

THE JEWISH MINORITY IN ROUMANIA

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE
ROUMANIAN GOVERNMENT
RESPECTING
THE GRIEVANCES OF THE JEWS

PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF BRITISH JEWS AND
THE COUNCIL OF THE ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION, JUNE 1927.



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LONDON:

The Joint Foreign Committee of the Board
of Deputies of British Jews and the
Anglo-Jewish Association,
2, Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.1.
1927.

THE JOINT FOREIGN COMMITTEE
OF
THE BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF BRITISH JEWS
AND
THE ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	Page.
PREFATORY NOTE	4

CORRESPONDENCE, Etc.

No.	Name.	Date.	Subject.
1.	Joint Foreign Committee to Roumanian Government.	Sept. 17, 1925.	Memorandum on the Anti-Semitic Movement in Roumania. Remedies proposed by local Jews 5 <i>Enclosures.</i> —Copies of six inflammatory cartoons circulated by Anti-Semites. 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17
2.	M. Laptev to Joint Foreign Committee.	Nov. 3, 1925.	Transmitting reply of M. Duca to above. Roumanian Government will take necessary measures 10
3.	Mr. Lucien Wolf to M. Laptev.	Nov. 6, 1925.	Acknowledging No. 2. Trusts that practical steps will be taken ... 10
4.	Joint Foreign Committee to M. Titulescu.	Jan. 11, 1927.	Painful impression caused by renewal of Anti-Semitic outbreaks. Committee of opinion that the treatment of the Jews constitutes an infraction of Minorities Treaty 12
5.	Alliance Israelite to Mr. Lucien Wolf.	Feb. 3, 1927.	Enclosing copy of Note addressed to Roumanian Minister in Paris complaining of outrages 16
6.	Mr. Lucien Wolf to Joint Foreign Committee.	Feb. 25, 1927.	Reporting Interview with M. Titulescu 18
7.	M. Titulescu to Mr. Lucien Wolf.	May 20, 1927.	Transmitting reply of M. Mitileneu to No. 4 18 <i>Enclosure.</i> —Views of Roumanian Government. Complaints of Committee exaggerated. Government has always done its duty 19
8.	Joint Foreign Committee to Prince Barbu Stirbey.	June 9, 1927.	Reply to No. 7. Encloses evidence in support of complaints contained in No. 4. Committee sees no reason to doubt accuracy of evidence ... 20 <i>Enclosure.</i> —Chronology of Anti-Semitism in Roumania, 1926-1927 ... 27
9.	Mr. Lucien Wolf to Joint Foreign Committee.	June 8, 1927.	Memorandum on the patriotism of Roumanian Jews 22

PREFATORY NOTE.

The following correspondence, together with the Chronology attached to the Joint Foreign Committee's letter to the Roumanian Government dated June 9th, 1927 (*vide* pp. 27-55), will place the Board of Deputies and the Anglo-Jewish Association in possession of all the facts relating to the sufferings of the Roumanian Jews during the last fifteen months and the efforts made on their behalf by the Committee.

The survey has in substance been limited to the period during which the late Roumanian Government held office, as, for some months previously, there was little reason for complaint owing to the strong measures taken by the Bratianu Government to assure order. Some of the earlier documents are, however, printed, as it was necessary to cite the assurances which the Roumanian Government gave to the Joint Foreign Committee on November 3rd, 1925 (p. 10).

LUCIEN WOLF, *Secretary*

CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

No. 1

(*The Joint Foreign Committee to the Roumanian Government.*)

MEMORANDUM ON THE ANTI-SEMITIC MOVEMENT IN ROUMANIA.¹

[Summary.]

For the last four years an anti-Semitic campaign of great intensity has been carried on in Roumania. Pamphlets, newspapers and periodicals have been broadcast in thousands all over the country. As a result, in several towns there have been demonstrations, followed by destruction of property. The total damage done amounts to more than 20 million lei. Jewish travellers on the railways are assaulted and forced to leave the trains; Jews are driven out of cafés and theatres, and are set upon in the streets; Jewish schoolchildren are attacked in schools and students in the Universities, and Synagogues have been desecrated.

The culprits are never punished. Last year some students conspired to murder several Jews. They were arrested and confessed their intention, but were nevertheless acquitted. When the student Codreanu murdered the Prefect of Jassy, who was attempting to suppress the anti-Semites, not a single lawyer in Roumania could be got to act for the widow. On the other hand, in August of this year, when a Jewish carter happened to ask Professor Cuza (whom he did not know by sight) to direct him to a certain address, Cuza was so indignant that a Jew should have ventured to speak to him that he struck the carter. The carter hit back. He was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, fined, and maimed in heavy damages. The incident was followed by anti-Semitic riots in Bucharest, Jassy and Focșani.

The accompanying photographs² are samples of the illustrations in a typical anti-Semitic pamphlet. The preface is by Cuza. In the course of it he says: "The successors [of Jesus] did not understand that the lying religion of the Jews had been denounced by Jesus as a blasphemy against the Holy Ghost. . . . They did not understand that the words of Jesus were literally true when he said that the Jews had as their father the Devil, 'the slayer of men and the father of lies.' . . ."

Another photograph is of an article from a Roumanian newspaper. It contains a poem by Cuza, which runs: "Roumanians, sleep no longer! Awake!! The greatest of all thieves has stolen into your homes. It is he who has robbed us of our commerce and industry, who has exploited our resources, and it is by him that we are vilified. Is there need for me to tell you? Do you not know it yourselves? Abandon your stupid pride, your peacock pride! Stretch out your hands for your weapons, for the Roumanian cannon, and strike their heads, without hesitation and without pity."

¹ Handed to M. Duca, Roumanian Foreign Minister, in Geneva, September 17th, 1925.

² Six will be found reproduced *infra* pp. 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17.

In another newspaper Cuza describes Judaism as "criminal and perverse," "the satanic religion of hatred." He describes the Old Testament as "diabolical books," "all inspired by the Devil."

Codreanu wrote from prison: "Roumanians, on whatever part of Roumanian soil you dwell, unite! Come all together in brotherhood, all who love the holy soil of our fatherland. Come and learn to use the sword. Come, and set out together in confidence towards the sun which used to shine in our sky."

The following are a few stanzas of the hymn of the Association of Christian Students :—

"Christian students of great Roumania, the Roumanian people clothes itself in mourning. The Jews are cutting the nation's throat, and steal our country's fortunes.

"Let us awake from our heedlessness: we are pillaged by heathen races, and the country calls to us to save it. We will no longer be slaves of the *Yids* (Jews).

"Guided by the holiest ideal, we will crush the enemies of our country, and stay the advance of the barbarian hordes. Do not hesitate: Justice is with us, and we will crush our enemies under our heels, and die in this way covered with glory."

Another poem runs: "Now we must advance if we do not wish to perish, and we must ask Professor Cuza to be our guide, for it is he who is death to the Jews and the rescuer of Christianity."

In a students' newspaper appears the following: "We will overwhelm them in blood. We will crush their heads as we do those of poisonous snakes, and we will strew their brains to the winds. The hour has struck for crushing like grasshoppers all who oppose our national development. If justice is not done for us, we will do it ourselves." The official organ of the Liberal Party recommends the above newspaper to its readers in warm terms.

The state of affairs brought about by such propaganda may be judged from the following :—

The Secretary-General of the League for the Rights of Man, who had defended the Jews, recently paid a visit to the Roumanian branch of the League. A lecture by him on the objects of the League was announced, and a hall engaged for the purpose. An hour before the time of the lecture he was told that the hall was not available and that the Prefect of Police could not guarantee order, since the students objected to his lecturing. The League thereupon hired a private room for the following day. A force of police was sent to the place, but took no steps to prevent a body of students from rushing the room and breaking up the meeting. And this despite a Clause in the Roumanian Constitution guaranteeing the liberty of holding meetings.

As already stated, in August, following on the incident between Cuza and the Jewish carter, demonstrations took place at Bucharest, Jassy and Focșani. Despite the fact that for some time Jassy and Bucharest have been placed in a state of siege, damage was done to Jewish property in all three towns. The

(Specimen of Anti-Semitic propaganda.)

Specularea țăranilor



Jidanii au început prin înșelătorie să fure mintea țăranilor ca să pună mâna pe avutul lor, speculându-i în chip nemenos.

"THE PEASANT EXPLOITED."

"The Jews began by frauds to steal the minds of the peasants so as to lay hands on their possessions, exploiting them in a most inhuman way."

(Enclosure in No. 1, see p. 5.)

disturbances continued for several days. A large number of Jews were wounded. The police intervened, but were not strong enough to disperse the rioters. A few persons were arrested, but all were discharged for lack of evidence, except at Jassy, where three students got two months' imprisonment and two others two days. No reparation has been made for the damage done. The Government extended the state of siege to Focșani, and issued a *communiqué* to the effect that it would sternly repress all disorders.

The Jews have lost confidence in the Government. These troubles have been going on for four years. The propaganda is the work of University professors, teachers in high schools and elementary schools, and priests. After every outbreak the Government has issued a *communiqué* always to the same effect, that it would sternly repress disorders. It is now something like the fifteenth time. The Government has at its disposal all the laws that are necessary for taking steps to end the campaign. They are, in fact, put into operation with excellent effect against the Socialist Party and the Communist Party. Hundreds of Socialists have been arrested for participating in secret meetings, but not 20 anti-Semitic agitators have been arrested, though their work is carried out in broad daylight. Socialist and Communist journals and pamphlets are promptly confiscated, often while they are still being printed, and no Socialist or Communist meeting is allowed to be held in public.

The Jews of Roumania are of opinion that the Government should take the following steps:—

- (a) To issue a proclamation signed by all the Ministers and by the Patriarch of the Orthodox Christian Church with a view to putting an end to the propaganda against the Jewish religion and the Jewish clergy, pointing out in particular that since the Bible is the foundation of Christianity attacks on the Bible are at the same time attacks on Christianity.
- (b) To announce that all publications contravening Articles 22, 47 and 48 of the Press Law will be immediately confiscated, and to request the judicial and police authorities to look out for and confiscate such writings.
- (c) To announce in the same proclamation that all printers, booksellers and hawkers who print or sell or distribute such writings will be prosecuted unless these writings bear the imprimatur of the heads of the religions concerned.
- (d) To announce that any official, teacher, priest, etc., who, while on duty, wears a swastika badge, will be immediately dismissed.
- (e) To announce that the same punishment will be inflicted on officials who take part in public meetings or members of societies whose objects are contrary to Article 48 of the Press Law, i.e., whose object is to incite hatred or contempt against a section of the population.
- (f) To announce that the Government, being under an obligation to guarantee the life and property of all citizens, intends henceforth to make compensation for all damage due to provocation on the part of citizens of one race, religion or language against citizens of another

(Specimen of Anti-Semitic propaganda.)

Tăranii încălecați de Jidani



Și iată cum acești venetici, au reușit să înguncheze complect pe acei ce încovoaiați pe coarnele plugului brâzdează adânc pământul, pentru a scoate cu sudoarea lor hrana neamului ucigător de oameni, al Iudei.

“THE JEW ON THE PEASANT'S BACK.”

“And that is how these infidels have succeeded in bringing to their knees those who, with the sweat of their brows, cut deep furrows into the soil, so that they may provide sustenance for the man-killing people of Judas.”

(*Enclosure in No. 1, see p. 5.*)

race, religion or language, and that, as a pledge of its intention, the Government will immediately pay compensation for all damage sustained by Jews in the last four years.

The Articles of the Press Law referred to above are as follows:—

Article 22.—Roumanian books of dogma or religion, commentaries on the Bible, etc., may not be published for the first time unless they have been censored by the head of the religion concerned. The imprimatur must always be reproduced at the beginning of the book.

Article 47.—Every attack against the dominant religion as well as against all other recognised rites, and any attack on the clergy, will be punished by imprisonment of one month to two years, and by a fine of 100 to 300 lei.

Article 48.—Whosoever incites hatred or contempt against inhabitants shall be punished by imprisonment of one month to two years, and by a fine of 100 to 4,000 lei.

No. 2

(*The Roumanian Chargé d'Affaires to the Joint Foreign Committee.*)

[Translation.]

Royal Legation of Roumania,

London, November 3rd, 1925.

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you the reply which I have just received from Monsieur Duea :—

“ The Roumanian Government, faithful to the Constitution of the country and to its traditions, intends to assure to all the Confessions the free exercise of their religion and, while disapproving the outrages on this great and fundamental principle, our representatives will always take all the necessary measures in order that this principal shall be respected. Besides, Mr. Wolf knows the sentiments which animate the Roumanian Government.”

Pray accept, dear Sir, the assurances of my very distinguished consideration.

C. M. LAPTEW.

No. 3

(*Mr. Lucien Wolf to the Roumanian Chargé d'Affaires.*)

November 6th, 1925.

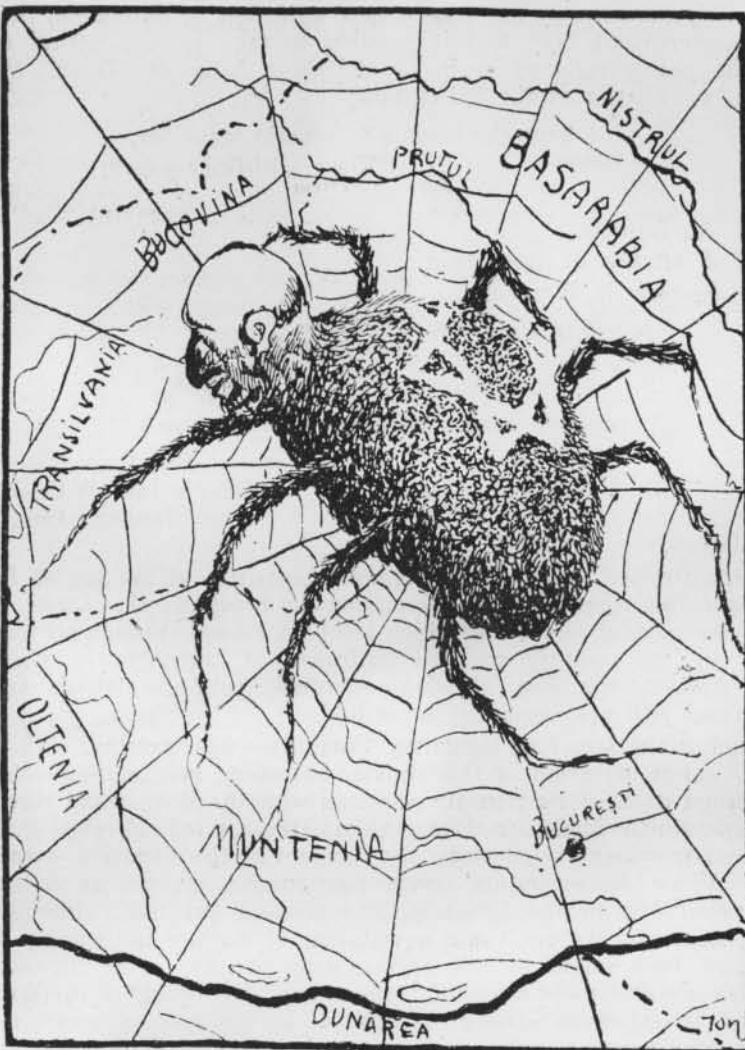
Dear Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 3rd and 4th instant, in which you are good enough to communicate to me two telegrams relative to the Jews of Roumania which have been transmitted to you by your Government. I will not fail to submit these telegrams to my Committee, and I am sure they will be gratified by these further testimonies of the liberal attitude of the Roumanian Government.¹ At the same time I am sure that I shall be only anticipating their opinion if I say that, in view of the magnitude and

¹ One of these telegrams is not printed, as it does not relate to the ill-treatment of the Jews.

(Specimen of Anti-Semitic propaganda.)

Păinjenișul Satanei



Nă rămas colț din această binecuvântată țară, unde Ji-danii să nu-și vâre ghiarele lor pline de sânge. Întocmai cum păianjenul își țese pânza pretutindeni, aşa și ei au reușit să cuprindă cu paianjenișul Satanei, țara străduințelor lui Ștefan cel Mare, Mihai-Viteazul și Carol I.

"SATAN'S COBWEB."

"No corner of our blessed country has been left untouched by the bloody claws of the Jews; exactly as the spider weaves everywhere its web, so they have succeeded in surrounding with Satan's cobweb the country of Stephan the Great, Michael the Brave and Charles I."

(Enclosure in No. 1, see p. 5.)

bitterness lately assumed by the anti-Semitic agitation in Roumania, they trust that your Government may find it possible to take some practical steps to vindicate the policy referred to in the telegram from M. Duea, which is contained in your letter of the 3rd instant.

I have the honour to remain, dear Sir,
Very faithfully yours,

LUCIEN WOLF.

Monsieur C. M. Laptev,
Chargé d'Affaires de Roumanie,
Légation de Roumanie,
4, Cromwell Place, S.W.7.

No. 4

(*The Joint Foreign Committee to M. Titulescu.¹*)

2, Verulam Buildings,
Gray's Inn, W.C.1.
January 11th, 1927.

Your Excellency,

1. I am directed by the Joint Foreign Committee of the Jewish Board of Deputies and the Anglo-Jewish Association to bring to the notice of your Excellency the painful impression which has been caused throughout the Jewish community by the recently renewed outbreaks of anti-Semitic violence in Roumania, whereby the lives, liberties and property of the Jewish population have been, and still are, seriously imperilled.

2. During the last four years my Committee has watched with growing anxiety the rapid extension of this sinister agitation, and on September 17th, 1925, it availed itself of its friendly relations with the Roumanian Government to communicate to Monsieur Duea, then Minister of Foreign Affairs, a Memorandum in which its views on the dangers of the situation were frankly set forth. This Memorandum dwelt particularly on the incendiary and anarchical character of the agitation, and pointed out that, although in all its most mischievous aspects it was a violation of definite Roumanian laws, no attempts had been made by the Government or the police to restrain it. Monsieur Duea's reply was eminently reassuring. On behalf of the Roumanian Government he expressed strong disapproval of the acts to which my Committee had drawn his attention, and promised that "all necessary measures" should be taken to repress them.

3. Unfortunately, nothing seems to have been done to give effect to this assurance. On the contrary, during the last six months the agitators have redoubled their efforts against the Jews, applauded and encouraged by eminent politicians, professors and other persons of authority. It has been found possible for the leader of the movement to advocate, from his place in Parliament, the expulsion of all foreign Jews from the country, the outlawry of native Jews and the confiscation of their property, the repudiation of the Minorities Treaty and the suppression of all articles of the Constitution dealing with Jewish rights—and this not only without rebuke, but amid the cheers

¹ Roumanian Minister in London.

(Specimen of Anti-Semitic propaganda.)

Sfărâmarea crucei



Ceasul din urmă a sunat. Gândiți-vă că dacă trece nu vom mai avea dreptul să ridicăm fruntele din țărână. De la acei ce ne conduc nu ne putem aștepta la nimic, căci ei sunt cu simtrie la neamul lui Iuda, care acum vrea să ne distrugă și religia noastră, pentru a introduce pe alor, care nu este decât ură și crimă.

"SMASHING THE CROSS."

"The last hour has come: Remember that if we allow it to pass, we shall no longer be free to lift our heads above the ground. From those who govern us, we can expect nothing, for they are in the pay of Judas's people, who want to destroy our religion and put in its place their own, which is one of hatred and crime."

(*Enclosure in No. 1, see p. 5.*)

of the Government majority. The country has been flooded with a truculent and blasphemous literature, designed to stir up hatred against the Jews and to hold up the Jewish religion and the sacred books of the Old Testament to public contumely. The Christian students at the Universities have been deliberately incited to combine for the exclusion of Jewish students by acts of violence, with the result that, to-day, scarcely any Jewish students dare to venture into the lecture halls or the High Schools. The impunity enjoyed by these lawless acts has encouraged the anti-Semites to carry their turbulence into the streets, and in the course of the last few weeks there have been scandalous disorders in Bucharest, Kischinev, Focșani, Ploesti, Cluj, and other places, resulting in the serious injury of many Jews and the destruction and looting of much Jewish property. So far, it appears that nobody has been punished for these riotous outbreaks, although the persons responsible for them and the perpetrators themselves are well known.

4. The result is a situation which, at the present moment, has happily no parallel in any of the civilised countries of Europe. That this is no exaggeration is shown by a statement recently made at a sitting of the Roumanian Chamber. On that occasion the Jewish Deputy, Mayer Ebner, thus described the hapless lot of his co-religionists :—

“The judicial authorities tolerate the idea that the mob is above the law and that the Jews are outside it. Most of the acts of brutality committed lately have remained unpunished. Jewish students are maltreated with impunity; the windows of Jewish houses are smashed; warehouses are devastated; sacred edifices are profaned; peaceful travellers are thrown out of trains, and no one has heard of any penalty being inflicted for these offences. This impunity has led to the popular idea that one may do as one pleases with the Jewish population. It is very regrettable that the Government should assist with folded arms at these systematic incitements against the Minorities.”

5. The Joint Foreign Committee abstains from any comment on the deplorable facts which have been here briefly reviewed, but it has particularly directed me to point out to your Excellency that the treatment of the Jews as illustrated by these facts constitutes a distinct infraction of the Minorities Treaty signed by Roumania on December 9th, 1919. Several of the provisions of this Treaty have, indeed, been violated, but it will suffice here to point out that under Article 2 “Roumania undertakes to assure full and complete protection of life and liberty to all inhabitants of Roumania, without distinction of birth, nationality, language, race or religion,” and that under Article 8 it is stipulated that “all Roumanian Nationals shall be equal before the law and shall enjoy the same civil and political rights without distinction as to race, language or religion.”

6. The Joint Foreign Committee will feel obliged if your Excellency will kindly communicate the foregoing observations to the Royal Government at Bucharest.

I have the honour to be,
Of your Excellency the most humble, obedient servant,
LUCIEN WOLF.

His Excellency Monsieur N. Titulescu,
Roumanian Legation,
4, Cromwell Place, S.W.7.

(Specimen of Anti-Semitic propaganda.)

Mântuirea neamului



Venîți ca toții, căci în razele soarelui se ridică cu crucea în mână, „Liga Apărării Naționale Creștine” o închegare de inimi românești conștiente de pericolul amenințător, care vă cheamă să jurați credință lui **Hristos, Națiunei și Regelui!**

“THE SALVATION OF THE NATION.”

“Come, all of you. With the dawn arises the Christian League of National Defence, a group of Roumanian patriots, conscious of the peril, who call you with the Cross in hand to swear allegiance to the Lord Jesus Christ, King and Country.”

(Enclosure in No. 1, see p. 5.)

No. 5

(*The Alliance Israelite to Mr. Lucien Wolf.*)

[Translation.]

Alliance Israelite Universelle,
Paris, February 3rd, 1927.

Dear Sir,

We have the honour to forward to you herewith a copy of a letter which we have addressed to M. Diamandy, Minister of Roumania in Paris.

Accept, dear Sir, the assurance of our best sentiments.

J. BIGART,
Secretary.

(Enclosure in No. 5.)

[Translation.]

Paris, February 3rd, 1927.

Monsieur le Ministre,

The outrages of which the Jews of Roumania have been the object since several months, have caused throughout the Jewish community a profound emotion, to which it is our duty to call the attention of the Representative of Roumania in Paris.

We will not enter into the details of the incidents which have happened in numerous localities, in the Universities, in railway trains, in the streets. They are known to you. The denials which have been opposed to them are contradicted by incontestable facts. The Roumanian Jewish citizen lives at this moment in a state of constant anxiety, under an impression of moral and material insecurity. His rights as a citizen are disregarded. He feels himself without protection against the conduct of the disseminators of hatred and the organisers of outrage. Every day there arrive in Paris students who have been maltreated and forced to quit the University, honourable merchants and workmen to whom life has been rendered intolerable.

In various quarters it has been suggested that an appeal should be addressed to the League of Nations in favour of this Jewish population to whom the Treaty of Peace, signed by Roumania with the Allied Powers assures "full and complete protection of life and liberty" (Article 2), and recognises "the equality of civil and political rights" (Article 8).

We shall be very grateful to you, Monsieur le Ministre, if you will kindly communicate to the Royal Government at Bucharest the painful preoccupations to which the present grave situation of the Roumanian Jews gives rise throughout the Jewish community and recommend it to take efficacious measures to put an end to a state of things which affixes to Roumania the reproach of being the land in which the Jews are most unhappy.

Pray accept, Monsieur le Ministre, the assurance of our profound respect.

For the Central Committee,

J. BIGART,
Secretary-General.

(Specimen of Anti-Semitic propaganda.)

„Biciul de funii“



Afără cu ei! Să se ducă cum au venit, „puhoi“, cu ciorile călăuze și să lase curățit de viermi pământul drag al țării noastre. Să se afunde iarăși în întunecimea împărăției lui Satan, ea noi să rămânem liberi și stăpâni pe țară și pe destinele noastre.

“ THE WHIPCORD.”

“ Out with them! Let them go as they came, like a torrent, with the crows to guide them, and leave the dear soil of our country cleansed of the worms. Let them go down again into the darkness of the Kingdom of Satan, so that we may remain free and masters of our country and our destiny!”

(Enclosure in No. 1, see p. 5.)



No. 6*(Mr. Lucien Wolf to the Joint Foreign Committee.)*

[Extract.]

February 25th, 1927.

M. Titulescu rang me up last Tuesday and told me that he had received a telegram from the Roumanian Foreign Minister, M. Mitilineu, asking him to let me know that his reply to our letter had been delayed. He had ordered an inquiry into all the complaints made by us, and he had only just received all the reports he had asked for. It would take a few days to examine these reports, and hence it would be impossible to send me his considered reply for at least a week. I said to M. Titulescu that I hoped that in the interests of peace, his Government would carefully consider the terms of their reply. Thereupon he asked me to come and see him to talk the matter over, and eventually suggested that I should come to-day. I did so.

We went over again the whole field of controversy between us, and he repeated his allegation that the agitation against Roumania had been worked up by the Bolsheviks, and that the charges brought against Roumania were grossly exaggerated. He said that it was undeniable that there had been a certain amount of trouble, but it was not serious, and to talk of pogroms was ridiculous. Finally the Government had everywhere restored order, and what more could we ask for? I said in effect that if that was all his Government had to reply to us, the result would not be very satisfactory. It would only lead to a fresh controversy. So far as we were concerned it was not a question of whether certain reports had, or had not, been exaggerated. What we contended was that social peace in Roumania had been completely undermined by the wicked agitation of the anti-Semites, and that the Government had done nothing to put a stop to it or otherwise pacify men's minds. The result was that the Jews suffered every day from a thousand petty persecutions, that they were terrorised and for all practical purposes were outlaws. This situation was getting worse every day, and at any moment more violent explosions might take place. It was not enough to deal sternly with these explosions when they took place. What was wanted was some reconstructive policy, under which the Jews would acquire confidence from the sense of an efficient moral protection, as well as an adequate police protection. If the Government could not punish M. Cuza and his confederates, at any rate Ministers should not be allowed to patronise them and to exculpate them. The Government should also see that the law courts did their duty when assailants of the Jews were prosecuted. I said that we had always tried to deal with Roumania in a friendly way, but that we could not continue to do so without substantial encouragement from the Roumanian Government.

LUCIEN WOLF.

No. 7*(M. Titulescu to Mr. Lucien Wolf.)*

[Translation.]

May 20th, 1927.

Dear Mr. Wolf,

By our courier I have just received the enclosed note from His Excellency Monsieur Mitilineu¹, which I hasten to transmit to you while begging you to accept the assurance of my high consideration.

N. TITULESCU.

¹ The late Roumanian Minister of Foreign Affairs.

(Enclosure in No. 7.)

[Translation.]

Sir,

The Royal Government of Roumania has taken cognisance with interest of the letter in which you have communicated to its representative in London the complaints of the Joint Foreign Committee of the Jewish Board of Deputies with regard to the alleged anti-Semitic agitation in Roumania.

Having examined with attention the tenor of your letter, it can affirm that, faithful to the Constitution and the tradition of Roumania, it has, in all circumstances, taken the necessary measures in order, as in the past, to assure the loyal application of the laws and regulations which guarantee complete protection of life and liberty to all the citizens of the country without distinction of birth, nationality, race or confession.

The Royal Government desires to establish that if regrettable incidents between Jewish and Christian students have happened in certain towns, these incidents, which occur equally in other countries, have had an absolutely local character and have been tendenciously exaggerated. Also, the Government has categorically disapproved of them, and the Roumanian authorities, after due inquiry, have acted against the culprits and have imposed the appropriate legal sanctions without distinction of religion.

Moreover, the President of the Council himself, in order to mark how much he disapproves of these incidents and to prevent their recurrence, has addressed in good time to the Minister of Public Instruction an official note which has been published, and which conveyed to the students the order to abstain in future from manifestations of this kind.

"The Government does not need any assistance," declares the aforesaid note; "the legal powers at its disposal suffice for it to guarantee the national interests and to assure order. Any meddling on the part of those who are not qualified is illegal and can only bring down upon them all the severity of the laws."

It is this spirit of equity which has always guided the action of the Royal Government. Moreover, its present chief has already dealt with the question with all the authority which he derives from his high position and his great responsibility. Indeed, in his reply to the letter which Mr. Braunstein, President of the Roumanian Jews of Illinois, U.S.A., addressed to him on the subject of the alleged persecutions of the Jews of Roumania, His Excellency General Averescu said:—

"There have never been any pogroms in our country. There have been incidents and individual quarrels which the authorities have examined in an objective spirit, while taking all the measures dictated by the laws. The Government has taken care that order should be respected by all, and has always discharged its duty, convinced that the interests of the country require the harmony and collaboration of all its inhabitants. It is an error, I might say almost voluntary, to consider individual incidents which occur here and there, and which are sometimes without doubt regrettable enough, as collective

manifestations of one population against another. The Roumanian people, who, in the course of centuries, have endured so much injustice, could not transform itself into an oppressor of a population with which it has lived so long on the territory of its country. It is sufficient to recall that when in 1920 the Jews of South Eastern Russia were killed *en masse* on the other side of the Dniester, I accorded, as Chief of the Government, a refuge in Roumania to tens of thousands of these Jews."

This noble gesture of giving asylum in Roumania to tens of thousands of Jews—is it not an indubitable proof of the humanitarian spirit and the large and tolerant hospitality of the Roumanian people? And how is it to be reconciled with the accusations which manifest themselves outside our frontiers—accusations which have justified the energetic protest in the Senate of the Chief Rabbi of Roumania, Dr. Niemirover, who is besides a Senator by right?

The Royal Government, confident of its good cause and having the firm conviction that the loyalty of its action will be finally recognised by all, as it has already been recognised by those who have been able to inform themselves on the spot and who besides have made their testimonies public, is nevertheless unable to hide how much it regrets that one can bring against it such unjustifiable accusations, which, far from pacifying the spirits, may prove injurious to the relations of Jews and non-Jews in Roumania and prolong their misunderstandings. The Jewish population of Roumania stands in no need of being defended. It is, by Roumanian law and tradition, assured of always finding the free exercise of its rights as well as the protection of the local authorities.

I do not doubt that a spirit so intelligent as your own will appreciate the sincerity of these declarations—declarations which my predecessor, Monsieur Duca, had already made to you—and in begging of you to have the kindness to bring them to the knowledge of the Joint Foreign Committee of the Jewish Board of Deputies, I seize the opportunity of renewing to you, Sir, the assurance of my perfect consideration.

JON M. MITILINEU.

No. 8

(*The Joint Foreign Committee to the Roumanian Government.*)

June 9th, 1927.

Monsieur le Ministre,

1. I did not fail to communicate to the Joint Foreign Committee the letter which your Excellency's predecessor, Monsieur Mitilineu, did me the honour to address to me in reply to the letter of my Committee of January 11th last, and which was duly transmitted to me by His Excellency, the Royal Roumanian Minister, in London, on May 20th. Having examined Monsieur Mitilineu's letter with the utmost attention and good-will, my Committee has directed me to thank the Royal Roumanian Government for its courtesy and to ask your Excellency's permission to submit to you the following observations:—

2. The main purpose of Monsieur Mitilineu's letter appears to have been to assure my Committee that the complaints set forth in my letter of January 11th have little or no foundation. In particular Monsieur Mitilineu declared:—

- (a) That the acts of violence alleged to have been perpetrated against the Jews in Roumania had been "tendentially exaggerated";
- (b) That in point of fact they had been merely local incidents of negligible importance;
- (c) That they were always adequately dealt with by the Roumanian authorities, and
- (d) That the Royal Government had in all circumstances protected the Jewish population by a loyal application of the laws which guarantee life and liberty to all inhabitants of the Kingdom.

Without desiring in any way to throw doubt on the sincerity of Monsieur Mitilineu, my Committee regrets that it finds it impossible to accept these assurances.

3. That Monsieur Mitilineu has been, at least in some respects, gravely misinformed is indeed clear from the first of the assurances cited above. It is there stated, apparently with reference to my Committee's letter of January 11th, that the grievances of the Roumanian Jews referred to therein have been "tendentially exaggerated." That this statement is quite erroneous may be easily demonstrated. It will suffice to make known to your Excellency in a precise form the evidence on which my Committee's letter was largely based. Accordingly, I am directed to attach to this letter a classified chronology of the deplorable events which have happened in Roumania since April, 1926,¹ when the late Cabinet took office. In that compilation it will be seen that every statement made by my Committee is borne out by reports appearing in the Roumanian press and is further justified by the fact that in not one single case were these reports the subject of an official *démenti*. It follows, therefore, that the charge of "tendencious exaggeration" brought against my Committee is completely irrelevant, whatever may be the degree of authenticity attaching to the evidence itself.

4. With regard to that evidence, supported as it has been by private reports received from reliable sources, my Committee directs me to say that it sees no reason at the present moment to doubt its substantial accuracy, and that, pending any more detailed explanation which the Royal Government may care to offer my Committee must respectfully maintain the statements of fact contained in its letter of January 11th.

5. At the same time we are as anxious as the Royal Government for a speedy pacification of the angry passions which have been aroused, and for a lasting restoration of order and concord throughout the Kingdom, in the interest both of the Roumanian Jews and of the stability and good repute of the Roumanian State. We should, therefore, hail with pleasure the termination of the present controversy on the basis of the letter which his Excellency, General Averescu, addressed to the Minister of Public Instruction on February 23rd last, and of the measures which will no doubt be taken to give effect to it and otherwise to assure public order. What further steps are necessary we shall not presume to indicate to your Excellency, but it must be clear that there can be no peace, either in Roumania itself or between Roumania and the Jewish Communities beyond her borders, as long as the authorities tolerate

¹ *Infra*, pp. 27 *et seq.*

the terrible campaign of slander and hatred against the Jews and the wicked incitements to violence, and even massacre, of which startling evidence is afforded in the enclosed document. Foreign Jews cannot be insensible to this sinister agitation, for it is not only unjust and dangerous to their Roumanian co-religionists, whose patriotic attachment to their country needs no vindication, but it has wider implications which call for the most energetic protest of the whole of Jewry.

6. In conclusion I am desired to recall the friendly relations which until recently subsisted between my Committee and the Royal Government, and which on several occasions, notably in regard to the Refugee question, led to a fruitful co-operation and the dissipation of misunderstandings. My Committee desires nothing better than to renew those relations, and it will be happy if, within the measure of the influence it can exercise, it may be able to contribute to the work of pacification which must be one of the first tasks of your Excellency's Government.

I beg of your Excellency to accept the assurance of my most respectful sentiments.

LUCIEN WOLF, Secretary.

His Excellency Prince Barbu Stirbey,
Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bucharest.

No. 9.

(*Report of the Secretary to the Joint Foreign Committee.*)

ON THE PATRIOTISM OF THE ROUMANIAN JEWS.

The Roumanian anti-Semites make great play in their campaign with arguments which would imply that during the war the Roumanian Jews did nothing to help their country and everything to help its enemies. Roughly, these arguments can be summed up in three propositions:—

- (a) That all the Jews were mobilised in sedentary services behind the front.
- (b) That all the Jews have been acting as spies.
- (c) That all the Jews have deserted to the enemy.

These propositions are based on a very peculiar logic. In Roumania, Jews have been neither ministers nor until lately Members of Parliament, neither generals nor sergeant-majors. Having held no public executive position, how could they yet have succeeded in securing for themselves all the safe privileged positions behind the front? Unless the anti-Semitic agitators mean to imply that all the leading Roumanian statesmen, politicians and officials have been open to corruption it is difficult to see how otherwise the Jews have eschewed so completely all combatant service. But further, if this nevertheless were true, how could the Jews, left as they were according to the said arguments far behind the front, yet be in a position to supply the enemy with treasonable information as to what was happening in the battle zone; and, especially, how could they (and why should they?) from that sheltered position yet be able to cross the battle line and desert to the enemy?

For the sake of getting at the truth, however, it is better to leave these fragile arguments to their own fate and to enquire into the activity of the Roumanian Jews during the war on the basis of facts and figures obtained from official sources. As a preliminary, it may be mentioned that, according to Mon. N. T. Ionescu, chief of the statistical service in the Ministry for Home Affairs, Roumania's total population on January 1st, 1916, was roughly 7,897,000; of these, according to the same authority, some 230,000 were Jews, giving a percentage of 2.91 per cent. of the total population. Let us see in what proportion this Jewish population contributed to Roumania's fighting force and to its casualties, and in what manner it acquitted itself of its duties in the army and in the territory occupied by the enemy.

(1) *The Number of Jews mobilised.* The veteran anti-Semite, M. Cuza, maintains that only less than 16,000 Jews were mobilised, whereas Roumania's total force represented 10 per cent. of her population. But after the appearance of a pamphlet giving the number of Jews decorated during the war, another anti-Semite, General Alevra, being anxious to bring down the percentage of decorated Jews, asserted, from knowledge supposed to have been gathered at Headquarters, that no less than 35,000 Jews had been drafted into the army. Hence the anti-Semitic agitators find themselves in a dilemma (which, to do them justice, by no means embarrasses them), for either M. Cuza's figure is right and then the number of decorated Jews exceeded the average, or General Alevra's figure is better, in which case the Jewish population must have contributed a much larger proportion of soldiers than any other section of the population. Neither way would be very helpful for proving that the Roumanian Jews have been shirkers. But the truth probably is, in the absence of definite statistics, that under the system of conscription which obtains in Roumania the Jews, like the other groups, sent to the army about 10 per cent. of their number, neither less nor more.

(2) *The Number of Jews killed in the War.* "The Jews ran away from the first line, where there was danger of death." (*Aparea Natzionala*, April 1st, 1922.) According to nominal lists of casualties, the number of Roumanian Jews killed in the war was 882, i.e., 3.83 per cent. of the Jewish soldiers. The total number of killed registered in the official lists was 37,853, being 5.07 per cent. of the force. There is here a difference in percentage which special inquiries show to be somewhat erroneous. Because of the peculiar circumstances of the Roumanian campaign it was not always possible to keep accurate note of current losses. After the Armistice, when, e.g., the municipality of Piatra-Neamtz compiled a full list of the men of that town who had been killed, the total was 71. Of these, 26, i.e., 36.6 per cent., were found to have been Jews. Yet, of these 26 men only two are to be found in the nominal casualty list; two more are among those declared missing, while the rest of 22 appears nowhere in the casualty lists. Again, at Bereshti, a Committee of leading Roumanian personalities having decided to set up a monument to the men of that place killed in the war, there was compiled a list which, in a total of 123, included 15 Jews, i.e., over 12 per cent.; but of these also, only six are to be found in the official lists. To give another instance. There is a Society for the care of war graves which, at the request of the families, has caused a number of fallen soldiers to be exhumed and buried anew in the localities from which they came. According to a list supplied by this Society in

February, 1925, the bodies of 47 Jewish soldiers were re-buried by its care. Of these, 12 names appear in the official lists as killed, seven as missing, one as wounded, while the other 27 are not mentioned at all. If one adds merely the additional casualties discovered from the chance compilation of these three lists, the total number of Jewish killed is brought to 933, being 4.06 per cent. of the Jewish contingent.

(3) *The Number of Jewish Soldiers wounded in the War.* From the nominal lists of casualties it would result that 740 Jewish soldiers were wounded during the war, this being 3.21 per cent. of the Jewish contingent. The total number of wounded recorded in the official casualty lists amounted to 37,663, which gives a percentage of 5.05 of the total force. The remarks made with regard to the discrepancy in the proportion of men killed also holds good with regard to these wounded.

(4) *The Number of Jewish Soldiers made Prisoners.* "Out of approximately 35,000 Jews mobilised the military statistical service has identified 26,000 as having been made prisoners or having deserted to the enemy." (General Alevra, 1924). From nominal lists published it results that the number of Jews made prisoners was 449, that is, 1.95 per cent. of the Jewish contingent. The total number of prisoners recorded in the official lists was 11,322, which gives a percentage of 1.65 of the total force.

(5) *The Number of Civilian Prisoners.* A single official list of civilian prisoners was made public on January 31st, 1917. It contained the names of 9 Roumanians and 55 Roumanian Jews, who were in the territories of the Central Powers when Roumania entered the war. These figures make an interesting commentary on the accusation that the Roumanian Jews "pactized" with the enemy.

(6) *The Number of Jewish Soldiers decorated.* From carefully checked lists published in 1925 it appears that 825 Jewish soldiers, that is 3.60 per cent., were decorated during the war. This percentage is considerably lower than the corresponding total percentage. But one has to take into account that a very large proportion of decorations were distributed to officers of various ranks, and according to Roumanian law and practice Jews were not given commissions and only very exceptionally non-commissioned ranks. Also, of those officers very many received a number of other Roumanian and foreign decorations, which went to swell the general percentage. Finally, it is a painful but undeniable truth that in many cases Jews who had been proposed by their chiefs for decoration were refused the distinction just because they were Jews. Of the 825 decorations granted to Jews 164 were given to men doing service behind the front and 661 for distinguished conduct in action, that is, 80.1 per cent. were given in the fighting line. The respective percentages for the total force were 64.61 per cent. for higher officers, 84.70 per cent. for lower ranks and 89.84 per cent. for the rank and file. Finally, of the decorations received by Jews 775 were Roumanian and 50 were foreign; the proportion is just the same in the case of the Roumanian rank and file, whereas in the case of Roumanian officers foreign decorations make, according to ranks, 20-40 per cent. of the total.

(7) *The Number of Jewish Soldiers missing.* "It is further to be noted that of the 26,000 Jewish prisoners and deserters, 70 per cent. in reality deserted

to the enemy and only 30 per cent. were made prisoners." (General Alevra, 1924.) "In general, 4.72 per cent. of Jews deserted to the enemy, as against 0.18 per cent. of Roumanian deserters, or one Roumanian to 26 Jewish deserters." (A. C. Cuza.) From nominal lists published it appears that the number of Jewish soldiers given as missing was 3,043—that is, 13.23 per cent. of the Jewish contingent. The total number of men recorded as missing was 98,609, which gives a percentage of 13.22 of the total force. In a number of cases, moreover, it has been possible to establish that a number of Jewish soldiers listed as missing had in reality been killed at the front, and some of these had actually been buried with military honours.

(8) *Jewish Soldiers as Spies and Traitors.* One of the most frequent accusations is that which accuses the Roumanian Jews of wholesale treason during the war. So far, apparently, no official lists of the number of men sentenced for military crimes have been published. M. Cuza himself asserts, however, that during the war 543 Jews were tried and 454 sentenced; of these 18 were civilians, and 237 were judged in their absence, of whom a few have since come back and have been acquitted on re-trial, while some of the sentenced men have since been discovered among those killed in battle. But even according to M. Cuza's evidently extreme figures only 199 Jewish soldiers were fairly tried and convicted, i.e., 0.86 per cent. of the Jewish contingent, and as a large number of these were sentenced for ordinary misdeeds, what remains of the wholesale accusation of treason and desertion levelled against the Jews?

(9) *The Conduct of the Jews in Occupied Territory.* Equally frequent and definite has been the anti-Semitic accusation that the Jewish population in the Roumanian territory occupied by the armies of the Central Powers at the end of 1916 fraternised with the enemy. In the first place, whereas in the old kingdom the percentage of Jews to the total population was about 3, it appears that among the hostages arrested and interned by the army of occupation the Jews made up 10 per cent. Later, a number of these hostages were set free while the rest were deported, and the Jews again made up 10 per cent. of the latter (6 out of 65). There are a number of descriptions by eye-witnesses of life under the occupation, all of them due to Roumanians with an obvious anti-Jewish bias. Yet even these accounts, in so far as they set out actual facts and incidents, continually show that many unpalatable deeds were done by Roumanians and many acts of courage and kindness were done by Jews. To give one instance, the account published over the pseudonym, "Archibald," describes how the author, who was in charge of a hospital with about 100 wounded men, had one day to go out in search of bread for his starving patients. He first addressed himself to the secretary of the Municipal Council, who told him to go to the military commander, praising the Germans. "Archibald" then applied in despair to the man in charge of the military bakeries, who at his own risk got his men to purloin a hundred loaves and sent them to the hospital. Says "Archibald": "If I were to see him again to-day very likely I should not recognise him. . . . But I know that he was a Jew, not a Christian official like the Secretary of the Municipal Council." But one can find more substantial evidence in the collection of official documents published in 1924 and containing the reports of various Ministers and Royal Decrees, by which a number of local authorities and individual officials were deprived of their functions for abuses during the occupation, the victims being in many cases the

helpless women and children of mobilised men. Altogether, 508 Communal Councils were dissolved and 202 individual officials were dismissed for having oppressed and exploited the inhabitants while carrying out requisitions, etc., on behalf of the enemy troops. As Jews were not entitled to hold any public office whatever in Roumania, it is clear that not a single Jew was among this large number of grasping and treacherous officials. The truth would seem to be summed up by the well-known veteran journalist Constantin Bacalbasha in his "The Capital During the Occupation." He says: "I have known very many Jews who were inimical to the Germans, whereas many Roumanians were their friends. I have known Jewish journalists as hostages while Roumanian journalists were writing in the papers run by the Germans. I have known Jews who were in Moldavia, fought at the front and returned mutilated, whereas many Roumanians stole into Bucharest (during the retreat) and remained hidden during the occupation. Hence, a great injustice is being committed when all the Jews are accused of having been the agents and tools of the Germans. I can assert that during the unfortunate occupation many Jews made a stouter stand than many Roumanians."

Altogether, this evidence shows that during the war, whether in the fighting line or behind the front, the Roumanian Jews more than did their duty towards the country which imposed upon them every civil and military obligation, but deprived them of all political and many civil rights.

(**Enclosure in No. 8, supra p. 21.**)

CHRONOLOGY OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN ROUMANIA, 1926-1927.

1.—INCITEMENTS TO OUTRAGE.

(1). July 14th, 1926. Speaking in the Roumanian Chamber to-day during the debate on the Address, Prof. A. C. Cuza, Leader of the Anti-Semites, said :—

We may have signed the Treaty of St. Germain, but those who signed it broke their word. Art. 38 of the Constitution, which concerns the Jewish population, must be suppressed. It is monstrous that the Constitution should speak of the rights of the Jews. There is a difference between the other minorities and the Jews. The solution ought to be to eliminate the Jews by law. The first step ought to be to exclude them from the army. Leases of forests granted to Jews should be cancelled. All land held by Jews should be expropriated. Likewise, all town houses owned by Jews should be confiscated. I would introduce a "Numerus Clausus" in the schools. Certain categories of Jews who are recent settlers should be expelled.

(2). January 16th. The *Curierul Israelit* (Bucharest) in its issue for January 16th, 1927, reproduces certain types of anti-Semitic propaganda.

It first refers to a pamphlet entitled "Study Concerning the Jewish Question." On page 38 it says that, battle being declared, Jews everywhere will mobilise to help their Roumanian co-religionists, and foreign diplomacy, pressed by Jewish bankers, will imperatively demand that the Roumanian Government should protect the Jews against the attacks of Roumania. "Good. What can the Roumanian Government do? It cannot provide police protection for every Jew, nor can it search the pockets of students and citizens to see whether they are not carrying some weapon, revolver, knuckle-duster or stone." "It is absurd. How can you stop 14 million Roumanians from defending themselves against attack from one or two million aggressive Jews? Moreover, such vexatious measures only serve to rouse more the spirits against the Jews, and, fatally, the settlement with the Jews is being precipitated. This question is being pushed to a head as by fatality or by the hand of God—and it cannot be otherwise, whatever some people or others may do." This pamphlet is printed by the "Tipografia Geniului" (Press of the Military Engineering Service), and the paper asks the Minister of War what he has to say to that use of military presses.

The second item is a facsimile of a postcard which is being distributed in towns and villages. One side reproduces a picture of an alleged Jewish ritual murder perpetrated in a Hungarian town in 1882. The other side carries the stamp of the "League for Christian Defence" (M. Cuza's organisation) and the explanation of the picture, saying that "this criminal custom of the Jews is known to all the world."

The third item is a facsimile of two doggerel appeals of the "League for Christian Defence." The expressions, almost pornographic, hardly bear translation. The last verse of the second poem runs something like this:

" Go away, go away, while there is time,
For A. C. Cuza is in power;
Settled is now your problem,
For the whole country listens to him,
That for the sake of our nation,
And for the national sentiment,
Not a drop of Jewish blood shall be left."

This poem also states that the Jews "are eating Christian blood."

(3). January 24th, 1927. The *Carpatzii*, the official organ of the National League of Christian Defence, publishes to-day the following manifesto:

Kill !

The Jews have taken the offensive throughout the country destroying all that is good, and undermining the State. The Government are silent. The Roumanians are silent too, although they suffer. The result, if we continue to be civilised with the red beast, will be our undoing.

Kill !

Our national prestige commands us imperiously to strike with a mortal blow everyone who contemplates the destruction of our people and our State. *No one has the right to stop our arms—when the existence of Roumania is at stake. Honour the man who kills the traitor and the enemy of his Country. Finish once for all with the shame of enduring blows . . . I repeat—to kill the enemy of our Country is not a crime. It is the greatest honour of a Roumanian. Kill, then ! The Slaves weep ! The Heroes kill !*

(4). January, 1927. The following manifesto has been issued by the anti-Semites of Buzeu :—

Brother Christians ! The Country is in danger. Christian people are threatened with the Jewish yoke. The Great War was not so dangerous as is the battle we have to fight with the enemies within our land. The Jews have become masters of all our national wealth, as well as that of the other countries in which they live. They wish to become masters of our Country. On their synagogues and on the town walls, they write insolently: "To New Palestine; Not to Great Roumania." By money they have corrupted many of our people, mean men, who have become their tools. These faithful servants of the Jews think to undermine and destroy the sacred organisation of our league (the National League of Christian Defence). Brother Christians ! Do not allow our Country, our nation and Christian law, to perish ! United in one thought, in one feeling, join together in the presence of danger, and prove that you love your Country and your Christian faith ! Our dead on the battlefields and the young living generation will curse us if we hesitate, if we are indifferent and do not react against these enemies. *Come ! What are you waiting for ? Do you not long to tear asunder the yoke in which the Jews hold you ? Do you not wish that Roumania should belong only to Roumanians and*

that rights should only be theirs? The hour has come! We cannot wait any longer. It is now time. Listen to our advice. Until further orders, we begin to-day with the economic boycott. Do not sell to the Jews or buy anything from them! Men, women, young people and children! Remember that all who buy from, or sell their products to, the Jews, will be declared the enemies of the Roumanian Nation. They will be registered in the Black Book as tools of the Jews, cursed in the Churches and expelled from Roumanian society. The names of these traitors will be posted up in hundreds of thousands of placards throughout the country. The National Guard of the League will patrol daily in town and country and collect the names of these traitors. The League begins its new battle to-day, with the fury of the despair to which the Jews have brought us. Throughout the Country, throughout the Globe, the sacred war against them has begun!

IRAIU LUCASIEVICI,

Chairman of the Christian League,

District of Buzeu.

(*Curierul Israelit*, January 30th, 1927.)

(5). January 20th. An anti-Semitic leaflet of a violent character which is being distributed in thousands of copies in Bucharest by the Christian League has been printed by the official military Press, the *Curierul Israelit*, the organ of the Roumanian Jews, states here to-day. The Leaflet says that the only way of getting rid of the Jews is by exterminating them with revolver, rifle and whip.

The *Curierul Israelit* asks the Roumanian War Ministry whether the Military Press Department has been authorised to publish such leaflets. It demands that the Ministry should take steps to prevent the poisoning of public opinion by such literature. It also challenges the Roumanian Patriarch to show how this leaflet of the Christian League can be reconciled with the teaching of Christ.—(J.T.A.¹)

(6). February, 1927. Dr. Sebastian Bornemisa, a member of the parliamentary majority, editor of the Cluj semi-official *Biruintza* (The Victory), and publisher of a popular paper called *Lumea si Tzara* ("The World and the Country"), publishes an article over the suggestive heading: "A New Triumph of the National Idea, the Student Totu has been Acquitted."²

In this article he explains that the acquittal of Totu proves that "in the deadly war which the Roumanian nation is forced to carry on against the Jews, our sons are entitled to defend themselves even with the harshest means."—(*Adevarul*, February 27th, 1927.)

(7). April 9th. Dr. Nistor, who was Minister for the Bukowina under the Liberal Government, in the course of an interview with M. Julius Weber, editor-in-chief of the *Czernowitz Morgenblatt*, referred at length to the Cuzist agitation against the Jews. Cuzism, he said, has created a terrible atmosphere in the Bukowina. Never before has there been such hatred of the Jews in the Bukowina. It is a new appearance, since the Cuzists have entered active

¹ Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

² Cf. *infra*, p. 43, par. 58.

political life. It is preventing social and national harmony in our country. The Liberal Party never tolerated these agitations, and if it were in office now it would not allow political life to be poisoned in this way. It is impossible that these conditions should last. Better times must come.—(J.T.A., April 15th, 1927.)

(8). May, 1927. Thousands of postcards are being distributed in towns and villages illustrated on one side with a picture in which a prosperous Jewish couple are drawn in a carriage marked "U.R.S.S." by three starved looking men. The legend says that "whipped by Leiba Trotzki, the peasant, the soldier and the worker carry the yoke of Jewish slavery." On the other side the card affects to give advice on some "certain remedies," which are: "against lice—petrol; against bugs—fire; against Jews—svastica." The postcards are printed by the "Steaua Tzarii" Press, and published by the "Seutul Nazional," in Chishinau; that is, both the printers and publishers trade in places under martial law!—(*Curierul Israelit*, May 8th, 1927.)

(9). January 30th. "Fifteen days have passed since we called the attention of the Government, in two consecutive issues of our paper, to the appeals and articles of the National League of Christian Defence, which preach civil war and massacre of the Jews, which insult and calumniate them outrageously, notwithstanding that they are Roumanian citizens. Is the action which qualifies all Jews as a 'people of swindlers,' which preaches their ban and burial, denounces them as 'dirty pagans,' who rob the Roumanian people of their wealth, and calls the Roumanians to war for their destruction—is this compatible with the equal citizenship inscribed in the Constitution? We ask: does not that mean incitement to an armed upheaval against the Jews? Does it not mean, at least, propaganda of hatred and contempt against the Jews? And yet nothing is done to stop it."—(*Curierul Israelit*, January 30th.)

(10). February 15th. Alarming reports of the anti-Jewish agitation which is being carried on in the provincial districts of Roumania are published here by the *Curierul Israelit*, the official organ of the Union of Roumanian Jews. The peasants, it states, are being openly incited to murder the Jewish population. The *Curierul Israelit* demands that the Government should take immediate action to restrain the agitation and to protect the lives and property of the Jewish population of the country. The situation, it declares, is most explosive in character, and unless prompt action is taken it will be impossible to prevent serious consequences.

The Kishineff Yiddish daily, *Unser Zeit*, has been prohibited for a period of ten days by the military censor of Bessarabia for having stated in an article that official Government organs are engaged in conducting an anti-Semitic agitation in the country. The paper had protested against this fact.—(J.T.A., February 17th.)

II.—OUTRAGES, ETC.

(11). Kishineff, April 19th, 1926. A Jewish merchant named J. Shatzky has been attacked by students while travelling by train at the railway station of Strascheni, near Kishineff, and thrown out of the window of his compartment. Such attacks on Jews have in the past few days become a frequent occurrence

along the railway. The Jewish population is alarmed at this sign of continued anti-Semitic excesses under the new Government.¹—(J.T.A., April 27th.)

(12). April 20th. Within twenty-four hours of the reopening of the University of Bucharest,² we have to record fresh disorders in the Faculty of Industrial Chemistry. The Jewish students of the first year have again been maltreated. Their colleagues, disciples of Professor Cuza, received them with cries of "Out with the Jews!" No acts of violence took place in the presence of the Professor, but as soon as the lecture was over the Jewish students were hunted out of the Institute of Chemistry and pursued all along the Magheru Quai under a hail of stones. Two students, named Ciuhaci and Teodoru, slashed the Jews with long pieces of automobile tyres. One Jewish student named Klein was thrown to the ground and trampled on; two others were seriously injured.—(Dimineata, April 22nd, 1926.)

(13). April 20th. Attacks on Jewish passengers have been renewed recently on the Roumanian railway. Jews travelling on the line Targul-Oena-Adjut have been insulted and beaten by bands of students who went from compartment to compartment seeking out the Jewish passengers. Three Jews, Jancu Silberstein and Josef Hershkovicz, of Moinest, and Isaac Stern, of Maros-Ujvari, have been severely wounded. The police and railway officials took no action to protect the Jews. At Ploesti, students from Bucharest attacked Jews in the streets. Among the injured Jews are the engineer Hersheovici, the dentist Habermann, Dr. Kissinger, Dr. Sigu Isaac, M. Fuchs, F. Kahn, Sl. Leibovici and Mischa Weinberg.—(J.T.A., April 27th.)

(14). May 25th. An attack on the Jewish population of Arad in Transylvania was carried out by a force of about ten thousand Cuzists on election day. The demonstrators marched through the town, attacking Jewish houses and shops, throwing the goods into the streets and smashing the windows. Many Jews were beaten and injured. A deputation of Jews visited the Prefect and demanded that measures should be taken to restore order. The authorities sent out a strong force of police and the demonstrators were dispersed.—(J.T.A., May 31st.)

(15). June 15th. The sleeping population of the Jewish town of Arbora in the Bukovina was awakened at midnight last night by bombs and hand grenades crashing into their houses. The attack was carried out by a group of Cuzists trying to spread panic in the Jewish town. A number of houses was destroyed by the explosives and several Jews wounded.—(J.T.A., June 17th.)

(16). June 17th. The anti-Jewish disturbances in Bucharest have, after an interval of some months, been renewed. The students at Bucharest University formed up last night in procession and marched through the streets singing nationalist songs. They stopped outside the Hotel Frascati and began throwing stones at shops and houses occupied by Jews. Many windows were smashed and a number of Jews were injured. Some of the students made their way into the Athena Street, which is almost entirely Jewish, and threw stones at

¹The Cabinet of General Averescu took office on March 30th.

²Infra, p. 46, par. 65.

the synagogue there, in which not a single window was left whole. The students cried that they were out to take vengeance for the "anti-Roumanian feeling of the Bessarabian Jews."—(J.T.A., June 22nd.)

(17). June 19th.—The *Curierul Israelit* reports that in the recent anti-Semitic student disturbances in Bucharest the students, in addition to throwing stones at the synagogue in the Athena Street, where all the windows were smashed, entered and profaned the synagogue "Reishis Daath." The students demolished the Ark of the Covenant and desecrated the Scrolls of the Law. They committed further sadistic profanation in the synagogue building. The paper asks why the Government has taken no action to bring the students to punishment.—(J.T.A., June 25th.)

(18). June 24th. A band of students went through Bucharest yesterday attacking Jews. They were particularly active in Cischtigiu Park. They first attacked a group of three young Jews, beating them with cudgels. They then stopped two young Jews walking with a lady and beat them and tore their clothes from them. One of them, a young engineer from Transylvania, named Nicolas, was left lying senseless. The attack lasted for about an hour. The band was finally stopped by a police commissioner and two sergeants, who managed to arrest two members of the band, Jon Cristescu and Jon Manculescu. The rest managed to escape. The arrested students were taken to the Prefecture, where they were detained over night. As Bucharest is still under martial law, they will be put on trial before the court-martial of the Third Army Corps.—(J.T.A., June 29th.)

(19). June 24th. Anti-Jewish student excesses have again taken place in Bucharest to-day in connection with the arrival here of the anti-Semitic leader, Professor Cuza, who has come to be present as the leader of the anti-Semitic faction at the opening of Parliament to-morrow. About a hundred students awaited Professor Cuza at the railway station. The authorities, fearing trouble, sent a strong force of police and military to the station. When Professor Cuza arrived the students wanted to drag his motor car through the streets and began demonstrating against the Jews. The gendarmes dispersed them and the students then broke into the Jewish quarter, Grivitei, near the station and demonstrated there, smashing windows. Posters have been put up all over the city bearing Professor Cuza's portrait and calling upon the students to demonstrate on the great national festival of the opening of Parliament to-morrow, to rejoice at the success of the National Christian League in returning ten deputies.—(J.T.A., June 30th.)

(20). August 10th. Albert Abramovici, of Piatra Niamtz; Sami Heller, of Braila; Lupu Paltic, of Baceu; Simon Seharf, of Paltetchin; and a number of other Jews were attacked yesterday at the railway station of Adjud on the line from Czernowitz to Galatz, states a message received by the *Adeverul*. After being severely thrashed, the Jews were thrown out of the train. The attack was made by a group of Cuzists returning from the Conference at Putna, under the leadership of Tiza Pavelescu, of Focșani. The authorities at Adjud and the railway officials refused to intervene on behalf of the Jews. The victims have sent telegrams of protest to the Minister of the Interior, and to the Prefect of Focșani.—(J.T.A., August 16th.)

(21). November 12th. Scandalous scenes have recommenced in the Faculty of Medicine at Bucharest. Some days ago the Jewish students were mobbed and assaulted on their way to the Secretary's Office to apply for their inscription. Yesterday the disorders were renewed at the Chemistry lectures, and to-day at the Physics course. A number of students of the preparatory year who had failed in their examination resolved to avenge themselves for their ill luck by assaulting the Jewish students. Their conduct seemed to be quite reasonable to the University authorities and the police, seeing that they took no steps to intervene.—(*Adevarul*, November 12th.)

(22). November 17th. Anti-Jewish disturbances organised by the students at the Lyceum and the Commercial School in Lipova, near Arad, are reported to-day by the *Romania* and the *Diminiatza* of Bucharest. The report says that the demonstrators attacked Jewish passers-by in the streets, and smashed the windows of the synagogue and private Jewish houses. The Jewish population is in a panic. The police had to be called out to disperse the demonstrators. The Prefect, Dr. Bogden, has proceeded to the scene of the disturbances, to take action to prevent a recurrence of the troubles.

(23). November 18th. Yesterday at the close of the Botanical lecture in the Faculty of Medicine a group of 15 Cuzist students set upon and maltreated five Jewish students.—(*Politica*, November 18th.)

(24). December 2nd. The anti-Semitic student movement in Roumania is holding a full-dress parade at Jassy, where Professor Cuza, the anti-Semitic leader and one of the members of the Bureau of the Anti-Semitic International, is presiding over a Congress of about five thousand students, representing Roumanian student organisations all over the country. There is tremendous excitement in Jassy and the authorities have drafted strong forces of military into the town in case of trouble.

A resolution has been adopted by the Congress demanding that no Jews should be admitted into the Roumanian universities. The "Numerus Clausus" restricting the number of Jews at the universities, the resolution says, is not enough. It must be replaced by the "Numerus Nullus."

Meanwhile, attacks on Jews have been made at various places along the railway lines to Jassy by students on their way to Jassy to attend the Congress. Jewish passengers travelling in the same trains as the students have been molested and several have been seriously injured. Anti-Jewish excesses on a considerable scale have been taking place at the railway stations of Focșani, Buzău and Ploiești. Jews have been thrashed and thrown out of the windows of their compartments. The brothers Chaimowicz and Benjamin have been severely wounded.

At Bucharest University, the non-Jewish students set upon five Jewish students who were attending the lecture and thrashed them and ejected them from the lecture-hall. The Jewish students were so severely mauled that they have been detained in hospital.—(*J.T.A.*, December 4th.)

(25). Vienna, December 3rd. Kishineff, the capital of Bessarabia, and Kalarash, about thirty miles to the north of Kishineff and about half-way on the

¹ Cf. *infra*, p. 41, par. 51.

railway lines between Kishineff and Jassy, where the anti-Semitic Students' Congress, under the presidency of Professor Cuza, has just been concluded, have been the scenes of anti-Semitic excesses on a large scale carried out by about 300 of the delegates to the Congress who were passing through Kishineff on their way home. The 300 student delegates returning from Jassy proceeded in a body through the streets of Kishineff setting upon all Jews whom they found. The windows of Jewish shops and houses were smashed and many Jewish houses were entered. Great damage has been done to Jewish property. Many Jews have been injured. About 30 Jews have been detained in hospital in a serious condition. The excesses lasted nearly all day on Tuesday. The Military Commandant of the district ordered two regiments of Infantry and Cavalry into Kishineff to put down the disturbances. The students refused to disperse and the military had to make repeated charges. Five of the Roumanian students were trampled underfoot by the horses and have been removed to hospital in a serious condition. Kishineff has been placed under military control, and strong patrols have been posted at all important points.

Kalarash Jewish shops and houses were entered and looted. Furniture and other Jewish property was dragged out to the market place and burnt in a bonfire. Many Jews have been injured.—(J.T.A., December 6th.)

(26). Bucharest, December 3rd. The Students' Congress presided over by Professor Cuza in Jassy has been the signal for an outbreak of anti-Semitic excesses in many of the towns in Roumania. Reports have been received here of anti-Jewish attacks at Focșani, Buzău, Ploiești and other places. All along the railway lines from Jassy, Jews have been thrashed in the trains and thrown through the windows of the compartments. At the railway station of Krasna several Jews were attacked. One named Pavel Weksler is severely injured. A Jewish merchant from Kishineff named Emil Teherner was thrashed and robbed of 25,000 Lei which he had on him. Near Vaslui, a Jew named Rosenberg was severely beaten. A non-Jew named Popovitch who was taken for a Jew was also attacked.

In Bucharest the returning students demonstrated and attacked Jews in the streets. During a lecture at the Faculty of Civil Law delivered by Professor Plastara, the Jewish students were attacked by their non-Jewish colleagues and five Jewish students were seriously injured and had to be removed to hospital in ambulances. Strong police patrols have been posted at the entrance to the University building. Jewish students were also beaten at the Commercial Academy.

At Ploiești the returning students formed up at the railway station and marched in procession into the town. All Jews met on the boulevard were set upon and beaten. One Jew named Greenberg has been removed to hospital in a critical condition.—(J.T.A., December 9th.)

(27). December 8th. The Jassy Chamber of Commerce in a sitting held to protest against the communal taxes, considered also the recent anti-Semitic excesses on the trains.

Mr. Cerchez, Chairman of the Chamber, complained of inconveniences suffered by the tradesmen, who can no longer travel safely. The Chief Com-

missioner declared that the actual relations between the students and the police were friendly and that he hoped the City would have peace.

Mr. Bogdan, the Provost of the University, who was also present, declared that quiet would not reign within the Universities so long as the political parties do not understand that polities must be excluded from the Universities and the Student Societies.—(*Adevarul*, December 9th.)

(28). December 12th. We are informed that since the beginning of December the lecture courses in the Law School of Bucharest are held without Jewish students, who are systematically driven out by the anti-Semites. The last peaceful lecture was that of Roman Law, when Professor Longinescu made an excursion in contemporary history, expounding his opinions on the Jewish question.

Since that day, no Jewish student has been allowed to be present at lectures.—(*Adevarul*, December 12th.)

(29). Bucharest (via Berlin), December 14th. Anti-Jewish excesses on a large scale have taken place in Bucharest, in connection with a demonstration held by Roumanian students to demand that the Government should enforce a "numerus nullus" against the Jews. The demonstrators broke through the police cordon and made their way through the streets, smashing windows and destroying Jewish property. They smashed the windows at the editorial offices of the newspapers *Adevarul* and *Rampa*. The houses and shops in the Belvedere Street were subjected to a fierce bombardment of stones and other missiles.—(J.T.A., December 15th.)

(30). Bucharest (via Berlin), December 15th. The anti-Jewish student excesses in Bucharest were continued on Monday and Tuesday. Many Jews have been injured. In Bucharest University, while the lectures were proceeding the students started a cry of "Numerus Nullus!" "Out with all Jews!" and in the presence of M. Valdeseu, the representative of the authorities, fell upon the Jewish students, men and women, and threw them out of the University building. It is stated that for the coming school year there will be at the Medical Faculty of Bucharest University 400 Christian students and 40 Jewish students, making effective a 10 per cent. norm, such as was applied against the Jews in Czarist Russia.—(J.T.A., December 17th.)

(31). December 18th. At last all is quiet at the Medical Faculty, writes the *Adevarul* to-day. The police work is being carried out by the students themselves. They stand at the entrance to the Faculty and will not allow any Jews to enter. The eight Jews in the preparatory class and the Jews who belong to the higher classes cannot get in to do their work. There have been no disturbances and no scenes because the Jewish students are afraid to show their faces anywhere near the Faculty. The absence of the Jewish students is duly recorded, and because they are not attending the lectures as they should they are to be expelled from the Faculty. It is a fact worth making known, because the Minister of Education, M. Petrovici, in his last speech in Parliament, declared that both the University Senate and he were taking severe measures to restore order. Order has indeed been restored. It is the order of the "Numerus Nullus."—(J.T.A., December 24th.)

(32). December 19th. Yesterday evening and to-night gangs systematically organised, and armed with truncheons and knives, operated in the centre of Bucharest within sight of the police, who looked on indifferently. The victims were some passers-by, supposed to be Jews. They have not only been assaulted, but also robbed, which shows that the motives of the rioters are not wholly political. An elementary question arises: Have we still any authority which maintains order? Or ought the citizens to organise and defend themselves against the gangs? It is worth noticing that the gangs are organised and operate on a strategic plan. Will the Government wait till they shall transform the streets into blood-fields? We call the attention of the Government to the fact that it is not only a question of Jews, who, although Jews, are nevertheless human beings and citizens of this country, but it is also a question of the dignity and reputation of the state.—(*Adevarul*, December 19th.)

(33). December 20th. Large numbers of Jews have been attacked and beaten by groups of students passing along the Elizabethan and Lipskana Boulevards in Bucharest. The Jews, Sager and Josufovici have been seriously wounded. A strong guard of students is stationed at the entrance to the Faculty of Law, armed with sticks, to prevent any Jewish students from entering the Faculty. A police search has been conducted at the offices of the *Renasterea*, the Zionist organ in Bucharest, because it published an article accusing the Ministers of the Interior and of Education, MM. Goga and Petrovici of anti-Semitism. The paper has been confiscated.

Jewish students have been attacked by Cuzist students at Jassy University. Jews have also been attacked in the streets of Jassy. The Police Prefect of Jassy has sent strong police patrols into the streets to preserve order.—(*J.T.A.*, December 22nd.)

(34). January 6th, 1927. Yesterday morning the Jewish students of the Academy of Advanced Commercial Studies solicited an audience of the Rector in order to complain that they could not attend lectures as they were prevented by the anti-Semitic students. The Rector replied that he had taken the necessary measures and that they could safely present themselves in the lecture hall.

Accordingly in the afternoon a group of Jewish students presented themselves, but they were brutally attacked and beaten by the anti-Semites. The students Arthur Siler and Eiscowicz were seriously maltreated. As usual no arrests were made, and the question remains open.—(*Adevarul*, January 6th, 1927.)

(35). January 24th. Anti-Jewish excesses have again taken place in a number of towns in Bessarabia, the *Dimineatza* of Bucharest states to-day. Many Jews in the towns of Morezeni, Tabara, and Vatizi were injured by the hooligans. The police have succeeded in dispersing the peasants and the Cuzist agitators. The Prefects of the towns have promised to restore order.—(*J.T.A.*, January 26th.)

(36). February 12th. The disorders at the Faculty of Medicine at Bucharest continue. On Wednesday at the Baliesh Institute the Jewish student Brohovici of the third year, was forcibly expelled from the hall of work by a

group of students of the first year and hurled downstairs. Out of 200 students of the first year only seven are Jews, but they do not dare to show themselves at the lectures.—(*Dimineatza*, February 12th.)

(37). February 13th. The attacks on Jewish students at Bucharest University are being continued, according to reports appearing to-day in the *Adevarul*. Several Jewish students, it is stated, were ejected from the lecture-rooms and thrown down the stairs, one of them sustaining serious injuries.—(J.T.A., Februray 15th.)

(38). February 17th. Renewed anti-Jewish disturbances have taken place in the centre of Bucharest. Cuzist students have been going about attacking Jewish passers-by. Several Jews have been seriously injured, among them a Jewish officer of the Reserve, named Baendel. The *Adevarul* and the *Dimineatza* publish long reports of the disturbances and demand that the Government should once and for all take action to put a stop to these continuing acts of hooliganism.—(J.T.A., February 19th.)

(39). February 21st. Anti-Jewish excesses have again taken place in the main street of Bucharest, the Callea Victoria, according to a report which is published in the *Lupta* to-day. A band of students stopped the Jews Nathanson, Gutstein, Fritsch and Buchalter, and assaulted and beat them. Why does not the Government arrest these students as it promised to do in its official organ the *Indreptarea*, the other day, the *Lupta* asks in reporting this incident. We expect the Government to fulfil its promises, the paper concludes, in order that peaceful citizens may in future be secure against the assaults of organised bands of students.—(J.T.A., February 23rd.)

(40). February 26th. Several Jewish students were set upon yesterday by Cuzist students, at the Brancovenesc Hospital, in Bucharest University. Those who attempted to escape found all the doors guarded by Cuzist students who forced them back into the lecture rooms where they were assaulted. In the afternoon an attack was made on Jewish students in the Botanical Institute. Three Jewish students, Ernest Brilliant, Albert Gruenberg and Wortman, have been seriously injured.—(J.T.A., March 4th.)

(41). March 5th. Although for the last few days things seem to be quiet at the High Schools in Bucharest, writes the *Adevarul*, there are still several cases of anti-Semitic acts of violence. A group of Cuzist students has attacked Hermann Reinstein, a student at the Polytechnic, dragged him from one room into another and then kicked him down the stairs. He had been asked whether he was a Jew. He had replied "Yes." Almost before the word was out of his mouth he was set upon by his fellow-students. "We want to know," concludes the *Adevarul*, "whether any action has been taken against these hooligans."—(J.T.A., March 12th.)

(42). March 16th-17th. The following complaint has been addressed to the Prime Minister and the Minister of the Interior:—

"We, the undersigned, inhabitants and citizens of the town of Baltzi, have the honour to inform you that on the night of March 16th-17th, 1927,



the Jewish passengers, citizens of Baltzi, travelling in the train Jassy-Baltzi, have been cruelly beaten by a group of so-called Cuzists, our heads being broken; and we were thrown out of the carriages while the train was in full run. Old people, women and children have been mercilessly beaten and then thrown out while the train was in full speed between the stations Scumpia and Faleshti of the line Jassy-Baltzi, the assailants benefiting not only from the passive but even active co-operation of the train personnel. The whole population of Baltzi is alarmed and in a state of panic . . ." (65 signatures.)

The attack was carried out by a few students headed by the well-known Turceanu. No sanctions whatever have so far been taken against the culprits.—(*Adevarul*, March 23rd.)

(43). March 16th-17th. The Jewish residents of the commune Briceni (judet of Hotin) have addressed a petition to General Rasheanu, High Commissary of the Government for Bessarabia and the Bucovina, enclosing a declaration made by one of the victims of the outrage on the Jassy-Baltzi train. The deponent says:—

"The undersigned, M. Roizman, domiciled in the commune of Briceni (judet of Hotin), declares as follows:

"On the night of Wednesday to Thursday, March 16th-17th of this year, I was in the ordinary train, Jassy-Czernovitz. About three in the morning, just after the train had left the station Stolnicheni, five Cuzists broke into the third-class carriage in which I was travelling, armed with heavy sticks loaded with lead, and fell upon the Jewish travellers who were in the same carriage as myself. There were about twenty of them, the Cuzists taking them into the corridor one by one and hitting them with their sticks on the head, arms and legs.

"I saw three of the Jewish passengers being thrown by the Cuzists out of the windows of the carriage. I, too, was dragged out of the compartment in which I was sitting and hit on the hands, with which I was trying to shield my head.

"Covered with blood, I only saved my life with the help of a soldier, who helped me to escape to the door and to jump out while the train was in full run. I was at 8 km. of the station Scumpia, and I arrived with great difficulty at the station, where I was recognised by the stationmaster, Nicolschi, who assisted me and other badly wounded Jews who had also jumped out while the train was in full run to reach Faleshti.

"There we received first aid and were bandaged.

"At Baltzi I learnt that of the 20 Jewish travellers who travelled with me 17 were gravely wounded, while three had disappeared."—(*Curierul Israelit*, April 10th.)

(44). March 29th. Cuzist students at Jassy University attacked Professor Rascanu, while he was delivering his lecture. The Professor was compelled to fire a revolver in the air in order to frighten the students.—(*J.T.A.*, April 1st.)

(45). April 10th. The students of the Theological faculty of Chisinau, while appreciating the dramatic talent of the actor, E. Semo, of the National Theatre of that town, told him that he must either get himself baptised or leave the theatre. M. Semo realised that in the prevailing conditions this demand amounted to an order, and promised to give the students a formal reply. He now gives that reply through our columns:—

" Gentlemen,

" On March 30th expires the delay which I desired for my reply. My decision is made. I cannot become baptised and yet remain a good Roumanian, without causing pain to my parents, as I should do by changing from their way of worshipping God. I inform you that from to-day I am leaving the National Theatre of Chisinau. I thank you for the sentiments of goodwill and admiration which you have expressed for me in the theatre as well as at students' meetings. I leave the National Theatre of Chisinau with my religious belief and with the same sentiment of being a good Roumanian planted in me by this country, in which were born my parents and my brothers, and in which I and my child were born.—E. SEMO."

(*Curierul Israelit*, April 10th.)

(46). April 14th. Renewed anti-Jewish excesses at Jassy University. Groups of students parade the streets smashing the windows of Jewish houses.—(J.T.A.)

(47). April 17th. The Cluj paper, *Uj Kelet*, publishes an article on the anti-Semitic activities at the Cluj University:

" It is five years since the anti-Semitic students, on the ground that there were not enough dead Jews on the anatomical tables, began to take revenge on the live Jews. Five years ago, in 1922, seventy Jewish students registered in the first year of the Faculty of Medicine. In 1926, notwithstanding moral and physical sufferings, there yet remained seven Jewish students at the Faculty, five men and two women, both of them from Cluj. After an attack on the Jewish students the five men, two weeks ago, withdrew from the University, abandoning their studies. The result is easily reckoned. Of the Jewish students in the Medical Faculty there still remained a single one, a woman, who was so devoted to her work that she braved all the difficulties and attended diligently all the lectures and clinics.

This persistence in her work exasperated the anti-Semitic band. Last Wednesday, after the anatomical clinic, she discovered that the door of her locker had been broken and her hat torn to pieces. On Friday, she found in the drawer of her table a letter ordering her to leave the University under threats of violence. Miss Ernster could do nothing else than communicate to Professor Papilian the reasons why she would not be able to attend the anatomical classes, and the Professor expressed his regret and assured her that she would be able nevertheless to enter for her examinations.

The heroine of this affair, the only Jewish student left in the first year of the Medical School, therefore intends to persist in her work. We ask the Minister of Education how much longer he will tolerate that young and

keen minds who feel the call of scholarship should be turned away by brutal violence from the sources of learning, which are cherished treasures of all mankind ?

' Those whom fate have destined to study,' declared Miss Ernster to us, ' will continue to face all the obstacles. I am ready to suffer and to learn, with the determination and tenacity of the people whom the Lord has chosen for suffering.' "

The following is a translation of the letter addressed to Miss Ernster on March 28th over the sign of the " Svastika " :—

Dear Miss Ernster,

In view of our student ideal, the end of which is precisely to purify our Roumanian university of all strangers, and especially of Jews, we lay upon you the obligation that in the shortest possible time (twenty-four hours) you shall come to the conclusion that your presence in the faculty is endangered.

Hence we put it to you that, beginning with to-morrow, you shall leave the faculty; in the contrary case we shall be forced to arrive at what we desire (your expulsion from the university) by means dictated by the circumstances. We forewarn you that all escape you may seek through the authorities will be in vain—indeed, even harmful !

We have proceeded thus because you are a young lady !!!

Goodbye, most seriously,

Your well wishers,



(*Curierul Israelit*, April 17th.)

(48). May 2nd. The Cuzists at Krasnailski make a general attack on the Jewish population. After smashing the windows of the Jewish houses the rioters attacked them with rifle fire and then proceeded to plunder them. The local *gendarmerie* did nothing to restrain the vandalism of the Cuzists, which was allowed to proceed under their eyes.—(*Neue Juedische Rundschau* (Czernowitz), May 6th.)

(49). January 25th. A veiled threat that if the Union of Roumanian Jews persists in its refusal to issue an official denial of the reports circulated of anti-Jewish disturbances in Roumania, the Government will not be in a position to counteract the growing anti-Jewish feeling in the country, is contained in an article published to-day by *Le Progrès*, a Government organ, published in the French language. " It is our conviction," the paper writes, " that their feelings of loyalty ought to dictate to the Union of Roumanian Jews that they should officially deny all the reports of anti-Jewish disturbances in Roumania which have appeared in the Jewish Press abroad. The Union should also protest against any action which may be taken by the Jewish organisations abroad which may be damaging to the interests of our country. If the Union continues its policy of silent acquiescence in this anti-Roumanian campaign it will place itself in a very false position and will justify any sort of reaction on the part of the Roumanian political world, which would become necessary in view of the interests of our national defence." —(J.T.A.)

THE MURDER OF A JEWISH STUDENT.

(50). June 20th, 1926. A libel action brought by Professor Schumuleanu who has been returned to Parliament as one of the deputies of the Cuzist Party, against Professor Slatineanu, Rector of Jassy University, was dismissed by the Bucharest Tribunal to-day. In his official capacity as Rector, Professor Slatineanu sent a confidential report to the Minister of Education pointing out that the disturbances at the Universities were the result of the agitation conducted by the anti-Semitic professors. He also drew attention to the fact that these professors were sabotaging the Jewish students, refusing to give them passes in the examinations even when they were the best qualified students in their class.

The Public Prosecutor expressed the view that the report, being confidential, the Court could take no action.

The Court after considering the case found that Professor Slatineanu had done his duty as Rector in making his report to the Minister of Education. Moreover, the report had been based on an investigation carried out by Professor Parchon, the Dean of the Medical Faculty, which showed that Professor Schumuleanu did actually sabotage Jewish students in their examinations.—(J.T.A., June 25th.)

(51). October 17th. Police in Czernowitz arrest over twenty Jewish secondary school pupils between the ages of seventeen and eighteen, on the allegation that they had been plotting to attack a number of anti-Semitic matriculation examiners. The arrest of the Jewish schoolboys was preceded by a wild anti-Semitic agitation throughout the country. The Roumanian educationists, although officially against the introduction of the "Numerus Clausus" against Jewish students, have resorted to an expedient which is no less efficacious. This takes the form of regulations governing the admission to the universities of students belonging to the minorities. The purpose of these regulations is to make matriculation very difficult for such students. During last autumn, the results of the examinations at one Czernowitz school were: all the Roumanian pupils passed; of the German and Ukrainian pupils only 30 per cent. were allowed to pass, and of the Jewish pupils only 15 per cent. When the results were declared a few students belonging to the minorities approached two of the examiners and asked them for particulars of their papers. The examiners refused to answer their questions and instead began abusing the Jews. As a protest against this outburst the minorities pupils of this particular secondary school organised a demonstration against the examiners. This was at once represented by the anti-Semites throughout Roumania as an attack organised by the Jews against the Christian Professors. The whole anti-Semitic press started a campaign against the Jews demanding that the Government should take measures to suppress the alleged Jewish conspiracy. Hence the arrest of the schoolboys.—(J.T.A., October 21st.)

(52). October 28th. The Minister of Education, M. Petrovici, speaking of the recent disturbances in Czernowitz where Jewish schoolboys at the secondary Schools demonstrated against the decision of the examiners, by which over 80 per cent. of the Jewish pupils were disqualified, declares, in the course of an interview he has given to the *Opinia*, that he is convinced, as a result of

his enquiries into the facts, that the examiners drew up the questions intentionally to the end that it should be impossible for the boys to pass. He could not, however, agree that it was necessary for him to order, on that account, that fresh examinations should be held.—(J.T.A., November 2nd.)

(53). November 10th. The trial of the Czernowitz Jewish students charged with organising a demonstration against certain University Professors opened this morning in an extremely stormy atmosphere. There was an angry incident between two of the advocates. After a long wrangle the case was adjourned until next Monday. When the Court rose and the public had filed out a young man drew a revolver and shot one of the accused students, the young David Falik, in the abdomen. He fell in a pool of blood. The criminal was immediately arrested. Interrogated as to the motive of his crime, he stated that his name was Nicolas Totu, that he was a pupil of the Jassy Lycée and that he had come specially to Czernowitz to commit his crime. He explained that he had been deeply impressed by a pamphlet written by Professor Diaconescu regarding the demonstrations of the Jewish students. "Accordingly I came here," he said, "to avenge the Roumanian cause." His examination continued until a late hour. The wounded student was taken to the Jewish hospital, where the bullet was extracted.—(Dimineatza, November 12th.)

(54). November 13th. The Jewish student Falik who was shot three days ago by the student Totu has succumbed to his injuries in the Jewish hospital after 48 hours of terrible suffering. (Dimineatza, November, 13th.)

(55). November 16th. The *Glasul Bucovinei* (The Voice of Bucovina), the paper of M. Nistor, formerly Minister for Bucovina, says: "The student Totu, who has killed the boy Falik, has been fed on Cuzist teachings, of the kind which are spread also by a Mr. Zelea-Codreanu to the effect that the Jews must be got out of Roumania, that they must be killed, that the Jew is not a human being, and so on. Such teachings quickly enter the mind of the excited youth, and in circumstances like those of Wednesday, a madman is found who gets hold of a weapon and fires, without thinking that he thereby ruins his own whole future and inflicts great suffering upon others."

The *Dreptatea* (Justice), also of Czernowitz, says: "The moral authors of the crime are not difficult to discover. Without actually putting the weapon in the hands of the criminal, they provoke murder by their exaltation of nationalism and by disturbing the spirits."—(Adevarul, November 16th.)

(56). November 18th. Five Associations of Czernowitz students held a numerously attended meeting to-day to discuss what action they should take in reference to the arrest of the student Totu. Only Roumanian students were allowed to participate in the discussion. They resolved unanimously that the so-called "criminal" represented the outraged national sentiment of the Roumanian element, and accordingly they decided to organise an agitation for his release. A protest was also signed by a hundred and twenty students denouncing "the provocative attitude of the Jews of Czernowitz, who had dared to publish articles on the recent event." The protest concluded with an appeal

to the authorities and public opinion to take measures to put an end "to the alien sentiments, the disorders and the anarchy of the minority elements."—(*Universul*, November 18th.)

(57). November 27th. The deputy Ghendrich, belonging to the Averescu party, announced yesterday an interpellation on the activity of anti-Semitic agitators in Bessarabia. He affirmed that they could carry on unmolested by the authorities, and among other things, related the following incidents, which we reproduce literally from the deputy's speech :—

" In the town of Edinitz, district of Hotin, the director of the local seminary, Georgescu, on hearing the news of the assassination of the student Falik, in Czernowitz, immediately stopped all the classes. He headed his pupils out into the streets where they paraded shouting ' Down with the Jews ! Death to the Jews ! ' At various points of the town the procession made a halt while the director addressed them. Those speeches, though in the nature of appeals to violence, were not stopped by the authorities, who remained indifferent during the whole duration of the manifestation. The terrorised Jewish population remained the whole day locked up in their houses. The authorities took no action whatever, though the law demanded it. The same Georgescu, in the presence of the peasants come to market, urged that the houses of Jews should be set on fire. Called to task at the meeting of the Town Council, to which he belongs, he did not deny the fact. But the authorities did not take even then any measures against his incitement to crime. These incidents throw a sinister light on an action which can only lead to the disturbance of order in the province beyond the Pruth."—(*Adevarul*, November 27th.)

(58). Campulung, February 21st, 1927. The verdict was given to-day in the case of the student Totu accused of the murder of the Jewish student, Falik.

During the last few days numerous anti-Semitic leaders and groups of students from various Roumanian centres arrived at Campulung and organised manifestations in the streets of the town. Special editions of anti-Semitic papers were distributed in the streets on the day of the trial. Some women propagandists brought a national costume in which the accused student was dressed up for the occasion.

The accused avowed his guilt.

After describing how he carried out the crime, he was asked by a member of the jury whether he fired the shot with the intention of killing or . . . Before the question could be finished Totu replied: " Of course, I fired with the firm intention to kill." The witness Tovarnitzki, a town constable, declared that he heard the shot and saw Fallik fall to the ground. The accused then said: " Take the revolver, for I have done my pleasure."

Witnesses for the defence on being asked what impression the deed made on the students replied that without exception they approved the action of Totu.

After the Public Prosecutor had asked for a conviction and sentence, the defence was opened by the Member of Parliament, Paul Iliescu. During his

speech he exclaimed: "When we are in full mobilisation of our Rumanian consciousness and dignity—in the great struggle—shall we look at the school reports!¹ Totu, we give you ten-out-of-ten for conduct—for your Roumanian conduct! David Falik has been killed by the bullet of Totu, and so will die all the country's enemies, by innumerable bullets which will be fired against the filthy beasts. Gentlemen of the jury, the icon of this boy should hang in your homes. You should pray that God may give health and long life to this martyred child, who is an honour to our nation. Totu is a martyr and a hero. You must declare him free, gentlemen of the jury, and you should deliberate no longer than the moment necessary for dipping your pens in the ink. It would be a scandal if you were to deliberate longer."

Professor A. C. Cuza spoke next for the defence of "our dear child Totu." He read a telegram sent by the University Professor, Paulescu, from Bucharest, in which he asked his friends to tell the jury "that Totu deserves not to be condemned, but to be canonised for all time."

After the summing-up of the presiding Judge, the jury retired, and in ten minutes returned with a verdict of "not guilty," given by ten against two. The whole audience applauded enthusiastically, shouting "Hurrah!" Adorned with ribbons of the national colours, Totu was carried in procession around the town on the shoulders of his friends.—(*Adevarul*, February 22nd, 1927.)

III.—JEWS PROSECUTED FOR SELF-DEFENCE.

(59). November 17th, 1926. The *Curierul Israelit*, the organ of the Union of Roumanian Jews, has been confiscated by the Ministry of the Interior because it published an article on the murder of David Falik in Czernowitz.—(J.T.A., November 23rd, 1926.)

(60). December 3rd. The Military Prosecutor has carried out a search at the Offices of the Federation of Roumanian Jews and the Federation of Jewish Communities at Bucharest. A number of documents and written depositions were taken.

The anti-Semitic organ *Cuvintul* alleges that the authorities searched for and found a secret Information-Bureau which was working against Roumanian interests by supplying anti-Roumanian reports to the foreign Press. It alleges that compromising documents have been found.—(J.T.A., December 9th.)

(61). February 18th, 1927. One of the editors of the *Curierul Israelit*, the organ of the Union of Roumanian Jews, M. Schaeffer, has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment and a heavy fine on a charge of having insulted Professor Cuza.—(J.T.A., February 15th.)

(62). February 18th. On *Yom Kippur* (The Fast of Atonement), 1925, a band of Christian students threw stones through the windows of the Synagogue at Piatra Neamtz. The worshippers, leaving the service, ran out and beat off

¹ Totu's school reports had been bad.

the students, thrashing the ringleaders. Eighteen Jewish tradesmen were arrested and brought to trial. The prisoners were to have been defended by two Jewish barristers, but as the Court refused to receive the evidence they tendered they retired from the case. The result of the trial is given in the following item of news published in Bucharest :—

Piatra Neamtz, February 18th. At last, after several adjournments, the County Court No. 1 has given its judgment in the action against the 18 Jewish tradesmen of Piatra Neamtz, accused of having injured the students Herghelgiu, Balanescu and Hudici. It is known that the judgment was based upon the documents on the file, *therefore only upon the witnesses for the prosecution, the Judge having rejected the evidence for the defence.* The sentences run as follows :—

To 6 months' imprisonment, G. Wolff and L. Schuler; to 1 year's imprisonment, Ilsor, I. Schiller, S. Moise and A. Polac; to 2 years' imprisonment, S. Leibovici, S. Daniel, I. Jacobi, M. Leibovici, A. Leibovici, B. Siepler, D. Daniel, Katz, Haimovici, B. Jacobi, R. Safer and L. Leibovici.

The judgment further condemns the defendants jointly and severally to pay damages of 2,000,000 Lei to Herghelgiu, and 1,000,000 Lei each to Balanescu and Hudici. All the condemned have entered an Appeal.—(*Adevarul*, Feb. 20.)

(63). May 14th. The *Aurora* of Bucharest published on May 14th a petition of the student Lespezeanu, to the public prosecutor (procureur-général), in which he announced that he had gone on hunger-strike and would carry on unless justice were granted to him.

Lespezeanu was arrested on February 23rd. That evening he was attacked by a band of anti-Semitic rowdies and in order to frighten them away he fired a shot in the air. Except at the time of his arrest no interrogatory was taken ; no investigation of any kind was made till May 6th. Twice the Tribunal, after declarations by Lespezeanu's aggressors, quashed the warrant for his arrest. But the Chamber of Incrimination on both occasions admitted the appeal of the public prosecutor and maintained him under arrest. Twice he made demands to be set free on bail, but when he appeared before the Judge of Instruction, instead of being questioned on the grounds for his demand he was reproached with entertaining subversive ideas, the judge hinting that this was the real reason for his imprisonment. He repeatedly asked to be confronted with his aggressors ; after much delay he was confronted with one of them on May 6th, who admitted that it was they who had attacked Lespezeanu and that the attack was premeditated. Yet, even after this, he was kept imprisoned, while his confessed assailants went about unmolested.

On the following day the *Aurora* published a protest signed by 300 Jewish students demanding justice. "Victim of the same system which is applied to all of his colleagues, his sufferings are the sufferings of us all."

Adevarul, May 14th, says : "The case of the student Lespezeanu, imprisoned since three months without investigation, was brought to the knowledge of the Chamber. It was emphasised that the said student fired the shot in justified

defence ; that the Cuzist students had admitted their aggressive intentions ; that no investigation was instituted against the aggressors ; briefly, the application of the law was demanded. The Ministerial bench remained silent ; the Chamber expressed its hostility."

IV.—RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GOVERNMENT.

(64). March 30th, 1926. The new Roumanian Government is a heterogeneous combination which at first sight seems to indicate no very clear policy. General Averescu has hitherto been regarded as an opponent of aggressive anti-Semitism. Nevertheless there is grave danger of the new Cabinet cultivating the anti-Semites and the Fascists—the anti-Semites because General Averescu's party is too weak to defy them, and the Fascists because the General's personal tastes run in that direction. Apprehensions on this score are more than justified by the sinister appointment of M. Goga to the Ministry of the Interior. M. Goga is a Transylvanian, the chief intellectual exponent of racialism in Roumania and an extremely dangerous anti-Semite. He is certain to wield great influence in the Cabinet.—(*J.F.C. Report*,¹ April 8th, 1926.)

(65). April 9th. M. Octavian Goga, Minister of the Interior, received the representatives of the Press to-day and informed them that he had arrived at an understanding with the University students. He said the students' strike would cease and the Universities would be opened. The Minister added : " This happy arrangement will assure the tranquillity of the country and is an important success for the Government in the first days of its existence. It will put an end to all the misconceptions and intrigues with regard to the students who have always shown themselves anxious for the interest of the country."—(*Indreptarea*, April 9th.)

(66). April 10th. M. Goga's understanding with the students is, in fact, a treaty between M. Cuza and the Government. The chief points in the Agreement are that M. Cuza will be restored to the Chair of Political Economy at the University of Jassy and the Government will secure a certain number of seats in Parliament for representatives of the Christian League at the coming elections.—(*Romania*, April 10th.)

(67). April 20th. The University of Bucharest was opened yesterday. The University of Jassy will be opened on the 22nd. So far tranquillity has prevailed.—(*Romania*, April 20th.)²

(68). June 19th. The *Adevarul* here publishes an article on the student disturbances in which it writes :—

Disturbances have again taken place in Bucharest of an anti-Semitic character. The demonstrators assaulted people in the streets, thrashed them

¹ Joint Foreign Committee.

² *Supra*, p. 31, par. 12, for Anti-Jewish riots which took place on April 20th in the Bucharest University.

with cudgels, threw stones and delivered speeches which left no doubt that the demonstrations were directed against the Jews. Although the disturbances took place in the very centre of the capital, the police and the military, who are under the orders of the Government, were either absent from the battlefield or else, what is worse still, were there and took no action against the demonstrators.

This same police and military, who during the elections performed miracles of heroism against hundreds of thousands of voters, were now not strong enough to prevent disturbances or to put a stop to them once they had started. It is possible that they worked so hard during the elections that they were exhausted. One thing is certain. The Government, which knew how to prevent peaceful citizens from exercising their legal right of voting, was not able to preserve peace in the capital. Is the policy of the Liberal Government coming back into favour, of tolerating anti-Semitic demonstrations as a diversion? Of course, we realise the awkward position in which the Minister for the Interior, M. Goga, would be placed if he tried to wrest the cudgels and the stones out of the hands of the readers of his *Tzara Moastră* (*Our Country*—an anti-Semitic paper which is edited by M. Goga).

(69). October 22nd, 1926. The order reinstating M. Cuza as Professor of Political Economy at Jassy University has been signed to-day by M. Petrovici, the Minister for Education, during a private audience which he gave to the leader of the anti-Semitic party. Professor Cuza was deprived of his Professorship last year because of his violent attacks against the Jews which caused great disturbances at Jassy University.—(J.T.A.)

DISCORDANT COUNSELS.

(70). April 9th, 1926. The Roumanian Government has issued a new manifesto outlining the policy which it intends to follow. In regard to the minorities' question, the manifesto says that the Government will base its policy on the principle of understanding for the just demands of the minorities and of friendly sympathy in examining the possibility of carrying them into effect. The prosperity of the country, the manifesto declares, depends upon bringing about a condition under which all the component parts of the people will live together in a spirit of conciliation and satisfaction.—(J.T.A., April 12th.)

(71). November 20th. The Minister of the Interior, M. Goga, said to-day in the Senate that with regard to what had happened in Czernowitz he condemned every criminal action, every act of violence. No one had a right to set himself up as the instrument of Justice. "But when I speak of what has happened at Czernowitz," he went on, "I must speak also of the cause of what has happened at Czernowitz. Since I have been in the Government there have been no student disturbances.¹ The first incidents of the kind were provoked by the students of the minorities in Czernowitz. I condemn their action as strongly as I would condemn such action by Roumanian students. As to the question of what measures I intend taking, I am taking measures to maintain order for all."—(J.T.A.)

¹ Cf. *supra*, pp. 30-33.

(72). December 4th. The Roumanian Minister of the Interior, M. Goga, has contributed a sum of 20,000 Lei to the publication fund of the anti-Semitic students' movement, which is used for the purpose of issuing publications agitating for the enforcement of the "numerous clausus" against the Jews in Roumania. The report states that an announcement of the contribution was made to the students' Congress at Jassy by M. Danulescu.—(J.T.A.)

(73). December 4th. The Minister of the Interior, M. Goga, speaking in the Chamber to-day, said :

I want to deal with the question of Czernowitz very objectively. I regret the action of the young student Totu, who, thinking that he was defending the honour of the people, committed this act of violence. The law will do its duty in regard to him. I declare that we, the defenders of public order and the State, will with the aid of the law restore peace and security, no matter by whom it is disturbed. But I am not of the opinion of those who see in the students' movement a collective senselessness, or those who think that it is fostered by ugly interests. The movement is an organic movement of the people. (Stormy applause from the Cuzists.) I would call it an occupation of the trenches. I am very glad to say that our University youth is proceeding in a normal manner under the roof of the Universities. The first disturbances which took place in the country since we are in power were those in Czernowitz. Students and schoolboys who had failed in the examination assaulted their teachers. In the same unequivocal manner in which I have condemned the act committed by the student Totu, I condemn those who attacked their teachers. In both cases the law will do justice. Outbreaks of temperament which exceed the proper limits must provoke as answer a like outbreak of temperament.¹ (Applause from the Government benches and the Cuzists.)—(J.T.A.)

(74). December 9th. The Minister of Education, M. Petrovici, replying to an interpellation in the Chamber regarding the anti-Jewish student excesses which have taken place at Kishineff, Kalarasch and elsewhere, said that he sympathised with the patriotic students. The demonstrations were regrettable, but the excesses had been started by the Jews of Kalarasch, where the Jewish Culture League had provoked the students by their attitude. The Government, he declared, would see that the guilty were punished and that order and school discipline should be maintained.—(J.T.A.)

(75). February 22nd, 1927. Totu, who has just been acquitted by the Campulung law court on the charge of murdering the Jewish student David Falik, is a national hero, M. Octavian Goga, the Roumanian Minister for the Interior, declares in a personal communication to the *Universal*, in Bucharest.—(J.T.A.)

(76). February 23rd. General Averescu, the Prime Minister, has resolved to take action to suppress the student disorders. He has addressed a letter to the Minister of Education in which he says: "I beg you to draw the attention of University students throughout the country, by such means as you may think fit, that they must abstain from all kinds of agitation. The Government needs no assistance beyond the means of which it

¹ Cf. *supra*, pp. 41-44.

legally disposes to protect the national interests and maintain public order. Any interference from unauthorised elements is a departure from legality and will be punished with all the severity of the law."—(*Dimineatza*, February 23rd.)

(77). February 24th. On the same day on which the whole Press published the letter of General Averescu to the Minister of Education fresh disorders by students have taken place. Hitherto the scandals at the Medical Faculty have been limited to the preparatory class and the first year class, whereas the older students attended to their work. Yesterday, for the first time, a big attack took place at the Coltzea Hospital, provoked by students of the fourth year. In the morning these students had been called to have their attendance papers signed for the chirurgical clinic. After the papers had been signed by Prof. Amza Jianu, a group of anti-Semitic students, among whom were five Second Lieutenants from the Military Medical Institute, attacked their Jewish fellow-students with sticks and swords. Even the Jewish women students were thus attacked. Among those more seriously hurt are: Aberfeld Neumann, Loewy Adrian, Carol Eisenberg, Grunberg Israel, M. Ackermann, Catz Lupu, Emanuel Nadler, Bernhard Lupovici, Al. Libaris, Teodor Konigsberg, Moritz Schwartzmann, Isae Richter, and Heinrich Pinster. The same thing took place in the afternoon with the third year students, at the clinic of topographical anatomy of Prof. Gerota. All the Jewish students were thrown out without having had their papers signed, and some of them were also beaten. More seriously hurt were the students Isac Spitzer and Sigmund Polack.

It should be noted that among the students who took part in the assault were several who had been expelled from the University and then re-admitted on condition that they should conduct themselves peacefully.—(*Dimineatza*, February 24th.)

(78). February 27th. The Union of medical students celebrated its 52nd anniversary three days ago. M. Goga (the Minister for Home Affairs) honoured the occasion with his presence and spoke "in order to contest energetically the view recently expressed by General Averescu on the rôle of the students." That view was contained in a communication addressed to the Minister of Education (*supra*, No. 76).

The view of M. Goga is not less definite than that of his Chief, and he formally placed it before the Union of Medical Students. "The University," he said, "is the fortress against which the enemies who would try to undermine the country's oeonostasis will break themselves."

Leaving aside all that is chaotic in the conception of M. Goga, we ask which is the opinion of the Government—that of the Prime Minister or that of his Minister for Home Affairs?—(*Adevarul*, March 1st.)

(79). February 27th. The official organ, *Monitorul*, publishes letters written by the King and the Prime Minister, General Averescu, explaining the purpose of the endowment fund which the King has just established to provide economic assistance for students who are in need. The Endowment, it is explained, is intended to benefit all students, irrespective of their

religious beliefs, and it is hoped that the result will be to bring together the students belonging to the various religious groups, so that they should co-operate and live together in a spirit of brotherliness and friendship.

—(J.T.A., March 1st.)

(80). March 26th. M. Goga, the Minister of the Interior, replying to a Jewish delegation which submitted to him a Memorandum complaining of anti-Jewish attacks, said that the Jews also attacked non-Jews. Besides, it was impossible for him to apply force against Roumanian students. A much better method would be to improve the position of the Roumanian students and to influence them by kindness.

The delegation replied that Jewish students did not attack their non-Jewish colleagues. Sometimes they hit back in self-defence, and then they were always prosecuted and sent to prison. There was not a single case on record of a Roumanian student who had attacked Jews being punished under the law.—(J.T.A.)

(81). April 15th. Senator Stoian asked in the Senate to-day why the Government had permitted a Jew to be appointed as Notary in the District of Turda. Senator Chief Rabbi Dr. Niemirower protested against the interpellation, pointing out that according to the Constitution the Jews enjoy equal rights, and that in the matter of the appointment of magistrates and officials the only question that had to be considered was the fitness of the applicant for the post and not his race or religion. The Minister of Justice, M. Cudalbu, said that he agreed with Dr. Niemirower. All citizens enjoyed equal rights under the Constitution. He would enquire into the matter, but only in order to establish whether the Notary who had been appointed was really fitted for his post.—(J.T.A.)

(82) April 30th. The *Monitorul Official*, No. 93 (April 30, 1927), publishes a decree of the Minister of Public Instruction regarding examinations for the Baccalaureat. The regulations are exceptionally severe for candidates belonging to the Minority races. The *Neue Juedische Rundschau* of Czernowitz (May 6th, 1927) says that the measure is obviously aimed at Jews, with the object of securing a "Numerus Nullus" in the Universities without relying on the violent methods of the Cuzist students.

(83). April 9th. M. Goga announces in the Roumanian Parliament that a special census will be taken in order to establish the number of non-Roumanians in the country, and that the Government will then carry out a deportation of aliens, especially from the new Roumanian provinces.—(J.T.A.)

(84). April 14th. Deputy Pop, of the Cuzist Party, put an interpellation yesterday to the Minister of the Interior urging him to take measures in order to Roumanise the towns. The Minister, M. Goga, stated in reply that there were two kinds of aliens in the country. There were aliens who were subjects of Foreign Powers and there were aliens who had come into the country from the other side of the frontier. This last class of aliens constituted a grave danger to the State. All Roumanians ought to shake them off. The minorities ought to unite in this if they did not want a large number of alien elements

in the country. The general census which would be carried out on April 24th would enable the Government to take the necessary measures to this end. It was impossible to say at present what the measures would be, because announcing them beforehand would give the alien elements an opportunity of putting themselves on their guard.—(J.T.A.)

(85). April 29th. There are over a million people in Roumania who are not clear whether they are citizens or *Staatenlose*, and who are in danger of deportation in connection with the new Roumanian census, states the *Wiener Tageblatt*. The authorities, the paper declares, are already starting the expulsion of so-called undesirable elements.—(J.T.A.)

(86). The following appears in the *Handbook of Geography, for the 4th Class of Elementary Schools* (p. 50), by M. Spulbereanu, State School Inspector. The book is authorised by the Minister for Education :

"The inhabitants of Moldavia are strong and laborious. Their chief occupations are agriculture and cattle rearing. *But their living is hard because a number of Jews have settled among them.* These foreigners have captured all the trades and handicrafts. But the Roumanians will not surrender in their own country."

ATTITUDE OF THE CHURCH.

(87). March 19th, 1926. The Patriarch of the Orthodox Church, in Roumania, Dr. Miron Christia, delivers himself of a violent outburst against the "alien elements" in Roumania. He began by protesting against "these alien elements," which, he said, were deforesting Transylvania and the Bukowina. When our students, he proceeded, demand the enforcement of a "numerus clausus," there is an outcry raised that we are persecuting the minorities. The fact is that in some places it is impossible to have Roumanian officials. Does that not mean that there is a "numerus clausus" against you, Roumanians? I, the spiritual father of 14 million Roumanians, demand that justice should be restored and all contracts which have been made with alien elements should be revised.—(J.T.A.)

(88). November 18th. On the occasion of the inauguration of the new building of the Academy of Commerce and Industry in Bucharest, the Patriarch delivered a speech, in which he deplored the denationalisation of our commerce and industry. And when would his Holiness consider them as nationalised? "Only then when every manufacturer and merchant in this country brings his candle to the same church as ourselves." This is literal. Later the speaker gave point to his thoughts by adding: "Where it is not so everything gets stultified, to our damage."—(*Adevarul*, November 18th.)

(89). February 4th, 1927. The *Voice of the Bukovina*, the official journal of the local Liberals, publishes in a prominent place in its last number under the title "the Church used as a place of public meeting," an article signed "An Intellectual Peasant." The following are the principal passages of the article :

" I read the newspapers of the Bukovina and consequently also the *People's Gazette*, the organ of the National League of Christian Defence. From reports appearing in this paper it results that the priests not only bless the flags of this anti-Semitic League but administer the oath of membership to its followers and make propaganda for the Cuzist programme in sermons delivered in sacerdotal vestments. It is not easy to understand why this should be done on behalf of an organisation which is not really national but represents a Government party. It should be remembered that it participated as a party in the elections and promises to do the same in future elections. By what right does the Church place itself at the service of a political party ? If one party is to be thus favoured, why not all? "—(*Lupta*, February 4th.)

(90). April 9th. The Jassy Journal, *Opinia*, publishes the following short note on April 10th :—

" Yesterday in the Church of St. Stephen took place the ceremony of the blessing of the flag of the National League of Christian Defence, section Saracia. Among those present was also Professor A. C. Cuza."

Thus the standards of the Cuzist League, which in its programme demands the exclusion of a part of the country's population, and which at every opportunity insults a confession recognised by the State, has its flags blessed in the Church. Can the Patriarch tolerate such profanation of the Church and such disregard for law ? Does the Minister for Religion not think that he ought to prevent the pulpit from being made use of to stimulate hatred and crime against a whole category of citizens entitled to equal rights in the land?—(*Curierul Israelit*, May 1st.)

ROUMANIAN CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT.

(91). December 10th, 1926. Under the heading " Have we a Home Secretary," the *Viitorul* says to-day: " The *Indreptarea* (the organ of the Government) is trying to give a certificate of nationalism to M. Goga. We believe that he does not want it. But we further believe that the methods by which he understands ' to maintain order ' cannot recommend him for a certificate as a good Home Secretary—which he very much needs. M. Goga is encouraging a policy of riots which cannot but damage the Roumanian State. He has some electoral interests which he knows how to favour, and is doing it openly for the students and magnates. M. Goga is undoubtedly a nationalist, but only when his own interests and those of his party command him as such. But under no circumstances is he a good Home Secretary."

(92). December 23rd. Under the title " The Government and the Student Riots," the *Viitorul*, after reproducing a communiqué published by the *Indreptarea*, comments as follows :—

The above communiqué has one defect, namely, it does not explain the tolerance of these riots by one part of the Government. The opinion of the Prime Minister that " the students have primarily to look after their studies " is an old one, but it does not prevent M. Goga, the Home Secretary, from the

Ministerial Bench encouraging even more than M. Cuza these student disorders, and even legitimising them. Everyone knows that in this respect opinions within the Government are divided: one section is that of General Averescu and the other that of M. Octavian Goga, the Home Secretary, whose duty is to maintain order. With such communiqués which do not correspond with the reality one cannot maintain order within the State, so indispensable to-day; only by sane measures properly and authoritatively applied can this be done. Unless the opinion of the Prime Minister is adopted by the Home Secretary order will not be maintained.—(*Adevarul*, December 23rd.)

(93). April 12th, 1927. On March 29th a group of students armed with heavy sticks attacked in his laboratory Professor Rascanu, of Jassy University, with whose attitude towards the anti-Semitic movement they were dissatisfied. In order to frighten them off Professor Rascanu had to fire a revolver in the air. The academic staff of the University has now sent to the Minister of Education the following address:—

“ Sir, for a long period of time the normal activity of our Universities has been disturbed by a number of students, who by means of agitations, strikes and acts of violence try to solve public problems, which are neither within the scope of academic interests nor are capable of being solved by the Universities. This state of things, which leads to sad results, in so far as the culture and education of our youth are concerned, forms an obvious danger for the future of this country.

“ Unfortunately, hitherto no serious steps whatever have been taken for remedying this situation, and things have come to such a pass that relations between professors and students, instead of being those of collaboration in the search for an ideal of culture and progress, are of such a nature that some students show not the least sign of respect for their teachers when they come into contact with each other. That lack of consideration is proof of an anarchic spirit and of a total lack of education, so as to give the impression that professors and students are two enemy camps. It must be clear to everybody that in such circumstances academic activity cannot follow a normal course.

“ Further, of late, in consequence of certain events on which we will not insist, being well-known, those students who are causing the disturbances have become convinced that anything is permitted to them in this country without fear of punishment. In the name of a principle which they interpret as they do, they consider that they can attack the liberty of others without legal sanctions, that they can use any means they like without fear of consequences, an attitude which constitutes a danger for the present and even more so for the future, when the young people grown up in such a state of mind will be called upon to govern the country.

“ That anarchic situation must come to an end. Those who indulge in disturbances believe that the University is there solely to manufacture degrees giving rights in the State; that the professors are obliged to pass them in examinations without regard to knowledge and preparation; that



they may impose by sheer force a certain viewpoint on political and social issues. A number of students believe themselves entitled to solve, within the University, problems which are within the jurisdictions of other organs and institutions in the State. The immediate consequence is that time valuable for study is being wasted with sterile agitations, and the Rumanian element enters society, and the life's struggle, in a disturbing state of ignorance and unpreparedness.

"The disturbing of academic life has gone from bad to worse, and now the point has been reached when the professors are in the sad necessity of defending their lives and their Institutes with weapon in hand; to defend them against destruction by whom?—by those young people for whom, with heavy sacrifices, they have been created by the State.

"The recent case, when Professor V. Răscanu was attacked, in his own Institute, by a group of students armed with heavy sticks, and, exasperated by the insolence of his attackers, was forced to defend his life and his Institute with the revolver, is not an isolated case, and it discloses the evil which is rotting deeply the foundations of academic life.

"That the authorities concerned are incapable of keeping order is evident, and it is not to be wondered that professors are forced to have recourse to such means.

"This state of things must come to an end, and it is in the first place the duty of the professors to take measures; all those professors who desire the progress of this high educational institution must consider severe and effective means for putting an end to this situation. The professors have the means of clearing the University of all those elements which indulge in sterile agitations, harmful to the activity of the University. Acting within the frame of the law and regulations, stringently applied, it is possible to weed out of the University all the disturbing elements within a short time. To that end all the professors who desire order should work in agreement for the execution of the measures proposed.

"The parental love and gentleness hitherto displayed by the professors towards the students who disturb order within the University have not produced the desired results.

"Moreover, Sir, the solving of this problem depends a good deal on your attitude. The students must not find encouragement in their mistaken ways anywhere—neither from the authorities nor from public opinion. You, Sir, by the position you occupy, are in a position to intervene with the higher authorities so that they should take severe steps for the maintenance of order, and that they should no longer adopt attitudes which are interpreted as an encouragement of these anarchic activities; and by the place which you personally occupy in our public life you could enlighten and influence public opinion so that it should no longer offer moral and material support to the agitators, who are harming our country and our culture.

"Hence, we beg of you, Sir, that in common with us, your colleagues, anxious to restore order in the University, you should consider the means best suited for helping us in the task which we have undertaken.

"A. Cardash, C. Otin, I. Botez, Eug. Horovanu, Dr. Graeoschi, A. Philippide, G. Ibraileanu, Dr. Anghel, Dr. Tanasescu, S. Procopiu, V. Butureanu, N. Costachescu, V. Pascu, P. Andrei, Al. Popovici, S. Snielevici, V. Myller, Dr. Al. Slatineanu, Dr. P. Glasescu, Mihai Ralea, Dr. Ciuca, Dr. Hortolomei, I. Constantinescu, I. Simonescu, Tr. Bratu, Dr. Enescu, Dr. Mironescu, I. Minea, Th. Ionescu, Dr. V. Rascanu, Dr. Stefanescu-Galatz, C. Popovici, Dr. Parhon, Dr. Ionescu-Mihaesti, Alex. Myller, Zaharescu-Caraman."—(*Adevarul*, April 12th.)

(94). April 17th. *Dimineatza* (Independent), of April 13th, thus comments on the protest of the Jassy Professors (*Supra*. No. 93): "The Address sent by the Jassy University to the Minister for Education has made a profound impression on the political world. The address merely takes up anew what all men of common sense have been saying for the last few years. . . . The great mistake made hitherto has been not so much that no energetic measures were taken for putting an end to disturbances, but that the students were left with the impression that their actions were useful to our country or to our nation. . . . Among the signatories are members of the Government party, Liberals, National-Peasant Party, and many men of science."

Cuvantul (Independent, strongly Nationalist), of April 14th, in an article signed by Professor Nacionescu, of Bucharest University, says: "The state of things revealed by the address is especially grave. . . . We remember that not long ago General Averescu himself published a strong communiqué in which he indicated the line to follow in student policy. We do not see that anything has improved since. We know only that in the meantime M. Cuza has been reinstated in his chair."

Adevarul (Independent), of April 12th, reports that the Minister for Education, "M. Petrovici has carefully studied the address and found it opportune." He had made similar declarations in the Chamber. According to our laws it is the function of the professors and not of the Minister to maintain order in the University. Hitherto the Professors have generally failed to do it, some being indifferent while others not wanting to risk their popularity. "But if the Professors were to undertake a serious action for the maintenance of order in the University they should always have the support of the Minister."

Lupta (Independent), of April 14th: "The gravest part of the address is that which declares that the attitude of the authorities is interpreted as an encouragement of the anarchical activities. This confirms the reproach made during several years, but especially during the last year, by all the sober minds in politics and in the University and in the Press."

Indreptarea, the Bucharest organ of the Government, usually very attentive to student complaints, does not say a single word about the serious declarations of the Jassy Professors.—(*Curierul Israelit*, April 17th.)

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