The Massacres and Other Atrocities Committed Against the Jews in Southern Russia

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REPORT OF POGROMS IN THE UKRAINE
by the Kiev Pogrom Relief Committee
of
The Russian Red Cross

THE wave of Jewish pogroms, unparallelled in history, which has covered the fields and towns of the Ukraine with rivers of Jewish blood, began on December 31st, 1918. The pogroms had their origin in the civil war which broke out after the downfall of the German Empire and of the régime of the Hetman which was intimately connected with and dependent upon that Empire. The civil war began with a victorious revolt of the newly-formed Directorate against General Skoropadski, followed by a no less victorious and violent movement of the Bolshevists against the Directorate. The troops of Petlura, driven westwards towards the frontiers of Galicia, began to break up into small gangs of freebooters and rebels, who remained in the localities occupied by the Communists, and who thus formed a very dangerous "internal front." This front became especially extensive when the detachments of Grigoriev, Tiutiunik, Zeliony, Struck, Sokolowsky, and of many other chiefs who had at first joined the Bolshevists, separated themselves from the latter and started campaigns of their own.

During the first two years of the Revolution, commencing from February 27th, 1917, there were practically no Jewish pogroms. There were, of course, excesses committed by demoralized detachments of troops, more especially during the demobilization. These excesses were, if not exclusively, yet mostly, directed against Jews, but they were merely sporadic in character and never assumed a large scale. The assailants practically always limited themselves to acts of robbery and to the damage of property.

During the German occupation no pogroms took place in the Ukraine. Equally the months of November and December, 1918, when the Directorate victoriously fought the Hetman, passed without these horrors. Pogroms only commenced when the Directorate suffered defeat at the hands of the Communists who rose against them. The more decisive these defeats were, the more often the beaten Petlura troops had to carry out evacuations of territorities which they had occupied, the more cruelly the defeated and irritated troops began to revenge their setbacks and hardships on the peaceful Jewish population, and the more often they began to treat the Jews as Communists. The battle-cries, "Murder

Jews and Communists!" and the "Jews are Communists!" soon sounded throughout the Ukraine, provoking sanguinary pogroms.

The first massacre broke out in the town of Ovrutsh and its environs. The defenseless Jewish population were at the mercy of a Petlura Ataman, and murder and robbery lasted from December 31st to January 16th. At the same period the Shitomir pogrom took place (January 7th to 10th) and others at the towns of Berdichev, Tchernichov, and a good number of villages round Ovrutsh. The wave of pogroms in January was almost exclusively confined to the eastern portion of the province of Volhynia, where the Petlurists were severely pressed by the Bolshevists.

The February pogroms were more widely spread. By that time Kiev was already occupied by the Communists (from February 2nd).

The Petlurists were then hurriedly evacuating the provinces of Kherson, Poltava, and Kiev. Pogroms took place in Elisavetgrad (February 4th and 5th), in Novo-Mirgorod, Piriatin, and many other places of the province of Poltava. On many railway stations soldiers threw Jews out of the carriage windows and shot at them. In Lubny a pogrom was only prevented because a detachment—about a hundred men strong—came to the rescue of the threatened victims in time. This detachment lost fourteen men killed, but the population was saved. The Jews of Krementshug, in order to escape a pogrom, were compelled to pay a ransom of one million five hundred thousand roubles.

During this period pogroms took place in the following towns of the Kiev province: In Vasilkov, February 7th to 8th; in Rossava, February 11th to 15th; most of the victims being murdered by the Soviet troops. Pogroms also occurred at this time in Stiepantzy, February 14th; Radomysl, February 18th to 20th; Skvir, at the beginning and at the end of February; and in Mtshna and Brovary.

The most terrible pogroms, however, took place far in the rear of the armies, in Proskurov (February 15th) and in Felshtin (February 16th). These pogroms were provoked by an attempt of the Bolshevists to raise a rebellion in Proskurov.

The March pogroms began when the Petlurists cut the front near Sarny in the direction of Korosten, and when they again came to within a hundred kilometers of Kiev. At that time pogroms took place in Korosten, in Ushomir (March 31st), in Beloshitz (March 7th to 12th), in Samgorodok (March 13th), in Tsherniakhov (March 11th), in Shitomir, for the second time, on March 23rd, in Yanushpol (March 25th to 29th), in Radomysl (March 12th to 13th, and again March 23rd to 31st).

In Radomysl the pogroms assumed a chronic character, and were continuous because at that place and at that time the gangs of Sokolowsky

had already started their bloody work. On March 13th a new pogrom was carried out by the red troops in Korosten. This pogrom was ended by a new advance of Petlura. In addition there were Petlura pogroms in Kalinovka, Kublitsh, Ziatkovzy, and other towns of the province of Podolia.

The pogroms in April were less numerous and not of a general character. The outstanding event of this month was the activity of Struck in the district of Tshernobyl. On April 7th his gang was raging in Tshernobyl itself. At the beginning of May, Gornostaipol and Ivankov were ransacked, and during the whole month the murderous gangs of Struck were plundering and slaughtering Jews in the surrounding villages, more especially in those situated on the shores of the Dnieper, where no steamer was allowed to pass without the Jews being taken off and drowned. Up to August 27th a total of forty-one settlements in this locality had suffered. In addition to the above, Sokolowsky's activities continued in this district, and Korolevka was ransacked on April 22nd, Malin, Rakitnoe and Kornin on April 10th. At this time another settlement—Emiltshenko —was ruined by a detachment of Petlurists, who were retreating from Gliebsk towards Novogradvolynsk. The gangs of Zeliony worked near Kiev itself, carrying on their ferocious activities in Vasilkov, which was subjected to a pogrom lasting from April 7th to 15th, in Rshishtshev April 9th, and in the village of Seplisetskoe, Olshanka, and others. It should be pointed out that in Vasilkov the pogrom was perpetrated by the sixth Soviet regiment. There were gangs of freebooters also in the region of Tarashtshansk, and the pogrom in Boguslav, which belongs to this region, lasted from April 4th to April 25th. In the province of Podolia a large number of settlements were destroyed, among them Balta and Bratzlav.

The pogroms which took place in May were very numerous, and nearly all carried out by Grigoriev and his detachments. For most of them the Ataman himself and his assistants Uvarov and Netshaiev were responsible. Three-quarters of all the pogroms took place in the south-eastern part of the province of Kiev, in the districts of Tsherkask and Tshigirin. Many pogroms were organized in the neighboring districts of the provinces of Kherson and Poltava. Those pogroms for which Grigoriev was not responsible were organized by the local peasants, who were under the influence of the "Universals" which were then being issued by the contending Governments. Chronologically the pogroms can be arranged as follows:—

Zlatopol, May 2nd to 8th.
Znamenieva, May 3rd.
Lebedin, May 5th.
Gorodishtshe, May 11th to 12th.
Orlovetz, May 12th.
Rotmistrovka, May 13th to 14th.
Belozorie, May 14th to 15th.
Matusovo, May 13th to 14th.
Smiela, May 13th to 14th.
Elisavetgradka, May 15th to 17th.
Adjanka and B. Bisk, May 18th.
Novy Booc, May 19th.
Tsherkassy, May 16th to 21st.
Raigorod, May 20th.
Savdino Znamenski, May 20th.
Alexandrovka, May 15th to 18th.
Stepanovka, May 18th.
Semionovka, May 18th to 19th.
Grosulov, May 20th.

During the same period pogroms took place in Fundukleevka, Medviedevka, stations Bobrinskaja Zvetkovo, Moshna, Globin, Kassel, Tomashov, Verstshak, Vessioly Koot, Vessioly Podol and others. At the station Ivanovka the men of Grigoriev murdered sixty-two Jews from Kodyma who were fleeing to Odessa to escape the pogrom. Many murders were also committed at other stations.

Directly attributable to Gregoriev's "Universals" are the pogroms in the Uman district, which geographically lies far away from the region in which his troops were acting. The most sanguinary pogroms were those in Uman, May 13th; in Doobovo, May 13th to 14th; Talnoje, May 13th, and in Christionovka, Lodishenko, Biezovok, Mankovka, Ivanka, Booki and others.

Thus the whole month was signalized by Grigoriev's activities, which in cruelty surpassed everything that had been committed by other gangs, and on the Petlura front in the provinces of Volhynia and Podolia. There were pogroms in Voronovitz on May 9th, in Rovno on 14th and 29th, in Kremenetz on May 12th, in Litin on May 14th and 28th, in Kodyma and other places the dates of which are not yet established. The pogroms in Trostianetz on May 10th and in Gaisin on May 12th may be classed among the most cruel ever perpetrated. In Kodyma on May 8th a pogrom was organized by one of Grigoriev's detachments, in which the peasants from the neighboring villages co-operated.

In connection with Grigoriev's revolt must be mentioned the pogrom in Zolotonosha—province of Poltava—on May 12th, committed by the Bogunsky Soviet Regiment. Obuchoff was ransacked on May 17th by the sixth Soviet Regiment, and Pogrebishtshe on May 18th by the eighth Soviet Regiment.

In June the provinces that suffered most were Podolia, Kiev and Volhynia. In the provinces of Kherson and Poltava only sporadic outbreaks took place. In Kiev the remainders of the Grigoriev groups con-

tinued devastating the localities through which they were passing, and on June 15th they ransacked Stavishtshe; on June 16th, Tarasttsha; on June 20th, Volodarka Ryshanovka; on June 22nd, Skvir, and on June 27th, Alexandria for the second time. Within Sokolowsky's sphere of activity the following towns suffered a second visitation: Brusilov on June 13th, Khodorkov on June 15th, Korosten on June 20th, Tcherniachov on June 20th and 24th. The towns of Kornin and Radomysl as well as that of Dubov suffered a second time. Ataman Zeliony ransacked Obuchov on June 25th, Rshishtshev and Kagarlyk on June 3rd. In the province of Podolia murders and robberies were committed in the towns of Derashna, June 7th to 17th, Khmelynin, Golosovka, Maidan, Stryshanka, Staraia, Siniava and others. In the province of Poltava, Semenovka was the only place that suffered a pogrom during the month of June.

In July the pogroms assumed a more grave character, as they were mainly taking place in the same three provinces. The Kiev pogroms exceeded all others in cruelty. In this province twenty-seven pogroms took place during the month, twelve being registered in Volhynia and fourteen in Podolia.

In the Kiev province only dispersed gangs were operating, while in Volhynia and Podolia, they were joined by the regular Petlura troops. On July 3rd Vorshtshagovka experienced a pogrom. On July 2nd, 5th and 11th pogroms took place in Volodarka, Dekov, Novo-Fastov respectively, but these names by no means exhaust the number of places which have undergone a similar fate. Priluki was "pogromed" on July 4th, Sachnovka on July 8th, Turubov on July 9th, and Kalinovka on July 14th.

Sokolowsky was now repeating his exploits of the preceding months, and he again ransacked Roshevo on July 3rd, Makarovo on July 6th, Brusilov on July 5th, Kornin on July 9th, Yannogorodka on July 15th, and Khavno on July 13th. Zeliony, too, was very active, and pogroms were organized in Rshishtshev on July 1st to 13th, Tagantsha on July 8th, Kosin on July 17th, and Pereyaslav on July 15th to 19th. At the very end of the month—on the 29th—Uman suffered a sanguinary pogrom, and on July 31st the stations of Potoski and others were ransacked. In the province of Volhynia the following pogroms took place during the month of July:

KODRY, the 6th and 15th.

KHAMOVKA, the 9th and 11th.

KAMENNY, BROD, KOTELNY, SARUSHNETZY AND DOMBROVITZY on the 10th.

XAVROV on the 20th.

SLOVETSHNA, the 16th to the 19th; there were numerous victims from the neighboring villages of Davidka, Bobrin and others.

In the province of Podolia the following pogroms took place during the month:

SHMERINKA on July 3rd.
BRAILOV, PIKOV, VORONOVITZY, OBODIN, all on the 10th.
YANOV on the 11th to the 15th.
TULCHIN on the 14th.
LITIN on the 18th.
The following places were pogromed on the 15th to the 20th:
NOVO CONSTANTINOV, TEPLIN, GAISIN and PETCHORA.

During the month of August the number of pogroms decreased, but, in view of the fact that the front line moved nearer to Kiev, information on pogroms in the provinces of Podolia and Volhynia became scarce. On August 7th, Pereyaslavl suffered a second pogrom at the hands of Lopatkin's gang. In Vinnitza a pogrom took place on August 3rd, in Golovatchovsk on August 4th. During the second half of August pogroms took place in the following towns:

TATIEV, August 24.
PLISKOV, August 24.
RUSHOV, August 24.
POGREBISHTSHE, August 18-21.
BELAYA-TSERKOV, August 25.
BOYARKA, September 3.
VASILKOV, September 3.
GERMANOVKA, August 28.

Shooting took place in Kiev itself on August 31st. Pogroms also took place in:

SMELA, TSHERKASSY, GORODISHTSHE, ORLOVETZ, KORSUN, FASTOV, USTINOVKA, IGNATOVKA, NJESHIN, GOSTOMLA, STEPANTZY, TARASHTSCHA, BELOTZERKOVKA, PRILUKY, and EKATERINOSLAV.

By September 9th the number of places where pogroms were perpetrated amounted to 372, the actual number of pogroms being no less than 700. In several places pogroms occurred lasting many days, until the whole Jewish population was annihilated and their property destroyed.

According to Governments and districts the pogroms can be distributed as follows:

PROVINCE OF KIEV.

District of Tshernobyl (Struck)	43
" " Tripolie (Zeliony)	9
" " Tsherkassko-Tshigirinsky (Gregoriev)	23
" " Berditchev	5
" " Tarashtshansk	20
" " Uman	12
" " Skvir and Pogrebishtshe	30
" " Kiev	16
" " Radomysl-Shitomir (Sokolowsky)	52
Total	210

PROVINCE OF VOLHYNIA.

District of Ovrutch	26
" " Shitomir	20
" " Rovno	10
Total	56

PROVINCE OF PODOLIA.

District of Gaisin	29
" " Balta	8
" " Vinitza	16
" " Proskurov	8
" " Kamenetz-Podolsk	1
Total	62
In the province of Kherson	23
" " " Poltava	15
" " " Tshernigov	7
" " " Ekaterinoslav	1
Total	46

In all, 372 places which suffered from pogroms were registered.

Comparing the dates on which pogroms took place we note that the most terrible months in this respect were those of the summer—namely, May, June and July, 1919.

As to the part played by various gangs of pogrom makers in the sufferings inflicted on the Jewish population in the Ukraine the following statistics are available:

PETLURA'S REGULAR TROOPS AND DETACHMENTS.

120 places ..... 15,000 killed

GANGS OF SOKOLOWSKY.

70 places ..... 3,000 killed

GANGS OF ZELIONY.

15 places ..... 2,000 killed

GANGS OF STRUCK.

41 places ..... 1,000 killed

THE GANGS OF SOKOLOW AND OTHERS.

38 places ..... 2,000 killed

GANGS OF GRIGORIEV.

40 places ..... 6,000 killed

GANGS OF YASHTSHENKO, GOLUB AND THE OTHERS.

16 places ..... 1,000 killed

THE SOVIET TROOPS.

13 places ..... 500 killed

Total ..... 30,500 killed

To the above data new names must be added of towns which were ransacked and destroyed by the detachments of the Volunteer Army quite recently—at the end of August and September. They are as follows:

Pogrebishtsche (400 killed), Bela Tserkov (300 killed), Boguslav, Smela, Tscherkassy, Gorodischtsche, Korsun, Fastov (over 1,000 killed), Ustinovka, Germanovka, Vasilkov, Makarov, Rakitnoie, Boyarka, Ignatovka, Neshin, Ekaterinoslav, Gostomyl, Stepantsy, Tarashtsha, Shabennoie, Belotserkovka, Priluki, Grebionka, Motovilovka, Borsna.

The entire number of registered victims who were killed in all these pogroms amounts to 40,000. The number of unregistered sufferers has also been very considerable, as there was no possibility of taking note of those who lived in the villages whose Jewish populations were completely destroyed. The number does not include the many who were done to death at points which have not yet been registered, because they are inaccessible. Such points are in the western parts of the Provinces of Volhynia and Podolia, and the southern parts of the Province of Kherson.

Not included in the above were those who died during their wanderings from one town to another in search of an asylum, those who were thrown out of trains and shot, those who were drowned in the rivers, and those who were murdered in forests and other lonely and sequestered places. In the above totals we have not included those who died from wounds, from infection, and from starvation and exposure.

It can be assumed that no less than 70,000 victims perished. Until quite recently the outstanding feature of Jewish pogroms in Russia was plundering and damaging Jewish goods, rape and other forms of violence, murder taking place comparatively seldom. Also refined cruelties were a rare phenomenon in Russian pogroms. The recent epidemic of pogroms, however, excels all other periods in its refined cruelty, in the merciless thoroughness of the acts of violence, and in the naked bloodthirstiness of the barbarous criminals.

The explanation of the tragic difference may, perhaps, be found in the fact that whereas the old pogroms were committed with the connivance of the Government, the newest pogroms were actually organized and directtd by those who held the administrative power in places where the Jewish population was, for days, weeks and even months, at their mercy, without the slightest prospects of relief from anyone.

It must further be added that never before has contempt for human life and other people's property been so openly expressed and so widespread as during the last years of the external war and during the whole period of the civil war with its White and Red terrors, forcible contributions, requisitions, searches, raids, round-ups, hostages, and so forth.

The following is a description of the average pogrom:

"The gang breaks into the township, spreads all over the streets, separate groups break into the Jewish houses, killing without distinction of age and sex everybody they meet, with the exception of women, who are bestially violated before they are murdered, and men are forced to give up all there is in the house before being killed.

"Everything that can be removed is taken away, the rest is destroyed, the walls, doors and windows are broken in search of money. On one group departing another comes, then a third, until absolutely nothing is left that could possibly be taken away. All clothing and linen is taken, not only from those who escape death, but also from the corpses of the dead. A new administration is established in the place, and a deputation of the Jews miraculously preserved go to them or to the Christians who are supposed to be friendly to Jews, and request protection. As a rule the new authorities consent to grant the protection on the condition that a certain contribution is paid by the Jews. With great difficulty a contribution is paid and then a new claim arrives from the authorities for contributions in kind, and it is the duty of the Jews to obtain a certain number of boots and a certain quantity of meat for the soldiers. In the meantime small groups continue terrorizing the Jews, exact money, murder and violate. Then the town is occupied by the Soviet troops who often continue the robbery of their predecessors. But soon all the gangs return, as the front fluctuates and the place continually changes hands. Thus, for instance, Boguslav was taken five times during one week. Every change of Government or administration brings about new pogroms, and the end of it is that the terrorized population, ruined and exhausted, naked and bare-

> footed, without a single coin in their pocket, fly heedless of the climatic condition and risking the dangers of the journey, to the nearest town in the vain hope of getting protection there."

This is a typical picture of a pogrom, though, of course, there are variations in details, in the character of the murders committeed, and the number of victims. Sometimes it happens that the contribution is exacted before the pogrom can break out. In such a case the Jews sometimes escape death, but are certain to lose all their property. Sometimes the raging gangs, or even the regular troops, organize a slaughter in the literal meaning of this word without a single life being spared, regardelss of sex and age. Details vary also in this respect, and in Belomitza (province of Volhynia) all fathers of families were killed. In Trostianetz only males were killed regardless of age (370 people). In Volodarka, on July 9th to the 11th, seventy-three old men, women and children were slaughtered; all the rest took to flight. The bandits everywhere displayed great ingenuity and refinement in the method of killing. Shooting was most frequent, but before being shot the victims were driven from one place to another until brought to a cemetery or a forest. But sometimes the bandits were short of cartridges and cold steel was used. In Proskurov, on February 15th, only bayonets and swords were used, and it took Samosenko's men four hours to slaughter in this way 1,600 Jews. In Dübovo the Jews were brought to a cellar and two bandits, by dealing blows on their heads, had to throw them either dead or wounded into this cellar. In Obodin (district of Bratzlav) only bayonets were used, because one cartridge cost 50 roubles. In Gorshtshik a group of rebels decided to kill the Jews by bayonets only, because shooting might create a panic among other rebels who were destroying a railway not far away.

In Tschernobyl district the usual way of killing Jews was by drowning. Jews were driven to the river and forced into the water, where they had to stay until drowned; rifles were used only when some of them succeeded in swimming to the other shore. Steamers on the Dnieper were stopped, Jews singled out from the crowds of passengers and thrown into the water. In the provinces of Poltava and Kherson, Jews were thrown out of trains running at full speed. In Elisavetgrad (1,526 killed) hand grenades were thrown into the cellars where the Jews were hiding. In Rotmistrovka there were cases when badly wounded people were hung or burnt in their houses. In Klevan (district of Rovno) the soldiers of the Red Army invented a new method of torturing Jews by tearing their beards with a specially-adapted wire. In Ziadkovtzy (province of Podolia) during the second pogrom fifteen Jews were thrown into a well alive.

The following is the list of places with the largest number of victims:

Proskurov (February 15)	1,650	Belaia-Tscherkov (Aug. 25)	300
Elisavetgrad (May 15-17)	1,536	Krivoie-Osero	280
Fastov (September 23-27)	1,000	Kamenny Brod (July)	250
Tscherkassy (May 16-20)	700	Bratzlav	269
Feltin (February 16)	485	Fundukleevka	205
Tulchin (July 14)	519	Kamenetz-Podolsk	200
Uman (May 13)	400	Golovatshevsk (August 4)	200
Pogrebitshtshe (August 13)	400	Uman (July 29)	150
Gaissin (May 13)	350	Priluky (July 4)	150
Trostianetz (May 10)	370	Litin (May 14)	110
Novograd-Volynsk	350	Vasilkov (April 7-15)	110
Shitomir (March 23-26)	317	Ladyshenka (May 14)	100
Yanov	300	Novomirkov (May 7)	105
Teophipol (June 26)	300	Meshigorje	104

All the wounds inflicted on the Jews were severe, and nearly always resulted in death. Very often the bandits were not satisfied with merely wounding but came back, until those whom they had left alive, though severely wounded, were killed. This is the reason why the proportion of killed to wounded is larger here than in real war. Violations of women in June and July increased in number tremendously, and on many occasions gangs of bandits broke into houses mainly for that purpose, though, of course, no house was left without being ransacked.

The bare recital of the numbers of the victims in no way shows the misery and affliction of the Jewish population, and the position of those who survived seems to exceed any imaginable depth of horrors. There are hundreds of thousands who have looked into the eyes of death and who have lived through all the horror of expecting death at any moment. These people, deprived of every possible means of subsistence, physically and morally ruined are faced with the problem of finding an asylum, of saving themselves and their children from starvation, from exposure during the coming winter, from infectious diseases and demoralization.

We quote below a report of our commission on the Jews in Ladyshenka where an ordinary, simple pogrom took place with only eighty-three victims, and without the usual bestial accompaniments of other pogroms:

> "On July 9th a peasant brought to the Jewish hospital in Uman the last two Jews from Ladyshenka (before the war Ladyshenka counted a Jewish population of 1,600). These were two young Jewish girls, frightfully beaten and bruised, one with her nose cut off and the other with her arms broken.

They are both in Kiev now and both suffer from venereal disease. . . .

"More than 1,000 Jews from Ladyshenka are now in Golovashtsevsk. They are all naked, all bruised, and all, whether well or ill, live in the Synagogues, in the stables or the streets. Nobody knows what their lips—always firmly pressed together—could tell us and how these people live their day. Funerals take place very often in Golovatshevsk, and special collections are often made to provide the garments of the dead. . . ."

Pictures of other places are even more depressing, more sad. Sometimes the places of refuge where those who escaped death from the pogroms—expecting to find protection—become arenas of new pogroms—with new hundreds of victims—and the mass of misery is driven again in all directions.

It is impossible to calculate all the damage caused to the Jewish population of the Ukraine. If counted at the present values it would amount to billions. The vast majority of townships, and even many towns, are entirely cleared of Jewish property. In some of the places like Boguslav (April 5), Volodarka (July 11), Kutosovo (July 26), Voshtshagovka (June 9), Snamenka (May 3), Beloshitza (July 11), the Jewish houses were converted into heaps of smoking rubbish. But where there were no fires the Jewish houses look like ruins; windows are smashed, frames are torn out, and everything inside broken or carried away.

DIRECTOR OF THE INFORMATION AND STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT.

KIEV, *September* 19th,—*October* 2nd, 1919.

THE UKRAINIAN POGROMS

The following report of the terrible pogroms that have occurred since last November in the Ukraine has been drawn up by Mr. Meir Grossman, member of the Jewish National Assembly in the Ukraine and member of the Executive of the Central Pogrom Relief Committee in the Ukraine, and by Dr. A. Coralnik, both of Kieff. The responsibility for the report is borne by the Jewish National Secretariat and the Zionist Organization of the Ukraine.

I. General Political Situation

At the end of November, 1918, General Petlura arose at the head of the Ukrainian National Movement against the Hetman Skoropadski, who, until then, was maintained in power in the Ukraine by the Germans. He succeeded in conquering the whole of the Ukraine (the provinces of Kieff, Poltava, Tchernigoff, Ekaterinoslav, Kharkoff, Kherson, Tauras, Podolia, Volhynia).

In January, 1919, Petlura and Vinitchenko (the so-called Directorate) were faced by an attack from the Bolshevists, who succeeded on February 5th-6th in capturing Kieff, whereupon Petlura retreated to the Galician frontier. Grigorieff and Machno, who had hitherto been on Petlura's side, then went over to the Bolshevists; the former was ordered to advance against Odessa, whilst the other was to hold the Donetz Region, which was important on account of its coal and mineral resources. The Bolshevik offensive was organized from Moscow, and took on the character of a pronounced Russian movement, which endeavored to bring about the amalgamation of the Ukrainian Bolshevik Army with the Russian forces. While the Bolsheviks were operating successfully, the Ukrainian National (Left) Social revolutionaries organized a movement against them, aimed at the non-Russian character of Bolshevism and the alleged numerous Jewish leaders. Thereupon arose a great number of rebel bands (under the leadership of Zeleni, Sokolowski, Struk) who fought in conjunction with Petlura against the Bolsheviks. At the same time Grigorieff also began to fight against the Bolsheviks and Jews under the watchword, "Against the Devouring Centre and the people of the land where Christ was crucified." In all these fights the Bolsheviks were victorious, but they were no longer able to keep a firm hand over their troops.

At the same time the prices of food commodities rose enormously. A pound of black bread, which had cost 2 roubles shortly before, could

only be obtained on June 8th in Kieff for 22 roubles, and this price has again risen. The army of General Denikin, coming from the Kuban and Don region, then appeared upon the scene. It consisted mostly of Russian volunteers, was on the whole well disciplined, and well equipped with the aid of the Allies. Machno, who was to have held the Donetz region, betrayed the Bolsheviks and went over to the side of Denikin. The latter thus succeeded in capturing the provinces of Ekaterinoslav, Kharkoff and parts of Poltava.

At the present moment (October, 1919) the Ukraine is divided into the following regions of power: (1) Bolsheviks hold the provinces of Kieff, Tchernigoff, parts of Podolia, Volhynia, and Ekaterinoslav; (2) Denikin holds Kharkoff, Kherson, Poltava, the Crimea, and parts of the province of Ekaterinoslav; (3) between both regions Petlura (the so-called Ukrainian Directorate) occupies parts of the provinces of Podolia and Volhynia; (4) in the whole of the Ukraine region there are large robber bands of various dimensions.

II. The Pogroms

The whole period from the end of November, 1918, down to the present day is filled with a series of pogroms. They were committed partly by the troops, partly by the civilians—especially by the lower middle classes—and also by the peasants and workmen. The principal culprits were the troops of Petlura and Grigorieff, whose officers in many cases belong to the Black Hundred, as well as countless bands. The Bolshevist troops have also committed many pogroms, but their military commanders took rigorous measures against them and had many hundreds of soldiers shot who had taken part in the excesses. But the military authorities had to yield in the end to the anti-Semitic feeling to the extent of refraining from sending Jewish Commissioners to the front.

Three main periods of the pogroms can be distinguished. The first period was during the victorious campaigns of Petlura against the Hetman (November, 1918, to January, 1918), which includes particularly the terrible pogroms of Zhitomir and Ovrutch. The second period was from February to April, 1919, when the Petlura troops were on retreat before the Bolsheviks and countless bands arose. Particularly disastrous was the two-days' massacre at Proskuroff (February 14th-15th), of which Colonel Simosenko was the organizer. It has been absolutely established and registered that 1,700 Jews were murdered on this occasion. In many cases entire families were completely wiped out. When the Central Relief Committee learned of the pogroms, it sent a Commissioner with 100,000 roubles to Proskuroff to assist the survivors. But the Commis-

sioner often did not know to whom he should give the money, as there were no survivors at all. At Filtschin, near Proskuroff, 400 Jews were killed. An especially terrible affair was the holding of a steamer on the Dnieper, in the vicinity of Meshigorje, near Kieff, when 103 Jews were seized on board and drowned. Over sixty corpses were recovered.

The worst period has been raging since April of this year. The troops of Grigorieff, upon capturing Tscherkassi, put to death 800 persons there. Equally terrible were the excesses at Elisabethgrad, where about 2,000 were killed. At Trostienietz there was a Bolshevist garrison, and when the peasants rose against the Bolshevist authority the Christian section of the garrison went over to their side and disarmed their Jewish comrades. Thereupon all the Jewish inhabitants of the little town, down to those who were twelve years of age, were locked into a communal building and kept imprisoned for two days, and after prolonged deliberations were murdered. More than 400 persons were then slain.

The Jewish National Secretariat has drawn up an exact record of all the pogroms. From the end of November, 1918, down to May 28, 1919, pogroms and bloody excesses are recorded to have taken place in 127 places. With regard to another 40 or 50 places it cannot be stated definitely what dimensions the excesses assumed, as the Secretariat is unable to get into communication with them. The total number of Jews who are said to have been killed in these pogroms is from 30,000 to 35,000. A long list of names of those murdered is in the hands of the National Secretariat.

The figure given is quite reliable, and probably even falls short of the actual truth.

The Jews tried to organize a self-defense, but this was not permitted by the Bolsheviks, who urged the Jews to join the Red Army if they wished to defend Jewish lives. The pogroms were everywhere marked by the same horrible features; a bestial murder lust and an incredible passion for destruction.

III. General Jewish Conditions

Under the Bolshevist régime nothing has been left of national autonomy and the numerous Jewish institutions (Communities, small National Assemblies, National Secretariat, Jewish Ministry, Central Relief Committee for Pogrom Victims, Red "Mogen Dovid," etc.). Not only the communities and the local autonomous bodies, but also purely charitable organizations have been dissolved. The Pogrom Committee was not tolerated, although it contains Socialist members; but the Bolsheviks did all in their power to suppress the pogroms and to support the survivors.

No collections of any kind were permitted, not even for pogrom victims. The Jewish parties have been completely disbanded. Each of the three Socialist parties, the Poale Zion, Bund and the "United" ("S. S.") have been again split up into a Communist, a Left and a Right wing. The Communist members of the Bund and the "S. S." have joined for the formation of a Jewish Communist League, which is supported by a certain portion of the not very numerous Jewish labor class. All the Jewish newspapers have been suppressed with the exception of The Communist Flag, which appears in Yiddish. Schools where Hebrew is the medium of instruction are prohibited, but the Yiddish language is encouraged.

IV. Economic Conditions

The economic position of the Jews is desperate. Jewish trade is ruined, and the commission agency business, and above all the grain trade, hitherto the principal occupation of Ukrainian Jews, have completely ceased in consequence of the monopoly and of the terrible transport conditions, as well as on account of the impossibility of getting into the country. The banks have likewise been entirely ruined. Handicrafts, for lack of material, are unable to carry on. People are compelled to spend money, so far as it has not been confiscated, so that the masses of the Jewish population are being slowly doomed to starvation.

V. Relief Activity

The Centrol Pogrom Committee had at its disposal during the whole time of the pogroms only four million roubles, of which three millions had been given in January, 1919, after the first pogroms, by the Petlura Government. This money has been completely exhausted. The Bolsheviks have given large sums for relief, and the Russian Red Cross has done likewise. But all this has been done in such a non-constructive manner that the position of the victims, who number at least 500,000, is one of boundless despair. Food prices are rising, clothing, underlinen, boots can no longer be obtained, nor can furniture either, and even window-panes are stolen. The losses of the Jewish population are estimated at some hundreds of millions of pounds.

VI. The Zionist Organization

The Zionist Organization is described and treated by the Bolsheviks as counter-revolutionary, but it has hitherto been impossible to suppress it. As political activity is now out of the question, all energy is concentrated upon Palestine work. The registration of would-be emigrants has been taken in hand, and more than 70 "Achuzoth" and numerous co-operative emigration companies have been formed. The Zionist Central Office at Kiev is still in existence. The general Ukrainian Zionist Confer-

ence, convened for June, had to be postponed on account of the pogroms and the difficulties of travel. The eagerness to emigrate is exceedingly great, and it is only with the utmost difficulty that those anxious to leave the country can be withheld from a precipitate exodus. The Jewish National Secretariat, elected by the National Assembly, continues its activity, although under prohibition, and it has endeavored to preserve the communal institutions.

VII. List of Principal Pogroms

The following is a list of the principal towns in Southern Russia in which pogroms have occurred. There is reason to believe that this list is not complete.

Elisabethgrad .....About 2,000 killed. Bombs were thrown into cellars where entire Jewish families had taken refuge.

Zabakritch .....The butchery lasted two days. The Jews had shut themselves in their homes. The bandits entered and killed them in silence, one after another.

Habidievka (Podolia) ....All the male Jews were killed (nearly 300), and all Jewish houses looted.

Trostinetz .....314 Jews massacred; goods looted.

Tcherkassi .....General massacre; 800 killed.

Krivari .....Hundreds killed; looting.

Litire (Podolia) .....Over 400 killed; looting.

Bobri (Jewish Agricultural Colony) .....Whole Jewish population massacred. Only one woman and five children left alive.

Proskurov .....About 5,500 killed, including Jewish travelers, and those who died from wounds.

Zlatopol .....Pogrom lasted 8 days. Over 100 killed.

Novi-Mirgovode .....200 killed. Pogrom lasted 6 days. Entire city set on fire.

Kublitch .....Entire Jewish population exterminated.

Alexandrovna .....Entire Jewish population exterminated.

Viessoli-Podol .....Half the population massacred.

Umane .....Terrible pogrom; numerous victims.

Medjiboge .....Entire population massacred.

Mattussov .....70 killed; village set on fire.

Tchitchelrik .....20 Jews killed; looting.
Kadima .....200 Jews killed; looting.
Filschtine .....Over 400 Jews killed; looting.
Ostvog .....Great many victims.
Gaissin .....About 500 killed.
Ivanku .....15 killed and 10 severely wounded.
Lebedine .....Many victims.
Hovodischtiche .....13 killed.
Radomysl .....General massacre.
Bieloozevo .....120 killed.
Olgofiel .....Massacre and looting.
Bratslav .....Massacres.
Annapel .....Pogrom with great loss of life.
Vainiarka .....17 victims.
Tultchine .....11 victims.
Vassilko .....Complete devastation.
Teplik .....100 killed.
Smiela .....Over 80 killed.
Schpole .....10 to 15 killed.
Krementchug .....Great many killed.

POGROMS IN THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY THE DENIKIN ARMY

(A Document Received from the Committee of Jewish Delegations at the Peace Conference in Paris)

The following will give but a poor idea of all the pogroms and anti-Jewish excesses which took place in regions occupied by the Denikin armies. We will limit our document to the recounting of those pogroms, information regarding which we hold from a reliable source and the truth of which cannot be doubted.

EKATERINOSLAV

The anti-Jewish excesses in Ekaterinoslav took an exceedingly intense form; all Jewish houses in four streets were ransacked, hundreds of women were ravished and numerous Jews were killed.

SINELNIKOVO

At Sinelnikovo station, soldiers and officers openly dragged Jewish travellers from the trains, tortured and killed them. On June 15th, seventeen Jews who had been killed by the soldiers were buried. Mrs. S. S. Livschitz, her son S. Livschitz, E. A. Radovitch, a brother; M. Epstein, living in Kharkov, declare:

That they travelled in an express train on June 16th, from Kharkov to Symphesopol. At 11 P. M., when the train stopped in the Sinelnikovo station, soldiers under the orders of the Cavalry Captain, Prince Abaschidze, entered the carriage and took the papers of all the travellers, whom they compelled to leave the train. They were then ushered into a carriage standing on the line at the station. Some of the travellers were left in this carriage; others, among them the student Livschitz, little Systine and Brentziano of Kharkov, who were afterwards killed, were left for the night in a room of the station-master's. Sinsa Livschitz, who wanted to know the reason why her son was arrested, was turned away with blows (these blows were given with a nagaika, a kind of leather whip). On July 17th in the morning, prisoners were taken to Sinchukovo. Livschitz's mother begged the Commander to spare her son, who was innocent, but the officer did nothing and said to the woman that she must not intercede, otherwise it would be worse for her.

Excesses on the Road Between Kharkov and Melitopol

Feighine, K., aged 53, travelled from Kharkov to Melitopol on July 17th. Having heard that Jews were being shot in the railway stations, he resolved that he would return to Kharkov; therefore, he entered a train going to Kharkov. This was noticed by some officers sitting in the train going to Melitopol, in a special compartment. They sent a Tchetchene to fetch Feighine and bring him to their carriage. They then told him to show his papers; he was allowed to go free; at the station of Neteja he met with a few detachments; the following inscription could be seen on the carriages of their train: "Brain the Jews, save Russia!" Some Tchetchenes burst into the carriage occupied by Feighine; they asked the Jews to make themselves known, and hauled Feighine out. He was beaten and dragged before the officers. Feighine started calling the police; his cries brought some Russian and Polish officers who delivered him, saying that the Tchetchenes did not like Jews. When, at Kharkov station, Feighine tried to make a report upon these happenings, the assistant told him that he thought it ill-advised, as there were Tchetchenes who would think nothing of killing him. "All this is the fault of your Trotzky."

Kharkov

Bourstein, a baker, had his goods commandeered and had to pay contributions under the Bolshevist regime. On June 21st, in the evening, eight soldiers entered his house and took away several things together with 8,000 roubles. On the 22nd, in the evening, eight officers came and took away Bourstein. One of them told him that all Jews should be hanged because they were all Commissaries. Another said: "You are guilty, because you are a Jew." They took Bourstein to a quay, stood him against a wall and covered him with a revolver, threatening to shoot

if he did not give them money. Bourstein sent his wife, who had followed him, to get some money at home. Two officers accompanied her. They took away 86,000 roubles and released Bourstein, after they had compelled him to sign a certificate stating that his money had been given back to him.

On June 14th, some Cossacks came to Vainschenker's. They took away several things from one of the lodgers and ravished his sister, aged 20. The father of the victim, aged 64, poisoned himself.

On June 18th, some officers came to Mrs. Felitzian's house, took away different things and arrested her two sons and her brother. When Mrs. Felitzian went to the Commander to know what had befallen him, she was also arrested. The Commander ordered her to receive fifty strokes. Her sons and her brother were tortured and shot as Bolsheviki. The doctor of this town confirms the fact that Mrs. Felitzian was beaten.

On July 2nd, the Commander of the regiment had all of Mrs. Felitzian's furniture thrown into the street and ordered her to leave the house.

Bespalovka

On June 12th, C. L. Pietrovski, a chemist, was at the railway station when a military train arrived, on which was written: "Kill the Jews and save Russia!" The soldiers took hold of him, killed him and threw out his corpse near the Meref station.

Lozovaya

At the beginning of July, some regiments of Cossacks entered this town; the Jewish inhabitants offered 50,000 roubles. The Commander at first refused the sum, but finally accepted it. This did not prevent the soldiers from plundering and committing acts of violence against the Jewish population. On July 11th, two Jewish employees were arrested by the soldiers; they were clerks at the *Banque Internationale pour le Commerce;* the soldiers shot them as Bolsheviki. Kheikine was a Zionist and Brou belonged to no party whatever. On July 12th the soldiers organized a regular pogrom. The Synagogue was ransacked and eight Thoras were torn. This happened in the full light of day. Many Jewish dwellings were plundered.

Mikhailovka

This town is in the Government of Tauride. The Volunteers arrived on June 15th and organized a pogrom. They burst into nearly all Jewish houses and carried everything away; money, provisions, etc. The Commander made the Jewish population pay a contribution of 250,000 roubles. They also had to give up two pairs of stockings, a gold watch, two traveling bags, two pairs of lady's shoes, ten pounds of candles,

five pounds of pepper, 130 pounds of flour, one pound of macaroni, one pound of tobacco and some matches. The things asked for were brought together with 2,000 roubles. Before leaving, the Commander of the garrison compelled the President of the Jewish Community to sign a certificate to the effect that the Jewish population could but commend the attitude of the Volunteers who were protecting the Jewish population. Lawine and Vinitszki, after having been ill-treated and robbed, were compelled to deliver a similar certificate.

On July 12th, the President of the Jewish Community, Zelber, and his wife were beaten by the soldiers and compelled to go into all the houses and to cry: "Kill the Jews, save Russia!" The following people were abominably ill-treated: Jacobson (transported to a hospital); Joseph, his wife and children; an old man, Livschitz; Tsoukerman, Tiraspol, an old man, and his sons, Isaack, Gorelik and Gourevitch. An old man, named Kornblite, aged 80, was compelled to dance and to sing a popular song. A young man, Archinef, was compelled to kiss some mares under their tails.

All Jewish stores were ransacked; the whole Jewish population fled from Mikhailovka.

Valki

This town is in the Government of Kharkov. On June 18th and 19th the Volunteer army took as hostages twelve Jews: Sliosberg, proprietor of a jewelry shop; Halperine, manufacturer; Rakhline, manufacturer; Varschavski, proprietor of a store of chemistry products; Glikhine, tailor; Katz, student; Mrs. Brandess, physician; Polizovski, Oiberman, Rosenstock and Ornstein.

Krementchoug

The above-mentioned horrors are nothing when compared with the happenings at Krementchoug. No sooner had the Volunteers entered the town than destruction commenced. Cries of pain and misery arose throughout the town. All houses, without exception, were plundered. Three hundred and fifty cases of rape have been registered; neither children of 12 nor old women of 60 were spared. After they had been ravished, the little girls were thrown down the water-closets.

Fastov

This town is situated near Kiev. According to the newspaper *Kiev Life*, which is, like the rest of the press of that region, submitted to military censorship by the Denikine Army, 1,600 to 2,000 Jews were massacred. (Issue of September 30th.) Luckily, these figures given at the time this terrible pogrom was raging were not confirmed. Taking as a basis a

later and more definite investigation, the *Kievskaya Jizn* gave the following information regarding the bloody pogrom of Fastov: Over 600 killed; over 1,200 wounded.

These figures acquire a particular significance when one takes into consideration the fact that the total number of Jewish inhabitants in Fastov is 10,000 at the utmost.

As regards details of this pogrom, the accounts published by *Kievskaya Jizn, Kievskaya Echo, Krimsky Viestnik* and *Odiedenienie* all tally. We give below the account given by the newspaper *Kievskaya Echo:*

> "The pogrom took place during and after the occupation of the town. The corpses of the killed remained lying in the streets for days afterward. Thousands of severely wounded people in their death throes remained without assistance of any sort. Dogs and pigs gnawed at the bodies of the dead and wounded. A great many women and children were ravished. The soldiers threw themselves upon the girls under age with a perfectly brutal fury and ravished them before the very eyes of the parents, powerless to interfere.
>
> "Some particularly atrocious scenes took place in the courtyard of the synagogue where the Jews had sought refuge. The courtyard was covered with the bodies of women, children, old men, and young girls who had been ravished. Many people became insane.
>
> "Many Jews who had sought refuge in the church were surrounded by soldiers; the latter killed 60 Jews whom they found in the church. The soldiers set fire to all Jewish houses. Over 200 houses were thus burned down."

OFFICIAL DOCUMENT RELATIVE TO THE OUTRAGES PERPETRATED UPON THE JEWS BY GEN. DENIKIN'S SOLDIERS

Petition Sent to Gen. Denikin by Representatives of the Jewish Communities of Ekaterinoslav, Charkov, Rostov and Taganrog,

July 26th, 1919

FROM THE NEW YORK FORWARD OF NOVEMBER 11, 1919

Not long ago a cable from Constantinople reported that General Denikin informed the world that he is not an Anti-Semite. That was after the soldiers and the Cossacks of his "Volunteer" Army had slaughtered thousands of Jewish children, outraged thousands of Jewish girls, and pillaged dozens of Jewish towns and villages.

In order to prove how much Denikin is "not an Anti-Semite," we publish herewith an official document concerning Denikin. This was brought to us by Mr. Nathan Brenner, an American Jew, who several months ago had departed upon a trip to Europe, and visited England, the Caucasus, and Turkey.

The document is a petition sent to Denikin by representatives of the Jewish communities of Ekaterinoslav, Charkov, Rostov and Taganrog. The petition was written by Anti-Bolshevists. The petition follows:

"To his Excellency:

"The nearer the Volunteer Army is moving toward the Southwestern region, the more they occupy towns and provinces populated almost entirely with Jews. The tired and oppressed Jews are longing for order and peace.

"Inasmuch as the large majority of the Jewish population belong to the bourgeoisie, they have been impatiently waiting for the Volunteer Army to redeem them from the proletarian dictatorship. With joy they greeted the oncoming armies and were prepared to help them with money and with men.

"But, to our great misfortune, the Jews were disappointed in their hopes. Instead of the peace and order which you had promised, the soldiers of your Volunteer Army brought to the Jews pogroms and horror, and in many cases those in power have themselves displayed animosity towards the Jews.

"In saying this to your Excellency we are fully aware of the heavy responsibility which we, the Jewish representatives, are taking upon ourselves. We understand full well that in an occupation there usually occurs unpleasantness, but to our great regret we must say that what is taking place is not an infrequent occurrence in scattered places but occurs systematically wherever the Volunteer Army enters. Especially violent were the outbreaks in Ekaterinoslav, where all the Jewish houses in four streets were plundered and outrages committed upon hundreds of Jewish girls and many Jews killed. The pogrom in Ekaterinoslav is still in progress. In Charkov there occur daily murders and robberies which assume the character of a 'quiet pogrom.' In a number of smaller cities like Avedeivaka, Yenakievo, Grinishno, Sinelnikovo, Lozovaya, Volki, Bogoduchov, and other towns, such occurrences are taking place.

"We also find it necessary to remark that in several places the higher officials had even tried to curb the wild masses but were not successful. The printed propaganda of the 'Oswotch' (an Organization to Liberate the Fatherland) and especially several orders issued by the Commandant

concerning the Jewish Volunteers served to inflate the passion of the ignorant masses and to paralyze the activities of the Administrators.

"As soon as the Volunteers enter a city, they immediately post inflammatory circulars against the Jews. The circulars are sent out together with the official orders of the commanding officers. Even the official bulletins contain agitations against the Jews.

"The attitude of many of the higher officers toward the Jews and toward the Jewish Volunteers is a very dangerous one. Our youth is ready to give their lives for Russia but they are rejected and insulted.

Here are given a number of facts showing how Denikine's officers expelled Jewish soldiers and how they were insulted.

"Such an attitude puts the Jews in a dangerous position; the ignorant masses infer from that that the Jews stand without the Law and that one is free to do with them whatever he likes.

"Your Excellency! We do not ask for mercy but for justice. At the time when the Peace Conference is giving the Jewish people a place in the League of Nations, we cannot permit the thought that our brothers should be robbed, that our women should be outraged, and our sons mistreated, just because among Jews there are Bolsheviki. No one should wreak vengeance on the peaceful Jewish population, because it is no more the fault of the Jews that they gave a Trotzky and a Swertlow than it is the fault of the Russians that they have given a Lenin and a Gorky.

"In the name of the four largest communities which are in the region under your control, we take the authority to petition you to put a stop to the outrages and injustices.

"Your Excellency—do not refuse us and issue a proclamation to the Russian people and to the Army that the Jewish people should not be made responsible for that fact that a few Jews are Bolsheviki.

"We ask your Excellency to declare officially that according to the Law of the Provisional Government, the Jews are Citizens with full rights and that no one is permitted to violate these rights.

"Together with all other Citizens we also have the right to give our lives to Russia by serving in the Army. If you will issue such a proclamation to the Army, you will thereby confirm the right which is so holy to us.

"The people will listen to you, your words will bring peace in the ranks of the masses. It will bring peace among the various parts of the population and will create for you a firm position which you will find necessary in your further struggle for a United Russia."

ANTI-JEWISH POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF DENIKIN

THE POGROMS OF THE VOLUNTEER ARMY

On the eve of his departure for the United States for the purpose of conducting a campaign in favor of the Volunteer Army, Professor Gronski, representative of the Denikin Government, knowing the exasperation aroused among the American Jewish public by the pogroms, asked for the support of the Jewish representatives from South Russia.

On November 12, the Jewish Political Committee, composed of representatives of the Jewish communities from the region of the Volunteer Army, sitting at Rostow, received Professor Gronski in full session.

Professor Gronski declared that he admitted the atrocities committed upon the Jews by the Volunteers and that he deeply regretted them. But he explained these tragic events by the precarious situation of Denikin's army, by the civil war and by the general demoralization. Professor Gronski expressed the hope that the pogroms, which had already diminished, would cease entirely with the victory of Denikin.

One of the members of the Political Committee in the principal address, of which we here give a resumé, revealed the attitude of this Committee toward the Volunteer Army in general and the mission of Professor Gronski in particular.

The Principal Address

In spite of all the slanders uttered against the Jews who are accused of supporting the Bolsheviks, events show plainly that, far from bringing about the happiness of the Jewish people, the victory of the Communists could not but completely compromise our future.

Jews Suffer Most From Bolshevism

The anarchy unchained in Russia by the Communists has principally affected the urban populations, which suffer from famine, live in unhealthy conditions and are massed in heatless houses. These living conditions have spread contagious diseases in the cities, in which the mortality is increasing and threatens the population with total extinction. The peasants have suffered nothing from the Communist régime, for the country is self-sufficing and does not depend upon urban centres.

Terror has not seized the country and the "Committee of Poor Peasants" has not been overwhelmed by it. For a year now the Communists have been seeking to make peace with the middle peasant class. When one considers that 80 per cent. of the other peoples of Russia live in the country, while 99 per cent.. of the Jews live in the cities, one sees clearly how much the interests of the Jews are opposed to the victory of the Communists.

The speaker protests vigorously against the slander spread against the Jewish people by the Anti-Semites which encourages the belief that in the cities the Jewish population enjoys a privileged position and has suffered less from the Bolshevist régime than has the Christian population. The representatives of the Jewish community of Rostow, who conducted an investigation in the districts of Voronez and Kursk, after the liberation of these two districts from the Bolshevist yoke, have shown that these two cities were transformed into cemeteries and that the Jews there suffered to a greater degree than the Christians. No trace of the Jewish bourgoisie remained; all the social and economic institutions were destroyed.

Ninety per cent. of the Jews belong to the middle class and have no relations either with the working class or the peasants. The Jewish people, who have suffered so much in the course of the past year—hundreds of thousands of Jews were killed or wounded, millions pillaged and ruined—knows that the civil war is the principal cause of its misfortune. Since Communism has erected the principle of civil war into a system of government; since Russian Communism sees the gain of its victory in the spread of civil war throughout the world, Communism is a constant source of Anti-Jewish agitation. What contributes to accomplish the destruction of the Jewish people is the subdivision of Russia.

The six million Russian Jews who suffered together under the yoke of Czarism formed a national organization after the revolution of March, 1919. The division of Russia will achieve the dispersion of the Jewish forces. It was clear to everyone that a single road would be open to the Jews of Russia; they must depend upon the Volunteer Army as being the sole force which began to inflict defeat upon the Bolsheviki and which hoisted the flag of Russia one and indivisible.

The Jews and the Volunteer Army.

From the time of the organization of the first nucleus of the Volunteer Army, in the Caucasus, the friendliest relations were established between it and the Jewish people. Many Jews took part in the celebrated "campaign into the ice regions" of General Kornilof. A large number of them perished; some were decorated. It was the Jews who procured the

greatest sums of money for the Volunteer Army. Thus, whereas the Russian society of Ekaterinodar supplied General Denikin with only 400,-000 roubles, a single Jew of this city offered 800,000. And at present the Anti-Semites dare to write that the Jews took no part in the creation of the Volunteer Army. But the Government knows the truth and cannot deny the fact that the Jews gave their co-operation to the Volunteers at the time when they were alone and forsaken by everybody.

However, from the first victories of the Volunteers (in the course of the past year), the same thing happened to the Jews that happened to them at the outbreak of the World War (1914). At this period a vast patriotic wave stirred the Jewish masses. Thousands upon thousands of Jewish volunteers hastened to the support of their country. In all the cities the Jews organized patriotic parades. This movement had been spontaneous, not at all artificial. But the reaction was not long in coming; it proceeded from the Government and from the right wing of Russian society. It was the dark period of the brutal ejection of the Jewish population of Poland, Kurland, and of the districts of Kovno and Grodno. This drama was reproduced in 1919.

The Jews of Kharkow, Ekaterinoslav and other large cities conquered by the Volunteers received the victors joyously. Thousands of Jews were enrolled as volunteers. They began to gather big sums of money for the army. But at this very moment commenced the persecutions and the difficulties of the Jews and their representatives. The first act of violence that plunged the Jews into despair took place at Ekaterinoslav. A Jewish delegation had arrived to bring the greetings of the large Jewish community to General Schkuro. The delegation was received with insults and blows; it was lined up against the wall to be shot and escaped death only by a miracle. This happened in a city with 150,000 Jewish inhabitants and among the delegates were Bruk, an engineer and one of the leading Zionists of Russia, and Rabbi Guelman, a well-known person. Frorm then on, outrages, assassinations and robberies in railawys became more and more frequent. Jewish officers and physicians are expelled from the regiments. A vast anti-Semitic propaganda sweeps the entire country, with the Oswag (the information bureau of the Volunteer Army) at the head.

General Denikin and the Jews

On July 26th last, a delegation consisting of presidents of the four largest Jewish communities of the region occupied by the Volunteer Army appeared before General Denikin. After explaining the intolerable condition of the Jews as created by the Volunteer Army, the delegation re-

quested the General to publish a clear statement on the Jewish question, to make plain to the Russian people that the Jews were citizens, with the same rights and the same duties as all others, and urging that all acts of hostility against the Jews be repressed. That was the most propitious moment to improve the relations between the Jewish people and the Volunteer Army. General Denikin did not deem it incumbent upon him to take the measures proposed by the Jewish delegates, the only measures which would have prevented the extension of the pogroms. From that time on, the situation grew worse and worse. Jewish blood flowed in streams. Wherever the Volunteers went, they organized massacres and robberies. The pogroms of Ekaterinoslav, Kiev, Fastov, and many other cities made veritable ravages among the Jewish population.

The Jews were killed by tens of thousands. Their property was totally plundered and demolished. Jewish communities were wiped out. Thousands of Jewish women were victims of the bestial instincts of soldiers.

In view of this wave of pogroms, the representatives of the Jewish people no longer had the courage to address themselves to the Government. They saw clearly the futility of new proceedings.

These tragic events have confronted us with a new care; *that of providing aid to the victims of the pogroms.* Hundreds of thousands of persons are without clothes and shoes and are suffering hunger. Tens of thousands of persons, afflicted with typhus, fill the hospitals. Hundreds of houses have been burned and thousands of houses are without windows, at the moment when rigorous winter is knocking at the door. In order to assist the victims of the pogroms, every day tens of millions of rubles must be spent; medical aid must be organized on a grand scale. The Jews are unable with their own means to provide for all needs. At Kiev men like Zarubin, Ilin and others, were chosen who began to organize aid under the banner of the Red Cross. Several Russian delegates from Kiev and representatives of the Jewish committee of help for the victims of the pogroms came to Rostow to ask the Government for assistance for the pogrom victims. The Government at first promised 60 millions; then reduced this sum to 10 millions; finally refused every assistance. Moreover the Committee of Aid for the pogrom victims under the Red Cross was suppressed, which left the Jews without any aid. The situation was aggravated by the fact that no Jew could betake himself into the affected districts without running the risk of being killed, and that only the Red Cross could send representatives there.

A number of Russians formed a league to combat Anti-Semitism and published an appeal against the pogroms. Upon requesting General

Dragomiroff to authorize publication of bulletins, they were straightway refused. Action was begun against the printer who published an appeal against pogroms without authorization of the censor. At the same time Schulghin and Savenko day by day publish appeals inciting to pogroms. Savenko is at the head of the "Oswag" and at the same time editor of the Anti-Semitic sheet *Vetchernie Oghni.*

The period of victories was succeeded by the period of defeats of the Volunteer Army. These reverses were marked by new trials for the Jewish people. We have already received news of bloody pogroms that occurred at Kursk, Lokhvitza and other places which the Volunteer Army has been forced to abandon. We tremble for the fate of the Jews of other places which the Volunteers might be obliged to evacuate.

The advance of the Bolsheviks has produced, in the regions occupied by the Volunteers, a new flood of refugees. Among the latter are found numerous Jews, despite the calumnious statements of the "Oswag" and its director, Professor Lenski, according to which the Jews impatiently awaits the arrival of the Communists. At present the Jews are fleeing by thousands from Kiev, Kharkov and Poltava, as they had previously fled from Kursk and Belgorod. On the road, the refugees suffer martyrdom; they pay vast sums for tickets. Now, according to the news we have received, 90 per cent. of the Jewish refugees have already been pillaged and have suffered violence at the hands of the Volunteers.

In the neighborhood of Novotcherkask a railway station exists where a group of officers search the cars and despoil the Jewish travelers of their last possessions. There have been also murders between Kharkov and Rostov and yet this line is considered the safest and the most protected.

Such are the relations that have been created between the Jewish people and the Army of Volunteers. It is a situation truly tragic. On the one hand we know that the ideal of the Volunteer Army—victory over Bolshevist anarchy and the reconstitution of Russia—coincides with the interests of the Jewish people; on the other hand, we assert that the acts of the Army of Volunteers tend to annihilate the Jewish people and that rivers of Jewish blood separate us from this army.

The Mission of Professor Gronski.

These conditions, Professor Gronski, determine our answer to the request that we support your mission. But what aid can we give you, when the voice of our brethren's blood reaches the ears of the Jews of America and arouses in them grief and exasperation? The Jews of America are brothers of the Russian Jews and the calamities of one cannot be a matter

of indifference to the other. The Jewish citizens of free America will not understand our interference on behalf of the Volunteer Army, if the latter does not radically change its attitude toward the Jewish people. Such intervention on our part could only be harmful to your interests for our brethren of America would say that this interference has been obtained only by intimidation and under the threat of machine guns.

We ourselves for a long time thought of exerting our influence upon Jewish public opinion in Europe and America in favor of the Army of Volunteers. But we are certain that in the actual state of affairs we can accomplish nothing, and that in order to achieve success through our intervention there is need of *acts* on your part. A radical change in your attitude toward the Jewish people would of itself modify the situation.

We deem indispensable the issuance of an official declaration by the Denikin Government, proclaiming the equality of rights of the Jews of Russia. We not only demand that an end be made of pogroms in the future, but also that all officers who have not hindered the pogroms be arrested and indicted by the War Tribunal. We demand that the Jewish officers and physicians be reinstated in the army, with equal rights, and that the Jews be admitted, without restriction, to all official ranks. We concede that in the difficult situation of the Government it cannot conquer by a single move the evil spirit that reigns in certain quarters. Therefore, let us agree that the State satisfy our claims little by little and gradually. But it must do so in a way to demonstrate that it has actually changed its attitude toward the Jews.

In order to give proofs of its willingness to modify its policy towards the Jews, the Government must:

1. Issue an order making the commandants of armed forces responsible for pogroms that occur and citing before military tribunals commandants who have not hindered the pogroms.
2. Take radical measures against robbery and outrage on railways; have a military commissioner accompany each train, whose duty it would be to prevent robbery and outrage and of whom the Jews could ask assistance.
3. Take vigorous measures against the pogrom campaign of the "Oswag" and of the Anti-Semitic journals subsidized by the State; provide an opportunity for journals which defend our rights to wage a campaign in our favor.
4. Grant from treasury funds an assistance of 10 million rubles to the victims of the pogroms, for the sole purpose of showing

to the masses that the Government is opposed to pogroms and that it wishes to assist those who have suffered from them.

5. Exert pressure upon the administration to cease supporting the Anti-Semitic movement and to aid in establishing, little by little, more normal relations with the Jewish people.

These claims cannot become the subject of any bargaining on the part of the Government.

We address ourselves to you, as being not only the representative of the Government, but also the delegate of the liberal Russian army, and we desire that you persuade yourself of the necessity of recognizing our claims as well in our interests as in the interest of the Volunteer Army. Only under these conditions shall we be able to take any steps in America in favor of your mission.

Response of Professor Gronski

I cannot offer any defense in reply to the accusation which you have just made and I am unable to deny anything of the bitter truth which I recognized from the beginning of our conference. You know my attitude toward pogroms and toward the question of nationalities. In short, I see that at present you cannot grant me the co-operation that I ask for my mission in America. The terms of the minimum program you have formulated are imperative and irreducible, and I shall do my utmost to get these terms accepted by General Denikin. You are doubtless aware of the campaign which is being carried on within the Advisory Committee in favor of a more liberal policy. I think that the new policy will prevail and that sound political influences will in the end overcome the bad ones; then, too, the policy toward the Jewish people will change. In several days I shall submit your claims to General Denikin. Three possible answers can be faced: either he will accept all your terms, or he will reject them all, or he will reject them in part. What is to be done in the latter case?

Remarks by Dr. Vilenski

I was at the head of the delegaton which General Denikin received on July 26th. At that time I had the feeling that General Denikin was then personally opposed to pogroms, but that he did not have the courage to fight against the demoralized spirit which reigned in the army. The fear of what the reactionaries would say has always been the obstacle against which we strike, and there the danger lies. When we took leave of General Denikin and asked him to authorize us to publish our interview in the papers, he replied, smiling: "Be sure not to praise me too

much." This reply is characteristic of the condition of mind of all who are opposed to pogroms, but who are afraid of being accused of Philo-Semitism, and who, on this account, have done nothing to prevent pogroms. The consequences of this have been unfortunate, both for ourselves and for you. When I fled from Kharkov, I did so not as a "bourgeois," for I am not rich. I fled as president of the Jewish community and the entire Jewish community went into exile with me. While en route, when three officers, one of them belonging to the garrison of Kharkov, attacked us and deprived me of my gold watch, and my wife of hers, I suffered less at having been robbed of my possessions than at the thought of the demoralization which existed in the land.

During my stay at Kharkov, General Briggs invited the delegates of the Jewish community to appear, and asked them whether the Volunteer Army should be helped. I replied in the affirmative, stating that when General Denikin obtained support from England, the influence of the reactionary circles would be weakened, and he would then be able to fight against the pogroms. But it goes without saying that General Denikin must take steps in this direction, and from this point of view I wholly agree with the claims formulated by our colleagues. You ask us, sir, to send a delegation to our brothers of America. To this I reply that we have sent no delegation to America to make known the crimes that have been committed against us in South Russia. The voice of our brethren's blood has risen from the soil of Ukrainia and has reached the ears of our brethren of America and England. I am convinced that when energetic steps have been taken against the pogroms and when we have uttered a sigh of relief, the echo of it will reach America with the utmost speed and will facilitate your task, without need of our sending messages.

Reply to Prof. Gronski by Colleague G.

Sir, you have asked: "What will happen if General Denikin accepts a part of our claims and rejects the others?" To this I take the liberty of answering: At the outset I stated that we are speaking here as commissioned delegates of the Jewish people and that this conference must not be considered as an occasion for bargaining. What we have called our minimum program we demand as evidence that the government will change its policy and will take steps toward ameliorating our condition. If this or that item of our program is provisionally postponed for the sole reason that it is physically impossible to realize it, we shall not break off on that account. But if a single item in the entire list of claims were accepted only because it is necessary to throw a bone to us and to

grant us a momentary and fleeting satisfaction, then the acceptance of all our terms, even if complete, when given in this spirit, could not calm our inquietude, and the reply of General Denikin would make little difference to us.

* * * * * *

On November 20th Professor Gronski informed the political committee that General Denikin had flatly refused all these claims.

REPORT BY BRIG. GEN. JADWIN, U. S. A., UPON A TOUR OF INSPECTION MADE BY HIM IN THE UKRAINE THE LATTER PART OF SEPTEMBER, 1919

66TH CONGRESS
2nd Session

DOCUMENT
No. 176

SENATE

CONDITIONS IN THE UKRAINE RESPECTING TREATMENT OF JEWS

MESSAGE
from the
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
transmitting,

In Response to a Senate Resolution of December 20, 1919, a Communication from the Secretary of State, Submitting a Report on the Actual Condition in the Ukraine with Respect to the Treatment of Members of the Jewish Race.

January 12, 1920—*Read; referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and ordered to be printed.*

TO THE SENATE:

I transmit herewith a report from the Secretary of State, in response to the resolution adopted by the Senate on December 16 (calendar day, December 20), 1919, requesting the State Department to transmit to the Senate such information as may be available, not inconsistent with the public interest, showing the actual condition in the Ukraine with respect to the treatment of members of the Jewish race.

WOODROW WILSON.

THE WHITE HOUSE
12 *January*, 1920

THE PRESIDENT:

The undersigned, the Secretary of State, has the honor to lay before the President, with a view of its transmission to the Senate, if his judgment approves thereof, the following report in response to the Senate's resolution of December 16 (calendar day, December 20), 1919, reading as follows:

> Resolved, That the attention of the Senate having been called to the reported massacre of members of the Jewish race in the Ukraine and to the existence and execution of pogroms, which indicate a determination to exterminate the Jews of Ukrainia, it is requested of the State Department that such information as may be available, not inconsistent with the public interest, be transmitted to the Senate showing the actual conditions in the Ukraine.

The most recent first-hand information furnished by an American official which the Department of State has received on the subject matter of the resolution is contained in a report by Brig. Gen. Jadwin, United States Army, upon a tour of inspection made by him in the Ukraine during the latter part of September last. The pertinent part of that report reads as follows:

> The story of the Jews is a serious one. A Jewish committee furnished me with a statement giving the names of certain towns, dates of pogroms, and number killed at each place. The total of this list was 10,712. They also furnished the names of other towns and some totals bring the number, September 9, up to 29,000. They did not, however, produce exact dates of exact number reported to be killed at each town. This was, of course, difficult for them to do as the Government of Kiev had changed hands several times and most of their towns were in Petlura territory and their information came in by rather irregular ways. They promised to give these dates and exact numbers but had not produced them up to the time I left Kiev.
>
> I have no good reason for doubting the 10,712 figure and would not be surprised if the 29,000 figure was substantially correct.
>
> They claim that besides these there were doubtless many others killed of whom they have no record. Most of those killed are reported to have been done away with by bands, but information available was to the effect that bands had also killed about 450 Poles, largely landowners and bourgeoisie.
>
> When the Russian Army broke up, many of the soldiers are said to have taken their weapons home and to have secreted them. In the absence of a general stable government throughout the country these weapons are brought out at times under different leaders. Those especially mentioned include Petlura, Gregeroff, Struck, Zylony, and Sokolow. There was nothing to show whether the killings were with the knowledge or connivance of these leaders or had been done independently by some men who at other times were in their bands. Proof was not furnished that the actions were concerted or that any one man was responsible for a large number of the deaths.

There were many killed during the last spring, but the figures for the past few months have been much less.

An officer of Petlura's army said that when Kiev was taken there were many prisoners sent back to Winnica. On one trainload of prisoners sent back there were six Jews who had been Bolshevik commissars. When the train arrived at Winnica and the prisoners taken off it was found that the six commissars had been killed by the other prisoners. The latter claimed that the commissars led them into their difficulties.

There are about 20,000 Jews from other parts of the country now taking refuge in Kiev under the protection of Denikin's volunteer army.

Denikin's officers advised that orders against excesses had been issued from general headquarters; also that one major general was relieved from his command because he was not considered to have exerted sufficient efforts to prevent a pogrom. Several soldiers were sentenced in Kiev from 10 to 15 years' hard labor for attempting to steal from Jews. At Lozonia some officers and soldiers have been arrested and are to be tried for alleged participation in excesses.

One pogrom happened while we were at Kiev. The Jews alleged that a large number were slaughtered at Fastow. I saw several Russian officers who stated that at the time in question, which was during the big Bolshevik attack on Kiev, the brigade commander stationed at Fastow had sent all his troops except his personal staff, personal guard, and train crew out of Fastow to the front. While in this situation the train was suddenly surrounded by a number of townspeople, among whom many Jews were recognized. They were armed with pitchforks, axes., etc. An attempt was made on the life of the engineer of the train, but the brigade commander succeeded in getting the train under way and joined his forces on the front. The town was in the hands of the Bolsheviks for one day. It was the scene of heavy fighting for four days, in the course of which some 400 are understood to have been killed. I noticed in driving through the town of Fastow that many houses had crosses on them and on inquiry was told that these crosses indicated the residences of Christians.

At the invitation of Lieut. Gen. Bredow I attended a review of part of his troops on a Sunday following my arrival in Kiev. The metropolite of Kiev, Anthony, who is the head of the Russian Church for Southern Russia, and who had been removed by Petlura and confined in prison in Ukraine and Poland for some six months, had just returned to Kiev. In connection with the review the metropolite blessed the troops, a most impressive ceremony. The religious piety of the young men was marked and very impressive.

Having had experience with the entry of the Polish troops into Minsk where I had seen the good effect of a proclamation to the civilian population by Mr. Morgenthau, and of a pastoral letter to the people and soldiers by the Roman Catholic bishop of Minsk, I

called on the metropolite, talked the Jewish situation over with him, and requested him to issue an encyclical letter to all his flocks enjoining restraint from any attempts on the lives of Jews. The metropolite felt that much of the trouble for the Jews resulted partly from their own actions and teachings and stressed some teachings of the Old Testament and other Jewish writings as to the relations of the Jews with other peoples, teachings which are at marked variance with the enlightened ideas of to-day. He, however, referred with pride to a sermon on the subject of the Jews which he had preached in 1903 while bishop of Zytomir, and which was translated into English, French, and German. He promised that he would issue an encyclical letter which would be sent to all the bishops, priests, and congregations in Southern Russia.

The Jews felt that the attacks have been made upon them because they have been confused with the Bolsheviks. They deny that as a rule more than a proportional percentage of the Bolsheviks were Jews. A few of them, however, admit that there may be a higher percentage of Jews among the Bolsheviks than their proportional percentage, but say that this was because Bolshevism had a stronger hold in towns than in the country, and almost all the Jews lived in the towns. They also say that many Jews who became Bolsheviks renounced Judaism and claim that they are Internationalists or Communists and not Jews.

The fact that Trotsky, Bela Kun, and many of the other prominent men are Jews, together with the fact that the Russians have not been accustomed to seeing many Jews in authority, furnished a basis for a propaganda to connect the Jews more closely with Bolshevism than they should be.

There was one rumor to the effect that there is an organization working among the Cossacks who are understood to have disliked the Jews for many years; that the object of the order is to stir the Cossacks up against former army officers, the bourgeoisie and the Jews.

The situation of the Jews is evidently precarious but will naturally improve greatly when order is established, the population disarmed, a gendarmerie established, the land question improved, and education becomes more general.

It may be of interest to the Senate to know that the Department of State has recently made a decided effort to obtain further and more recent first-hand information. With this in view it has sent Mr. Evan E. Young, an experienced consul general in the consular service, to Odessa, and has obtained from the navy the services of Rear Admiral McCully, who has had a long experience of Russian affairs and is conversant with the Russian language. Admiral McCully has been designated as special agent of the Department of State and instructed to proceed to the south of Russia for general purposes of observation. Both he and Mr. Young are now en route; but it is feared that the recent military advances of the Bolsheviki may prevent their penetrating into the Ukraine.

The situation in the Ukraine, especially with respect to the condition of the Jews there, is receiving the constant attention of the Department of State, whose intention it is to do everything practicable to keep in touch with developments in that quarter.

Respectfully submitted.

ROBERT LANSING.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

Washington, January 7, 1920.

THE POGROM IN KIEV

Report by an Eye-Witness, Charles Jacobowitz, Secretary to the Belgian Consulate at Kiev, by London Jewish Correspondence Bureau

(*As published in the "Jewish Times," Baltimore, February* 27, 1920.)

In view of the many conflicting reports about the pogrom in Kiev, it is of especial value to receive an account written by an eye-witness, who is a member of the Consulate of an Allied nation in Kiev, Mr. Charles Jacobowitz, who actually saw what took place on this occasion. His report reads as follows:

The morning of that dreadful day, the 16th of October, I rose at a very early hour. A pale, sinister gleam pierced through into my room and lit it up lugubriously. The guns roared furiously and shells dropped in different parts of the town where they fulfilled their destructive mission. The artillery duel between the Bolshevists and the voluntary army was at its height. The sky was full of low clouds. The wind howled and it was bitterly cold.

The streets, except for a few soldiers and pedestrians, were deserted. Something in the atmosphere made my heart jump and filled it with anguish. A presentiment of the horrors which were to follow tortured my soul so that I could no longer breathe freely.

As there was no more water in the house I went out to get some, and it was then that I felt certain that a regular pogrom was being prepared against the Jewish community. I returned in haste, as in the street were groups of officers and soldiers of the voluntary army, who had been joined by other bandits, and who had already started breaking the shop windows of Jews and pillaging everything inside.

Having reached home, however, I tried to calm the unfortunate people who fell on me in their anxiety for news, but already the piercing cries of women and children rent the air and reached us. We were all petrified with fright, and I remained motionless in my seat as though paralyzed. What was happening? What sanguinary crime was being committed? The noise continued; then I heard several shouts and cries of "Help! Help!" Then a deathlike silence ensued. . . .

I remained glued to my seat, inwardly raging at my inability to do anything to rescue these unfortunates from the brigands. All my limbs trembled; my breath stopped; my temples throbbed furiously. Impossible to depict the feelings and thoughts which agitated my mind while listening to these cries of distress and envisaging the horrors taking place around me. My hand still shakes while writing these lines, and I have great difficulty in co-ordinating my ideas.

After some time, shrieks of despair from the unfortunates came to us from another direction, as though they were at the height of despair. But suddenly we heard furious blows aimed against the door of the adjoining house, No. 38 Malaya-Vassilkovskaya, where we were living at No. 40. I went towards the window and I noticed in the street some specimens in officers' and soldiers' uniforms who were trying to force an entrance with their rifles, but their efforts were unsuccessful, the door held firm and resisted the bandits.

I went below into the yard to watch what was going on inside the next door house and beheld a nauseating spectacle. Dozens of people, old men and women and children were standing in the courtyard and on the balconies trembling and shaking with fear, awaiting their fate with eyes dilated with horror. I shuddered and my heart bled for them, for there was the fear of death in that look, reminiscent of an innocent sheep in the presence of the wolf who is about to devour it.

Against the door of the house blows of the rifles continued interspersed with brutal cries of "Open, or we shall force the door." However, feeling themselves impotent against the door, which held good, the bandits went off to perform their heroic exploits elsewhere. I had hardly begun to breathe more freely when someone informed me that No. 35 opposite to us was in course of being destroyed by a group of hooligans. I went quickly up to my room, from the window of which I could clearly discern officers with epaulettes coming out of the house opposite; holding in their hands various articles they had stolen, such as linen, clothes, shoes, etc., and followed by a procession of bandits, with women and street boys carrying pillows, linen and many other stolen articles. I even

noticed a well-dressed girl, who looked rather distinguished, amongst the procession. In the street in front of the house I could see urchins, bandits and children of about twelve to fourteen who were selling for a few roubles beautiful overcoats which they had stolen.

And all this took place in the full light of day, and with the complicity of people who should have set a good example to their fellow-citizens, but who, on the contrary, incited them to commit these crimes.

The most terrible phase of the pogrom happened after darkness had fallen on the town. An organized band, composed mainly of officers and soldiers of the voluntary army, went about in motors, on horseback or on foot, with the fixed intention of pillaging defenseless Jewish dwellings. Mr. Blocho, a Russian engineer, secretly confided to me that the authorities had given the officers and soldiers permission to pillage Jewish shops and dwellings as a reward for recapture of Kiev from the Bolshevists. But, on the other hand, they had formally forbidden them to massacre; however, no one took any notice of this order. Under the rule of the Red bandits or Bolshevists the one hope of the civilian population had been that the voluntary army would restore peace and security and make life more bearable. But, alas, they had been very much mistaken. The Government, and the flag had changed, certainly, but the massacres, robberies and violations to which the Jewish community was subjected, did not cease. Every day witnessed a fresh contingent of victims by the dozen and by the hundred, sometimes even by the thousand. Russian Jews are outside the law; people can do what they like with them.

While writing these lines at about 9 o'clock in the evening I can again hear furious blows aimed against the door of the adjoining house. We went down into the courtyard, as we were afraid to stop in our rooms whose windows looked out onto the street. Everybody trembled with fear; women, children and old men, while several of the latter hid themselves in the attics and cellars. Lights went out, we were enveloped in a film of darkness and a dreadful silence ensued. No one whispered a word, and the silence was only occasionally interrupted by a murmur.

In the next door house there was no sign of life. But suddenly I heard the sound of broken windows whose fragments fell noisily. The brigands had forced an entrance through the windows. A feeling of horror overpowered us. For a few minutes a silence like death, and then we heard a scream. It was not like a human cry; it was a sound that pierced our hearts and made us shudder.

And there followed more cries, even more terrible. Our hair stood on end. I held my head in my hands and tore my hair feverishly. I

thought I was going mad. I ran from one end of the courtyard to the other, stopping my ears so as not to hear the agonizing shrieks. My body was in convulsions. I wrung my hands and bit my lips until they bled. The horror of it! As long as I live, I shall never forget the cries which resounded continuously in my ears. No matter where, no matter when, I shall always hear those mournful cries of human distress. No, I will think of it no longer lest I go mad. I must forget . . . The cries lasted for about an hour and then they stopped; only the voice of a woman which sounded more like the barking of a dog could then be heard. The unfortunate creature wailed . . . or rather raved . . . piteously; she had gone mad.

Some idea of the noise can be gathered when I tell you that even the brigands became frightened and left after having pillaged four rooms, leaving the others intact.

During the whole of the night the massacres in the town continued. The appeals of the unfortunate victims still reached us from various directions without the authorities troubling to intervene.

At No. 55 in our street I saw an act of pure vandalism. The furniture in every room was damaged or broken by sword cuts or blows from an axe. In one of the rooms a whole family, father, mother, and little girl were lying in a pool of blood, their bodies terribly mutilated, their hands torn and cut away from the bodies by sword cuts. The faces of those martyrs were covered with wounds. Is it necessary to add that the poor little girl had been violated before she was killed? The other residents in this house had fled—goodness knows where.

A captain, with his adjutant and several soldiers, broke into my brother's house, No. 27, Malaya-Vassilkovskaya, on the pretext of making a requisition. They visited all the rooms and took possession of everything that pleased them. When they got into the room where my brother was, the latter began to speak French to them, saying that he was a Belgian, and this made the officer blush, and he left at once without touching anything. Before going he said to my brother: "We are not Bolsheviks, we are liberators." Those same liberators, however, carried away a considerable amount of booty consisting of linen, costumes, shoes and other articles of value, such as jewelry, silver, etc. This same house was saved from complete pillage by a Russian who stationed himself at the door and refused to allow any of the bandits—who arrived in quick succession and demanded admission on the pretext of making requisitions—to enter.

There were many instances in which the Russians behaved admirably, and did all they could to rescue their Jewish neighbors. There was one house even where two officers were killed while trying to defend the in-

habitants against armed brigands, which suggested to the latter that they should accuse the inhabitants of this house of having massacred the two officers in question, fortunately, however, without success. There was one instance, at Krechtchatik where a Jewish tailor, who was not at all rich, was completely stripped of all his goods by several officers of the voluntary army, including even a colonel. All this unfortunate tailor's savings were stolen, together with several furs and clothes.

I can affirm with certainty that tens of thousands of Jewish families were completely despoiled, and that several unfortunates were left entirely without resources or shelter, and even without shirts. I also affirm that several hundreds were cruelly massacred.

A typical answer from the Military Information Bureau to an appeal for help from the residents of a house attacked by the brigands has come into my possession. It is as follows: "We can do nothing. But calm yourselves: you will not be killed, but merely robbed."

When, on behalf of our neighbors, we tried to telephone to the police station, the telephone girl replied that the instrument was out of order. When we at last got into communication with the station a gentleman from there first inquired why we had disturbed him and refused to call the police. It was only after having been entreated for some considerable time that he finally decided to ask for assistance from the police for our neighbors. Sometimes, while the houses were in course of being pillaged, the police, in response to appeals for assistance, replied with indifference: "Be patient: we shall go later."

After the pogrom, I went out into the town to visit my friends and to get some news generally. It was then that I saw with my own eyes that all the shops were half demolished and completely pillaged. By mistake two or three shops belonging to Russian Christians had also been sacked.

In the street officers and soldiers were driving about in magnificent carriages, many of them quite drunk.

The town seemed dead. There were very few pedestrians and hardly any Jews. I could see, however, several of the dead being conveyed in cabs and carts towards the cemetery on their last journey. Very often these vehicles were followed by women and children in mourning who cried and laid claim to their murdered relatives.

Oh, it is indeed time that humane people should raise their voices and dmand that there shall be an end to these indescribable horrors, so as to save the unfortunate Russian Jews from complete extermination.

(*Signed*) CHARLES JACOBOWITZ,
Secretary of the Belgian Consulate at Kiev.

Kiev, October 8-21, 1919.

THE POGROMS IN SOUTHERN RUSSIA

A Document Furnished by Dr. Alexander Salkind of the Committee of Jewish Delegations at the Peace Conference in Paris. Attached to This Document Are a Number of Sworn Protocols, a Memorandum of the Municipal Council of Lozovaia, a Letter from Vladimir Korolenko, and a Report from an Eye-Witness

On account of the difficulties of communication between Russia and the other parts of Europe, there occur inaccuracies in the names of the localities, as, for instance, Caleb mentions the Government capitals instead of the Governments as such. The facts are absolutely authentic, and unhappily more numerous than Caleb indicated or was able to indicate.

Besides general assaults on Jews and frequent massacres of our people in other localities, we will point out only the pogroms in the following towns:

A. Losovaia:

At the beginning of July there were many cases of highway robbery and assaults. On July 11th, two employees of the International Bank of Commerce were shot under the accusation of being Bolshevists, although one of them was a Zionist and the other not belonging to any party whatsoever.

After frequent assaults and the shooting of the above mentioned bank clerks, the soldiers organized a real pogrom; the synagogue was destroyed and the 8 Torahs torn into pieces. All this happened in broad daylight. Many Jewish houses were plundered. The fact of this pogrom is confirmed by the City Municipal Authorities.

B. Kremenchug:

In this city the pogrom started as soon as the Volunteer Army entered the town; all the Jewish houses were plundered. At least 350 cases of assault took place. Neither 12-year-old children nor 60-year-old women were spared. After being assaulted the little girls were thrown into water-closets.

C. The Government of Kharkov:

A wave of pogroms has taken place in Merefa, Bogoduchow and in many localities around Kharkov.

D. Sinelnikowo:

At this railroad station soldiers and officers openly and with the knowledge of the commanding officer threw out of the railroad cars Jew-

ish passengers, torturing and killing them. On July 15th, 15 Jews killed by the soldiers were buried.

E. Governments of Kherson and Tavrida:

Pogroms in many Jewish agricultural colonies.

F. Fastov:

According to the newspaper *Kievskaia Zisn*, the pogrom which took place in September was continued for four days. Kerosene was poured over the houses of the Jews and the houses burned down. Over 100 Jewish houses and stores were plundered, over 600 Jews killed and over 1,200 wounded. Another newspaper, the *Kievskaia Echo*, which, as the press in general in this locality, has been subjected to the censorship of the military authorities of the Denikin army, pictures this pogrom in even more horrible colors, and claims that between 1,600 and 2,000 Jews were slain, that corpses were exposed on the streets for weeks, that thousands of seriously wounded were undergoing mortal agonies, and that there was nobody to help them. Dogs and hogs were devouring the corpses of the killed and wounded. A great number of women and girls were assaulted; soldiers threw themselves with special atrocity on little girls and assaulted them in the presence of their helpless parents. The whole Synagogue yard, in which many Jews had been hiding, was literally covered with corpses of old men, women, children and assaulted little girls. Many of them lost their mind.

The pogroms are confirmed by the following documents:

A. An order, issued unhappily too late by the Chief-Governor of the Kharov, Tavrida and Ekaterilovslav Governments, General Mai-Maiewsky, in which he acknowledges the facts of assaults on the Jews in the region of the Kharkov railroad district.

B. A number of protocols established by the legal committee of the Kharkov Jewish Community Council, in which the facts of the massacres of entirely innocent Jews on the railroad stations of Bezpalovka, Lozovoia and Merifa, are stated.

C. Memorandum of the Municipality of Losovaia dated July 14, 1919, about the pogrom in this town, a copy of which is attached.

D. A letter from the prominent Russian author, Vladimir Korolenko, written in the newspaper, *Utro Iuga*, which newspaper is edited in the city of Ekaterinodar, the late center of the Volunteer Army, which letter is attached hereto.

E. Report in the newspaper *Kievskoie Russ*, a copy of which is attached.

LEGAL COMMISSION FOR THE JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF KHARKOV

FIRST VISIT REPEATED EXAMINATION LIST No. 94

June 24, 1916.

Name in Full: ISAAC YAKOVLEWITZ BURSTEIN and
and Family: SOSHA YELEVNA BURSTIEN. OCCUPATION: BAKERY.
Address: Grekovskaya Street No. 6.
Age: 45 years and 34 years.

PROTOCOL

Statement by Deponent, Mr. Burtsein

I have had a bakery for the past four years in the City of Kharkoff, at No. 6 Grekovskaya Street; being a refugee from the City of Grodno, where I had a wholesale grocery store. My family consists of my wife and six children ranging in age from five to fifteen. Under the Bolsheviki I paid contributions at different times and was requisitioned for bread and flour. I am a member of a merchants association, and am well known to the residents of Grekovskaya and Voskresenskoye Streets and neighborhood. With the Bolsheviki I, of course, have not and never have had any connections.

On Wednesday, June 19th, 11 o'clock at night, three or four soldiers knocked at my door. It was already locked and I refused to open it. They departed.

On Friday night, seven or eight armed Cossacks came into my house. Without any warrant they began to search the house, taking away during the process the following articles: Shoes, two bed sheets, two towels, a silver watch and a pillow sheet. They also demanded 3,000 roubles in cash. When I opened the safe to get the required sum, they snatched the entire amount in my possession, which amounted to 8,000 roubles.

Remaining in the house over an hour, the Cossacks departed. On my saying to them: "Tell me, is this the end?" they answered, "No, the officers still have to come around."

As promised, Saturday at 8 o'clock in the evening, eight or ten officers invaded my house. After thoroughly searching the house for about an hour, they found nothing. Searching my person, they however found 1,445 roubles in my pockets. This money they counted and returned to me.

Some of the officers in the searching party remained in the yard, while others stayed in the street. At the time of their arrival I was in the bakery and when I saw them coming, I attempted to run out into the street with the object of notifying the authorities. In this I failed, as I was stopped by some officers at the gate.

During the search, the officers appeared to be ill at ease, and every little while they would in turn issue forth into the street to see that all was quiet.

The officers were all armed with revolvers.

At this time, the officers conducting the search found nothing, all they took away was 48 yards of cloth. Others of the party arrested me, and

took me to Netecheskaya Bank. All my entreaties to be taken before the Commandant proved vain. I was sent to the bank, a dark and gloomy place. When I asked why I was being taken there, I was told that "it is necessary to hang all the Jews, they are all Commisars."

One officer simply said: "You are guilty because you are a Jew."

By the time we reached the bank it was between 1 and 2 o'clock in the morning. The place was dark and isolated. From time to time the lonely figure of a passerby would be seen gliding along quickly like a shadow.

The officers surrounded me and demanded my money. I was put against the fence and a gun was levelled at me. When I began to scream, one of the officers silenced me with his hand.

It is necessary to state that when I was taken from the house, my wife, in mortal fear of the consequences, ran after me in order to find out what was to happen to me. My 13-year-old daughter ran along with her.

All this time they stood some distance from me observing what was taking place. When I began to scream, my wife and daughter did the same. Hearing our cries, an officer stationed some distance came over. When he saw the officers he exclaimed: "Ach, they are ours," and unhesitatingly joined the group.

From the window of an adjoining house I heard a woman's voice say: "Go out into the street and see what is happening; I think our Kolya is there."

As a result of this, an old officer came into the street. He was apparently the father of one of the paritcipants in the outrage. Seeing the old officer, I turned to him in appeal, and tearfully implored him to save me, to which he replied: "This is none of my business; they know what they are doing," and with this he went off.

Realizing my utter helplessness, I said to the officers: "I have about 56,000 roubles, but I beg of you do not take away my all; leave me some of it." My appeal, however, was wasted, they took all my money.

I was brought to my wife, whom the officers had until then been trying to quiet, and asked her to go home and give the officers the money.

Two officers out of the group went with my wife to the house after the money. I remained on the bank. When my wife and the officers reached Grekovskaya Street, they found that someone had already called for assistance from the Commandant and he had sent down a detachment of one officer and three soldiers. My wife appealed to them for help, telling them that her husband was about to be shot on the bank.

The two officers here interfered, stating that I was under arrest, that I had made an attempt to bribe them, that I was believed to be a Commisary receiving both money and flour from the Bolsheviki, and that my money was hidden somewhere. At this the officer in charge of the detachment began to yell furiously at my wife for having troubled them, and sent off one of his men to the apothecary to find out who had telephoned them to come out.

Having previously been raided by Cossacks, my money had been hidden in the cellar. When the officers were making their search, I told my workman to take the money out of the cellar and hide it elsewhere. I explained all this to the officers who accompanied my wife, before they left for the house. When the workman appeared, one of the officers, aiming his revolver at him, demanded the money. This workman was a Jew. He admitted having been told by me to remove the money from the cellar, but had been unable to find it when he went looking for it. My wife ,accompanied by the officers, then went down to the cellar, found the box with the money, and handed it over to the officers. The box contained 85,500 roubles.

The officer who had come in charge of the detachment, together with the other two, then began a count of the money. This finished, they made a systematic search of the house again, but without result.

The money in their possession, the officers came back to the bank, where I anxiously awaited their return, hoping that I would be set free.

However, despite the fact that they had secured the money, they still refused to let me go. Some of the officers insisted that I should be taken in the direction of Kusznetchnoi Street, which made me realize that they meant to take me to the Kharkoff bridge, where they would no doubt shoot me. I recalled the many corpses that I had seen scattered around there, and felt that the same fate awaited me. In imagination I already saw passers-by glancing at my corpse and saying: "There is a Jewish Commisary."

I began to implore the officer who had come in charge of the detachment to take me before the Commandant. After a while I prevailed upon him and he agreed to do so. When we reached Ribnoye Street we were overtaken by the officers whom we had left behind on the bank, and these declared that under no circumstances could I go before the Commandant, that instead I must be taken to the place indicated in the order, and for the first time they produced an order of arrest.

I again began to entreat that I be set free, expressing my fear that otherwise I would be shot. At this, one of the officers said: "God forbid, no harm shall come to you," and at his order I was taken to the Hotel "London," where the Officers Partisan Regiment was stationed. To this regiment seemed to belong the officers who were anxious to have me shot. The order for my arrest apparently also emanated from here. This order stated that a search should be made on the premises of the bakery at No. 6 Grekovskaya Street and the owner placed under arrest. I noticed a Red Cross on the order, and it was signed by an officer from some center or other.

I was placed in a room where someone was sleeping on the floor.

An officer soon came into the room and said: "Choose one of the two alternatives; either forego your money or else be made to suffer." I asked that I be allowed at least a small portion of my money.

At about this time, the hour being 2 o'clock at night, my wife and daughter went to the Commandant's quarters and was allowed to see the officer on guard. She had no sooner began to tell him her story, than

he interrupted her, saying: "I know everything about the matter of the money, and about their intention of shooting your husband; it is a miserable affair; come to see the Commandant in the morning and relate to him the whole story."

In the morning my wife went to the Commandant's quarters, where she met one of the officers who had been with me during the night.

When the Commandant appeared, my wife noticed the very same officer who had conducted the search in the house and had carried off the box of money, go over to the officer on guard, and, whispering to him, pointed a number of times to her. A little later, this same officer came over to my wife and said: "Come along with me, I'll free your husband." So she left the Commandant's quarters and went to see me, but they would not let me go then, saying that I would be free at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. At about 11 o'clock in the morning, an officer came to me and reproached me, for having allowed my wife to go to the Commandant and create a commotion, adding that I would have been set free in any event.

At 1 o'clock in the afternoon, about eight officers gathered in a private room. One of them called me in and said: "You are free, your money remains subject to the order."

I asked to be told the reason of my arrest, and the officer answered: "Someone lodged a complaint against you."

I asked that the complaint should be read to me, and the officer answered: "It was made verbally."

I then asked that a statement be given me to the effect that a search of my premises had been made and nothing of a suspicious nature was found. This they promised to give me, but later refused to do so.

When I was about to leave, I was compelled to sign the following acknowledgment: "This receipt is given to certify that the money found during the search has been returned to me."

On leaving, I inquired whether I would be subjected to further molestation; I was told that I would not, but in case I was again worried by Cossacks I should notify Partisan headquarters. Afterwards one of the officers advised me to leave Kharkoff altogether, at the same time adding that I "should not dare mention a word to anyone of the whole matter."

From the Partisan quarters I went straight home, washed and dressed, and went out, spending the night away from home.

It may here be added to what has already been said, that the reason of my being in possession of Soviet money was due to the fact, that that was the only currency for which we could purchase flour, since the peasants would accept no other. Previously, we used to carry heavy stocks of flour, and all our money used to be invested in flour; recently, however, I had made no purchases, and as a result I had a considerable sum of money on hand.

We employ in the bakery four people. One of these is specially in charge of the flour and he can testify that we buy all flour from the peasants and have at no time received it from the Commissioner.

As I have already told you, I did not sleep home last night, so that I do not know what has happened to my wife. She will presently come to you and tell you herself.

Statement by Deponent, Mrs. Burstein

Sunday, 11 o'clock at night, I was already asleep having previously closed the windows and shutters. I heard someone knock on the window. Some of the shutters and windows were broken and some big stones came flying into the room. I ran out of the house and together with my little girl hid in a stable. My other little girl rushed into the street with the intention of finding help. She was met by two policemen and a Cossack, who came into the house and commenced a search, pretending to be looking for fire-arms. When they came across 300 roubles they pocketed it. Noticing that there was light in the house and that a search was being conducted, I ran over to the Partisan quarters for help. They informed me that they had no right to interfere, but that they would inform the police. The latter refused to come. However, before the search was over, ten militia men arrived and placed under arrest the Cossack who was searching the house, together with another who had just then arrived on the scene. We were all taken to the Police Station, where I was questioned and dismissed, the Cossack remaining. I presume they were all released, as I met one of them in the street this morning.

After this disturbance none of us went home to sleep.

LEGAL COMMISSION FOR THE JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF KHARKOV

VISIT FIRST REPEATED — EXAMINATION LIST No. 287
July 14, 1919.

Name in Full: EVEL ISRAEL TREGUBOV
Address: Yaroslav, State of Moglieff
Age: 44
Occupation: Merchant

(Stop over in Kharkoff)
Partly literate

PROTOCOL

Deponent explained as follows:

Friday, the 12th of July, he was on the station Lozova, desiring to travel to Kharkoff. There was no train that day. While waiting for the arrival of the next train, he went across to a small village in the neighborhood. Between 5 and 6 in the morning (Friday) Cossacks from a nearby camp came to the village and began to rob and assault the Jews. They visited the Synagogue as well, robbing and assaulting those who were there at the time engaged in prayer. At about 1 o'clock the massacre subsided, due to the fact that it became known that the station authorities had been notified of the occurrences. The deponent returned to the station.

In the evening, between 10 and 11, he was approached by a Cossack, who asked him if he was a Jew. On learing that he was a Jew, he commenced lashing him with his cane, and ordered him to follow. Two other soldiers joined them. As he was being led across the tracks, two Volunteer officers stopped them and questioned the Cossack where he was taking Tregubov. The Cossack said he was the Commandant, and was taking him to Staff Headquarters. The officers said there was no Staff office in the neighborhood and that in all events they would go along with him. Thereupon he was allowed to go, the Cossack and soldiers returning to the station.

The officers, interested in the fate of the deponent, and wishing to save him from further harm, took him to the office of the Commandant, where he remained until morning. During the night he heard the cries of Jews who had been assaulted at the station. Later, officers came into the Commandant's office and laughingly related how the Jews were being beaten up. In the morning, the deponent heard from Russians at the station, that a number of Jews were found under the bridge badly beaten up, and others wounded, having been fired upon there.

When the train arrived, the Gentile passengers in the coach would not let him sit down, saying that "all Jews ought to be killed" and that "somewhere on the road this will happen to you." He finished his journey in a freight car, where he was accommodated on paying the conductor.

(*Signed*) EVEL TREGUBOV.

LEGAL COMMISSION FOR THE JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF KHARKOV

VISIT FIRST REPEATED — EXAMINATION LIST NO. 304

July 16, 1919

Name in Full: EZER NOCHEM RACHLIN
Address: Gavritovka, County of Izumsk
Age: 45
Occupation: Employee
Literate

PROTOCOL

The 15th of this month, Rachlin was on the way travelling from Kharkov to Lichatchevo in order to get through to Kavrilovka. At the station Merifa, they found another train carrying a military party going from Merifa to Lubatin. As soon as the passenger train pulled up at Merifa station, the Cossacks made a rush for the coaches in search of Jews. Rachlin was dragged from his car, paraded before an officer and marched to a cattle truck, where the Cossacks searched him and took from him 6,000 roubles and his trousers and boots. When the train started off, the Cossacks began to beat him mercilessly, employing their canes and whips. When they had travelled about three or four versts

from Merifa station, Rachlin, in a lying posture, succeeded in throwing himself out of the train. Rachlin saw another Jew doing the same thing. Peasants told Rachlin that the body of a murdered Jew had been thrown off the train. Rachlin, barefooted, made his way to Kharkov. Documents had been taken from him. A basket with his belongings was taken from him at the Merifa station and carried to one of the carriages on the military train.

Refused to sign.

LEGAL COMMISSION FOR THE JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF KHARKOV

VISIT FIRST REPEATED — EXAMINATION LIST No. 288,300
July 14, 1919

Name in Full: DANIEL LEIB PETROVSKY
Address: Znamenskaya Street, No. 19
Age: 25
Occupation: Clerk

Literate

PROTOCOL

Deposes as follows:

His brother, Hirsh Leib Petrovsky, 24 years, a pharmacist, was on the 12th of this month on the station Bezpalovka, on the Southern railroad. A military party of the Volunteer Army pulled in at the station. On their coaches was the inscription, "Beat the Jews, save Russia." When the military party arrived, Petrovsky was in the waiting room. When the party left, Petrovsky was nowhere to be seen. Brailovsky, who was on the station at the time, says that the cashier of the station told him Petrovsky was all but murdered by the "Chichenchi" soldiers. It is rumored that the party went to Bogoduchov.

Michael, 18 years old, a younger brother of the deponent, traveled in the same direction, and at the station Merifa caught up with the party. The soldiers in the Chichenci uniform went through the train, which was carrying vacationists, asking for Jews. They dragged one Jew out with them.

(*Signed*) D. PETROVSKY.

It is suggested that steps be taken with the help of the people at the Bezpavlovka station to identify the unit and the witnesses concerned, and to obtain from the guard at the station informaton for a protocol. Petrovsky was killed at a distance of 37 versts from Merifa.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF LOZOVAYA

District of Pavlograd, Province of Yekaterinoslav

July 14, 1919

No. 701. Town of Lozovaya

To HIS EXCELLENCY, The High Commander of the Provinces of Kharkov, Yekaterinoslav, and Tavris:

The population was anxiously looking forward to the arrival of the Volunteer army, which was received with great cheers, as it is acting for the great cause of the restoration of unified Russia and her former power.

The enthusiasm of the people was boundless. It was shown by the great sums collected to meet the requirements of the Volunteers, among both the Russians and the Jews, and really the arrival of the Volunteer army brought about the re-establishment of order and tranquility in the population without differences of nationality. But in the latter time rather serious outrages have been committed at Lozovaya on account of the differences of nationalities by certain parts of the army, especially by passing detachments. Such outrages took place, for instance, on the 12th of July of the present year, *i. e.*, there were many cases of murder of Jews in the streets and of pillage in their houses.

The crowd invaded the Synagogue at the time of the religious service. The Jews who attended the service were murdered, the sanctuary and the sacred objects were destroyed and profaned, and there is no certainty this will not be renewed. Moreover, on the 1st of this month, about two in the afternoon, some Cossacks of the same detachment seized two young men, Jews, employees of the International Commercial Bank, and, in spite of the most energetic demands of the mayor of the town to bring the above-mentioned people to the town hall, the Commander of the detachment did not take any measures; the Cossacks of the detachment refused to deliver them and, after a short time, these men were killed and their corpses flung out of the door of the railway carriage during the journey.

In consequence of these facts, the Municipal Council most prayerfully applies to your Excellency to entreat you to take the defence of our peaceful population of our town, especially of the Jews, and to give orders to put an end to such outrages so that everyone may go on with his business for the cause of the fatherland.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

(*signature*)

THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL (*signatures*)

P. S. The copy of this document is certified by the notary public of Kharkov, Figurovski, July 18, 1919. *No.* 2301.

LETTER FROM THE RUSSIAN AUTHOR, VLADIMIR KOROLENKO

Published Under the Title: "A New Page," in the Utro-luga of Ekaterinodar, September 12th, 1919

Poltava has lately lived through a new upheaval. On July 28th, in the evening, the Bolsheviki evacuated the town in haste. This precipitate departure more closely resembled a panic-flight than a retreat. The last detachments left Kiev station. After this came a slight shelling of the town, a spitting of guns and machine-gun bullets. Some projectiles exploded above the houses; it would be difficult to say whether these found any victims or their number; we think, however, they could not have been many.

Thus a new page has been turned in the hitsory of our town, which has already passed through many upheavals. The opening of this new era is not bright. Whilst I was writing these lines, upon the morrow of the occupation of the town, plunder and pogrom were raging within its streets and dwellings. Houses inhabited by Jews were broken into and even the poorest were robbed of their belongings. A second detachment came while the first robbers were leaving and carried away what they had left behind; they then went away themselves, only to be replaced by further robbers. In the course of a discussion held the next day at the Town Hall, it was stated that some houses had been plundered as many as seven times and more. To-day (the third day) the news is again sad; uninterrupted plundering is taking place in several streets. An order has just been issued which prohibits plunder and theatens the plunderers with shooting. Two evildoers were shot upon the third day.

Before leaving, the Bolsheviki released from prison 150 Red Guards who had, no doubt, been arrested for crimes against the law, of a more or less serious nature. Afterwards a mysterious band of rebels arrived, pulled down the prison and the police station, and set free all the prisoners, many of whom had been guilty of the most abominable crimes. Under these conditions, the inhabitants anxiously awaited the occupation of the town by the army, on the protection of which they counted with the utmost hope. This hope was dashed, as the military detachments are the ringleaders of the pogromistic wave, and the worst elements in the town joyfully follow suit. Goods thrown out of Jewish dwellings into the street are seized upon by civilians and even by children who lead the Cossacks from one courtyard to another and point out the Jews. This is sad augury for the morals of the youthful elements in the near future.

"Jews are only robbed. . . . No one is killed. . . ." This is true, but remains a petty excuse, as it reverts to the black days of the past, and happenings which will not and cannot recur. Among the hostages taken away by the Bolsheviki during their retreat, whose fate is dim

and unknown, there were numerous Jews. The whole population of Poltava knows what more well-to-do representatives of the Jewish population were made to suffer when they were sent inland for hard labor. Thirty-five of them, bearing on their bodies the signs of abominable torture, were taken to the hospitals in such a pitiable state as to cause one of the members of the Bolsheviki authorities in command, to include in the report the following passage: "Death to the scoundrels who have dishonored the Bolshevist authorities by such cruelties."

The Jews, therefore, also suffered from the Bolshevist régime. The better classes of Jews were the ones most affected, but it was not exceptional to find poor Jews lying in the Bolshevist prisons. Now, as is the case in all pogroms, the poorer class of Jews suffers most: small tradesmen, workmen, etc., who work hard to earn a miserable pittance, are robbed of their best belongings left over from the Bolshevist "requisitions."

Yes, it may be said that the new leaf in the history of this town is sad; it has, at the opening, darkened the beginning of a régime which has been looked forward to by many as an era of solid legality and stability as regards right; this right to be broad and to equally and fairly cover by its protection all people, all classes established during the centuries gone by, all ranks of society. Now these peoples are asking: "Is this the way in which the new era is to commence?" "When will this cloud of mean hatred, of pogroms and tears pass away?"

This sombre page of life in our town was written by me during the first days, when plunder was still rife in the streets. I had intended writing a series of short letters in a local newspaper, appearing after a newspaperless period—except for the Bolshevist official paper. I considered it impossible for and unworthy of a "free" press to begin their intercourse with readers by keepng silent regarding things seen by all, and against which it is every man's duty to strongly protest. But . . . neither this note, nor the following ones ever saw the light of publicity. I shall again attempt to bring this "New Page" in front of the public so as to inform them on the conditions of life in the Poltava region and of its characteristic traits. There is no harm in the fact that these happenings will be talked about. Whether one wishes it or not, accounts of them are on everybody's tongue, and they are very often exaggerated. The real evil is that such happenings should have taken place and should continue to do so in a certain measure (in the villages). To pass them over in silence would be to once again revert to the policy of the ostrich.

(*Signed*) VLADIMIR KOROLENKO.

Poltava, July 30, 1919.

REPORT BY AN EYE-WITNESS OF THE POGROM IN FASTOV

Printed in the Kiev Russ, September 19th and October 2d, 1919

Not two days, but a whole month, and not one person, but a large commission, are needed to stay in Fastov in order to unearth what has actually taken place here. The people of Fastov await such a commission; they await it with impatience.

Almost a week has passed since the pogrom ceased; yet no one, simply no one, can give even the merest sort of an answer to their question: "What is to happen now?" Hundreds of families are under the open sky, without cover or shelter; hundreds of wounded without medical aid, and typhus, as a result of this human heaping and herding, and its consequent filth, swiftly spreading. To meet these conditions, immediate practical interference in the life of Fastov by some powerful organization is essential. Above all things, the people of Fastov want that some attention be paid to their intolerable condition at once.

People drag about in crowds through the streets for entire days, and for the hundredth time examine the smouldering remains of their ruined homes. Every phase of life except that which is immediately related to the pogrom is dead, absolutely non-existent. What, indeed, can one talk or think about when the atmosphere is still odorate with the burnt offerings of the victims; when for entire days in succession they keep on burying the murdered, and still more remain to be buried; when thousands of people live, die and are born under the open sky.

* * *

In the entire city of Fastov, only two Jewish families actually escaped the pogroms; the rest abide in Synagogues, schools and under the heavens. This picture of a whole population living in the open under cover of the sky, I will never forget. Poor, ragged, dirty, with crowds of pitiful children and babes and delapidated remnants of property, hundreds and hundreds of them. I was gripped by a feeling of sickening horror and I left.

* * *

The large building of the Russian School is filled with the weak, the sick and the wounded. The wounded are lying for several days without anyone to as much as dress or bandage their wounds. Before my own eyes, a man breathed his last, and right opposite to him, in the same room at the very same time, a woman delivered herself of a new being. There she lies, dully staring at one point.

On the floor, half sitting, half lying, are scattered beings in a putrid condition, with the shadow of death hovering over them.

(*Ten lines erased by the censor.*)

The pogrom lasted six continuous days. For three days the murderous work was done under the roar of cannons, while during the last three days, the pogrom was conducted in the open. None dared to interfere, for interference boded ill; it was only when the conflagration became menacing that the local priest and a few other citizens began raising an alarm.

There was no motive for the pogrom, none whatever. According to

Lieutenant. E——, a rumor, deliberately provocative, was spread to the effect that the Jews shouted "Hurrah" when the Bolsheviki (for the briefest period) occupied Fastov, that they fired, and so on. All this no one saw and no one heard.

The Jewish farming colonies Kolubitsk, Tchervonansz and Trills in the immediate vicinity of Fastov were also completely massacred.

This is a frightful moment in Fastov.

* * *

The amount of money of which the destroyers possessed themselves was enormous. It will be no exaggeration to figure it in the tens of millions.

The property losses of the pogrom can be summarized briefly: Wherever the perpetrators appeared—and, with the exception of two Jewish houses, they were everywhere—nothing that was in any way valuable or useful was left over.

* * *

They were subjected to every conceivable and inconceivable form of violence and torture; forms which could only be devised by the most cruel and most bestial of pogrom tormentors.

Particularly much is being said by the sufferers of the manner in which victims were hung. In one case the victim had his ears cut off (Markman), in another the tongue was cut out (Kiksman), in many cases dum-dum bullet-wounds were inflicted.

Many, very many women were assaulted and generally killed afterwards. Children were murdered, and among these were two six-months-old infants, Rivin Kopick and Avrum Slabodsky.

It is still impossible to approximate the number of victims in the Fastov pogrom, because the process of unearthing fresh bodies still continues. Without a doubt many bodies were lost in the fire.

It is the belief of the population that from fifteen to eighteen hundred people were murdered, although up to now, considerably less have been buried and registered (600).

The conflagrations were in entire accord with the whole reign of terror in Fastov and cannot be overlooked. The Commercial Square and Kastelnaya Streets were completely burnt down, while a portion of Berditchevsky Street was also razed. The number of buildings burnt down are estimated at over 200, of which about 100 were residential homes. The houses burnt down were exclusively Jewish.

* * *

At the time of the pogrom there was no established authority, although some conflicts with the Bolsheviki took place. The only official authority present consisted of an Inspector and three constables, and they failed to appear on the streets, perhaps in order not to fall into the hands of the Bolsheviki, or who really can tell where they may have been! And now, Mr. Runtzo (the Police Inspector) is all over the town, waiting to be questioned by correspondents, evidently still believing in the old favorite rule of the small beaurocrats: "With these fellows it is best to be careful."

IVAN DEREVENSKY.

THE HORRORS OF THE UKRAINE

Interview for the London Jewish Chronicle With Dr. Jacob Bernstein-Cohen

Placing all others in the shade are the stories of the outrages that have taken place upon our people in the Ukraine. So terrible are they as to be almost unbelievable. It was hardly thought possible that such horrors as were detailed could have been committed. An opportunity was afforded a representative of the *Jewish Chronicle* by the presence in London of Dr. Bernstein-Cohen to know something of the details of the great tragedy for the Jewish people that has occurred in the Ukraine. Dr. Bernstein-Cohen hails from Kishineff, the town which has earned undying fame as being the scene of a terrible pogrom under the Tsarist régime. Dr. Bernstein-Cohen's story to a representative of the London *Jewish Chronicle* was the tale of the murder of thousands of Jewish innocents.

"I must tell you," said Dr. Bernstein, "that pogroms took place in six hundred places. That does not mean that there were only six hundred pogroms. Some places were visited twice, and in a few places visits occurred on six occasions. In all there were, I should say, at least a thousand occasions on which pogroms occurred.

"The estimate is given of 30,000 people having been killed. But of course, when the full reports will have been gathered in, it will be found that an enormous number of people have been slain. According to the estimate of the Administration in the various parts of the country, about 100,000 have been killed. The Jewish estimate, however, is 250,000, but this includes the 'results' of the massacres in the Kiev and other districts not under the dominion of the Ukrainians.

"At the time when Ukraine was winning its victory, it was said that war is war, and that in all war periods excesses occurred for which the Administration could not be held responsible. Later, when the Administration was established, goods were taken from Jews. When they requested payment for what had been taken, the soldiers were encouraged to ill-treat the Jews. Finding that license was given them in this direction, the soldiers went much further than the Administration possibly intended. Their lust for destruction and murder knew no bounds. Orgies were held which baffle description. Jewish girls and mothers were forced to attend 'picnics' organized by the landowners, and at these functions they would be outraged and shot and their bodies mutilated. In many places not a single Jewish female was left alive. The old and young were alike slain. In some places, the old men of the communities were singled out, their beards cut off, and then their heads lopped off. The old men constantly appealed that at least the children should be spared.

"In the pogrom that took place near Filchin, the Rav (Rabbi) gathered 125 children of the district and said to the murderers, 'You are slaying the mothers and fathers, what shall we do with the children?' The soldiers made sport of this appeal and then deliberately shot seventy of the children. Later, the heads of these innocents, separated from their bodies, were placed in a huge barrel and sent as a 'present' to the remaining members of the Jewish community.

"In many places, I may tell you that not a single Jewish resident is left. They have all either been killed or have escaped to another part of the country.

"We were able later to send an official representative's report on the stiuation, and we possess a collection of photographs of the mutilated dead and of the scenes of desolation and destruction caused by the pogroms.

"Our representative in one place came across a group of forty insane Jews living in a forest. He found them walking on all-fours. They would not answer to their names.

"In those places where Jews still survive the holocaust, there are no windows or doors, no heating facilities, and typhus is raging undiminished, reaping its steady harvest of Jewish victims. That is the present position of the Jews in the Ukraine."

Asked who was to blame for this horror, Dr. Bernstein-Cohen replied:

"Petlura declares that the Ukrainian Government is not to blame, and he has even gone so far as to cause the execution of thirteen officers who were directly concerned with the organizing of the massacres. Five other officers are under arrest. Denikin has not been so keen to excuse himself, and has even declared that the Jews are responsible for the downfall of Russia. It was, however, as a Christian, he said, that he was opposed to the shedding of Jewish blood.

"It must be emphasized that Denikin's army consists mostly of officers, and these belong to the upper classes of Russians, in whom Anti-Semitism is very rife. On the other hand, I believe that Denikin is a greater enemy to the Jews than Petlura."

As to the attitude of Ukrainian Jewry towards the present Government, Dr. Bernstein-Cohen said:

"Jews still want to remain under the protection of that Government in spite of the recent tragedies. They claim there is really no other alternative. In spite of the 'enlightenment' existing in Russia, Jews are not securing their national rights. In Ukraine there is hope of securing local autonomy in spite of all that has occurred.

"Ukrainian Jews declare they do not want money so much as the securing of political pressure upon the Government that will make the recurrence of these pogroms impossible. The recent commissions which have visited such territories have done an immense amount of good. It is true that American and British Jews were on these commissions, but the English and American passports they carried put fear into the hearts of our persecutors.

"As an instance of the effect of political pressure, I may tell you that the massacre in Kiev, which continued uninterruptedly for three days, was stopped in an hour, after the arrival of the American representative who threatened to telegraph a report to Washington.

"Do not send clothes for men, for the soldiers take it. Send doctors and medical supplies. Also establish canteens and kitchens for the poor on a large scale, but have your representatives there, or none of the food will reach the Jews you intend to benefit."

A LETTER FROM THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR JEWISH AID

From "Yevreiskaya Misl" (Jewish Thought), Odessa, Dec. 26, 1919.

The Central Committee for the Aid of Jews Who Have Suffered from Massacres, distributed among the Jewish communities of Southern Russia the following letter:

> "Together with this letter you will receive a brief review, conveying but a faint idea of recent events. It will, however, make you realize how great and infinite is the present affliction which has overtaken the Jews. Due to a series of causes, accurate knowledge of what is actually happening does not reach us. It is said that the whole of Ukrainian Jewry is being deliberately massacred. To the eight months of massacre are now added the pages of the last terrible days. The result of about 450 massacred Jewish settlements is over 150,000 killed and wounded, hundreds of thousands of new refugees and over a million sufferers of whom more than half are in need of communal assistance. For feeding alone, we require at the most moderate estimate, twenty millions a day. In order to cover the mere nakedness of those left without clothing or cover, over two billions is needed. A colossal sum is essential for the care and education of the orphaned and homeless children. Epidemics are raging in unheard-of proportions, unchecked. Tens of thousands, affected by typhus, are lying helpless, without medicine and attendance, in unheated habitations, crowded together with the healthy, and spread-

ing all around them contagion and death. The rate of mortality is very great. Thousands are dying daily. Left helpless, entire cities and towns are actually dying out from hunger and disease. The cold has come and huge sums are required to care for the unsheltered communities, to glaze and repair the destroyed homes, for fuel, etc.

"Vast means are needed to organize trade, and credit and to render legal aid.

"Billions are urgently required, and for the present there is no assistance to be had from the Government, and not much dependence can be placed upon the receipt of money from other countries. Under these conditions, we must take upon ourselves the matter of immediate alleviation and assistance. The small number of fortunate ones who escaped unharmed and the communities who have suffered little, must come to the rescue of their massacred brothers. The matter of immediate help to our people we can leave to no one."

Speaking about the collection of apparel for the pogrom victims, the Central Committee further writes:

"In dozens of places the entire Jewish population was left absolutely naked, all clothing, footwear, underwear and bedding having been taken. In Niezen for instance, the Jewish delegation to the Commandant could not appear before him because the requisite number of suits of clothing could not be found in the entire city. Similar conditions prevail in Fastov, Bielitzerkov, and numerous other places. Meanwhile severe cold is coming on. People huddle together in houses without doors or windows. Epidemics rage freely and diseased as well as healthy use the same underclothes. To obtain clothing, enormous sums are wanted, but even for money these are unobtainable at present. We hear piteous cries from all sides, but are unable to render help. Organize immediately collections of clothing, underwear and footwear. Everything will be useful, the old as well as the torn."

PETITIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF ODESSA

I. From the Jewish Population of Petrovsk

To the Chairman of the Jewish Community, Dr. Schwartzman, and Advocate Pan:

The Jewish population of Petrovsk petition you to make an immediate appeal to the proper authorities to provide our town and adjacent settlements as soon as possible with protection against the continuous robberies committed in broad daylight by men who claim to be Volunteers, but which claim seems doubtful.

Bearing in mind an order by the Commander-in-Chief, Lieutenant-General Denikin, that every requisition made and robbery committed by the Volunteer forces should be reported to the Governor, we find it necessary to report the following:

In the village of Katarzin, on the 4th of this month, men claiming to be Volunteers robbed the mill-owner, Shrull Kleiner, and his companion of the sum of 110,000 roubles. In the village of Tzibulovka, County of Tzebrikansk, L. Ch. Szargorodsky was robbed of 600 roubles and various household belongings. In the village Zebrikov, on the 5th of this month, the same band robbed the wife of Froime Rabinowitz of 10,000 roubles; the local apothecary of 12,000 roubles; Yasha Karetnick of 10,000 roubles; Eli Grushevsky of 5,000 roubles; Dub. Weisman of 1,000 roubles, and Gersha Weisman of 1,000 roubles. In addition to these sums of money, the robbers also carried off all sorts of household articles, clothing and valuables. From this village the robbers directed their steps to the German colony, Voroblevo (Barlin), where they robbed the mill-owner, M. Zinenberg, of a considerable sum of money. However, rumor has it that due to the interference of local Germans, the money was returned to its owner.

On the 7th of this month, the band arrived at the village Aberdinandofky (Sirotzki), where its members robbed the son of the mill-owner, J. Binderman, of 10,000 roubles. Another local man was robbed on the 8th of this month, on the estate of Madam Yermolova (General's wife). The estate is located in the village of Sofievsky, County of Petroverovsk.

On the Post-road they still rob every traveler and passerby. According to collected data, the following were robbed on the road: Residents of the town of Petrovierivky, while on their way to Odesso, Shloime Moichet, of the sum of 3,000 roubles; S. Krivanutchka of 5,000 roubles; T. Sloveshnik, a resident of Valaduvela, of 8,850 roubles in paper money, ten roubles in gold and two gold rings; residents of the town of Shiraieff: Tochilovsky of one case of tobacco valued at 15,000 roubles; S. K. Pomerantz of 600 roubles; residents of the village Minofka: Mayer Henner of 50 roubles and a peasant named Jacob Gonchar of an unknown sum of money.

Rovky Benyani Zlaier of Petrovsky was robbed of a horse and some merchandise valued at 15,000 roubles at Baturin in the section of Gloskovsk. This fact is substantiated by a document numbered 1543 issued by the Militia Commandant at Petrovierovsk on the 3rd of September this year.

In view of the above, we repeat our request that you prevail upon the authorities to take measures which will ensure the discontinuance of these robberies and assaults, which are a dangerous menace to the population of the entire section.

September 9, 1919.

(*Follow* 34 *Signatures.*)

II. From Merchants of the Prochorovsky Square, the Market, Odessa

We, the undersigned merchants of Prochorovsky Square, hereby call your attention to the disturbances and robberies to which we, Jewish merchants, are now being subjected.

Since the departure of the Soviet authorities, individuals in the uniform of the Volunteer Army frequently appear on the Square, and without producing any documents for their right to requisition, they commandeer and carry off all kinds of merchandise, articles quite apart from the stock commonly required by the Government, such as trousers, boots, blankets and the like.

During the past few days, several bands appeared each day. These go through the Square, inquiring what nationality this or that merchant belongs to. On stating that he is a Jew, he is deprived of all merchandise. These occurrences have such a demoralizing effect on us that we are compelled—as in the days of the Bolsheviki—to keep our stores closed, in order not to be robbed outright, as has been the case with many of us, and in which connection we append an incomplete list.

The frame of mind into which we are forced by these acts of plunder, which are contrary to everything the Volunteer Army professes and which bring shame upon their fair name, coupled with our position of defenselessness, impels us to turn to you, in earnest appeal, to bring these lawless perpetrations to the attention of the proper authorities, and to entreat them to take necessary measures for the protection of our property against further attack, and to have restored to those who have already suffered the goods of which they were robbed.

ODESSA, *August* 21, 1919.

(*Signed*) E. GLATTERMAN,
M. MAKAHAN,
E. LUBARSKY,
M. GLUGOCHINSKY,
I. DOCTORMAN,
M. RUKIN,
H. VULIOR,
M. LUKACHEFSKY,
S. EINBINDER,
A. SCHNEIDER,
M. GREEN.

(*Follow* 26 *Signatures of Owners of Stores, and a List of* 18 *Names of Men Whose Shops Were Plundered.*)

III. From the Undersigned Residents of the Township of Ponyatovsky, District of Ponyatovsky, County of Teraspol, Province of Kherson

Two weeks ago, groups of from four to fifteen armed persons, dressed in the uniform of the Volunteer Army, began to appear in our neighborhood. These groups committed acts of violence upon both the persons and property of the Jewish inhabitants of this township. After a few visits they went on robbing every Jewish store and home without any exceptions. For reasons unknown, the Imperial Guard of the place made no effort to interfere with the robbers, this despite the fact that to all appearances the robbers do not actually belong to the Volunteer Army, and are masquerading in uniform in order to effect their object without fear of punishment.

We, the undersigned residents, together with others in the neighborhood, fled to Odessa to save our lives, for on their last visit the robbers threatened to return soon and massacre the entire Jewish settlement. Taking into consideration the fact that under the condition of freedom these bands are enjoying, their activities may actually be renewed and the lives of all Jews in the neighborhood endangered, we appeal to the Administration of the Jewish Community to intercede in our behalf with the proper authorities for measures ensuring our protection, and to put a stop to these outrages committed against innocent and peaceful citizens, causing them so much material loss and moral suffering and endangering their lives.

Signed, B. CHALFIN,
A. UGER,
S. SPIRTA,
S. DORIN,
E. HAUCHMAN,
L. MARGOLIS,
F. SPATZERMAN,
B. KAPUSTYANSK,
I. SPIRTA,
M. HAUCHMAN.

DEPOSITIONS MADE TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE JEWISH COMMUNTY OF ODESSA

I. By Student Abraham Chaim Crimer

Since the month of August, 1918, our family has lived in three rooms rented from Marie Nikolaieff Dzitaieva, of Apartment No. 14, House No. 18, Sofievsky Street, paying her 180 roubles a month, at the time when she pays for the entire apartment 35 roubles. But not satisfied even with this rent, M. N. Dzitaieva has caused us all sorts of inconveniences, created all manner of scandals and demanded that we vacate the rooms. Being unable to obtain other rooms, we could not vacate these. Finally, on the evening of the 20th of this August, she informed us that if we did not move by the 23rd she would invite acquaintances of hers, Partisans, to eject us forcibly. I answered her, that not having been able to obtain other rooms, it was not possible for us to move out of hers. She began to scold and to make insulting remarks at the expense of the Jews, and half an hour later led into our rooms a number of armed Partisans from the Horse Guard. These declared me under arrest and ordered me to follow them. My father was unwilling to let me go alone and went with me. They brought us to their barracks, which are located in Sofievsky Street, No. 12, locked the doors, and at the order of the volunteer Abrikosov, who played the part of the Officer of Arrest, several men began to whip me and beat me about. By way of answer to the pleadings of my father that they stop beating me, and his avowals that I was guilty of no crimes, he, too, was beaten, being told at the same time that "it was not permissible to believe Jews," that "all Jews ought to be killed," and that "Jews have no God."

This jeering and mocking continued till about 12 o'clock at night. Then, by order of the same Abrikosov, we were stripped naked, our belongings being divided up among the soldiers. Following this, our hands were tied, our mouths gagged and, wrapped in canvass, we were driven in

a runabout to the Alexandrovsky Park. On the way I untied myself. We were driven to the park in the company of four armed soldiers (with rifles). When they brought us to the park, volunteer Abrikosov ordered my father to lie down, and fixed his rifle on him, at the same time warning me not to move, as he wanted to kill me himself. At this moment I broke away and started to run. They ran after me, opening fire, but failed in their aim. On the following day my father's body was found in the park.

The documents of both my father and myself were taken by volunteer Abrikosov.

Making this deposition, I beg, in my own name as well as in the name of my three sisters, total orphans (mother died last year), that you take all measures to punish the criminals and safeguard other Jews from similar terrors.

(*Signed*) STUDENT I. CRIMER.

August 20, 1919.

II. By S. M. Gorin and H. Wexler, Residing (the first) at No. 26 Suvarovsky Street, Room No. 2; (the second) at No. 49 Upyensky Street, Room No. 15

On Wednesday, September 4th of this year, a group of Jews made their way in two vehicles from Ribintzi to Odessa. Reaching the colony Manheim, County of Odessa, the travelers decided to remain there overnight. This was about 5 p. m.

Just then a group of armed persons (soldiers and officers) approached the wagons. Representing themselves to be authorities of the Volunteer Army, they started an examination of documents, at the conclusion of which they removed five Jewish young men from the wagons, led them into the field and shot them. The clothing of the murdered was removed beforehand, all money and belongings being divided between the members of the group. The bodies of the murdered victims were mutilated by sword cuts beyond all recognition. All this took place in the presence of the local authorities and a number of residents, all of whom regarded the entire proceeding with total indifference.

We now urgently request the Administration of the Community to take such measures as will ensure the bodies being brought to Odessa and being given Jewish burial, and the identification and punishment of those guilty of the crime.

(*Signed*) S. M. GORIN,
For the illiterate Wexler,

ODESSA, *September* 10, 1919. S. OROKIN.

Knowledge received by the Jewish Community of Odessa, on the 11th of September this year from those who suffered, leads us to arrive at the following facts: In the town of Zacharovsky, the same Municipal District (Volost), County of Taraspol, on September 6th of this year, a group of from 20 to 25 persons (mounted) in the uniform of the Volunteer Army, robbed almost every Jewish establishment in the town and massacred their owners. Under threat of death, all cash money and valuables were taken from many of the victims. A great number were whipped and beaten with rifles. To save their lives, the greater portion of the Jewish population fled from the town.

The above knowledge was received in my presence.
For the Secretary,
(*Signature.*)

III. By Leibe Mendelowitz, Resident of the Town of Severinevka, County of Odessa

The Jewish settlement in the town of Severinevka passed through a period of dread and terror. Repeated pogroms accompanied by outrages, a description of which makes one's blood run cold.

On Sunday, the 25th of August of this year, the last sixteen Jewish bodies were unearthed, given Jewish burial and laid to rest in the Jewish cemetery.

The animal instincts of the murderers had, however, as yet not been appeased, and another horrifying act was committed. On the night of August 27th, eight bodies were dug out of their graves, their shrouds removed, and after having been outraged, were left exposed. I, who saved myself but lost father, wife and son in the last terrible pogrom, now turn to the Administration of the Jewish Community of Odessa with the humble request that you take all possible measures to at least safeguard the deceased against similar desecrations and to punish the guilty.

(*Signed*) LEIBE MENDELOWITZ.

ODESSA, *October* 28, 1919.