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THE JEWISH BULLETIN

The purpose of this Bulletin is to provide readers with information and views of Jewish interest on present-day issues, especially from the spiritual point of view.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE NORWEGIAN PRIME MINISTER PROFESSOR NYGAARDSVOLD

IN democratic Norway there was never any question of distinction between the class, race, or creed of Norwegian citizens. All men were equal and free to do what was right and proper.

The Jews in Norway—their numbers are not large—were never treated like their unfortunate kinsfolk in Germany. They were looked upon for what they were—fellowmen, peace-loving citizens and hard workers; men and women who looked up to the Norwegian King and flag with the same love and ardour as the most loyal and patriotic citizen. This is the land of their adoption, and now that the hard times have come for Norway the Jews strive with the same patriotic endeavour to build up the Home Front as they strove to better the land in days of peace. Already some Jews have sacrificed their lives in the common fight against the enemy. They were not executed in a political purge against the Jews, but because they were men actively resisting the Germans.

There has never been a "Jewish problem" in Norway. Jews have just been part of the community. But when the German hordes forced their way into our peace-loving country they had to find a Jewish problem. Anti-Jewish demonstrations were staged by the Germans, windows were smashed, and insulting remarks were painted on the walls and windows of Jewish occupied premises. Their livelihood was taken from them, their citizenship removed; they were oppressed and starved. But they still fight on as staunchly as other patriotic Norwegians.



All these wrongs will be righted when Norway is once more a free land. The citizenship and equal rights of the Jews will be restored and, like other Norwegians, they will be helped to make good what they have suffered.

Johan Nygaardsvold