

persecution so often inflicted upon the Jews, and which culminated in a diabolical attempt at genocide by the Nazis? Even when it stopped short of bloodshed, persecution meant baiting, brutality, callousness, calumny and insults; its victims were prey to fear and mental torment, and lived in a state of siege in which happiness was denied them. And, in this atmosphere of terrible hostility, most Jewish minorities managed not only to survive but also to fashion their remarkable contribution to the world.

Anti-Semites have accused the Jews of every imaginable fault. But, if the Jews are to be censured, then let the words of the Prophets suffice, for in proclaiming the truth they said all that could be said. The proof of this is that no man can take it upon himself to challenge the judgments delivered against Israel by her own sorrowing and tormented Prophets. Justice here lies in the fact that, when we stand before the Prophets, we are all, Jews and gentiles alike, smitten by the hand of God.

We know of many kinds of prejudice but there is a particular persistence to anti-Semitism. Some people, carrying from generation to generation a deeply-rooted malevolence, still cannot forgive Israel its distinctiveness, the threefold gift of transcendence, individual worth and justice. To walk in God's ways, to love one's fellow man, and to be just in one's dealings — what unforgivable madness! For any man worthy of the name, it is anti-Semitism that is unforgivable.

HATE LITERATURE BILL

The people of Canada condemn any defamation based on race or religion. As you are doubtless aware, the Government has introduced a bill in Parliament that will make the dissemination of hate literature a criminal offence. We took this step with determination, though not without regret that it should be necessary in our country. Let this law be one more step towards the society we seek to build.

As the Jewish people know, the city of the just cannot be built overnight. And, as we all know, whoever seeks justice must be ready to risk everything to gain it.

I am aware that we are passing through a troubled period in this province and that being a member of a minority in these circumstances can be a cause for apprehension. I know that many members of the Jewish community share this feeling and have doubts about their future in Quebec. If I can speak as a member of one minority to another — stick with it! With all your energies and abilities play your full part in this society which you have helped to build and insist on your rights as members of it.

In times of adversity we are sustained by the hope bequeathed to us by the Prophets — the hope of reconciliation, peace and unity. Let us adopt the words of Isaiah's extraordinary blessing as the ideal that binds us to each other: "Blessed be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel mine inheritance."

FEDERAL SPACE COMMITTEE

The formation of an Interdepartmental Committee on Space was announced recently by Mr. C.M. Drury, Chairman of the Privy Council Committee on Scientific and Industrial Research. Dr. D.W.R. McKinley, Vice-President (Laboratories), National Research Council, has been chosen as the first Chairman and Dr. J.H. Chapman, Assistant Deputy Minister (Research), Department of Communications, as Vice-Chairman, both for a two-year period. Dr. D.I.R. Low, Science Secretariat, Privy Council Office, will act as Secretary.

The new Committee has been established to meet the need for improved co-ordination of the planning, the use of resources and the balance of development of all space activities of the Federal Government. The federal space effort is at present in the areas of scientific research, defence, communications, resource management and meteorology.

The Committee will have the power to establish, as necessary, subcommittees consisting of representatives of government, industry and the universities. It will be expected to review all Canadian space activity and to make recommendations concerning the optimum use of resources and its co-ordination, to formulate and recommend proposals that take account of national interests, needs and opportunities in space, and to make recommendations for co-operation with other countries in space.

The Committee will report at least once a year to the Chairman of the Privy Council Committee on Scientific and Industrial Research.

HEARING SOCIETY GRANT

Approval of a \$21,000-research grant to the Canadian Hearing Society of Quebec has been announced by Manpower and Immigration Minister Allan J. MacEachen. The grant will enable the Society to complete the second and final phase of a study on the employment of graduates of schools for the deaf in Metropolitan Montreal.

Last year, the Department contributed \$27,225 to cover the first phase of the research.

"This study is in keeping with the department's objective of developing policies and programs for vocationally disadvantaged persons," Mr. MacEachen said.

The research will involve examination of work histories of deaf persons who have received special vocational education, the occupations in which they are employed, reasons why some are unemployed, and their effectiveness of community services.

Employers will be interviewed to obtain their opinions regarding preparation of the deaf for employment. The report will recommend means of improving vocational rehabilitation of the deaf.

Cheddar cheese production in Canada rose 19 per cent to 8,575,000 pounds from 7,178,000 last January.