

POLAND AND THE MINORITY RACES

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Poland and the minority races by Arthur L. Goodhart

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ARTHUR L. GOODHART

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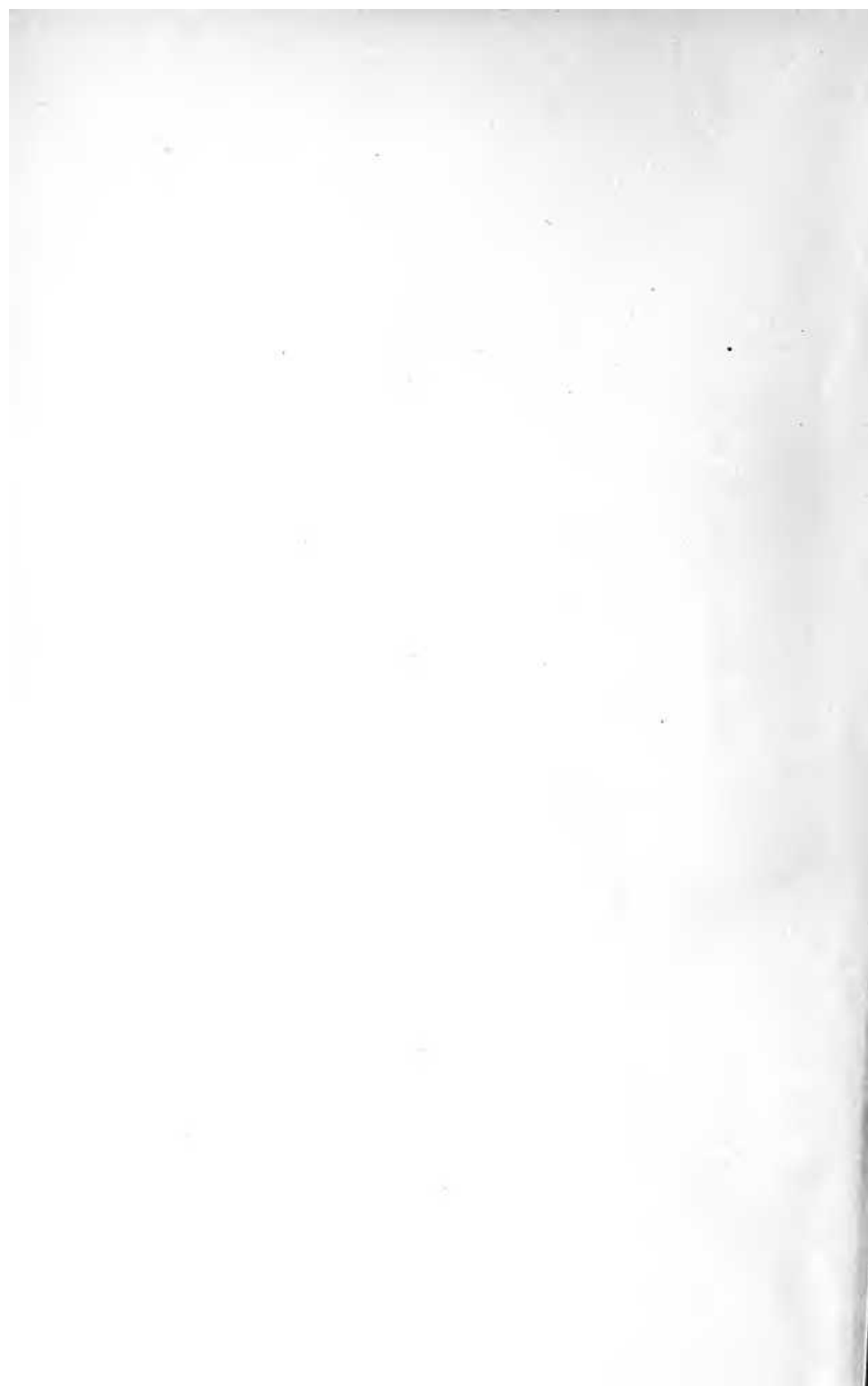
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TO
MY PARENTS



PREFACE

IN May 1919 meetings were held in many of the larger cities of the United States at which resolutions were adopted protesting against the reported wholesale killing of Jews in Poland. The Polish Government thereupon issued a statement denying that any excesses had taken place. In June, after further agitation in America, M. Paderewski, President of the Council of Ministers of Poland, asked President Wilson to appoint an American Commission to ascertain the facts. In accordance with this request a Mission consisting of Mr. Henry Morgenthau, late American Ambassador to Turkey, and Brigadier-General Edgar Jadwin, U.S.A., was sent to Poland on July 10, 1919. Mr. Homer H. Johnson, the third member of the Mission, joined them three weeks later in Warsaw.

At the suggestion of Mr. Morgenthau I was appointed counsel to the Mission, being temporarily transferred from the Army for this purpose. During the nine weeks which we spent in Poland I kept daily personal notes in addition to the official testimony taken down by our stenographers. This diary has now been edited and put into a readable form, chiefly by the elimination of immaterial details. It attempts to give a more intimate picture of conditions in Poland than could be done in the formal report of

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the Mission which is on file with the State Department, Washington, D.C. A synopsis of that report appeared in the *New York Times* of January 19, 1920.

Although the Mission was primarily charged with investigating the condition of the Jews, it also heard Lithuanians, White Russians, and Ruthenians concerning their relations with the new Polish State. In this way a more accurate understanding of the policy of the Government and of the attitude of the people at large to the minority races could be obtained.

For the convenience of the general reader I have added an appendix in which the history of Poland and that of the Polish Jews is briefly sketched. An outline of the aims of the various Jewish political parties has also been included.

My sincere thanks are due to Mr. Harry A. Hollond, of Trinity College, Cambridge; Sir Geoffrey Butler, of Corpus Christi College; Judge Irving Lehman, of the New York Supreme Court; and to my brother Howard, for the valuable suggestions they have given me.

ARTHUR L. GOODHART.

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May 7, 1920.

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