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Casual Comments.

By **Gustave Loevinger.**

RAISING RACIAL RUCTIONS.

Of course it was not to be expected the U.S.A. could slap the face of a large part of the world and call it names without the aforesaid world answering back. Japan it is reported in the public press is calling mass meetings to protest against the insult to her.

Italy, Russia, Poland, the Balkan States and other countries are not feeling exactly jubilant. None of them have adopted rising votes of thanks. It is doubtful whether even Nordic Europe has any reason to be proud of America's actions on the subject of immigration. But bad as the effect will be abroad it will be even worse at home. By the declaration of both houses of Congress America has announced to the world that her new ideal is: Racial exclusiveness and discrimination. When this new American ideal begins to permeate its school text books, its popular pulpits, its newspapers, its public oratory, its newer generation of citizens, will it make for harmony among its citizens, respect among nations, and peace for the world?

THANK YOU SPAIN.

Some years ago Spain said thank you and good-bye to a large number of its Jews. Ever since then Spain has seen that right here is where she made her first big mistake. So when the Jews began to look around for a suitable location for a University where Jewish men and women could seek knowledge without fear of life and limb. Spain stepped in and offered to furnish a suitable place for such an international institution. The invitation had to be refused not because the Jews harbour any grudge against Spain for her injustice in years gone by but because the proper environment did not exist upon Spanish soil. What a paradoxical world this is. The world accuses the Jews of being mercenary. Up come a lot of young Jews who want to be literary and professional and educated, anything but mercenary, and the world refuses to let them into its colleges so they

can be something else besides mercenary, and then turns about and starts new pogroms because the Jews are so mercenary. So the Jews have to establish an international Jewish University under the auspices of the League of Nations to combat the superior race theory applied to colleges. Spain has learned the lesson. Some other nations have not yet.

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MACHINE MADE MATZOTHS

Can a machine be ritually pure? Upon the answer to this question depends the kosherness of Matzoths made by American machinery in competition with European and Palestinian bakers by hand. Looking at it from the stand point of a layman one would suppose that if a spoon or dish can be kosher then any other utensil even though connected with motive power may be kosher. If a pan touched by human hands can be kosher then a large number of pins not touched by human hands may also be pure. All this leads one to believe that the fight against the machine on ritualistic grounds is as hopeless as was the fight against it years ago on the ground that it would throw so many people out of work that everybody who depended upon wages for a living would starve. Wherever the machine enters into competition with human hands or brains the machine wins. Religion is hardly any exception. Of course, if the orthodox are wise they will fight the machine, not by having it declared unkosher, but by seeing to it that it is kosher.

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ITALY AND HER JEWS.

Italy has comparatively few Jews. Hence anti-Semitism there is perhaps almost unknown. But Jews have always been prominent in Italian affairs. It is not surprising now to learn that six Jews were elected to the Italian Parliament, one of them on the Fascist ticket. In times past the Jews have contributed much to Italian freedom and unity. It is evident that they are to be allowed to serve their country in the present and future. Another Italian note of interest is the report that prof. Felice Momigliano an assimilated Jew, reputed to be an atheist, recently con-

verted to the Zionist movement committed suicide and when his will was opened after his death it was learned to everybody's astonishment that he wished to be buried according to the Jewish law.

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A POLISH PARADOX.

A Polish Christian punishing a Jew for his anti-Semitism seems like an impossible paradox, yet that is what happened recently in Warsaw. Anthony Slonimsky is a young Polish poet. His grandfather was Chaim Zelig Slonimsky, a famous Hebrew scholar. His father was a baptized Jew. Slonimsky wrote an anti-Semitic article which greatly offended the Polish Christian artist, Sczuka. When the latter met the former in a public place he slapped Slonimsky's face. A duel resulted.

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THE RENANAH MUSIC SOCIETY.

There are all kinds of Jewish societies for nearly every purpose under the sun being organized at the present time all of which indicate that the Jewish vital stream is neither dead nor even moribund. Now comes a society which declares that its purpose is to discover and disclose the highest products of Jewish genius and talent in the musical world and make it available for the masses of Jews who do not even know that such musical treasures exist. The purpose of the organization is laudable for two very good reasons. In the first place any organization that sets out to find and to publish works of art of any nationality so as to make them available to the masses is doing a fine thing. From this standpoint it is immaterial whether the product be that of the Jewish people or the Irish or the Negro or the Chinese. In the second place, it can only add to the self-respect of the Jew if he is informed that there is in existence and available a large volume of excellent music of Jewish origin and interpreting the Jewish soul. In addition it cannot possibly do the Jews any harm and may even help to elevate them in the estimation of some of their present day detractors if it is demonstrated that the Jews have given to the world much good music.