

AREAS OF WORK

The work of the Committee is carried on in these major areas:

Combating Prejudice

Working for Jews Abroad

Palestine

Jewish Adjustment in America

The American Jewish Committee

Founded in 1906—

The American Jewish Committee was founded in 1906 and since then has continuously devoted itself to serving Jews the world over. Among the names of prominent men closely associated with the Committee in the past are: Louis Marshall, Cyrus Adler, Louis E. Kirstein, Sol M. Stroock, Mayer Sulzberger, Jacob H. Schiff, Irving Lehman.

Combating Prejudice

The American Jewish Committee believes that prejudice is a problem not only for those who are its victims, but for all Americans. It insists that anti-Semitism as a forerunner of totalitarianism menaces the entire world. The Committee's carefully organized campaign against prejudice—based on more than forty

years of experience—is conducted by:

1. Continual investigation and exposure of organized anti-Semites and other subversives.

2. Countering anti-democratic propaganda with accurate information reaching the American people through radio, press, motion-pictures, books and pamphlets, speakers, discussion groups.

3. Enlisting in the fight against prejudice the cooperation of many editors, publishers, labor and industrial leaders, ministers and educators.

4. Supporting specific legal measures against discrimination — in employment, higher education, enjoyment of civil rights, real-estate practices.

5. Determining, through scientific research and study, what prej-

udice essentially is, how it operates, and what can be done to eradicate it.

6. Assisting local community relations organizations that are conducting activities to counter-act anti-Semitism in their communities.

7. Organizing AJC chapters in strategic cities throughout the country to enlist leadership and support of this program and to develop its counterpart in local communities.

8. Making available to leaders of public opinion objective and authoritative information on contemporary Jewish life.

Working for Jews Abroad

The Committee's European program is based on the principle that Jews are part of, and bear allegiance to, the countries of their birth or

adoption, fully participating in and contributing to the political, economic and cultural life of these countries. It is based, further, on the conviction that the welfare of Jews everywhere is tied up with the survival of democratic freedom. The Committee seeks no special privilege for Jews; it does insist that in every land they must possess rights and privileges equal to those of their fellow citizens. Within this framework, the Committee:

Works closely with the United Nations. (The Committee was a leading sponsor of the **United Nations:** human rights provisions in the charter of the U.N.)

Campaigns for the provision, in peace treaties, for restitution to **Restitution:** Jews of lost property or personal possessions because of anti-Semitic laws or nazi edicts — and acts to restore such

property through its European offices and staff.

Helps Europe's Jewish communities **Anti-Semitism in Europe:** establish full-scale programs on a local basis for combating anti-Semitism.

Works to remove bars to the immigration of Jews into many countries. (In **Immigration:** America, this program takes the form of vigorous support of legislation to liberalize our immigration regulations so that a substantial number of displaced persons may be admitted without discrimination because of race or creed.)

Palestine

The American Jewish Committee was an original endorser of the Balfour Declaration and has always recognized the religious and cultural ties of Jewry to Palestine. Through the years it has worked for a solution of the Palestine problem which

would be consistent with the just aspirations of Palestine Jewry, with the pressing needs of Europe's displaced and distressed Jewish population, and with our own obligations and loyalty to America. The Committee supported the "Partition Plan" for Palestine, subsequently adopted by the United Nations, as a practical answer to a humanitarian problem of great urgency. Today, the Committee is working to ensure that the new State of Israel, which has arisen in consequence of the United Nations' decision, shall be permitted to work out its destiny in peace and security, on the basis of friendship and understanding between Jews and Arabs, and with the assistance of men of good will everywhere.

Jewish Adjustment in America

The American Jewish Committee rejects the theory of world Jewish nationalism which regards Jews everywhere — outside Palestine —

as a "homeless" people living in "exile". At the same time, the Committee opposes the assimilation of Jews, with its destruction of Jewish religion and culture. The Committee is convinced that in America as in other free lands, Jews, drawing cultural and spiritual sustenance from both American and Jewish sources, are taking their place as normal and secure members of society. This process must not be blocked by reactions to anti-Semitism on the one hand or by concepts of world Jewish nationalism or assimilation on the other. To encourage this process, which requires that the riches of the Jewish tradition be made meaningful and available to the individual in terms of his needs today, the Committee:

Publishes the magazine "Commentary", a dynamic advocate for greater appreciation of
"Commentary": Jewish cultural and spiritual achievements.

Sponsors research and experimentation in the field of Jewish education for American Jewish children.

Jewish Education:

Provides to local Jewish communities—by discussion groups and lectures conducted

Discussion Groups:

by the Committee's membership chapters — the means of reviewing and assessing leading problems of current Jewish life.

Prepares annually the American Jewish Year Book containing arti-

Jewish Year Book:

cles of cultural interest to Jews and factual information on Jewish life.

Furnishes to scholars and organizations documentation and special re-

Library and Research:

search services on various aspects of Jewish life—through the Library of Jewish Information.

The American Jewish Committee

386 Fourth Avenue
New York 16, New York

National Officers

JOSEPH M. PROSKAUER
President

JACOB BLAUSTEIN
Chairman, Executive Committee

IRVING M. ENGEL
Chairman, Administrative Committee

JOHN SLAWSON
Executive Vice-President

SAMUEL D. LEIDESDORF
HERBERT H. LEHMAN
Honorary Vice-Presidents

RALPH E. SAMUEL HERBERT B. EHRLMANN
MILTON W. KING JESSE H. STEINHART
FRED LAZARUS, JR. FRANK L. SULZBERGER
DAVID SHER ALAN M. STROOCK

Vice-Presidents

EDWARD A. NORMAN
Secretary

NATHAN M. ORHBACH
Treasurer

ALBERT H. LIEBERMAN
Associate Treasurer