

ANTI-SEMITISM IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1947

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ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE OF B'NAI B'RITH

212 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, New York

100 N. LaSalle Street
Chicago 2, Illinois

This survey was prepared by Arnold Forster, National Director, and the staff of the Civil Rights Division of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

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ARNOLD FORSTER

CONTENTS

I	INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF FINDINGS.....	5
II	PUBLICATIONS	11
III	REGIONAL REPORTS	
	Washington, D. C.....	18
	The East.....	23
	New England	29
	The South	38
	The Midwest and Chicago.....	45
	Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming.....	49
	The Southwest	52
	Southern California	55
	Northern California, Nevada and Utah.....	63
IV	STATE-WIDE REPORTS	
	Wisconsin	67
	Minnesota	69
	Washington	71
	Oregon	73
	Florida	76
V	CITY-WIDE REPORTS	
	Detroit	79
	St. Louis	81
	Pittsburgh	83
	Baltimore	85
	Cincinnati	86
	Cleveland.....	88
VI	THE FOREIGN LANGUAGE PRESS.....	91

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

THE ensuing survey describes, analyzes and evaluates anti-Semitism throughout the United States in the year 1947. It is based on detailed reports of organized and unorganized, overt and concealed anti-Semitic manifestations in the various regions and key cities of the nation. Included herein are summaries of reports from regional offices of the Anti-Defamation League and cooperating Jewish Community Councils.

Broadly speaking, and with certain significant geographic exceptions, the survey reveals a very real increase in unorganized anti-Semitism. (By *unorganized* anti-Semitism is meant acts of anti-Semitism not directed by professional hate-mongers. This includes individual acts of hostility against Jews, and economic, social, and educational discrimination directed against Jews.)

With respect to organized anti-Semitism, the picture is somewhat different: There appears to be less organized anti-Semitic activity than at any time since 1933. In our survey for the year 1946, we found and reported that organized anti-Semitism during that period had substantially declined. We find that in most areas the downward trend continued in 1947.

However, while most Americans seemed easily able to recognize and to reject the professional anti-Semite, many exhibited a disturbing lack of insight into and an unthinking acceptance of the activities of bigots who, under cloaks of respectability, spread hatred of the Jews.

In the area of unorganized anti-Semitic manifestations, we find as follows:

1. The year 1947 revealed a distressing tendency in responsible quarters to accept public figures who in previous years were considered unacceptable personalities.

A syndicated columnist used his medium to support publicly a professional, un-American bigot who was serving a term in a federal prison for sedition. *No wide denunciation of the columnist's position came from readers.* A United States Senator publicly offered assistance to and sought the enactment of special legislation for known pro-Nazis and denaturalized persons who, because of their anti-democratic records, had been ordered deported. *No large scale public revulsion resulted.* A Washington publicist, whose agency had been named as a transmission belt in the aborted mass sedition case, testified before a Congressional Committee on a political problem of profound importance. The general press of the nation uncritically reported this man's statements and opinions. In only a few instances across the entire nation did newspaper editors accurately identify the person and his background. *Yet no important section of the American people resented the imposition.* A nationally prominent professional propagandist who time and again had denounced democracy, visited Spain, returned to the U. S. and was paid for the national press syndication of his findings and opinions on the subject. *No real adverse reaction was apparent from the public.* A national radio commentator several times removed from the air, who is widely known to bear malicious prejudice against the Jewish community, nevertheless continued to be syndicated in different sections of the country's press. *No significant antagonistic readership reaction resulted.* A group of nationally infamous anti-Semites boastfully proclaimed their prejudice to an American jury at a libel trial, and received a \$24,100 judgment. The judgment of this jury, and *the failure of the community to express its resentment of the jury's reaction*, is a singular example—as is each of the foregoing situations—of the unfortunate trend on the American scene.

2. The anti-Semite who concealed his bigotry under professions of good will and a cloak of respectability, was able effectively to carry on his activities during 1947.

This type of anti-Semite can be recognized by his regular practice of attacking known friends of the Jewish community and of supporting avowed enemies. During 1947 a number of these people were successfully exposed, and with exposure, each openly revealed his anti-Semitism.

3. A slight increase in employment discrimination during the course of the year was reported.

The same increase in employment prejudice, however, was not noted in the Deep South or in the extreme Northwest. The reason offered for these exceptions is the lack of employables in the Jewish group in these geographic areas. Significantly, those states which had the benefit of Fair Employment Practices legislation in 1947 reported a decrease in this type of prejudice.

4. With the continuing increase in the shortage of housing facilities, a greater number of complaints of discrimination were reported to interested agencies in the large cities of the nation during 1947.

Also, greater activity in real estate development resulted in wider use of the restrictive covenant or the "gentlemen's agreement." However, an encouraging reaction to these prejudicial devices was also noted, i.e., a concomitant increase in the public concern and in the demand for legislation outlawing such discrimination.

5. The experience in the area of employment and housing was found to repeat itself in the area of higher education.

Which is to say that with the considerably greater number of applicants to American colleges and universities in 1947, admitting officers continued to bar otherwise qualified applicants on the simple and unworthy basis of race, religion and/or national origin.

6. A marked increase was reported in the practice of excluding persons from hotel resorts on the basis only of race or religion.

7. The last twelve months witnessed a noticeable decrease in the number of assaults upon Jewish persons, desecrations of Jewish houses of worship, and injury to Jewish owned property.

The imposing number reported in 1946 dwindled to a comparative handful in 1947.

* * *

In the area of organized anti-Semitic activity, we find as follows:

8. In 1947 there remained a small number of organized anti-Jewish organizations in the United States which had significant influence, resources and membership.

This represents a considerable improvement over the late 1930s when a large number of influential anti-democratic organizations were operating successfully. Noteworthy during the past year were the organized manifestations in Boston and Los Angeles. The New England city witnessed an increased amount of organized activity in the form of attempted revivals of the Coughlin movement. The West Coast metropolis was subjected to a plethora of little groups. Among the current significant organizations are the Ku Klux Klan, Gerald L. K. Smith's Christian Nationalist Crusade and Merwin K. Hart's National Economic Council.

9. Approximately 75 anti-Semitic or suspect newspapers and other periodicals were published regularly during the year.

In addition, an average of one different anti-Semitic pamphlet or leaflet was issued each week during the same period. Most of the bigotry-spreading publications which were disseminated in 1946 continued to appear during 1947. *This means little change manifested itself either in the quality of the nation's hate press or the quantity of its production.* The one new major propaganda theme which came to the surface in this volume of "literature" was vilification of the Jews because, generally, they favored the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine. The other basic, anti-Semitic propaganda themes (such as equating communism with Judaism) utilized during the year were virtually the same as in 1946, modified to suit the new circumstance.

10. In 1947 Arab propaganda agencies in the United States and their native allies beclouded the Palestine issue with careful anti-Jewish campaigns.

Organizations such as the League for Peace with Justice in Palestine regularly released propaganda which, instead of discussing issues, distorted American and Jewish history, impugned the patriotism of the Jews, and in other ways reflected unfairly on American members of the Jewish faith. Propagandists such as Upton Close, in newly acquired devotion to the Arab cause, repeatedly indulged in malicious attacks upon the Jewish community. Parenthetically, it should be noted that Close made a fetish in 1947 of baiting responsible Jewish agencies.

11. The professional hate groups had little, if any, success in 1947 in winning adherents from the ranks of American GIs of World War II.

Un-American veteran organizations which sprang up in 1945 and 1946 virtually collapsed in the last year. Such groups as Frederick Kister's Christian Veterans of America attracted an insignificant few. This failure in the veterans' area was due (a) to the lessons learned by GIs during the war in fighting alongside all races and creeds and (b) to successful readjustment of the veteran to civilian life. Manifestly, an ever-increasing educational program by established veteran organizations will insure this encouraging condition.

12. The number of candidates for political office in 1947 who used anti-Jewish hatred as a campaign weapon, was extremely low.

This compares most favorably to previous election off-years. In those few instances where candidates employed anti-Semitism, they suffered disastrous defeat at the hands of the electorate. Even a Congressman Rankin, in Mississippi, whose every election campaign heretofore had been successful, went down to defeat in his 1947 Senatorial race; local press condemnation of his religious bigotry helped.

13. In 1947 a large section of the foreign language press in the United States expressed an increasing amount of anti-Semitic sentiment in both editorial columns and news reports.

The German, Ukrainian and Slovak newspapers were especially guilty. One result was an increased antagonism toward Jews in these foreign language groups. The problem of displaced persons and other

economic and political issues in Europe were the springboards for the expressed anti-Jewish animosity.

* * *

While this report is devoted to the anti-Semitic scene, it must acknowledge, however summarily, the substantial and heartening advances toward good will, understanding and cooperation among racial and religious groups in the United States. Important sections of the pulpit, press, radio, motion pictures and other opinion-molding media gave increased attention to the problems of prejudice and bigotry and stressed the ethical and practical need for democratic unity. Government and political leadership in many instances recognized in greater measure their moral obligation to strike out against prejudice and its manifestations. In this latter area, several historic milestones were passed during the course of the year—among them, the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights, the report of the President's Commission on Higher Education, and a number of decisions handed down by the Supreme Court of the United States.

II

PUBLICATIONS

IN this section of the report, the professional anti-Jewish press will be divided into two broad categories: *overt* anti-Semitic publications and *covert* anti-Semitic publications. The principal difference between the two is the *manner* in which anti-minority feelings are expressed.

In 1947 there were published approximately 75 regular periodicals and more than 50 pamphlets which indulged in open or concealed anti-Semitism. With several exceptions, the bulk of the regular publications are not the accepted newspapers or magazines of the communities from which they emanate. For the most part they are of limited circulation and little influence. However, the hate press cannot be ignored as unimportant because, in large measure, it does act as the political, religious and propaganda guide for the hate movement in America. To characterize simply the more fanatic of the group, one can state accurately that these publications carry on in the fascist tradition of the Hitler press.

Among both overt and covert anti-Semitic publications are found advocates of religious splinter movements, food cultism and monetary reform. Those anti-Semitic publications which appear to take no clear political, social or economic position are usually dedicated to wholesale destructive criticism. And despite the fact that many of

them constantly quarrel among themselves, the end goal of all is apparently extreme nationalism bordering on fascism.

In 1947, the hate press followed essentially the same pattern of behavior and utilized essentially the same techniques as in 1946. The same pro-democratic individuals, organizations and concepts were under constant attack. The orientation is often so extreme that it becomes possible to predict the stand of any one publication on any given issue with a high degree of accuracy.

The following issues and events served as rallying points in 1947 for the blatant as well as the subtle hate publications:

PALESTINE—The presence of the Palestine problem on the United Nations agenda provided an opportunity to vilify Zionists particularly, and Jews generally. The overt hate peddlers ranted hysterically against Zionism claiming, among other things, that it was a plot by the Jews to dominate the world. The covert group supported the Arab League's position and termed the immigration of Jews into Palestine "acts of aggression."

REFUGEES AND DPs—The bigot press had a field day with this twin issue. Among the more fantastic myths circulated by the overt anti-Semites were: Stalin dispatched 3,500,000 Jews disguised as displaced persons with orders to infiltrate all the countries of the world . . . Jewish refugees were entering this country with trunks full of counterfeit American money and were acquiring huge quantities of real estate. The covert anti-Semites advanced the superficial argument that, since 85% of the displaced persons are Christians and the remainder Jews, refugees should be admitted to the United States on the basis of religious quota system rather than on merit. In addition, it was alleged that an "influx" of refugees would displace our own citizens in jobs, housing, etc. (United States Government statistics indicate that the immigrants who have entered our country since 1933 constitute less than 2/10 of 1% of our population.)

EUROPEAN RECOVERY PROGRAM (MARSHALL PLAN)—Among the crackpot accusations hurled at ERP by the overt hate-mongers was the charge that Jews authored the recovery program and they would benefit financially. The covert press, on the other hand, avoided anti-Semitism in this case and instead complained bitterly that the contemplated exports to Europe would cause an even greater inflation in the United States.

PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS—As was expected, the report of this Committee was misinterpreted and viciously attacked by the overt group. One of the distortions given wide

circulation is the baseless accusation that the Committee recommends miscegenation or, in hatemonger terminology, "mongrelization." The covert section disagreed with the program for action urged by the Committee. According to this group, the problem of discrimination will be solved eventually by following a do-nothing policy.

DISMISSAL OF THE SEDITION INDICTMENT—This action by the District of Columbia Court of Appeals caused the entire anti-Semitic press to rejoice. The overt groups reiterated the now familiar charge that the sedition indictment was "instigated" by the Anti-Defamation League, Friends of Democracy, etc. The defendants were constantly referred to by this segment of the press as "American patriots." The covert periodicals heartily applauded the dismissal of the indictments and congratulated the Court for righting what they termed a "gross miscarriage of justice."

In addition, both the covert and overt anti publications reprinted those John O'Donnell columns which had come to the support of the defendants, columns that had originally appeared in the *New York Daily News* and *Washington Times-Herald*.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES—The Committee's work in connection with communist activities in Hollywood provided the overt newspapers with great opportunity to spew forth anti-Semitic venom. The false notion that motion picture companies are controlled by Jews was stated and restated. On the whole, the House Committee received complete endorsement from this section of the press. However, a rather astonishing deviation occurred when the Dec. 8, 1947 issue of *The Broom* attacked the Committee as unconstitutional. The reason for *The Broom's* attack was set forth by C. Leon deAryan, the publication's editor. He warned the nationalist periodicals and organizations that they would be subjected to essentially the same treatment as the so-called hostile witnesses received in the Hollywood hearings.

The covert group's reaction to the House probe was one of general approval. And in this connection anti-minority references were entirely omitted.

1948 ELECTIONS—The end of 1947 saw the hate press become increasingly aware of the forthcoming presidential election. Of those publications which expressed a preference, several favored Gen. Douglas MacArthur as presidential candidate. Gen. Eisenhower, President Truman, Governor Dewey and Henry Wallace were subjected to sustained and venomous attacks.

COMMUNISM—This issue retained its major position right through the year. The overt portion of the press used “communist” and “Jew” interchangeably. David Lilienthal, Bernard Baruch, Henry Morgenthau, Jr., etc., were saddled simultaneously with the labels “communist” and “international banker.” The covert publications also used communism for their anti-Semitic purposes. Jewish organizations were warned constantly to “clean house”—after implying falsely that these organizations are rife with communists. Both sections of the press sought repeatedly to identify groups fighting discrimination and bigotry with the Communist Party.

* * *

In 1947 a number of new questionable publications appeared on the nationalistic scene:*

American Commentator—Published in Denver, Col., and edited by Stephen Nenoff, this weekly's first issue was dated Nov. 14, 1947. Ostensibly anti-communist, it quickly revealed the familiar nationalist pattern: The Marshall Plan, the United Nations and the President's Committee on Civil Rights were each attacked; the alleged seditionists were defended; the House Committee on Un-American Activities was applauded; Kenneth Goff, an associate of Gerald L. K. Smith, was quoted approvingly, etc. . . . A good deal of space was devoted to reprints from the daily press—ranging from the *Daily Worker* to the *Chicago Tribune*.

Anti-Communist—Published monthly in Oak Park, Ill., this periodical made its first appearance on Feb. 15, 1947. Eugene R. Flitcraft, editor and publisher of the blatantly anti-Semitic *Gentile News*, is also editor and publisher of *Anti-Communist*. The masthead declares that the publication is “devoted to exposing Red Menace and Un-American Fifth Column Activities.” However, this is another instance of communism being used as a springboard for anti-minority propaganda.

Capitol Keyhole—Published in Washington, D. C., by E. K. Hoyle, this semi-monthly periodical first appeared in early February. Among the more conspicuous nationalist symptoms it manifested were: support of the defendants named in the sedition indictments; the false assertion that Jews control the press, radio and motion pictures; the implication that immigrants are either criminals or insane; the fantastic accusation that the Morgenthau Plan was motivated by Jewish revenge; a vigorous promotion of isolationist philosophy.

*For a complete list of those which first appeared before 1947 see *Survey of The Anti-Semitic Scene in 1946*, page 34 of Vol. II, No. 4, THE FACTS, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

There are a number of publications that were not included in the 1946 ADL Survey which expressed hostility toward Jews in 1946 and prior thereto, and continued the practice in 1947. Among these were *The Herald* (Hot Springs, N. M.), *Methodist Challenge* (Los Angeles) and *Morrill News* (Brown County, Kans.).

Several periodicals named in last year's Survey apparently are no longer published regularly:

The *Foort Newsletter*, a blatantly anti-Semitic and anti-Catholic sheet, was published by Major Fred T. Foort in Vancouver, B. C., and distributed largely in the United States. In July, 1947, Foort notified his subscribers that the *Newsletter* would be published "as funds permit." Since July, circulation of the publication has been irregular.

The *Philadelphia Nationalist*, edited by W. Henry MacFarland, was published in that city. Endorsed by Gerald L. K. Smith and other rabble rousers, this periodical spouted the familiar nationalist line. In May, 1947, MacFarland announced that it would be discontinued in order to allow him to concentrate on *National Progress*, another of his periodicals.

Still other publications changed title or ownership:

In June, 1947, Conde McGinley changed the name of his publication from *Think Weekly* to *Common Sense*. However, it was only a change of name—the periodical continued its anti-minority propaganda.

Hamilton Fish, former congressman from New York, became the editor of *Today's World* (which up to the time of his purchase was wittingly or unwittingly anti-Semitic) and moved its publishing office from St. Louis to New York City. The first issue under Fish's supervision was dated September, 1947; it contained the praiseworthy declaration that *Today's World* "rises in fearless dignity for the true ideal of human freedom and to assure its preservation in America." However, a viciously anti-Semitic attack on the Anti-Defamation League, authored by Upton Close's colleague, Robert H. Williams, appeared in December, 1947, issue. The subsequent issue, however, carried a public apology, over the name of Fish, for printing the Williams' article. With this one exception, other issues of the magazine, under the editorship of Fish, were not anti-Semitic. Thus far, the magazine has followed a policy of attacking communism and the Truman administration, supporting General MacArthur for president and opposing European aid.

* * *

A comparison of the contents of the hate press in 1947 with its contents in former years reveals that it has remained virtually static.

Circulation figures have not fluctuated significantly. Basic propaganda lines have remained fairly constant. Openly vitriolic hate sheets continued to be disorganized in their thinking and violent in their opinions. The same invectives were hurled at nearly every liberal movement. At the same time, the subtle publications, as always, utilized the guises of extreme reaction, anti-union attitudes and rigid isolationism to cloak their un-American messages.

In addition to the regularly published anti-Semitic periodicals, the numerous anti-Semitic pamphlets, booklets and leaflets printed and distributed in 1947 exploited essentially the same issues as the regular prejudiced press. For the most part, they were distributed through the mails or at nationalist meetings. Frequent advertisements about these anti-Semitic pamphlets in the pages of the regular publications was further evidence of the close collaboration among various nationalist individuals and organizations.

* * *

The following are some of the pamphlets, leaflets and throwaways which expressed unfriendly sentiment in 1947. Some were distributed in previous years but are noted in this survey because of their reappearance in 1947:

Behind Communism Stands the Jew, Einar Aberg
The Jews Are Also Human Beings Some People Say, Einar Aberg
Kol Nidre—All Vows, Einar Aberg
Please Let Me Go Around the World, Einar Aberg
The War Criminals, Einar Aberg
The Dumb, Ungrateful American Public, Marilyn R. Allen
God Made Me Free, Marilyn R. Allen
A Jewish Friend Accuses Me of "Anti-Semitism," Marilyn R. Allen
Stop Russia Now, Oliver Allstrom
Organizational leaflet—American Gentile Army
Ain't It The Truth?, Anon.
America's Fighting Jew, Anon.
History's Most Terrifying Peace, Austin J. App
Our Lend-Lease Pals in East Prussia, Austin J. App
Marshall Plan Exposed, George W. Armstrong
Petition to the Members of the Congress of the United States, Geo. W. Armstrong
Important Pastoral Letter, William J. Blessing
A Veteran Views the Jewish Question, Christian Veterans of America
B'nai B'rith, John Merrick Church
Jews or Americans, Clifton F. Davis
Confidential Report, Elizabeth Dilling

The Packed Atom Bomb Commission, Elizabeth Dilling
The Latest Jewish Frameup in New York, Ernest F. Elmhurst
Jew, Mikel Goldin
Interquadrangular, George F. Gundelfinger
Is God a Jew?, W. D. Herrstrom
Hate—It's Wonderful, Frederick Kister
The Bible Speaks to America, William Kullgren
Henry Ford and the Jews, recompiled and published by Don Lohbeck
The International Jew, recompiled and published by Don Lohbeck
Down With Jewtocracy and Gentile Destruction, Clinton F. Mallin
Palestine, William H. Murray
FEPC Is Communistic, Regimentation, Unconstitutional, National
 Blue Star Mothers of America (of Philadelphia)
Has Congress Abdicated to International Jewry?, National Blue Star
 Mothers of America (of Philadelphia)
Does Jerusalem Belong to The Jews?, Jonathan E. Perkins
The Jews Have Got The Atom Bomb!, Jonathan E. Perkins
Jesus Christ Was Not A Jew, Jonathan E. Perkins
Palestine and Birobidjan, G. Allison Phelps
Crush These Vipers, Harvey H. Springer
The People Win—What Next, Gerald L. K. Smith
To Hell With Racial Equality, Edw. James Smythe
Defense of the Ku Klux Klan, Edw. James Smythe
Guilty, Condemned Derounian, Alias John Roy Carlson!, distributed
 by Earl Southard
The Devil's Incubator, Harvey H. Springer
Chapman's Chapbook, L. D. Staplin
The Gospel of Jesus Christ vs. The Jews, J. B. Stoner
The Stoner Anti-Jewish Party, J. B. Stoner
Are the Zionists Brewing World War III?, U. S. Americans
The Hour For United Action Has Struck!, Agnes Waters
 Reprint of testimony by Mrs. Agnes Waters before the Committee on
 Foreign Relations, United States Senate
*The Anti-Defamation League and Its Use in the World Communist
 Offensive*, Robert H. Williams

—ELEANOR BELACK
 ADL Press Research

III

REGIONAL REPORTS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C., as the nation's capital, is the barometer of the attitudes and opinions of the American public. Not only is Congress a cross-section of the people of all parts of the United States, but thousands of individuals and private organizations, representing every interest, are resident in the District, and bear the attitudes and prejudices of their native regions.

Washington, D. C., therefore, may well be a most accurate index of anti-Semitism. Many national anti-Semitic organizations in the United States have Washington representatives who utilize every opportunity to inject anti-Semitic propaganda into major issues; resulting, sometimes, in a somewhat distorted picture. A one-minute statement by a Congressman John Rankin, who has been reached by one of these anti-Semitic organizations, is immediately broadcast throughout the nation. A false charge by a Congressman Ed Gossett that 100,000 DPs are Russian Jews whom Stalin is trying to plant in the United States, is quickly carried by wire services to every part of the country. When the raging Agnes Waters, representing the Philadelphia National Blue Star Mothers of America,* manages through naive or sympathetic legislators to testify before a congressional committee, she gives an appearance of dignity and validity—through a reprint of excerpts from the congressional hearing—to every falsehood which has been repeated from time immemorial against Jews. And an uncritical

*Not to be confused with the reputable Flint, Mich., organization of similar name, The Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.

farmer in some remote backwater, reading such charges (issued apparently under the auspices of Congress) may believe his suspicion confirmed that the Jew is an ogre and a menace who must be dealt with summarily.

A well known anti-Semitic congressional investigator, keeping himself carefully in the background, indulges his antipathy toward Jews by stimulating a witch hunt against liberals of the faith, and creates thereby a false picture of the entire minority. An Arab Office publishes unfriendly propaganda material and channels it to government officials who mold national opinion. A Gerald Smith publishes a news letter in the District with an eye on local consumption. All these unrelated but parallel efforts in 1947 tended to create an unhealthy climate of opinion in the District of Columbia.

Add to these miscellaneous activities some professionally organized manifestations, and you have the size of the open anti-Semitism in the nation's capital.

The major thrust of organized anti-Semitism in Washington last year was a widely advertised meeting for Gerald Smith at the foot of the Washington Monument on Aug. 3. It was publicized as a rebuttal to a fully attended Henry Wallace meeting at Watergate Stadium. The Nationalist leader also used the occasion to dedicate formally the new name Christian Nationalist Party to replace the former America First Party.

Significantly, church, labor, veteran and civic groups in the District of Columbia united to give Smith the "quarantine treatment"—they refused to play into his hands by attacking him and thereby exciting controversy and interest in his program. Less than 400 people attended the Smith meeting and most were curiosity seekers rather than sympathizers. Smith was not permitted to take up a collection on government property; and it is conservatively estimated that his Washington venture cost him thousands of dollars.

Another organized group in the District of Columbia which has provoked interest, but about whose anti-Semitism there is still question, is the American Anti-Communist Association. Founded late in 1946, the declared purpose was to stimulate a nation-wide drive against "Communism, as the greatest threat to our American way of life." George H. Earle, former Governor of Pennsylvania, was its national president until he resigned on Feb. 25, 1947, and was replaced by Rep. Alvin E. O'Konski. In July, 1947, a press report appeared that Mr. Earle withdrew "when he was told by other officers that he had to

issue a statement condemning David Lilienthal for supposed Communist sympathies." Evidence also turned up that O'Konski's group took over the mailing list of former Senator Robert R. Reynolds' American Nationalist Party. Still another circumstance was the letterhead of the Association. In it appeared the names of Dr. Emmanuel M. Josephson (a Jewish physician in New York City who has lent his support to a number of peculiar causes), William T. Frary and Dewey M. Taft of Littleton, Col. Frary, a Boston-born Irishman who was adopted by the aged German Baroness Adelheid M. von Blomberg in 1934 and assumed her name, is strongly pro-German and anti-Jewish; claims now to be the representative of "30 fraternal and charitable organizations," in addition to holding a position with the Greek government. Greece denies any association with him.

Some local proselyting efforts distressed the Jewish community. In the fall, a number of evangelical churches combined to sponsor an extended appearance by the Rev. Hyman Appleman, a revivalist who styles himself "A Jew who speaks for Christ." Some of Appleman's utterances were distinctly anti-Semitic in tone—for instance, an over-emotionalized account of the crucifixion in which Appleman presented the Jews as lining the road to Golgotha shouting "Crucify Him, crucify Him, crucify Him!" and ascribing the extermination of six million European Jews to the false premise that the Jews had forsaken God. Ironically, Appleman's conscious purpose wasn't anti-Semitic; his audience did not knowingly come to have its anti-Semitic prejudices titillated. But the unfortunate effect was obvious.

Far more blatant were the efforts of Agnes Waters, self-styled representative of women's organizations from everywhere. Constantly turning up at Congressional hearings, and eager to fill stenographers' records with anti-Semitic drivel, Mrs. Waters has become a serious nuisance on the Hill. Her favorite device is mailing widespread reprints of her official testimony, together with fanatic un-American propaganda. While she is largely ignored in official quarters, the hinterland is prey to a false appearance of governmental approval. Particularly distressing is the continuing practice of senators and representatives of allowing her a sounding board.

The activities of one United States Senator during the year provided a very curious paradox. Although he professed to have no

racial or religious prejudices, and although he made a number of statements privately and publicly attacking bigotry and defending minorities, the preponderant effect of his record was to give substantial aid and comfort to the forces of prejudice. In 1947 this Senator supported a private relief bill to prevent the deportation of an alien Christian Front leader. In 1947 he spoke in Chicago under the auspices of a pro-German organization in support of American aid to Germany. While the Senator's speech contained no anti-Semitism, when he mentioned the Morgenthau Plan there was a great booing and several anti-Semitic remarks were heard from the audience. In 1947 this Senator introduced a bill to prevent the deportation to Germany of a Midwest Nazi leader. In 1947 he introduced a blanket measure to prevent the deportation, not only of this enemy alien, but of 206 other pro-Nazi internees at Ellis Island.

The Senator in question has a long record of isolationism. He was a consistent opponent of Administration measures intended to aid the Allies. He has consistently befriended known anti-Semites and pro-Nazis. Since 1943 he has habitually interceded on behalf of convicted Nazi agents and persons indicted for sedition. He has rushed to speak in their defense when they were under attack. He has caused delays in their deportation. He has given additional circulation to their anti-Semitic diatribes by inserting them in the Congressional Record. He has offered to supply known anti-Semites with printed copies of his speeches in their defense in franked envelopes ready for addressing and mailing. He has been in friendly correspondence with some of them. He has directed vicious attacks against the Morgenthau Plan and its supporters, making references to the "Morgenthau indoctrinated group of fanatics." He has even gone so far as to repeat the anti-Semitic propaganda theme that the "fanatic persecution and intimidation of the German people" by "the same group" is causing "a new wave of anti-Semitism."

Resident in the District of Columbia and heading the National Republic Organization is an individual, Walter S. Steele, whose activities have been of concern to democratic Americans since the late '30s. Running an ostensible educational agency and publishing a monthly magazine, *The National Republic*, Steele's activities in past years fell into a significant pattern. He repeatedly found reasons for giving sympathetic treatment to the defendants in the mass sedition case; attacked Americans prominent for their anti-Nazi activities; stigmatized as virtual communists (placing emphasis on New Dealers

and Jews) many prominent persons who are loyal Americans; and indulged in covert anti-Semitism and alien baiting. In 1947, he indulged in no anti-Semitism.

In July, 1947, Steele appeared before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, testifying in behalf of the American Coalition of Patriotic, Civic and Fraternal Societies. Steele testified at length as an "expert" regarding communism. The American Coalition of Patriotic Societies, in whose behalf Steele appeared, had been named as a tool of the defendants in the mass sedition indictment. Neither this latter fact nor any revelation of Steele's previous record was offered to the reading public in the front page newspaper reports of his testimony. In only one or two instances did alert newspaper editors describe the nature of the "expert's" background. The newspaper publishing world apparently accepted Steele's opinions as worthy of front page attention, and newspaper readers apparently accepted the news reports without expressing resentment.

* * *

Hatred for the Jew evidenced itself in some quarters of official Washington. The drive to secure the enactment of social legislation such as the Fair Employment Practices Act and the plan to secure the entry of displaced persons under the Stratton Bill both elicited outspoken anti-Semitism in the halls of Congress. The late Senator Bilbo and Congressmen Rankin and Gossett each expressed himself clearly; in their opinion Jews are the mainspring of the pressure groups. While Jews would be happy to be credited with advancing progressive social legislation, they are not, in fact, solely responsible. And, unfortunately, the utterances of these men are used by bigoted groups to pillory falsely all Jews as communists.

The Tushin case* in the suburb of Washington was a striking example of the extremes to which restrictive covenants can go. Involved was an attempt by a number of Gentile families to invoke a restrictive covenant against a Christian wife because of her Jewish husband. The case evoked a storm of disapproval in the Washington community, with particular criticism of one plaintiff, J. Otis Garber, a high official of the Budget Bureau. Newspaper stories revealed that nearly all Tushin's neighbors in Bannockburn were opposed to the suit. The publicity-embarrassed plaintiffs quickly withdrew their law suit. The *Washington Post*, in a lead editorial, scored the un-Americanism

*J. Otis Garber and Esther C. Garber, his wife, William H. Webb and Estelle H. Webb, his wife, Paul B. Kern and Josephine H. Kern, his wife, John W. Senour and Doris M. Senour, his wife, and Mary Louise Rawlings, Plaintiffs, vs. Aaron Tushin and Lucille Dewing Tushin, his wife, Defendants. The action bore Docket No. 12,894 EQUITY. It was brought in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Md.

of the plaintiffs, and cited the withdrawal of the complaint as a victory for the good sense and good will of the Washington community.

Despite this one encouraging incident, in 1947 there was wholesale indulgence in the restrictive covenant or in the use of unwritten rules to bar persons of the Jewish faith from purchasing or residing in certain properties in and around the nation's capital.

While the intensity of anti-Semitism lessened to some extent during 1947, the anti-Semitic potential is as dangerous as ever. No one can forecast accurately what may occur in the excitement and near hysteria generated in an election year. Washington, D. C., has not yet been able to determine whether it is operating in a post-war or a pre-war era.

—PAUL RICHMAN
ADL Regional Office
Washington, D. C.

THE EAST

DURING 1947, activities of the professional peddlers of prejudice remained, as in 1946, at a level significantly below the pre-war years. This judgment is based upon the overt indicia of such activity, namely the number of organizations actively engaged in disseminating anti-Jewish prejudice, the number of their followers, contributors, listeners, and the degree of public acceptance of their activities.

In the East, last year, several anti-Semitic leaders and their organizations lapsed into inactivity. Prominent rabble-rousers addressed smaller audiences and on fewer occasions. Very little newly organized anti-Semitic activity was noted.

New York City, however, continued to be one of the main headquarters of groups disseminating hate propaganda. Merwin K. Hart's National Economic Council abandoned its policy of subtlety and became openly anti-Semitic. Hart adopted blatant bigotry as a weapon in his alleged anti-communist crusade.*

*January, 1948, issue, *Economic Council Letter*, contained a significant appeal by Hart to his followers that they arm themselves. He immediately lost some support from among his "respectable" followers, as a penalty, perhaps, for his frankness.

Another important Hart propaganda theme was open espousal of the Arab position on Palestine. In addition to echoing anti-Jewish diatribes of pro-Arab propagandists, Hart cooperated closely with Benjamin Freedman, anti-Semitic protagonist of the Arab cause. Freedman, who with Arab propagandist Habib I. Katibah heads the so-called League for Peace with Justice in Palestine, was a prolific writer and speaker against Jewish aspirations in Palestine. His words were quoted and distributed by leading anti-Semites throughout the country.

In August, 1947, Hart visited Spain and interviewed Generalissimo Francisco Franco. Despite his previous record, Hart's views and opinions were considered sufficiently valuable by a press syndicate for it to publish a series of articles over his signature. No public protest against the employment of Hart as an "expert" on international affairs was evident.

Joseph P. Kamp continued his pamphleteering activity. His Constitutional Educational League issued several pamphlets during the year on the subjects of labor, communism and Kamp's special brand of "patriotism." He continued his tactic of emphasizing Jewish names in "exposing" alleged communists.

One old-time professional anti-Semite who remained active during 1947 was Catherine Baldwin. She conducted a Brooklyn rally which was addressed by ex-Senator Rush D. Holt, the Rev. Edward Lodge Curran and a former Coughlinite, John Henihan. Subsequently, she participated in two small New Jersey and Ohio meetings of Women for the U. S. A., at which anti-Semitic literature was displayed for sale.

In the New York area, several violent anti-Semites continued to hold small and ineffective meetings. Kurt Mertig, using the high sounding titles German-American Republican League and Citizens' Protective League, was unable to muster more than a handful of followers, and could not retain even one public meeting hall throughout the year. Hunt Diederick, the sculptor and anti-Semitic pamphleteer, was expelled from the National Institute of Arts and Letters after the government tried unsuccessfully to prosecute him for violation of federal mail laws. C. Daniel Kurts, self-styled leader of the defunct Christian Front, conducted one poorly attended street-corner meeting; the police barred his attempt at a subsequent meeting.

A new figure appeared during the year in the person of James Madole, head of the one-man "Animist" party. Madole, a prolific letter-writer, attempted by his correspondence to weld the scattered anti-

Semitic leaders into a "nationalist" movement, presumably under his own leadership. Madole's movement made no noticeable progress.

Edward James Smythe of New York City, head of the one-man Protestant War Veterans of the United States, Inc., disseminated vile anti-Catholic and anti-Semitic leaflets. He castigated the "Jew-Communist element" and the "Roman Catholic political hierarchy." Smythe is an habitual drunkard without ostensible means. Apparently the funds he solicits for his patrioteering are his sole source of personal income.

Of still lesser importance were the activities of the so-called monetary reformers in this area. Joseph Stoffel, Buffalo Coughlinite, continued to head the Congress of Monetary Organizations, while John Scott of Craryville, New York, edited the organization's publication, *Money*. In November, the movement held a convention in Ohio which suffered from poor attendance and a lack of coordinated activity.

The Rev. Edward Lodge Curran of Brooklyn, president of the International Catholic Truth Society and once known as Coughlin's spokesman in the East, made several speaking trips during the year. He addressed the Women for the U. S. A. in Brooklyn and other local organizations on the Eastern seaboard. His speeches, usually strongly critical of the Administration and its foreign policy, included no clear anti-Semitism in 1947. Recently, Father Curran resorted to a court action in New York in an effort to bar the tax exempt status of United Nations property; the suit has been unsuccessful to date.

Few salesmen of hate traveled through the East during 1947. Gerald B. Winrod did not repeat his 1946 swing through this section. Gerald Smith addressed comparatively small audiences in Washington and Philadelphia; the general press paid him scant attention.

No Ku Klux Klan activity of any consequence was noted during the year. A small Klan group in Baltimore, meeting irregularly, fell away to a tiny handful and then showed no activity whatsoever. Several crosses were burned, but under circumstances signifying little more than furtive individual acts and revealing no connection with any other Klan activity.

The American Shores Patrol, Klan-front organization operating in Virginia, Baltimore, and Philadelphia, was withered by blasts of newspaper publicity and promises of government inquiry. Even before exposure, the group was found to be insignificant in size and activity. In Virginia (Danville), Guy C. Stephens published the *Individualist*, a hate sheet which attacked Jews as well as "Romanists."

In Philadelphia, several fanatic groups continued their intensive anti-Semitic activity. The National Blue Star Mothers of America,* located in Philadelphia and headed by Catherine Brown and Lillian Parks, made common cause with such hate propagandists as W. Henry MacFarland, Conde McGinley, publisher of *Common Sense*, and Frederick Kister, a Gerald Smith professional. This group, serving as a focus of anti-Semitic infection for the Philadelphia area, invited Gerald Smith and other rabble rousers to address its meetings. It raised funds for the support of pro-Nazi William Gerald Bishop in his unsuccessful fight to stay deportation from this country. As in 1946, the Philadelphia group of hate-mongers remained unimportant in numbers and influence, constituting merely an ugly irritant that might become a greater nuisance only in the event of the coalescence of "nationalism."

In New Jersey, the anti-Semitic publication, *Think Weekly*, changed its name to *Common Sense* and continued dissemination of its bigoted outpourings to church, veteran, and civic groups in many states throughout the East. Its sponsoring organization, the Loyal American Congress, met several times in the Newark area to hold "pro-American" rallies which featured such speakers as Catherine Baldwin and pro-Nazi Kalina Lissiuk. From Collingswood, N. J. the Rev. Carl McIntire continued to preach hatred of Catholics and Jews in his weekly publication, *Christian Beacon*.

On several occasions, proselytizing groups such as the American Board of Missions to the Jews (Brooklyn, N. Y.) and A. U. Michelson's Hebrew Evangelization Society (Los Angeles), both operating in this region, used questionable tactics, susceptible of anti-Semitic interpretation, in an effort to convert Jews. For the most part, representations were effective only temporarily in correcting the situation.

Several newspaper columnists, appearing in large publications of general circulation, and widely syndicated, continued to give cause for concern without being openly anti-Semitic. *New York Daily News* writer, John O'Donnell, for example, wrote on behalf of William Dudley Pelley; his column was widely circulated by Pelley's daughter, Adelaide Pelley Pearson, as well as the anti-Semitic rabble throughout the country. Another nationally prominent syndicated columnist, shedding many tears over the "persecution" of anti-Semites who had

*See footnote page 18.

been under indictment for sedition, attacked the bona fides of Jews who were pro-Zionist. The imposing circulation of the papers carrying such columnists indicates the extent of the possible harm done. Most significant, however, was the apparent failure on the part of column readers to protest spontaneously this type of content.

In this area, as in the Midwest, there appeared newspapers (both weeklies and dailies) which, over a period of years, have established a reputation for extreme political reaction. One of these papers in this area occasionally indulged in open anti-Semitism. During 1947, all repeatedly attacked pro-democratic educational agencies and individuals prominent for efforts in behalf of inter-group understanding. On the other hand, in the name of civil liberties, these papers opposed the prosecution of known bigots; made it a practice to rationalize their support of anti-democratic elements. On the whole, their total influence over the year was corrosive of the democratic concept.

During 1947, we saw some lessening in the amount of miscellaneous incidents reflecting anti-Jewish hostility. There were, however, more than 30 reported attacks upon Jewish individuals by word or deed, desecrations of synagogues and cemeteries, and anti-Semitic threats to Jewish individuals or property in the metropolitan New York area.

A series of desecrations of Jewish houses of worship and cemeteries in New York, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania was carefully investigated. Vandalism and burglary, rather than anti-Semitism appeared to have inspired most of these acts; no organized or concerted anti-Semitic activity was noted.

Some small diminution in the volume of anonymous hate literature disseminated in this area was also noted during the year. A violent offender was an individual in California, anti-Catholic as well as anti-Jewish, who used the pseudonym of "Ray C. Van Syne."

Perceptible social friction was exhibited in connection with many political and other meetings throughout 1947. Some elements who picketed liberal or left-wing meetings used anti-Semitic slogans and shouted remarks linking Jews with communists. This was an example of the increasing use to which anti-Semitic cliches, formerly indulged in only by the professional propagandists, were employed.

* * *

Anti-Semitism manifesting itself in different forms of discrimina-

tion, noticeably increased during 1947. In the area of social discrimination, as reflected by prejudicial treatment of Jews in hotel and resort accommodations, the number of incidents reported and practices complained of, increased over 1946. The number of complaints received last year by ADL's office in New York City was over 50% greater than the 1946 total. Because the demand for resort and hotel accommodations exceeded the supply, hotel owners were able to practice discrimination against minorities without suffering any loss of business. An effective weapon employed during the year was the group of civil rights statutes. In New York State, the attorney-general, acting in response to a documented memorandum submitted to him by the Anti-Defamation League, ordered enforcement of Section 40 of the New York State Civil Rights Law, particularly in the field of hotel, resort, and travel agency discrimination. He reported that by conciliation and negotiation, he was able to have the discriminatory policies changed in all cases handled by his office. Some progress was also made by approaching the problem on the level of hotel and travel associations. For example, the American Society of Travel Agencies adopted an anti-discrimination policy and a set of principles to guide its members.

In the field of discrimination in employment, complaints in 1947 continued to aggregate a many-fold increase over the war years. A factor which tended to mitigate this trend was the successful operation of state Fair Employment Practices Commissions in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut.

The quota system continued to be the main device by which institutions of higher learning discriminated against Jews and other minorities. A majority of application blanks used by colleges continued to include discriminatory questions which bore no relation to educational qualifications. And this, significantly, at a time when there was a greater enrollment in colleges and universities, brought about largely by the opportunities provided by the G. I. Bill of Rights.

Some progress was noted in the increasing acceptance of the need for the establishment of state universities to relieve the pressure of educational demands. The reports of the President's Commission on Higher Education, and the New York State Temporary Commission on the Need for a State University, among others, recognized the problem.

Discriminatory practices in housing continued to be manifested in many ways and to a greater extent during 1947. Restrictive covenants, the device by which minorities are ghettoized, continued to be widely employed, especially in the development of suburban areas. In some cases, bigoted realtors circulated sample restrictive covenants and

urged their use in housing developments. In other areas in the East, unwritten agreements were used.

Efforts to enact state legislation outlawing restrictive covenants were unsuccessful in 1947. Most courts continued to uphold their legality. An increased awareness on the part of the general public was noted about the problem of discrimination in housing. The report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights did much to focus attention on the need for public condemnation as well as legislation and court decisions outlawing restrictive covenants.

In 1947, community leaders in the East, apparently moved by the significance of bigotry, began to do more than ever before. It is a healthy and encouraging sign that in the face of prejudice the forces of sanity also were strengthened.

—MONROE R. SHEINBERG
ADL, New York

NEW ENGLAND

THE New England area experienced a noticeable *increase* in organized anti-Semitism during 1947. Stimulated by top-flight rabble rouser Gerald Smith, anti-Semites who once filled the ranks of America First and the Christian Front, showed unmistakable signs of coming to life again in Smith's Christian Nationalist Crusade.

Smith's two visits to Boston this year, his first to the Massachusetts capital, led the hate parade. A prominent propagandist from Brooklyn, N. Y., made five appearances in Massachusetts during the year and Father Arthur W. Terminiello made a final appearance at a Christian Front meeting before announcing his withdrawal from professional anti-Semitism. Howard B. Rand's once subtle anti-Semitism sharpened in the face of British-Jewish trouble in Palestine and the Alice K. Whitney tie-in with professional anti-Semites became public knowledge with the revelation that her funds still made her the "angel" for nationally known purveyors of hate. The new face to appear on the anti-Semitic scene in this area was that of John Wilson

Hamilton of Boston, small time rabble-rouser, getting his big chance as Smith's fuehrer in New England.

Smith's appearances in Boston were May 12-19 and July 13-14. The first visit of a week's duration failed to produce for Smith either publicity or notoriety. He succeeded only in making numerous contacts with former America First and Christian Front personalities in the Greater Boston area, and in conducting a small meeting in Boston which went unnoticed. His second visit, however, was a success as far as Smith was concerned—pickets turned out for his speech at Boston's Old South Meeting House. Fewer than fifty of Smith's followers were in the hall which was packed with 800 people. Smith was unable to speak over the roar of the crowd and he finally left under police protection without having said a word. As a result of the actions of the 700 "uninvited" guests, the Boston press used headline stories and pictures, thus giving Smith and his movement considerable publicity. Most of the papers blamed communists and communist front organizations for stirring up the protest.

Local leader of the Christian Nationalist Crusade was John Wilson Hamilton of Boston, selected by Smith for this post. A former communist, Hamilton was once active with Edward James Smythe and was a friend of known German Bundists. Both Smith and Hamilton announced that their objectives in New England were to reorganize the 25,000 former Christian Front and America First members under the banner of the Christian Nationalist Crusade.

Net result of Smith's attempt to bring Christian Fronters and America Firsters together has been, so far, an increase of Smith's mailings into this area. Attendance of loyal Smith followers at Christian Nationalist Crusade meetings has been poor.

The once subtle anti-Semitism practiced by leaders of the Anglo-Saxon Federation, which has its national headquarters in Haverhill, Mass., was cast aside this year. As British-Jewish conflict sharpened in Palestine, the ASF propaganda line became outspokenly anti-Semitic.

Fewer meetings were held by the ASF in 1947, but there was an increase in the number of publications distributed by the organization. The anti-Semitic pamphlet, *The Anti-Defamation League and Its Use in the World Communist Offensive*, was displayed and distributed at ASF meetings in this area, as was material containing statements from the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*. Bible class activities by the ASF continued, but with a drop in attendance. Circulation of the *Major*

Fred T. Foort Newsletter diminished because of a lack of funds, but other British-Israelite literature appeared in this area.

In October, 1947, the ASF conducted a special meeting in Boston. Three hundred people attended to hear Rand and the Rev. E. J. Springett of Toronto, Dominion Commissioner of the British Israel World Federation of Canada, speak in the standard anti-Semitic fashion of the ASF. There was a wide distribution of pamphlets, many of which dealt with "the Jewish problem," and other material which attempted to show that "insistent claims of Zionist Jews to Palestine as their ancestral home were ill founded."

The influence of the ASF did not grow during 1947. There was no change in leadership or membership during the year and financial backing continued to be firm.

Organized Christian Front activities in New England were greater during 1947 than at any time since 1941. Small private meetings were held in the homes of members as Friends of Father Coughlin, Women's Literary Guild, The Little Flower Club, Father Coughlin Birthday Dinner Committee and Mission League of the Little Flower.

Under the sponsorship of the above groups, Father Arthur W. Terminiello spoke in Boston, April 30, 1947, at the Little Music Hall. Seventy-five persons attended the meeting, chaired by Francis McGowan. Father Terminiello spoke for two hours and delivered one of the most malicious anti-Semitic tirades heard in Boston in many years. In addition to attacking Jews, Zionism and the Anti-Defamation League, he called upon the audience to fight the United Nations and immigration. He concluded with praise for Elizabeth Dilling and a caution to his listeners that they learn the use of firearms.

In May, the Little Flower Club celebrated the thirty-first anniversary of Father Coughlin's ordination to the priesthood. The affair was attended by such well known Christian Fronters as William B. Gallagher, Alice Burke, Bruce Hutchinson, Francis McGowan, Mary Knight and Marie Ballam. Featured speaker of the evening was John Henihan of New York who was introduced as a friend of Father Edward Lodge Curran.

The Christian Fronters' feature event of the year was their eighth annual banquet honoring the birthday of Father Coughlin held Oct. 21, 1947, at Horticultural Hall. Four hundred people attended the banquet which was addressed by Father Edward Lodge Curran. In his introductory remarks, William B. Gallagher, veteran Christian Fronter and America Firster, asked the gathering to re-

member "sometimes in your prayers" Douglas Chandler (convicted of treason) and Robert Best (on trial for treason) whom he believed "sincerely had the best interests of America at heart although they spoke out, perhaps, a little undiplomatically." There was no protest to this remark from any member of the clergy present, or any of the audience.

It should be noted that Father Curran used one subject, "Orthodox Americanism," for most of his speeches. A review of his remarks at different public appearances failed to indicate any clear anti-Semitism. He sought to justify the existence of the Christian Front by pointing out that there are other fronts at work in this country, namely, "Jewish fronts" and "communist fronts."

Fighting to gain respectability after being branded as "fascistic" by the New York State Department of Labor's Board of Standards and Appeals, was the main endeavor of the Tool Owners Union during 1947. It did not indulge in anti-Semitism. Numerous directives were issued by Allen W. Rucker, founder and director of TOU from his Lexington, Mass., national headquarters, instructing chapters and locals to concentrate on membership retention. Rucker, himself, spent the year making personal appearances and, through high pressure public relations groups, sought to use the national press as a means of regaining influence for his organization. Despite all this activity, membership in the TOU failed to reach the strength expected by officials within the group.

The Appeal to Reason by Lawrence Dennis and *Destiny* by the Anglo-Saxon Federation are periodicals emanating from New England. Dennis' weekly is issued in mimeographed form from P.O. Box 11, Becket, Mass. The evils of the present administration, the British government and Russia are the main themes of this one-man political analysis, received by about 300 people; no anti-Semitism was evidenced.

Destiny magazine, with a reported circulation of 18,000, continued in the editorial hands of Howard B. Rand, national leader of the Anglo-Saxon Federation. The magazine is published monthly by Destiny Publishers, Haverhill, Mass. Each issue is devoted mainly to the general line of the British-Israel and Anglo-Saxon movements.

Rabble rousers and anti-Semitic organizations, both large and small, who operated in the New England area, made headway during 1947. Using for their tactic the threat of communism, and attempting

to associate the Jewish community with the activities of communists and fellow-travelers, the professional anti-Semites carried on a hate campaign far in excess of any conducted since before World War II. Because the columns of the local press were unavailable for their poison and slander, the rabble rousers relied upon the spoken word and upon a large increase in the circulation and distribution of their publications.

* * *

There was no activity directed at youth groups and New England's organized veterans groups were likewise free from anti-Semitism in function and leadership.

While the prosperity prevalent in the United States today was generally beneficial to New England citizens, it apparently served to aggravate the problem of social discrimination. With people vying for reservations, resort and hotel owners with latent anti-Semitic attitudes could afford the luxury of anti-Semitic discrimination. Perhaps the baldest example of the effect of good times on discrimination was the case of the Christmas Tree Inn in Bridgton, Me. In the spring of 1947, this resort publicly announced in its advertising a restrictive policy against Jewish clientele during the months of July and August only. The Inn audaciously declared, however, that Jewish patronage is not only solicited, but welcome at all other seasons of the year.

During 1947, ADL's New England Regional office undertook a survey of more than five hundred resorts and hotels in an effort to ascertain what percentage maintained a discriminatory policy. Forty-six percent of the establishments were found actually to discriminate, as opposed to the 36% of the 300 hotels and resorts surveyed during 1946. Through personal contact with each establishment (this was not done in 1946) it was learned that 12% do not advertise their discriminatory policy, but use their private communications to indicate that they pursue such a policy. These figures also reveal that there has been at least a 2% decrease in the amount of discriminatory resort and hotel advertising in 1947. All states covered by the survey, however, even those which have statutes banning discriminatory advertising, permit the use of objectionable phraseology in answer to a specific request for information.

Significant, too, was a change in the type of language employed. Blatant terms were no longer in style; the resorts used such phrases as "selected," "restricted," and "Catholic and Protestant churches nearby." One resort injected a novel phrase into its literature: "No objectionable features have gained foothold in the community." In

two cases (the Riverside Inn in Ogunquit, Me., and the Hotel Thorwald in Gloucester, Mass.) the phrase "No Jews" was encountered; in both of these cases the respective owners circumvented the prohibitive statutes by writing the objectionable phrase in longhand on the face of the brochure in answer to specific inquiries.

Within the field of employment discrimination there was considerable emphasis upon attempts to solve the problem through passage of FEPC legislation. The Massachusetts FEPC recently released its annual report covering its first year of operation as follows:

Number of Cases and Their Disposition

Number of cases received.....	306
Number settled through conference, conciliation, and persuasion.....	153
Number dismissed for lack of probable cause.....	41
Number dismissed for lack of jurisdiction.....	9
Cases withdrawn	1
Number in process of investigation.....	102

Number of Investigations

Investigations initiated by the Commission.....	35
Adjusted by conciliation.....	15
Dismissed for lack of probable cause.....	14
Pending	6

To this information can be added data obtained by ADL in a survey of 31 out-of-town papers. Two thousand one hundred ninety-six individual help-wanted advertisements were scanned. In only seven instances, one in Maine, five in Rhode Island and one in western Massachusetts, was objectionable phraseology found. Excerpts from these ads: "All-round cook, Italian woman preferred," *Springfield Daily News*, June 13, 1947; "White woman for pastry and salad work," Bar Harbor, Me., *Times*, June 15, 1947; "Cook for small adult family . . . only select clientele considered," *Providence Journal*, June 14, 1947. Four hundred seventeen "situations wanted" advertisements were examined. Only four of these job hunters sought preferential status by claiming that they were "white," "gentile," "American."

A survey of 85 communities in the New England area was made to determine the degree of discrimination in service clubs. In eight communities the Lions Club did not allow Jewish membership. In five communities the Rotary Club discriminated. In one community, there was discrimination by the local chamber of commerce.

The situation in institutions of higher learning in New England was bad. The Fay School in Southboro, Mass., and the Exeter School in Exeter, N. H., required on their application blanks an answer to "What is your church affiliation?" The Dublin School in Dublin, N. H., asked the religious affiliation of the applicant's family. These are but two examples of many.

Meanwhile, educators in this area strongly denied that colleges are discriminating. Mrs. Douglas McAfee Horton, president of Wellesley College, Mr. James Phinney Baxter, head of Williams College, and President Leonard Carmichael of Tufts College appeared before a legislative committee and presented evidence that was largely instrumental in the defeat of a bill calling for a probe of discrimination in non-sectarian institutions in Massachusetts. Their main argument was that colleges select their students in order to obtain a "community-population of different types of backgrounds."

Realty discrimination, while not presenting as bleak a picture as that concerning educational institutions, was nonetheless strongly evident. Real estate ads of the type "*American family wants . . . rooms*" reflected the feeling among rank and file persons that a preferential status would be granted those not members of a minority group. Other kinds of advertisements continued to appear bearing unmistakable inferences that Jews and Negroes were not desired as prospective purchasers of real estate.

Late in 1947, a newly organized congregation, Temple Israel of Swampscott and Marblehead, purchased an old mansion in a "select" section of Swampscott. Thereupon John Blodgett, owner of considerable property near the newly purchased temple site, introduced an article in the town warrant to "restrict" that neighborhood to certain types of buildings. Despite much lobbying the proposed action was defeated. The Jews of Swampscott were supported in this instance by groups of Catholics, who are also a minority in the area.

Most radio stations barred anti-Semitic material from broadcasts and commercials. However, in the Vermont-New Hampshire area, several stations continued to use the term "restricted clientele" and "restricted areas" in advertising real estate.

Station WCOP, Boston, discontinued the Bible messages of Dr. Louis Bauman on the ground that they contained borderline anti-Semitism. Station WMEX, Boston, edited certain versions of Clifford A. Reeves' Seventh-Day Adventist broadcasts.

In the foreign language press Joseph Santosuosso's weekly Boston publication, *The Italian News*, continued to snipe at the Jewish community. The Meador Publishing Co. in Boston, outlet for numerous

publications credited to unknown authors and would-be world-changers, topped its list of publications this year with Peter L. Xavier's *Rise America*, which praises America Firsters and Hitler.

Col. William Rogers of Lebanon Springs, N. Y., author of the anti-Semitic publication *Kikes—All* had another book republished at Christopher Publishing House in Boston, in January, 1947, entitled *Plain Christianity*. Col. Rogers described himself as a retired Army officer who "hates all persons who have ever gone to Harvard, and all Jews." *Plain Christianity* is not anti-Semitic.

Legitimate civic, veteran or fraternal groups cooperating with anti-Semitic organizations or individuals are few in number in New England. In several instances in which organizations did use questionable speakers, they showed an immediate readiness to present favorable speakers on the same subject. Marion McGinsey of Providence, R. I., teacher at Bryant College of that city, visited Chandler and Best, while they were in a Boston jail. She got considerable publicity for her action and Bryant College terminated her contract.

Anti-Semitic incidents involving physical violence, damage of property and desecration of synagogues and cemeteries increased in number during the first eight months of 1947, but diminished considerably in the last four months of the year.

There were 32 assaults upon Jewish individuals in 1947, a sharp increase over 1946 figures. The most volatile incidents broke out in May and June in the Dorchester-Roxbury area of Greater Boston, which is heavily populated by Jews and bordered by a thickly settled Irish-Catholic community. A study of the causes of these assaults revealed that in many cases unemployed "52-20" veterans, seeking amusement, had attacked Jewish boys. In every such incident in the Boston area, Police Commissioner Thomas Sullivan made a thorough investigation.

In August, three boys were badly beaten as they left the Springfield, Mass., Jewish Community Center. Police action in this case was slow and no suspects were apprehended. Slow police action resulted in the same failure of arrests in Portland, Me., where two Jewish men were badly beaten in a diner incident.

There was an increase in anti-Semitic letters received through the mails, including the usual flood of letters to officers of the Combined Jewish Appeal during its drive. Anti-Semitic letters were sent

to newspapers in New England which carried the Victor Riesel labor column, and Rabbi Judah Nadich of Boston, a former Army chaplain, received "hate" letters when, following British attacks upon Jewish refugee ships headed for Palestine, he returned a medal to the British government.

The outstanding attack upon Jews by an elected office holder was made by Rep. Robert G. Connolly of Ward 19, Boston. He introduced a bill in the Massachusetts legislature for repeal of the Fair Employment Practices Act. Before the bill could be killed, several hearings were held which gave Connolly a platform from which to attack Jews, Negroes and liberals in general. Public and press reaction was against Connolly.

There was a sharp decrease in the amount of anonymous defamatory literature reaching the New England area.

Proselytizing activities in New England increased in 1947. Complaints were received of anti-Semitic remarks made by Dr. Elmer Davidson of the American Board of Missions to the Jews during his New England tour. Although the activities of A. U. Michelson, representing the First Hebrew Christian Synagogue and the Hebrew Evangelization Society, Inc., of Los Angeles, were somewhat curtailed, his broadcasts continued over Station WJOR, Bangor, Me., and Station WCOE, Lewiston, Me. Station WESX, Salem, Mass., cancelled his broadcasts and stopped using his material.

* * *

The reaction of various community groups and individuals to the problem of anti-Semitism was varied, but largely favorable and helpful. Community groups of all types—educational, labor, veterans, and religious—willingly utilized films, speakers, literature and other material. Yet, despite their favorable response to educational programs, these same groups often displayed reluctance to cooperate in public condemnations of anti-Semitism.

Various state and municipal officials within New England have, on occasions, expressed opposition to manifestations of prejudice. Governor Pastore of Rhode Island was an outspoken opponent of anti-Semitism; Governor Gibson of Vermont publicly flayed resort discrimination in a statement that the Vermont advertising bureau will not accept ads which do not conform to the standards of the *New York Times*; the Mass. State Commissioner of Education, frequently denounced the hate elements; the Mass. State Commissioner of Safety, John Stokes, did not hesitate to throw the weight of the

state police into any case in which community officials were lagging; the director of the Maine State Publicity Bureau aggressively championed the cause of democracy, and the director of New Hampshire's state police sent members of his force to various resorts and establishments exhibiting flagrantly anti-Semitic signs, with instructions to have them removed.

When an issue of sufficient importance arose to justify complaints to state or municipal authorities, these quarters responded in a co-operative manner in almost every instance. Also, the AFL and CIO in this area were sensitive to anti-Semitism and eager to participate in actively opposing it.

The attitude of religious groups differed among various denominations. Unitarians, Universalists, Methodists, Episcopalians and Quakers were forthright in their condemnations of anti-Semitic incidents and Congregationalists and Greek Orthodox also cooperated.

Catholic reaction varied from diocese to diocese, depending upon the views of the diocesan primate. There was little outspoken opposition to anti-Semitic manifestations in either the Springfield or New Hampshire dioceses. The Boston diocese frequently denounced publicly anti-Semitic excesses, and the Portland diocese likewise joined public opposition to anti-Semitism.

Veterans groups also offered varying degrees of support. AVC chapters worked closely with ADL. The Massachusetts division of VFW often responded to requests for cooperation.

—ISADORE ZACK
ADL Regional Office, New England

THE SOUTH

ATTEMPTING to assess the status of anti-Semitism in the South during 1947 is difficult and complex, and one is frequently struck by the paradoxes which exist. If the thesis is true that minority groups best flourish in a democracy, then the South should be the most dangerous section of the nation for the Jewish group. Because cer-

tainly there exists in the South stronger potentially undemocratic forces than in any other section of the country. Yet, one is struck by the fact that within the white population the Jewish group enjoys a high degree of freedom, security and well-being. The reason for this seeming contradiction is the presence of the Negro in this region and his status as the preferred scapegoat of the bigots. Any insecure feelings the Jews may have probably arise more from world and national forces at work than from their neighbors. Even the demagogues, whom the South has spawned so liberally, generally have not, with some exceptions, been anti-Semitic in 1947. In fact, several of them, both in their personal and public life, have displayed a marked friendliness towards the Jewish group—to its embarrassment, of course.

The Southern hate organizations in 1947 concentrated their venom for the most part on the Negro; added to their list of aversions labor, communism, Catholics, and lastly, Jews. Those few organizations and individuals who attempted to gain following and fortune on the basis of anti-Semitism, were able to achieve neither when the public was alerted to their program.

As for unorganized anti-Semitic manifestations, there were only a minimum reported during the year. There was social discrimination in two or three resort areas. Civic and social clubs discriminated in some urban centers. Complaints were received regarding colleges discriminating but after careful investigation it was difficult to establish beyond question that the denials of admission were based on religion of applicants. Few complaints of employment discrimination were made; in this area Jewish individuals, generally, were not in the market for employment.

There were no acts of violence against Jews reported even at the height of the sensational Columbians trial in Atlanta; or in Chattanooga, Tenn., where J. B. Stoner distilled hate; or in Mississippi, where there was a bitter political contest.

Again, the October, 1947, *Fortune* Poll indicated that in the Southeast a proportionately smaller percentage of the population than in any other section of the country believed the Jews had too much economic or political power.

One should not draw too optimistic a conclusion from the paragraphs above. Group tensions still remained high in the South. The apathy, low economic level and ignorance of large masses of the population, together with the one party system, often resulted in the election of individuals opposed to democracy. Such persons might well join with others in the North and West in a national movement to curtail those civil rights essential to our way of life. An economic

disaster could open the way for an anti-democratic opportunist. He would find no more fertile ground on which to grow a large and aggressive following than in the South.

Adoption of the Partition Plan for Palestine by the United Nations General Assembly brought out, for the first time in 1947, two covert anti-Semites in this section of the country who are worthy of attention chiefly because of the respectable positions they hold on the Southern scene. On Dec. 10, 1947, Tom Linder, Commissioner of Agriculture for the State of Georgia, issued an anti-Semitic diatribe in the *Georgia Farmers Market Bulletin*, official state publication which he controls. On the same date, Franklin Acker, columnist for the *Anderson (S. C.) Independent*, an important small city newspaper whose publisher, Wilton Hall, is a force in South Carolina, issued an even more vicious anti-Semitic attack.

Linder, because of his official position, represents a dangerous threat. He is an ambitious man with a strong hold on the rural population. He yearns for power not only in Georgia but also on the national scene and, at this time, is trying to make alliances with reactionary, isolationist and even anti-Semitic forces in other sections of the country. If he goes to the United States Senate, as he hopes to do, he will be one of the most dangerous demagogues ever to come out of the South. He speaks the colloquial language of the people, having himself risen from humble beginnings as a farmer. He is shrewd, ambitious, reactionary, isolationist, and has had years of training in playing upon group prejudice and hate for his own personal gain. That he has connections on a nationwide basis is indicated by the fact that he was allied with the late Carl Mote, president of the National Farmers Guild, Indiana utilities executive and a prominent anti-Semitic figure. Linder uses another important avenue to large segments of the population—an almost fanatical religious fervor. All of his writings are shot through with biblical quotations. In his recent book, *Biblical Prophecy and Strong Meat*, he predicted the end of the world in 2007 A. D. His rural following knows and understands little of his anti-Semitism. They support Commissioner Linder for many different and various reasons, of which his anti-Jewishness is probably the most insignificant.

Franklin Acker, the columnist of the *Anderson Independent*, for years has followed a strong nationalist line. His writings indicate that he may be using for source material the so-called hate press. He

follows the theme that "this is not a democracy but a republic." Acker intimated that Hitler was right in his treatment of the Jews. He has warned that he will attack again. Acker's publisher resisted all efforts to curb the columnist, claiming "freedom of the press."

"Since 1866 the Ku Klux Klan has ridden and will continue to ride as long as the white man liveth." Covertly in the dark of night, skulking figures have prowled through Atlanta streets this past year and have pasted little stickers on store windows, on automobiles, on walls. This type of activity is indicative of the accomplishments of the Klan during 1947. There have been parades through small Georgia cities; there have been cross burnings; but there has been no evidence that the Klan is today the all powerful, enveloping, secret order that it was back in the 20s and early 30s. The strong public campaign that was launched on May 10, 1946, against the Klan apparently unleashed powerful enough counteractive forces so that the Klan today remains with only a few centers of influence, desperately put to it to publicize its existence by juvenile methods.

The following is a state by state analysis of the status of the Klan for 1947:

ARKANSAS—No evidence of organized Klan activity.

LOUISIANA—No evidence of organized Klan activity.

MISSISSIPPI—Little evidence of organized Klan activity. During the year a small group of Alabama invaders burned a cross in Jackson, Miss., and were promptly arrested by Jackson police.

ALABAMA—A small gang, relic of the Klan of the 20s, has been trying desperately to revive the Klan, but with meager success. It has burned crosses in the state—two in Gadsden, Ala., apparently because of the arrest of a Negro there for alleged rape of a white woman. Ambitiously, the gang held an open Klan meeting in the county court house in Birmingham. Despite a sensational advertisement in the local newspaper, less than 100 people turned up, including curiosity seekers and opponents.

TENNESSEE—There are at least three Klan Klaverns functioning in Tennessee: One in Knoxville, one some fifteen miles away in the small community of Maryville, and a third in Rossville, Ga., a suburb of Chattanooga and, therefore, for the purpose of this report, regarded as the Chattanooga Klavern.

The Maryville Klan has shown little activity. The Knoxville Klan has been rather active and is a favorite visiting place of Grand Dragon Samuel Green of Atlanta. During the early part of 1947, this Klavern burned many crosses in and around Knoxville. The district solicitor-general for the State of Tennessee caused the arrest of three Klan leaders following a cross burning in front of the Knoxville city police headquarters last summer. He acted on a 1904 statute prohibiting night riding. The solicitor-general failed by one vote to secure an indictment against the Klavern from the grand jury, but significantly there has been no cross burning in that area since.

In September, 1947, the Klan planned an open meeting in the Knoxville city park. City officials refused to grant permission and the barbecue was held outside city limits. Despite great publicity, less than 150 attended this meeting.

In Chattanooga, the Rossville Klavern showed some activity, holding several parades during the year. But it did nothing significant and there was little to indicate that it is a large or important body.

One interesting sidelight on Klan activity in Tennessee occurred in October, 1947, when a cross was burned by Chattanooga Klansmen in the small community of Crossville, some 60 miles north of Chattanooga. Several leading ministers in Crossville were perturbed by this activity. Using ADL educational media, they saturated the area with positive pro-democratic programming. As a result of these efforts there has been a considerable improvement in inter-group harmony in the community with concomitant greater resistance to the Klan.

GEORGIA—Georgia is the historical seat of the Klan. As such, the KKK probably had more leadership and a stronger hold on the population here than in any other state in the South. Nevertheless, it was not a dominant organization in the state. There were several signs in the last months of the year that it attained some growth and that it will continue to become more important during the early months of 1948 because of the political situation. Close observers, however, do not believe that the growth will be too great.

There were at least five active Ku Klux Klan chapters in and around the city of Atlanta. Atlanta Klavern No. 1 met regularly and had within its membership city policemen and other minor officials. Though anti-Semitism and anti-Catholicism were occasionally spewed at these gatherings, the hooded groups did not involve themselves in any overt activity against either minority. Their discussions, threats of action from meeting to meeting, were wantonly anti-Negro and always in a vigilante spirit. Granted a controversial issue of deep con-

cern to the South, the robed order could probably bring out a thousand sympathizers in this immediate vicinity.

SOUTH CAROLINA—No Klan activity reported.

NORTH CAROLINA—No Klan activity reported although there was a slight flurry involving two other organizations which seemed to have programs similar to the Klan. The first was the American Shores Patrol, a branch of an organization which had its base in Virginia. There was an attempt to start a chapter in Charlotte. Investigation disclosed that it was a one-man effort which died aborning. In western North Carolina, the American Confederation of Enlisted Men, likewise, proved to be not much more than a publicity getting device. When one of the founders absconded with the funds of the organization, it disintegrated.

In virtually every instance where the Klan showed signs of activity, local newspapers and the ministry were quick to oppose and denounce it. These two powerful molders of public opinion helped tremendously in 1947 to aid progress in the South and to oppose, expose and depose hate leaders and their organizations.

The Columbians flashed meteorically across the Southern scene from August, 1946, through July, 1947, when its guiding genius, Homer Loomis, Jr., left Atlanta to join the Gerald Smith cavalcade. During its brief and stormy career, it attracted but a handful of followers, few of whom were addicted to the violent anti-Semitism espoused by the leadership. Fear and hatred of the Negro were dominant in the followers.

A vigorous campaign against the Columbians by the press and clergy, starting in October, 1946, led to its eventual demise. Successful handling of the leaders by city and state prosecuting agencies helped. Emory Burke, Loomis' partner, abandoned Atlanta for his former home in Montgomery, Ala.

The National Patrick Henry Organization was granted a charter in Muscogee County Court, Columbus, Ga., in December, 1947. The Patrick Henrys, however, have been in existence for some two years, headed by a Mrs. J. W. Jenkins. It first was mainly anti-labor and anti-New Deal, with some anti-Negroism. However, in chartering the organization, Mrs. Jenkins became associated with Parson Jack Johnston, notorious anti-Semite of Columbus, Ga., and Marilyn Allen, anti-Semitic pamphleteer of Salt Lake City, Utah. The Patrick Henry

Organization has a meager membership and its meetings draw less than two dozen followers.

Parson Jack Johnston is a Fundamentalist minister, who has his church in Columbus, Ga. He started his hate propaganda in 1932 when he took up the cudgels against labor. Subsequent years revealed his publications to be also anti-Negro and anti-New Deal. (In the spring of 1947 he changed the name of his paper from *Columbus Tribune* to *Georgia Tribune*.) Johnston was used to oppose CIO and AFL expansion, particularly in the textile industry until those labor drives ended in June, 1947. He was then persuaded by some of the Columbian leaders to present their case to the public. Naturally, they raised some funds for this purpose.

In the ensuing campaign Parson Jack indulged in very carefully camouflaged Jew-baiting. When thereupon he was publicly charged with being anti-Semitic he fought back by becoming openly and blatantly anti-Jewish. Obviously the public attack on him was beneficial; by exposing his true nature he rendered himself disreputable. As a consequence of his open bigotry, advertisers withdrew from his publication.

In the last months of 1947, Johnston was no longer openly anti-Semitic in his newspaper. At the end of the year he was reported to have been appointed organizer of the Columbus Klavern of the Klan. Personal differences with Grand Dragon Samuel Green have since confused his plans.

In March, 1947, Gerald L. K. Smith invaded Georgia, choosing the town of Douglas in the southwest section of the state. Leaders of the community, alerted to Smith, created a wave of public indignation and the Lions Club prepared to ride him out of town on a rail. Unable to secure a meeting hall in Douglas, he spoke instead in a church eleven miles out of town. Only 63 people attended this meeting and Smith did not take up a collection.

J. B. Stoner of Chattanooga, Tenn., is a 23-year-old with a psychopathic hatred for Jews. He organized the Stoner Anti-Jewish Party, which during 1947 continued as a one-man movement, disseminating vile anti-Semitic literature. For a time he was an organizer for the Klan but was too radical even for the hooded order, and subsequently was expelled. In the spring of 1947, he mailed vicious leaflets which impliedly demanded mass murder of the Jews in the United States. This resulted in newspaper reports of Federal prosecution

but this did not eventuate by the end of the year. However, since the possibility of such action was made public, Stoner has been significantly inactive. Except as a symbol of organized hatred, Stoner is unimportant.

We saw, in 1947, the passing from the Southern scene of Theodore Bilbo, Senator from Mississippi, who had used anti-Semitism as a political weapon. We saw too, the negation of power to Congressman John Rankin of Mississippi when he ran fifth in a field of five candidates for the Senate seat. The election went to Judge John Stennis, only candidate who did not appeal to the prejudices of the voters.

There were strong and militant forces in the South, anxious to work for a better and hate-free world. On the whole, the clergy and the press took vigorous stands against hate groups of all types. On the other hand, aside from a tiny and courageous minority, the South was not ready to accept changes which would involve basic alterations in the status quo, particularly in race relations. Thus, the reports of the President's committees on civil rights and on higher education were attacked throughout the South because it was considered that these reports aim to overthrow segregation.

Decent elements in the South battled lynching, violence, hate groups and individuals who would undermine further the status of minority groups. Large sections of the respectable South wanted to see an extension of the voting franchise and economic opportunity to all groups. But, the overwhelming majority, during 1947, was against removing the barrier of segregation. Only in a long range educational program can solution be found to this problem.

—ALEXANDER F. MILLER
Southeastern ADL Regional Office

THE MIDWEST AND CHICAGO

THE descent downward of organized anti-Semitism in the Middle West during 1946, continued throughout 1947. No groups which went out of existence in 1946 revived in 1947. Few groups were active.

The Organized Americans of German Ancestry obtained a charter in Illinois after an extensive investigation by the Secretary of State. Because the incorporation papers were innocent of unlawful plan, and because no designated officer or director had an ineligible record, the charter was issued routinely, as a matter of law. Individuals who were active as members of the Chicago pro-Nazi *Einheitsfront* in the days of the German-American Bund, were active as members of this organization. Leonard Enders, former Bund teacher, was a key figure. Meetings were held somewhat sporadically. One gathering during the latter part of the year attracted an audience of 250; previous meetings drew smaller attendance. Contributions at meetings indicated generous giving. Books and pamphlets were sold (Frederick Kister offered ten different books on the subject of Germany) including *Trial on Trial* by Maximilian J. St. George and Lawrence Dennis.

The only Ku Klux Klan unit in the Middle West was in Akron, Ohio.

Although anti-Semitic individuals were still associated with American Relief for Germany, Inc., there was no evidence of anti-Semitism at its meetings. In Chicago, Theodore Katzmann, known anti-Semite, collected funds and packages for German relief.

Earl Southard, who formerly headed the Committee for American Independence, in Chicago, dissolved his organization and is said to have retired to Dayton, O.

Andrew B. McAllister of Hinckley, Ill., a young veteran, was welcomed to the ranks of the professional anti-Semites and praised in many hate publications. He organized a distributing agency, the Pro-American Information Bureau, and offered for sale many anti-Semitic pamphlets, books and leaflets. In November, 1947, he held a meeting in Hinckley, attracting Mrs. Lyril Clark Van Hyning, long time head of We, the Mothers; Eugene Flitcraft, publisher of *Gentile News*, Ernest Elmhurst of New York and others known for their violently anti-Semitic activity. He was apparently being used by many of the more important anti-Semites.

Gerald Smith's junket across the country in 1947 included visits to important communities of the Middle West. His meetings generally attracted small audiences. One significant gathering was held at Celina, O., where he spoke to many followers of the late Carl Mote's anti-Semitic organization, United Farmers of America. Smith reaped contributions reported to total \$1,500.

Gerald B. Winrod of Wichita, Kan., former defendant in the closed Washington, D. C., sedition case, continued his anti-Semitic and anti-

Catholic attacks in his *Defender Magazine* and other writings, as well as on his lecture tours. In January, 1947, the Secretary of State of Kansas granted charters to two Winrod organizations—the Defenders of the Christian Faith, Inc., and the Defenders of the Theological Seminary, Inc. Thereupon Winrod began construction of a \$50,000 printing plant in Wichita. In addition to his other activities, Winrod broadcast every night over station XEG, Monterey, and twice daily over XERF, Villa Acuna, both in Mexico.

In December, 1947, Upton Close joined Winrod and Lawrence Reilly in issuing a statement from Wichita, disavowing association with Smith. Close fulfilled speaking engagements before different executives' groups in this area. In his Ft. Wayne and Davenport appearances, he showed little restraint in attacking highly respected Jewish organizations and individuals.

After the dismissal of the mass sedition case in Washington, D. C., professional anti-Semites became less restrained in their anti-Jewish hatred and more vitriolic in their attacks against the administration. They also instituted many libel suits.

The lawsuit which attracted most attention was against *The Sentinel*, English-Jewish paper in Chicago, instituted by ten of those who had been defendants in the mass sedition trial. The action was based upon the re-publication of a joint telegram sent by a number of prominent Americans to the U. S. Attorney General asking that the sedition case be retried. The telegram in question allegedly libelled the plaintiffs in criminal terms. During the trial, held in Chicago in December, 1947, the courtroom was used as an anti-Semitic forum by several of the plaintiffs. Four of them received awards totalling \$24,100. This verdict was allowed to four plaintiffs who displayed (Dennis excepted) un-American hatred in a case predicated upon a claim of libel. One would assume that the average American jury would punish violent and uncontrolled religious prejudice by refusing to validate, in the light of such a display, a claim of injury to good reputation. The conclusion was inescapable that the jury's judgment meant it did not believe anti-Semitism was inconsistent with respectability. This was, indeed, an alarming symptom in 1947.

In 1947 there was an increase in the volume of anti-Semitic pamphlets distributed in the Midwest, resulting primarily from a more intensive operation by Gerald Smith. He distributed reprints of *The*

International Jew, booklets written by the Rev. Jonathan Perkins (author of *The Jews Have Got the Atom Bomb*) and pamphlets written under his own name or that of R. E. Legant, his secretary.

Some 25 regular anti-Semitic publications came out of the Midwest. A new one was *The Anti-Communist*, published by the Gentile Cooperative Association as an addition to its established *Gentile News*. Frederick Kister, publisher of *Christian Veterans Political Counsel*, dissolved his Christian Veterans of America and attempted to sell anti-Semitic literature under the name of American Renaissance Book Club.

Lyril Clark Van Hyning increased distribution of anti-Semitic literature to many principal communities in the Middle West. Her publication, *Women's Voice*, remained blatantly anti-Semitic; it openly espoused fascism.

Elizabeth Dilling, author of the anti-Semitic *Red Network* and *The Octopus*, used her publication, the *Patriotic Research Bulletin*, as a means of expressing her violent anti-Semitism.

* * *

Unorganized anti-Semitism, as manifested by various forms of discrimination was extensive. There were also some acts of vandalism against Jewish property and assaults upon Jewish individuals.

Serious race tensions arose in connection with several housing projects. In Chicago, the construction of a veterans' housing development admitting Negroes almost resulted in a race riot. A peaceful community suddenly became a violent mob. Although anti-Negro prejudice was the primary cause, anti-Semitic epithets were also hurled in the near riots.

In housing, restrictions against minority groups increased during 1947. Restrictive covenants and "gentlemen's agreements" became more widespread, especially in suburban communities.

Employment discrimination increased, even in areas where the supply of workers was low. Campaigns for FEPC legislation had a salutary effect in focusing public attention on the problem.

Hotel and resort discrimination remained high and discriminatory advertising was extensive. Only in a few communities did newspapers refuse such advertising.

Discrimination in colleges and universities continued without diminution. Quotas were used in many institutions of higher learning and there was a substantial decline in the number of Jewish students.

On the whole, however, the reaction of the Midwest against prejudice was encouraging. There was increasing participation in the fight against prejudice by many community elements. A willingness to help in specific situations, as well as in conducting continued programs of education, was often demonstrated and pointed the way to a brighter future.

—NISSEN N. GROSS
ADL, Chicago

COLORADO, NEW MEXICO AND WYOMING

A DECLINE in the influence of professional anti-Semites despite an increase in their activities locally, and the emergence of several new individuals and a new publication, marked the position of organized anti-Semitism in this area at the close of 1947.

Occasional visits by Gerald Smith, Gerald Winrod and other anti-Semitic "names" did not bolster the drawing power of local rabble-rousers, nor could they capitalize—much as they tried—on the fact that they were included in the Mayor's Report on Discrimination, in Denver.

The Rev. Harvey Springer, Fundamentalist preacher, castigated in that report, took large newspaper advertisements and spent over \$3,000 on a public meeting at the City Auditorium. Before 3,300 people—1,500 were turned away—he attacked the Dean of the Protestant Episcopal Church, the Mayor of Denver, and the director of the ADL regional office. There was no interference with the meeting, and there was sufficient evidence to indicate that in conducting it, Springer did himself more harm than good.

Springer's other activities continued in their standard pattern. His *Western Voice* appeared regularly and he broadcast over a Denver station every Sunday morning. Transcriptions of his Mexican broadcasts were also carried by Denver stations. Springer travelled through the country in order to work with other national anti-Semites; nevertheless, he was unable to increase the membership of his Englewood Baptist Tabernacle.

Kenneth Goff, a Gerald Smith adherent, had no real following of his own and was active mainly as a guest speaker for his colleagues, particularly Springer. He spent a considerable part of 1947 in other parts of the country.

The Rev. William L. Blessing, another Fundamentalist preacher, also spent much of 1947 away from Denver, maintaining his local church by employing a part-time pastor. Publication of his monthly magazine, *Showers of Blessing*, was interrupted when the Denver printing firm which was handling it relinquished its contract. Blessing found a printer in Idaho and before the end of the year, his paper once again was being mailed regularly. He was named in the Mayor's report.

Dewey McKinley Taft, a small-fry anti-Semite for many years, had almost no following and seemed to have given up control of *Englewood Forum*. He frequently dropped publication responsibilities of one insignificant newspaper in order to create another, his last being *The Suburban Citizen*, which he published in Sheridan, Col.

Most important new addition to Denver's coterie of full-time anti-Semites was Stephen Nenoff, author of the pro-fascist book, *Two Worlds*. Long active in anti-Semitic groups, Nenoff arrived in Colorado early in 1947. He spoke at Harvey Springer's Tabernacle, and addressed two or three legitimate community organizations. He began publishing *American Commentator* in Denver where he established a permanent headquarters. Despite his personal record of violent anti-Semitic prejudice, his publication limited itself to a crusade against communism.

Others who appeared on the periphery of the hate movement included Robert Donner of Colorado Springs. Donner has few followers, but considerable funds which he uses to distribute large quantities of anti-Semitic propaganda. The Rev. Dennis Brown associated with Harvey Springer and occasionally delivered an anti-Semitic sermon in his small community of Greeley, Col. The Rev. Ira Heath of Boulder, Col., had little reputation in his community, but he sponsored a church meeting at which Smith, Springer and Goff were participants. A third minister, the Rev. N. T. Wheeler of Cheyenne, Wyo., openly associated with Springer and attempted to use the latter's tactics to develop a following.

Christian American, Inc., received a charter in Wyoming in August, 1947, and shortly thereafter applied for one in Colorado. This group was not very active.

Colorado chapters of the Ku Klux Klan lost most of their strength during 1947.

Although established anti-Semites decreased in importance through the year, Gerald Smith's announcement that Denver would become a depot for his literature, and Stephen Nenoff's selection of the city for publication of *American Commentator*, indicated increased activity for the coming months.

To allow all sides to be heard in a controversy, the *Denver Post* and station KFEL, both of which maintain liberal policies, often were overly generous with anti-Semites. The Post gave Springer and other anti-Semitic personalities a favorably slanted write-up after publication of the Mayor's report. KFEL invited Dewey Taft to serve as interrogator of the late New York City Councilman Peter Cacchione on a program dealing with communist activities.

The Colorado Spring Reserve Officers' Association was one respectable organization which allowed itself to be used as a reputable vehicle for anti-Semitic ideas when Stephen Nenoff addressed one of its regular meetings. But the group regretted the incident and indicated that it would like to overcome the stigma of his appearance.

Commonly used as sounding boards were "Letters to the Editor" columns in various local newspapers where malicious letters were planted by followers of anti-Semitic groups.

The most important item of defamatory literature disseminated in this area was the Upton Close pamphlet on ADL. The exact extent of the distribution of this and other such material was difficult to determine, but it is known to be considerable.

Proselytizing produced several incidents with anti-Semitic implications. The Jewish community's opposition to a local campaign for projecting religious activity in the public schools generated anti-Semitic remarks and speeches, and the ministers who sponsored Evangelist Hyman Appelman's attempts at conversion were angered by Jewish opposition to Appelman.

* * *

Social, economic and housing discrimination against Jews was very much in evidence. Some of the more expensive hotels maintained quota systems, and discrimination was apparent in the practices of resorts and dude ranches. The Denver Mayor's report and complaints to the Denver ADL office indicated widespread economic discrimination, despite a high level of local employment. Restrictive covenants blanketed the city of Denver, with both real estate agencies and private owners following discriminatory policies.

In the field of education, however, there was no discrimination. Both public schools and colleges were free of it and there were no quotas in these institutions.

For Negroes, Spanish-Americans and Nisei the situation was much worse. Colorado has a Civil Rights Act, but the problem of enforcement was particularly difficult on behalf of these three groups. They faced complete discrimination in resorts, hotels and other places of private and public recreation. They were discriminated against by trade unions, business and trade schools, private businesses and real estate owners and agencies. Furthermore, they found it difficult to secure employment with the city government.

Refugees and immigrants seemed to blend easily into the community.

Community reaction to open attacks on prejudice or on anti-Semites was mixed. The majority of Christians have stated their opposition to Springer and men of his ilk, but their willingness to involve themselves in concrete action is questionable. Local government officials were more aware of the dangers to a healthy community in permitting the growth of racial and religious prejudices, than was the general public.

—LOUIS E. SIDMAN
Tri-State ADL Regional Office

THE SOUTHWEST

DURING 1947, organized anti-Semitism in the Southwest showed no marked increase over the previous year. The few propagandists and organizations which operated in this area concentrated their fire on political issues and used anti-Semitism only incidentally.

One significant occurrence was the presence of Gerald Smith for the first three months of 1947. He conducted several meetings in Fort Worth and spoke in Beaumont, Tex., and in Shreveport and several other communities in Louisiana. Smith was greeted upon arrival in

Fort Worth by the Rev. J. Frank Norris who made available his pulpit and auditorium for meetings. Norris also accompanied Smith to an interview with Governor Beauford Jester of Texas. Norris subsequently denied approving the activities of the demagogue.

A large mass meeting in Fort Worth was the only sign of appreciable attention achieved by Smith. All his efforts to attract notice and obtain large audiences in other parts of Texas met with failure. Texas communities, and the Southwest generally, "quarantined" Smith by ignoring his meetings and his paid newspaper advertisements.

During the year Smith rented a home in Tulsa, Okla. and attempted to build a following there. He spoke four times in the Tabernacle Auditorium. His first two addresses, in October, 1947, were before large audiences but were accorded little newspaper publicity. His last two speeches, in November, were to meager audiences and received no press notice. Smith's business office, the origin of most of his propaganda activity, was moved from Detroit to St. Louis late in 1947.

Nation-wide attention was paid to the propaganda activities of 80 year-old George W. Armstrong of Fort Worth. Armstrong publicly threatened to place the weight and power of his fortune (alleged to consist of several million dollars in oil and steel holdings) behind the anti-Semitic movement in the United States. Actually, the Judge Armstrong Foundation incorporated in Texas in November, 1945, is known to have received from Armstrong the sum of \$12,000. Most of it was used for publication and distribution of anti-Semitic pamphlets; Gerald Smith received \$500.

In 1947 Armstrong republished the 127-page pamphlet *World Empire*. A prolific letter-writer, he maintained communication with many organizers of religious bigotry throughout the world. Reports at the end of the year indicated that he was planning to have his Foundation employ Gen. George Van Horn Moseley, the prominent anti-Semitic retired Army officer. The General's assignment would be the coordination of activities of anti-Semites in this nation.

In spite of his wealth and political pretenses Armstrong was not taken too seriously by the Texas community. He made no attempt to build a mass following but relied on pamphlets and other propaganda in his crusade to spread hatred. While most of the anti-Semitic agitators throughout the country looked to Armstrong as a wealthy and powerful leader and sponsor, Armstrong's activities gave no concrete evidence of his fulfillment of such a role. He remained, therefore, only a potential threat to intergroup amity and understanding in this country.

Christian American, Inc., of Houston, continued its campaign against organized labor. Incorporated in Texas in 1936, and led by Louis V. Ulrey and Vance Muse, Christian American, Inc., in years past has gone beyond its announced purposes of combatting "radicalism, communism, nazism, and everything that isn't Americanism." By cooperation with notorious pro-fascists and anti-Semites, and by other actions during that period, the leaders of the organization exhibited racial prejudice in their crusade against organized labor. It sponsored anti-union legislation in many southern states and, ostensibly under the guise of ameliorating the plight of the working man, "anti-violence" laws were introduced.

During 1947, Christian American, Inc. was active in supporting eight anti-labor bills passed in the Texas State Legislature. In spite of the fact that the organization had been discredited in previous years by congressional investigations and exposures in the press, it continued to receive support from industrial circles and to exercise some legislative influence in sections of the South and Southwest.

Dr. Austin J. App, professor of English at Incarnate Word College in San Antonio, is a pro-German, anti-Semitic pamphleteer whose propaganda efforts were distributed and quoted in the anti-Semitic press and at rabble-rouser meetings throughout the country. During the year, he wrote articles for Gerald Smith's *The Cross and The Flag* and similar publications. He authored a new pamphlet, *Our Lend-Lease Pals in East Prussia*. The Steuben Society published some of App's material.

* * *

During the past year there were very few instances of vandalism and overt hostility. On several occasions, swastikas were painted on Jewish stores (Alexandria, La.) or fraternity houses (Norman, Okla.). In most instances teen-agers were found to be responsible.

Discrimination, as an expression of anti-Semitic prejudice, did not markedly change from the previous year. Discrimination in housing, in the form of restrictive covenants, was present in many communities. While Austin, Tex. showed its disapproval of religious restrictive covenants, in this respect it was not a typical community in the Southwest.

The Jewish community in the Southwest is not of major proportions and is therefore not a major target of social or economic discrimination.

—S. THOMAS FRIEDMAN
Southwestern Jewish Community
Relations Council

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA*

LOS ANGELES COUNTY is the largest in Southern California. It is the second largest county in the nation with an estimated population of 3,700,000—an increase of nearly 1,000,000 since 1940. The three most important minority groups are Mexicans (300,000), Jews, (220,000) and Negroes (150,000).

Some observers have estimated that about 65% of Southern California's population are comparatively recent settlers. A transplanted American, a newcomer to Southern California, settles among other aliens who are strangers to him and to each other. Hence, there is lacking the catalytic agent of being indigenous, so essential to an integrated communal living. The newcomer brings with him the same fears and antagonisms, the same suspicions and animosities which he nurtured in his native clime. In truth, these seem to become more pronounced in the uncertainty of the new environment.

In this continuing adjustment period, cultists and crackpots flourish. In 1947 leaders of organized and relatively well-established anti-Semitic groups in Southern California found it easy to carry on aggressively. Current issues, both national and international, were grist for their hate mills. Attacks on the motion picture industry based on loose charges of communism and Zionism, furnished the issues on which to belabour the Jewish people. Zionism and communism were used interchangeably, helping thereby to confuse the innocent and mislead the ignorant. Extraordinary stress at meetings of these anti-Semitic groups was laid on alleged Jewish-communists in Hollywood and Washington, alleged Jewish complicity in the Marshall Plan, alleged Jewish responsibility for nuclear fission and alleged persecution of the Arabs at Zionist instigation.

Leaders among the Los Angeles groups were Earl Craig, who operated largely through his Public Affairs Forum; the Rev. Wesley Swift, who was active in several "Anglo-Israelite" groups following the line of the Anglo-Saxon Federation; the Rev. Jonathan Ellsworth Perkins, who presided at the Sunday Night Christian Forum and G. Allison Phelps, head of the US Americans.

Speakers at Craig's Forum included the Rev. Wesley Swift and Meade McClanahan, recalled Los Angeles councilman who was active in promoting racial and religious restrictive covenants along with other anti-Semitic doctrines. On the Forum platform in 1947 were David Johnson, who ranted about "a million Jewish refugees a year" being admitted to the U.S., and who said that "all refugees are pinks";

* This section also includes Arizona and the city of Las Vegas, Nev.

R. C. W. Friday, who sought to "prove" that all Jews are communists; Salem Bader, who compared "the Zionists' interest in Palestine" to the "Nazi oppression of Jews," and who asserted that the "Jews wanting Palestine have trained for years for building a communist state."

Craig in his speeches boasted that he defeated the measure for a Los Angeles Race Relations Commission; he charged that the Anglo-Jewish press supported communists and communism; he praised Norman Jaques, Canadian anti-Semite, and quoted extensively from Jaques' report on his travels with Gerald L. K. Smith; he sympathized with Germany as a "poor country" carved up after two wars; he attacked the Stratton Bill. Surprisingly, he denounced the fraudulent Protocols of the Elders of Zion and the Franklin Prophecy as forgeries, adding that enough could be found against Jews without resorting to forgeries. Craig's Forum, which met weekly in a Los Angeles auditorium, had an attendance varying from 30 to 125, and obtained its finances from solicitation at meetings.

Probably the most important professional anti-Semite active in Southern California during 1947 was the very energetic Rev. Wesley Swift: He made guest appearances at the Public Affairs Forum; he spoke at national Anglo-Israel conventions in Los Angeles; he addressed a small secret group of Klan leaders and members in Alhambra, Cal.; he formed an Anglo-Saxon Bible group in October; and he formed the Anglo-Saxon Congregation in December. Swift also continued meetings in San Diego and addressed an outfit in that city called the Anglo-Saxon Group. It is noteworthy that several of these meetings were chaired by Bert Comparet, assistant prosecutor in the City Attorney's office in San Diego.

The Sunday Night Christian Forum met weekly under the leadership of Jonathan E. Perkins, at the Embassy Auditorium in Los Angeles. Perkins presided at these meetings until February, when he left to travel with Gerald Smith. During Perkins' tenure, attendance averaged between 100 and 150. After Perkins left, his wife and C. F. Robertson took over the conduct of the Forum. Attendance dwindled, and late in November the Sunday Night Christian Forum went out of business.

Late in 1946 G. Allison Phelps set up the US Americans, which based its appeal on the usual "Jew-banker", "Jew-communist line". The organization met regularly for several months; attendance averaging between 100 and 125, but collections seldom yielding more than a few dollars. The only speaker at each meeting was Phelps. Dis-

heartened by his failure to attract contributors, Phelps dissolved the group in Feb., 1947.

In August, 1947, S. J. Capt, a former Klan leader, founded the Great Pyramid Club in Los Angeles. This organization, composed of Klan elements, met once a month. Membership dues were \$10 a year, and admission to meetings was limited to those holding membership cards. Attendance at meetings was close to 200. The only speaker at meetings of the "club" has been the Rev. Wesley Swift.

During 1947, Southern California witnessed substantial activity by the Anglo-Israelites. There were two sections of this group active in the city—both apparently operating under the name of Anglo-Israelites. One group was controlled by W. B. Record. It met every Sunday at the Embassy Auditorium in Los Angeles, attracting between 200 and 300. Collections were good. Record delivered nearly all of the sermons and filled them with anti-Semitic material. The other Anglo-Israelite group was led by Joe Jeffers until early 1947, when he was committed to federal prison for an auto theft. Thereafter, it was taken over by S. Robertson Orr, who held meetings every Sunday night, with audiences ranging from 75 to 100.

Toward the end of March, 1947, the Second National Anglo-Israelite Conference convened for four days in Los Angeles, with an attendance of about 150 a day. Sessions were devoted to discussions of the Jews, communism, Palestine and to impressing all present with the basic principle of the Anglo-Saxon groups—that the Jews were not the real Israelites. Speakers at the conference included Dr. James S. McGaw, the Rev. C. O. Stadslev of Minneapolis, Dr. Charles O. Benham of Washington, D.C., W. B. Record, and the Rev. Wesley Swift. Late in October, 1947, the Third National Anglo-Israel Convention was convened in Los Angeles, under the auspices of W. B. Record. Principal speakers: McGaw, Stadslev, Benham, S. Robertson Orr, and, again, the ubiquitous Swift.

Although outlawed in California, the KKK continued to meet secretly. During 1947, elements in the Klan cautiously and secretly schemed to re-group their forces into many different, unobtrusive societies, so that they might better be prepared to undertake renewed operations in the future. Thus, the Great Pyramid Club was organized by a former Klan leader, and was composed of Klan elements. Another

similar organization created in Los Angeles late in November was called The Mohicans. Its organizer was Charles King, and its recruiting drive was directed primarily at former Klansmen.

Another organization stemming from the Klan was the Order of Ru-Ha-Mah, also known as the Militant American Patriots, founded in Los Angeles in April, 1947. Its honorary chairman was T. J. Camp, a former Klan leader. Membership was "limited to members of the Caucasian race of Christian faith." There was little evidence of activity by this organization.

This revitalization of the Klan was the most ominous development in the area during 1947. The efforts of Negroes to leave slum areas and resettle in unrestricted neighborhoods; the lack of organization in the Negro community to oppose Klan activity; the steady flow of Jews from the Middle West and the East into Southern California; the native conservatism of older settlers in California; the growing importance of the international conflict with communism; the struggle to alleviate the plight of displaced persons in Europe—all have added their bit to the renewed growth of the Klan.

Also active in the Los Angeles area was Upton Close, columnist and commentator who was openly anti-Semitic during 1947. Early in the year Close discontinued his regular national network broadcast under the sponsorship of Merwin K. Hart's National Economic Council when the program ran into financial difficulties. Once a highly paid lecturer, Close became persona non grata to an increasing number of Americans because of his anti-Semitic activities. By the end of the year, his appearances on lecture platforms were comparatively few in number and trifling in importance; his syndicated column was dropped by some newspapers. He continued to be published in the Hoiles newspaper chain, which included, among others, the *Santa Ana Register* and the *Colorado Springs Gazette-Telegraph*.

During February and March, 1947, a group calling itself Medical Friends of Upton Close solicited funds to finance a series of radio broadcasts in which Close was to fight the "socialization" of medicine. Both the state and county medical associations opposed this effort. In November, Close announced he was moving his office to Washington, D.C. In December, he resumed broadcasting via two Mexican stations.*

In 1947, Close—like Gerald Smith—helped lead the forces of organized anti-Semitism in the United States in a smear campaign against

* In Feb., 1948, Close resumed broadcasting in the U.S. over the Bar-Z network in Montana, the Griffith network in Texas, and several independent stations.

ADL and the Jewish community. Close's pamphlet, *The ADL and Its Use in the World Communist Offensive* was probably the year's outstanding anti-Semitic publication originating from this region. Distributed in the thousands by professional anti-Semites throughout the country, it was a repetition of the well-worn anti-Semitic canards which seek to identify Judaism with communism, convey the false notion that the great majority of Jews are communists and spread the lie that Jews participated prominently in the Bolshevik revolution.

Alleged author of the pamphlet, as described by Close in a brief editor's note, was "Major Robert H. Williams (Air Force), Counter Intelligence, as conscientious an officer as our Military Intelligence ever had." Close's effort to lend the pamphlet the authority of the U.S. Military Intelligence was thoroughly defeated when it was revealed that Mr. Williams is not, and never was a member of Military Intelligence or Military Intelligence Reserve.

Despite the number of anti-Semitic groups active in Southern California there were comparatively few anti-Semitic periodicals published in the area during 1947. C. Leon deAryan's hate sheet, *The Broom*, published in San Diego, continued to appear regularly. The monthly publication, *National Defense*, edited and published by John H. Hoeppel in Arcadia and intended for veterans consumption, was consistently anti-Semitic. (Hoeppel is an ex-Congressman who once was found guilty of accepting bribes. In January he was convicted of disorderly conduct and fined \$100.) *Methodist Challenge*, produced by the Rev. Robert P. Shuler in Los Angeles, also appeared monthly. It contained, in addition to reprints from Gerald Smith's *The Cross and The Flag*, other selected anti-Semitic items. *The Anglo-Israel Guide* of Hollywood, edited by Stephen W. Goodyear, first assistant to the Rev. Wesley Swift, consisted of the standard gibberish: Jews are not Caucasians; Jews are communists, etc. *Closer-Ups*, a bi-weekly put out by Upton Close, was distributed from Hollywood even though Close himself moved to Washington, D.C. in November, 1947.

There was also distribution of a few locally produced anti-Semitic pamphlets. One such pamphlet was *Palestine and Birobidjan*, written and published in Los Angeles by G. Allison Phelps in February, 1947. Its theme is that the Jews do not need Palestine and should be sent to Birobidjan.

Early in November, copies of the fifteen year-old pamphlet, *Gentiles Review* were recirculated by its aged author John D. Orloff. This publication was viciously anti-Semitic, quoting at length from the forged Protocols of the Elders of Zion.

In 1947, the Beam Stationery Store in Los Angeles was the largest

dispenser of anti-Semitic literature in the area. It offered for sale many anti-democratic publications originating in Canada and England. Near the end of the year it also began to sell Einar Aberg's anti-Jewish material from Sweden.

* * *

Coincident with the activities of professional anti-Semites in Southern California during 1947, there developed an increase in unorganized anti-Semitism. The Los Angeles labor market tended to become highly competitive. This development apparently contributed to an increase in discrimination in employment. Large mercantile establishments, banks, and some small insurance companies increasingly discriminated against minorities in their employment policies. The Jewish Personnel Relations Bureau, an agency of the Los Angeles Community Council, received well over 200 complaints of discrimination during 1947. About 150 were directed against private employers, 60 against professional persons, five against government agencies, and six against labor unions. Nearly 70% of these cases were settled satisfactorily, about 3% could not be settled and the remainder are still pending. The Bureau found, in many instances, that discrimination was the result of prejudice on the part of individual employees or minor officials, rather than company policy.

The worst instances of social discrimination against Jews occurred among several large and well-known inns and ranches in Arizona. In December, 1947, Arizona resort hotel owners met and formed an organization to strengthen their hand in the fight to continue their restrictive policies. The Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, which had previously decided not to display any literature from Arizona resorts that followed a discriminatory policy, disregarded its own policy.

In California, where there is legislation outlawing discrimination by hotels, restaurants, etc., several resort hotels unlawfully refused to accept Jewish patronage, while others followed a policy of accepting Jews on a quota basis. One Los Angeles ballroom also discriminated against Jews. The Lake Arrowhead division of the Los Angeles Turf Club was discovered admitting Jews on a quota basis.

The attitude of various colleges in the region toward admission of minorities was mixed. The University of Southern California agreed to remove from its application forms a question as to the racial descent of applicants. The Arizona State Teachers College resolved not to permit its athletic teams to engage in competition with any team prac-

ting discrimination because of race or religion. There was pending at the end of the year, at the same college, consideration of a policy to bar from the campus social and fraternal organizations having discriminatory membership rules. At Santa Barbara College, the student body voted on a proposal to deny campus privileges to organizations following a pattern of racial or religious discrimination. While the proposal failed for lack of a necessary two-thirds majority, there is agitation for its revival and it may be reconsidered with more success during 1948.

There were a number of Southern California communities which banned Jews through restrictive covenants and "gentlemen's agreements." La Jolla, a few miles out of San Diego, was, for the most part, restricted against Jews. The Emerald Bay (Cal.) Community Association refused to sell property in that area to Jews. At El Segundo, Cal., a large real estate operator, E. C. Kenny, maintained a reinforced concrete sign bearing the inscription, "We prefer to deal with Gentiles only." Kenny refused to remove the sign, despite the pleading of county and city authorities. The El Monte (Cal.) Chamber of Commerce spurred a drive in 1947 to revive restrictive covenants covering most of the residential area.

Occasionally, in 1947, some of the reputable local newspapers permitted anti-Semitism to slip into their pages. The *Pasadena Journal*, a monthly publication with a small local circulation, printed an article captioned "The Russian Problem" in which it charged Jews in the United States with being friendly and sympathetic to Russia. Three local newspapers frequently printed Upton Close's columns.

One Los Angeles radio station carried a forum in which controversial subjects such as refugees, communism, and Zionism were discussed in a manner harmful to Jewish reputation. A San Diego radio station and a Los Angeles radio station broadcast the program of a proselytizing evangelist who made uncomplimentary references to Jews.

A number of reputable political and social groups lent their platforms to Upton Close. In his speech before the Young Republican group of Santa Ana, Cal., Close was the principal speaker at a Lincoln Day conference. He denied most vociferously that he was anti-Semitic, and then asserted that "Marxism has a strong hold on the Jews—they must carry out orders." When Close spoke at the Sunday Afternoon Club of Glendale, Cal., on Feb. 26, 1947, he was hissed and booed by the audience because of his patent prejudice and the implicit anti-Semitism in his speech.

There were few incidents of violence directed against Jews and synagogues. On two occasions during 1947 anti-Semitic signs were scrawled on walls, in one case on a home occupied by Jews. The one instance of desecration of a synagogue occurred in Huntington Park, Cal. The synagogue was defaced with paint the day after a Brotherhood Meeting in February. When the story of this act of vandalism appeared in the local newspaper, it was accompanied by several letters condemning the act, some written by local ministers.

In May, a swastika was painted on the Jewish Center, Centinella Valley, Cal. On Hallowe'en, the letters KKK were smeared in red paint on a sign posted on a lot in Glendale, Cal. The lot was to be the site of a new Jewish temple. There were also some instances of anonymous, anti-Semitic letters, addressed to Jewish businessmen and to ADL itself. In June, a hand-painted card was placed on the door of a Jewish-owned jewelry store, calling for a boycott of the Jews.

Law enforcement agencies have shown little vigor in their investigations of anti-Semitic outrages. In none of these cases did investigation succeed in disclosing the persons responsible. There has been, however, considerable community resentment against the vandalism.

During 1947, a number of candidates for public office permitted their names to be coupled with anti-Semitism or manifested a sympathy for anti-Semitism. In almost every case, these candidates were decisively defeated. Thus, Meade McClanahan, who late in January filed to regain a seat in the Los Angeles City Council, was defeated by a vote of 10,216 to 2,783. J. Lloyd Brubaker, a frequenter of anti-Semitic groups, was a candidate for City Director in Los Angeles. He polled 2,580 votes against his opponent's 14,462. Fritz Zeiss, a former member of Friends of New Germany, was badly defeated when he ran for City Director in Pasadena. On the other hand, Los Angeles Councilman Ed Davenport was a supporter of, and frequent speaker at Earl Craig's Forum.

There were instances of the distribution of anonymous anti-Semitic literature. An unidentified person who disseminated material under the pseudonym of "Ray C. Van Syne," circulated quantities of anonymous anti-Semitic and anti-Catholic writings. The unknown author sent his material to Congressmen and Senators. His anti-Catholic literature included a malicious printed petition to the Security Council of the United Nations, scurrilously demanding that the Vatican State be brought to trial for collaboration with the Nazi party, and falsely charging that it was responsible for World War II and the murder of millions of hostages.

A typewritten circular letter turned up in different parts of the community stating that Jewish clothing manufacturers had engineered the style change. Shortly before Christmas there appeared mimeographed sheets containing anti-Semitic poetry, inferring that the Jewish businessmen were exploiting the Christmas spirit for their private profit. None of these anti-Semitic throwaways received substantial distribution.

Discrimination in employment, the tightening of restrictions in areas available to members of minority groups and personal antagonisms resulting in anti-Semitic name-calling and occasional violence, were the most frequent manifestations of unorganized anti-Semitism in the Southern California region during 1947. There was an increase in all of these manifestations, but there are also signs that more and more people in all walks of life feel that the time has come to do something about these deficiencies in our democracy. The decisive defeat of anti-Semitic individuals running for public office was the greatest evidence of this enlightened attitude.

—MILTON A. SENN
ADL Regional Office,
Southern California

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, NEVADA AND UTAH

DURING 1947, there was little evidence of concerted anti-Semitism in Northern California. With few exceptions, activities by hostile organizations and individuals were at a standstill.

Since the revocation of the Ku Klux Klan's state charter several years ago, there have been no indications of local revival. However, a Klan-like incident occurred in Fresno: As a result of the bitterness aroused when an Oklahoma football team objected to playing Fresno State College—because the latter team included Negroes—a fiery cross was burned near the stadium.

The San Francisco area saw an intensification of Arab propaganda in 1947, in the form of increased publication and distribution of literature. In addition, paid propagandists espousing the Arab cause spoke at meetings of "prestige" organizations. Pro-Arab spokesmen

often utilized the technique of anti-Semitism in order to influence audiences. There were reports also that Arab groups in this area exchanged mailing lists with groups such as Merwin K. Hart's National Economic Council.

Pro-German activities seemed to center around San Francisco and Oakland. Several meetings were held by American Relief for Germany, Inc. Membership of this organization ranged from known pro-Nazis to respectable individuals who are sincere in their humane beliefs and efforts. Speakers at American Relief meetings usually sympathized with "poor suffering Germans." There has been no known use of anti-Semitism by the agency during the last twelve months.

An organization which became increasingly questionable was the American Citizens of German Descent in the United States. Phillip Lenhardt, its president, once was an active supporter of the pro-Nazi Friends of New Germany and the German-American Bund and Frederick Charles Mensing, corresponding secretary, was described by *Life* (June 26, 1939) as one who "helped amalgamate warring U.S. Nazi factions." Thus far, American Citizens has a small membership and its meetings have been poorly attended. Although the group claimed to be national in scope, most of its members and officers seem to be resident in California. American Citizens is not held in high esteem by the local German-American community.

Mankind United, led by Arthur "The Voice" Bell, was charged with being pro-Nazi and pro-Japanese during the war years. In 1947, the name of the organization was changed to Christ's Church of the Golden Rule. However, despite the change of name, the group dwindled to a handful by the end of the year. Court actions and adverse press publicity apparently destroyed its appeal.

A number of individuals associated with organized anti-Semitism operated in this area. In most cases their efforts were ineffectual.

"Father" William Riker, the senile, fanatical leader of a religious cult, carried on his crackpot hatemongering in 1947. Riker did not cooperate with other pro-fascists; his activity consisted mostly of distributing his own literature.

Dr. Max A. X. Clark, a former participant in Gerald Smith's meetings, continued to publish *Pentecostal Journal*, previously titled *National Christian Journal*. This anti-Catholic and anti-Semitic periodical had limited local circulation and negligible influence.

Marilyn R. Allen, anti-Semitic pamphleteer of Salt Lake City,

persisted in her virulent, anti-Semitic pamphleteering activities. In addition to distributing her own material, she also mailed reprints (in English) of Einar Aberg's material.

A short-lived organization was the Cavaliers of America, Inc., formerly known as the Political Americanism League. It was born in December, 1946; died in the spring of 1947. Appealing to low income groups with promises of obtaining employment and purchase discounts for its members, the Cavaliers held several unsuccessful meetings. Membership was restricted to the "Caucasian or White race" and anti-Semitic remarks were made on occasion. Its organizers included L. L. DeCosta, Charles Meffert and C. L. Kinsey.

On Feb. 1, 1947, the American Brotherhood, Inc., was incorporated in California by Arthur Alderette of Berkeley, Mark Cosulick of San Francisco and Evan F. Lovett of Oakland. The only activity of American Brotherhood, Inc. was to mail a printed questionnaire which contained unmistakable anti-Negro and anti-Jewish implications.

Two previously unknown individuals who indulged in unsuccessful anti-Semitic activities in 1947 were Maynard Orlando Nelsen and Robert LeNoir. Nelsen, 23 year-old veteran, tried unsuccessfully to organize a storm troop group in order to free America from "the menace" of Jews and Negroes. LeNoir busied himself with desecrating Jewish temples (using KKK markings) and pasting hate stickers on shop windows in San Francisco. He also distributed a number of anti-Semitic and anti-Masonic leaflets, supposedly issued by the Legion of Christian Confreres—a paper organization with no membership. LeNoir's efforts to raise a following and his systematic program of defacements brought him to the attention of the authorities and resulted finally in his arrest for participation in an armed robbery.

Among the suspect periodicals emanating from this area were *The Leader* and *The Beacon Light Herald*. *The Beacon Light Herald*, published by William Kullgren in Atascadero, pursued its anti-Semitism and anti-Catholicism, but with a limited circulation and an unnoticeable impact. *The Leader*, a San Francisco weekly—never openly anti-Semitic—which, in previous years, closely followed the nationalist line, persisted in its policy of reprinting from nationalist publications. It also labelled as "communist" most groups and individuals fighting bigotry.

While attempts were made to promote organized anti-Semitism in this area, the end result was little or no success. Other forms of prejudice, notably that against Nisei, Negroes and Latin Americans also showed no increase in organized form. It may well be that the efforts of the California Federation for Civic Unity along with the local councils helped immunize the communities against organized

hate movements. Another possible factor was the absence of rabble rousers with real ability to unite the people on a hate program.

* * *

Although most resorts did not indicate a "restricted clientele" policy in their advertising copy, several places appeared to use a quota system with regard to Jews. Non-whites were categorically excluded from almost all fashionable resorts.

There were few complaints of employment discrimination against Jews. However, a survey of the private employment agencies revealed that the great majority inquired about an applicant's religion. The explanation in most cases was that the employer was responsible for the inclusion of this type of question. Banking firms, engineering companies and business organizations seemed to be most guilty of economic discrimination. Hardest hit minority in this field was the Negro group. Negroes were also excluded from professional associations of lawyers and physicians. There was no such manifestation against the Jewish group.

Educational institutions in this area did not increase the use of the quota system. However, there were some attempts by national fraternities to obtain the affiliation of local fraternities on the basis of exclusion of Jews. On the positive side, 1947 saw the beginning of an intercultural program involving the seven state teachers' colleges in California. And many campus newspapers did a noteworthy job of editorially combatting discrimination.

In housing, restrictive covenants were still being invoked—primarily against non-Caucasians and, to a lesser degree, against Jews.

Malicious anti-refugee propaganda was effectively combatted through an intensive educational drive by the San Francisco Committee for Displaced Persons. In addition, the San Francisco Committee for Service to Emigres and United Service for New Americans did a good job of resettlement and placement, as a result of which there were few cases of employment discrimination against refugees.

During the past year, there were no reported acts of violence against Jewish homes or property. Another encouraging sign was the complete absence of penetration by bigots into respected organizations.

When stimulated, there was usually a healthy reaction from non-Jewish groups. Newspapers, radio stations and the school systems were generally responsive to pro-democratic material supplied by educational organizations and agencies.

—IRVING BABOW
ADL Regional Office,
San Francisco Bay

IV

STATE-WIDE REPORTS

WISCONSIN

THE level of organized anti-Semitism in Wisconsin dropped low by the end of 1946 and there was no rise during 1947. Of major concern were the local activities of Gerald Smith. The Milwaukee city auditorium was rented by his supporters—under an innocuous name—for Smith's first meeting here in three years. Announcement of the affair stimulated some individuals and organizations into opposing Smith's right to meet in a municipally-owned hall. One group picketed the gathering, but most opponents ignored him. His audience was small, approximately 125, and contributions were meager.

On several occasions, Smith returned to his former home town, Viroqua, Wis. He also appeared briefly in Madison and Elkhorn. In each instance he issued verbose press releases, some of which were deemed sufficiently newsworthy by reputable, local newspaper editors to be given space.

During 1947, Delevan, Wis., home of Kenneth Goff, a Smith associate, was turned into another Smith *situs* of anti-Semitic infection. Jonathan E. Perkins, Smith's henchman from the West Coast, selected Delevan as his mailing address for a wanton anti-Semitic pamphlet, *The Jews Have Got the Atom Bomb*. This pamphlet received wide distribution by the Gerald Smith forces.

The Rev. Daniel Roth of Brooklyn, N. Y., who conducted a number of meetings with anti-Semitic undertones, was typical of the traveling evangelists who toured this state.

Milwaukee, with its large German-American population, continued to manifest special interest in "relief for Germany." Former bundists and other leaders in anti-Semitism kept in touch with German fund and food raising movements and with German singing and cultural groups.

Two formal anti-Semitic groups withered and disbanded during the year: The Gentile League of Watertown and the local counterpart of We, the Mothers. Neither was able to arouse interest or support for its activities.

There were several instances during the year of anti-Semitic vandalism, as well as isolated attacks upon Jews. In Superior, a Jewish cemetery was desecrated and the vandals apprehended and punished. On another occasion, tires were slashed on cars parked near a synagogue. There was no indication of concerted planning behind these incidents.

Sporadic public anti-Semitic remarks were reported. In Eagle River a county judge disparaged several Jewish litigants who appeared before him. *Mink Bulletin*, a fur trade publication in the area, included religious bigotry in several articles.

* * *

Discrimination continued to be the major indication of "polite" anti-Semitism. In social and resort accommodations discrimination reached serious heights. In spite of the efforts of the Wisconsin Conservation Commission, the objectionable phrases "restricted clientele" and "Gentiles only" still remained in many advertising brochures. A large sign, "Gentile Community," appeared in southeastern Wisconsin, near Paddock Lake. Discrimination in social and civic organizations was typified by the numerous Elks Clubs which excluded Jews from membership.

Restrictive covenants as a discriminatory device against Jews in housing has been serious here since the state courts upheld such covenants several years ago. In Delevan, a real estate auctioneer inserted a full page advertisement in *The Delevan Shopper* announcing that neither Jews nor Negroes would be permitted to buy certain properties.

A flagrant case of discrimination in Wisconsin's institutions of higher learning occurred at Marquette University's dental school. Although school authorities denied the existence of a quota, each of the

last few years has marked a decrease in the number of Jewish students admitted. Today there are no longer enough Jewish students to maintain a chapter of the Jewish dental fraternity.

* * *

Anti-Semitic manifestations in the Wisconsin area were met with determined opposition from civic, labor, religious and veterans organizations. The press, particularly the *Milwaukee Journal*, and the *Capitol Times* showed an awareness of the dangers inherent in un-American attacks on minorities.

In Milwaukee and many other Wisconsin communities, more Christian individuals and organizations became actively interested in pro-democratic programs. This was affirmed by the formation and active growth of such groups as the Governor's Commission on Human Rights and the Appleton Interfaith Committee on Tolerance and Understanding.

The "Lest We Forget" radio program, broadcast in Milwaukee, received an overwhelmingly favorable response from listening audiences. The programs, consisting of a 15-minute recording, followed by a 15-minute forum, set a pattern for similar programs throughout the country.

—SIDNEY H. SAYLES
ADL Regional Office, Wisconsin

MINNESOTA

THE only sensational instance of organized anti-Semitic activity in Minnesota during 1947 was the short-lived Democratic Nationalist Party. This group, which organized on the University of Minnesota campus early in the year, amounted to a handful of members under the leadership of one Maynard O. Nelsen. Its activities included writing threatening letters, and posting anti-Semitic and anti-Negro slogans on the campus and in the city of Minneapolis.

After months of investigation by local authorities Nelsen was taken into custody and placed under a peace bond. Subsequently, he went to California, began operating there, then suddenly returned to Minneapolis in October—wearing a full Nazi-type uniform. He was apprehended, held for lunacy examination, and recommended for confinement in a mental institution.

Gerald Smith visited Minneapolis to hold a meeting at the Leamington Hotel. It was picketed by his opponents. Further visits were made to this city by the Rev. William Blessing and Kenneth Goff. Their rallies were generally ignored, attracting not more than 150 people.

The Anglo-Saxon Federation continued its activity in Minneapolis through the Revs. Luke Rader and C. O. Stadskev. Both ministers openly preached anti-Semitism and their churches were distribution centers for anti-Semitic literature.

In Faribault, Minn., the Rev. W. D. Herrstrom, Fundamentalist minister, continued to publish *Bible News Flashes*, an anti-Semitic publication.

American Relief for Germany, Inc., some of whose national officers had been active in pro-Nazi circles, held regular meetings in St. Paul. The group's principal goals appeared to be to obtain food and a "soft peace" for Germany; there was no evidence of anti-Semitic activity.

* * *

Social, economic and housing discrimination continued to rise in Minnesota in 1947. While some progress was made to eliminate discrimination in several Minneapolis civic organizations, the Minneapolis Automobile Club, local Kiwanis, Rotary, and similar groups continued to bar Jews from membership. Summer resorts in Minnesota practiced discrimination widely, but toward the end of the year an encouraging step was noted when one publication, supported by 445 resort owners, advocated elimination of this type of bias.

Discrimination in employment continued almost unabated, except in Minneapolis, where enactment of fair employment practices ordinances had a salutary effect. Regarding discrimination in colleges, the Governor's Interracial Commission requested the University of Minnesota to delete from admission applications, questions concerning racial and religious background.

Restrictive covenants aimed against religious groups are illegal in

Minnesota. Despite this, however, Jews were excluded from many areas through "gentlemen's agreements."

A regularly published comic magazine, *Heroes All*, carried in its Dec. 10, 1947, issue a vicious portrayal of a Jew. It stirred up nationwide resentment. The issue received prompt condemnation from responsible Catholic Church officials and also was repudiated by the publisher.

The Minneapolis Property Owners Association from time to time cooperated with anti-Semitic organizations and individuals. In addition, the Northwest Lumbermen's Association engaged Upton Close as a speaker for its convention.

Acts of violence against Jewish property and Jewish persons declined sharply in 1947. There were several instances of windows being broken at a Jewish school and assaults on Jewish boys. However, these were isolated cases, and received prompt police action and public condemnation.

A large amount of anonymous defamatory literature was received in Minnesota from Einar Aberg, the Swedish anti-Semite.

* * *

Community reaction against anti-Semitism was healthy. Also, through its governor, Minnesota was one of the few states which indicated a desire to take positive steps in behalf of displaced persons. Minnesota is one of the few states where the local American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars have passed favorable resolutions on DPs, anti-lynching legislation, poll tax and FEPC.

—SAMUEL L. SCHEINER
Minnesota Jewish Council

WASHINGTON STATE

IN the State of Washington, there has never been any extensive overt anti-Semitism. Perhaps the index to this favorable community climate lies in a popular description of Washington as "probably the most progressive state in the country."

The year 1947 saw an increased alertness on the part of the Christian community toward prejudice and discrimination. There was a strong community reaction toward the elimination of all kinds of racial and religious prejudice.

An encouraging development was the demise of the principal anti-Semitic publication emanating from this state, *IMP'S Bulletin*, which in 1947 announced that it was going out of business. Since then, Victor Lindstrom of Aberdeen, Wash., the publisher, has been inactive, apparently because of his inability to obtain funds.

In the early part of 1947, one L. D. Staplin established his residence at Anacortes, Wash. Using the letterhead of the Carbonite Metal Company, Ltd., of Burlington, Wis. (with which, he has stated, he is no longer connected), and entitling his material *Chapman's Chapbook*, Staplin mailed vicious anti-Semitic propaganda throughout the country. The last such mailing was in June, 1947.

The Constitutionalist, a monthly, continued to be edited by E. H. Rettig of Seattle. Rettig, a former engineer, claimed that his publication, which followed the Anglo-Saxon Federation line and reprinted articles from many anti-Semitic periodicals, had a circulation of 2,200.

* * *

Social and economic discrimination did not exist to any great extent in this area. Most important exception arose in a British Columbia resort, the Malibu Club. This hotel, which draws most of its guests from the State of Washington, openly discriminated against Jews and practiced this policy with the cooperation of its agent, the American Express Travel Service in Seattle. The Washington Athletic Club, in Seattle, continued to limit Jewish membership and in Tacoma, the Elks Lodge inaugurated a policy of excluding Jewish applicants from membership. Two exclusive residential additions in Seattle have restrictive covenants against Jews, but the Seattle City Council, by unanimous vote, has refused to accept the plan for one of these developments because of the restrictive covenant.

There were no complaints of employment discrimination, probably because there were few available Jewish persons in the labor market.

One symbolic act of hostility occurred on the campus of the University of Washington, where an anonymous letter was circulated attacking a Community Chest campaign because the Federated Jewish

Fund of Seattle was one of the beneficiaries. This attack provoked a magnificent editorial in the University of Washington daily, denouncing the letter and its writer.

The State of Washington has shown a firm opposition to the manifestations of anti-Semitism and just as firm a support of the pro-democratic ideal. The press carried splendid editorials on Palestine and gave excellent coverage to the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights. The Seattle Civic Unity Committee accepted the sponsorship of the pro-democratic "Lest We Forget" radio program. One leading newspaper, the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, gave wide publicity to the intercultural Christmas-Chanukah programs in Seattle's public schools. Representatives of nearly all patriotic, fraternal and civic organizations joined in the sponsorship of a full program of activities connected with the forthcoming visit of the Freedom Train.

—P. ALLEN RICKLES
ADL Regional Office,
Washington State

OREGON

OREGON and Washington are twins geographically, but in most other respects they are strikingly dissimilar. Perhaps the great difference between the two states stems from their antithetical traditions. Washington, the home of Populism, is one of the most progressive states in the Union; Oregon, originally settled by pioneering New Englanders, one of the more conservative. The contrast is sharply drawn in considering the status of civil liberties and the treatment of minorities in these states.

After World War I, Oregon was controlled politically by the Ku Klux Klan. Indeed, the Klan's influence in Oregon was greater than in any other state outside the South. Klan psychology persisted even after its strength vanished in the 30s.

While Oregon remains backward in its treatment of Negroes and Orientals, 1947 witnessed the virtual expiration of the organized anti-Semitic movement in the state.

The Klan was reported to have reestablished itself in a remote town on the southern Oregon coast, but no other activity by this group, or its defunct offspring, the Silver Shirts, was noted.

Complementing the failure of the Klan to revive was the demise of Scientific Recovery, Inc. Originally set up as a "monetary reform" agency, this organization never progressed beyond the holding of irregular, poorly attended meetings. The last was in March, 1947. Because of its senseless program and feeble leadership it failed to capture public interest. H. L. Beach of Portland, a former Silver Shirter, was a leading member of Scientific Recovery, Inc. Always an energetic distributor of anti-Semitic literature, Beach suddenly ceased this activity during the year.

In April, 1947, a new organization, the American Foundation, was incorporated in Oregon. The stated purpose of the group was to "sponsor lectures, preserve and circulate books and documents." While such a goal is innocent enough, interest was aroused because of the personalities involved. The incorporators were ex-Senator Rufus C. Holman, arch isolationist who was denied reelection in 1944; his wife, Mrs. Norma Holman, formerly the widow of isolationist Senator Ernest Lundeen of Minnesota; and Dellmore Lessard, former chairman of the America First Committee in Oregon and a participant in anti-Semitic meetings. American Foundation, Inc., was inactive in 1947; showed no signs of becoming a force, political or otherwise.

* * *

Four anti-Semitic publications came out of this area: *Free Press*, published weekly by Syd Pierce of Redmond, Oregon, regularly reprinted articles from the more widely circulated anti-Semitic journals; its circulation was very limited. *St. Joseph's Blatt*, a German language paper published by the Benedictine Fathers, Mt. Angel, Ore., under the editorship of Father Romauld Edenhofer, used vicious anti-Semitic material, largely reprints from other papers. Its circulation was centered in the Midwest and Canada. *The Boise Valley Herald*, published weekly in Middleton, Idaho, by A. and I. W. Cornell, and distributed in Oregon, is "crank" literature of the worst type, using the vilest anti-Semitic canards. The circulation of this sheet was less than 300. *The Reminder* was published monthly by the Anglo-Saxon Christian Association, Portland, under the editorship of Hugh C. Krum. Its principal theme was the "British Israel" line of the Anglo-Saxon Federation.

Other literature in the form of anti-Semitic periodicals, pam-

phlets, etc., circulated in this area. None was anonymous or of local origin; the Portland firm which at one time had printed anti-Semitic material for local consumption went out of business.

Paradoxical contrast to the virtual elimination of professional anti-Semitism was the unabated social discrimination against Jews. Private and country clubs—University, Arlington, Town, etc.—all excluded Jews; the Aero Club maintained a rigid Jewish quota. Social discrimination against non-white racial groups was even more flagrant and widespread. Negroes and Orientals were excluded from most of the better hotels and restaurants.

While there were no actual complaints of discrimination against Jews in employment, it is significant that banks and utilities did not employ Jewish personnel. Non-whites were severely restricted in employment opportunities. Outside of menial and service occupations, work opportunities were almost completely closed to Negroes and Orientals. This situation was aggravated by the fact that some trade unions, by constitution or otherwise, prohibited Negro membership.

Jews were not discriminated against in admission to the State University and the State College, although these schools continued to inquire about the religion of applicants.

The only real housing problem was in relation to the Negroes, who were segregated into a small area; this caused some racial tension.

There were a few instances of violent anti-Semitic hostility. A small orthodox synagogue was broken into and desecrated, the work of some young mischief-makers, not motivated by anti-Semitism. There were no assaults upon Jewish individuals but several instances of anti-Semitic markings on Jewish-owned homes occurred. In May, a cross was burned on the campus of Reed College, which has a large Jewish enrollment. It was interpreted as an act of retaliation by townspeople who had been recently deprived of the use of the college swimming pool.

The community—as represented by press, radio, civic organizations, etc.—cooperated enthusiastically in the projection of pro-democratic programs in this area. However, some of the very same community leaders who so forthrightly condemned bigotry, continued their membership in clubs which barred Jews.

The effects of Nazi propaganda, the stresses and strains of the war, all left their mark and require a continued awakening of the public conscience.

—DAVID ROBINSON
Western ADL Regional Office

FLORIDA

ORGANIZED anti-Semitism in Florida reached a new low in 1947. No new organizations arose to spew anti-Jewish propaganda and old groups suffered a diminution in strength. Professional hatemongers in this area learned that the "hate" line had a growing unpopularity with the average Floridian.

The Ku Klux Klan, which in 1945 boasted a sizable membership and five chapters in Miami County, is now reduced to one small, active chapter in the Hialeah area. The former mayor of Miami Springs, Wilfred W. Tyler, publicly admitted his association with the Klan as its chieftain in 1947, and then promptly severed his relationship with the robed order.

Carefully avoided by responsible elements in most Florida communities, the Klan hit a low in political and community influence during 1947. Whatever little newspaper publicity the organization received, took the form of ridicule or denunciation. Only in the central Florida area could the Klan wield any significant influence. In the Orlando area, where the Ku Klux Klan of Florida, Inc., was officially incorporated in 1944, a tie-in with the White Voters League of Orlando was revealed. The latter group is said to control the city elections.

Statewide, the Klan has no potency.

The St. Petersburg area was again the vacation-time meeting place of Harvey Springer and Gerald Winrod. A new organization appeared in the Miami area, the Florida branch of American Relief for Germany, Inc. This group claimed cooperation with the highly respected American Friends Service Committee to raise funds for the relief of the starving people of Germany. Interestingly, those joining the movement received copies of *Steuben News*, publication of the Steuben Society of America. Thus far, there has been no evidence of anti-Semitism by this group.

There were no acts of violence committed upon Jewish homes and cemeteries. There was one reported act of vandalism in the Beth David Synagogue of Miami committed, according to the police, by young boys. A cross burning took place in the northwest section of Miami (Hialeah) and two homes, owned by Negroes were burned down.

In the DeLand-Daytona Beach area, one obvious fanatic persisted in mailing to prominent Jews anonymous defamatory literature entitled *Bloodhounds* and *What the Sheenies Say*.

With regard to anti-Semitic publications: *The Chronicle*, published in Jacksonville, is a weekly newspaper of very limited circulation. Sam Melson, its publisher, has followed a hostile line for several years. More recently a respectable monthly industrial trade journal entitled *Industrial Florida* published by Will M. Traer of Jacksonville and his son, William M. Traer, Jr., of Winter Park, which had long pursued an anti-New Deal, anti-labor, and anti-Roosevelt line, printed an editorial in its October, 1947, issue containing a vicious anti-Semitic reference. Referring to the Jewish group, the editorial stated, "... a bunch of kikes (Jews to you) ..." The Traers also publish *The Winter Park Herald*, a reactionary newspaper which caters to the citizens of that town.

* * *

With the exception of those winter resort towns which have large transient Jewish populations, many hotels in nearly every Florida resort city, refused to accept Jewish clientele. Overt evidences of hotel discrimination in Miami Beach lessened during the last year, primarily the result of an educational program. However, in only a few cases did the removal of a "restricted" notice mean a concurrent removal of the actual religious barrier. On an over-all basis, however, keeping in mind such places as Fort Lauderdale, St. Petersburg, Palm Beach and Daytona Beach, there were indications of a general improvement in resort discrimination.

The traditional pattern of civil rights in the South prevailed in all areas of Florida. The Negro was completely banned from places of amusement, resorts and public accommodations. However, one specific exception was observed during the commemoration of Freedom Train Rededication Week. Primarily through the efforts of the Dade County Civil Rights Council, an agency comprised of representative civic and education organizations of Greater Miami, no segregation was permitted at the two public rallies staged, nor did it prevail during the Freedom Train visit.

There is little discrimination in institutions of higher learning directed against the admission of Jews.

Restrictive covenants do exist in all areas of the state against the Negro. In certain areas, particularly Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Bay Harbor and St. Petersburg, the Jew, too, is the victim of the restrictive covenant. In addition, "gentlemen's agreements" exist in some communities—for example, Sunset Island on Miami Beach. In the

Tampa area there are some restrictive covenants directed against persons of Latin extraction.

Where anti-Semitic manifestations are brought to the attention of community leaders and the general public, denunciation has always followed. For example, in St. Petersburg, when a campaign was started to sabotage a community meeting where John Roy Carlson was the speaker, prominent civic leaders, ministers and political figures of that community united to condemn the hatemongers in their midst and to get behind the rally to make it a huge success. In Fort Lauderdale, a minister wrote to the rabbi regretting the un-Christianlike attitude of some of his constituents toward the Jew. In Orlando, the principal of an elementary school wrote: "The teachers have expressed their ideas and I think it has 'dented' some of their prejudices a wee bit. Slowly but surely we are gaining ground."

—GEORGE J. TALIANOFF
ADL Regional Office, Florida

V

CITY-WIDE REPORTS

DETROIT

IN 1947 there was a continued decrease of organized anti-Semitic activity in the City of Detroit.

The most active group operating in this area was the Gerald Smith organization, functioning under many titles—The Christian Nationalist Crusade, the Federation of Americanization, Christian Youth for America, Western Hemisphere Committee against Communism and Political Zionism, among others. Smith used Detroit as headquarters until nearly the end of the year. He held comparatively few meetings in this city; most were unsuccessful. Imported for these gatherings were John Wilson Hamilton of Boston and Homer Loomis of Atlanta. A Smith lieutenant, Don Lohbeck, was in charge locally of the organization and appeared as a speaker or presiding officer at many sessions.

The peak attendance at any of Smith's Detroit conclaves was about 250. The press and public generally ignored his activities. The one exception occurred in October when Homer Loomis spoke at the Fort Shelby Hotel. The meeting was picketed by antagonized groups and the affair, although attended by only 87 people, received considerable resulting publicity.

In December, Smith headquarters were moved to St. Louis and apparently Smith gave up Detroit as a base of activities. His publica-

tion *The Cross and The Flag*, continued to be mailed from Detroit to a claimed circulation of 16,000.

The Lutheran Research Society, headed by Lawrence Reilly, thrived during the year. His publication, *Eleventh Hour*, appeared bi-monthly, more pretentious than ever in size and appearance. Reilly worked intermittently with the Smith group. His approach was anti-communist coupled with overt anti-Semitism. A "European Relief Committee" worked out of Reilly's headquarters and he described himself as president of the Ministerial Federation of America.

The National Workers League, which was relatively quiescent, received a flash of publicity early in the year. Parker Sage, head of the organization and a defendant in the aborted mass sedition trial, circulated a leaflet denouncing Russell Roberts, his former associate in the National Workers' League, who had been convicted on a morals charge.

* * *

Unorganized anti-Semitism infected the Detroit community, although the continued high employment rate minimized the number of reports of religious discrimination against applicants for jobs. There were some complaints of rental discrimination and there were areas in the community where Jews were unable to purchase houses because of restrictive covenants or unwritten understandings. Restrictive covenants in housing were the subject of litigation in Detroit during the past year. In one such case, the court's decision invalidated the covenant at issue although not on fundamental grounds; the Sipes-McGee case, which originated in Detroit, is at this writing before the United States Supreme Court.

Infringement of civil rights of Negroes remained frequent and flagrant in the Detroit area. Places of public accommodation such as restaurants and hotels, refused Negro patronage although such action violated the Michigan Civil Rights law. A local civil rights case involving the refusal of an excursion boat company to take Negro passengers is also before the Supreme Court.

There were some instances of assaults upon Jewish individuals which were motivated solely by anti-Semitism. These assaults were not the result of concerted action; careful investigation established that each stemmed from individual hatred. Damage to a local synagogue and to a Jewish home for aged folks was apparently the work of juvenile vandals.

In 1947, Detroit saw the formation of a Coordinating Council on Human Relations, consisting of 42 organizations functionally involved

in community relations activities in the city. Included are Negro, labor, church, civic and youth organizations. Operating on the premise that prejudice is indivisible and that community health is imperiled when any single group is the object of prejudice, the Coordinating Council made important contributions to intergroup understanding. During the latter part of 1947, the Michigan Council for Fair Employment Legislation was succeeded by the Michigan Committee on Civil Rights which, like the Council, speaks in the name of many representative state-wide groups.

—WALTER E. KLEIN
Detroit Jewish Community Council

ST. LOUIS

WHILE the early part of 1947 revealed a low in organized anti-Semitism in St. Louis, the arrival of Gerald Smith and his coterie of professional hate-mongers changed the picture somewhat during the ensuing months.

Smith held meetings in this city in May and June, 1947, and again in October, 1947. On Oct. 10, 1947, Homer Loomis, Jr., James M. Akin and a third member of the Columbians, made their first appearance in St. Louis with Don Lohbeck, a Gerald Smith aide. The rabble-rousers received insignificant publicity in the press. Maximum attendance at any single meeting was never more than 300; as few as 75 people appeared at the Loomis meeting.

Several of the meetings were held in the St. Louis Municipal Auditorium. Approximately a year ago, the City Counsellor ruled that the principle of freedom of speech and assembly militated against a denial of the auditorium to Smith.

In the May and June meetings, reservations for meeting halls in a local hotel were made under various and misleading names, such as "Midwestern Political Survey Institute." The hotels solved the problem by the use of a reservation form which required that the

facilities rented were to be used by the individual or organization making the reservation, and that the facilities were not to be used for the dissemination of racial or religious hatred.

During the month of October, 1947, Smith announced his intention to establish a base of operations in St. Louis for his organizations and activities. Subsequently, during the week of Dec. 15, 1947, a Detroit moving van company delivered a large shipment of office furniture and equipment to a midtown St. Louis building where, it is believed, the headquarters are now set up. Don Lohbeck, editor of *The Cross and The Flag*, John Wilson Hamilton, recently of Boston, Opal Tanner, formerly secretary to the late Carl Mote, and Homer Loomis, Jr., will operate from the St. Louis offices.

Some distribution of material, including *The Cross and The Flag* has already resulted locally. Copies of *The Jews Have Got the Atom Bomb*, by the Rev. Jonathan Ellsworth Perkins, appeared in various places throughout the city. Other literature distributed included *The Roosevelt Death* and *Is Communism Jewish?* by R. E. Legant. The July, 1947, issue of *The Cross and The Flag* carried an article by Dr. Walter A. Maier of the Concordia Seminary and the Lutheran Hour in St. Louis, in which he attacked John Roy Carlson.

Today's World originated here as a local news magazine written, published and financed by Catholic laymen ostensibly with anti-Communism as its motivating theme. Its first issues, intentionally or otherwise, presented Jews unfavorably. However, the editors, Tom Finan, Jr., and Virgil Kelly, declared that the magazine had no anti-Semitic intent and that the friendliest relations were desired. By the fourth issue, the advertised paid circulation was 20,000. In June, 1947, the editors of *Today's World* announced that ownership was being transferred to Hamilton Fish and a group of associates who would publish the magazine in the East as a weapon in the fight against Communism.

* * *

It is generally believed, and statistics confirm, that because of full local employment, economic discrimination against Jews is at a low level. However, St. Louis indulges in segregation of Negroes in all areas of communal living, including schools, restaurants and places of amusement. These unnatural divisions keep alive racial and religious tensions. For example, Jewish merchants are not uncommon in predominantly Negro neighborhoods. In one of the local Negro

weeklies, an article appeared in October, 1947, by the president of the Negro Business League. It had as its theme the necessity for Negroes developing their own small business ventures in order "to drive the Jews out of the Negro neighborhood."

Various incidents occurred in the St. Louis area in the past year involving discrimination against Jews in hotels, summer resorts and in other areas of social life in the community.

A difficult situation concerning swimming pools in St. Louis County, outside the city line, developed in 1946 when the pools posted "restricted" and "Gentile only" signs. The summer of 1947 saw a clear improvement in this attitude. White Mineral Springs, a swimming pool which had exhibited a "Gentile only" sign, not only removed the offensive poster but stated to the community at large that all persons were welcome, with no social or religious restrictions. However, one unreconstructed partner-owner sold his interest in the pool. Another pool, which in 1946 had exhibited a "restricted" sign, did not repeat the offense in 1947.

During the summer season there was a comparatively large volume of complaints about discriminatory practices by resort hotels in out-state areas. These included reports of anti-Semitic discrimination in housing, education and recreation, as well as job discrimination and isolated anti-Semitic incidents.

—MYRON SCHWARTZ
St. Louis Jewish Community Council

PITTSBURGH

THERE were no incidents of concerted violence or affront, there were no public meetings with anti-Semitic implications and there was no concerted distribution of offensive literature on any appreciable scale, in Pittsburgh during 1947.

On the contrary, a Mayor's Civic Unity Council was formed; the schools had two series of visits by anthropologist Ethel Alpenfels.

who made a profound impression; an Institute on Human Relations, jointly sponsored by eleven agencies, created a favorable reaction, and Jewish cooperation for the promotion of Negro status was evident and effective.

Yet, one could not shut his eyes to the continuance of so-called "respectable" anti-Semitism, which manifested itself in discrimination in clubs, in certain residential areas and in employment.

A flurry of KKK activity quickly dissipated itself and by the year's end, that organization was dormant in the city. The Defenders of George Washington's Principles, which existed primarily to sponsor Gerald Smith rallies, held no public meetings after August, 1946, although it did not officially disband.

There were some individual anti-Semitic incidents. Early in the year a cross was burned on a hillside. Police minimized the incident and the press dismissed it as a prank. A sign announcing the proposed erection of a new synagogue was mutilated. From Crafton, Pa., on the outskirts of the city, the Rev. William L. Stewart distributed an anti-Semitic pamphlet, *The Christian In The Movies*.

* * *

The picture regarding social and economic anti-Semitism was worse. Officials here received reports of restrictive covenants in suburban areas; complaints of discrimination against Jews in resort areas two hours outside of Pittsburgh; charges of continuing employment discrimination by public utilities, banks and large industrial corporations; evidence of the continuance of a 10% quota in Pitt Medical School, geographical restrictions in Pitt Dental School, and attacks on refugee doctors by the editor of the *Medical Bulletin*.

Community reaction was heartening. Willing cooperation from many sides was evident. The Ministerial Association was shocked at the destruction of the sign on the proposed synagogue location and contributed funds to replace it as indicative of its friendship.

—LILLIAN FRIEDBERG

Pittsburgh Jewish Community Relations Council

BALTIMORE

THE Baltimore area was almost completely free of organized anti-Semitism in 1947. The only subversive group active during the year was a small Ku Klux Klan unit. It met irregularly with fifteen to twenty-five members in attendance, but after learning that their identities were known to the community, the members ran for cover.

Gerald Smith's followers were completely disorganized. An attempt was made to rent a leading Baltimore hall for a Smith rally but the facilities were denied.

No newly organized anti-Semitic groups came into existence during 1947. The American Shores Patrol (a Ku Klux Klan front) disintegrated as a result of newspaper exposure, even before it could actually function.

On the debit side of the social ledger instances of anti-Semitic prejudices were noted. Several resorts and swimming pools excluded Jews, although two such pools were prevailed upon to change their discriminatory policy. Employment discrimination increased, as did restrictions against admission of Jews to institutions of higher learning. Also, there was an increase in the number of real estate developments which barred Jews from residence.

While three synagogues in Baltimore were subjected to acts of violence, in only one case was anti-Semitism apparently a motive. Police could not find the vandals responsible; instead they were apprehended through Jewish community investigation. After questioning at a police station, with their parents present, they were released. A number of Catholic and Protestant churches were also vandalized during the year.

Sporadically, defamatory literature was found in this area. The material came from other cities of the nation and was not reprinted in this city.

Press, radio and government officials, and religious leaders of all faiths responded in condemning the synagogue desecrations, and in supporting pro-democratic programs such as Brotherhood Week, the visit of the Freedom Train, good-will meetings, and other community projects.

—LEON SACHS
Baltimore Jewish Council

CINCINNATI

IN 1947, there was a comparative absence of organized anti-Semitism in the Cincinnati area.

The National Farmers' Guild, once very active in Ohio under the leadership of Carl Mote, became moribund after the latter's death in 1946.

American Relief for Germany, Inc., made many appeals to the large German community in Cincinnati, calling for the rehabilitation of Germany "through a soft peace." However, its influence was minimal; only 250 persons attended the final 1947 meeting. No anti-Semitism was manifested at any of the organization's meetings. Significantly, the American Friends Society (Quakers) withdrew from cooperation with American Relief for Germany, Inc., in Cincinnati.

The Mason-Dixon Society, incorporated in Kentucky in 1945 to oppose Negro demands for economic and political equality, has not been guilty of anti-Semitism. (One of the trustees of the Mason-Dixon Society is Mr. Beecher Hess of Norwood, Ohio, who is now employed in a responsible governmental position as head librarian of the House of Representatives.) However, the guiding genius of the Mason-Dixon Society, J. Lawrence Dooley of Covington, Ky., and Washington, D.C., sent to a select mailing-list his personal newsletter, *Larry Dooley's Weekly Report*, which purported to analyze national and international news. This bulletin, mailed from 127 C Street, N.E., Washington, D. C., contained violent anti-Negro and anti-Semitic statements.

The Ohio State Protective Association apparently did not extend its activities outside of the Lima, O., area. Allegedly financed by industrialists in that community, the group's primary purpose was to combat the activities of labor organizers. It is a highly secret organization; identity of its leaders and its general activities have been well masqueraded. One known organizer of the group, however, is Bert Effinger, former head of the notorious Black Legion which at one time flourished in Lima.

The old Mothers of Sons Forum, violently anti-Semitic Coughlinites, attempted a comeback through several "front" groups to which its adherents flocked. The Current Events Club sponsored a Gerald Smith meeting held at the Givson Hotel in August, 1947. Presiding was Mrs. Josephine Mahler, a leader of the Mothers of Sons Forum and also active in the Cameo Club. Another "club" in which Mrs. Mahler played a leading role was the Asog Literary Club, inactive since 1946, when it last sponsored an appearance by Dr. Austin J. App. The membership of the Current Events Club includes for the most

part, the membership of the Literary Guild, whose major activity was to sponsor an appearance by Father Arthur Terminiello in Cincinnati in April, 1947.

No evidence was found to indicate the existence of an active Ku Klux Klan group in Cincinnati. However, a number of residents received a form letter outlining the purposes of the Klan and suggesting that they write to P. O. Box 1544, Cincinnati Post Office. The post office box had been registered in the names of two fictitious persons.

Any influence that Upton Close may have had in Cincinnati was seriously impaired when the *Cincinnati Times-Star*, his local outlet, dropped his column.

With regard to discrimination, there was no genuine change during the past year. There were continuing infringements of Negro civil rights in such places as Coney Island, Cincinnati's largest amusement park, and in some suburban theaters. A program of education was developed in cooperation with the Negro division of the Community Chest, the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People and liberal veterans' groups. Because it was felt that the abuse of civil rights extended to the treatment of Negroes by Cincinnati's police department, the City Council conducted a special hearing on "police brutality." A report has not yet been issued but apparently City Council leaders felt that police behavior needed examination and some correction.

Discrimination in employment was not relieved appreciably. Only insignificant progress was made in overcoming discrimination against Negroes. Negotiations on the question of discrimination against Jews were reopened with Proctor and Gamble, but discussion ended almost as quickly as it had begun. This is the culmination of what, in the opinion of Cincinnati's Jewish community, has been a decade of abortive discussions with that firm.

Discrimination in institutions of higher learning was not serious except in the case of the University of Cincinnati Medical School, where enrollment of Jews, percentage-wise, has diminished during the past decade. Other colleges of the University were not guilty in this respect. An encouraging breakdown of racial barriers in education occurred during the year when the University's School of Nursing admitted several Negro students for the first time in its history.

Cincinnati had both housing shortages and restrictive covenants which made doubly difficult the plight of minority groups, confining

them to segregated residential areas. Again, the Negro group was the special victim of restrictions.

There was but one instance of anti-Semitic violence in which three Jewish youths were severely beaten during the Jewish High Holy Days. Police acted swiftly and community leaders condemned the incident.

On the whole, the community rejected and condemned prejudice. Civic, labor, religious and veterans' groups worked as a unit through the Mayor's Friendly Relations Committee.

—RICHARD N. BLUESTEIN
Cincinnati Jewish Community Council

CLEVELAND

IN recent years, Cleveland has been a fertile spawning ground for Jew-hating women's groups. The distaff side of professional anti-Semitism—noisy, irrational and pursuing its organized hate campaign under the banner of "motherhood"—selected this sixth largest city in the United States with a calculating eye riveted to the heterogeneous makeup of the populace. They counted heavily on the many, dissimilar ethnic groups (more than half the city's residents are foreign-born or first generation Americans) as a made-to-order cauldron in which to brew disharmony, distrust and intergroup tensions.

But the women who adulterated "motherhood" with vicious bigotry won few to their cause. In Cleveland, the economic disruptions of postwar industrial conversions, shortages, bad housing, inflationary prices and the like have not resulted in racial scapegoating. Not only is organized anti-Semitism less evident than at any time since Hitler's ascendancy, but during the past year this city of commerce has shown a positive eagerness to develop its communal powers and point them in the direction of greater democratic living.

Cleveland's hate groups were generally ineffectual. The United Mothers, a local landmark of intolerance, suffered the drag of inertia last year. Like most hate groups founded on a follow-the-leader prin-

ciple, the membership was bewildered about what to follow when Mrs. David Stanley, its president and prime mover, took ill and was unable to lead them.

Women for the United States of America (headquarters in Washington, D. C. and New York), invaded Cleveland during 1947 in a bold bid to establish a local chapter. It held a public meeting in May, 1947, yet attracted only 66 women and seven men who heard Catherine P. Baldwin of New York, national president; Mrs. Marie Lohle of Pittsburgh, national vice-president, and Martin L. Sweeney, a local political demagogue. Mrs. Ella Monreal of Cleveland, a national director of the group, was chairman for the meeting. She defined Women for the United States of America as an organization dedicated to "retain constitutional government, see that no other flag flies over Old Glory, see that true American history is taught in the schools, and clean foreign ideologies out of Washington." Mrs. Monreal is also vice-president of The United Mothers and secretary-treasurer of the Intelligent American Voters League.

Martin L. Sweeney is a ubiquitous character in Cleveland's professional propagandist circle. A former congressman who filled many pages of the Congressional Record with his bitter prejudice, he has been desperately trying to return to public office, carefully avoiding anti-Semitism.

Sweeney has his own agency called The Intelligent American Voters League. Last year he gave up the presidency of this group to become its legislative chairman. It held two public meetings during the year. Ex-Senator Rush D. Holt, extreme isolationist, drew about 400 listeners and John T. Flynn, featured at the second meeting, attracted a slightly larger audience.

Sweeney again sought political office in 1947, campaigning for municipal judge, with the Intelligent American Voters League as his principal support. He suffered a 2-to-1 defeat.

The Ku Klux Klan has no Cleveland chapter, but a few residents attended district meetings in Akron until Drew Pearson published an expose (May 19, 1947) of this Klavern, naming its officers and active members. This proved to be catastrophic to the cause of Ohio's KKK, each member suspecting his brother Klansman of being a possible informer. The Klavern called several subsequent meetings but could never gather a quorum. Meanwhile the Klavern was without support or direction from the Klan's national headquarters in Atlanta. The frustrated Akron Klan was seriously thinking of selling the Klan house and dissolving the group.

Gerald Smith visited Cleveland once during the year, on July 8.

He attracted 230 persons to his meeting—for him, a poor showing. Cleveland ignored Smith—no publicity, no picket lines, no riots. In past years, Smith made it his practice to visit the city every few months; his absence in 1947 was one of his most protracted.

A four page publication called *Information for Americans*, previously known as *League for Justice*, is published by a townsman, John P. Moran, who is president of a “non-profit corporation” called League for Justice, Inc. His attitude toward Jews is not quite clear.

Moran is a disbarred lawyer who served time in prison for embezzlement in 1930 and 1931. His publication is intensely anti-communist and in some degree indirectly anti-Semitic; he emphasizes Jewish-sounding names in his attacks on liberals whom he often confuses with communists. He makes his living by exposing “communist” leaders of labor unions, selling large quantities of his paper to employers who distribute them to employees. Moran is also employed by industrialists to identify “radical” labor leaders.

League for Justice, Inc., was incorporated in 1935 to assist the rehabilitation of former convicts and to improve prison conditions. From that tack, Moran expanded as an “expert” on communists.

An analysis of unorganized anti-Semitism in Cleveland cannot be measured by any minute yardstick. The situation itself is not easily definable. For example, there were few formal complaints of job discrimination in 1947. Yet, a careful study of the problem by the city’s Community Relations Board—made to determine the advisability of a proposed fair employment practice ordinance—clearly revealed an increase in economic prejudice directed against Jews.

Not so in Cleveland’s labor unions, however. The Jewish Labor Committee surveyed this field and noted little discrimination.

Restrictive covenants, directed against Jews as well as other minority elements, are in force in several suburban areas. Conversely, Jewish enrollment at Western Reserve University’s School of Medicine has jumped from three students to twenty in the 1947 freshman class. Furthermore, the University accepted affiliation with a local Jewish hospital.

Generally, Cleveland is moving forward. Its responsible citizens appear to be shedding their comatose attitude in favor of concerted action. The Community Relations Board is serving as the focal point in a drive for FEPC legislation and similar municipal advances that are more telling than the isolated incidents of bigotry which crop up.

—GERSON B. CURTISS

Cleveland Jewish Community Council

VI

THE FOREIGN LANGUAGE PRESS

AT the end of World War II, foreign language groups in the United States became acutely sensitive to their special interests in Europe. Tense situations in continental countries, conflicting ideologies and political alignments were all reflected in the postwar attitudes and activities of the nation's foreign-born.

During 1947, foreign language newspapers in the United States mirrored these bitter conflicts, meanwhile fomenting a restlessness among ethnic groups. The unfortunate result revealed itself in increased tension among the differing groups and a greater amount of racial and religious prejudice. Add it to the hereditary religious and social anti-Semitism traditionally manifested in the foreign language press, and you had, in 1947, a problem of vital concern.

Even though there were many more foreign language newspapers during the year which revealed an understanding of prejudice, a not inconsiderable number continued to be anti-Semitic. Some publications repeatedly indulged in blunt anti-Jewish diatribe; others employed a more skillful or subtle approach.

An analysis of foreign-language newspapers which regularly displayed anti-Jewish prejudice disclosed that their hostility arose from special grievances, mostly imagined. The largest number of anti-Semitic items developed out of three main problems: (a) *displaced persons*,

(b) *communism*, (c) *the activities of American Jews in behalf of their religious kinsmen*.

A major false accusation in the American foreign language press was that most Jews in Europe are communists, socialists, or at least, leftists. Another oft repeated lie was that the communist governments of Russia and its satellite nations are controlled by Jews. The fact of Karl Marx's Jewish ancestry was the subject of incessant repetition. Many foreign language papers maintained that Jews had come into control of important government posts in their native countries. Typical was the Slovak newspaper, *Slovenska Obrana*. It charged falsely (April 22, 1947) that Jews generally were exploiters of other human beings and that "Jews occupy every important position (in Slovakia). If they are not in the forefront they are behind the scenes." Still other newspapers mixed hatred for the Soviet Union with animosity toward Jews.

Narod, a Chicago Czech daily, illustrates this type of attack:

"Behind all socialist and communist actions stand the supporters of the Talmud . . . The Soviet paradise was made, in addition to Lenin, by Trotsky, Radek, Kamenev, Steklov, Stalin, all of them sons of Israel . . . The socialist and communist parties all form branches of the 'Jewish Great Council', similar to the one which condemned Jesus Christ to death. . . "

Many newspapers paid left-handed compliments to American Jews. They praised Jewish agencies in the United States for the large sums of money raised on behalf of co-religionists in Europe. Interwoven with this praise, however, were intimations that Jews are "clever" at making money, or gaining political prestige, or pushing themselves ahead. In this respect, German papers were particularly vehement, reiterating endlessly that Jews exaggerate Nazi atrocities and spread hatred of the German people in order to further their own ends.

The problem of Palestine, and the decisions of the United Nations Assembly and Security Council in respect to it, furnished ample material with which the foreign language press was able to level anti-Semitic editorial attack.

At first glance, a large number of foreign language nationalistic newspapers in every group favored an independent Jewish state and praised the Jewish fight and courage in Palestine. Further study, however, revealed that these very papers also carried anti-Jewish propaganda in sufficient quantity and quality to make this clear: That the support given to the establishment of a Jewish nation was

based on the hope that more non-Jewish DPs would be admitted to the United States if all European Jews could enter Palestine.

On the other hand, many of the newspapers in this section of the press persisted in antagonism toward Jews vis-a-vis Palestine; accusations of terrorism, fascism and ingratitude for the friendship and help of the British was common. Some went further, claiming that the United Nations was forced to decide in favor of partition because of the overwhelming influence or political skill of the Jews. (Otto Strasser in *Der Wanderer*, St. Paul German weekly.)

Of course a large number of papers were sympathetic to the Arab side. Even the French press, seldom guilty of anti-Semitism, indulged in such accusations as: "The Jewish state will be supported by American dollars, sent in millions to Palestine to avoid taxes in the USA. . ." (*L'Impartial*, semi-weekly of Nashua, N. H.—Oct. 13, 1947).

It is interesting to note that there was virtually no anti-Negro prejudice evident in the foreign language press. Obviously anti-Jewish prejudice extant in alien language newspapers is in large measure a habit of the Old World. No Negro problem existed in Europe, hence no hatred carried over.

A rather significant development in foreign language group life during the past year was the added impact of anti-Jewish leaders who are continuously infiltrating this country from formerly nazi-dominated countries of Europe. The ease with which they were able to enter the United States is revealing. This influx, combined with the anti-Semitism already prevalent, is retarding the educational process directed toward bettering intergroup relations.

In 1947, anti-Semitism was more evident in the foreign language press in America than at any other time since Pearl Harbor.

DR. JOSEPH L. LICHTEN
ADL Foreign Language Dept.

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