

The Jewish Herald

Fourth Year

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FAMILY BEYOND CLUTCH OF
CZAR.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 25.—A man with a strong foreign accent inquired several times yesterday at the telegraph office in a local hotel if a message had come for him. "J. S. Groening is my name," he told the operator. As he sat in a chair in the hotel office a page called "Mr. Groening."

Mr. Groening jumped to his feet and seized a telegram from the boy's hands. An instant's glance acquainted him with its contents. He buried his face in his hands.

"My children, my little ones are safe," he muttered in German.

Suddenly straightening himself, he walked to the clerk and said:

"I want to make as many people as possible happy today. I have just had a great happiness and I want to share it. I am an orthodox Jew and Christmas means nothing to me, but it does to many and I am glad my happiness came at this time. I shall walk out into the streets, and find a dozen men who look hungry and send them in here to be fed."

Later he returned and with him were a dozen who looked as if they were temporarily out of luck.

A private dining room was provided for the party and the meal the dozen men got was the best the hotel could provide.

Groening explained that he had feared the Russians, being aggrieved at the attitude the United States had taken toward Jewish passports, would be infuriated and massacre the Jews in Russia.

"I sent money to my wife and children to leave for the United States immediately," he said, "and this telegram told me they had crossed the German frontier and were safe."

Groening's home is in New York.

Friends of ex-Senator Alfred M. Cohen, of Cincinnati, are booming him for the Republican nomination for Governor of Ohio.

ADATH YESHURUN'S SHAME.

The Jewish community of Houston was startled upon reading in last Sunday's papers that the affairs of Adath Yeshurun Congregation had been brought into court. It had been known for some time that trouble was brewing, but it was hoped that common sense and a decent regard for public opinion would bring about an amicable adjustment. However, this was not to be. The action of the board of officers in secretly admitting a large number of new members friendly to their faction, during the pendency of a proposed friendly settlement and calling a special meeting to take action against a number of members unfriendly to them, clearly showed that there would be no peace. The opposition took up the gage of battle and appealed to their last resort, a court of equity.

It is not our purpose to discuss the merits of the controversy, to try the case in a newspaper, though we have decided opinions on the subject. But this much we are free to say. The differences which have brought on the present situation are of long standing, they are personal, they are irremovable. The two factions cannot mingle harmoniously any more than can oil and water. Under such circumstances it would be a blessing if they would agree to separate in peace, each going its own way, dividing the common property in proportion to their respective numbers, or in some other equitable way. We hope that this suggestion will be welcome to all and will be promptly followed.

Women Withdraw From National Council.

Baltimore, Md., December 26.—By a vote of 450 to 8 the Baltimore section of the National Council of Jewish Women today withdrew from the National body. The resolution of the withdrawal expressed dissatisfaction at the administration of National officers and was based on suppression of a letter of protest sent to the recent National convention at Philadelphia. The letter alleged extravagance and arbitrary procedure.

RUSSIA IS RELAXING TREATMENT
OF JEWS.

Berlin, Dec. 23.—Russia is relaxing her vigorous treatment of German Jews, according to information which has reached the minister of commerce and which that official today transmitted to the senior merchants' guild. Russia's letting down in her treatment of the Hebrews is believed to be the result of guilds' protest against the treatment accorded Jewish commercial travelers in Russia.

German Jews, traveling on business, are now allowed to reside in any quarter of the city of Kiev, according to a decree recently issued by the governor of that state. It is only recently that Russia notified Germany that she could not afford any more favorable treatment to German Jews than to Russian Jews.

Encouraged by this concession and the action of President Taft in abrogating the treaty of 1832, the guild will shortly forward a petition to the American, German, French and British governments asking that they make united protest at St. Petersburg and urge the same treatment for Jewish travelers as is now accorded Christians.

REFUSES TO SET ASIDE VERDICT OF JEWISH JURORS.

County Judge Neimann, sitting in part II of the County Court the other day, refused to set aside a verdict of a jury on which were seven Jews, two Germans, one Irishman and two American-born men. He was asked to set aside the verdict because of the preponderance of Jews in the jury box and the implication that they carried the rest to unanimity in favor of the plaintiff, the Steinberg Steam Cut Stone Company, and against the defendant, an Italian.

It seems that the company sued Dominick Arvadaro for cut stone sold and delivered to the amount of \$300 and also asked \$36 interest. Lawyer B. E. Sigelstein represented the plain-

tiff and Lawyer David Spiro, the defendant. Both sides accepted the jury, seven men of which bore Jewish names and were evidently of the Jewish faith. When the verdict for the full amount asked for by the plaintiff was returned, however, Lawyer Spiro got up and made the rather unusual request. He thought the verdict against his client should be set aside because of the Jewish complexion of the jury.

Judge Niemann refused point blank to do any such thing. "There are Jews on nearly every jury before me," said the judge, "and they are just as fair and just in their determination of such matters as are any other race."

TALKS ON "PRINCIPLE."

Rabbi Harry Levi Says Average Business Man is Honest.

At Temple Israel on Sunday morning, Rabbi Harry Levi took for the subject of his address, "A Matter of Principle," says the Boston Jewish Advocate.

"I believe that the average business man is honest," he said. "I wish I could believe that every business man is honest. The Bible warns us to use just balances, yet every month the city of New York buries beneath the waters of the Atlantic a carload of false weights and measures confiscated from unscrupulous merchants.

"Hardly a city that is not graft-ridden, burdened by politicians who socially are considered respectable, yet who do not hesitate to enrich themselves at the expense of the people whose interests they are supposed to represent and protect. Criticize these men, jail them, and they will take refuge in the old excuse, 'everybody does the same thing.' That this does not palliate the crime, that the situation involves a principle, they cannot see.

"Religion is a matter of the individual or it is nothing," he continued. "Proxy religion is no religion. If this be true, then why should numbers affect my faith? If it satisfies me, why should I yield it?"