The Bertha Corets Papers

Manuscript Collection No. 307

Box 1

Folder 5

General Correspondence

November - December 1938
November 1st
1938

New York Times,
New York, N.Y.

Attention: City Editor:

Dear Sir:

I wrote you a letter on October 18th regarding the Fritz Kuhn-Dickstein debate. This letter referred to questions that I thought were very important and that were asked on the floor, and not mentioned in the account you had in your paper the following day.

I would greatly appreciate it if you will refer to my letter and let me have an answer.

Yours very respectfully,

956 Edison Ave.,
Bronx, N.Y.

BERTHA V. CORETS
November 2, 1938.

Miss Bertha V. Corets,
956 Edison Av.,
New York City.

Dear Madam:

Replying to your communications of October 18 and November 1st concerning the Kuhn-Dickstein debate, I can only say that we gave as full a report of the meeting as the news item warranted, and if our reporter's selection of the points brought out varied with those of yourself or any other person present, we were obliged, of course, to rely on the judgment of our own man. You will realize that the volume of news on any night must affect the space given to individual reports.

Yours very truly,

City Editor.
AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS
221 WEST 57TH STREET NEW YORK CITY

DR. STEPHEN S. WISE, PRESIDENT
LOUIS LIPSKY, VICE-PRES.
JACOB LEICHTMAN, TREASURER
NATHAN D. PERLMAN,
CHAIRMAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CABLE ADDRESS ‘CONGRESS’
TELEPHONE CIRCLE 6-3840


In recent weeks, the offices of the American Jewish Congress have received numerous reports in writing, via the telephone, and in person, from apparently reliable persons to the effect that the Schrafft's stores discourage the patronage of Jews. All the stories were virtually to the same effect, namely, that a Jewish customer, being served in one of the stores of the company, having reason to complain about a wrong order, had been informed: "We serve Jews, but we do not cater to them." It was further alleged that this viewpoint, set forth by one of the waitresses, was officially corroborated in a letter sent to a Jewish customer by the Frank G. Shattuck Company, which operates the Schrafft's Stores.

The Commission on Economic Problems thereupon instituted an exhaustive investigation to ascertain the truth or the falsity of this rumor. Its work was directed toward identifying a Jewish customer or customers who had experienced this alleged rebuff; to identifying the persons responsible for this alleged rebuff; and to securing the letter allegedly sent to a Jewish customer by the Frank G. Shattuck Company.

In the course of its investigation, the Commission checked with several hundred people who had spread the charges. No one of these persons had personally experienced the rebuff referred to. No one of them could name the store in which the incident had occurred, or the individual to whom the rebuff was allegedly administered. Although every incentive was offered, no one of these complainants was either able to produce the letter from the Frank G. Shattuck Company, or to direct the Commission to a source where such a letter could be obtained.

In addition to investigating the complaints received directly at the offices of the American Jewish Congress, the Commission approached the Frank G. Shattuck Company. The officers of the company have completely denied the truth of these charges against these stores and have, in addition, placed at the disposal of the Commission on Economic Problems, complaints of those who have written in directly to the store. An investigation of these complaints as well has failed to produce one scintilla of direct evidence that the rumor directed against the stores has any foundation in fact.

At the same time, the Commission on Economic Problems investigated recurrent charges to the effect that Jewish organizations have been refused banquet
facilities of Schrafft's, and discovered these charges as well to be without foundation.

In the circumstances, the Commission on Economic Problems accepts in good faith the denial of the charges by the Frank G. Shattuck Company and accepts as fact the statements made by them in the following letter addressed to the American Jewish Congress by it:

"November 3, 1938

"American Jewish Congress,

New York City, New York.

"Gentlemen:

"There is absolutely no word of truth in the malicious and vicious rumor being circulated that 'we do not cater to our Jewish clientele.'

"No one connected with this Company ever made such a statement and no executive or official of this Company ever wrote a letter expressing such an attitude. It never was, and is not now, a policy of this Company.

"We operate an American business in an American way, and our policy has always been to cater to all guests who enter our establishments in an absolutely impartial way.

"Any statements made to the contrary are absolutely false and untrue.

"Thanking you for your interest in the matter, I am

Yours sincerely,

FRANK G. SHATTUCK COMPANY
Gerald Shattuck
President"

The Committee on Policy and Program of the General Council for Jewish Rights, through its Chairman, Arthur S. Mayer, has read the above report and concurs in its findings. It takes this opportunity to express the hope that Jewish patronage of the Schrafft's Stores will not be discouraged because of this regrettable incident.
Dear Bertha,

This was given to me by the Seafair Seleventh, I thought it might interest you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]
November 4, 1938.

Dear Friends:

In recent weeks, the American Jewish Congress has received numerous reports from residents in New York and other communities in many sections of the country, to the effect that Schrafft stores discourage the patronage of Jews.

Because of the widespread persistence of this report, the Commission on Economic Problems was requested to investigate the matter. The results of this investigation are to be found in the attached report, wherein it will be noted that these reports are without foundation in fact.

We make the facts known to you in the belief that it is the duty of every fair-minded citizen and community leader to do his share in refuting these charges by disseminating this information, when possible, from platform and pulpit. The continued circulation of the rumors directed against the Schrafft organization would be both manifestly unfair to the Schrafft organization, as it must in its fundamental sense, be hurtful to the Jews.

Very truly yours,

J. X. COHEN
Chairman
Commission on Economic Problems
November 3, 1938

Mrs. Bertha V. Corets
Acting National Boycott Chairman
Jewish War Veterans of the United States
276 Fifth Avenue
New York City.

My dear Mrs. Corets:

We have on hand your letter of October 16, 1938, wherein you discuss the Agfa Ansco Corporation with respect to having them placed on the boycott list.

In the October issue of the Anti-Nazi BULLETIN, on page 15, we published a statement regarding same. The following is a brief condensation of this article for your information:

Although the investigation is not yet completed, the Agfa Ansco Corporation of Binghamton, N.Y. is not directly connected with German concerns. The majority of Agfa Ansco stock is held by the American I.G. Chemical Corporation. Said corporation, although originally founded by the German Dye Trust, is now owned by certain Swiss and other interests outside of Germany. These other interests are being investigated.

We understand that there continues to exist an agreement between the German I.G. and the Agfa Ansco regarding the manufacture and distribution of photographic supplies. The principal and interest of the American I.G. 51/2% debentures are still guaranteed by the German I.G.

May we again state that this firm is still under investigation and only as far as stated above has its status been determined.
If there is any additional information you may be able to furnish, we would appreciate hearing from you with respect to the same as soon as it is conveniently possible.

Very truly yours,
NON-SECTARIAN ANTI-NAZI LEAGUE

Bernard Shandler
Research Department.
Dear Bertha,

Enclosed are clippings that I think will be of interest to you.

Note:

"Need Merchant Ship" by Boake Carter.

Also:

"What some others think"

Do you not think it would be advisable for our publicity bureau to answer this?

Would suggest she quote from Pres. Roosevelt and Dorothy Thompson on "immig..."
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AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS


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GENERAL ORDERS

November 7, 1938

Due to my absence from the City when the Veteran went to press, I am sending out these general orders. Please read in detail at your meeting.

Nominations for officers for 1939 are being made during this month — November. Your National President hopes that you will choose wisely and well. Elections take place in the month of December, which will be followed by plans for Installations. All Auxiliaries within departments are to notify their Department President of their choice for Installing Officer — all other Auxiliaries, not in Departments, write to the National President.

Convention Booklets are now ready — have you paid for yours? If not send in your $1.00 immediately so that your copy may be sent to you. By motion unanimously passed at our last Executive meeting, every Auxiliary and Department President MUST purchase one and any other member or officer may do likewise.

Also passed at our last Executive Council meeting — every Auxiliary and Department subscribe to the "Veteran", our official J.W.V. magazine — cost $1.00 per year. Your check should be sent in to Supply Officer. Any member may avail himself of the opportunity of subscribing to the Veteran.

All supplies MUST be purchased thru National Supply Officer. Due cards for 1939 are now ready.

Every Auxiliary should send in to the National President a complete list of all the members of the Auxiliary. Every member initiated in an Auxiliary should receive a copy of the Constitution. Every initiate should sign a membership card, copy of which should be sent to National Treasurer.

Send your orders in as soon as possible for Past President's pin, so that there will be no delay in making them up. Enclosed is new-price list, which included postage.
### PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES

Orders for supplies MUST be accompanied by check and sent to Supply Officer Loretta R. Levy, 214 Echo Place, Bronx, N.Y.-Apt. 4H. If money is not forwarded with order, same will be shipped C.O.D. and all extra charges will be the expense of the Auxiliary. Postage is included in prices unless otherwise specified. Daughters Chapters must buy supplies from National as they pay no Federal Tax and prescribed paraphernalia must be used.

**CHARTER PK’S: Auxiliary Daughters Chapter including supplies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>STATIONERY - BOOKS:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Voucher Pads (1 for 45)</td>
<td>25 for $0.30</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Application cards</td>
<td>2 for $0.85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rituals for Auxiliaries</td>
<td>25 sets for $0.75</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Constitutions</td>
<td>2 for $0.45</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bills for dues etc.</td>
<td>50 in pad $0.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Refills for Pinders</td>
<td>50 for $0.65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash Journal</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1.35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Binders for Treasurers with</td>
<td>28 refills $1.85</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Convention Booklet</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.W.V. Aprons—including env.</td>
<td>50 in pad $1.10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Caps to order-sizes up to 42</td>
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<td>$5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Extra sizes over 42</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Caps</td>
<td></td>
<td>$5.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inscription on caps—each letter</td>
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<td>$0.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>White Satin Rosaries—sizes up to 40</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extra sizes over 40</strong></td>
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<td>$5.60</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PINS:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Auxiliary pin—membership</td>
<td>each $0.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>(inc. ins. &amp; Post.) Past President of Auxiliary</td>
<td>Gold filled $5.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Service pin with bar</td>
<td>Solid Gold $7.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; Brooch with initiald monogram</td>
<td>Gold filled $7.25</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; Stirling</td>
<td>Solid Gold $9.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Past Dept. Pres. with ruby</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Department Officers Medallion</td>
<td>Gold plated $2.75</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Redipping pins</td>
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<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inscription on any pin</td>
<td>Each letter $0.02</td>
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<td><strong>SUPPLIES:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stationery Cut</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gavel</td>
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<td>$1.85P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ballot Box with 50 balls</td>
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<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bible</td>
<td>Cloth Cover $2.15</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(White or Black)</td>
<td>Leather Cover $3.25</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Inscription</td>
<td>Per line $0.35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Groove Marker (J.W.V.)</td>
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<td>$2.25</td>
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<td><strong>ALTERN CLOTHS:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2x3 with emblem fringed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2x3 &quot; better grade</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>2½x4 &quot; &amp; 4 tassels</td>
<td></td>
<td>$3.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial Cloth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Emblem for altar cloth</td>
<td></td>
<td>$4.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ribbon with inscription for altar Cloths</strong></td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHAPTER SUPPLIES:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Duo Cards</td>
<td>25 for $0.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Application cards</td>
<td>25 sets for $0.75</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rituals</td>
<td>each $0.80</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Minute book</td>
<td>6 for $1.05</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash book</td>
<td></td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape</td>
<td></td>
<td>$0.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letttering on cap</td>
<td>each letter $0.60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arm Band</td>
<td>each $0.20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ribbons for Points of Star</td>
<td>set of 6 $1.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership pin</td>
<td>each $0.40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past President of Chapter Pin</td>
<td>Gold filled $2.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solid Gold</td>
<td></td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES - CONTINUED**

**FLAGS:**
- Set consisting of American and Auxiliary Flag each 3x5; 2 Stands; 2 White Belts; Cover for Flags: $100 plus ex.
- Set consisting of above items, and 6 Color Bearer Flags; 6 Stands and Cover for Flags: $125
- American Flag 3 x 5: $25
- Auxiliary Flag 3 x 5: $72
- Color Bearer Flags: $3
- Stands: $3.75
- Stands for Large Flags (3 logged folding): $3
- White Belts: $3.50
- Water Proof and Dust Proof Cover for Large Flag: $2.00
- Water Proof and Dust Proof Cover for 6 Small Flags: $3.00
- Felt Stretcher (to be carried by 2 Sisters) 30" x 72"-lined with cover: $37
- Silk Stretcher same description as above: $44

**DAUGHTERS FLAGS:**
- 2-1/2 x 4 U.S. Flag and Chapter Flag comp to with all accessories: $90
- 2-1/2 x 4 Chapter Flag: $85
Mrs. Malvina V. Freeman
451 Homestead Avenue
Mt. Vernon, New York

Dear Mrs. Freeman:

Admiral Emory S. Land, Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission, has received a letter from Bertha V. Corets which he wishes to answer. Her letter appears upon stationery of your organization, the National Ladies' Auxiliary, Jewish War Veterans of the United States, but does not give her address.

I wonder if you would be kind enough to advise us where she may be reached.

Very truly yours,

Thomas M. Woodward
Vice Chairman
CUSTOMS

(T. D. 49770)

Products of occupied Czechoslovak areas

Instructions regarding customs treatment of products exported from Czechoslovak areas under Polish and Hungarian occupation

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS,

To Collectors of Customs and Others Concerned:

There is published below a copy of a telegram dispatched to collectors of customs on December 29, 1938, which is self-explanatory.

FRANK DOW,
Acting Commissioner of Customs.

State Department having today announced to Treasury Department a change of jurisdiction from Czechoslovak to Polish and Hungarian in those areas now under Polish and Hungarian occupation, products of those areas exported from any country on or after December 30, 1938, shall be regarded as products of Poland and Hungary for the purposes of the marking provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 and for determining applicable rates of duty. Such areas are to be regarded as parts of Poland and Hungary on and after December 30, 1938, for determining dates of exportation for customs purposes. Give importers all possible notice. Apply provisions article 822 (e) Customs Regulations 1937 in determining dates of exportation.

Dow,
Acting Commissioner.
Detroit, Mich., at its several factories, further extended to cover automobiles and sets of cloth fabric automobile trim material manufactured at its factory at Detroit, Mich., with the use of automobile body cloth fabric manufactured under drawback regulations.

Extension effective on articles manufactured and exported on or after May 11, 1938.


(B) Kegs, steel, aluminum-lined.—Manufactured by Pressed Steel Tank Co., Milwaukee, Wis., with the use of aluminum strip sheet circles, aluminum tubing, and aluminum forged barrel bungs manufactured under drawback regulations.

Rate effective on articles manufactured and exported on and after June 12, 1938, and exported on and after June 20, 1938.

Sworn statement and supplemental sworn statement of August 30, and October 26, 1938, respectively, forwarded to collector of customs, Milwaukee, Wis., December 16, 1938. (731.1) (Signed) James H. Moyle, Commissioner of Customs.

(C) Piece goods, bleached or dyed.—Manufactured by Payet-Volta-Miller, Inc., Paterson, N. J., with the use of imported piece goods or piece goods manufactured under drawback regulations.

Owners' sworn statements required.

Rate effective on products manufactured and exported on and after October 20, 1938.

Sworn statement of November 17, 1938, forwarded to collector of customs, New York, N. Y., December 22, 1938. (731.1) (Signed) James H. Moyle, Commissioner of Customs.

(D) Piece goods, screen printed; and tablecloth sets, doilies, napkins, towels and similar articles.—Manufactured by Fashion Screen Printing Co., Inc., Paterson, N. J., with the use of imported piece goods.

Owner's sworn statements required.

Rate effective on articles manufactured on and after February 25,
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE,
Wednesday, November 9, 1938.

James H. Moyle, Commissioner of Customs, made public the following telegram of today's date, which he dispatched to all collectors of customs:

"State Department having today announced to Treasury Department a change of jurisdiction from Czechoslovak to German in those Sudeten areas now under German occupation, products of those areas exported from any country on or after November 10, 1938, shall be regarded as products of Germany for the purposes of the marking provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 and for determining applicable rates of duty. Such areas are to be regarded as parts of Germany on and after November 10, 1938, for determining dates of exportation for customs purposes. Give importers all possible notice."
United States Potters Assn.,
East Liverpool, Ohio.

Dear Sirs,

As an organization interested in the boycott of Nazi made merchandise because of the religious persecutions of Jews, Catholics and Protestants alike, and because money derived from exports to that country is spent on armaments that menace the peace of the world, we are interested now in investigating the economic effect it has had on American industry.

We have found in many cases it has given American industry an opportunity to replace a German product, and to sell where previously it had encountered stiff competition.

We also feel that awakened public opinion has given American industry a much needed opportunity to prove the efficiency and style of American made products, to the benefit not only American industry but to the re-employment of the American workmen.

While we have several interesting files showing where hotel chains are now buying their chinaware in this country, where formerly it was all German made, we feel that possibly you as an organization of American Potters may have more complete statistics.

May we therefore ask, if you have any information on this subject, if you will make it available for us.

Hoping to hear from you,

Yours very truly,

Bertha V. Corets
National Ladies' Auxiliary
November 9th
1938

Labor Publications Department,
Transport House,
Smith Square, S.W.1,

Dear Sirs:

I have received one of the papers distributed entitled "Hit Hitler - Boycott German Goods". Since our organization is interested in such activities, we should like to make closer contact with organizations distributing such material with the view to effecting an interchange of information. If you can give us any assistance in carrying this out we should appreciate it.

Very truly yours,

Bertha V. Corets
National Ladies' Auxiliary

BVC/cjs
November 9th
1938

Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League,
20 West 47th St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sirs:

We have received a letter from the law offices of D. Wile, concerning Julius Wile Sons & Co., in which they state that they informed your organization of the fact that they have severed their connections with all German wine shippers and discontinued importation of German wines. They further inform us that your Mr. Krasney was notifying us that the League would eliminate this name from the next issue of the bulletin, in view of the fact that we base all our boycott violators on information that came from the League.

Please be informed that we have received no information from the League for many, many months, and it is therefore somewhat improper for any of your officials to make statements such as the above. I am enclosing a release we have just distributed to our organization concerning imported German beers, and I think that you may also find this information valuable. As much as possible we try to inform our members of the items being imported rather than to give the name of the company.

Please be assured that the attitude of our organization is one of willingness to cooperate in any work that will further the distribution of boycott information to the public.

Yours very truly,

Bertha V. Corets
National Ladies' Auxiliary

BVC/cjs
enc.
November 10th
1938

William H. Green, President
American Federation of Labor,
1440 Broadway,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Green:

About five years ago your organization went on record with a resolution adopting the boycott of Nazi-made merchandise, and if I am not mistaken, each year at your National Convention this resolution was reaffirmed.

It has occurred to me in view of this fact, and the further fact that you are carrying on negotiations with Henry Ford, that it might interest you to know that The Ford Company is importing from Germany enormous quantities of automobile parts. Do you think it is commonly known that The Ford Automobile may be composed of parts manufactured in Germany? I should greatly appreciate hearing from you your opinion in regard to this information, and if you should like to have proof of it, we are in a position to supply it.

Yours respectfully,

Bertha V. Corets,
National Ladies' Auxiliary

BVC/cjx
Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corp.
Quincy, Mass.

Dear Sirs,

We have followed with great interest the activities of the Maritime Commission in re-building an American Merchant Marine, and with special interest now the report of the first keel laying at your yards.

We feel that such activity will bring re-employment to American workmen and stimulate industry from coast to coast.

Since your company, may be said to be the prime movers in this work, would it be possible for you to give me any figures or any statistics of industries and workmen affected at your yard by this program.

Hoping to hear from you, we are,

Yours respectfully,

Bertha V. Coen,
National Ladies Auxiliary
Mr. George M. Rhodes, Pres.
Federated Trades Council,
Reading, Pa.

Dear Sir,

Last February there appeared a news item in the New York Times in which it was expressed that your organization representing organized labor groups would oppose any move to establish a camp of the Amerika-Deutschen Volksbund. Of course we were glad to read this as there is much reason to believe the Bund to be a Nazi movement in America, rather than a grouping of patriotic Americans.

Lately we have been having inquiries on the Berkshire Knitting Mills of Reading and would like to know if you can give us any information whether this concern is connected in any way with Nazi activities. We had a report that the wife of one of the prominent members of this concern designates entertained the wife of the German propaganda minister, Mrs. Goebbels.

Any information you may have and would care to give us on Nazi activities in Reading, will be appreciated.

Yours truly,

P. M. Goreta,
National Ladies Auxiliary
November 12, 1938

Bertha V. Corets
Chairman, Boycott Committee
National Ladies' Auxiliary
New York City.

Dear Sister Corets:

Thanks for the information contained in your letter of November 9th.

I shall try to obtain Anti-Nazi Bulletins in the manner you suggested.

In your letter of October 28th, you questioned me as to the methods of the Associated Press and other news agencies. I am very much disturbed with the glaring headlines regarding the Jewish plight in Europe and the latest outbreak, although it is news of the day, newspapers in turn, commercialize it to such an extent to increase their circulation so they may profit in higher rates for ads placed in their papers. I have begun a survey of this situation, dating back to the first of the year. As soon as this survey is completed, will forward you findings of same.

On several occasions I have requested the Community Council of Cleveland to intercede on behalf of Jewry of this City requesting City Editors to tone down the headlines of Jewish atrocities, but the hue and cry was that we were trying to suppress news.

I just received the B'nai B'rith monthly wherein the enclosed article appeared entitled "An Antidote".
May I suggest to you, at this time, that you make an issue of this matter and see what can be done towards correcting this situation.

I am sorry to hear the New York League feels we are a competitive group in this work for humanity. If it is honors they seek, let them have same as long as we know we are accomplishing the aims and objects to which we have dedicated ourselves.

Kindest regards and best wishes.

Yours in Comradeship,

Richard A. Capperman
Chairman, Boycott Committee
Department of Ohio.
Miss Bertha V. Corets
National Ladies' Auxiliary
Jewish War Veterans of the U. S.
956 Edison Ave,
New York City

Dear Miss Corets:

Replying to your letter of the 9th inst., in our organization there are two classes of ware made, the regular semi-porcelain dinnerware product and then we have about ten members who manufacture vitrified china for the hotel and restaurant trade.

Our greatest competition comes from Japan but in all cases this year imports have been reduced and it is probably due to three causes; First, the extremely poor business in the United States; second, the forward movement of the Made in America Club, Inc., of 420 Lexington Ave., New York City, and third that there has been a prejudice against German goods due to the treatment which the Jewish people have received and since the recent worse than barbarous treatment of that country of the Jews there is no doubt that a greater prejudice than ever will be manifest against German products, and it is our sincere hope that this will be true.

We have had very strong competition not only in our line but in many lines from Czecho-Slovakia but now that the Hitler curse has broken up that little country and taken over that portion of it from which our competition comes as well as competition in many other lines, those products will now come under the tariff against Germany instead of under the Reciprocity Agreement with the former Czecho-Slovakia.

We believe that the protection of your membership would very largely justify you in getting in touch with the Made in America movement, for surely this country which is your refuge, should be first of all countries in the world to you and its industry should have your fullest protection in order that American workmen might have work and thus be able to give assistance to you when it is called for.

We are sending a copy of this letter to Capt. F. X. A. Eble, Managing Director of the Made in America Club, Inc., and we sincerely trust that you will respond whole heartedly to him and recognize the mutual benefit to the Jewish people and our American workers.

Yours very truly,

THE UNITED STATES POTTERS ASSOCIATION

Chas. F. Goodwin, Secretary-Treasurer
November 16, 1938

B. V. Corgett
National Ladies' Auxiliary
Jewish War Veterans of the United States
956 Edison Ave., Ex.
New York, N.Y.

Dear Madam:

We have no definite proof of any connection between the Nazi movement and the Berkshire Knitting Mills.

However, there is no doubt about their sympathy for the Nazis.

Henry Janssen, vice-president of the firm visited Germany and on his return publicly praised Hitler and his government.

Mr. Gustav Oberlander, formerly part owner of the Berkshire, but retired for a number of years also visited Germany and came home to publicly praise Hitler.

Oberlander died shortly after his return. His widow, Mrs. Oberlander later visited and her group was lavishly entertained by General and Mrs. Goering. It received a lot of publicity on the society page of the Reading Eagle which named a number of prominent Nazis who attended.

I have clippings of statements made by Janssen and Oberlander on their return and I believe I also have the clipping of the story about Mrs. Oberlander being entertained by the Nazi "butcher" and his wife.

Respectfully yours,

George W. Rhodes
Pres. F. T. C.
11/27/38

Dear Miss Schaffer,

Enclosure the shoe release...

I am thinking we could give a little publicity to Henry Ford in this manner, on that release we made up today:

INTERESTING QUESTIONS Why does Henry Ford bring in such quantities of auto wheels and auto parts on German steamers from Germany?

Why did the New York Times on Nov. 17 say German Trade Increases and the Journal of Commerce on the same date report "GERMAN TRADE TAKES RECORD DIP"?

We quoted the trade dip and many people reading the Times will be puzzled so something like that may affect it.

Let me know your reaction to the two questions and if we haven't enough room could leave off the Russian trade statistics, because some people might question our interest in Russia, unless we explained that Russia bought most from England and second from Germany. Now we are second place and Germany seventh.

Sincerely,
TO ALL PRESIDENTS, NATIONAL OFFICERS, BOYCOTT CHAIRMAN

November 18, 1938

Dear Sisters:

One of the important facts brought out by our questionnaires was the undisputed fact that Woolworth, Grant, Kresge and Kross stores carry German merchandise in their various branches all over the United States. With the approaching Holiday Season, our members are urged to continue their boycott activities personally and officially against those stores. In addition to bringing over enormous quantities of German toys, glassware and novelties, they continue to bring them over on German steamers.

Another novelty to be on guard against is the "snapper" novelty. This is the party favor that when pulled at each end reveals the rolled-up paper hat. Our investigation discloses that while the tissue paper parts may be manufactured here, the little printed flower, or novelty motif, that is pasted on the outside, carries on the back the marking, "printed in Germany".

As further support to our boycott program, we are enclosing a reprint of the editorial from the "Shoe Buyer" of October, 1938. This brings out a very important angle— that with so much unemployment and overproduction of footwear in America, why should we buy German shoes? It is emphatically pointed out that the existence of the shoe industry in America is at stake.

Commerce Department statistics reveal today that the United States purchases from Germany have been brought to one of the lowest points in the history of German-American trade relations. Imports from Germany during the nine months ended in September amounted approximately to $44,000,000 or about $25,000,000 less than for the same period of 1933.

A sub-committee for fund-raising has been formed, with the idea of approaching outside individuals and organizations, since we do not desire to overtax our membership. It is with pleasure that we announce Sister Rosé Schottler, of Charles & Murray Gordon Auxiliary, to be the first to bring in a donation of $5.00 from an outside source.

We also announce that the Daughters’ groups of Gabriel Cohn No. 95 and Boro Park No. 37 have both already sent in their contributions of $2.00 each to the Boycott Fund.

From Portland, Oregon we have received requests for material and ideas to assist in a meeting in which all Jewish organizations will cooperate, including the B’nai B’rith and the Zionists, to plan a campaign to boycott all the products manufactured in Germany, Austria and Sudetenland.
From Cleveland comes the report of an interesting investigation regarding newspaper headlines. It has been pointed out that these glaring headlines contribute to anti-Semitic feeling and over-emphasis wrongly on the Jewish question. An example of such headlines that may be said to promote class hatred was the one, "Jew 17 Shoots Reich Agent in Paris". This very well could have been phrased, "Crazed Youth Shoots Reich Agent".

In New York City, we find Bronx County planning a large Americanism meeting with prominent non-Jewish speakers scheduled.

From Philadelphia, we learn that our drug book has been distributed to practically every Jewish physician. A further report from Philadelphia informs us that a brilliant pharmacist there, who practically alone compiled this book of drugs, is now preparing an additional list of about 400 drugs manufactured those last two years.

To all Auxiliaries in seaport cities, it is suggested that they contact their Commissioner of Navigation for a list of imports to that city from which they will be assisted in compiling a local boycott list.

We are quoting from one of the letters received from a very prominent store carrying German merchandise, as follows: - "If people do not wish to buy German goods, surely the dealers will have no occasion for stocking them", from which you can see that our first duty is to stop requests for German merchandise, regardless of the fact that an American substitute may not be available. This particularly applies to those camera enthusiasts who insist that nothing is better than the German camera; also to those who insist on the Hohner harmonicas and various other types of German-made instruments.

We have received of late many inquiries from outside organizations for information and supporting material. We are very happy to cooperate with them, and at all times give them as much support and material as we can possibly gather together, with the idea of course that with their cooperation, our program receives wider distribution.

Be assured that the Boycott Committee stands ready at all times to assist you in planning a more vigorous and efficient boycott campaign.

Loyally yours,

Bertha V. Corets
National Boycott Chairman

BVC/cjs

enc.
November 18, 1938

Dear Mr. Ziegler:—

With reference to the discussion we had last evening about the German-American Charities, Inc., which is holding a Benefit at the Metropolitan Opera House on December 20th, and in direct answer to the question as to whether any of the money raised will go to Germany, I am in a position to give you an emphatic NO. The profits of this enterprise will be divided among the following organizations:

LENNOX HILL HOSPITAL, one of the leading Hospitals in New York City and a member of the United Hospital Fund.

LUTHERAN HOSPITAL OF MANHATTAN, same comment.

WARTBURG ORPHANS FARM SCHOOL, VT. VERON, N. Y., this takes care of children in this country only and has been long known to me both in my private and official capacity.

ISABELLA HOME, takes care of the aged Americans of German descent. This is an outstanding institution for the Aged in the City of New York and takes care only of residents of the U. S.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE RELIEF OF INDIGENT GERMANS ON WELFARE ISLAND. This organization, which is well known to me, takes care of the inmates who are of German descent in institutions on Welfare Island.

STAPLETON DAY NURSERY, takes care of children whose mothers work on Staten Island.

GERMAN SEAMEN'S HOME, HOBOKEY, N. J., is an organization which takes care of seamen during the time when they are off the ships, and is conducted by Pastor Bruckner, a man of high standing.

GERMAN SOCIETY OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, has been engaged in relief for Germans and German-Americans for 150 years and while, occasionally, they do spend some money to return Germans to Germany, the money is not spent in Germany.

There are also 4 local churches which receive small amounts, but these are all churches which are located in New York City and, certainly, none of this money goes to Germany.

I trust that this information will satisfy anyone making inquiries, and should you desire any further information, I will be delighted to furnish it.

I am not in any sense in charge of the work of the German-American Charities, Inc., but through my activity as President of the State Board of Social Welfare, I know the work they are doing.

Sincerely yours,

Victor F. Riddel

Mr. Edward Ziegler,
Metropolitan Opera Co.,
Broadway & 39th St.,
New York City.
Miss Bertha V. Corets
National Ladies Auxiliary
Jewish War Veterans of the U. S.
956 Edison Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss Corets:

I just received a copy of the letter which was addressed to you on November 16 by Mr. Charles F. Goodwin, Secretary-Treasurer of the United States Potters Association. All of the pottery and chinaware manufacturers in the United States are members of our organization. Indeed, our President, Mr. Joseph M. Wells is of the Homer Laughlin China Company.

In addition to the pottery and chinaware manufacturers, we have nearly all of the carpet and rug manufacturers the entire American Match Industry, many chemical manufacturers, all of the lace and the lace curtain manufacturers, the entire champagne and wine guild of America, and about sixty other industries enrolled in our great work.

We appeal to all classes of our citizenry, irrespective of race, creed or political affiliation, to join hands with us in this great work. The events in Europe, especially what is going on in Germany during the past several weeks, are so revolving to our sense of justice and decency that we feel that American citizens today more than at any time in the history of the nation should stand together in a patriotic endeavor for a UNITED AMERICA.

We do not want the least semblance of Hitlerism or Fascism in our country, and we should be ready and alert to stamp it out as we would on a reptile at any time that it shows its head.

We hope you good people will give us your moral support in our battle, not alone against German imports, but against ALL foreign imports because we still have over ten
million unemployed Americans, and we certainly owe it to ourselves to encourage American Industry and American Labor to provide work for our own people.

I am sending you herewith some of our literature, and call your attention to our little pledge blank. Please note that signing the pledge makes you a member. There are no dues and no assessments.

Waiting to hear from you, I am

Sincerely yours,

F.X.A. Fole,
Managing Director,
MADE IN AMERICA CLUB, INC.

FXAE:gn
Enc.
OLD WORLD BREWS, INC.,
115 Broad St.,
New York, N.Y.

CONFIDENTIAL

Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.,
276 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Nov. 21, 1938

Gentlemen:

I am referring to your letter of July 23, 1937. I am informed by Mr. Freund of the Continental Shipping Corp., that you asked for information in reference to PILSNER URQUELL.

In the first place their beer is partly shipped on the Hamburg America Line. These shipments are taken care of by ROEPKE & OTTO INC., New York. One of the owners of this firm is Mr. Holzer, who is proud of having his children brought up as Protestants. They will surely not give you any information.

But the Pilsner Urquell Import Co. owns the ATLANTIS IMPORT CO., formerly called the GAMBRINUS IMPORT CO., 2, Rector Street, N.Y. and this firm imports exclusively German beer. Of course, Mr. KALMANN, the president of the Pilsner Urquell Co. likes to deny the ownership of this firm, but we are able to give you the name of a former employee of this firm and there is no doubt that he owns it.

What have you done since July, 1937 to limit the import of German beer? Are you not aware of the fact that at least the majority of New York restaurants owners are of Jewish race and did you ever make a survey what proportion of these Jewish owned restaurants are handling German beer?

Very truly yours,

OLD WORLD BREW INC.

FR: MD

Franz Rosenthal
November 25, 1938

Miss Bertha V. Corets,
National Ladies' Auxiliary, Jewish
War Veterans of the United States,

My dear Miss Cortes:

I received your letter dated November 10. It has been given most careful thought and consideration.

As a reply to your letter I enclose copy of a radio address which I delivered on the evening of November 18. I also enclose copy of an official communication which I addressed to all subordinate organizations of the American Federation of Labor. I am submitting these enclosures to you as evidence of the sincere way in which the American Federation of Labor is joining with others in carrying on a fight against the policies pursued in Germany toward helpless minorities.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
President,
American Federation of Labor
From the American Federation of Labor
Information and Publicity Service.

FOR RELEASE IN MORNING PAPERS OF NOVEMBER 19, 1938.

(The following address on the position of American labor toward
Nazi Germany was delivered last (Friday) night by President William
Green of the American Federation of Labor over a network of the
Columbia Broadcasting System. Matthew Woll, vice president of
the Federation, spoke on the same program. His address also is
attached.)

The American Federation of Labor was the first great institu-
tion in this country to put into effect an economic boycott against
Nazi Germany. This action was taken five years ago at the 1933
convention of the American Federation of Labor and has been re-
 affirmed at each succeeding convention.

What was it that influenced the 5,000,000 members of the
Federation to pledge unanimously through their chosen representa-
tives that they and their families would not buy goods made in
Germany? There are two compelling reasons. First, the wholly
unwarranted persecution of the Jews in Germany by the Nazis and
secondly, the destruction of the organized labor movement in
Germany by the Nazis.

One of the first acts of the Hitler regime when it came
into power was the arrest and imprisonment of German labor
leaders. This was followed by the suppression and dissolution of
the German trade unions in a campaign of brutality and ruthlessness
that matched Hitler's attacks on the Jews.

The American Federation of Labor recognized immediately
that this Nazi move was the beginning of a reign of terror that
spelled the end of all freedom in Germany. We knew it would
result in enforced labor and virtual slavery for the German
workers. We knew that a Government ruthless enough to wipe
out the rights of labor would not hesitate to trample upon the
rights of all races, creeds, religions and beliefs. For a
strong, free and independent organized labor movement is the
greatest protection any country can have for the protection of
its freedom and civil liberties.

Press dispatches from abroad show the atrocities against
German Jews have now been renewed with a ferocity which recognizes
no limitations. Labor cannot remain silent or passive. We
must make our position known, not only through individual and
collective protests, but through collective action.

With this in mind, I have today called upon every
organization affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and
every man and woman in the labor movement, as I have never
appealed to them before, to redouble their vigilance in the
boycott of German goods and German service. I now address the
same appeal to all of my listeners. Such action can speak
louder than words. Refuse to buy German goods or to use German
service until the persecution of Jews in Germany is terminated
and they are accorded their rights as human beings.

Hitler already is feeling the pinch of economic distress.
His announced intention of seizing all Jewish property in
Germany is evidence of this. If anything can impress upon
Hitler the tragic folly of his course and induce him to change
his ways, it is economic pressure from the outside world.

We must always remember that this brutish Caesar, this
desperate madman, is scheming and deliberate in his savagery.
Is it conceivable that the recent wholesale attacks upon German
Jews were undertaken merely to avenge the assassination of a minor German diplomat in Paris by a crazed boy? Is it believable that Hitler has tortured the Jews merely for the horrible sadistic joy of seeing helpless victims suffer? Is it even understandable that he has staged this mass spectacle of cruelty just to divert the attention of the oppressed German people from their own privations?

What, then, can be Hitler's motive? Is it possible he has conceived a vast criminal plot to blackmail the world? Is it possible that he is holding the German Jews captive like a kidnapper, in the hope of forcing the Jews of other nations to pay ransom for their release? Is it possible he expects the other nations of the world to pay him ransom in the form of trade benefits?

These questions should be answered by those who have studied the German situation at close hand and are in a position to know more about the facts. It is significant that President Roosevelt has recalled our Ambassador from Berlin for consultation here. It is encouraging that the President has discarded the niceties of diplomatic usage and frankly stated his personal shock that such things as are happening in Germany could take place in these supposedly civilized days.

By so doing the President has expressed the feeling of all our people of whatever faith in everyday walk of life. We know that Hitler has attacked not only the Jews but Catholics, Protestants, organized labor and every individual, religion, or group that stands in his way. No one is safe in Germany today.

Therefore, I pledge the support of the American Federation of Labor to any practical plan for the release of refugees from Hitler's wrath. This must be done not as charity but in the name of humanity.

And in that same spirit I pledge that the full strength of the American Federation of Labor and its 5,000,000 members will be exerted to keep the plague of Nazism from spreading in this country. What is happening in Germany today is so terrible that it makes us ashamed that human beings can sink to such depths. But we must not let it discourage us. It should renew our faith in our own free democracy and strengthen us in our determination to hold fast to the principles of liberty, justice and docency which have guided our destiny as a nation. Let us show the world that these principles cannot die in the hearts of human beings.

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For Immediate Release

President William Green of the American Federation of Labor today sent a letter to all organizations affiliated with the Federation urging them to redouble their efforts to make the boycott against German goods and service effective as evidence of the united purpose of American workingmen and women to bring to an end the brutal treatment and inhuman practices imposed upon the Jews in Germany. In addition to this letter, the text of which follows, Mr. Green will deliver a radio address at 10:30 o'clock tonight over the Columbia Broadcasting System's network on America's position toward Nazi Germany. Matthew Woll, vice president of the Federation, will speak on the same program.

November 18, 1938.

To National and International Unions,
State Federations of Labor, Central Labor Unions,
and Directly Affiliated Local Unions.

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

Press dispatches from abroad reaching us each day show that persecution of Jewish people and Catholics, Trade-Unions and other minorities in Germany has been renewed with a ferocity which recognizes no limitations. The details of it all are shocking to our sensibilities. They inspire within all liberty loving people a feeling of righteous indignation. In many respects the atrocities perpetrated upon helpless Jewish people residing in Germany have been unparalleled during any period in all the world's history. The persecutions of the Catholic hierarchy and the followers of the Catholic religion in Germany is vicious, indefensible and shocking.

We, living here in America, breathing the air of freedom, respecting the rights of all classes of people regardless of creed, color or nationality, cannot comprehend the savage instincts which motivate the action taken in Germany against the Jewish race. Here is presented to the world an exhibition of intolerance, racial hatred and human torture never before portrayed even by heartless barbarians during the darkest period of the world's darkest age. Such a campaign of destruction can only be classified as berating a day and age for remote from human civilization. It is a campaign of horror, persecution, terror, racial hate and destruction of human life.

We protest these brutal iniquities perpetrated upon a helpless race. We call upon the men and women of Labor in America with all their friends, to assist in the mobilization of the moral strength of the world in opposition to the indefensible and inhuman policy pursued by the German government. Because the masses of the people cherish fondly our common heritage of religious freedom, liberty and the protection of life and property, we can understand what these priceless blessings mean to the common people in other nations throughout the world. By contrast and comparison we know how the destruction of these vital principles affects the life and happiness of helpless minorities in European countries.

Labor cannot remain silent or passive. It must meet the situation which has arisen in Germany in a strong and effective way. We possess the power to do so. We must make our resentment known, not only through the submission of individual and
collective protests, but also in a vital and striking way. It is not enough to protest. We must supplement protest with action.

Having this in mind, I am calling upon the men and women of Labor in a way I have never called upon you before, to boycott German goods and German service. Let such action speak louder than words. Refuse to buy German goods or to use German service until the persecution of Jewish people and the interference with the exercise of the right of religious freedom in Germany are terminated and they are accorded their rights as human beings.

I call upon National and International Unions, State Federations of Labor, City Central Labor Unions and directly affiliated local unions to appoint German Boycott Committees charged with the duty and responsibility of calling upon merchants in their respective cities and towns and villages, to discontinue with German goods they may have on hand and to make it clear that working people will no longer buy German goods or use German service while human beings in Germany are being driven and persecuted like hunted animals.

This official communication is being sent you because of the amazing and shocking treatment which is being accorded Jewish people and members of the Catholic faith in Germany and because the Fifty-Eighth Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor, which was held at Houston, Texas, beginning October 3rd, urged "intensification of our efforts in behalf of the persecuted and oppressed minorities in Germany."

I cannot employ language which would adequately present to you the seriousness of the situation existing in Germany and the urgency and necessity for immediate action. Jewish people have been forbidden to exercise ordinary elemental rights. They are being robbed of their property and possessions: they are denied the opportunity to work and earn a living; they are being driven into concentration camps comparable to the Ghetto; merchants are forbidden to sell them food; their children are denied the right to attend school; they are threatened with intolerable persecution if they attend public gatherings, places of amusement, or religious meetings. Such penalties can only be described as slow, sure, but torturous death. The right to worship in accordance with the dictates of conscience and the administration of the affairs of the Catholic Church should be conceded by the governments of all nations.

Appreciating this situation as you must, the need for immediate, definite, decisive action becomes increasingly apparent. While the German leaders responsible for these cruelties may hear without heeding our voice of protest, they cannot disregard the effects of a widespread, vigorous and successful boycott of German goods and German service. We can make a boycott effective if every working man and woman and their friends respond to this appeal. Save the Jewish people in Germany. Do it by acting at once. Boycott German goods and German service as you have never boycotted before. Make it a matter of special consideration and special action. Do so individually and collectively. Let us preserve, so far as it lies within our power, the absolute and full freedom of conscience and of religion. Set up community organizations for the avowed purpose of making this boycott effective. Let Hitler and his associates responsible for the persecution of the Jewish race in Germany, know and understand that not only is the conscience of American working men and women aroused, but that they have united in a common and determined purpose to bring to an end the brutal treatment and inhuman practices imposed upon the Jewish people in Germany.

Fraternally yours,

(Signed) WILLIAM GREEN
President,
American Federation of Labor.
November 25, 1938

Mrs. Bertha Corets
National Headquarters J.W.V.
276 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mrs. Corets:

Enclosed please find money order for two dollars and fifty cents ($2.50) in remittance of sale of ten books of Boycott Stamps.

The response of the ladies of our Auxiliary to the sale of these stamps has been commendable. Please send ten more books by return mail. I believe we can dispose of them easily.

Respectfully yours,

Mrs. Fannie Flax,
Chairman of Boycott Committee
Norfolk J.W.V. Auxiliary
November 25, 1938

Mrs. Bertha V. Corets
956 Edison Avenue
Bronx, N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Corets:

There will be a meeting of the National Advisory Council on Sunday, December 4th, 1938, at 2:00 P.M. at the Hotel Edison, 228 West 47th Street, New York City.

The purpose of this meeting is to consider an amalgamation with the Joint Boycott Council which comprises the American Jewish Congress and the Jewish Labor Committee.

It is important that you attend this meeting in order to voice your opinion regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,

Dr. S. William Kalb

SWK:IB

Nazi Germany is the Enemy of Civilization

Refuse to Trade with the Enemy
November 26th, 1938

Dear Sister:

An Executive meeting of all National Officers, Past National Presidents and Department Presidents will be held Saturday afternoon, December 17th at 1 P.M., at the National Office, 276 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

At this meeting the program for the entire year will be presented, and your presence is important.

Loyally yours,

Malvina V. Freeman
National President

mvf/jb
November 26th
1938

J. Geo. Fredman, Past Nat'l Commander
National Boycott Chairman, J.W.V.U.S.,
591 Summit Ave.,
Jersey City, N.J.

Dear George:

I have just received a letter, on the League stationery, written by Dr. Kalb, in which he informs me there will be a meeting of the National Advisory Council on December 4th, 2:00 P.M., at the Hotel Edison.

The purpose of this meeting is to consider an amalgamation with the Joint Boycott Council, which comprised the American Jewish Congress and the Jewish Labor Committee. It is suggested that my attendance is important. From the information I have received at the present time, this unification is looked upon with great favor by all the leading officials of both the Congress and the League. Confidentially, the only one opposed to it is Mr. Smertenko, and the few crowds he brought in with him. My personal opinion is that unification of the League and the Joint Boycott Committee would be a great accomplishment at the present time, as it would go away with all the petty bickering and criticism, and really mean the beginning of an intensified boycott. I also know that the American Federation of Labor is now cut for a real boycott, and that they are favoring intensification.

In speaking to Dr. Dubovsky this morning, I said that the Veterans could not amalgamate because they can never lose their identity. However, I do believe that it would be possible to secure their moral support towards a unification movement.

I sincerely hope that you agree with me and if I am wrong in any way please get in touch with me as soon as possible and explain it otherwise to me. As far as I can see, it does not mean anything in the present boycott set-up of our organization, and we always need a working committee to collect and spread the work. The only probable thing might be the appointment of several members, who would be directors or something like that in the new organization, who will be our representative.
November 26th
1938

J. Geo. Fredman

-2-

I hope I have made it clear that the letter referred to above was not addressed to me through my Veterans' affiliation, but as a member of the League. Hoping to hear from you soon and with best wishes, I remain

Sincerely,

Bertha V. Corets
Boycott Chairman
National Ladies' Auxiliary

EVC/cjs

P.S. Please keep the entire contents of this letter confidential.

P.P.S. On Lever Brothers, I have been giving the information that as far as the United States is concerned, Lever Brothers are not on any boycott list. However, in view of the fact that their former Czechoslovak branch did contribute $280,000 to equip Henlein's troops with clothing and ammunition, and in further view of the fact that the statement was not denied or refuted, I feel that this information should be given to anyone who makes inquiries on Lever Bros. I do not feel they should be given a clean bill of health, in view of that activity. I further feel that while we do not wish to harm anybody unjustly, this concern is not absolutely innocent, and we do not have to bend backwards to white-wash them. If they are not guilty of the Czechoslovak incident, let them clear that up and then we would be in a real position to state 100% that we are not boycotting them. At the present time I feel that our position should be as one who straddles the fence, not taking the position on either side, but giving all the information we have.
Lieber Max!

Ich nehme an, dass ich zurück an meiner Freundin werde, den ich vor der Ausreise nach N.Y. mit Wäsche geholfen habe, die ich nicht bezahlt hatte und nun auch nicht mehr haben will, aber doch eine Hilfe erwarbe.

Die Verhältnisse für Juden zu schildern ist wohl überflüssig, aber ich gehe zu denen, die hier nach 35 Jahren heraus müssen, aber aus eigener Kraft nicht kommen. Würdest du nicht den Sohn und Bekannten es nicht ermöglichen können für mich auf einer Nationalbank in Paris oder sonstwo 200-500 $ einzuzahlen, damit ich hier ausreißen darf?


Herrliche Grüße dir, derer w. Gatten n. Sohn.

Dein alter Freund

[Signature]
November 29, 1938.

TO ALL COMMANDERS, NAT'L OFFICERS & BOYCOTT CHAIRMEN

Dear Comrades:

We have had many requests for copies of resolutions to be endorsed by labor unions. Enclosed is a sample copy. Where the resolution is being submitted to a C.I.O. union, the name "C.I.O." should be substituted wherever "A.F. of L." appears in the present form, and "John L. Lewis" for "William L. Green".

In view of the specific instructions from both Presidents, we do not know of a single union that will refuse to endorse such a resolution. It remains only for you to contact the proper union officials to introduce same. Also please see that they get proper publicity. After this first step, you may offer to cooperate with a union committee in the actual boycott work.

In seaport cities, it is very desirable to attempt to have either or both of the Longshorman's and Teamster's unions to refuse to load and unload Nazi steamers. This is the most effective form of protest known and is worthy of your effort.

Keep national posted on your activity.

Yours in comradeship,

J. GEO. FREDMAN, Past Nat'l Commander
National Boycott Chairman
Memo for Mr. Fredman:

The Congress is going to picket the German Exposition under the "Joint Boycott Council", thereby omitting "Jewish", believing this to be the best policy. I also feel that we ought not to boycott in the name of the J.W.V., and that we should join our forces with the Joint Boycott Council, as the headquarters, for carrying on this activity, the German Exposition.

Dr. Marcus is taking up the matter of the Joint Committee on Cases, with the League.

Mrs. Corets

Memo to Mrs. Corets:

Am wondering whether it might not be a good idea for us to try and bring in some of the unions to picket. Maybe the members of the decorators union, or the tearstern union might refuse to decorate or cart stuff to the Exchange. How about complaints by some of the tenants in the building.

Think you're fooling nobody with omission of word "Jewish" from picket line. Everyone knows who the Joint Boycott Council is, and the Jewish faces carrying the pickets won't fool anyone. In New York City, there is not too much objection, especially now to Jewish counter-activity. Of course, if you could get some Irish Catholics, some good Protestants, some Czechoslovaks, some husky union people, I would say fine.

How come the League, and the Joint Boycott Council don't communicate with National of J.W.V. We cover our pride when ever we want information from either of them. Don't they feel same way toward us. If we continue the policy of running to them everytime we hear of their activity, they will lose respect for us altogether.

I suggest therefore, that you get together with Blutman, Bayer, Rose, Gilsky and Berman, and work out some way in which J.W.V. can take some effective steps in combating this fair. We have just as much brains as the next, and just as many members who want to do something. Here's an opportunity to do it.
December 1st
1938

J. Geo. Fredman, PNC,
National Boycott Chairman,
591 Summit Ave.,
Jersey City, N.J.

Dear George:

I have received a notification from the Joint Boycott Council, concerning the German Exposition, to be held at the Grand Central Palace, 480 Lexington Avenue, beginning December 15th. Dr. Marcus informs me that they are contemplating a picket line for the duration of the Exposition, and are asking whether it would be possible for us to rally some of our members and join in the picket line.

The attitude I have always taken was that I did not care to see the Jewish War Veterans picket as such, and have always informed our women that if they wanted to cooperate with any picketing activity, they could do it individually under the signs of another organization. Now, Dr. Marcus tells me that they also are not picketing as American Jewish Congress, or Jewish Labor Committee, but as the Joint Boycott Council. I am really happy to hear this because it removes from the public mind one inflammable connection, that picketing is connected with Jews.

Please let me know at once whether you approve of a notification being sent to our membership in the metropolitan area, to report to Dr. Marcus, at his office, for orders if they wish to cooperate in this picketing activity.

Sincerely,

Bertha V. Corets
Nat'l Ladies' Auxiliary
Boycott Chairman

BVC/cjs
December 1st
1938

J. Geo. Fredman
-2-
give you the full "dope".

Best wishes.

Sincerely,
Bertha

Bertha V. Corets
Nat'l Ladies' Auxiliary
Boycott Chairman

BVC/cjs

P.S. You are already familiar with this editorial, circulated in our organization, and I am enclosing the additional correspondence I have had with this concern, including their letter in reply. You will see that they are anxious to cooperate with us, and in order to defray the expense of making a number of thousand of these circulars, will list their individual manufacturers, who I believe will be asked to contribute.

I have tried to think of any unfavorable repercussion that the wider use of this editorial could bring to us, and the further additional publicity they expect to give us in their magazine, but I can think of none. It seems to me that the Jewish War Veterans will be represented in the light of taking an interest in the economic conditions of this country and the employment of the American workman.

They ask for a copy of the release as we sent it out. We should have had on the top "reprinted by permission". I think we should type a few words at the top of our release, which would indicate our position, such as the enclosed.

BVC
JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES

National Headquarters + 276 Fifth Avenue + New York, N.Y.

ISADOR S. WORTH  
National Commander

Murray Hill 4-1389  
J. DAVID DELMAN  
National Adjutant

December 1st
1938

J. Geo. Fredman, PNC,
National Boycott Chairman,
591 Summit Ave.,
Jersey City, N.J.

Dear George:

In answer to your P.P.S. regarding the failure to return questionnaires from the Bronx, Brooklyn and Manhattan Posts, I really have no information on this subject. I have heard no expressions from any individual member, so really do not know whether personal feelings or just laxity is involved.

My opinion is that the entire organization does not take this work seriously enough. You see, out of 110 Auxiliaries, I received 36 answers, just about one third of the total. You might know further, that of these 36, about 10 came from the Metropolitan area. Therefore, I don't think you should excite yourself on personalities.

I have been in contact with the Czechoslovak agency, who have informed me over the telephone that they do know that the Sudeten branch of Lever Brothers assisted the Henlein troops. They call that branch, the Schift branch, and they volunteered to write "home", and secure supporting information. I spoke to them on the telephone recently, and they replied that it would be about 12 or 14 days more before we could expect an answer, as it takes about 12 days for mail to reach the other side.

As to Dr. Kalb, he is not active in the New York office of the League, so I am informed. I shall try to be down to the meeting Sunday at the Hotel Edison, which I now understand is a meeting for League members only, and is called for the purpose of deciding among themselves whether they favor unification. Are you on the Advisory Board of the League? If so you might find it very interesting to attend, and I am sure Mrs. Harris will be glad to
December 1, 1938

Miss Bertha V. Corets
National Ladies Auxiliary
Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.
956 Edison Avenue
Bronx, N.Y.

Dear Miss Corets:

In reply to your letter of November 19th, you may reprint the August issue of the Institute News.

The American Jewish Committee of your City have already reprinted the article "Franklin and the Jews". May we suggest you ask them for copies.

Sincerely yours,

Wm. A. A. Castellini
Director of Public Relations

waac:jac

Copy: American Jewish Committee
461 Eighth Avenue, N.Y.C.
Att: Mr. Wallach
B'nai B'rith,
36 West 69th St.,
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

There was forwarded to me a clipping from the November issue of your magazine, entitled "An Antidote". I was very glad to read this because it supports my opinion and investigation.

On September 25th I attended the Fritz Kuhn-Dickstein debate, held at Caravan Hall, East 59th St. The following day, on reading the account of this debate, I found that two of the most important and leading questions had not been published. I wrote the New York Times concerning this and they replied that they were obliged to rely on the judgment of their own man, and that the volume of any reporting of news depended upon the amount of space given to an individual report.

The second incident was on November 17th, when the New York Times, in their financial section, had in big headlines, "GERMAN IMPORTS TO UNITED STATES INCREASING, 1938 LIKELY TO BE NEAR THE 1930 PEAK". On the same day, the Journal of Commerce published an account that had the headlines, "RECORD DIP NOTED IN GERMAN TRADE". Both these newspapers were quoting from the same statistics given them by the Department of Commerce.

This matter was drawn to the attention of the New York Times, and on November 19th, they had a new article reading, "REICH EXPORT TO UNITED STATES CUT, 1938 TOTAL..."
December 2nd
1938

B'hai B'rith,
-2-

LIKELY TO BE LOWEST SINCE 1919 INSTEAD OF HIGH". As usual corrections are printed in inconspicuous places in smaller type and given exactly half of the space given the first erroneous report.

There are a great many more comments I could add to this but I thought these two facts which we can prove might be of interest to you.

Please let us hear from you.

Very truly yours,

956 Edison Ave.,
Bronx, N.Y.

Bertha V. Corets
Nat'l Ladies' Auxiliary

BVC/ojs

Copy to Richard Copperman, Cleveland
December 2nd 1938

Malvina V. Freeman, President  
Nat'l Ladies' Auxiliary, J.W.V.U.S.,  
431 Homestead Ave.,  
St. Vernon, N.Y.

Dear Malvina:

I believe that you were expecting the enclosed file.

Please send me some stationery. Regards.

Sincerely,

Bertha V. Corets  
Nat'l Boycott Chairman

EVC/cjs

enc.
December 2nd
1938

George H. Rhodes, President
F. T. C.,
705 Walnut St.,
Reading, Pa.

Dear Mr. Rhodes:

Thank you for your letter of November 18th. If you have an extra clipping to spare, of the statements made by Mr. Jamison upon his return from Germany, I would appreciate receiving it, very much.

There are a number of people interested in the activities of the leaders of the Berkshire Mills, who might like to know his comments.

Any other information that you may have along such lines, or if any other such activity is noted in the future, we would consider it a real favor if you would see that we are notified.

Thanking you, I am

Very truly yours,

956 Edison Ave.,
Bronx, N.Y.

BERTHA V. CORBETTS
Natl'1 Ladies' Auxiliary

BVC/e./js
December 5th 1938

Mr. Franz Rosenthal, c/o
Old World Brew Inc.,
115 Broad St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir: (Confidential)

The substance of your letter of November 21st has been referred to me in view of the fact that I have been following up importers of German beers.

I have at the present time on our boycott list, the Beer Import Co., Shinem Importa, Inc., and Hans Holterbosch, Inc., and am constantly striving to make this more effective. Our organization has been instructed to investigate and boycott any place, whether hotel, tavern or restaurant, that carries these beers, Beck's, Wuerzburger Hofbrau and Lowenbrauw Muenchen. As it appears without doubt that you are in a position to give us extensive information on the import of German beers and beverages, and the importers handling them, we are asking at this time, most respectfully, for your cooperation in making our list more complete.

Please be assured that our organization is dedicated to the carrying out of the boycott of anyone who appears on our list. Any information you care to give us will be greatly appreciated.

Yours respectfully,

Bertha V. Garets
Nat'l Ladies' Auxiliary

enc.
December 5th
1938

Fels & Co.,
100 Hudson St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sirs:

We have received inquiries concerning your soap on the basis that it has been rumored in Philadelphia, your plant has been sold to Germans, or Nazis.

Realizing how baseless most such rumors are these days, we are writing to inquire whether there has been any change in the ownership of the Fels Co.

Hoping to hear from you, I am

Yours very truly,

956 Madison Ave.,
Bronx, N.Y.

Bertha V. Corets
Natl Ladies' Auxiliary

BVC/cjs

copy to Pauline Herbets
December 6th, 1938.

National Ladies' Auxiliary
Jewish War Veterans of the United States,
276 Fifth Avenue
New York City.

Attention: Miss Bertha V. Corets.

Gentlemen:

I have read your letter of December 5th with great interest, but I am sorry to repeat what I have written already in my letters of November 21st and November 28th, namely, that your boycott has unfortunately no effect. By that I mean that the LOEWEBNRAEU Beer is the biggest seller in this country, and the second biggest - THE WUERZBURGER HOFBRAEU. You will find this confirmed if you go through the Import Manifest of the Friday issues of the Journal of Commerce in the section of the News and Developments in the Wine & Spirits field. On this page are printed the imports of wines - liquors at New York during the past week. These figures may be a great shock to you. To give you a small idea, please take note that the Kuenchener Loewenbraeu imported from April 8th - October 28th, 1938 : 15,548 Half Barrels, 2,413 Quarter Barrels, 7,946 Cases and about 1,500 Cartons of 2 dozen bottles. You will therefore agree with me that the boycott has no effect whatever, which would still be more evident if you would compare the above figures with the importation of Czechoslovakian and Netherland beer, which was imported during the same period. Off hand I would say, it is perhaps a twentieth part or even less.

Jewish Restaurant owners who sell German beer, surely do not even know that their places are boycotted by you because they carry German beer. I have mentioned in my letter of November 28th, written to Mr. Blutman, one outstanding Jewish owned Restaurant, and perhaps Mr. Blutman is kind enough to give you also this letter.

I am perfectly willing to give you a number of Jewish owned Restaurants which carry German beer, but, as I said already, if they do not know that and why they are boycotted, your boycott has no effect.
Please add to your list of popular imported German beers:

The Royal Munich Hofbrau Corporation, 8 Bridge St., N.Y.C. which handles the Muenchener Hofbraeu and Culmbacher, William A. Baum, 22 Water Street, N.Y.C. who handles the Tucherbraeu, The Augustiner Import Company, 17 State Street, N.Y.C. which handle the Augustebraeu, Reichert-Poesgen, (I do not know their address, as they started which handle the Hackerbraeu, only 2 weeks ago) The Atlantis Importers & Distributors Inc., 2 Rector St., N.Y.C. which handle the Salvator, Paulaner and Thomasbraeu.

Incidentally, as I informed Mr. Blutman in my letter of Nov. 28th already, this last firm is owned by the same people who own the Pilsner Urquell Company, 11 West 42nd Street, New York, but, as far as I am informed, Mr. Blutman handles this case already.

If I can be of any help to you, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Very sincerely yours,
OLD WORLD BREWS, INC.

FR: NS.
December 6th, 1938.

Miss Bertha V. Corets,
956 Edison Avenue,
Bronx, N.Y.

Dear Madam:

This will acknowledge the receipt of your letter of December 2nd, 1938, regarding sources of supply of drawing sets.

We have requested the American-Czechoslovak Chamber of Commerce, 1440 Broadway, New York, N.Y., to advise you of the firm handling the sets which are on display at the said Chamber.

At the same time we are pleased to inform you that similar sets are being imported in large quantities by Friedman Brothers Drawing Instrument Co., 404 Fourth Avenue, New York, N.Y., who represent another Czechoslovak manufacturer.

We are advising these people to get in touch with you directly and submit whatever information you may require.

Very truly yours,

Julius Brabec,
Consul General.

Ja:ek
I-3841-38 December 7, 1938.

Mrs. Bertha V. Coreta
National Ladies Auxiliary
956 Edison Avenue
Bronx, N.Y.

Dear Madame:

It was brought to our attention that your organization is interested in drawing instruments which are on display in our office. At the time of the visit of your representative, we told her that the manufacturer is the firm, Strejo a spol., of Praha-I., Husova No. 3., Republic of Czechoslovakia.

Also the prices quoted by the firm were given to her. You may communicate with this firm directly, or let us know of your requirements, and we shall be glad to write to Czechoslovakia in your behalf.

We understand, however, that the Czechoslovak Consulate General has advised you to communicate with the firm Friedman Brothers Drawing Instrument Co., 404 Fourth Avenue, New York City, New York, which is representing the Czechoslovak firm of Dr. Bisicky. Probably you have secured the necessary information from them already.

Very truly yours,

American-Czechoslovak Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

Frank J. Roener, Secretary

FJR:RK.
TO ALL PRESIDENTS, NAT'L OFFICERS & BOYCOTT CHAIRMEN

Dear Sisters:

There is being circulated a typewritten paper that purports to be statements made by Benjamin Franklin at the Constitutional Convention of 1789, and reported in the personal journal of Charles Pinckney of South Carolina. This paper further states that the original of this statement is on file in the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. The best method of refuting lies is to go to the very source of its information, and so we are sending to every Auxiliary for their careful attention and preservation, a copy of the Institute News, which is published by the Benjamin Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. This Institute has gone to the trouble of making a thorough report, proving that these purported statements of Benjamin Franklin are a lie, and further, that they have never found a private diary of Charles Pinckney, and that they have nothing of such description on file at their Institute, and in their own language: "THE WHOLE THING IS A FAKE." We are asking you to read this article very carefully, and make your Auxiliary (to the last member) fully acquainted with this lie, so that they shall be individually enabled to refute this scandalous lie whenever it comes up. The Nazis are circulating these false statements by means of the endless chain letter, so you can expect its appearance sometime or other. A further suggestion is that copies of "Franklin and the Jews" be reprinted so that a wider circulation may be assured.

An indication that newspaper headlines are not always correct is the following:

On November 17th there appeared in the New York Times, the headline, "GERMAN EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES INCREASING" "1938 IS LIKELY TO BE NEAR THE 1930 PEAK." On the same morning there appeared in the Journal of Commerce, an article with the headlines, "RECORD DEP NOTED IN GERMAN TRADE!" Both of these reports were based on the same figures supplied by the Department of Commerce, and still each one had headlines exactly opposite. This discrepancy was reported to the New York Times, with the result that on November 19th, there appeared a correction in that paper as follows: "REICH EXPORT TO THE UNITED STATES CUT" "1938 TOTAL LIKELY TO BE LOWEST SINCE 1919 INSTEAD OF HIGH!"

All members are again reminded of our boycott against the 5 & 10 Chain Stores, especially, Woolworth, Grant, Kress and Kress. These stores have not ceased importing German merchandise. Our boycott will not be effective without your cooperation. The fact that one store in any community does not carry German merchandise, does not release an Auxiliary from boycotting them. As told you before, our National questionnaire has proven that these stores, all over the United States carry German merchandise. We will never be able to make any impression of our strength if our organization absolves some stores in some districts from boycott.

At the Americanism meeting of Gabriel Cohen Post No. 95 held recently, an excellent point was brought out by one of the speakers. They are organizing a Committee of young men between 20 and 30, who have
December 7, 1938

initiated a campaign of street corner speeches. Their one and only subject "Americanism" - to educate the public on the blessings conferred upon them by our great Constitution and our Bill of Rights - to teach them the full meaning of American Democracy. It seems to me that up to now, our street corners are usurped by either radical speakers or, at election time, by electioneers. Now is the time to fight openly and publicly, alien subversive activities, through education and enlightenment. The United States Department of Printing, at Washington, D.C., will supply you with supporting material for this work, free or at a nominal cost. Whether outdoors or indoors, according to the weather, this work should be started, and I hope very soon to get some reports in that direction.

I made a short talk at a meeting lately, and it occurred to me that there might be some useful idea's in this speech for our members who are making contacts and speaking at open meetings. I am therefore sending a copy to our Auxiliaries and would appreciate personal comments as to whether this idea is helpful, and if it should be continued.

To the many splendid members of our organization who are sending reports, I wish that we had the time to acknowledge in detail your fine activities. Please be assured that your work is reported at headquarters and that it is my constant endeavor to see that our loyal endeavors get proper recognition.

Effective November 10th, all merchandise leaving the Sudeten area, must bear the marking "Made in Germany", regardless of the fact that it was manufactured before that time and may carry the "made in Czechoslovakia" brand. This ruling has been decided by the Treasury Department.

(For the Metropolitan area only)

There will be a German Exposition at the Grand Central Palace, 480 Lexington Avenue, December 15th to the 23rd inclusive. The Joint Boycott Council is undertaking to picket the Exposition during its duration and are asking for cooperation from our members. We are here with instructing members who would like to cooperate in this activity, that they should report to Dr. Marcus at the offices of the Joint Boycott Council, 151 West 40th Street, on Thursday, December 15th, at 10:30 A.M. They are not to picket as Jewish War Veterans, but under the signs of that organization.

Loyal yours,

BERTHA V. CORETS
Nat'l Ladies' Auxiliary Chairman

enclosures
TO ALL PRESIDENTS, NAT'L OFFICERS & BOYCOTT CHAIRMAN

Dear Sisters:

We are asking an explanation from the following Auxiliaries why they have not answered the questionnaires sent out Sept. 20th:

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Miss Bertha V. Corets
National Ladies' Auxiliary
Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.
956 Edison Avenue
Bronx, N.Y.

Dear Miss Corets:

Your letter of December 5, 1938.

How in the world some of these rumors get started is beyond us! There has been absolutely no change in the ownership of Fels & Company, Mr. Samuel S. Fels is still President, and the writer, who is himself a Jew, is still Sales and Advertising Manager. And we might say that neither one of us, nor of our many Jewish employees, would be likely to continue to work under the Swastika.

We are taking the liberty of sending a copy of your letter to our New York supervisor, Mr. Max Brownstein, and to Mr. Joseph Jacobs, who is in charge of our advertising in the Jewish papers in New York City. A baseless rumor of this sort can do us a great deal of harm, and we shall sincerely appreciate it, Miss Corets, if through your fine organization you will do what you can to make the truth known.

With sincere good wishes, believe us to be

Cordially yours,

FELS & COMPANY

Sales & Advertising Manager

ogf.ms
December 9, 1938

Dear Mrs. Corets:

In answer to your letter of December 8th, I would like to see you personally.

Will you please come between the hours 12 - 1, and 5 - 7?

Many thanks for your letter.

Sincerely yours,

B. D.

Dr. B. Dubovsky
December 10, 1958.

Mr. George Fredman
591 Summit Avenue
Jersey City, N. J.

My dear George:

As per your suggestion, I am asking that you get-up a resolution which I may present to the Women's Patriotic Conference on National Defense in reference to the American Red Cross.

I am sure that you feel as I do that the release sent out by Bertha Gorets was a splendid one. The last paragraph in her letter was written as I told you yesterday with my consent, although I did not know that it was already out when I spoke to you.

Doris was in the office this morning and I spoke to her about this, explaining I gave my consent and also our conversation yesterday in your office in reference to this. We seemed to think it was all right.

In speaking to Bertha Gorets this morning, I was told about the letters the Non-Sectarian are writing. As per Fenick I would like either you or myself to write a letter to the Non-Sectarian asking why they send out erroneous information; and personally I would like to speak with Smertenko on the subject. I would prefer both of us to speak with him, but at least I would like to "sit on him." If there is some other resolution that you feel I could present to the Conference, please let me have same.

With kind regards, I am

Loyal yours,

Malvina V. Freeman
National President

MVF/JB
Miss Bertha V. Corets  
National Ladies' Auxiliary  
Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.  
956 Edison Avenue  
The Bronx, N.Y. 

Dear Miss Corets:

Fels & Co. have forwarded to us a copy of your letter of December 5th.

Please be advised that there has been no change in the ownership or management of Fels & Co. Mr. Samuel S. Fels, who is nationally known as a high-minded, public-spirited American citizen of the Jewish faith, is still the President of that firm, which is doing business in the same ethical and American fashion as it has always done.

You realize that malicious rumors can work untold harm on innocent individuals and organizations, and we trust that thru your Auxiliary you will be able to counteract this false, baseless propaganda.

Fels & Co. advertises consistently in the Jewish press - and this in itself is concrete evidence that the plant has not been "sold to Germans, or Nazis" as you report having heard.

With best wishes, I am  

Sincerely yours,

JJ DMH
December 19th
1938

Pauline Herbets, Boycott Chairman
Ladies' Auxiliary, Dept. of Penn'a,
1650 N. 4th St.,

Dear Pauline:

We have received two letters from the
Fels Company in Philadelphia and from their
advertising agent in New York. The substance
of these letters is that Samuel S. Fels is an
American citizen of Jewish faith, and President
of the firm. There has been no change in the
ownership. These people constantly advertise
in the Jewish press and they are public spirit-
ed and high-minded American citizens, and they
will appreciate the cooperation of our organiza-
tion in fighting any rumors to the contrary.

With kind personal regards, and Chanukah
greetings, I remain

Sincerely yours,

BERTHA V. CORETS
Nat'l Ladies' Auxiliary

BVC/cjs
December 20th

Metropolitan Opera House,
Broadway & Thirty-ninth St.,
New York, N.Y.

Attention: Manager

Gentlemen:

We have received inquiries regarding a performance, scheduled for today, sponsored by the German-American Charity Fund, and we would appreciate it if you would let us know who the individuals are that are sponsoring this performance, and their addresses.

Your courtesy will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

956 Edison Ave.,
Bronx, N.Y.

BERTHA V. CORETS
National Ladies' Auxiliary

BVC/cjs
NEW YORK COUNTY DISTRICT COUNCIL
JEWSH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES
FOUNDED 1896

OFFICE OF COMMANDER
Room 603
1476 Broadway
New York City
Tel. BRyan 9-5822

STANLEY A. GOTHELF
Senior Vice-Commander

HENRY FRIEDMAN
Junior Vice-Commander

BENJAMIN BROWN
Judge Advocate.

DR. MOSES FREIBERGER
Surgeon

EDGAR G. LOWELL
Chief of Staff

BRUNO FRANKEL
Chaplain

HARRY A. TARR
Patriotic Instructor

HYMAN ARKIN
Inspector

DR. SAMUEL ADAMS COHEN
Historian & Memorial Chairman

FRANCES ANSCHERLIK
Liaison Officer

SOL MASCH
Americanism Officer

JACOB BECKER
Officer of the Day

LOUIS WOLFSON
Welfare Officer

LOUIS B. KANTER
Finance Officer

JACK KALMAN
Recruiting Officer

J. J. STONE
Editor

MILTON REDLER
Aide-de-Camp

GEORGE GITSKIN
Intelligence Officer

SAM ROSE
Boycott Chairman

DR. A. W. GLUCKSTEIN
Hospitalization Officer

JACOB GERBER
Color Sergeant

HARRY H. KANTER
Deputy Aide

JACOB BECKER
NATHAN SIEGEL
Color Bearers

JULIUS GOLDSMITH
Trumpeter

FRANK BILSKY, Commander

December 21, 1936.

Dear Comrade Fredman:

Hope you received my post card which was mailed from Staten Island last Thursday. I meant every word I said. However, I was planning to save all my information until I had completed my visits and then, after the fair closed was planning to rended a COMPLETE report, covering all phases.

For your information, I have already made 4 visits, and am planning another one today and on Friday, which is the final day.

As the situation looks now, there is nothing to fear, so I hope you will be content to wait until I have gathered all my material and assembled them into one complete report.

Contrary to your belief as contained in your letter of December 20th, there are several organizations protesting; to wit: Joint Boycott Council; War Veterans of the United States; Non Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, and others. In my final report, please pay particular attention to the clipping from the Jewish paper.

I hope you will be patient; I will try my utmost to prepare the complete report on Friday night, so that you will have possession of all the facts by Saturday morning.

Greetings for an enjoyable Chanukah.

Very sincerely,

[Signature]
NEW YORK COUNTY DISTRICT COUNCIL

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES

FOUNDED 1896

Mr. J. George Fredman,
National Boycott Chairman,
JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF U.S.,
591 Summit Avenue,
JERSEY CITY, N. J.

Dear Comrade Fredman:-

As per your request in your letter of December 14th, I herewith submit a report of my activities in connection with the GERMAN EXPOSITION AND CHRISTMAS MARKET, held at Grand Central Palace, 46th Street and Lexington Avenue, New York City, December 15th to December 23rd, 1938.

Upon arrival at the Grand Central Palace at 1 P.M., on Thursday, December 15th, I found that the doors had not yet opened. As a result of inquiries from a police officer and the elevator starter in the building, I was informed that the doors would be opened at 4 P.M. and on succeeding days at 12 noon; and that the admission charge would probably be 25 cents.

Representatives of 2 organizations were picketing the building, carrying placards upon which were printed their opposition to the exposition. The organizations represented were the "United Anti Nazi Council," the "Joint Boycott Council of the American Jewish Congress," and the "War Veterans of the United States. The pickets numbered about 50 and approximately 25 police officers were assigned for duty.

On Friday, December 16th, I again visited the Grand Central Palace, and upon arrival noticed 3 pickets representing the United War Veterans and the United Anti Nazi Council.
FRANK BILSKY, Commander

The price of admission was 35 cents. I tarried one hour from 8 to 9 P.M., and during that time about 400 people were present. Upon inquiries from a police officer I was informed that from noon until the evening, only 200 visited the show. The largest share of merchandise on display was of German make.

My next trip was on Monday, December 19th from 4 to 4:30 P.M. Not over 250 people were present, practically all speaking the German tongue. Only 2 pickets were protesting, these representing the War Veterans of the United States.

On Wednesday, December 21st, I again visited the exposition with the intention of spending 3 or 4 hours for the purpose of recording on a pad the names, addresses and kind of merchandise being exhibited. I arrived at 12:30 P.M. and immediately proceeded to take notes. I had covered 22 booths when I was questioned by one of the exhibitors, as to whom I represented. I did not answer him, but proceeded to the next booth. In the meanwhile, those exhibitors whose booths I had already covered began to whisper amongst themselves as to who I was and what was my aim in recording the names and addresses of the exhibitors. As I approached the next booth, the merchant stopped me and inquired what I was writing. I told him that I was simply writing the names of the merchants and what they had to offer. He thereupon wanted to know whom I represented, and I informed him that I represented no one or any organization, but simply was taking down this information for my own information. He protested vehemently and remarked that he would not permit me to put his name on my list. I assured him that I was not committing a crime in making notes, and that I entered the premises as an individual, but he still insisted that I had come for the purpose of creating a disturbance.
NEW YORK COUNTY DISTRICT COUNCIL

JEWSH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES

FOUNDED 1896

FRANK BILSKY, Commander

I again assured him that I did not visit the show for the purpose of creating any trouble, and that if my actions did not suit his fancy, then he could summon one of the police officers who were stationed throughout the floor. This he refused to do, so I very politely told him that I would ask the officer myself. In describing my mission to the police officer, he seemed to be in a quandary, and informed me that he did not know whether I was doing right or wrong. He advised me, however, that for the sake of peace I should first seek permission from the floor manager, and to quote him--"You know these people are pretty touchy." During the course of my conversation with the police officer, several exhibitors began to gather around me, and firing questions at me. Several male members of the crowd were members of the Bund as evidenced by the Swastika emblem in their coat lapels. One of them practically ordered me to tear up the sheets that I had already completed, but I told him that I would not do so, that those belonged to me. One or two attempted to grab them from me but were unsuccessful. In the meanwhile, the floor manager had been summoned—a short, wizened individual, and upon seeing me, immediately fired the question at me—"What organization do you represent?" I told him that I did not represent any organization, but was merely attending as an individual. He asked several other questions, but received very courteous replies. Another husky Nazi in the crowd then sneeringly let loose with a barrage of hurrups, Grrs, etc., and concluded with "You from de Onti Nazi Ligi? I very politely informed him that I represented no league. As I mentioned above, during the entire course of the conversation, the crowd of exhibitors began to swell, and I was just wondering if they were planning to "gang up on me." Just prior to the close of the conversations, I very gently folded my papers and placed them in the inside pocket of my jacket.
I thereupon told the assembled group that if my presence was revolting to them, then I would very gladly leave the premises, but before doing so, I asked the police officer to PLEASE accompany me to the exit. He politely refused with the explanation that he was ordered to stay on his post, but since I was alone and unaccompanied, that I would not have any difficulty in leaving the premises. I took him upon his word and, much to my surprise, the group opened a gap for me and I left the back end of the hall and proceeded to the front, which is both entrance and exit. The exhibitor who originally challenged me accompanied me to the door to make sure that I had left the building. No further words were exchanged, but before leaving the building, I made sure that no one was following me.

The entire time consumed on this visit was from 12:30 P.M. until 2 P.M., during which time, not over 50 persons entered. The entire incident proves to me what I have always heard concerning these people, that they are yellow. If they were really intent in advertising and selling their wares, they should only be too pleased to see visitors who were interested in their products.

I was planning to make a final visit on Friday, December 23rd, but in view of what happened on Wednesday, I thought it advisable not to enter, but instead stationed myself across the street from 2 to 3 P.M., during which time only about 75 people paid admission.

In spite of the fact that I did not get the information which I desired, the enclosed Official Program and Guide lists the names and addresses of all exhibitors. To supplement this, there is also enclosed a Trade Guide of the German American Business League, Inc, in which is listed names and addresses of merchants and the commodities which they sell. This booklet lists merchants who exhibited at the Fair and others.
FRANK BILSKY, Commander

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Merchandise exhibited included the following: candies, bonbons, tablecloths, napkins, handkerchiefs, pillow covers, toys, games, harmonicas, Christmas novelties, bread boxes, dolls, toilet water, mugs, kettles, canned meats, puddings, pencils, pickles, cookies, biscuits, bolos, jams, ham, all varieties of canned goods, sweaters, panties, dresses, shirts, neckties, bathrobes, pajamas, mufflers, mineral waters, imported coke, wax, cologne, cheese, canned fish, soap, oil paintings, bicycles, photographs, postcards, blankets, canned squash, meat grinders, scales, china, steins, concentrates, candles, wafers, perfumes, jackets, beads, purses, pastilles, bitters, phonograph records, swastika flags, and brooches, and furniture. Practically 90% of these articles were imported from Germany. Three exhibitors not listed in the Official Guide are R. Keterrer Inc., Walter Witt, Mgr. 475 Third Avenue, selling cheese, canned fish, candy soap, toilet water, etc. Arthur E. Grix, no address shown, selling photographs from Germany, and another exhibitor with no name shown selling oil paintings.

Also enclosed you will find a 32 page newspaper entitled "The Key to the Mystery" which is printed in Montreal, Canada, and sold at the booth of the A.V. Publishing Co., who, as you know, are the publishers of the Deutscher Weckruf and Beobachter. This paper in its entirety resorts to slanderous and falsifying statements concerning the Jews. It sells at 10 cents per copy. Additional enclosures are pamphlets, circulars, and cards of some of the exhibitors.

Other additional enclosures include application blank for membership in the German American Bund, sympathizers registration to the Bund, and leaflet listing the purpose and aims of the Bund. Also circular announcing the coming Mass Demonstration for True Americanism at Madison Square Garden on Monday evening, February 29th, 1939, sponsored by the Bund.
FRANK BILSKY, Commander

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At the back end of the hall, a bar is situated, where German beer is being dispensed. Right next to the bar is a platform upon which a few musicians play all sorts of German lieder. In back of the platform is suspended a large curtain, upon which there is a map showing the 2 hemispheres. On the Western hemisphere, an American flag about 12 x 8 inches on a rod is stuck on the map where New York is located, and a Swastika flag of the same size is on the Eastern hemisphere and stuck where Berlin is situated. There is a giant Christmas tree directly in front of the American flag, blocking a full view. No obstruction in front of the German flag. On the marquee in front of the entrance, are the American flag and Swastika flag poised as a cross, but Old Glory is placed facing the building and the Swastika is facing the street.

I am also enclosing clippings of different dates from the New York Times, the New York Daily News, and the New York Jewish Morning Journal, which dwell on the German exposition. In the Jewish paper, the article relates that 200 tenants of the Grand Central Palace have petitioned the owners, William A. White & Co, to request that the German merchants close their exposition.

During the entire 9 days of the Fair, a truck hired by the Non-Sectarian Anti Nazi League, traversed the streets in the vicinity of the Palace, bearing placards requesting the public not to patronize the Fair.

Posters advertising the exposition were on display in the street cars of the Third Avenue Railway System and in the busses operated by the New York City Omnibus Corporation.
NEW YORK COUNTY DISTRICT COUNCIL
JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES
FOUNDED 1896

FRANK BILSKY, Commander

Several exhibits and displays were also in evidence showing the Bund camps—Camp Siegfried at Yaphank, L. I., and Camp Nordland at Andover, N. J. I also noticed leaning against the wall in a far corner, a banner bearing the words "Protestant War Veterans."

It is my opinion that as a business venture, the exposition was a financial failure, basing my opinion on the poor attendance during afternoons and evenings. Purchasers were few and far between. I do not recall whether I mentioned it before, but practically all visitors spoke the German tongue, I could not single out one English speaking person, with the exception of the police officers. To me this is an indication that the pickets' work was very effective. To give you an illustration of the poor attendance, let me state that when I attended on Monday at 4 P.M. I was given ticket number 55,130; and upon arrival on Wednesday at 12:30 P.M., was given ticket number 56,035. This shows a difference of 905 in a very little less than 2 days.

Please do not fail to take note of the enclosed circular issued by the United Anti-Nazi Council urging German Americans to boycott Nazi goods. I believe this organization is composed of former residents of Germany who have shed the yoke of oppression and adopted this country as their future abode.

In conclusion—what?—only to say that let us hope to enjoy many more Chanukas in this land of freedom.

Yours in Comradeship,

Harris B. Weinstein
N.Y. COUNTY ADJUTANT

Total expense - $2.00
December 24th
1938

Metropolitan Museum of Art,
Fifth Avenue and Eighty-second St.,
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

We were rather surprised to note the item appearing in the New York Times on December 22nd, that your Museum is importing German reproductions of famous masterpieces. The reason, "economy", given for purchasing these Nazi reproductions, is even more surprising. We were of the impression that the American people, especially those of culture, were aroused against the crushing of all kinds of culture by the Nazi regime. We thought that the average American is willing to make some sacrifices to preserve civilization, especially so, since the barbaric outrages beginning November 10th, 1938.

It may be that your spokesman was not properly quoted in the newspapers, and we are accordingly writing to inquire whether you will be good enough to inform us your official attitude in this particular matter.

Sincerely yours,

J. GEORGE FREDIAN
Past National Commander
Nat'l Boycott Chairman

JGF/cjs
12/28/38

Mr. George Blumenthal, President of the Board of Trustees of the Metropolitan Museum of Art telephoned, stating that such letters as we sent to them does more harm than good; that such acts will bring about the same condition that is in Germany. Asked him to answer our letter, and he stated he would not write any letters.

C.J.S.
956 Edison Ave.,
Bx NY 12/29/38

Dear Mal,

I recall now, when I was going to write Admiral Lands again, that you phoned me something about having a litter from him, and that it was sent to you.

This is on the Merchant Marine proposition, so would appreciate it if you would forward it to me.

Incidentally Smertenko is out of the League.

Hoping you and the family are well, and best wishes for a Happy New Year,

Sincerely,
Memo to Bertha Corets, Ladies Auxiliary
National Boycott Chairman

From - J. George Fredman
Dear Bertha -

You have probably heard the reply given by Mr. Blumenthal to our request that he discontinue the purchase of reprints for the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He was insulted, apparently, by our request. I understand that he is Jewish and very wealthy.

The typical German-Jewish type.

I think the Metropolitan Museum would be a proper place to protest by means of pickets. I think two pick-ets with signs, at the entrance of the Museum would do a lot to aid our cause.

Intellectuals and artists, etc., are sympathetic and I am sure that two pickets with nice signs would be of a means to gain proper results.

Please let me have your views, also advise whether you can get the men or women necessary to do the job.

Happy New Year to you and Mark.