EXCERPTS FROM CONGRESSIONAL COMMENT
ON THE EUROPEAN JEWISH QUESTION.

The Failure of the Bermuda Conference.

"On December 17, last, as a result of an aroused public opinion, the United Nations issued a declaration denouncing the crimes of the Nazis in murdering and decimating the Jews and other minority peoples in Axis controlled countries . . ."

"More than 4 months elapsed before there was called the British-American Conference on the refugee problem in Bermuda. In those more than 4 months of waiting, thousands of hapless victims had perished.

"With the Conference announcement we thought, in common parlance, we were 'getting somewhere', but, alas, the proclamation issued by our venerable and estimable Secretary of State, Cordell Hull, setting up the Conference so narrowed the framework of the agenda for discussion at Bermuda as to dash our hopes to the ground. All refugees shall be considered, it was declared, as one group without regard to race, religion, or political belief. In addition thereto, areas for refuge shall be sought as near as possible to the homeland to permit the return of the victims upon cessation of hostilities. It is quite obvious to even the most casual observer of the European scene that the needs of one oppressed group differ from another or a third. The urgencies of rescue differ in degree if not in kind. It most certainly cannot be solved in lumping all groups together . . .

"Another body blow was struck with the announcement of the names of the delegates selected to represent the two nations. Those selected had never displayed any real understanding of the horrors faced by the defenseless victims; the attendant problems had been alien to them from the start. Prior to or even at the conference, not one had displayed a driving and directed interest in the mass murders, the blutbaden. The facts were present. What was conspicuous by its absence was the will to action.

"Despite the fact that life and death were involved for hundreds of thousands of innocent men, women, and children, apparently,