximum of Jewish immigration, so we may have seen the maximum of Jewish delinquency. In England, according to figures compiled last fall, there were 4396 criminal aliens in 1904, and 4088 in 1905, a decrease from 2.21 to 2.08 per cent.

A new life has grown up with the progress of re-established Jews. In New York where this life is amplest and intensest, charities and synagogues have arisen paralleling those of an older generation. The *Cheder* has become a universal institution, the Yiddish press has swelled to great proportions, the Yiddish drama has developed so rapidly that its "bankruptcy" is gravely discussed in spite of the temporary accession of so strong a literary character to the New York playwrights as Sholom Alechem. The Yiddish platform has increased in scope, and with the accumulation of a population familiar with the Russian language, a new field has appeared for lecturers and propagandists. Dr. Shmaryahu Lewin, at his first meeting in New York, drew an immense audience;

^oThe success of the New York Hebrew Loan Society (Julius J. Dukas, president) has attracted attention to this Russian contribution to charity expedients. Loans amounting to \$372,035 to 14,400 applicants is the record for the last year.

Gregory Gershuni found many hearers; Isaac Daniely, delegate of the Russian Socialist-Territorialist party, spoke to crowds; and the American Federation of Zionists found it profitable to send a Yiddish lecturer to New England towns. The so-called alien Jews felt strong enough to undertake the formation of an International Jewish Congress, and an audience of several thousand heard Mr. Abraham S. Schomer explain his proposal.

It is evident what a large segment of the Jewish world clusters about the Eastern Jewish question. It has been said, that were there no immigrants, there would be no charity problems, nor, it may be added, would current Jewish history show any large unity. The apparently unrelated phenomena described in the foregoing pages derive their organic connection from the upheaval in the East.

There are important incidents of the Jewish year complete in themselves, and requiring no tracing out of general causes for their proper understanding; others that require somewhat ampler treatment than they have received.

In AUSTRALIA Isaac Alfred Isaacs, Federal Attorney-General, became judge of the Federal Supreme Court. Inter-marriage still gravely affects the stability of the community, which appears to be making little headway. The condition of the finances of the Melbourne Hebrew Congregation necessitated the reduction of the officers' salaries. The efforts of the ITO to discover the possibilities of Australia as a place for Jewish colonization have produced some awkward, amateur diplomacy, which has not facilitated the plans of the organization.

The elections in AUSTRIA under manhood suffrage showed

reactionary strength, and in Vienna the usual Jewish political incompetence. The Galician Jews, supporting the Zionist candidates with unique fidelity, in spite of election tactics by opposing parties which reduced their voting strength, were able to send four representatives to Vienna, Straucher, Mahler, Gabel, and Stand, who have attracted attention by forming "The Jewish Club of the Chamber," for the purpose of protecting and advancing the interests of the Jews.

The economic and educational conditions of Galicia not only attracted the attention of the *Allianz* of Vienna and the *Hilfsverein* of Berlin, but induced the Galicians to form an association for the promotion of their economic and political rights; and a sermon by Rabbi Eliezer David of Vienna condemning Galician Jews *en masse*, provoked sharp criticism. The political confusion in Austria was reproduced in Hungary, where "Mosaic Magyars," Zionists, and plain orthodox opposed each other in good Jewish fashion. In the Hungarian House of Magnates all parties agreed that the Jewish religion should receive recognition, but whether a representative has taken his seat, has not appeared. The death of Rabbi Israel Friedman, the wonder-working rabbi of Sadagora, Bukowina (October 3), was an event of importance; several thousand telegrams reached his house in the last few days of his illness. The wedding of the Honorable Charles Rothschild of England to Roszika von Wertheimstein (February 6) was celebrated with great *éclat* at the synagogue in Vienna, Rabbi Guedemann officiating. In any account of Austria, the unfortunate Hilsner must be mentioned, still languishing in jail, convicted of the murder at Polna, though his innocence is asserted by men who have critically examined the case. The

literature of this case is extensive, and Nordau added to it by a vigorous plea for justice in the "Neue Freie Presse."

BELGIUM honored three bankers, Lambert, Philippson, and Wiener, with appointments as commander, officer, and chevalier, respectively, of the Order of Leopold. BULGARIA had its pogrom frights, but received Roumanian refugees, and the orders of the Prime Minister averted threatened pogroms at Philippopolis and other places. Out of CHINA came Oliver Bainbridge with alleged discoveries of hitherto unknown Jewish tribes and settlements; and in Shanghai a Zionistic community, stimulated by Mr. N. E. B. Ezra, showed great activity. DENMARK struck a medal in honor of the eightieth birthday of Joseph Michaelson, the first proposer of the international postal agreement. The king gave him a gold medal of merit, his bust in marble was placed in the national museum, and in bronze in the central post office. The three hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the decree authorizing the Jews to reside in Denmark was appropriately celebrated on January 19; and Fraenkel of Copenhagen established the Jewish periodical "Jodesk Tidskrift." EGYPT produced, at Suez, a ritual murder charge, which was not finally appeased until it was determined that the child had been drowned. There were also attacks on Jews at Port Said, neither serious nor prolonged. Cairo, with a Jewish population of twenty-five thousand, wants a Jewish hospital; in Alexandria there is a hospital, and free Jewish schools attended by thirteen hundred children, who receive a free midday meal. The retirement of Lord Cromer recalls his negotiations with Herzl for El-Arish for Jewish colonization.

The Jews of ENGLAND were true to their traditions when they promptly laid before Sir Charles Hardinge the details of

the Siedlce massacre and asked his good offices. The committee was courteously received and given all possible promises. When Anglo-Jewish bankers announced that they would not help Russia, Russia retorted that their help was not needed. Professor M. Friedländer (Posen, 1833), principal of Jews' College for forty-two years, retired, and was succeeded by Dr. Adolf Büchler of Vienna (Priekopa, 1867). The occasion was seized to subject the institution and its management to sharp criticism. Sholom Alechem, the Yiddish writer, appeared in England, was introduced by Mr. Zangwill, and lectured with success; and the size of the Yiddish constituency is attested by the regular publication of a Yiddish supplement by the London "Jewish World" (and for a time by the "Jewish Chronicle"). Public life lost an active immigration restrictionist in the resignation from Parliament of Sir Wm. Evans-Gordon, in May, on account of ill health. Noteworthy among a large number of interesting gatherings and meetings was the Jewish Art Exhibition held in Whitechapel. Private treasures were drawn on for the exhibition, which showed fine examples of Jewish art in many fields. Significant in another way was the exhibition "Palestine in London," by the Society for Spreading Christianity among the Jews, in which a large band of volunteers participated.

The Sunday Law is still nursed by Lord Avebury and his associates, and appears to be part of a widespread movement making itself felt in France and Canada also, and even in Russia, where it has caused grave apprehension. Mr.

¹ Will Rothstein's "Jews Mourning in the Synagogue," exhibited there, was presented to the National Gallery, by Alderman Jacob Moser.

Alfred Moseley's teachers' excursion to America appears to have had good results. Of the honors that fell to Jews, the appointment of Sir Matthew Nathan (1862), Governor of Hong Kong, to be Governor of Natal, is conspicuous, while the elevation of Sir Samuel Montagu to the peerage as Lord Swaythling is perhaps the most distinguished honor that fell to a Jew during the year. Though the Jewish Religious Union has held regular services, and has had the valuable assistance of Mr. Claude Montefiore and other able men, its fortunes have not prospered. The charities are as great beggars as ever, in spite of a gift of one hundred thousand pounds by Mr. H. and Mrs. Bischoffsheim, on the occasion of their golden wedding, the Board of Guardians alone showing a deficit of nearly sixty thousand dollars. An incident was the friction between the Indian authorities and Mr. W. M. Haffkine, discoverer and manufacturer of serum for the plague. He has asked for a hearing, and is confident that the nineteen deaths following the use of a vial, cannot be attributed to his fault.

The Jews of FRANCE rapidly accommodated themselves to the law of separation by forming legal religious associations. It is believed the law will be introduced gradually into Algiers, owing to religious complications with Mohammedans. The religious schools of the consistories were turned over to the *Alliance Israélite Universelle*, and certain trusts were given to the Zadoc Kahn Association (which has collected one hundred thousand francs for its own memorial purposes). Nordau wrote of the decadence of Judaism in France, and the membership in the new associations, 3100 out of seventy thousand, may be accounted support for his argument. The *Union Libérale*, the "reform" movement, has done little, and the

synagogue has refused to permit it to use its rooms for meetings; but a conference of rabbis announced new regulations in reference to *Halitzah*, *Get*, and the prohibition against riding in tramcars on the Sabbath. By the death of M. Daniel Osiris, the Pasteur Institute received a legacy of twenty-five million francs, and one million francs became available for synagogue building. A flutter was caused by the marriage of Dimitri de Guenzburg, son of Horace Guenzburg of St. Petersburg, to Mlle. Marguerite Brodsky, the ceremony being performed by an "unauthorized rabbi."

Shehitah was under discussion in a number of towns in GERMANY, and at Nuremberg the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, by a vote of thirty to forty-five, declared its preference for stunning to *shechting*. On the other hand, the town council of Luckenwalde refused to forbid *Shehitah*, and the Prussian Minister of the Interior annulled the order of the Burgomaster of Bunzlau prohibiting the Jewish slaughtering ritual. And Neu Ruppin was overruled in a similar attempt. The writing of an article by Professor Albrecht Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, of the law department of the University of Würzburg, against the prohibition of *Shehitah*, is apt to excite curious reflection. The decay of small communities is one of the striking phenomena of the times. From Alsace, Bavaria, Posen, and other parts, it is reported that one or two families are left in possession of synagogues not so long ago filled with fair congregations. In some places, the synagogue has been sold at auction, in others the congregation has disbanded. The gifts include three hundred thousand francs from Dr. Nathan, a lawyer of Fürth, for a Maternity Home, five hundred thousand marks bequeathed by Herr Sigismund Samuel to the Jewish commu-

nity of Berlin; the bequest of the collection of art objects, coins, and rare books belonging to the late Albert Wolff of Dresden (died February 15) to the Berlin Jewish community to form the nucleus of a museum; six hundred thousand marks left by Dr. Paul Rothschild to Cologne, his native city; three million marks given by Frau Georg Speyer of Frankfort for scientific purposes; 613,710 marks given to Berlin by Albert Siegfried Cohn for public libraries, and one million marks by Johanna Simon for a non-denominational orphans' home. At the first meeting of the Central Association of German Citizens of the Jewish Faith, in Berlin, February 24, it was resolved "to impress upon all German citizens of the Jewish faith, the urgent request to enter into the political movement for the purpose of a comprehensive attack on anti-Semitism." Nevertheless, at the elections, the anti-Semites were successful, and the new Reichstag will have thirty anti-Semitic members against eleven in the old. Honors and decorations fell to August Ballin, Professor Dr. Kuttner, Dr. Ludwig Cohn of Breslau, Frau Georg Speyer, Dr. Ehrlich of Frankfort, and Professor Dr. Senator of Berlin. The appointment of Herr Dernburg as German Colonial Secretary provoked a discussion as to how far he could be considered a Jew.

HOLLAND has the Eighth Zionist Congress at The Hague; and appointed Professor Tobias M. C. Asser, for the second time, as delegate to the Peace Conference. At Amsterdam a conference considered the possibility of reforming the distribution of the Palestinian *Halukah*. The record in ITALY is mainly one of honors bestowed. The participation of Jews in public life is shown by a Jewish membership of four in a commission of twenty-five appointed to reform legislation

on private rights. Dr. Faitlowitch, who visited the Falashas of Abyssinia a few years ago, approached the Government, through Baron Franchetti, in the interest of proposed schools among them, under Italian auspices. The death of the philologist Graziadio Isaiiah Ascoli (Gorice, 1829) was of more than local note.

The earthquake at JAMAICA destroyed the synagogue, and reckoned a number of Jewish victims. Appeals for help received some attention in England. MOROCCO exhibits attacks on Jews, who, however, were able to shelter in their mellah the friends of the murdered French physician, Dr. Meauchamp.

The election of Rabbi Jacob Meir (1856) as Haham Bashi of Jerusalem was nullified by Rabbi Moses Halevi, chief rabbi of Turkey, whose appointee, Rabbi E. M. Panigel, now holds the position. The deposed Haham Bashi has been chosen Chief Rabbi of Salonica. New enterprises made their appearance in PALESTINE. Klinker put up a tartaric acid factory; Wilbusch and Pevzener an olive oil factory; the Palestine Horticultural Society was founded, and Russians from Bialystok and Lodz formed the Weavers' Company. The Palestine Industrial Syndicate also came into being; and to complete the industrial atmosphere the Poale Zionists engineered a strike at Rishon le-Zion. Complaint is made that the children of colonists seek their fortunes in other countries, like the rest of the world. Besides David Wolffsohn, Haham Moses Gaster, Rabbi Jacob Voorsanger, Rabbi J. Leon Magnes, and Asher Ginzberg (Ahad Ha'am) visited the Holy Land, while Dr. Cohan-Bernstein, of Kishineff, has become a part of its permanent population.

The Jews follow the railroad closely up from SOUTH AFRICA, where they exhibit the full round of Jewish activi-

ties, and form communities at every halting-place. At Nairobi in East Africa the congregation celebrated the birth of the first Jewish boy. The Jews took part in the election for the first Transvaal Parliament, and sent Harry Solomon and Richard Goldman to the Lower House, while Max Langerman (Bavaria, 1859) was chosen for the Upper House. The only Jewish club in South Africa was opened in Pretoria, and the enlargement of the Matzah factory at Johannesburg rendered the country independent of Germany and England for an important article of food. A synagogue was established at Uppington, Gardonia, at the western extreme of Orange River, close to the border of German West Africa.

TUNIS was the scene of numerous attacks on the Jews by Tirailleurs, irregular native soldiers, and, though some were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment, the attacks continue. At Susa (Jewish population 8000) men were beaten and women violated. The Government granted a subvention of twelve thousand francs to a Jewish hospital, and one to a rabbinical training school, supported also by the community and the *Alliance Israélite Universelle*. A people's kitchen was opened serving two thousand meals daily, for a sou a meal. The Beth-Din of Constantinople prohibited the admission of women to the synagogue. Sidney Whitman, after a trip to TURKEY and an interview with the Sultan, says: "The Jews are a race for whom the Sultan always entertains a kindly feeling, and he believes they are yet destined to play a great part in the world," an opinion supported by the attitude of the Sultan toward Jewish sufferers from Christian excesses.

Mention has already been made of the AMERICAN Jewish Committee, composed originally of fifteen members, increased

to fifty and finally to sixty, representing twelve departments into which the country is divided, the State of New York constituting a division of its own with seventeen members. The committee began operation with the following officers: Judge Mayer Sulzberger (Philadelphia), president; Judge Julian W. Mack (Chicago) and Isidor Newman (New Orleans), vice-presidents; Elias Michael (St. Louis), treasurer; Dr. Cyrus Adler (Washington), Harry Cutler (Providence), Adolf Kraus (Chicago), E. W. Lewin-Epstein (New York), Professor Morris Loeb (New York), Louis Marshall (New York), Rabbi J. L. Magnes (New York), Cyrus L. Sulzberger (New York), and Rabbi Jacob Voorsanger (San Francisco), the executive committee. Dr. Herbert Friedenwald, of Philadelphia, was appointed secretary. The committee issued an appeal for funds to restore the wrecked Jewish institutions of San Francisco, energetically fought drastic anti-immigration legislation, entered into relations with foreign Jewish bodies, planned for better news service from Russia, and is considering the gathering of matter for the AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK, and in other ways pays attention to Jewish questions of a general nature. Opposition to the Committee was developed at the Council of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations at Atlanta, where Rabbi Moses Gries (Cleveland) criticised its constitution and aims in a prepared address. President Kraus, of the B'nai B'rith, and Mr. Simon Wolf, chairman of the Board of Delegates on Civil Rights of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, met in conference with representatives of the Committee, and failing to come to an agreement delimiting the spheres of these various bodies, they withdrew from the Committee. The Committee has provided for local advisory committees

of ten for each original committee-man, and for the election of committee-men by the members of the organization.

Another institution of Jewish learning was added to the American list by the incorporation of the Dropsie College for Hebrew and Cognate Learning, in Philadelphia, with Judge Mayer Sulzberger as president, Dr. Cyrus Adler secretary, and Wm. B. Hackenburg treasurer. The other members of the board are the Honorable Oscar S. Straus and Dr. Harry Friedenwald. The institution will begin work with an available endowment of six hundred thousand dollars. In an address at the graduating exercises of the Jewish Theological Seminary, Dr. Cyrus Adler argued for a fund of ten million dollars for the proper co-ordination and the firm establishing of Jewish education in this country. The Theological Seminary became the possessor of Steinschneider's library of four thousand volumes, through the munificence of Mr. Jacob H. Schiff. Next in political importance to the appointment of Mr. Straus to the cabinet is the election of Mr. Simon Guggenheim to the Senate, from Colorado. Jewish mayors were elected in Shreveport, La., Seneca, Kan., Flanagan, Ill., Appleton, Wis., and Harrisburg, Ore. The protest of the Jews against the recognition of Jesus in the new constitution of Oklahoma had its effect. On December 2 a memorial window was dedicated to the late Secretary of State John Hay, in the Temple of the Keneseth Israel Congregation, Philadelphia (Rabbi Joseph Krauskopf). Though the United Hebrew Charities of New York is facing a deficit of eighty thousand dollars, the charity record of the year is one of distinct growth. The Hebrew Sheltering Guardian Society of New York has made plans to inaugurate the cottage system on an elaborate scale, at Pleasantville, Westchester

County, and the Cleveland Orphan Asylum has a committee considering a similar proposal. This is striking out on new lines for the Jewish institutions of this country. The National Hospital for Consumptives at Denver added substantially to its plant by dedicating the Women's Pavilion, the Adolph Lewisohn Chapel, and the Leo N. Levi Ward, and the subject of tuberculosis received increased attention elsewhere. Baltimore proposes an institution of its own. National institutions show their usual activity.* The Jewish Publication Society's annual meeting and biennial banquet took place May 26; the Zionists held their convention at Tannersville June 28 to July 4; the Jewish Chautauqua will be at Atlantic City from July 23 to 28; the Central Conference of American Rabbis was in session at Frankfort, Mich., July 2 to 8 (at which Rabbi David Philipson was elected president), and the American Jewish Historical Society chose appropriate time and surroundings for its meeting at Newport on July 4. The Council of Jewish Women organized an exhibit of its educational, industrial, and immigration work at the Jamestown Exhibition. In the religious world the work of the Jewish Theological Seminary and the Hebrew Union College may be noted, the dedication of numerous synagogues, and the organization of the Free Synagogue, in New York, by Rabbi Stephen S. Wise. The discrimination by summer hotels against the Jews was brought pointedly to notice by the experience of Mrs. Dr. Samuel Leon Frank, of Baltimore, at the Marlborough-Blenheim Hotel, Atlantic City, from

* In the proceedings of the National Arbitration and Peace Congress in New York, Secretary Oscar S. Straus, Rabbi Emil G. Hirsch, Mrs. Frederick Nathan, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, Marcus M. Marks, and Samuel Gompers took part.

which she withdrew when accommodations were denied her nieces. The incident has led to the formation of an association in New York to combat discrimination against the Jews, and the introduction of a bill in the New York legislature, by Senator Saxe, visiting penalties upon persons serving the general public, for discriminating against any class of patrons. For the first time the Government of this country has undertaken a synagogue census, and its work is done in co-operation with the Jewish Publication Society.

The list of books contains items that arrest the attention. Mr. Zangwill collected a number of his sketches into a volume published under the title, "Ghetto Comedies." Both Mr. Claude Montefiore ("Truth in Religion and Other Sermons") and the Rev. Morris Joseph ("The Message of Judaism") sent out a volume of sermons. Mr. N. S. Joseph reissued his "Religion Natural and Revealed," and the third volume of the "Gesammelte Schriften" of Samson Raphael Hirsch appeared. Other books are: "The Tyranny of Fate," a novel (Carl Joubert); "The Ferry of Fate" (Samuel Gordon), the first instalment of Shapiro's translation of the Midrash Rabba, the Jews' College (London) Jubilee Volume, Martin Buber's "Die Geschichte des Rabbi Nachman," Laurie Magnus's "Religio Laici Judaica," the Haggadah issued by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Rabbi David Philipson's "The Reform Movement in Judaism," Guedemann's "Juedische Apologetik," and the volumes of the Jewish Publication Society, "The American Jewish Year Book," Perez's "Stories and Pictures," Greenstone's "The Messiah Idea in Jewish History," Frank's "Simon Eichelkatz; The Patriarch."

Names mighty in the realm of Jewish learning disappeared from among the living, marking 5667 as a year of the passing of the old, the end of an era. Salomon Buber, Jewish enthusiast and scholar (Lemberg, 1827-December 28, 1906), Moritz Steinschneider, Jewish bibliographer, scientist, and interpreter of the Middle Ages (Prossnitz, 1816-Berlin, January 24, 1907), and Adolf Neubauer, geographer, librarian, *savant* (Bittse, 1831-London, April 6, 1907), Jacob Freudenthal, authority on Spinoza and last-surviving professor of the Breslau Rabbinical Seminary of Frankel's day (Bodenfelde, June 20, 1839-Schreiberhall, June 1, 1907), form a list to distinguish the necrology of the last year. To these may be added an American name, Lewis N. Dembitz, lawyer and Jewish scholar (Zirke, 1833-Louisville, March 11, 1907), which contributes to the year's losses to Jewish letters.

BALTIMORE, July 10, 1907.