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**MS-763: Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman Collection, 1930-2004.**  
Series B: Correspondence, 1942-1995.

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Bernstein, Philip. 1947-1953.

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B-1

Temple Beth Rodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

December 22, 1953

Rabbi Herbert Friedman  
2419 East Kenwood Blvd.  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Dear Herb

I note that you've talked on "Do Chanukah and Christmas Belong in the Public Schools"? Do you have a manuscript, or anything that will give me the essential view which you have expressed?

I have been moving more toward the conviction that the Jewish groups are taking too negative an attitude on the whole business. There is a good deal of Chanukah and Christmas in the Rochester public schools. To the best of my knowledge it hasn't done any harm and has done considerable good. We would have had Christmas anyway for this is part of the American climate.

Again, I think the whole problem ought to be re-considered. I think that there can be more positive instruction about the religions, and dealing with accepted religious and ethical values, without necessarily becoming involved in religious observances and indoctrination. It seems to me that the Jewish religious groups have followed the lead of essentially non-religious Jewish laymen in these matters, and thereby have been maneuvered into a completely negative position.

In any event, I would be interested in what you had to say.

The Wolks and the Formans as well as Katherine Weil and Charlotte Reich were over for dinner last Saturday night. Paul has some excellent pictures with rich color effects. I am still assuming that we will wangle some way to bring you here during the winter or early spring.

I have written to "Singin' Sam" but have not offered to buy the ranch. Paul Wolk saw Marv Kratter in New York last week and gathered that the combination of short season and high costs is too much to make a profit. Apparently, the nice guy, Marvin Kane will be left holding the bag.

# Temple Beth-Rodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

December 22, 1953

Page 2

I'm glad that Elaine is getting along. We send fond  
regards to her and all the Friedmans.

As ever

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein

PSB:js



B-1

**Temple Beth Kodesh**

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

December 29, 1953

Rabbi Herbert Friedman  
2419 East Kenwood Blvd.  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Dear Herb

I am assuming that you saw Nelson Glueck's mimeographed letter reporting on the meetings in New York. For the record, I'm quoting from Mickey's letter to me of December 22nd.

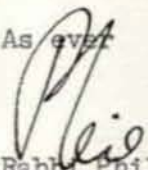
"I, too, was quite amazed at Glueck's interpretation of the meeting. It was especially true in your instance that you gave no approval of the trial of the plan.

It does none of us justice in the matter of making very clear that we still reject the plan, even though there is a varying degree of readiness among us to give it a chance. However, I agree with you that there is no point in circularizing the Conference. As you say, he has the situation well in hand and there is nothing we can do about it at the present except let him have his try at it."

Nelson did not fairly report what happened. In both meetings I did not budge from my expressed opinion that the plan was a serious mistake. However, I see little point in circularizing the Conference about it. We'll have to watch developments and keep clearly in mind what we're dealing with.

All the best to all the Friedmans for 1954.

As ever

  
Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein

PSB:js



# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

September 3, 1953

Rabbi Herbert Friedman  
2419 East Kenwood Blvd.  
Milwaukee 11, Wisconsin

Dear Herb

I am definitely available on April 14th, and you can count on it. However, let me suggest a possible alternative though I doubt that you can use it. I am speaking in Tulsa, Sunday, March 28th. We could save a little on expenses and some wear and tear, if I could speak in Milwaukee on the way back from Tulsa, perhaps on Monday evening, March 29th or Tuesday evening, March 30th. Do you have some special reason for wanting an April 14th date, or is such a switch possible?

At the moment the trip to Israel doesn't seem to be in the picture. However, all we've done since returning from the Cape is stew in sweat. I haven't really talked to anybody about anything. Don't count on it but keep in the back of your mind the slight possibility that there might be some hasty development.

On the Schalit business I will try to help. We do not have the kind of discretionary fund that you have. There is a Temple Ben Goldstein Fund which is used primarily for social welfare needs. I do feel the lack here of a fund for cultural purposes but haven't gotten around to establishing it. So that I will have to raise this privately in some way. Let me ask you, therefore, whether this can take the form of a Memorial. If for example I could get one family to make a substantial contribution in memory of a deceased member could that in some way be indicated in the dedication, or does Schalit have other plans? Let me know, and I will try to do something.

Soph saw Elaine's mother at the Cape. I gather that she is having a rough time.

Have you heard anything definite about the CCAR Executive Board meeting? A conflict developed over the summer when apparently without consulting my calendar, our opening Temple Club meeting was set for Tuesday night, October 6th. When I hear about the definite plans for the Executive Board meeting I will decide how to handle it. Also, there is to be a meeting of the Executive Board of the Union on October 24th and 28th. There ought to be a strategy meeting before then as to when and how to bring the issue before the Executive Board. Perhaps

# Temple B'rith-Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

September 2, 1953

Page 2

you could get a chance to talk to Mickey about it.

The best of everything in your new house, and for the New Year.

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

As ever

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein

PSB:js





To  
Rabbi Friedman

Tues, March 30 OK for

Phillip Bernstein.  
at Men's Club.

Norman Abrahams told

me to inform you so  
that you might  
contact the Rabbi

---

The Sisterhood Invites

You to Sun. mite party

12 July 52

CHECKS SENT TO NATIONAL INTER-FAITH COMMITTEE

Herbert A. Friedman . . . . .	\$200.00
J. H. Lawton . . . . .	25.00
Samuel M. Kaufman . . . . . (Kaufor Corporation)	100.00
Harry Forman . . . . .	
Jay S. Goodman, M. D. . . . .	25.00
Sampson Foundation . . . . .	100.00
B. E. Nickoll . . . . .	25.00
Hess and Chernov . . . . .	25.00

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

500

bunch from Oscar Rozoff

55

Meyer Lubotsky

25

Idly Schwartz

50

another from Oscar Rozoff  
(waether blamberg of Chicago)

25

B.F. Salzkstein

50

705

50

755

Harry Bragmanik



# National Interfaith Committee

FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF "WHAT THE JEWS BELIEVE"

220 W. 42nd St. • 21st Flr. • New York 18, N. Y. • Br 9-7600

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NATHAN WILLNER  
LOUIS S. WOLK, Rochester  
WILLIAM ZECKENDORF

\*Incomplete

Executive Secretary  
GERTRUDE ADELSTEIN

April 14, 1952

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

Because we know that you are the kind of person who understands the values of INTERFAITH UNDERSTANDING, and also because of some personal relationships we believe you have had with Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, we take the liberty of writing to you about the project of the National Interfaith Committee.

This committee was established by its late chairman, Judge Robert P. Patterson, for the distribution of Rabbi Bernstein's book, WHAT THE JEWS BELIEVE. This volume, an expansion of his article in LIFE magazine, is regarded as perhaps the most useful single educational instrumentality for giving non-Jews a clear and readable picture of the faith of the Jews.

This is entirely a non-profit project. The books are purchased at cost from the publisher with no royalty to the author. The American Jewish Committee, the Anti-Defamation League and the National Conference of Christians and Jews are cooperating in a distributing program. The enclosed report indicates the nature of the distribution, and also suggests some of its needs.

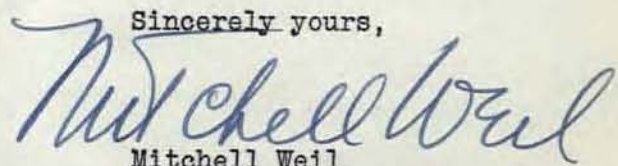
You will be interested to know that, in your city, distribution of WHAT THE JEWS BELIEVE has been made through the Anti-Defamation League.

The purpose of this letter is to secure your help in raising funds in your community toward the nation-wide implementation of this worthy project. This is a one-time effort and contributions are tax deductible. The goal of \$150,000 will enable the committee to make an effective nation-wide distribution.

We should greatly appreciate your advice as to the amount which you consider a reasonable goal for you to set for your community. It would indeed be a worthwhile endeavor to secure funds for this important cause.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours,



Mitchell Weil  
For the Committee

W/a



# National Interfaith Committee

FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF "WHAT THE JEWS BELIEVE"

220 W. 42nd St. • 21st Fl. • New York 18, N. Y. • Br 9-7600

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JACK G. WELSCH  
NATHAN WILLNER  
LOUIS S. WOLK, Rochester  
WILLIAM ZECKENDORF

\*Incomplete

*Executive Secretary*  
GERTRUDE ADELSTEIN

May 12, 1952

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
2419 Kenwood Boulevard  
Milwaukee 11, Wisconsin.

Dear Herb:

Nu - what gives? We haven't had a word from you in months. The checks must be piled high by this time -- big enough to be transported by truck. I hear there is a trucking strike in your city. Don't wait until it's settled. Uncle Sam does an excellent job of carrying and delivering -- so, please "toot sweet", send the contributions by mail.

Seriously, do let me know what we can expect from Milwaukee and when. The requests for WHAT THE JEWS BELIEVE are piling up and we don't want to make commitments we can't meet.

CORDIAL GREETINGS TO ELAINE AND YOU,

Sincerely,

*Gertrude*

Gertrude Adelstein

A/a

P.S. Why don't you send us what you have now, the rest can follow.

*G.A.*



Despite a quarter of a century of determined effort by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, and despite the obvious need of good will today, interfaith relations in this country are deteriorating.

In my own city of Rochester, for example, our Interfaith Good Will Committee has not met in three years. This was a splendid organization, founded by the late Bishop John Francis O'Hern some twenty years ago. It dealt courageously and constructively with relations between the religious groups, and with their common concerns. In early 1949, Catholic-Protestant tensions, growing immediately out of the organizations of Protestants United, led to the cancellation of the annual Interfaith Good Will Luncheon. This function as well as all other activities of the committee, have not been resumed.

There is practically no communication between Catholic and Protestant religious leadership in Rochester, and very little between the priests and the rabbis. Each group is dependent upon fragmentary newspaper reports and distorted rumors for information about the others. Delicate issues are met by denunciation, name-calling, or aggrieved silence. There is no meeting of minds whatsoever. The channels of communication and cooperation have been closed.

The Rochester situation is fairly typical. It only seems the more tragic because Rochester was a good city, free of the bitter dissensions which have torn some other communities apart. However, the pattern of disintegration is quite general. My own duties in the past two years as President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, have taken me to scores of communities throughout the land. I cannot recall one where improved relations were reported. In practically all of them tensions were on the rise.

The intensified Catholic program to get Catholic parents to send their children to parochial schools seems to have been a factor. At the same time, the attempts to secure public funds for certain activities ancillary to Catholic schools aggravated the situation. Cardinal Spellman's controversy with Mrs. Roosevelt in which he denounced her for bigotry because of a disagreement on these issues evoked wide-spread resentment.

President Truman's appointment of General Clark as ambassador to the Vatican was both a cause of antagonism and a clear symptom of it. Catholics were not aware of the intensity of Protestant indignation. On this issue, Protestants were indeed united, and



with a depth of feeling which does not augur well for relations between Catholics and Protestants in the future.

For a quarter of a century I have dealt with problems of anti-Semitism in the United States. It is my ~~number~~ conclusion that they do not begin to compare in gravity with the underlying bitternesses between Catholics and Protestants, especially in the clergy. On the whole, no major change has been observable in the Jewish position in this country in recent years. There are anti-Semites, but anti-Semitism has not taken serious overt forms. However, similar religious issues have in this period disturbed Christian-Jewish relations.

In some cities, for example, my colleagues have reported that their expressed opposition to the release time program in the public schools has brought the wrath of the Christian community down upon their heads. There was room, they felt, for differences of opinion about this alleged breach in the wall of separation <sup>between</sup> church and state but they cannot understand <sup>why</sup> these differences led to their being attacked as anti-religious and anti-Christian. In one mid-western community, Jewish merchants have actually been threatened with boycott by church leaders, unless, they, and their rabbis, endorse the release time program.

In New York State, Christian-Jewish relations were upset by the Regents' proposal to begin the school day with a common public prayer. Jews were uncomfortable about this plan because it imposed a form of worship on Jewish children contrary to their practice, and also more profoundly, because it seemed like the entering wedge to impose religious observances in the schools, where they do not belong. Jews maintain that religious instruction and practices should take place in churches, synagogues, and homes. They are fearful both for Democracy as a whole and for themselves as a minority if this basic pattern of separation is broken down.

Jews were prepared for a difference of opinion on this issue but not for the



violence of Christian reaction. In one large city a prominent rabbi expressed himself strongly against the Regents' proposal. He was shocked by the reaction of Protestant Ministers with whom he had worked in the friendliest association for decades, and who said to him, "Now we see where you really stand on religion".

Thus it has been seen that although Jewish-Christian relations have not suffered the same deterioration as those between Catholics and Protestants, the underlying tensions do manifest themselves in this area also. They are danger signs. Given the presence of some Jewish names together with those of non-Jews in reports of corruption and subversion, and it becomes easy for the entire atmosphere to be poisoned with anti-Semitism.

In my opinion we will be less than honest if we do not face up to these unpleasant realities. We will certainly not be helpful if we seek merely to sugarcoat them with platitudes or to deny their existence in pleasant public functions.

What then shall we do? These are suggestions; obviously not a complete program.

Keep open the channels of communication. We must be able to talk to each other. When issues arise it should be possible for religious leaders who have come to trust each other's motives to sit down together and listen to differing views.

When the differences are genuine and irreconcilable, there is not good reason for not discussing them in public. The right to differences is in the American tradition, but we should keep to the issues. Name calling does not belong in the relations between responsible religious leaders. Disagreement and bigotry are not synonymous.

Avoid generalizing about other groups. Get at the facts. In almost every instance they will reveal a diversity similar to that within our own group. No group's stigmatization can stand up against the test of observable evidence. Our people should be taught to judge others for what they are, not on the basis of their origins. Let us not compare the worst in another group with the best in our own. That is a dishonest trick of logic.

Let me now be more specific. I do this with some reluctance for I know that there



is nothing one can say that will not arouse some resentment. However, the right to say it and our capacity to listen are tests of our maturity in inter-religious relationships.

First, a word to the Catholics. It seems that Catholics generally do not realize the offensiveness to non-Catholics of the church's claim to exclusive and final truth. The corollary, which is that the rest of us are in error, is in my opinion, the single most powerful historic factor in embittering Catholic-Protestant relations. If this position is ideologically imperative to Catholic doctrine let it be tempered in the practical relations between Catholic and non-Catholics. Al Smith did it in his day. More recently it was done effectively when members of the American hierarchy reproved their Spanish colleagues for "Calling the cops four hundred years too late". I am suggesting a working compromise between what Catholics apparently must believe and the expression and implementation of these beliefs in their daily relations with non-Catholics.

One delicate area to which this should be applied is in the imposition of Catholic religious views on non-Catholics. Birth-control is an example. The Catholic Church has every right to instruct its communicants that birth-control is a sin. But it has no right in a Democracy to seek to impose legislation which will make non-Catholics conform with its religious views, nor does it have any right to penalize others (as recently in the Poughkeepsie hospital situation) for holding different views.

Now, as to the Protestants. They should recognize as evil the virulent anti-Catholicism which animates so many Protestants, especially among the clergy. Hatred is unchristian: "By this shall men know ye are my disciples, if ye have love for one another". It is the worst possible motivation for human conduct. It deeply injures those who hate.

Protestants have very real problems with Catholicism. But in the very nature of Protestantism there is the acceptance of differences. Protestants have no alternative but to accept as realities the basic Catholic promises for Catholics (not for themselves.) They must learn to live with them. At times this may require firmness, but no intolerance. Differences may be recognized and expressed but on the high level of statesmanship, and no bigotry. The genius of Protestantism is the open mind. Let Protestantism remain open-minded, broad-minded and tolerant, as it faces its historic differences with



Catholicism.

To Jews, I would say, do not live in a fool's Paradise. Do not take any satisfaction from the current Catholic-Protestant frictions. This divisiveness is bad for our country, and whatever is bad for our country will affect Jews as well. A poisoned atmosphere of divisiveness and distrust will engulf all. Let Jews do everything in their power, patiently, to bring about healing and reconciliation.

Jews must recognize that Christians cannot understand Jews without Judaism. Especially now that the State of Israel has come into existence, American Jews seem to have no justification for continuing their **differentness** other than their religion. Jews whose sole function as Jews seems to be either fighting anti-Semitism or building Jewish social agencies parallel to those in the general community, are not comprehensible to the Christian mind. Only as they are loyal to their own faith, do Christians respect them. ~~Only as they live their faith do they make~~ ~~their most significant contribution to the total American community.~~ Only as they live their faith do they make their most significant contribution to the total American community.

Jews should avoid the tendency towards self-ghettoization. Since the rise of Nazism and its repercussions here, Jews have been turning in upon themselves for congenial relationships and inner sustenance. This is understandable but it is not healthy. Unshakeably loyal to their own faith and kin, they nevertheless, should build and maintain natural, friendly and fructifying relationships with their neighbors. An experience with anti-Semitism does have a dampening effect on such friendliness. But we must not generalize from it. Most people are decent and want to be fair. Most, as recent studies have indicated, are open-minded and susceptible to friendly influences. Within the framework of dignity and self-respect, Jews should meet their neighbors at least halfway.

\*\*\*\*\*

The above suggestions do not require any sacrifice of basic principles. They do not imply that all religions are equal, and that it makes little difference how we worship. They accept the premise, that I have the right to believe that my religion is true, for me.

Democracy does not require uniformity or regimentation. Differences are possible and



and useful. The cross-fertilization of cultures has made America great.

But differences must not be equated with divisiveness. The present bitter religious dissensions is too costly a luxury. The whole future of Democracy hangs in the balance. The freedom of religion is at stake. This is the time for responsible religious leadership to put first things first. Priority should be given to (1) the acceptance and constructive use of differences, and (2) the seeking out and building upon common convictions.

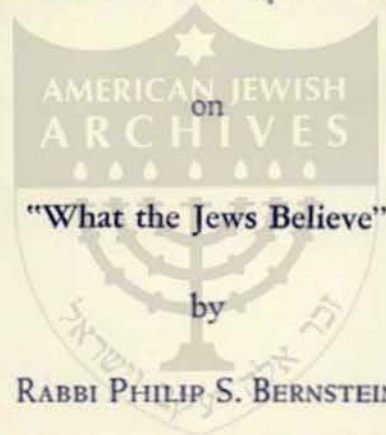




Statement By The Late

ROBERT P. PATTERSON

*Chairman National Interfaith Committee*



Luncheon - Lawyers Club - December 17, 1951

New York City

*The publication of Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein's book, "What the Jews Believe," has been a source of great personal gratification for me.*

*At the conclusion of World War II, when I was serving as Secretary of War, the United States Army in Europe was confronted with the delicate and tragic problems of the surviving displaced persons. I invited Rabbi Bernstein to serve as advisor on Jewish Affairs to the United States commanders in Europe. In that capacity he served with great distinction as counselor to General Joseph McNarney, Lucius D. Clay, Mark Clark and Geoffrey Keyes. He combined deep sympathy for the D. P.'s with the necessary understanding of the army's procedures and problems.*

"What the Jews Believe" by Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein is the affirmative statement of a Jew about the abiding conviction of his own faith. One senses dignity, self-respect and an understandable pride in so noble and enduring a religion.

On the other hand, as a Christian, I felt that the book has universal significance. Judaism

could not have survived or influenced the development of Christianity and Mohammedanism unless it contained broad meanings for all mankind. Rabbi Bernstein has wisely emphasized these universal truths in his book.

I feel that such a book is particularly useful at the present time, because of the tensions and misunderstandings which still prevail in our country. These are caused by many factors, but chief among them is ignorance. We distrust the unfamiliar. Knowledge dispels such suspicion. "What the Jews Believe" makes available to Christians the basic information which they desire about the beliefs and practices of their Jewish neighbors. The Jewish holidays come to life in its pages. The beliefs seem, not bizarre, but understandable, and in many respects similar to those of Christians.

In these times, I feel that such a book has an even larger purpose. Democracy is threatened as never before. We must do everything in our power to strengthen its foundations. An indispensable foundation of the American democratic way of life is our faith in the preciousness of the individual human being as a child of God.

This book eloquently reminds us of the religious basis of democracy. It applies ancient concepts of freedom to the needs of modern life.

Therefore, I regard it as an achievement that "What the Jews Believe" is now in its 5th edition and is being read by hundreds of thousands of people throughout the land. We hope that we have found a way for this important little book to be put in the hands of the Christian clergy, educators, editors and librarians as an instrument of good will and understanding.



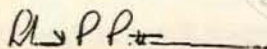


RABBI HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN

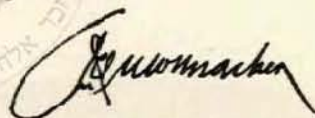
JULY 22, 1952

## Thank You

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will enable the  
NATIONAL INTERFAITH COMMITTEE  
to continue its efforts to impart  
a greater understanding of Judaism  
to Jews and Non-Jews alike



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**NATIONAL INTERFAITH COMMITTEE** 220 WEST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.  
(21st Floor)

RABBI HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN  
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2419 E. KENWOOD BLVD.  
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add to list of donors to Phil's project

Bruno Bittler -	10
Oscar Rozoff -	15
Harold Strouse -	15
Leo J. Kohn -	5
Artbilt Furniture Co -	10
	<hr/>
	55

Selig Schwartz

50





December 19, 1951

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein  
117 Biggs Street  
Rochester, New York

Dear Phil:

I followed up on the matter of the letter from Mrs. Tversky of Katznelson Institute. Silver will take care of the details.

As far as the Milwaukee deal, it's definite and I feel rather happy that I've made my mind up in that direction. One can always be wrong, but I think that I will have everything I had in Denver (except climate), plus an understanding and sympathetic board. The more I learn about the situation the more I realize that the congregation is fairly dead on its feet, but it can be rebuilt if one is given a free hand by one's board.

I have the happy feeling down deep inside of me that I have made the right decision and Elaine is slowly coming to agree with me. I am not coercing her but as she mulls this over more and more, she becomes more and more enthused.

Right now we are planning on a vacation before making the switch. We have blocked out two weeks in February, from the 4th to the 18th, during which time we want to go either to Phoenix or Las Vegas. I prefer the former and Elaine prefers the latter, because she has never been there. She also thinks we will get a chance to see Hoover Dam, probably some of the atomic workings out in the Nevada desert, and other things which are important to her in view of the fact that from now on the southwest will be pretty far from Milwaukee. Would there be any possibility at all of your joining us anywhere around those dates? The beginning and end of that period is a Monday, on which the family plan air travel arrangement is operative. Let me hear from you with regard to the possibilities.

I see your name all over the place on the JWB lecture circuit. Pretty soon you'll be like Stephen, hitting every tank town in America. By the way, talking about Stephen, I spoke with Carl Voss yesterday. He was here in Denver, and told me the scheme he has for a book on Wise and Holmes. He told me that he had discussed it with you in great detail and that you had some questions. I think it might be an interesting project which would appeal to a very wide audience. Let's talk it over the next time we meet.

Have you been reading Louis Newman's circular-letters lately? I think things may be coming to a head, at least as far as protecting the Institute is concerned. There's supposed to be a meeting in New York



December 19, 1951

tomorrow, December 20th. I wonder what the details are. I think  
Newman is in there pitching a good game. What do you think?

As ever,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

F/s

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES



October 5, 1951

Rabbi Philip Bernstein  
117 Gibbs  
Rochester, New York

Dear Phil:

My Girl Friday is about two-thirds finished with the typing of the lecture notes from this summer, and you shall have them in a few days. Sorry it is so late, but we have been swamped with work over the Holidays.

Am enclosing a list of the people who should be thanked in connection with the Summer Institute. You may not think it is necessary to thank them all, and you should certainly use your judgment. As you will see from the list, there are one or two whose names I have forgotten and one or two whose addresses I do not know. I am sure that the Israeli Consulate in New York, 11 East 70th Street, can supply you with the missing information.

I have looked into the schedule between Denver and Omaha and do not think that you should try to fit anything else in between those two one-night stands. You should take the morning plane over to Omaha, in order to be safe.

Elaine loved your clipping about the soup, although she hated the sight of Sophie looking so efficient at that stove. When my old lady gets near a stove she still gets frightened. How long does a guy have to be married before he gets a good meal?

At present I am planning to be in New York for over the week-end of the Union Dedication. Do you intend to come down, and if so when will you arrive and where will you be staying? Sam Silver said that he would be coming in from Cleveland and I promised to deliver all the Institute files.

With love to the family

As ever,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

F/s



People to be Thanked in Connection with  
CCAR Israel Institute

Ben Gurion

Sharett - Foreign Ministry

Berl Locker - Jewish Agency

Golda Meyerson - Ministry of Labor

Rabbi Maimon - Ministry of Religions

Rabbi Herzog - Jerusalem

Ambassador Monett B. Davis  
c/o American Embassy - Ramat Gan

Mr. Bender

Mr. Aviad Jaffe Foreign Office,  
Hakirya, Tel Aviv  
Mr. Astar (Copies to Sharett)

Lt. Col. Amit  
Sarafand Training Camp  
(Copy to Commander-in-Chief of the Army)

Col. Shimshoni  
Air Force Hq.  
(Copy to Commanding Officer, Air Force)

Moshe Pearlman  
PRO, Park Hotel  
Tel Aviv

Mayor of Haifa, Abba Hushi

Meyer Weisgal - Weizman Institute, Rehovot

Speakers:

Dr. Chaim Yachiel, 54 Ussishkin St. Tel Aviv

Mordecai Ben Tov, Mapai Party Hq.

Dr. Peretz Bernstein - Genral Zionist  
Party Hq.

Gershon Agron, Jerusalem Post

Dr. Noah Nardi - Education Department

Dr. Zalman Grinberg, Beilinson Hospital  
Petach Tikvah

Speakers (Continued)

Eliezer Levneh, Editor Beterem Magazine

Rabbi Phillip, Jerusalem

Rabbi Rosenberg, Tel Aviv

Saadia Gelb, Mapai Party Hq.

David Horowitz, Ministry of Finance

Hebrew University:

Prof. Leibkowitz

Prof. G. Scholem

Prof. J. Klausner

Prof. Ernst Simon

Dr. Bushkin

Prof. Schwabe

Prof. Sukenik

Miscellaneous:

Mr. J. Sprinzak, Speaker of Knesset

Messrs. Shazar, Soroka, Breslaw - Beth Berl

Moshe Gvansman - 15 Bialik St., Tel Aviv

Aryeh Liverant, Moshav Gan Hayim (near Kfar Saba)

Judy Gottlieb - 32 Allenby, Tel Aviv

Major Y. Koppel, Mgr. El Al, 29 West 57th  
New York, New York

Secretary of Parliament (don't remember name)

Teacher at Leo Bacck School in Haifa  
(don't remember his name)



speakers(cont):

Eliezer Livneh - editor Beterem Magazine

Rabbi Phillip - Jerusalem

Rabbi Rosenberg - Tel Aviv

Saadia Gelb - Mapai Party Hq.

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Secretary of Parliament (don't remember his name)

Teacher at Leo Baeck School in Haifa ( " " )

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connection with CCAR Israel Institute*

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Sharett - Foreign Ministry

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Rabbi Maimon - Ministry of Religions

Rabbi Herzog - Jerusalem

Ambassador Monett B. Davis  
% American Embassy - Ramat Gan

Mr. Bendor

Mr. Aviad Jaffe } --- Foreign Office,

Mr. Astar } Hakirya, Tel Aviv  
(Copies to Sharett)

Lt. Col. Amit - Sarafand Training Camp  
(Copy to Commander-in-Chief  
of the Army)

Col. Shimshoni - Air Force Hq.  
(copy to Commanding Officer,  
Air Force)

Moshe Pearlman - PRO, Park Hotel, Tel Aviv

Mayor of Haifa, Abba Hushi

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Dr. Chaim Yachiel - 54 Ussishkin St., Tel Aviv

Mordecai BenTov - Mapam Party Hq.

Dr. Peretz Bernstein - General Zionist Party Hq.

Gershon Agron - Jerusalem Post

Dr. Noah Nardi - Education Dept.

Dr. Zalman Grinberg - Beilinson Hospital  
Petach Tikvah



# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

December 11, 1950

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Temple Emanuel  
1595 Pearl Street  
Denver, Colorado

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

Rabbi Bernstein has asked me to write requesting two or three copies of your Temple Bulletin which contained the item about your securing copies of the September 11th issue of Life magazine containing his article. If these are available, he would very much appreciate your sending them along to him at your earliest convenience.

Thanks.

Cordially,

*Irene Rubin*  
Irene Rubin

12/13/50 Sent 3 Copies

# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

September 18, 1950

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
1595 Pearl Street  
Denver, Colorado

Dear Herb:

Not having received an S.O.S. from Elaine or Sam, I trust that you got back to Denver on time. In fact, my desk is Longs Peak high in unanswered and even unopened mail so there may even be some word here from you.

I received your note on the idea of a CCAR Seminar in Israel. You said you would let me have further details. Now I write to let you know there will be a meeting of the CCAR Executive Board in New York on October 10th. I would like to put this item on the agenda. Therefore, as early as you conveniently can, please send me the kind of letter which can be used as the basis for discussion and action by the Board. It ought to be detailed. In fact, if it is the kind of a letter I hope it will be, I may have it copied and distributed to the Board in advance of the meeting so as to give them a chance to think it over.

There is also something else in my mind. I would like to appoint you Chairman of the Committee on Projects for Israel. This Committee was set up about eighteen months ago (I think.) I served as its Chairman until I was elected Vice-President of the Conference. We held a series of breakfast meetings during the Conference and hammered out a fairly good program. Then it was turned over to David Polish who did absolutely nothing. I would suggest, therefore, that you look at the Bretton Woods Yearbook where you will find the report of our Committee and then some time before I meet with the Committee on Committees on the evening of October 9th, that you let me have your thoughts on this. The final decision on appointments rests with the Executive Board but I have the feeling they will follow my recommendations on this.

I am eager to get your story on Israel. When will you be coming East?

Love and happy New Year greetings from the Bernsteins to the Friedmans.

As ever,

  
Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir



*Bennett*

# Temple Beth Rodash

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

Dennis, Mass.  
July 20, 1950

Dear Herb:

I know you'll be interested in the enclosed story which appeared in the Rochester JEWISH LEDGER and THE AMERICAN HEBREW. Although it isn't 100% factually correct, it comes much nearer to the truth than the publicity stories given out by JDC. On reading this article I wrote to the editor of the Ledger to inquire about the source from which it came. They replied: "The manuscript came to us from Major A.S. Williams, Jr. GSC, Magazine and Book Branch, Dept. of Defense, Office of Public Information, Washington, D.C., and it was indicated that it had been cleared for publication by the Security Review Branch, OPI, OSD." I'm glad the Army's done this and wonder who wrote it up for them. Did Abe have anything to do with it?

Now, when and how will we get together? We're back at Dennis--our telephone number is Dennis 200. We expect to be here until at least August 20th. We'll be going to Bridgeport on July 30th to officiate at a wedding. If for any reason you should have occasion to reach us there, we'll be at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Abe O. Samuels on Anchorage Drive. If you will be in New Haven just prior to the 30th or immediately thereafter let us know and we'll try to arrange to see you enroute. If that doesn't work then be sure to come up here. We'll find some way to take care of you either in our own house if possible or near by.

In view of the fact that we may leave Dennis on Thursday or Friday, the 27th or 28th, to attend some concerts at Tanglewood, you'd better let us know about your plans by return mail.

It will be grand to spend some time together. Love to Elaine and the kids.

As ever,

*Phil*

*Just received your letter of 7/14<sup>th</sup> -  
Will talk to you about it - then we'll see you.*



# Talmud Comes Back to Germany

Printing of Talmud was spiritual symbol of triumph of law and culture over Nazi bestiality.

LATE in the evening of November 9th, 1948, large sheets of paper, caught by tender hands as they slipped from a press in a printing shop in Heidelberg, Germany, were guided into an adjoining bin and smoothed with the greatest of care—under the watchful eye of the United States Army. Tenderness and concern were required in handling such vitally important spreads of paper, each one larger than the top of an office desk. Every sheet contained eight separate page impressions of printing in Hebrew and Aramaic characters, types of print that had been banned in Germany since the advent of the Nazis.

That date in 1948 was significant for only one reason. Ten years earlier, to the day, and almost to the hour, a crowd of boisterous Heidelbergers stood nervously around a bonfire near the Neckar river within a few hundred yards of Heidelberg University buildings, and a small printing shop. Exaltation welled up from the throng as flames licked at the books and papers—Jewish literature gathered in a city-wide drive to seek out and collect the hated matter. The search and seizure drive was a duplicate of others conducted throughout Germany on the night November 9th, 1938.

The hoodlums and their leaders cheered as they noticed the large books in the pile commence to burn. They were witnessing the destruction of Talmuds—the encyclopedia of Jewish tradition which was originally produced in Palestinian and Babylonian academies during the Aramaic period—and eventually completed at the end of the fifth century in the Christian Era.

The Talmuds, like all other Jewish books, papers and documents, had been tossed from the old city's only synagogue by mobs of young Nazis, bent on destroying every vestige of Judaism on paper. When the wild fanatics burned the Talmuds they undoubtedly were ignorant of the fact that they were desecrating one of the world's great achievements in the field of literature—volumes that summarize more than seven centuries of cultural growth, concerned with law and life. They include copious discussions in

the field of religion, ethics, social and civil institutions, history, folklore and science. The Talmud, ostensibly the corpus juris of the Jews from the first century before the Christian Era, is interpreted as the whole religion, in terms of law. Consequently, wherever a Jewish center was established in the world, its chief intellectual interest centered around the Talmud.

The old city synagogue in Heidelberg, and synagogues throughout the Third Reich, were destroyed that November night in 1938 as if some automatic force had reached out from the night and rubbed them out of existence—by fire or force. Coincident with the almost complete erasure of Jewish religious centers from the German scene, all types of Jewish literature were burned. The loss of the Talmuds represented the most serious cultural blow to the Jews—a people who knew that burning of Talmuds did not originate in Germany. They knew that in 1242, more than 20 cart-loads of Talmuds had been burned in the streets of Paris. In 1553, they were burned publicly in Rome. Almost 400 years later the Nazis re-instituted the practice with the usual German thoroughness.

● It was something more than simple irony that ten years after the bonfire in Heidelberg craftsmen in the same city would be engaged in printing a special edition of Talmuds, and the U.S. Army would be vitally interested in the success of the project.

The full story behind the printing of the foremost Jewish work in a German city once a hot-bed of Nazism, started at the end of World War II in Europe. Thousands of European Jews, officially identified as "displaced persons," were scattered across Germany. They were a bewildered people—lost in a strange and unfriendly sea; they needed many things, but most important for their minds and hearts they needed Talmuds. Since there were few collections of Talmud volumes anywhere in Europe in the summer of 1945, there was no way the text could be made available to the Jews in Germany unless it was printed in the land where it had once been destroyed. Since the necessary type was unavailable

the first requirement was to obtain old Talmud volumes which could be utilized in the printing of new sets.

It was an American Rabbi, Philip S. Bernstein, who initiated and led the vigorous campaign to locate Talmuds in Europe. He was then serving as Advisor on Jewish Affairs to U.S. Army Headquarters in Germany, and was familiar with the problem that beset his people. With the aid of Rabbi from all over Europe, Rabbi Bernstein directed the search that eventually was to make one part of the dream come true—the acquisition of a complete set of the Talmud.

It was months before the mission was accomplished. Two volumes had come from Switzerland; eventually three other volumes were obtained in France. Several more were obtained through sheer luck—in a Jewish cemetery in Munich, where they had remained undetected since hidden in 1938. The remaining volumes needed to complete the six principal sections called "Sedarim," which comprise the Mishnah portion of the Talmud, were obtained from the United States.

It was not until the Spring of 1946 that Rabbi Bernstein was able to take the next step. With a delegation, he visited U.S. Army Headquarters in Frankfurt, where he outlined his problem to General Joseph T. McNarney, the Commander-in-Chief of U.S. Forces in Germany. The Rabbi was anxious to learn if the American Army could assist the Jews in getting the Talmud printed in Germany. General McNarney extended his official approval for American aid in the undertaking.

Under the approved plan, the U.S. Army Quartermaster in Germany would procure the necessary ink, paper and transportation, and arrange for contracting. The Army's Civil Affairs Division, concerned with any activity pertaining to "displaced persons" or their interests, would arrange to handle all financial aspects of the project. The German economy would pay all costs connected with the printing, and Rabbis and the Jews would assist in whatever manner possible.

● On paper the plan seemed ideal; putting it into operation was another matter. From the start problems multiplied; at one stage it appeared that the dream of resurrecting the Talmud from its ashes within Germany might never materialize. Although General McNarney had approved the plan early in 1946, nothing beyond the collection of the old Talmuds had been accomplished by the end of one year. Another year was to pass before actual printing commenced, and it was not until the spring of 1949 that the first volume in the unique edition was completed, the first of an eventual 650.

Work had been halted several times chiefly because of paper shortages. An important chemical, collodium, vitally necessary in the process of transferring the print from old Talmud pages to the zinc plates, was unobtainable. Its manufacture had been banned in the Allied Zones on the grounds that it was actually war material. That stalemate was overcome when the American Army in Germany obtained a sufficient quantity in the U.S., and had it shipped to Heidelberg.

It was the U.S. Army that was responsible for the progress. In addition to providing all supplies through the Army Quartermaster Division, the Headquarters arranged through the Civil Affairs Division for an allocation of 180,000 Deutsche Marks to finance the costs, based on the initial estimate. Proof-reading of all Talmud pages was required once they were processed onto zinc plates. At the same plant the sheets were folded, cut and bound, and after the titles were engraved, the volumes were taken to Munich for disposition.

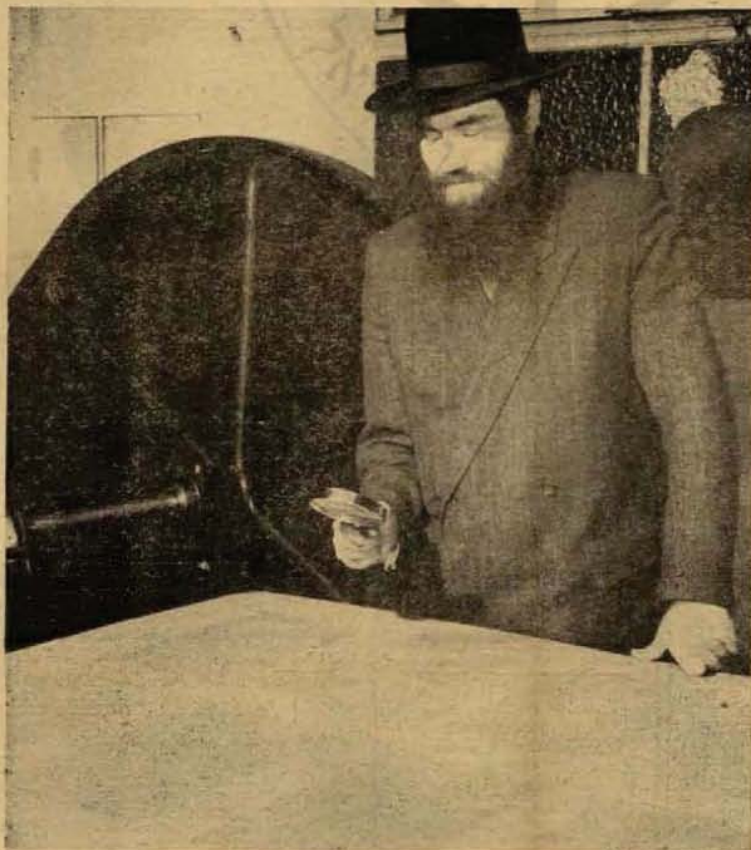
In May, 1949, when the very first volume was completed, Harry Greenstein, then Jewish Advisor to the U.S. Army in Germany, together with the Rabbi who had proof-read the volume, flew to Berlin and presented it to General Lucius D. Clay, as a gesture of thanks to the EUCOM Commander-in-Chief for the part the American Army had played in bringing the Talmud back into Germany.

● For almost two years, a slender Rabbi traveled over 350 miles to and from his home in Munich every two weeks, in order to read the Talmud page proofs set on the zinc plates. Because some of the volumes obtained in Europe were damaged, it was the task of the 34-year-old Rabbi, Samuel Jakob Rose, to study with painstaking care all 750 pages in each of the 19 volumes, and draw on his memory in correcting the proofs contained on about 1800 plates.

It is unlikely that any other young Rabbi in Europe was more ably qualified for the important and demanding work than Rabbi Rose. At the age of 25 he had completed 15 years of Talmud study—apparently obeying the command in the Talmud, expressed as follows: "At the age of ten years a child should begin the study of the Mishnah." The Mishnah is the original text of the Talmud, and some of it was set down by Rabbis more than 2000 years ago. Taken with the Gemara, which is the commentary on the text, the two phases constitute the Talmud.

Rabbi Rose studied the outstanding work at Slabodka Yeshiva University in Kowno, Lithuania, an institution devoted to the study of the Talmud. In 1941, he was presented with his Semichah, or ordination as a Rabbi. A few months after his ordination the Germans invaded Russia and poured into Lithuania. The Rabbi was picked up at Kowno, and placed in a ghetto there with 40,000 other Jews, where he remained for over three years. American troops reached the camp in May 1945 and found Rabbi Rose seriously ill. The Americans took him to a sanatorium in Bavaria, where he spent the next four months regaining his health.

In every volume in each of the Talmud sets there is a dedication, expressed in English. It reads as follows: "This edition of the Talmud is dedicated to the United States Army. This Army played a major role in the rescue of the Jewish people from total annihilation and, after the defeat of Hitler, bore the major burden of sustaining the DP's of the Jewish faith. This special edition of the Talmud, published in the very land where, but a short time ago, everything Jewish and of Jewish inspiration, was anathema, will remain a symbol of the indestructibility of the Torah. The Jewish DP's will never forget the generous impulses and the unprecedented humanitarianism of the American Forces, to whom they owe so much."



U.S. Army Photograph

Rabbi Samuel Jakob Rose of Munich examines the proof pages of the Talmud printed under U.S. Army auspices at a Heidelberg printing plant



*Bernstein*  
THE RABBI'S STUDY

# Temple Beth-Rodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

May 29, 1950

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
1595 Pearl Street  
Denver, Colorado

Dear Herb:

Your note of the 24th has just arrived.

I reply immediately, special delivery, because of Walter Kron. We are dealing with a time element in that in order to help him go on to graduate school, he has to submit his transcript within the next few days. Therefore, I have written to Antioch as per the enclosed. You will note that Walter has sent them \$60.00 directly and that I am advancing \$236.40 out of my personal funds at the moment. In other words, I am writing primarily to say "S.O.S." If you have that \$125.00 handy, please send it soon. The understanding with Walter is that this is a loan, some of which he will repay during the Summer. Thus far I have not told him that you are helping. Do you have any reason for my not doing so?

Abe's luncheon has been set for Tuesday, the 6th at the Hotel Roosevelt. My present plan is to arrive in Cincinnati at 7:23 P.M. (daylight time) by plane. Possibly you might want to meet me. If not, I will phone you at the Terrace Plaza. At the moment, I am awaiting word from Jake Marcus. If he thinks he ought to spend a good deal of time with me on the 6th, I may decide to pass up Abe's luncheon entirely and get to Cincinnati earlier in the day. However, I would like to be with Abe if at all possible. Should there be any changes in my program, I will let you know.

# Temple Beth Rodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

-2-

May 29, 1950

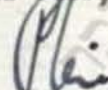
At the present, I have a reservation at the Gibson which Jake made for me. Should I change?

I don't know Abe's address. He never got to Walter Reid. Apparently the psychosomatic diagnosis was correct and he seems to be O.K. If you can get hold of a Chicago phonebook, you can probably locate him at the Senzibar home on the South Side. Otherwise you can reach him c/o Eli Rock when he comes for the luncheon next week.

Soph will probably arrive by sleeper Saturday morning, the 10th, and will remain through the 12th. You still have not told me whether Elaine will be with you. I am hoping and assuming she will.

All the best.

As ever,



Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir



May 29, 1950

Dean Barry Hollister  
Antioch College  
Yellow Springs, Ohio

Dear Dean Hollister:

This is to acknowledge your letter of May 8th. I regret the oversight in enclosing Walter Kron's letter. It is herewith attached.

I have just talked with Walter on the telephone and he informs me that he is sending \$60.00 immediately to Antioch together with a request for the transcript of his record. I am herewith enclosing my personal check for \$286.40 which covers the balance that Walter is owing at the present time.

He gives me the impression that the time element is urgent in order that he may be admitted to a graduate school in the Fall. Therefore, I would be grateful if you would forward the transcript to him at your earliest convenience.

Thanking you for your cooperation in this matter,

Sincerely yours,

Philip S. Bernstein

PSE/ir  
Enc.-2

# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

May 25, 1950

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Temple Emanuel  
1595 Pearl Street  
Denver, Colorado

Dear Herb:

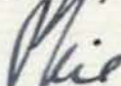
Eli Rock has just informed me that the date of the party for Abe Hyman has definitely been set for Tuesday noon, June 6th. It is apparently the only date all the Advisers could get together.

I am planning now to take the early morning plane to New York for the luncheon and then catch the 4:30 P.M. (daylight time) non-stop plane from New York which arrives in Cincinnati at 7:23 P.M.

Perhaps you could join me in New York for the luncheon and then we could take the Cincinnati plane together? Let me know as soon as possible.

All the best and looking forward to seeing you soon,

As ever,



Philip S. Bernstein

FSB/ir



Joel

Dear Herb

Camp

Sorry I couldn't write sooner, but when I recieved your letter I had already applied for a job at a scout camp and I had to know the score on that before I could answer you. As it turned out the scout camp has offered me a position and I have decided to take it. I have thought it over, and have decided that way for two reasons. (1) The camp is on a lake, and I want to develop my swimming for next year which is my last year on the swimming team (2) They are paying me 80\$. If it wasn't for  
(over)

these reasons I really would have wanted  
to go to your camp, for the trip out there, and  
seeing you folks again really appealed to  
me. If there is an opening again next  
year please think of me for I won't have  
any swimming team to worry about  
then. Thanks for asking and my best  
to all.

Love,

Steve



# Temple Beth-Rodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

May 22, 1950

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
1595 Pearl Street  
Denver, Colorado

Dear Herb:

Yes, I will be in Cincinnati on June 6th. I want to spend a few hours with Jake Marcus getting briefed for the Presidency. Jake insists, because of illness in the family, he will not stand for another term and that I must take over. If so, I had better do a little homework.

In any event, I can plan to spend the evening of the 6th with you. Sophy's plans are not definite yet. It is quite likely that she will come up about the 9th. Ben Friedman is getting an honorary degree and will drive up with his family. We hope to be together for the 11th which is our 25th anniversary. We ought to have dinner together that evening and go on a binge when the session ends that night.

Anyway, do plan to come on the 6th and let me know definitely about the time of your arrival. I am assuming Elaine will be with you.

While writing, let me comment on two other pending matters. I did not neglect your inquiry concerning Joel and Miami. I took it up by telephone with Jake in Cincinnati. He is a member of a representative committee which is supposed to make recommendations. Officially I put Joel's name in the pot. However, frankly, I am not very hopeful on the basis of what Jake told me. Apparently there is a mad scramble for the job (unless, of course, it has already been filled) and older men with longer experience are likely to be given first consideration by the committee. However, I suppose there is always the possibility of a Klausner type of situation. For some reason, I do not seem to be on the mainstream of rabbinic gossip and just don't know what has happened in Miami. Let's talk this over in Cincinnati and together take what steps may be advisable.

# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

-2-

May 22, 1950

Now as to Walter Kron, I would like you to know that I have been in friendly though sporadic contacts with him. He knows that I have a genuine interest in him. I have loaned him some money, which he has repaid. About a month ago I talked with him about his plans for the coming year. At that time, I assured him I would find a way to enable him to go on with his education if he would give me a clear-cut statement of the problem and would show the will to go on. Enclosed is correspondence which will give you the picture. Apparently I will have to raise some \$350.00 to enable him to get the transcript of his record from Antioch and to be admitted to a Graduate School. It seems that over \$300 of that money will have to be gotten together within a week or two so that he may submit his record to the Graduate Schools. At the moment, he is waiting to hear from the University of Michigan. Their reply will guide us in taking the next step.

In any event, it looks as if I will have to get together over \$300 for him quite soon. Have you any Funds, not personal of course, which might help with this? If you can raise \$100 or \$150, so much the better. If not, I will try to manage it myself. Don't send the money until I give you definite word but let me know whether it will be available if needed.

Walter continues to work as an orderly and has a steady income, which is O.K. I think he came to Rochester originally because of a female with whom he was involved and with whom he may still be involved. I think she is non-Jewish. He does not "tell all" and I don't pry. However, at this point it looks as if he has the will to go on and I think we ought to help.

Enough of this megillah. Let me know definitely soon about Cincinnati.

Fond regards to the Friedmans.

As ever,

  
Philip S. Bernstein

P.S. There is to be a Four Organization lunch for Abe in New York, possibly Monday noon, June 5th. Could you work that into your plans? On that subject, Minnie is coming to visit us again today. When you see Abe, please give him some advice. He certainly gets involved.



COPY

396 Meigs Street  
Rochester 7, N. Y.  
April 27, 1950

Rabbi Philip Bernstein  
Temple B'rith Kodesh  
117 Gibbs St.  
Rochester, N. Y.

Dear Rabbi Bernstein:

Since our conversation the other day I have gone over my financial situation very carefully and can now report to you exactly how much money I shall need to enable me to enter graduate school in the Fall.

At present I owe Antioch College \$350. Another \$60 will be needed to pay all the fees necessary for graduation. This makes a total of \$410.

There is a strong possibility of my obtaining a more remunerative job this summer. If that is the case, I shall, of course, have to borrow a smaller sum. However, if this job does not materialize - and my present calculations are based on that contingency - I will still be able to save a minimum of \$160 by next September, barring sickness and accidents. I shall need very little money for personal expenses in graduate school, because I shall have the G.I. Bill and plan to obtain part-time employment as soon as possible.

In view of these facts, I shall need \$250 which, with my expected earnings of \$160, will make up the necessary \$410 and I gratefully accept your very generous offer of a loan for that amount.

Sincerely yours,

S/ Walter V. Kron

COPY

TEMPLE B'RITH KODESH  
117 Gibbs St.  
Rochester, N. Y.

May 2, 1950

Bursar  
Antioch College  
Yellow Springs, Ohio

Dear Sir:

I have become interested in a young man named Walter B. Kron who came to Rochester last Fall. It happens that on his arrival in this country from Germany he lived in New Haven with the family of a very dear friend of mine, Rabbi Herbert Friedman, of Denver.

Mr. Kron is eager to continue with his studies. He would like to enter Graduate School in the coming Fall, preferably at the University of Michigan. He informs me that his indebtedness to Antioch College constitutes an insuperable obstacle at the present time. I gather that because of his indebtedness, Antioch College is not prepared to complete whatever arrangements are necessary to fulfil the graduation and certification process.

Because of my personal interest in him, I have assured Mr. Kron that I would help him. He now has steady work as a hospital orderly and hopes to save a minimum of \$160.00 by next September. This will leave a balance of \$250.00 owing on the \$410.00 indebtedness to Antioch. I am prepared to take whatever responsibility is necessary in order to consummate this matter and to enable him to go on with his education without delay. I have asked Mr. Kron to write me a letter covering this matter which he has done and which I enclose. I will be exceedingly grateful, therefore, if you will confirm the facts in this situation and inform me of whatever commitments I am to make in order that Mr. Kron may make early application to the Graduate School of his choice.

Perhaps I should add, with regard to the background of the writer, that he was Director of the Jewish Religious Program of the Armed Forces during the war; that he served as Adviser on Jewish Affairs to the United States Commanding Generals in Europe in 1946 and 1947 and he is, at present, Vice-President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation,  
Sincerely yours,

S/ Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir



COPY

ANTIOCH COLLEGE  
YELLOW SPRINGS  
OHIO

May 8, 1950

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein  
Temple B'rith Kodesh  
117 Gibbs Street  
Rochester 5, New York

Dear Rabbi Bernstein:

We are very pleased to know that you are taking a personal interest in our former student, Walter Kron. It is our impression that he is as much in need of friendly counsel as he is of the financial lift, and it may be that you are able to provide the kind of help that Walter needs much better than we were.

You probably realize by now that you did not include Walter's letter along with your letter to us.

Walter's outstanding account at this time is \$346.40. Beside that he has one academic requirement to complete before he can be certified for graduation, and that is his Senior Paper. The Senior Paper is a very important part of our examination program, and one that we require of all senior students, regardless of their fields of concentration.

Before registration for the Senior Paper is accepted, students must have cleared their accounts. Walter's debt has been the obstacle which prevented him from meeting his final academic requirement.

Once this debt is cleared, we would be glad to issue a statement to the effect that Walter has completed all but one requirement for our degree, and to release his transcript.

In order to get the degree, he will be expected to register for the Senior Paper by September 4th and pay the \$50.00 fee for it. The paper can be completed out of residence, but should be submitted by October 24th. The grading will take place with that of the entire Senior class, and if his grade is satisfactory, he will receive his degree in June 1951. The graduation fee is \$10.00.

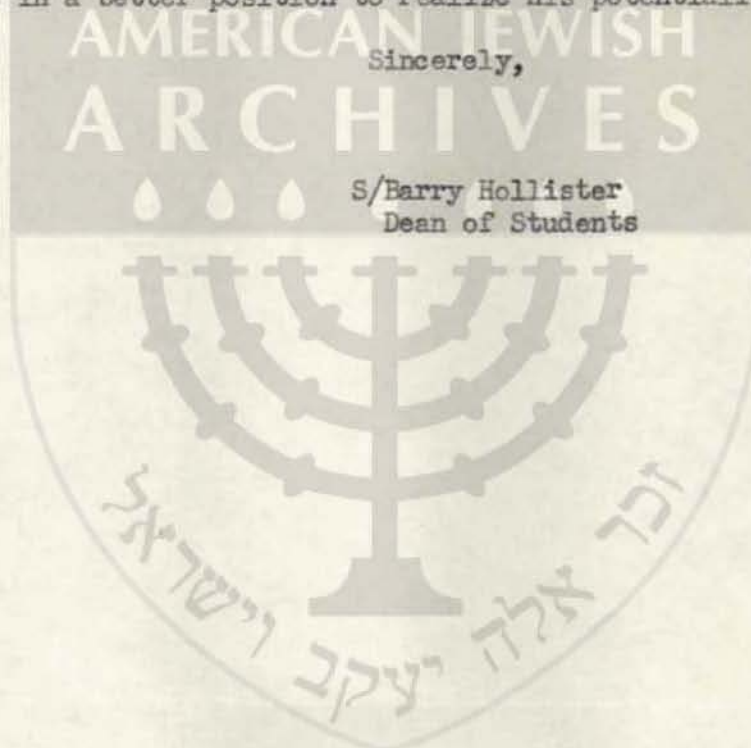
We talked this all over with Walter, and felt that he understood the basis of this process. His inability to make headway on his bill probably resulted in a block against going ahead as he planned when he was here.

We trust that you will understand that the position that we must take in the matter of degree requirements and financial responsibility acts as a protection instead of a hardship for the majority of students. We have tried to assist Walter in facing these responsibilities so that they would not become the insurmountable difficulties that they apparently have become. We hope very much that you will be able to help him to resolve these problems, so that he will be in a better position to realize his potentialities.

Sincerely,

S/Barry Hollister  
Dean of Students

BH:mk





March 21, 1950

Mrs. Sophie Bernstein  
140 Windemere Road  
Rochester, New York

Dear Soph:

I have your letter about Steve and have thought it over very carefully. We are going to be flooded with applications for counselorships from many of our own kids here. But I know perfectly well what the problem is with Steve is, and I know how hard you are trying to solve it. So, I talked the matter over with Joel Zion, who is going to run the camp together with me, and we agreed that we would invite Steve to come as an assistant counselor in arts and crafts. You see, we do not have any swimming facilities. Our camp is too high, and the mountain stream which runs through our property is too cold. Some day we will have a pool, but not for several years. Therefore, the best use we can make of Steve is as a junior or assistant counselor, who, with his scouting knowledge and techniques, can help keep the kids busy and interested with various handicrafts. Also, he is the kind of boy to whom we could entrust a group of kids on a hike, and other similar activities. So I am writing to him, and the enclosed copy will keep you informed. Also, when I get his answer, I will let you see a copy of it.

Our plans for the summer are just beginning to crystallize. I will be in Cincinnati for the CCAR from June 7-12. Elaine will be with me. Then she is going East, to her family's place in Connecticut, and I will return to Denver to help set the camp up. I will remain here until almost the end of July, to see that everything goes along well, and then I will join her in Connecticut, where we will spend August together. We plan to return to Denver by September 1st. If you are on the Cape any time from about July 25th through the end of August, we will certainly see you, because we will have a car at our disposal and it will not be far to reach you. Or, we would certainly love to have you come down and visit us in Connecticut. At any rate, I am certain that we will get together if we are both in the East.

My love to Phil

As ever,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

F/s



~~B~~

Monday, March 5

Dear Herb,

I'm taking my life  
in my hands writing this -  
if Steve ever found out he'd  
shoot me - But I love that  
boy and in spite of the way he  
feels about my always trying  
to boss him! (God forbid)

Anyhow this is the problem -  
Steve has been asked to be  
a Counsellor at the Scout  
Camp near Rochester - Sounds  
allright and in itself is  
quite an honor, they only  
ask those boys that are



best qualified - Knowing Steve  
as I do, he'll make a darn  
good Counsellor - They want  
him as waterfront man! But  
I just hate the idea - and  
there's why - The Camp is  
on a tiny island - in a bay -  
very isolated with only  
row-boats to get them to the  
main land - or the one motor  
boat that just comes with  
supplies once a week - The  
place is ultra-rough and  
mosquitoes infested (Steve  
always gets infected from the  
bites!) The kids cook their

own food which is fine for the  
usual 2 week period - but not  
for a whole summer's menu -

Steve admitted last summer  
when he came from there that  
many a meal for him was just  
bread and milk - because  
he wouldn't eat the bacon,  
ham or hot dogs that weren't  
kosher! - Last summer he got  
off the island just once! I  
just hate that isolation for  
him - You know he'll be  
almost 17 this summer and  
I feel it's so important that he  
have for once a summer  
that has all the normal,  
healthy relationships that



Florida is a must -

Our summer plans are as vague as usual - We may spend part of it right here - Our Temple is having some major job done - Phil wants to be here - Then we may go to the Cape - Jerem will be at Harvard summer school again! Or we may go to Israel - if Phil decides on that - And you - this summer no new babies? Will you stay West all summer - Did you know that Abe is coming back this month! We'll have to save him from Hazel and Minnie!!

How's your big family now - That son of yours is almost old enough to answer his old man back! Love to see you - Any chance your being East soon - All my love  
Soph

Honestly, I feel so silly  
writing all this to you about  
Steve - You know him almost  
as well as I do - And I know  
that a summer at a camp  
such as yours and being with  
you is something Steve needs.

Of course your place may  
not need the kind of help that  
Steve could offer - I'd love him  
to go as a camper - but he  
feels too old for that and he  
really is - But maybe he  
could go as an assistant -  
He's had enough scout camping



experience to know how to help  
set up a camp.

Anyhow ~~this~~ was all my  
idea and as I said before -  
never let him find out about  
it - If you think you can use  
him write to him directly -  
make any arrangements you  
want with him - I will be  
eternally grateful if it works  
out -

I have spent the last month  
trying to get to N.Y.C. - but so  
far someone has had a cold or  
something and I remain in my  
prison. Phil is just about  
getting over one he's had 3 weeks!  
He looks as if a month in

own food which is fine for the  
usual 2 week period - but not  
for a whole summer's menu -

Steve admitted last summer  
when he came from there that  
many a meal for him was just  
bread and milk - because  
he wouldn't eat the bacon,  
ham or hot dogs that weren't  
kosher! - Last summer he got  
off the island just once! I  
just hate that isolation for  
him - You know he'll be  
almost 17 this summer and  
I feel it's so important that he  
have for once a summer  
that has all the normal,  
healthy relationships that



a fine co-educational camp  
would have. That's why I feel  
so strongly about his being  
on this Island all summer.

Now this is what I'd love  
for him - if you can possibly  
find a place for him at your  
Temple Camp - It sounds  
perfect for Steve - Do you  
realize all the qualifications  
that boy has - I'm frankly  
boasting - Best -

He's an Eagle Scout and  
has held some very major  
jobs in his troop - right  
now he's the treasurer of  
the whole troop -



March 21, 1950

Mr. Steven Bernstein  
140 Windemere Road  
Rochester, New York

NEW ADDRESS — 310-316 DENVER THEATRE BUILDING

Dear Steve:

As you know, our Temple has a camp in the Rocky Mountains about 45 miles outside of Denver, in the direction of Echo Lake. I think I wrote to your dad about it sometime ago, and he might have told you about it. It is rather rough, because we have not made many improvements on it. The camp was given to us last year, and we are going to take up 40 children at a time for two week periods each this summer. We are inviting kids in our own Sunday School, and so far we have received many, many applications. The camp will have a schedule as follows:

July 1-15; boys and girls ages 9-10  
July 15-29; boys and girls ages 11-12  
July 30-August 11; boys and girls ages 13,14,15

We do not plan to run the camp for the last two weeks in August, except for various miscellaneous groups who might wish to come up, such as groups of teachers, teen agers, etc. We are deliberately leaving the last two weeks of the summer open and indefinite.

There will be no swimming at the camp, because we are too high in the mountains, and the stream which runs through our property is too cold. Therefore we will have to concentrate on other types of activities. We will have horses available so that the kids can ride. And we will have to do a great deal with arts, crafts, handicrafts, etc. It is in this connection that I am writing to you. I thought you might enjoy spending the summer with us as a junior or assistant counselor at the camp, working particularly with the arts and crafts. I remember that you have gone pretty far in scouting, and have gotten many merit badges, and I therefore imagine that you can do well with leather work, woodwork, etc. Also, you know enough about woodsmanship for me to feel confident in entrusting a group of kids to you for a hike or nature course, or similar things.

We are charging our kids \$32.50 per week, or \$65.00 for the two week period. Our junior counselors are not required to pay anything at all. However, we are not in the position of paying them any salaries. So, it is a question of your spending the summer with us as an assistant counselor, in return for your room and board. The rooms, incidentally, are all log cabins. You will not have to sleep in a tent. The only financial question which remains is the matter of your transportation out here. Do you think your folks would be willing to buy you a ticket to Denver and return?



Steven Bernstein

-2-

March 21, 1950

We are beginning to round up our staff now, and while there is no particular rush, I would appreciate having an answer from you within the next couple of weeks. I have no idea how your folks will feel about this, and it might be that they would be reluctant to let you come such a distance, but I am not writing to them. I am asking you first.

I am enclosing a copy of our latest bulletin, which describes the camp somewhat. I'm sorry I have no pictures to send to you, but if you come you will see yourself how beautiful the place is.

Give my best regards to your mother and dad, to Alice, who is still one of the loves of my heart, and to Hermy.

Let me hear from you as soon as you think this over and talk it over with the folks.

As ever,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

F/s

Blind copy to Sophie Bernstein



January 23, 1950

Rabbi Philip Bernstein  
117 Gibbs Street  
Rochester 5, New York

Dear Phil:

For some absolutely inexplicable reason your airmail special delivery letter dated last December 30th asking for information about Walter Krohn fell into the bottom of my basket and has only today emerged to the top. I have no idea which of the girls was responsible for this, or whether I was responsible myself, but at any rate the letter was buried and I apologize for this inexcusable delay in answering it.

Walter Krohn has lived with our family in New Haven ever since he came from Germany in 1935 or 1936, I'm not sure which. My mother took him in and considered him a fourth son. He went through high school in New Haven, living at our house, and after having worked in a lithography plant in New Haven for awhile, went on to Antioch. I helped him periodically through his studies, and when he moved on to Rochester, I gave him your name as someone to whom he could turn when in trouble. I cannot vouch to the fact that he still owes Antioch some money, although I suspect that is true. I know he had tough sledding during his last year there. His family in Germany was liquidated, and he has no relatives in the U.S. He considers my folks in the role of foster parents. Anything you can do for him, without assuming enormous financial responsibility, would be appreciated. I told him that I thought it was time for him to stay out of school for a year and go to work so that he could accumulate money to pay his back debts. When that was done, I felt it was proper for him to return to school for graduate work. He is extremely bright and I think his academic career should be further. On the other hand, however, I also think he should come to understand his own financial responsibilities, and if it means taking a year off from school, he should be urged to do so. His counterargument to that is that he spent several years in the army (in Germany as an interrogator of German prisoners of war) and that he is too old now to waste many more years. You use your own judgment with him. I have told him that I don't think it would be tragic if he took one year out of school to accumulate enough of a financial reserve to enable him to go ahead.

The other item you inquired about was the Miami post. Thanks for thinking of me, but I am not interested. My American Council friends are practically defunct, and I no longer am bothered by them. I still like Denver and don't contemplate any change.

My best wishes and again apologies for this delay. As ever,



# Temple B'rith Rodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

December 30, 1949

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
1595 Pearl Street  
Denver, Colorado

Dear Herb:

I have been concerned about a young chap who has been in Rochester for the last few months whose name is Walter Krohn. I write to you about him because he tells me (if my memory is correct) that he lived with your family when he came from Germany and knows you quite well.

Apparently he came to Rochester to do a job of translation and also, I think, because of his interest in a girl who is teaching here. The job petered out and he hasn't found another.

He seems to have three problems. The first is his immediate financial needs which we will help him with. Second, getting some kind of a job which we are trying to help with but not successfully so far and third, a long-range program. He says he would like to go on with graduate studies in history but claims he owes Antioch College a sum of money which prevents his getting the necessary certification. I have no way of knowing whether the latter statement is entirely correct or not and he has not particularly encouraged our looking into it.

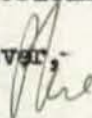
I write to you at this time not for help in handling the problem because we will take that responsibility here but for background information. Is his story o.k.? He says he has no family of any kind. Is that correct. Whatever advice, information or suggestions you can send along would be appreciated.

I am getting this note off in a hurry erev Shabbos and hope to write at length about other things soon.

Before closing let me ask whether you would be interested in the Miami post. You know, I assume, that Zvitman died last week. Some of the officers of the congregation have been in touch with me but I have't given them any encouragement. Would you be at all interested? If so, I will go into detail with you and will talk to them. You would certainly swim in such a sea of sour cream that you would quickly forget all your Western "American Council" sourpusses.

A happy New Year to all the Friedmans.

As ever,





January 19, 1950

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein

117 Gibbs Street

Rochester 5, New York

Dear Phil:

I have your letter regarding our handling of *jahrzeit*. We have a record of all anniversaries of Temple members which goes back I don't know how many years, but quite a considerable length of time. My guess is that we have names going back for about 50 years. Every Friday evening, during the recitation of the Kaddish, I recite the names of the people whose anniversary of death it is. In addition, of course, we recite the names of any of those who have died during the past week. We make a distinction by reading first the list of anniversary names, and then interjecting the phrase that we remember also the following who have died during the previous week.

We inform the families of the deceased that the names will be read, by printing those names in the Bulletin, and indicating the Friday night on which the names will be called out. Our Bulletin appears every two weeks, so that we print two weeks listings in advance. We find that in almost every single case some of the heirs or descendants of the deceased are present at that Friday evening service.

As far as the financial arrangement is concerned, it works somewhat as follows: We have a large bronze memorial table out in the foyer. On that tablet we place small bronze plates bearing the name of the deceased. The whole plaque is arranged in alphabetical order, with blank spaces left under each alphabetical section for future additions. It costs \$100 to have the name engraven on the plaque. When that is done, the name is entered in the permanent Kaddish book under the date of death. From that book our secretary extracts every week the list of those whose anniversaries occur. Now this financial arrangement is by no means hard and fast. In many, many cases we enter the name of a deceased in the Kaddish book, without ever requiring the \$100 or without putting the name up on the tablet. Any name which is entered in the book, automatically appears upon the weekly anniversary list. We do it this way, because we have the same reluctance which you have about making a commercial matter out of the sentimental fact of death. If the family can afford \$100 to have the name put upon the bronze plate, that is fine. If they cannot afford that, there is no pressure whatsoever, and we simply put the name in the book, which assures them that the name will be memorialized each year. This seems to be a



January 19, 1950

balance between gratuitous service to some and income producing service to others.

My own evaluation of the whole procedure is that it is helpful and valuable. When the surviving members of a family gather together on the particular Friday night of the anniversary of the deceased in their family, they participate in a genuine religious experience, at least for that one Friday evening. They may not show up again very often during the balance of the year, but at least we are serving them on that one occasion.

I am contemplating something new in regard to the *jahrzeit* practice, which we shall probably institute shortly. As you know, the Committee on Ceremonies has produced a one page ceremonial for use at home for the lighting of the *jahrzeit* candle. The cost about a penny apiece. I am thinking of inaugurating a system whereby we will not only print in the Bulletin the names of those whose *jahrzeit* is coming up in the next two weeks, but also of sending a letter to those of the heirs who we can definitely ascertain and including in that letter this little one page sheet, suggesting that they should light a candle on the exact evening of the death, and that the name will be read on the nearest coming Friday night. I am not sure that it will become a universal practice in Reform Judaism, but I have heard many expressions of interest in this proposal, and we shall try it, on the theory that if even some of our people are interested in lighting this *jahrzeit* candle, they will appreciate the fact that we have taken the trouble to inform them and to provide them with a simple home ceremony which they can use. If there are any other questions you have about our practice, I will be happy to answer them.

I was in Chicago over this past weekend for a mid-western conference of the UJA, and had an opportunity to spend about an hour with Ralph and Alice. Coincidentally Danny was home from the hospital for his experimental weekend, and I had a chance to see him also. He appeared rather *quint*, smoked a great deal, but seemed to be in fair spirits. He was interested in the things we talked about, and sat at the table with us for the entire period. On the way downstairs to the taxi, alone with Alice, I asked her whether they were pleased with his progress, and she said they were. It was possible that he would be home from the hospital for good within the next few weeks. She they were encouraged by the medical prognosis.

At the UJA conference, a guy by the name of Herschel Weil, from Lexington, Kentucky, who is the UJA chairman for the entire state of Kentucky, came up to me and asked if there was any possibility of arousing the enthusiasm of all American rabbis, not just a few, for the cause of the UJA. I think he said he was a member of the executive board of the Union, and that he wanted very much to see that some cognizance was taken at the next conference of the CCAR in Cincinnati of the needs of the UJA. I said that you were



Rabbi Philip Bernstein

-3-

January 19, 1950

chairman of the program, and that I would pass his suggestion on to you. He said that he knew you and thought that you would remember him. It would seem to me that with the needs as pressing as they are, it might be worthwhile to introduce some such note somewhere in the program. You think it over.

Elaine and the kids are fine, and we continue to be extremely busy. Any chance of getting together in the near future?

F/x

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES





# Temple Beth Rodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

January 11, 1950

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
1595 Pearl Street  
Denver, Colorado

Dear Herb:

There has been considerable agitation for the re-establishment of the jahrzeit practice in our Temple. In all the years that I have been here, the only thing that we have done officially has been, on Saturday mornings, to read before the Kaddish the names of those members who have died during the week. However, we have never taken recognition of anniversaries, although we have encouraged individuals to do it in their own way.

Now the feeling is that we ought to encourage the jahrzeit practice in the Temple. We are not yet clear about the procedures. I consulted with Joe Fink in Buffalo and Ben Friedman in Syracuse where they tell me they have an established financial arrangement. Our people, who have always leaned over backward in such matters, are rather reluctant to do this.

I write to you to learn how this is handled at Emanuel. Do you simply inform people of the forthcoming anniversaries of their departed? Do you put names in the Bulletins? Do you read the names from the pulpit, etc. Perhaps, in addition to the essential information, you might be willing to give me your own evaluation of the procedures.

For whatever information and advice you will send, we will be grateful.

*Best to the family*

Cordially,

*Philip S. Bernstein*  
Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir



December 12, 1949  
(dictated 12-9-49)

Mrs. Philip Bernstein  
140 Windemere Road  
Rochester, New York

Dear Soph:

Your long, breezy letter of November 29th was very welcome. I had heard the news about Danny and had written to Ralph and Alice. On my recent trip East, I had a few minutes at the airport at Chicago and talked to them. They seemed well composed, but I can just imagine the enormous psychological anguish through which they are passing. If there is ever anything you can think of which I can do to help, please know that I want to do so very much.

The stay in New York was short, thus making it impossible to get to see you. I can't tell you how much I miss you all. I talk about you constantly and would really give my eye teeth for another good bull session. But the meetings I went to attend simply took up too much time, and I had to spend a half a day in Connecticut with my folks. I had one free night which I used to see "Death of a Salesman." It is a shattering play. I am going to preach on it tonight. Incidentally, in your letter you mention the book "Killers of the Dream" by Lillian Smith. I'm going to do a review of it in February for our Sisterhood Study group. I haven't read it yet, but was very interested to hear your comments. Now I am convinced that it is worthwhile reviewing.

As for a trip to Israel, you are absolutely right. In another six months, Phil and I will have the honor of being the only rabbis in the whole United States who have not been there. Maybe, therefore, we will achieve distinction in a reverse manner. There is, however, one slight possibility that I might be able to get there this winter. We are attempting to work out some method whereby a delegation of men will go from Denver to make a tour of Israel, right before the next UJA campaign next spring. If we can get a group of four or five men to go, then I will accompany them as a community guide, sponsored by the community. That, of course, will leave Elaine out in the cold, but right now the cupboard is bare and I see no possible way to take her along, even if the scheme should materialize. If it works out, the group will probably go about the middle of February and get back by the middle of March. It sounds like a long shot, and probably won't work out, but I'll keep you posted.



Mrs. Philip Bernstein

-2-

December 12, 1949

Our 75th Anniversary celebration is now behind us, and you have already received a copy of the brochure we published for the occasion. It was really quite an event. The Temple was full on Friday night, for Magnin; and the banquet room at the hotel was full Sunday night, for Glueck. The whole congregation was really quite excited about the thing, and I am hoping that the celebration had a salutary effect in stimulating interest and reducing the opposition. The opposition, incidentally, has shifted its attack from the question of Zionism, to the matter of the Sunday School. They feel the Sunday School is too long, that the kids are becoming too Jewish, and that in general we should go back to the good old days when we did not make people uncomfortable by stressing their Jewishness so much. You know the line. I am told by Eisendrath that this shifting of the front is becoming national. The opposition crowd in every city is lining itself up for a minimal program in Jewish life instead of a maximal one. In a way, they are being quite honest, for underneath their anti-Zionism there was always this Jewish self-hatred, which is now beginning to be expressed ever more clearly.

We continue to receive large numbers of DP families every month, and I don't know if I have told you that for about a year now we have been having a party in our house each month for the new arrivals during the past thirty days. I try to welcome them warmly and effusively, so that they have the feeling that someone in the community cares for them as human beings. I do it in conjunction with our local Jewish Family Agency and our local Council for Jewish Women Committee on Services to New Americans. It seems to have a good effect. Fishbein was here a few weeks ago and quite a large crowd of the new Americans came to hear him at the B'nai B'rith building. There were actually four of them who used to be his wards in the camp in Berlin. You should have seen that reunion! They fell all over him, and he, in his big Bluff way, made a fuss over them. He was really quite a riot while here. He told countless stories and kept everybody chuckling. It is the same old Fish.

By now this letter has gotten to be quite a magillah. Please share it with Phil, for he will probably be interested in some of the items. I expect to be in Cincinnati on April 4th, which is a Tuesday. There is a one day meeting of the Committee on Ceremonies. Would it be possible to meet in Chicago? Or will Phil be in Cincinnati for any other meetings that week? If not, let us hold in reserve the possibility that I can fly up from Cincinnati to Rochester for a few hours. We will see how things work out.

Give my best congratulations to Steve upon his accomplishment in the Scouts. I think it is perfectly wonderful. And don't forget to kiss Alice for me, as well as our deepest love to all the family.

As ever,



Tuesday - Nov 29

Dear Herb -

I thought you'd like to see the clipping! He's really quite a boy - at the ceremony of pinning on the 'Eagle' he allowed me to kiss his Cheek! The thing that really thrilled him was a special award given to the best Scout of the year - It came as a complete surprise to him and had never been given to any boy under 18 - He was made one of the Leaders - All in all Steve has really come along beautifully although he still a little boy in his attitude towards me - He still feels he must fight the slightest authority or



mothering I may try to show - But it  
doesn't matter, with Phil he's just  
fine and in school he's tops. I'm  
really very fond of him - and could  
cheerfully swing his neck at times -  
But it won't be so long now, you'll  
find yourself the same way with  
your young'uns - By this time  
they should both be quite distinct  
personalities and more than a  
handful - Isn't it fun though, just  
to watch them growing into persons -

I was so unhappy that we missed  
you on your last trip East - Don't  
let it happen again - It's almost  
a year since we've seen you - and

that's much too long. ②

I'm writing this on the train to  
Chicago - talk about a grewsome  
trip - I left home 6 A.M. - this morning  
+ with the train over an hr. late -  
I won't be in Chicago until 8 P.M. tonight  
But it's worth it just to be with  
my sister Alice for a few days. They've  
had a terrible shock this last  
month - Their older son Danny has  
had a mental breakdown - and is  
now in the Ill. Hospital - He's  
getting the best care - but it's a long  
business and it came as a terrible  
blow - just out of the blue - There  
isn't much I can do - but I just



want to be with her at this time -  
So I left the 'Boss' home for a  
change, completely responsible  
for the family - That's actually  
the first time I have ever done it -  
It's an odd feeling but good for both  
of us -

There's just having our Welfare Drive  
I was a Captain in the Women's Division  
and I'm afraid we didn't do too well  
this year - Not just my team - as a  
whole - only 65% of our quota - Not  
good - But people are so ready to  
shirk responsibility now - Israel is  
a state - let them do it - Cold indifference  
to the facts and needs - It's awful -  
Joe + Phil are the few Rabbis around

who didn't get <sup>(3)</sup> to Israel this year -  
but even those that did in our town  
can't seem to rouse the people! I  
guess people just want to forget all  
the horror & cruelty there still is in the  
world - I've just finished 'Killers of the  
Dearborn' Lilien Smith - Don't miss it  
if you haven't already read it - It's the  
most enlightening book I've read to  
date - It's really marvellous -  
How about that trip to Israel - Phil  
talks about it as a must in the  
very near future - I'm sure he'll get  
there - but where will my fare come  
from - The latest figures are about  
\$3,000 for a round trip flight for two  
with about 3 weeks there - He can



dream - no too worse than ever!  
Phil saw greenstone in my last  
week - Abe is now all set as the  
last advisor until about Jan. of this  
year - Then if the 3 organizations set up  
a permanent office there - as Phil would  
like them to do - Abe talks of remaining  
on indefinitely - (Minnie came home -  
no luck, she tried but couldn't get it!)  
I think he's crazy to stay on - and I'll  
write him that - Let him come home &  
make a permanent life for himself!  
What's he afraid of - Ah well - I always  
talk too much - but I love talking to  
you - Give my love to Elaine -  
I'd love to hear a first hand report from  
her on being a mother twice in one year!  
Love to all,      Soph



October 14, 1949

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein  
140 Windemer Road  
Rochester, New York

Dear Phil:

Many thanks for your kind invitation to take part in the next CCAR program. You ask whether there is anything particular which I would like to discuss. You know me, boss - I will take any assignment you give me. Two years ago at Kansas City, I read the Torah during the Saturday morning Conference Service. It might be wise, therefore, not to duplicate that.

Since you ask for suggestions as to other participants, let me offer the names of Morton Fierman of Tulsa and Morris Lieberman of Baltimore. When I next see you in person, I will explain the reason for these suggestions.

As far as subject matter for the Conference program is concerned, there is one problem I would like to see handled, somehow or other. There is the problem of the relationship of the Rabbi to a very large congregation. I refer to the difficulty of doing an adequate pastoral job under these circumstances. Should there perhaps be rabbinical specialists (such as Gerstenfeld has in Washington) who will concentrate exclusively in the field of pastoral visiting and personal counselling. Can the CCAR be helpful in explaining to the larger congregations that the Rabbi simply cannot be present at every wedding rehearsal, every couple's anniversary dinner, every individual's moment of joy or sorrow? You see what I am driving at - some sort of seminar for round table discussion on how the Rabbi in the larger congregation can adjust his time; and how the congregation can somehow be made to understand that there are limits of what can be expected of him in pastoral or social terms.

I certainly can understand your reaction to extra travelling this year, in view of what faces you when you assume presidency. However, let us not close off the matter of the Institute completely, as far as you are concerned; when our plans crystalize and we get a more or less specific date in mind, we will discuss it further.

Am definitely coming to New York for November 7-10. Have written the Essex House for reservations, but no confirmation as yet. Am afraid that I will have to return to Denver no later than the morning of the 11th, because our 75th Anniversary celebration is



October 14, 1949

occurring over the following week-end (November 18-20), and I would not want to be away any longer. I could be available for the UJA in Rochester Wednesday night, November 9 or Thursday night, November 10, if I could get good connections out of Rochester on the morning of the 11th.

The Yiddish story was delightful - I have already used it successfully on two occasions.

Much love to Soph and the kids.

As ever,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

F/s

P.S. How do you like the Kiddish cup our Committee on Ceremonies produced? I think it is very handsome.



# Temple Beth Rodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

October 10, 1949

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
1595 Pearl Street  
Denver, Colorado

Dear Herb:

We enjoyed your long letter and the picture. The baby has your puss.

As to your Institute, at the moment there is nothing specific on the horizon to bring me West. My duties as Vice-President I hope, will be limited largely to the preparation of next year's Conference program and to Board meetings. After my long absence from the congregation and the prospective two hectic years beginning in 1951 when I will assume the Presidency, the Temple Board is not likely to react favorably to too much running around for this purpose as Vice President. Therefore, at the moment, your Institute can't be fitted into anything that is in prospect. If you would very much like to have me come out for this purpose, let me have some specific suggestions. But don't feel under obligation to do it. Work out whatever seems best at your end.

At the moment I can't tell you definitely whether Soph and I can be in New York on November 8 and/or 9. We are keeping it in mind. Please let me know when your plans become definite, or if they change.

We are having a late Fall U.J.A. campaign. If I could work out some kind of a speech for you here, would you be interested in stopping off?

I have been hearing from Abe. He is definitely becoming the last of the Advisers. McCloy wants the Office closed by January 1st. You and I ought to be looking around for something for Abe to do when he returns. We had Al Capp here last Wednesday night and had a wonderful time with him. He told me that he grew up in New Haven. I asked him whether he knew Herb Friedman. He replied that one couldn't grow up in New Haven without knowing at least eight Herb Friedmans. He is a brilliant, lovable person with a sense of humor directly from the Gods.

As in the story, I am enclosing now, "du shis!"

Love to the family,

As ever,

  
Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir  
Enc.



# Temple Beth Rodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

October 10, 1949

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Temple Emanuel  
1595 Pearl Street  
Denver, Colorado

Dear Herb:

I would like to have you take part in the next CCAR program. Is there anything particular you would like to discuss in this connection? Have you suggestions concerning the next program? Also, have you suggestions as to other participants?

In view of the fact that I must bring my recommendations to the Executive Board meeting in Cincinnati next Tuesday, I would appreciate an ~~acceptance~~ *an answer* from you at your earliest convenience.

Cordially,

*Philip S. Bernstein*  
Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir

TSVEY IDN HOBN ZACH AMOL TSUKRIGT

Tsvey idn hobn zach amol tsukrigt, eyner hot  
arasssgerufn dem andern af a duel. Hot men opgeret, az  
ibermorgn zeks azeyger in der fri zol men zach trefn af'n  
feld, un dortn vet me shissen. Gekumen di sho, iz eyner fun  
zey geven dortn punkt. Me vart a fertl sho, me vart a  
halbe sho, der anderer iz mito! Mit eynmol kumt tsugeloyfn  
a id un bringt a brivl fun dem andern, un in brivl iz  
geshtanen geshribn; "Yossl, tomar vel ich zich farshpetign,  
zolsstu af mir nit vartn; du shis!"



September 19, 1949

Rabbi and Mrs. Philip Bernstein  
140 Windemere Road  
Rochester, New York

Dear Phil and Sophie:

Somehow or other the summer has fled and I haven't yet answered your last letter from Cape Cod. I don't know where the time has gone to, except to say that taking care of two babies seems to consume all of the waking and most of the sleeping hours. The babies are both fine, incidentally, and I am enclosing the latest picture of Danny, who is now three and one-half months old. I think he is going to be a tough and stubborn guy. The line of his lower lip and the jutting jaw promise to give difficulty in the future. Judy is perfectly gorgeous and we are having lots of fun with her.

Part of the summer went with work in our summer camp. You remember I wrote that a large acreage had been bequeathed to us, and we planned to develop it as a camp for the Sunday School kids. The full project will not be feasible until next year, but this summer we took two trial groups, for one week each. We took a dozen boys for a week and then thirteen girls for a week. I was the cook and general handy man. It was a wonderful experiment. The camp facilities are terrific and I envision a stimulating program, with full recreational opportunities, as well as a cleverly integrated religious and educational program. There are facilities for 48 kids at one time. We went horseback riding every day, took long hikes, cooked on the outdoor fireplaces, fished in the stream which runs through the camp property, and in the evenings told stories and sang songs in the main lodge. It was just swell. I kept thinking of you, knowing how much you would have enjoyed it. Now I have to get busy and raise some money to outfit the place with all the necessary plumbing and furniture which a full camp program will require. The biggest job will be the building of a road. We are about a mile and a half in the forest from the main highway, and the present road is a rock-strewn cattle path. There is no more work to be done this fall, because the snows are already beginning to close in up there. So we will probably devote all of next June to construction, and try to open the camp by July 1st. The invitation still stands to come out and spend some time there.

The National Urban League had its annual convention in Denver last week, and I met Lester Granger. He asked me to pass cordial regards to you and Mrs. Weil.



September 19, 1949

The 75th Anniversary celebration, for which I had such grandiose plans, has simmered down to a one week-end affair, November 18-20. The whole concept of the lecture-series, which we had talked about last spring, has evaporated. The Board is simply lethargic, and I can't shake them loose. So it has boiled down to one big Friday evening service, with Magnin coming in from the West Coast as the main speaker, plus old members of the congregation who will recite the tale of the early days; a Saturday morning service involving the children; and a Sunday evening congregational banquet, on November 20, with Nelson Glueck as the main speaker. At that banquet we will load the head table with all of the customary civic, state, and other local dignitaries. It sounds rather mundane and quite ordinary, as it will probably turn out to be. But I don't think there is any sense in arguing further with the Board. Maybe by the time the congregation is 100 years old, they will get excited enough to plan a really impressive series of events.

Tell me what your duties are as vice-president of the Conference. Will your job entail much traveling around? I ask that because if you are going to be anywhere near this neck-of-the-woods during the year ahead, I would like to arrange an Institute for the Clergy, and take advantage of your presence as speaker. We had no Institute last year. In 1947 Jake Marcus came, and we had a very fine one day affair. We had about 60 ministers, whom he addressed in the morning, and again in the afternoon. A luncheon was served to them right here in the Temple by the Sisterhood. I would like very much to repeat that this year and think it would be swell if you could manage to come. How about looking over the calendar, boss, and giving me some ideas about feasible dates.

I plan to be in New York on November 7th and 8th for a meeting of the CCAR Committee on Ceremonies. I really enjoy the work on that Committee, and make every effort to attend its meetings. Is there any possibility of seeing you at that time? I will probably be in New York for another couple of days following the meeting. I want to get up to see the folks in New Haven, so that will obviate the possibility of a trip to Rochester.

Tell Alice I still love her, and if she will honor this devoted swain with a picture, I would be in seventh heaven. Just the other day, we were looking at some of the color slides in ban Hamburg, and my heart lost two beats when I saw her standing on that back porch.

My best to all the kids, and good wishes for the New Year.

As ever,

F/s

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman



May 27, 1949  
(dictated 5-26-49)

Rabbi Philip Bernstein  
117 Gibbs  
Rochester 5, New York

Dear Phil:

I have your letter of 17 May concerning Nathan Glaser. I will do what I can to pass on a good word for him at the University of Colorado.

I am delighted to hear that you have been given the honor to deliver the eulogy for S.S.W. at the Zionist convention. If you have a prepared manuscript, I would appreciate having a copy, because I am building a file on the old man. I am sorry I won't be at the convention, because Elaine insists that I stick close to home. Last week I completed all out-of-town junkets. I filled long standing engagements at Salt Lake City and Albuquerque, and now am willing to bow to the brow beating of my wife. She tells me that I should have a son and heir within three weeks.

The congregational year is finishing with a big theatre party and Confirmation service, both occurring next week. However, our UJA campaign is just opening so I see no surcease for at least another month and a half.

Herzog is speaking tonight and we hope to have Eban within the next fortnight.

Give my love to Soph and the kids and let us know what your summer plans are.

As ever,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

F/s



# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

May 17, 1949

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Temple Israel  
16th and Pearl Street  
Denver, Colorado

Dear Herb:

I thought you would be interested in this item about Schwartzberg which appeared in the New York Times some time ago. Have you heard from him directly?

I am writing primarily about a fine young man at whose wedding I am officiating on June 19th, - Nathan W. Glaser. He has applied to the Department of Clinical Psychology at the Graduate School of the University of Colorado.

It occurred to me that you might have some good contacts at the University and could say a good word for him. He tells me Prof. Muenzinger is Chairman of the committee that will pass on his application. He is a very nice boy with a pleasant, engaging personality and would undoubtedly do a good job in his field. Incidentally he has done some substitute Sunday School work here and was quite good.

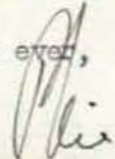
Karl F.

I am enclosing a copy of Nathan's letter to me.

What's new? Will you be at the Zionist convention? I am delivering the eulogy for S.S.W. at Carnegie Hall on Saturday evening and will then be involved in a fight over our Committee's report which will be given at the Sunday afternoon session. Let me know if you will be coming.

The best from house to house.

As ever,

  
Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir



COPY

Todd Union  
River Campus  
Rochester 3, New York  
May 14, 1949

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein  
Temple B'rith Kodesh  
Rochester, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

In writing you concerning my background and aptitudes for doing graduate work in clinical psychology, I can state, first, that I will have completed the necessary academic prerequisites by June. Thus far my grades have been adequate and the indications are that the final ones will be excellent. A large part of my psychology work is to be recorded yet as I am now in a term that includes three required courses in psychology and one required sociology course in a related field. My achievement is most favorably measured by nationwide tests such as the Graduate Record Examination in which I placed in the 80th percentile or in the top 20% in the United States among seniors majoring in psychology. All the schools to which I have applied have been sent transcripts and records of my grades and test scores.

Testimony as to my potentialities to successfully pursue a course in graduate studies can be obtained from such men as Professor Morey B. Wantman, Director of the Bureau of Educational Statistics and Professor S. D. Shirley Spragg, Associate Professor of Psychology, both of the University of Rochester faculty.

My interest in clinical psychology is two-fold. I believe it is the field that needs the most work done both in research and clinical aspects for through active, progressive and adequate clinical and related psychological work can we best hope to obtain emotional balance in our individual and cultural lives.

Secondly, my estimation of my own personal attributes convinces me that my best work can be working with and helping people and conducting research that will enable me to do this and help others to do the same. My particular philosophy of life is that life is good and each individual has the ability to reach an understanding with his or her environment, some needing help to do this

more than others. Personality inventories of me conducted by members of the psychology department at the University of Rochester confirm this estimation of my personality traits and apititudes.

Thank you very much for your interest and kindness in helping me in this matter.

Needless to say my fiance and I are looking with much anticipation toward our next meeting.

Very truly yours,

S/ Nathan William Glaser

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES



זכר אלה יעקב וישדאל



April 15, 1949

Rabbi Philip Bernstein  
117 Gibbs Street  
Rochester, New York

Dear Phil:

This is the first reply I have had in regard to the letters I sent about Fishbein. This particular reply from Ellis Radinsky does not look encouraging. I have not yet heard from Montor. Anything else you think I can do, I will be happy to attempt.

Life is accelerating somewhat as we approach the end of the congregational year. We are planning a large Anniversary Annual Meeting on May 8th, which will be the 75th Annual Meeting of the congregation, at which Eisendrath is going to speak. Then on June 1st we have undertaken a big theatre party project, revolving around the show "Brigadoon", for the purpose of raising money for the Union, College and Institute. On June 5th, Confirmation will occur, and that will bring things to an end. These three events in the life of the congregation are taking a great deal of time, in regard to planning, programming, etc., right now.

I have also been doing some running around for the UJA, although we here in Denver have not yet started our own campaign.

I won't have time to tell you the details now, but the Temple has just received a most magnificent gift of an entire camp site in the mountains, near Idaho Springs. We have been bequeathed 160 acres, full of timber, trails for riding, a natural stream with trout, and several buildings sufficient to accommodate 64 kids with counsellors. It is a most magnificent camp site, and I am thrilled because I think we will be the only Temple in the country actually to own and operate its own summer camp. We are not going to be able to swing into full time operation this summer, but plan to run a couple of pilot groups through in August. Would you like to come out for a week or two, at no expense, and enjoy the camp with us? Bring the kids! As soon as I have more time, I will write in greater detail about the plans we have for this thing. It will really be terrific. Give my love to Sophie.

As ever,



March 28, 1949

Mr. Henry Montor  
165 West 46th Street  
New York, New York

Dear Henry:

I am writing about Harold Fishbein, a very terrific guy. I am sure you recall him from the time you were in Berlin. He performed a truly amazing administrative task of organizing <sup>106</sup>and directing the two big camps in the city. He had an uncanny knack of handling people so that by and large they respected him tremendously and abided by his decisions. He was literally judge at cases which came up before the camp court; parent at the numerous camp weddings; sandak at literally hundreds of camp circumcisions. I would say without fear of exaggeration that he knows the psychology of DP's (now the new immigrants to Israel) as almost no other man does.

He wants to speak for the UJA, and my personal opinion is that he would be excellent. He wrote to a mutual friend a few days ago as follows:

"I do feel that with the wide acquaintance I have throughout the country I could make a real contribution to the UJA drive. There is practically no community where I do not have some connection, as a result of the Legion, the Kiwanis, the University of Chicago, and my American Red Cross experience."

I am offering this unsolicited advice to you, Henry, and to Ellis, because I really feel that you should grab Fishbein right now, during the pressure of the spring campaigns, when he can be of maximum use to you. His address is P.O. Box 554, State College, Pennsylvania. Let me know what you decide to do about him.

As ever,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

F/s

P.S. I think you are aware of the fact that he is altogether different from his brother, Morris. I say privately, without wanting to be quoted, that he is as liberal as Morris is conservative. He should be considered on his own merits. He and his brother have very little in common.

c.c. Ellis



# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

March  
25th  
1949

Dear Herb:

I have been in touch with Harold Fishbein as you will note from the enclosed correspondence. I don't see much future for him in the lecture business as I indicated in my letter. I think he ought to make some kind of a permanent connection. Therefore I am writing you. You are at the moment closer to the functioning realities of UJA and the Palestine organizations than I am. Do you see a spot for him? If so, I would suggest that you act directly but keep me informed. In other words feel free to go into action immediately with Monto or the others ~~but~~ tell Fish what you are doing. I will take other steps if advisable after I hear from you.

This is being written on Friday afternoon so I won't extend the letter.

All the best.

As ever

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
16th and Pearl Street  
Denver 5, Colorado

enc.



March 24, 1949

Dear Rabbi Bernstein:

Your letter came to me as a breath of fresh air in the time of a period of great discouragement. I felt somewhat as the DPs have felt, when a "gut Wort" was more essential than something material.

I find myself truly a DP, due to a combination of circumstances. On the one hand I have a successful family, but with a viewpoint that is so reactionary, it is frightening. They look upon me as a "maverick."

That in itself I can stand as I have stood over these years, but on the other hand, when I go to officials of the agencies and apply for employment on my merits, I am associated with the reactionary influences in the family and am looked upon with suspicion.

What I am anxious to have is some employment for the next four months, or until the Leigh agency starts clicking. I agree with you that the lecture business is a tough one, but I have had a start in it, and a reputation even before I left for Europe, and my misfortune was to return in mid-season. The Leigh people seem rather confident that they will have me beating the bushes in the fall.

Now as to interest in Germany and the DPs I know it has fallen off, and for that I blame the organizations in the way they have conducted their campaigns. I spoke before the Men's Club in Scranton, and before the Community group in Grand Rapids. I have also made several talks around here. It seemed that what I told them about the DPs was a revelation. I have objected to picturing them as a cringing despairing, schnorring lot. When I finished my talks in both Scranton and Grand Rapids, the people were enthusiastic, and I would ask you to contact your people in both cities, and obtain an objective report.

As to the UJA, I have been to their speakers bureau. I realize I am under a handicap because I am tied to Leigh on an exclusive arrangement, but there are advantages to the UJA on that too because the Leigh agency arranges the publicity, and handles all other details. I am thinking of the long term, and they do not wish to set a fee level which will have a bad result in the future, when the UJA is no more. But I am sure that the results will be worth any difference, and beside that I have told the Leigh agency to go easy with the UJA, and the AJDC, and all the Jewish organizations because that is where my interest and heart lies.

I have no social work degree which made me persona non grata to the USNA although I thought for them too I could make a contribution in the way of handling the problem cases among their charges, because I understand them. But you have to know the techniques, and that you learn in the schools, presumably.

I do feel that with the wide acquaintance I have throughout the country I could make a real contribution to the UJA drive in the way of organization of groups, and development of interest. There is practically no community where I do not have some connection, as a result of the Legion, the Kiwanis, the University of Chicago, and my American Red Cross experience.

I am writing you all this in detail, and I have not written anyone else, because my way out reminds me of the "mouse in the trap." The existentialists say in that situation the mouse should eat the bait, but I have already devoured that and the bait that they will be putting in the trap also.

I am writing Mr. Freeman, and I would appreciate your dropping a line to Henry Montor. I would like you to make that inquiry in Scranton and Grand Rapids to convince yourself even before writing Mr. Montor.

Now after beginning four paragraphs with I, let it be I again. I am afraid that the organizations have become so institutionalized that they fear a new idea, or fear a person with an idea, and the campaign is going to suffer as a result. It is possible that having been associated with the UNRRA and the IRO rather than the Jewish agencies, they are fearful that



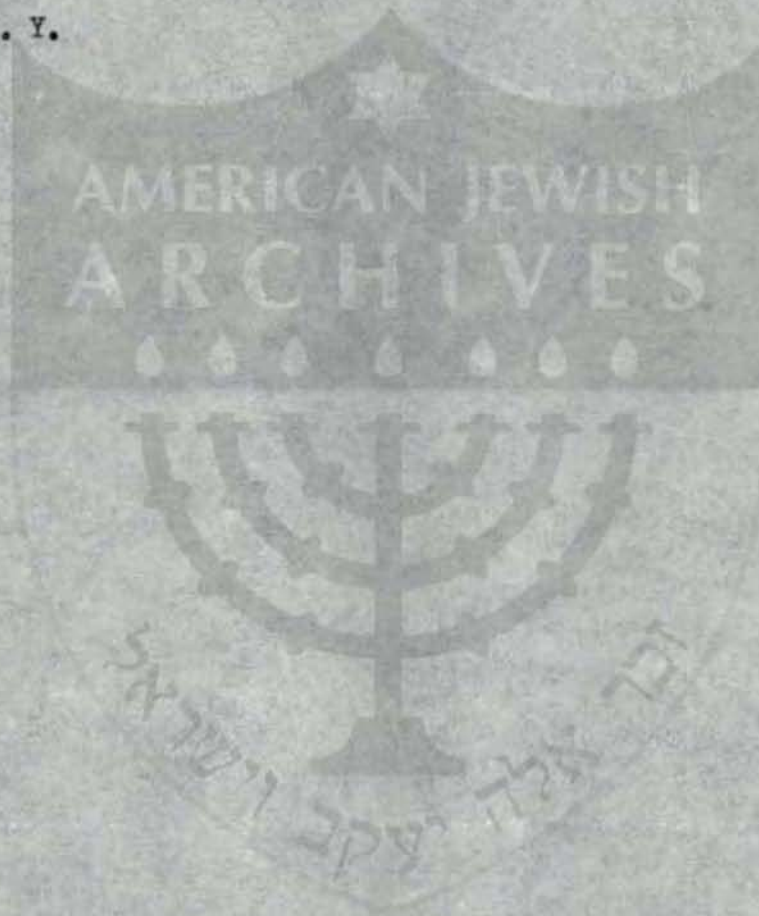
I will not stay on the line, but they need not worry. If I wished to depart from principle, or forget the DPs and their problems, this letter would not be written -

I do hope that I will be able to see you soon, and I will appreciate anything you may do in my behalf.

Sincerely

Fish

Dr. Philip Bernstein  
Temple B'rith Kodesh  
117 Gibbs St.  
Rochester 5, N. Y.



Parchment Deed

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

100% COTTON PAPER

MADE IN U.S.A.



HAROLD J. FISHBEIN  
P. O. BOX 554  
STATE COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA

Feb. 24, 1949

Dear Rabbi Bernstein,

Just to keep you posted as to my whereabouts, I am residing here in State College, and frankly am not making too much progress getting readjusted.

My lecture agent I think is doing something but I came back in mid-season. The Jewish agencies have given me kind words but no action, and I am waiting patiently hoping the inaction is the result of the schism in the organization, and not to any leprous condition of my own.

I saw our mutual friend Abramowitz before I left Germany and he was in Rome and planning to move to Israel eventually.

The newspaper accounts of our actionists in Berlin are somewhat distressing. I am somewhat fearful that those who did remain had too much of the nature of Fagin which accounted for their resentment. "Das Huttel brennt." Something ought to be done about cleaning them out, because this is only the beginning of something worse.

I thought the new Jewish Radgeber made an ill advised statement about the 25% remaining. I do not know where he obtained his estimate.

This week I am going to Scranton to speak at a Men's Club, sponsored by our mutual friend Rabbi Volkman, who was here for the Religion and Life week and did a bag up job.

My best to you and the family, and I hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,  
Eish

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein  
117 Gibbs St.  
Rochester 5, New York



March 22, 1949

Mr. Harold J. Fishbein  
P. O. Box 554  
State College, Pa.

Dear Fish:

I have not replied earlier to your letter of Feb. 24 because I wanted to see if I could not do something practical. I was in New York yesterday and discussed your lecture business with Sam Freeman who is the Director of the Jewish Center Lecture Bureau, 145 East 32nd St. New York City.

Sam tells me that there has been a sharp falling off of interest in talks about Germany and there is almost no interest left in talks about the DPs except in connection with Jewish campaign meetings. However, he will be glad to talk to you and perhaps can give you some help. I don't know precisely if you have an exclusive arrangement with Colston-Leigh. If not, perhaps Sma can arrange some lectures for you.

Also, the United Jewish Appeal would, I think, be interested in you. They would pay for lectures from a person like yourself. If interested, let me know and I will write to Henry Montor.

You may feel free to get in touch personally with Freeman who is expecting to hear from you.

Unfortunately our program for the Temple is full for the current year. Also even here I feel that they have heard enough about Germany and the DPs.

In any event, I assume you are not going to depend on lectures for a living. It is much too precarious. If there is anything I can do to help you make connections, you know that you may depend upon me. Perhaps if some engagement should bring you west, you might find a way to stop off in Rochester so that we may have a real talk.

In any event, depend upon my continued friendly interest, - not only mine but the whole Bernstein family. In one way or another we hope to see you soon.

Cordially

Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir

read  
+ return  
H-t

**Temple B'rith Kodesh**

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

February 2, 1949

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
16th and Pearl Streets  
Denver 5, Colorado

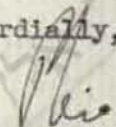
Dear Herb:

I note by your Bulletin of the 7th which has just arrived that Schalit was to give a performance in your congregation that week. What does it mean? Are you taking him on?

I think I gave you my opinion about him. He is crochety and thinks that the most authentic Jewish music is written by Heinrich Schalit. Nevertheless, he produces magnificent results. We have never had music before or since such as he gave us when he was here.

What's new?

Cordially,

  
Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir



January 25, 1949

Rabbi Philip Bernstein  
117 Gibbs  
Rochester, New York

Dear Phil:

Thanks for your note about Baskin. The next time I write to him I will tell him what you said.

As far as your question about Israel is concerned, I am not going on this Denver junket. I would love nothing better than to go but so far have not found any way to finance myself.

In my last letter I brought up the matter of the printing of the Talmud, because I had received a note from Rabbi Manuel Laderman, who is the orthodox rabbi in Denver currently on leave of absence in Paris serving as the head of the Central Orthodox Committee. As you know, that is the front organization set up by the JDC to handle religious needs. Manny Laderman had written to me saying that the JDC was planning a spectacular simultaneous presentation of the Talmud to General Clay in Germany; Weitzmann and Rabbi Herzog in Israel; and Truman in Washington. He asked if I wanted to be included in any way in the presentations, adding the gratuitous comment that he thought I had earned it. I answered, saying that I would be delighted to be included and that he certainly realized that you should be included, because you were really the one who got approval of the project on the highest levels.

I am enclosing a copy of his most recent reply. Now we can sit back and wait to see what happens.

Much love,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

F/s



# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

January 21, 1949

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Temple Emanuel  
16th and Pearl Streets  
Denver, Colorado

Dear Herb:

Bernard Baskin and his wife made a very good impression on me and I would like to do what I can for them, and would certainly enjoy having them around here.

At present the situation here is not crystalized. I have had some long talks with Myron telling him of my desire to have him remain on and asking him to let me know at this point if there is anything in the present situation which isn't satisfying to him. He has indicated that, on the whole, he is happy here, although he does feel rather over burdened. I am trying to help him budget his program more economically. In any event, there is nothing definite now and there probably won't be until the Spring.

As to whether, in the event of an opening, Bernard would want this kind of a job for a period of years is something for him to consider very carefully. While I would give him every possible rabbinical recognition, fundamentally what we need is a director of our education program and of our youth activities. You must know that that does not seem to be an altogether satisfying job for a rabbi, except possibly one who is particularly devoted to such activities. Nevertheless, if an opening should develop, I would be glad to discuss this with Bernard and to give him every consideration, if interested.

However, I certainly will keep him in mind as I move around. Actually, I am not very much in the rabbinical placement picture, but run on to things from time to time. He can depend on my interest.

It would be wise for him, when he comes North, to let me know so that we may arrange to talk things over.

---

As to J.D.C., it is an old story. And, I suppose, at this point, they are more eager than ever to dramatize their work because their job is rapidly folding up. Both Moe Leavitt and Joe Schwartz told me when I saw them in New York last week that they will be ready to go out of business whenever their job is done. However, I am not so gullible as all that.

Perhaps it is the general foggy state in which our Centennial has left me, but I am not quite clear as to whether



# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

- 2 -

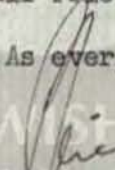
January 21, 1949

you will or will not fly to Israel. So please write yes or no and, if the former, when and for how long.

I am to be in Washington on this coming Wednesday to present my successor, thrice removed, Harry Greenstein of Baltimore to Acheson, Royall, et al.

Fond regards to the three-and-a-half Friedmans.

As ever,

  
Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir

1-25-49 Copy to Rabbi Baskin





November 8, 1948

AIRMAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein  
117 Gibbs Street  
Rochester 5, New York

Dear Phil:

Am enclosing two mats as you requested.

Your schedule sounds so damn complicated that  
I will do my best to arrive on Thursday, so  
we can have some time together.

Much love,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

F/s



# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

Nov.  
7th  
1948

Dear Herb:

We are delighted to have definite confirmation of your appearance here on the 19th. "The Portrait of an Anti-Semite" sounds like a very interesting subject.

We would like one or two glossy photographs for publicity purposes. Can you send them immediately by air mail?

We very much hope you will arrive here in time for the Lehman dinner on the 18th. Our plans after Friday night are rather complicated. I am speaking at a conference in Miami on Sunday, the 21st; in order to get me to come, they threw in Sophy's expenses as well. So she and Alice will leave by sleeper for New York late Friday night. I will fly toward the South Saturday noon. Therefore please work things out to come on Thursday so we may have at least twenty-four hours together.

All the best from me and mine to you and yours.

As ever

  
Philip S. Bernstein

Rabbi Herbert Friedman  
16th and Pearl Sts.  
Denver 5, Colorado

# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

October 28, 1948

Rabbi Herbert Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
16th and Pearl Streets  
Denver 5, Colorado

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

Just discovered a post script that I neglected to add to Rabbi Bernstein's letter to you yesterday.

It is:

P.S. Governor Lehman will be here for our Centennial dinner on the evening of November 18th. Perhaps you could arrange to be here by that time.

Sincerely,

*Irene Rubin*

Irene Rubin,  
Secretary to Rabbi Bernstein



# Temple Beth Rodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

October 26, 1948

Rabbi Herbert Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
East 16th Avenue at Pearl Street  
Denver 5, Colorado

Dear Herb:

I hope this does the trick. *(other letter under separate cover)*  
Actually, we would be delighted to have you come and I would welcome you to our pulpit.

*The Portait of Anti-Semitism*  
In fact, I had already dictated a letter to my secretary asking you about the recent Denver survey on anti-Semitism. The report in the Jewish Press was startling. Have you followed it closely? Do you think that would be a fitting subject for a pulpit address? I know it would be extremely interesting.

I have talked so much about Germany, the D.P.'s, Palestine, etc., that I would regard it advisable for you to do something of a different character. If Denver anti-Semitism does not intrigue you, have you prepared a sermon yet on "The Naked and the Dead?" I had planned to talk about it this Fall, but would gladly confer that hot potato on you.

Please let me have some definite word about the 19th and the subject soon, for with this new printed Bulletin of ours, we have to send stuff to the printer about ten days in advance.

It would be nice if Elaine could come with you. Is that out of the question?

Fond regards from house to house.

As ever,

*Philip S. Bernstein*  
Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir



November 2, 1948

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein  
117 Gibbs Street  
Rochester 5, New York

Dear Phil:

I have your letter of October 26th in which you extend the very kind invitation to occupy your pulpit on Friday evening, November 19th. I am delighted to be able to accept this invitation and look forward with a great deal of joy to being with you.

I have looked into the recent Denver survey on anti-Semitism, as you suggested, and agree with you that it would make an extremely interesting pulpit address. Some of it is very scientific and technical, describing the sociological testing methods which were used, but part of it is very popular material, and I think I shall deal with the latter. The subject, which you may announce in your bulletin, will be "The Portrait of an anti-Semite". One of the results of the survey was to give us a composite picture of what the typical anti-Semite looked like, in terms of age, economic status, educational achievements, political ideas, etc. From this cross section we can almost sketch a picture of what the anti-Semite appears to be.

As for the possibility of arriving on Thursday evening, November 18th, to join with you and Governor Lehman in your centennial dinner, that is, as yet, uncertain. If the plane schedules from New York are good, I will be able to arrive in Rochester early Thursday evening. If not, I shall not come until the first thing Friday morning. But I will certainly let you know long enough in advance. I would like to be at the Thursday evening dinner, and will make every effort to join you.

Best regards to Sophie and the kids.

As ever,

F/s

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman



# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

October 26, 1948

Rabbi Herbert Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
East 16th Avenue at Pearl Street  
Denver 5, Colorado

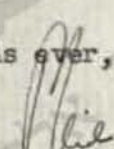
Dear Herb:

I have wanted for some time to give my congregation the opportunity to meet you and hear you. Now I would like to take advantage of your presence in the East, when you attend the Union of American Hebrew Congregations convention in Boston, to invite you to occupy my pulpit on Friday evening of that week, namely, the 19th. My congregation has heard a good deal about you from me and they would be eager to hear you.

So, please find some way to do this and let me know at your earliest convenience.

My best to Elaine and the good people I met in Denver.

As ever,

  
Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir



September 30, 1948

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein  
117 Gibbs Street  
Rochester 5, New York

Dear Phil:

Received your letter containing the enclosure about Schwartzberg, and thank you very much. We missed it in the Times and it brought back many old recollections.

We missed you on our way back West, because our return trip was unexpectedly advanced by several days. I received a call from Denver to return hurriedly for the dedication of the General Rose Hospital. Eisenhower was the main speaker and several others of us appeared on the program. Although it cut short our vacation, and eliminated the possibility of the trip to Rochester, I did not feel that I could refuse, for the sake of community relations. I have not worked too hard on the hospital drive, and if I had refused to come back for the dedication, some people might have

Joel Zion, my assistant, had come out here on the first of August, and when I returned on the first of September I had to spend many days breaking him in. He will work out fairly well, I think. He is a little overly ambitious, and tends to stretch out in too many directions, but I think after we iron out the initial definition of function and division of responsibility, he will be all right. I can see now that he will be a great deal of help, in terms of relieving me of administrative responsibility for the School. We have almost 450 kids registered this fall and the technical burden is enormous. His presence will also enable me to get out of town as frequently as I feel the need, without constantly worrying about who will be in attendance here.

It was an interesting coincidence to me to read that you had met two of the young Palestinians on the Haganah Youth Mission. We also had two of them here in Denver and it was perfectly delightful. They were wonderful kids, whose zeal and enthusiasm brought me



September 30, 1948

back to the early days in Germany. Swapping stories with them also increased the restless urge to make a trip to Israel. What do you say, boss? When will we go?

If I can scrape the dough together, I plan to attend the biennial of the Union in Boston in November. Were you thinking of going? If so, I would take an extra couple of days and we would have some fun together. It will not be feasible to bring Elaine along, so I will be coming alone.

Do you remember Varshavsky, the teacher at the school at Wittenau, Berlin? He just wrote me a card from Ramath Hasharon in Israel.

I haven't heard from Abe in several months, and have no idea what he is doing. Do you have Mike's exact address in Italy? I would like to cheer him up by informing him that immigration to Palestine should be the least of his worries and that he should concentrate very hard on getting Jews to Uruguay.

I am "platzing" right now as a result of a "meshugeneh" Scheme of my wife to hold a large Rosh Hashanah reception at our house for the entire congregation. I think she is nuts, but you know how women are, and I am about to make a loan from the community chest to pay the bills. I feel that I am at least as indigent as any other worthy character. After we clear away the debris and throw all the council members in the ash can, I will report back on my state of mind.

Give my love to Sophie and the kids, and let's try to get together in November. Happy New Year to all of you.

As ever

F/s



# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

September 22, 1948

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
East 16th Avenue at Pearl Street  
Denver 5, Colorado

Dear Herb:

Possibly you missed the enclosed. It appeared in last Sunday's New York Times magazine section. Not that you deserve this attentiveness. We were counting on a visit on your way West. What happened to you?

The balance of our Summer was pleasant, reasonably uneventful and healthy. The kids climbed Longs Peak and we did a lot of riding. We spent four days at the Jenny Lake Ranch at the Grant Tetons. Jeremy and Steve climbed the Grand Teton which was a terrific two-day trip. We spent two and a half days at Yellowstone and enjoyed them, despite the crowds. The trip home, however, was awful. We struck the heat wave and arrived wilted.

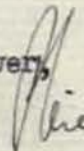
Now we are in the midst of our Welfare Fund campaign, and our Centennial. Eddie Cantor and I put on an Amos and Andy act for the opening. Then we had two young Palestinians last Sunday, Capt. Alexander Albala and Lt. Shula Friedberg. They were wonderful. Our Centennial includes Silver, David Lilienthal, Herbert Lehman, Robert Patterson, Jim Heller, etc., etc. It ought to be good, and also fun.

I find a letter from Mike in which he states that his job with the J.D.C. in Italy is to arrange for all forms of immigration except to Palestine. He is plotting.

Abe apparently is remaining on in Germany.

The family sends fondest to you and Elaine. What's cookin' by you?

As ever,





September 13, 1948

Memo to: Mr. Charles Brannan, Secretary of Agriculture

From: Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

Re: Purple vetch

1. A representative of the Israeli Government recently came to America to purchase purple vetch. This item had previously been obtained in trans-Jordan and Syria. For obvious reasons, these commercial relations no longer exist.
2. The amount needed is 550 tons. This quantity can be purchased from two firms in California, where it grows under approximately the same climatic conditions as in the State of Israel.
3. The vetch, desperately needed in Israel as animal fodder, must be planted there by October 15th. A steamer is sailing from New York on September 22nd and it is hoped to ship the vetch on that date.
4. The vetch is used in the United States mostly for cover crop. In Israel it is used for hay. Their crop of vetch was small this year - approximately 50 tons. Furthermore, April and May, which are the time of harvesting hay there, were also months of warfare during which crops were destroyed.
5. An export license for 300 metric tons has been obtained from the Department of Commerce with Department of Agriculture approval. It is reported to me that Mr. Porter was quite willing to grant a license for the whole 550 tons, but said that the Department of the Army was requesting some of the vetch for shipment to Germany. It was further pointed out that this would be a wasteful procedure, benefiting no one, since the climate of Germany was not such as to accommodate the vetch.
6. It would be tremendously appreciated if the Department of Agriculture would instruct or encourage the issuance of an export license for the additional 250 tons.



# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

June 11, 1948

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
East 16th Avenue at Pearl Street  
Denver 5, Colorado

Dear Herb:

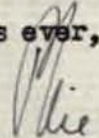
I thought you might be interested in this exchange of correspondence with Bernie Rosenberg.

Our plans are crystalizing in the direction of going West, but some details are not yet clear. It looks now as if because of the kids and the time element we will not be able to join you for the early part of July. Please let me know exactly how your plans have shaped up and whether you will be back in Colorado later in the month of July.

Mike has just written that he is going to Italy for J.D.C. With his fluidity that might mean almost anything.

Fond regards to you and Elaine.

As ever,

  
Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir  
Enc.



C O P Y

THE TEMPLE  
CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL  
North 4th and J Streets  
Tacoma 3, Washington

May 14, 1948

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein  
Temple B'rith Kodesh  
Rochester, N. Y.

Dear Phil:

Last Wednesday evening Herbert Friedman of Denver launched our local UJA Campaign and, as far as the success of the drive and the reaction of the community is concerned, did a very creditable job. As you know, he speaks well and succeeds in selling himself and his message.

There are, however, a few points that I would like cleared up just for my own information.

1. He gives the impression that he with the Haganah was responsible for setting up series of underground stations etc., through which 100,000 Polish Jews were helped to escape to Palestine. He states that as a member of Clay's staff he was responsible for setting up this program and carrying it through. I am under the impression that other Americans were involved in the post war rescue mission.

11. He stated that, at present, he holds the rank of Captain in the Palestinian military setup - having been commissioned by the Haganah. That in this position he is attached to the materiel procurement section and is personally responsible for the expenditure of thousands of dollars of UJA funds; that he has purchased thousands of pounds of scrap, armaments and ordnance of all types, airplanes, etc., which have been shipped and are being shipped to Palestine through legal channels.

I would like your reaction to the above purely for my information.

Hope to see you at the Conference this year. With kind personal regards,

Sincerely,

S/ Bernie



C O P Y

June 11, 1948

Rabbi Bernard D. Rosenberg  
The Temple  
Congregation Beth Israel  
North 4th and J Streets  
Tacoma 3, Washington

Dear Bernie:

I have been out of town so much, this is the first opportunity to reply to your letter about Herb Friedman.

I do not know precisely how Herb expressed himself on these matters about which you wrote. I can simply state in general:

1. He did a tremendous job in connection with the movement of Jews out of Poland into Germany and on toward their destination. The details would be too lengthy and involved and are still, in certain aspects, confidential, but the essence of the matter is that he made a very significant contribution.
2. I do not know the details of his current activities but have good reason to believe that he has been doing much lately with regard to providing the necessary materiel for Palestine.

Herb is completely committed to the cause and his work shows it.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Conference and with best regards,

As ever,

Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/1r



May 20, 1948

Rabbi Philip Bernstein,  
140 Windermere Road,  
Rochester, New York.

Dear Phil:

I have been looking into the matter of camps for the children, as you requested, and it seems that of all of the camps in the area, the best and most inexpensive for the boys would be the Boy Scout Camp. I am enclosing copies of the folder. This camp is just a few miles west of Estes Park and enjoys a very fine reputation in Colorado. The director said that he was certain there would be programs attractive enough for both 14 and 18 year old boys, particularly those who had had previous experience in scouting. The cost is \$13.50 per week, and the boys can stay any length of time they desire. It is suggested that they bring either a sleeping bag or four blankets. In addition to that whatever normal amount of scouting equipment they would ordinarily take.

I am checking on camps for Alice now, and if I don't have the dope today, I'll mail you another letter about her.

If you could see your way clear to working things out in that manner, I really think we could have a swell time together. Our schedule has shaped up pretty definitely as follows:

Leave Kansas City at conclusion of CCAR on  
27 June.

Proceed from K.C. through Omaha to South Dakota,  
where we would drive through Badlands and see  
Mount Rushmore Memorial.

Continue west from South Dakota and reach  
Yellowstone Park via the famous northeast  
entrance. Drive down through Yellowstone,  
emerging southern entrance, through Teton  
Range, to Idaho.

Arrive Sun Valley, Idaho approximately 5 July.

This will give us about 7 days of traveling from  
Kansas City to Idaho during which we would see the  
above listed areas. Once in Sun Valley, this Methodist  
Conference to which I am going for the Chautauqua  
Society lasts from July 6-13. I have to teach one



May 20, 1948

course a day, which will consume 1½ hours. Beyond that I have the rest of the day free, and need not necessarily remain on the Methodist Conference Grounds.

I have just received a letter from Idaho, wherein the director of the camp suggests that we bring sleeping bags because they rough it in a rather informal fashion. If that doesn't appeal to you, we could stay in the village of Ketchum or Sun Valley itself.

Your last word was that you would leave Kansas City and go back northeast to Chicago to meet Alice and the kids, then drive west from Chicago. We could arrange to meet at a specific time and place at Mount Rushmore, for example, which is just about due west from Chicago--only very slightly north.

That is as about as specific as we can get right now. I sure hope you folks can see your way clear to joining us. Let me hear from you as soon as possible. Elaine sends her best to you and Sophie and the kids.

As ever,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

HAF:EW  
AIR MAIL



**Temple B'rith Kodesh**

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

February 17, 1948

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
East Sixteenth Avenue at Pearl Street  
Denver 5, Colorado

Dear Herb:

We received your letter and are glad to know that you are definitely coming East soon again. I presume you've kept in mind the fact that Purim comes right in the midst of the dates you have written us. It now seems possible that Sophy will be in New York around that time together with Alice Marcus to help her mother break up her apartment. I will keep the dates in mind too. Be sure to let me know if any change should occur in your plans.

I thought you might like to have copies of the enclosed.

The last letter from Haber indicates that he has begun with a belly-full of problems. He also states that he is hopeful that Abe will stay on. I am not quite clear about the arrangement, but my hunch is that Abe would be civilianized and would be paid by J.D.C. Minnie is back on the job. Sophy thinks she may land poor Abe yet.

We are going down to New York tonight for a mid-week week-end at the Waldorf. I am opening the U.J.A. Women's Division campaign with Mrs. Roosevelt and Secretary Harriman. My speech seems very slushy. I suppose I ought to have a higher regard for the reasoning powers of women.

I talked to the Rochester City Club on Saturday about "Palestine and the Jewish Problem." It was a well prepared, carefully thought out speech and rather well received, but it wouldn't get \$100 ~~for~~ anybody, including me.

I have just had a letter from Jake Marcus asking me to give a paper on Wednesday evening, June 23rd at the Conference on the question of the relationship of the new and emerging Palestine to American Jewry. It is an interesting assignment and I am accepting it.

All the best to Elaine and yourself,

As ever,

  
Philip S. Bernstein



# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

January 13, 1948

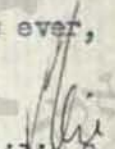
Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
East Sixteenth Avenue at Pearl Street  
Denver 5, Colorado

Dear Herb:

We are thrilled that you will be here on the 21st! I am speaking at a church supper meeting at 6:15. Soph will pick you up at the airport and then, together, you will probably pick me up at the church. If circumstances compel some change in plans, I assume that you will telephone.

Fond regards from us all.

As ever,

  
Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir



October 28, 1947

B  
Rabbi Herbert Friedman  
Temple Emanu-El  
16th and Pearl Streets  
Denver, Colorado

Dear Herb:

After this shamefully long delay in correspondence, I hate to write about a technical matter. But, you know how it goes.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter that I have just sent to Bill Dalin which tells the story. I take for granted that you and Elaine are arranging to ship things over. On the basis of your experience, what is the correct and expeditious way to send this stuff? Our women have followed the instructions given them by Klausner and Clara Zieback, but apparently something has gone wrong. Please, as usual, straighten me out.

I gathered from Alice's note to Soph that Ralph had a wonderful time in Denver. Please write me frankly and confidentially how he made out. I had him here once some years ago when he was a bit over the heads of the people. To keep peace in the family I probably should have him again, so tell me how things worked out.

Apparently you have not come East lately nor have I been West. I do intend to attend and speak at the sessions of American Jewish Conference in Chicago, November 29th to December 1st. I hope to bring Sophy along. Why don't you and Elaine come and let's have a party. If so, reserve at the Palmer House, where I am booked.

The best of everything.

As ever,

*Phil*  
Philip S. Bernstein

*Am sending you a copy  
of my report to Lacey Rogers —*

PSB/ir  
Enc.-1

*Steve broke his wrist last night. He's coming along OK. Just a  
note from you would make him feel like a million dollars.*



# Temple B'rith Rodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

October 28, 1947

Chaplain William Dalin  
Office of the Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
Headquarters, European Command  
A.P.O. 757, c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York

Dear Bill:

As you know, the women of my congregation have been sending many packages of food, clothing, amenities, etc., which were enormously helpful. Within the past two weeks, however, the packages have been coming back undelivered. We have been unable to discover the difficulty at this end. I would be grateful if you would look into it for me and let me have your advice at your earliest possible convenience.

So far as I know, none of the packages addressed through to Judge Levinthal have been returned; the ones that came back were addressed to:

Mr. M. England,  
IRO-UNRRA-AJDC Area Representative  
A.P.O. 171, c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York

I am wondering whether the difficulty arises because they are being sent through A.P.O. or whether it is because there is no alternative address on them, namely, "IF UNDELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED, SEND TO:"

Judge Louis E. Levinthal  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
Headquarters, European Command  
Office of the Commander in Chief  
A.P.O. 757, c/o Postmaster, N. Y.

You might ask Clausner about this because the "MR. M. ENGLAND, I.R.O.-UNRRA-A.J.D.C. AREA REPRESENTATIVE, A.P.O. 171, c/o P.M." address is the one he gave us.

For the present, I am advising the women to send packages directly to Judge Levinthal with the expectation that you will arrange for their disposition. However, we would appreciate your looking into this and giving us exact, helpful advice.

With cordial regards to Bella, the Judge, Abe and yourself,  
As ever,



# Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

November 12, 1947

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
East Sixteenth Avenue at Pearl Street  
Denver 5, Colorado

Dear Herb:

I am hastily acknowledging your letter of the 8th which arrived this morning.

I talked yesterday with Abe on the long-distance phone and brought him up to date on developments. There is nothing that I can tell you that he does not know in essence. Three people are under consideration - Jimmy Heller, Maldwin Fertig and Abe. Abe is the candidate whom I have recommended. The five organizations are having a second meeting in New York, possibly this afternoon or tomorrow at which they will reach a definite decision. I will phone or wire Abe just as quickly as there is something definite to report.

As to the slides, I have not gotten around to taking care of them. Also, I thought you ought to look at the total collection, for you selected these before I took a lot of others. However, if you want me to have these made up regardless of the others, let me know and I will take care of it.

Sorry you won't be in Chicago. Unfortunately, I may not be able to attend the U.J.A. Conference in Atlantic City because the Annual Meeting of our Temple will be on December 14th and General McNarney is coming. How would you like to be here too?

The best to Elaine and yourself,

As ever,

  
Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/1r



HEADQUARTERS  
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER  
Office of the Chief of Staff

TO:

Date 2 July 1947.

Herb,

Many thanks for your letter. When the rabbi returned he told us of your abduction by Mergenthan. I am sincerely flattered that you found the time to drop me a note while you were trying legally to have the "Boys" part with their possessions.

Also, even more thanks for the regards from my sister Flo. Pay no attention to what members of my family tell you about me. I continually write them of my failures with women and they, to compensate for it, shower me with affection.

The boss has gone to Vienna on general matters and to clear up a nasty situation in Salzburg. The people in Franz Joseph, ordered to move into Riedenburg (consolidation stuff), are staging a sit-down strike. Just imagine what it will be like in Zeilsheim if that move is ordered.



HEADQUARTERS  
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER  
Office of the Chief of Staff

TO:

Date.....

- 2 -

The Zeilsheim situation is still in a state of Limbo. "Es is nisht a kerr und nisht a kin"---as the song goes.

Dallin may join our staff in your stead. What do you think of him in the role of Robinson? Do you think he will use better judgment? Or was it common sense on which I rated you?

The chief chaplain of Berlin came back from Palestine---19 days AWOL. After I got through painting the future that was facing him he was prepared to change his status from AWOL to DESERTION. He claims he had the measles or some such thing---and, moreover, he had not seen Palestine for about a year.....I should have joined the chaplain corps. What you--children born out of wedlock--get by with.

I am writing this note while waiting for Sophie to put the last finishing touches to her Tangie, Lodie Aster, Raspberry or Flame Glow---or whatever it is that she uses.



HEADQUARTERS  
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER  
Office of the Chief of Staff

TO:

Date.....

- 3 -

Sophie, by the way is excellent company. From what I gather, you are not only second with Alice but I fear that I would have a difficult job prying you loose from the <sup>SAME</sup> position with Sophie. What's the formula?

I hear the gentle patter of her footsteps which is the signal for me to assemble my papers and prepare for this morning's invasion of Frankfurt.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter that the Rabbi wants you to have. It's quite evident that you will be in the employ of the office for as long as both of us remain here. My advice is that you avoid meeting Levinthal.

Again many thanks for your effort in getting in touch with my family. If you ever get to Chicago I know that you will enjoy meeting them personally.

With love and kisses to you  
and Elaine from all of us--who miss you  
such, *abe*



B

APO 757, c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York

July 1, 1947

Rabbi Stephen S. Wise  
40 West 68th Street  
New York, New York

Dear Dr. Wise:

I am sorry to have to write this letter. I had hoped to obviate it by my offer to Dr. Abraham Robinson to meet with the organizations in New York last Tuesday. Because that offer was not accepted and because I have received a telegram signed by yourself, I find myself under obligation now to deal in writing with the request of the World Jewish Congress for acceptance as an operating agency in the U. S. Zone, Germany, which is not being approved by the Army.

I am compelled to call your attention to the following facts:

1. All negotiations on this matter were conducted without my knowledge. I learned about it only from the military authorities as they were about to turn it down.
2. These negotiations were conducted without the knowledge of the working committee of the five organizations.
3. The reasons given for the admittance of the Congress as an operating agency in Germany just didn't make sense. At first they wanted to supervise and coordinate the activities of the various Jewish agencies operating here. The Army soon learned that this did not represent the wish of these agencies. Then the reason was offered that the Congress wished to do relief work here and that it was prepared to work in cooperation with the AJDC. This, too, was found to be without basis in fact. Furthermore, military authorities pointed out, the staff of four, with whom the Congress wished to operate, could not be considered seriously as a relief agency, etc., etc.
4. Now I find, after circumventing my office and the apparatus of the five organizations and after bungling the approach to the Army, we are being threatened with "public protest our affiliates world over." This is ridiculous and outrageous. This very moment when the



U. S. Army alone is protecting these Jews from hostile populations and when it is stepping into the breach to care for these people until IRO is prepared to operate, this is the very last moment when any responsible organization should threaten the U. S. Army.

5. As you know, Germany is not a free country, but a land of occupation. The U. S. military authorities permit only such organizations have as contribute to the occupation mission. The Army is entirely within its rights in making decisions as to the validity of applications for operating here.

6. There was and is one correct and practicable approach to this matter, as I urged on Dr. Robinson and the others; namely, to take up the question with the five organizations. If they feel that the time has come for such organizations as the Congress, the Conference and the Committee to operate in Germany, they can present that to me and to the appropriate authorities for proper consideration.

7. My personal view is that the time for such operations by the organizations has not yet arrived. The War Department has set up a respected and effective apparatus; namely, the Office of the Jewish Adviser, through which the interests of the Jewish displaced persons can be protected and through which the wishes of the major Jewish organizations can be expressed and met. In all the confusion and ineffectuality of Jewish organizational life, this is, as far as I know, the one clear pattern of action for Jews. Apart from the merits of the individual or individuals who happen to be serving in that capacity, the preservation of the apparatus is of the greatest importance in the present delicate, tragic situation. There is no doubt in my mind but that the usefulness of this office would be impaired and, perhaps, destroyed by the presence in Germany of a number of organizations, each attempting to duplicate the functions of the Jewish Adviser.

8. The above represents my personal view. I didn't influence the Army reaction. In fact, as indicated before, I learned about the entire matter only after the application met with a negative reaction.

9. Furthermore, although the above is my personal opinion, I feel that I don't have the right to impose it upon the five organizations. That is why I suggested and urged the meeting on the subject. They would be entirely within their rights in recommending a change in the apparatus, even though I advise against it. My concrete recommendation is that they meet with Judge Levinthal before his departure to discuss this matter with him. I suggest that Herbert Friedman be present, since he knows, as Judge Levinthal does not yet know, the day to day operation here.



10. In the future interests of the Congress, I advise that its application be withdrawn. A negative decision by the Army, which is now in the offing, will serve no good purpose and will make just that much more difficult the entrance into the scene of the Congress later, if it so desires. I am, therefore, taking the liberty for the moment of requesting the military authorities not to formalize their negative decision, so that it will not appear in the record, and to act as if this application had not reached the Army. I trust that this meets with your approval and that, if you still wish the Congress to operate in Germany, you will take up this matter with the five organizations, as I have advised above.

11. You will be interested to learn that I have consistently taken the same position with regard to attempts by other organizations to operate in Germany, outside the apparatus of the five organizations.

With cordial personal regards and looking forward to seeing you in the fall,

As ever,

RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs to the  
Commander in Chief, European Command

RHB:mf

cc: Judge Levinthal  
Herbert Friedman



HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN COMMAND  
Office of the Commander in Chief  
APO 757, c/o Postmaster  
New York, New York

July 9, 1947

Dear Herb,

Soph and the kids will probably write at greater length about various and sundry personal matters. I just want to get off this note with a bit of good news which you might pass on to old Harkus-Pankus. Forty-six hundred people left here in the last ten days. They were bound for South American countries and had durable intermediate visas to France.

With regard to the ship, all is in order at this end but the Military are awaiting State Department confirmation of the Columbian visas by the government of Columbia. Once these are properly validated, there should be no special difficulties here.

Zeilsheim is still status quo and the chances are at least even that it will remain so indefinitely.

Hollywood Harry displayed his usual brilliant understanding in a situation in Mozartville which Abe and I were compelled to straighten out in person.

The DPs' Rabbis' Conference was just the sort of an affair you would have loved. They really put on a good show. Clay spoke well and fittingly and received a great ovation.

I am very much torn about leaving but I know in my heart that I am not through with this situation. Abe is remaining on very much to the delight of the Generals who have agreed to find some excuse to give him a free plane ride back to the States for a few weeks at some convenient time which will probably be in September. We will have a reunion then.

Our best to Elaine and yourself.

As ever

*Mike*



# Temple Beth Rodesh

117 GIBBS STREET  
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

April 20, 1948

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Congregation Emanuel  
East Sixteenth Avenue at Pearl Street  
Denver 5, Colorado

Dear Herb:

Thanks for your telegram about Moshe. It happens that I had not and still have not seen any notice in the press of his death, although just before the service on Friday night, Herb Weiner told me about it and it took the heart out of me.

I don't recall how well you knew him. Perhaps you had only brief contacts with him in Balne.

I came to feel very close to him and his wife. I stayed with them in Mishmar in 1937. Later they came to visit us both in Rochester and New York and, in some things, I worked closely with him. He was a rare person, wise, keen, well balanced, capable of getting things done, with a shrewd, keen sense of humor.

I feel his loss more than that of anyone else in Palestine. Nevertheless, I presume there is no other way but to fight back now just as hard as we can. The truce proposals look phony to me. There is nothing in them. The general picture I get from Washington and New York is of United States' confusion rather than a diabolical plan. As usual in such situations, strength will be a major determining factor, if not the major factor.

I have a strong feeling of personal frustration in sitting here writing this. Maybe I ought to get out the pistol you gave Steve and make a definite contribution.

Maybe things will seem clearer to me after a rest this summer. Soph seems to be developing quite a complex about having the kids along. What are your suggestions? Have your plans become definite? Herb Weiner has just about decided that he wants to do some other type of work next year, perhaps for the American Friends of the Hebrew University or in some other way in connection with Palestine. We will have to replace him. Have you any suggestions on the basis of your recent experience?

All the best to you both.

As ever,