CHAPTER 22

THE IMMIGRATION POTENTIAL

JEWISH POPULATION OF THE WORLD

At the end of 1937 the Jewish population of the world was at its all-time high. In 1800 world Jewry had numbered about 2½ million persons, or approximately 0.4 percent of the human race. At the end of 1937 it numbered about 16 3/4 million, or roughly 0.8 percent of the human race.

All estimates of Jewish population are subject to a wide margin of error because of difficulties of defining who is a Jew, and because of the absence of census figures on Jewish population (according to any definition) except for a few countries. The following are the firmest estimates we have been able to assemble.

Jewish Population of the World at End of 1937
(in thousands)

AMERICA	5,375	Germany	365	Fr. Morocco	175
EUROPE	9,970	Czechoslovakia	360	Algiers	130
AFRICA	655	Austria.....	150	South Africa ...	95
ASIA	725	Italy	55	Tunis	70
TOTAL ..	16,725	Switzerland ..	20	Egypt	70
		CENTRAL		Abyssinia	50
U.S.A.	4,800	EUROPE	950	Libya	25
Argentine ...	270			Sp. Morocco	25
Canada	170	Poland	3,275	Other	15
Brazil	55	U.S.S.R.		ARICA	655
Uruguay	25	(incl. Asia)	3,130		
Mexico	20	Rumania	800	Palestine	420
Cuba	10	Hungary	440	Iraq	100
Chile	10	Lithuania	160	Iran	50
Other	15	Latvia	95	Yemen	50
AMERICA ..	5,375	Greece	75	Australia	25
		Yugoslavia ...	75	India	25
British Isles	340	Turkey		Japan and China	20
France	270	(incl. Asia)	75	Syria and	
Holland	115	Bulgaria	50	Lebanon	15
Belgium	70	EASTERN		New Zealand	5
Scandinavia .	20	EUROPE	8,175	Other	15
WESTERN				ASIA (AND	
EUROPE ...	815	MINOR EUROPEAN		OCEANIA)	725
		COUNTRIES .	30		

Sources: Estimates of Jewish Agency for Palestine, prepared by Dr. A. Ruppin for the Evian conference, adjusted for U.S.A. and Abyssinia in accord with American Jewish Yearbook, 1944-45, N.Y. Margin of error is easily 10 percent; figures more probably too low than too high.