

# The Persecution of the Jews In Continental Europe, And Conditions Leading Up to the Kishineff Horror



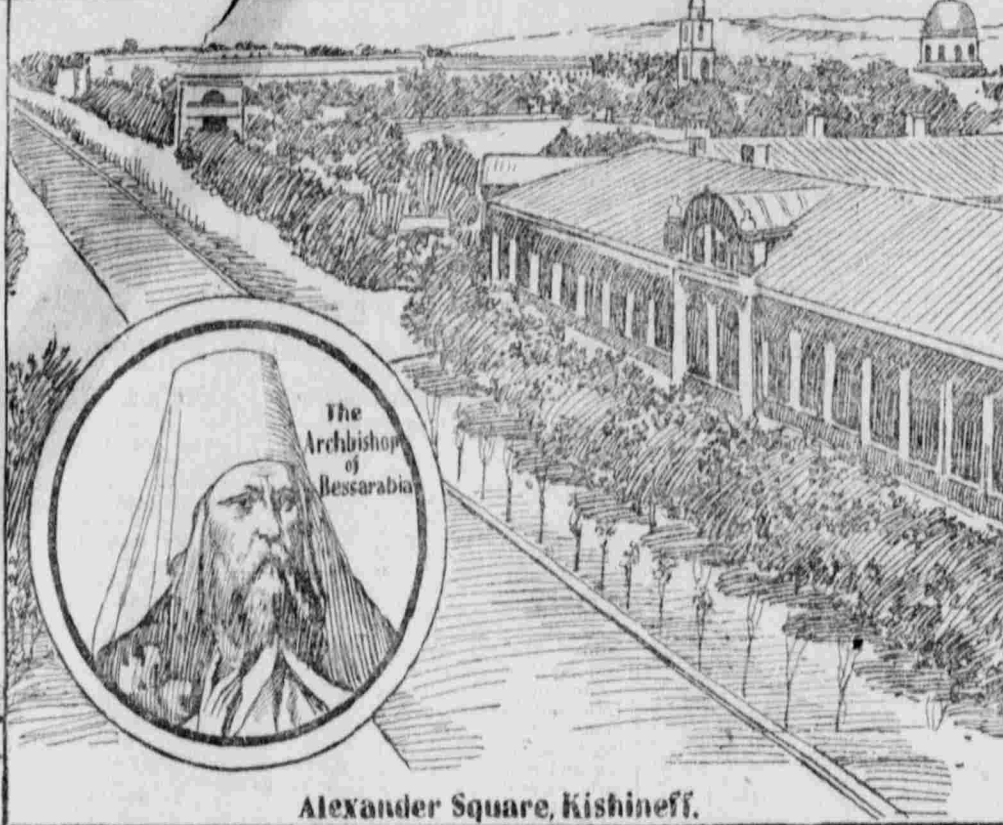
THE terrible massacres of the Jews at Kishineff, where hundreds were killed and wounded in riots lasting three days, was the culminating outrage in the anti-Semitic movement which during recent years has been steadily gaining ground in certain old world countries.

Agitation against the Jews is no modern institution, for history shows that the chosen people have been persecuted ever since their dispersal from Palestine. But the anti-Semitism of today has characteristics quite apart from torture and murder, which make it even a more deadly menace to the objects of its rancor than it was in the days when it chiefly manifested itself in actions such as those recently reported from Russia. It is when it invokes the law rather than the sword that its hand falls heaviest on the long suffering race, and as a rule modern anti-Semitism is coming to depend more and more upon legal processes, outbreaks of the Kishineff type being but sporadic instances where fanatical hatred breaks all bounds and will not be denied its prey. As a matter of fact the Kishineff affair serves to demonstrate the attitude of not only the legal, but the ecclesiastical authorities of Russia, for it is known that the archbishop of Bessarabia, when invoked to use his influence to stop the slaughter, refused to interfere, taking the view that it was expedient to allow the massacres to continue.

The Roumanian persecutions, which last year evoked from Secretary Hay a stern note of protest, embolden the possibilities of legal persecution. In Roumania the anti-Semites secured the passage of laws which individually might be considered mere petty annoyances, but collectively amounted to a terrible abuse of power, leading to the



The Czar and Czarina in Court Costumes of More Than Two Centuries Ago (From a Recent Photograph.)



Alexander Square, Kishineff.

the Jews in every walk of life. The Jews are Roumanians in their disabilities, but possess none of the Roumanian citizens' rights. Jewish children are practically excluded from the common schools, while in the universities medicine is the only course open to the young Hebrew, who is obliged to pay 300 francs a year for the privilege which a Roumanian may obtain gratis. From technical, military and naval schools he is similarly excluded, while every sort of

obstacle has been placed in the way of the revival of Hebrew schools. On the very threshold of life, therefore, the Jew is forced to contend against a crushing handicap. If he remain in Roumania he will discover that the older he grows the worse his condition becomes. Forced to serve in the army, he is debarré from ever holding a commission. He can engage in no work for the state, because the law forbids the employ-

ment of Jews by the government. He is thus shut out from the manufacture and sale of tobacco, which was made a government monopoly expressly to take it out of the hands of the Hebrews. The retail sale of liquor and wines has been forbidden to him these twenty years. Likewise he is prohibited from peddling any sort of commodity in the streets. He is excluded from the humblest posts in all financial institutions connected with the government. His

cannot plead in courts of law or act as a land agent or bailiff. In only one port is he allowed to earn a living as a ship broker. Although as a taxpayer he helps to support the hospitals, he is denied admission to them. The crowning piece of injustice, however, and that which called forth Secretary Hay's indignant protest, is the system whereby Jews have been ruthlessly expelled from their homes under the law of 1881, which was directed

against Russian nihilist refugees, but afterward turned against the Hebrews. According to this law "aliens whose conduct compromises the internal or external security of the state or disturbs its peace" may be deported from their homes or forced to reside in assigned districts. The anti-Semites have seen to it that this arbitrary legislation be applied to the fullest extent, and the resultant upsurge of the Jews may be better imagined than described. So far as Roumania is concerned the feeling against the Jews is not racial or religious, but is essentially economic. A recent writer has expressed his countrymen's prejudice in this epigram: "We object to the Jews because they keep the peasant poor and the noble corrupt." At bottom the real objection is that the Jews, by their industry and thrift, succeed where the less energetic and less ambitious Roumanians fail. Jealousy is the true motive, just as jealousy is the motive in Russia, although in the latter country jealousy is mingled with the desire of the authorities, when rendered uneasy by revolutionary movements, to make the Jew a convenient scapegoat for both parties.

True, wherever anti-Semitism prevails the religious cry is often raised and—as in the Kishineff massacre—the medieval superstition that Jews kill Christian children at the Passover is occasionally revived for the purpose of inflaming mob spirit. But in the main anti-Semitism is based on social or political grounds, religious and racial differences being side issues. It would almost appear as though the chief cause of the movement, in whatever land it makes itself manifest, lies in the success of the Jews in so many fields of endeavor, for in proportion to their numbers they have given more men of talent to civilization than has any other people, and the proportion is increased if we except those countries where the Jews have still to struggle under discriminatory laws. In point of fact all the great powers

of the continent, with the exception of Italy, have Jewish problems. Anti-Semitism flourishes in Austria and Germany, the Jews of the latter country being victims of the spirit of chauvinism and Teutonic exclusiveness common to both the old and the liberal political parties. In neither of these countries, however, does Jew baiting attain the virulence displayed in recent years in Russia and France. Judging by the ebullitions that followed the Dreyfus case it would seem as though anti-Semitism in the republic, more than in other European countries, had its origin in racial prejudices. The outbreaks in Algeria under the leadership of notoriety seeking Max Regis were on the same order, and every one will remember to what lengths the followers of Regis went in their attacks upon the Jews. Add to this that as mayor of Algiers Regis used his influence to pass and enforce municipal regulations aimed at the suppression and even extinction of the Jews and it is easy to understand how unhappy their lot became. Homeless and penniless they were driven out of Algeria by the hundreds. Regis was but putting into practice the theory upon which anti-Semitism lays so much stress today—that the best way to deal with the Jew is to "regulate" him by process of law. The shootings and burnings were merely incidental. Neither England nor the United States is as yet infected with the evil of anti-Semitism and it is incredible to suppose that in either of these countries the "unreasonable prejudice" will grow to the dimensions it has attained in Europe. True there are occasional outbreaks, such as that in connection with the funeral of Rabbi Joseph in New York, but they cannot be termed indications of any national anti-Semitism. No better evidence of the toleration of the Jew in England and America is wanting than the fact that both have long been famed as a refuge for the victims of continental persecutions. H. ADDINGTON BRUCE.

## Snap Shots of Tolstoi, the Great Russian Reformer; His Characteristics Exploited In Words and Pictures



THIS is Leo Tolstoi, the man who has done more than any other Russian for the betterment of the condition of the peasants in the czar's domains. The portrait shows well the rugged honesty, the innate simplicity and the strength that are the main characteristics of Tolstoi—aristocrat by birth, democrat by instinct. Needless to say, he is a man of strong convictions, which he has, by means of his novels, made known throughout the world. He is one of the most loved and also the most hated men in all Russia.



TOLSTOI carries his teachings into his everyday life. He is an ardent advocate of manual labor, especially of labor in the fields. Therefore we find him following the plow, digging, harvesting. The camera has caught him in a characteristic attitude. Scythe in hand, he has paused to consider some new theory, some flash of inspiration, that has just come to him. Tolstoi is always thinking and, energetically as he may wield the scythe, the sickle or the spade, his brain is working even more rapidly and to greater purpose.



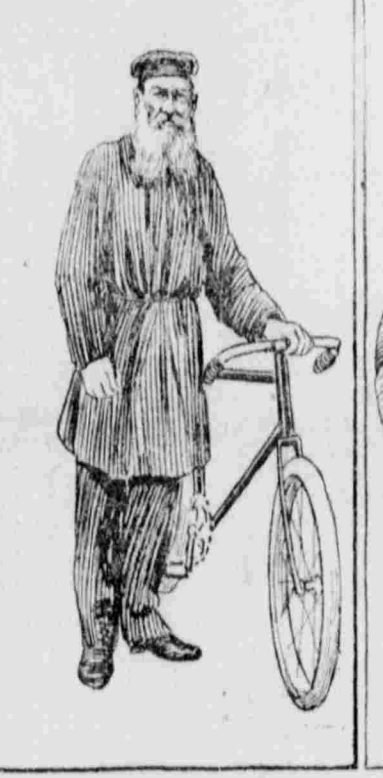
BACK from the field Tolstoi hastens to put on paper the thoughts that have taken possession of him while at work. Seated on a low stool before the simple desk in his equally simple study, he transcribes ideas that are later to be given to the world to the increase of his fame. It may be that he has just conceived another "Anna Karenina" or "Resurrection." It may be the germ of a new phase of his famous sociological philosophy. It is certain to be a message that will be listened to by the civilized world.



ONE of the most striking tributes ever paid to Tolstoi was by the artist Bounin, who made the great teacher the central figure in a painting depicting a group of fishermen. Tolstoi, as the illustration shows, is represented holding the end of a net. The painting was exhibited in St. Petersburg, where it was mutilated by a fanatical opponent of Tolstoi. Although the picture was purely a work of the imagination, Tolstoi is no stranger to the seine and the river bank and takes keen enjoyment in this avocation.



THOSE who know the Tolstoi of today would never recognize this picture as a portrait of the count, but it is a characteristic likeness of him taken many years ago. In those days Tolstoi had not had his "second birth" and was the gayest of the gay. He often looks back with regret to the vagaries of his youth, but at the same time admits that the experience gained then was a powerful factor in his development. Another strong influence was his young bride, for his early marriage soon steadied him.



ONE of Tolstoi's strongest beliefs is the necessity for physical recreation to keep a man in perfect condition. The count is an adept in horsemanship and when his health permits is a strenuous tennis player. He is also a bicycle rider of no mean order, but the machine beside which he is standing belongs to his aristocratic son, the count having given up his own wheel for the characteristic reason that since less favored mortals could not afford to possess a bicycle he had no right to one. Needless to say his son has other ideas.



NO better idea of Tolstoi's tendency to run to extremes can be obtained than from this illustration, which shows the count in the garb of a Russian peasant—tunic, girdle and all. At the same time he has an air of authority which involuntarily commands respect and stamps him as above the moujiks whose attire he affects. Tolstoi may be at all times a peasant in dress, but he is never a peasant in thought, although no man has a fuller understanding of the soul of the great Russian under-world.

## The Clash of Organized Capital With Organized Labor; The Differences and Potentialities of the Situation

HAS a war to the death between organized labor and capital begun? That is the question which has been uppermost in the minds of many people since the formation in New York of an employers' association, representing the various trades connected with the building industry, whose object it is to terminate the unsettled conditions that have prevailed in the building trades for several years. There has scarcely been a time in the past four years when there was not at least one strike in progress, the culmination of the builders' troubles coming with the disagreement between the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and the Amalgamated Association of Carpenters, which completely tied up building operations in Gotham.

The employers disclaim any intention of declaring war on organized labor, but many unionists are convinced, from the nature of the demands made by the association, that it is only a question of time when a fight to the finish will develop, a fight which may not illegally extend until it covers the greater part of the country. The avowed policy of the employers' union embraces demands for the exclusion of unskilled labor from trades unions, the abolition of the walking delegate and the shop steward and the termination of the practice of ordering "sympathy strikes." All these are part and parcel of trades unionism, but the concerted move against sympathy strikes is especially important, for it is upon such strikes that the unions place the greatest reliance as giving them their most powerful weapon to bring employers to terms. Not unnaturally they affirm that it might be sounding their death knell to make this concession. On the other hand, the contention of the employers is that by the abolition of sym-



TWO LEADERS IN THE UNION OF EMPLOYERS.

the unionists have become essentially co-operative, whereas the employers are competitive, earning their daily bread by underbidding one another. With such conditions prevailing it is contended that the latter cannot unite, or if they do come together cannot work in harmony. This view the labor leaders maintain, despite the fact of the New York organization. It is apparent, therefore, provided the

contentions of the labor men are correct, that if the various trades of the country are planning a gigantic war on labor they must form national organizations for the prevention of competitive cutting of prices. This the employers admit, and they also admit that it would take time to effect such organizations, just as it has taken time for the unions to educate their members to co-operative ideas, but that it is not

impossible for the employers to get together in this way is shown, the friends of the association assert, by the history of the organization of employing printers, among whom underbidding is virtually a thing of the past. The trades unionists, however, contend that in the case of the printer the situation is radically different and that even if an analogy could reasonably be drawn the building trades industry has

so many ramifications that a national organization could not hold together long enough to inculcate the necessary co-operative ideas. There are still other labor leaders who in discussing the association affirm that it is merely "bluffing" and has no intention of doing more than make a show of strength. Such men base their arguments upon grounds similar to those held by the advocates of the

contention that the association is not in a position to proceed to extreme measures, and further give it as their opinion that the employers are aware that their organization is foredoomed to failure. But there are unionists again who, recalling the speech made by David M. Parry, president of the National Association of Manufacturers, at the last annual convention in New Orleans, see in this organization in New York the first step in the carrying out of the ideas promulgated by Mr. Parry. In his address President Parry made one of the most scathing arraignments of union labor heard in this country in recent years and called upon the manufacturers to unite in a war which should not end until trades unionism as at present constituted had been stamped out. Needless to say, his remarks attracted a great deal of attention and elicited much comment, favorable and otherwise. But whether he was right or whether he was wrong in his denunciation of organized labor, his remarks, in the light of recent events, have an added interest, and signs are not wanting that organizations along lines of sympathy with his programme may soon be effected in several cities.

Whatever the ultimate effect of the union of New York employers, it includes men who are certainly representative of the building trades of that city. The list includes the names of Charles L. Edlitz, electrical contractor, one of the most prominent figures in the present controversy; Otto M. Edlitz, mason builder; Theodore Hoffner, interior decorator; E. R. Tompkins, marble worker; Hugh Gatty, master carpenter; J. M. Cornell, iron manufacturer; and Daniel W. O'Neill, woodworker. These are the men who will be expected to answer the question, Has a war to the death between organized labor and organized capital begun? TRUMAN L. ELTON.