

10/15/00

ambivalence ^{towards Jews} increases under Nicholas I, at both pos & neg ends.
Intensifies ambig. of policies toward Jews.

> Military solution to problem of Jews in the Pale of Settlement - believes they can be compelled to become Russian. Maybe become Russian Orthodox Christians by military means - serve - incorporate into military. Russia - serving in army was a punishment - social control - UNLIKE French Revolution - fight for state - Jews allowed. Conscription in Russia very harsh/severe - 25 years of service. Age 20 for 25 years. 1827 - Nicholas decided conscription of Jews would be beneficial to making Jews Russian & making them Russ. Orthodox - Made it possible for Jews to be conscripted starting at age 12. →

Canton Systems - youth battalions w/in Russian army - children more vulnerable to be Russian & convert. Nicholas never required Jews to serve in army at age 12. What he did - made it possible for them. Means that - he established cantons in the hopes that children would be conscripted in army to be exposed to Russification & conversion.

> Entirely up to Kehal - Jewish community - to decide if they were adults. Many local Jewish Municipal Orgs. Tendency - send children into Canton systems. Filled recruitment quotas with children. WHY? Fathers made money - lesser of 2 evils. Jews married at significantly younger ages & had children. Jewish demographic - pop explosion in 19th century as a result. Why did it take place?

- piety of culture - sexuality channeled into useful purposes early. Community chiefs decided who would go - likely to pick children of the poor. Pay bribe & get out / various means to escape. Least means - least means to escape -

Khappers - grabbers - ~~children~~ ^{kidnap} children to use to OTDD

Fill quotas of community - became villains. Resented against trad. oligarchies of wealthy / rabbinical families. Contributed to breakdown of Jewish traditional status quo / communities.

recruits
15y olds

Canton System