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Of concern are certain reaction-diffusion systems with total mass bounded in the L^1 norm. The solution of this problem requires new results from the study of a heat equation involving a symmetric uniformly elliptic operator on a bounded domain, with Wentzell (or dynamic) boundary conditions incorporating the Laplace-Beltrami operator. We prove that the semigroup governing this linear problem is analytic in the right half plane in L^p for $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ and for C in the sup norm. The proof is quite long and delicate. We will sketch it. (Received February 12, 2018)