THE BIRMINGHAM AGE-HERALD NOVEMBER 24, 1938 PAGE 6

No Hate For Hate

Is it possible for nations to express effective protest against fearful wrong —such as the Nazi persecution of the Jews—and at the same time keep open the avenues toward friendship and understanding? Apparently the present French government believes so, as evidenced by its announcement that France and Germany have agreed to sign a pact renouncing war. Obviously such a pact would be worthless unless it aimed also toward mutual confidence and respect.

It may not be worth much anyway, but sometimes even the worst of offenders are changed for the better more by persistence in good will and in expecting the better of them than by complete rejection.

In his annual report last Sunday to the congregation of the large Brooklyn Jewish Temple which he has headed for 10 years, Abraham Brill declared:

"Though many men hate us and ours and wreak their enmity upon us, we shall not give them hatred for hatred. We shall strive to see in them misguided children of God and pray for the day when they, too, will return to brotherly love. We shall hate the sin, but not the sinner." Mr. Brill appealed to Jews to turn to the Book, not to the sword. The same lofty plea was made in Birmingham before the Rotary Club yesterday by Rabbi Julius Mark, of Nashville.

Unless it were pessible to believe that all men are capable of "returning to brotherly love," there would often be little hope for any of us, for we all depart from it, again and again.

It may be that the exalted stand of Mr. Brill and Rabbi Marx, shared by innumerable Jews, offers the best promise of bringing about such a return in the world today. France now takes another further step in trying out that method.