

EDITORIAL

The relief work for our suffering brethren in the war zone between Russia and Poland has cost American Jewry two precious lives: Prof. Israel Friedlander and Rev. Dr. Bernard Cantor paid with their lives for their desire to bring aid to their fellow Jews.

The murder took place in a region which soon afterwards fell into the hands of the Bolsheviki, so that it was hard to learn at once the details of the tragedy. A special commission of the Jewish Distribution Committee immediately proceeded to the scene of the murder, and according to the testimony of the witnesses, the murder occurred thus:

On July 5, Prof. Friedlander, Rabbi Cantor and a local Jew named Grossman, left Kamentz-Podolok or Lemberg in a Jewish Distribution machine. Two days later the chauffeur of the automobile arrived in Lemberg and said that near Yarmolinetz the automobile had been surprised by bandits who killed three passengers. Three members of the relief unit immediately left for the scene of the tragedy, but could not get there because the entire region had meanwhile been occupied by Soviet troops. According to several witnesses the Jews of Yarmolinetz found the bodies of the slain men and buried them in the local Jewish cemetery.

Official news of the tragic event reached the Joint Distribution Committee on Monday, July 12 in a cablegram from its Director General for Europe, Dr. Julius Goldman. The next day Mr. Felix M. Warburg, Chairman of the Committee, issued the following statement:

"Through the courtesy of the State Department and from our European Director, Dr. Julius Goldman, we have now received confirmation that our splendid, self-sacrificing friends and co-workers, Professor Israel Friedlander and Dr. Bernard Cantor have been murdered while fulfilling their duty and bringing re-

World Jewry Mourns for Heroic Martyrs, Killed at Post of Duty

lief to the innocent war sufferers in the territory of Podolia.

"The news is so shockng and so unexpected that it is hard to find words to express the loss and the horror which we feel at this terribly sad ending of two lives which were so useful.

"Professor Israel Friedlander to our mind represented what is most beautiful in the life of a devout, loving adherent of the Jewish faith. His whole career reflects this spirit. Refusing at every juncture the temptation of an easier career if willing to sacrifice some of his convictions, he steadfastly chose the hard road of unselfish devotion to his task. His love for his people and

could persuade him to relinquish his wish to assist in the giving of relief in the Ukraine when he received permission to go there.

"The details of how he met his death are not known to us yet, but we know that he met death as he, no doubt, dreamed that he might—in the American uniform, working for his people, without fear.

"He had a wonderful mind, a lovable disposition and was loyal to a fault—loyal to his suffering brethren, loyal to his friends, loyal to his religion and loyal to the country whose uniform he wore when killed. In the very last letter which members of his family received, after having

of the Congregation of the Free Synagogue of Flushing, N. Y.

"Dr. Bogen, who has just returned from the other side, both in his report and verbally, has stated that this young minister developed in a most extraordinary way under the heavy responsibilities which were laid upon him, and that he considered Dr. Cantor one of the most brilliant members of the Polish Unit, which has done such extraordinary work all over Poland.

"I had the privilege of saying a few words to his brave mother. She gave her son to the ministry of her people, and terrible as has been the blow which struck her, she is proud of his work and proud of his sacrifice in a very brave, heroic way.

"Another son of hers is preparing to become a minister—may he take inspiration from his sainted brother and carry on the banner which he had to drop so suddenly and so sadly."

FELIX M. WARBURG.

HELPING OTHERS—THE GREATEST JOY.

It is an undeniable Jewish characteristic that Jews when seeking the greatest happiness, find it in bringing joy to others. Hardly a joyful anniversary comes to pass that does not see some contribution sent by the celebrants to some worthy cause. They find immeasurable joy in the thought that their gift will bring pleasure to hundreds of children at the Fresh Air Camp, or to inmates of an orphans' home, or hospital. When occasions of grief arise, when an anniversary of death is to be commemorated, the Jew finds his greatest satisfaction not in piling thousands of roses upon the grave or in erecting costly monuments of stone, but by sending in the dear one's memory a contribution, so that the little ones may have a tiny bit of joy, at least a medium of joy in their sometimes bleak lives. This is the Jewish characteristic worthy of emulation. May it continue to live in the breasts of all Jews. Would that every man and woman might learn to find the greatest joy, the fullest soul satisfaction, in doing good to others.—The Detroit Jewish Chronicle.



RABBI BERNARD CANTOR

his God, as his wonderfully brave wife expressed it, surpassed all consideration that a man of his culture and devotion to his family might otherwise have wanted to indulge in. He wanted to see his unfortunate brethren placed in happier surroundings, to enable them to lead a life of ideals and ideas as he saw them. For that, he volunteered whenever an opportunity offered itself. He was ready to go to Palestine, for which country he harbored many hopes—at a time when that country was full of dangers, while war was still being waged there, and nothing



PROF. ISRAEL FRIEDLANDER

seen a good deal of the suffering over there and learning of the suffering elsewhere, he wrote, 'The hope of Jewry, after all, lies in America.'

"His life is a record to be proud of, and his bereaved family may well feel, as do all of us who had the privilege of knowing him, that the world is richer because he lived.

"Rabbi Cantor, who shared Dr. Friedlander's faith, qualified for his selection for this exposed position of giving relief in the danger zone by training for the Rabbinate and acting as Rabbi