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MS-763: Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman Collection, 1930-2004.
Series F: Life in Israel, 1956-1983.

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Friedman, Herbert A. Personal. 1972-1975.

For more information on this collection, please see the finding aid on the
American Jewish Archives website.

בלוק לקצרות

60 דה

נ"צ 60 גרם 20 ס"מ

מס' צינור דים



2 Jan 73

Long talk with Peggy Sterne re
new campaign. She offers to help
in Nashville - will arrange
appointments with anyone desired.

Write in advance make date
- Thursday May 10 - Friday May 11
names suggested were Harry
Vise and Werthen family.

approx. Same date - perhaps end December

Long talk with Herb Baron. He
very enthusiastic about idea - thinks there
are several prospects in New Orleans - will
be glad to help when time comes. He will
make appointments for me.

3 Jan 73

Explained whole project to Billy Gross, who very excited. Referred to man named Dr Kaplan, who might be useful as future staff man.

Asked Billy to keep ears open for prospects. Discussed Ronald Slater with him as possibility.

2 Jan

Long talk with Carmi Schwartz of Baltimore, who promised to be of assistance.

Saw him by chance on street in Jerusalem 11 Jan - and he repeated offer of help. Said in Yiddish: "Bemacht iz gestan."

4 Jan 73

Long talk with Gene Lipman,
who very helpful.

Will help screen Washington names;
and get appointments for May;
will help read prospectus which I

write; will think of future
personnel — mentioned Al Vorspan
and Chodoroff (?)

5 Jan 73

Wrote long letter to Joe Meyerhoff, starting to tell him about new project - and saying I wanted to make a date with him in May.

Dec 1972 - sometime

Spoke with Al Goldstein, who was working here for two months for Malben. Explained project. He offered to help in Houston

8 Jan 73

Long talk with Frank Beckerman,
who said he understood project, was
sympathetic, warned me not to expect
favorable response automatically simply because
it was I who was asking. Told him I
certainly understood that. After learning of
intended clearance procedures, said he saw no
cause for conflict.

8 Jan 73

Long talk and lunch with
Mike Bettinger, who, although coming
from very orthodox background, understood
need for any form of religious approach
which would bring Judaism to people.
As conversation developed, he even grew
enthusiastic.

Wife wants badly to love her, and
they intend immigrating in 4 years, upon his
retirement. * He could be useful staff man,
because of positive Jewish background.

Offered to be helpful in campaigning.

8 Jan 73

Telephone conversation with
Leo Bernstein of bonds. Told him I
would adopt same clearance procedures with
him as with USA regarding individuals
I would approach. This made him happy.

AMERICAN JEWISH
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24 Dec 72

Spoke in New York with
Ernie Michel, on technical professional
level about clearing names, dates, etc.
Assured him of my cooperation - and
he assured me of his.

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מכון אלקה
ישראל

17 Jan 73

Spoke with Welledey Aron about project - He brought the matter up, having learned about it in New York within past few weeks from Balfour Britner

18 Jan 73

Spoke with David Sachs - offered him job as administrative assistant in N.Y. - he will let me know within two weeks.
→ Next day paid no. going to work with Hester on Haifa U.

28 Jan 73

Saw Ray Perelman and Mort Epstein
at President's house opening night of
Bond Conference. Conversation was only on
one foot, no chance to go into depth,
but reaction occurred. Perelman was a bit
suspicious, but interested. Epstein, more thoughtful,
discussed impact I had had on his son
during 72 summer student mission - and this
could be peg to begin deeper conversation with
him.

29 Jan 73

Long talk with Stanley Sloane,
in the office, over cognac. His reaction
was negative, because he felt I was
going away from the "mainstream" problems,
which were defense and immigration. He
felt the Reform movement was a failure
in the U.S. - so how could it be an
inspiration here.

I emphasized the honor I wanted to
do for Slonimsky - and I had the sub-conscious
impression he knew this would cost him
money - hence he was building up an objection.
However, I may be doing him an injustice.
He invited further discussion in May.

888 Seventh Ave.
N.Y. 10019
212-582-3090

1 Feb 73

Saw Leon Kronish on street,
who had heard something from Dick Hirsch.
He was complimentary - said I could do
job, if anyone could - and he would be
happy to help with introductions, appointments, etc.

2 Feb 73

Saw Phil Bernstein in corridor
of building. He was very encouraging -
said if I could do anything about
problems of ethics, morals, values, I would
be contributing enormously. Saw no problems
of competition - was totally aware of my
willingness to observe clearance procedures -
was most friendly and cooperative.

4 Feb 73

Saw Neil Nory and Mike Levin

They are very friendly and sympathetic - willing to help. Neil said, in joke, that he was Conservative - I joked equally that because I wouldn't assist him. Mike said that

Kosberg of Haudor was a prospect, and he would brief him. I told them I would be coming in May.

3 Feb 73

Had dinner with Money Myers
and discussed Harry Wernberg. Money
offered to be helpful - would arrange
appointment either in Washington or Honolulu.
Described nature of the men - rough, pragmatic.
Was certain he had the money - wasn't sure
if he had the interest.

5 Feb 73

Long talk with Leonard Bell.

Said that if he wanted to do me favor, or repay me in any way for anything I had ever done for him, now was time.

He replied he wanted to, and said key man was his partner George Ketz, last year's chairman, and past president of Gittelsohn's Temple, who knew everyone. He said he would brief Ketz and that they would make up a short list, help me get appointments. Very cooperative.

5 Feb 73

Saw Mel Dubinsky very briefly.
Didn't get much chance to explain
program to him. He said he would
help - but I had feeling it was
perfunctory. This needs another conversation.

Saw Allie Adelman, again briefly.
Got more spark of reaction from him,
although nothing overwhelmingly enthusiastic.
Asked if he could help with Evan Helfer,
and he didn't seem to think so. Man
is not Jewish - wouldn't go to religion in
Israel.

2 Feb 73

Had long talk with Max Fisher who was very friendly. Tried to advise me not to be too "tough" in my approach to Reform group - go easy with them - get my foot in door - gradually they would agree to totality of ambitious program. Was encouraging in his attitude - felt it was a good job for me to undertake.

16 FEB 73

Long talk with Syd Arichai, who was most interested. Didn't talk to him about money - but to find out what he thought of idea. He thought it was great.

Was especially interested in Ethical Center, said he had once spoken to Eli Weisel about such an idea. If we ever got it started, he would want to work in it.

9 Feb 73

Talk in London with Hugo Bryan and Albert Friedlander about whole project. Asked whether there were good prospects for this. Louis Goodman had told me day before there was one man in Friedlander's congregation who gave lots. A.F. confirmed this.

Decision was that on my next trip through London, I would speak to all Liberal & Reform rabbis, whom they would call together, explaining the project and asking them ^{each} to prepare short list of prospects - which we would then figure out how best to tackle on subsequent visits.

28 Feb 73

During course of Board of Governors meeting, at which subject was introduced, I spoke.

Following meeting, I spoke with several specific individuals, asking for help:

1. Martin Gang - to go over list of prospects for Los Angeles
2. Martin Engel - to make date & visit in Birmingham
3. Charles Retschek - to go over list for Scarsdale & New York.
4. Stanley Kopfeld - to make date with Abe Playph in Memphis.
He said he would get Rabbi Wax to help him.

Dr. Carl Hermann Voss
708 Oaks Marianna Trail, East
Jacksonville, Florida 32211



AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Samuel Adams

Patriot



U.S. Postage 8¢

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
13 (or 15?) Ibn Gabirol Street
Jerusalem, ISRAEL

92430

Pine Manor Junior College
Chestnut Hill, Mass. 04-VII 75
(I'm attending a Black Colleges
Educators conference here)

Dear Herb:

Sorry to have missed you during my 8-day stay in Jerusalem and 14-day period in Israel. It would have been good to have seen you and Francine and to have met the children, but the days were so terribly crowded, I could hardly wedge in all that I wanted so much to do and see. Sorry. -- Trust all goes well with you folks. Haven't seen you since January of 1970 at the Hilton in Tel Aviv for five minutes. Hope the coming years bring us together again and often thereafter. -- Heard that our hope for a Stephen S. Wise Center in J'lem has been laid on the table, perhaps forever. Regret to hear this, but presume it's to be expected in view of the lingering hostility. -- All the best to both of you and the kids. -- Shalom l'hitraot --

Carl

June 27, 1975

Mr. Christopher Brough
Wragby
838 Worcester Street
Wellesley
Mass. 02181
USA

Dear Chris:

When I opened the script, I thought I would be reading something new, but it all sounded familiar. Suddenly I realised that the new part was simply inserted between pages 7 and 11.

What I see in those pages is: HOLOCAUST; flashback to 1917 Balfour Declaration; PLO and Arafat; Golda - and then "exploring four viewpoints" through "direct intercutting of lip-syne interviews" (for which you gave several examples).

I have no idea how all this will hang together, but presumably you do.

Let me repeat the point I made at our first session: the thrust of the film, as described on pages 3 and 4, is magnificent. If you can, indeed, bring the viewer to those conclusions, as listed, you will have done a major achievement for human progress. What I do not see is the specific outline of shot-by-shot, scene-by-scene, interview-by-interview. I understand your goals and objectives, but I do not see the shooting script by which you hope to reach those goals.

Perhaps, in the nature of your style, you prefer not to have a detailed shooting script. That's up to you. But then I am not able to judge whether you will succeed.

So, I am not quite clear at this point how to be helpful. I would be glad to tell you stories by the hour, and you decide whether any of these stories are useful to include. I would be glad to comment on any specific scenario you intend to shoot. I would be glad to check the historic accuracy of anything you are not sure about. I would be glad to look at daily rushes and give you my impressions.

But most of all, in my judgment, you need a shooting script to translate your objectives into reality, and I would urge you to write one, in full, scene by scene.

Best to Kevin and Charles.

Sincerely,

Herbert A. Friedman

ALBERT B. RATNER

10800 BROOKPARK ROAD
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44130

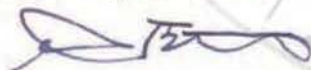
March 25, 1975

Dear Herb:

Thank you for your note of condolence. When someone once referred to Dad as a lamed-navnik, he answered, "Not me. I am a simple man and only do that which it is incumbent upon all of us to do."

This will be a very sad Passover without Aunt Irene and Dad. In the past two months, our sadness is beginning to give way to our many pleasant memories, and I am sure that, in the future, - as in the case of my mother - that his life will be all that we remember, and not his death.

Sincerely yours,



Albert Ratner

ABR/b

*file
personal letters*

Grey Hollow Road
Norwalk, Connecticut 06850
April 15, 1975

Dear Herb:

Well, it's over. At least the preliminary part is over. Now, the real work begins. I seem to have been able to convince the leadership of the Jewish Community of Houston that I know what the hell I'm doing; now I have to convince myself.

Your telegram was telephoned to the house on Sunday evening, the day before I was to have left for Houston. What you didn't know was that I left a day early in order to spend all of Monday meeting with the executives of the various agencies in Houston. I found that to be a very profitable use of time. (I learned more from them than from all of the meetings with lay people that I had subsequently. It happens that some of what I learned they had not intended to tell me, but that is neither here nor there.) I don't intend to become maudlin but you can't possibly know what your wire meant to me. Thanks!

On Tuesday and Wednesday I met with each of the committees of the Council. The groups were small: three to five people. In some cases it seemed as though these were interview situations but in most cases it was made clear that the procedure was intended to brief me on the problems and strengths of the Council and that the decision to invite me was a foregone conclusion. This was especially clear when a reception for me and Cecile was held on Tuesday evening, in the middle of the meetings. If there were a real question, it would have been held after the Selection Committee met on Wednesday afternoon.

I will begin to work on July 1. Al Goldstein, a gentleman and very sensitive to the ambiguities of the situation, will stay on until January 1, 1976 but he will be housed in another place, out of the building altogether. He will become the Executive Vice-President of the Council and will work on endowments. He will be available for consultation and advice, when requested. I have yet to discuss with IB the date of my termination here. He is involved in an around-the-country barnstorming trip with Lautenberg, Allon, et al. The final meeting will be in New York on Friday. Next week we will talk. Jack Steinhorn may also leave and that will require a total review of staff requirements for three programs. I believe that is exactly what IB wants, to put in his own team.

Cecile loved Houston. Her apprehensions before the trip were relieved by the warmth and hospitality of the leadership there. She sensed that they like her and she reciprocated. Her only problem now, one which I share, is the reluctance to leave Philip here in the East to attend college. (He was accepted by Brandeis, U. Conn., Wesleyan; he was rejected by Harvard; he was wait-listed by Yale and Columbia). He prefers Wesleyan to all the others and so there he'll go. He really doesn't want to consider U. of Texas. What the hell, it's only money!

The Annual Meeting of the Council will take place on May 20. Al Goldstein has invited IB to be the guest speaker. (Could that have anything to do with the fact that he wants a job overseas?) I know that you'll be in Houston a little later on. When Bob Hecht and I spoke the other day, I put a bug in his ear. "Wouldn't it be nice for you, the outgoing President to have your friend...." That would be a real study in human relations. You and Irving, Al Goldstein and me, and Dan Asher pouting in the background. This is the stuff of which good theatre is made.

O.K. it's late (I'm typing this in the office at 7 PM and I want to go home) and so I'll wind up. When are you coming to the States and how much time do I have? Dinner either here in NYC or Connecticut? What is your itinerary? Item #2 Will you speak to the kids who will be going to Israel from Houston this Summer on the Pilgrimage?

There will be approximately 60 kids, divided into two groups. Following is their itinerary:

GROUP A

June 24-July 5 JERUSALEM (Lifshitz)
 July 6 BEER SHEBA (Zohar)
 July 7 ARAD (Nof Arad)
 July 8-10 EILAT (Caravan)
 July 11-19 MAGDIEL
 July 20-23 TIBERIAS (Daphnah)
 July 24-27 HAIFA (Ben Yehuda)
 July 28-29 NAHARIYA
 July 30-Aug. 6 JERUSALEM (Lifshitz)

GROUP B

Same as "A"
 July 6-9 TIBERIAS (Daphnah)
 July 10-12 NAHARIYA
 July 13-15 HAIFA (Ben Yehuda)
 July 16-26 MAGDIEL
 July 27 ARAD (Nof Arad)
 July 28-30 EILAT (Caravan)
 July 31-Aug. 6 JERUSALEM (Lifshitz)

I told Al Fridkin, the Chairman of the Commission for Jewish Education, that I would ask you to speak to the kids and he was very excited by the prospect. I hoped that you might talk to them about Aliyah Bet at the Naval Museum in Haifa. Perhaps we can discuss the specifics of my request when you are in the U.S.

With love to Francine and the children, to which Cecile makes a major contribution, I am

Fondly,



March 24, 1975

Dear Herbert:

I've begun a score of letters to you and each one has been aborted either within the first few lines on paper or in my head. This time I am determined to finish.

First, I want you to know about the progress we are making with Houston. After waiting two weeks longer than I had expected, Kosberg telephoned and invited me to come, with Cecile, to Houston on April 8 and 9. He wants me to meet with each of seven committees of the Federation, following which there will be a cocktail reception for us. This is not to imply that they have made their selection but they have no plans to invite anyone else, unless, for some reason, they decide not to extend an invitation to me after this coming visit. So, to put it into colloquial language, it's in the bag unless I blow it. My own feelings about going to Houston are mixed although weighted toward the positive. It's very isolated...from family especially. I really have no concern about that because I know that I'll be getting to New York several times a year if I choose to but Cecile is worried and apprehensive. Philip hasn't heard from all of the schools to which he has applied. He was accepted by Brandeis (which he rejects because "it's a perpetual USY conclave" and by U. Conn., which he prefers of the two. We are still waiting to hear from Harvard, Yale, Columbia, and Wesleyan. In any case, he'll be going to school in the East and I think that that troubles Cecile as well. Ruth, 14, wants to go to Israel next year. We would send her but there doesn't seem to be a good program for 9th graders. It would be a lot easier if she were in the 10th grade. I'm still inquiring about that. It would be very good for us to have a whole year together, virtually starting a new career, without children in the house. A kind of honeymoon. Now, if she can find a sense of self-esteem, of purpose, a useful job, it can be very good. If not, it could be the end of the end.

I've been doing some research on Federations. I spent a morning with Abe Sudran and an evening with Bernie Olshansky. Both encouraged me but there were some valuable suggestions, especially from Bernie. I also had lunch, at his invitation, with IB. He thought that everything Bernie suggested was "bullshit". That luncheon was Kafkaesque and I haven't the skill to describe it on paper. I'll tell you all about it in May when you are in the States again. The bottom line of Bernie's suggestions was that I arrange, at the very beginning, to visit key Federations during crucial periods—a week in Baltimore during budgeting, a week in another city during campaign, a few days observing a good long-range social planning committee, etc. He also suggested that I invite Hank Zucker or Sid Vincent or even Abe Sudran to spend some time in Houston. The latter suggestion seemed loaded with pitfalls but the former seemed worth thinking about. What do you think?

I also met with Jerry Bubis of the School of Communal Service in L.A. Jerry is a very good guy whose friendship ante-dates my interest in Federations. He made some valuable suggestions about periodical literature with which I ought to become familiar. The more I read and the more I see, the clearer it becomes that the Federation is the instrument through which the most meaningful kind of Jewish work can be done. If I only knew ten years ago what I know now!

Passover...

Jack and I wrote some fine stuff for Passover. The major P.R. piece was a slick job on parchment-like paper called the Fifth Cup. If it hadn't been submitted to Irving's editorial skill it would have been superb. As it is, it's mediocre propaganda. We also did a teacher's guide for it, one not criticized by IB which is very good. Then the shit hit the fan. Izzie Klavan wrote a nasty letter asking who established the R.A.C. as an authority on liturgy. It's the same old complaint...we can't, or won't do anything creative ergo no one else should either. I haven't heard from our colleagues in the CCAR yet; I suppose that the Liturgy Committee hasn't met yet and so they haven't had the opportunity to take me to task. (That happened when we produced some material for Yom Kippur) Other colleagues applaud the material and we have received loads of short notes simply saying "YASHER KO-ACH".

The best response of all came to the simplest thing that we did, also without submission to anyone for approval or editing. We found in the Rambam, in HICHOT CHAMETZ U'MATZA, a variant reading of "B'CHOL DOR VA-DOR HAYYAV ADAM LIROT ET ATZMO K'EELU HU YATZA MI-MITZRAYIM. Instead of Lirot the Rambam has L'harot. Jack and I each wrote the outline for one sermon based on the reading of Rambam. My point was the Lirot was minimal, identification with Jewish history, simple cognition and that the Rambam wanted more. To demonstrate one's freedom by concern for those still enslaved, etc. Jack took another tack: there are two other instances when the expression Hayyav Adam are used, in regard to drinking at Purim until we don't know the difference between Haman and Mordecai and in regard to hearing bad news, death, when we are obliged to bless God. Jack's point was that in each instance, we are 'obliged' to behave in a way that is contrary to our nature as human beings. No Jew can drink enough not to know the difference between Mordecai and Haman; we can't really thank God for bad news; we can't really see ourselves as having been liberated from bondage when we really didn't experience it. Therefore, says Jack, even though we can't really see ourselves as having been liberated from Egypt, we can demonstrate our appreciation of freedom by acting it out with the symbols of Passover and through our concern for those of our people who are still enslaved. The response to these simple drashot was great. Israel Levinthal wrote; Harry Orlinsky did also.

We are having a big Seder this year. Ben Chinitz and family are coming down from Providence. (He's been great. Speaking all over; organizing faculty groups; being generally helpful) I also invited Ronnie Dissentschik and his wife. They seemed pleased to receive the invitation. There was some additional response to my letter to student leaders and at the least, they'll recruit some sales representatives from the mailing.

Other news from the USA...Merrill Hassenfeld had a heart attack. He's coming along O.K.

Well, I finally wrote a letter to you. I hope that you think it was worth the trouble. Somehow I don't resent submitting my efforts to your criticism as much as to others.

Please tell Francine, David and Charles hello for me and wish them all a Chag Kasher V'Sameach. (You can omit the Kasher if you think it inappropriate) Remember-I still expect to run the Marina at Yamit. Tell me when to come.

NI 3'3'2
Eag

GRAMME

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LT
HERBERT FRIEDMAN
15 IBN GABIROL STREET
JERUSALEM



YOUR GOOD WISHES DID IT STOP AS OF JULY EYE AM EXEC IN HOUSTON
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REGARDS
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TELEGRAM

GRAMME

JULY 1975

TELEGRAM



JILL AND LEE URIS

Dear Herb and Francine —

How are you two holding up? We recently listened to your words to us on Feb. 15, 1970 and they were so true — two people can only provide a sanctuary for each other, against the pressures and crises from the outside. This year they seem especially acute. And we all pray for peace. Keep up the fight. We love you
Nilla Lee





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3101 CLIFTON AVENUE • CINCINNATI, OHIO 45220
(513) 221-1875

May 5, 1975

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
15 Ibn Gabirol St.
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Herb:

I have just learned of your munificent contribution to the Alumni Chair Endowment in Practical Rabbinics. I want you to know how deeply appreciated your gift is, particularly in the light of the years of your personal service to our people and the dedication to our School which your thoughtfulness indicates. I know how much the College-Institute means to you.

We are very grateful to you for all that you have done and will yet continue to do for our beloved Alma Mater.

With warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Alfred Gottschalk
President

AG:db

NATHAN SHAPELL

March 24, 1975

Dear Rabbi:

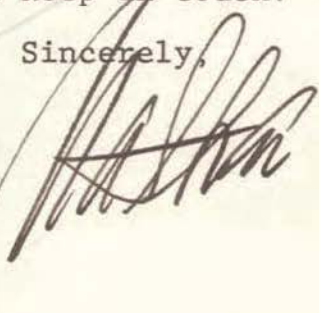
What a wonderful surprise to hear from you after so many years. Of course I remember all our conversations!

I am glad to know that you are well and happy living in Jerusalem; it must be quite an inspirational experience.

It is my pleasure to enclose a personally inscribed copy of my book, WITNESS TO THE TRUTH which I hope you will find of interest, as well as a self-explanatory Memo which gives me great pride to share with you.

In the future, Lilly and I do hope to visit Jerusalem and certainly will advise you so we can get together again. Please give my warmest regards to your family and keep in touch.

Sincerely,



Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
15 IBN Gabirol Street
Jerusalem, Israel 92430

March 12, 1975

Mr. Craig Adelman
University of Wisconsin
Sandburg South Tower 240
3400 Maryland Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201
USA

Dear Craig:

I have not yet been able to ascertain whether there are national procedures governing adoption in Israel, but we did some investigating here in Jerusalem, and this is what we discovered:

- 1) Adoption is handled by the Municipality of Jerusalem, with the assistance of municipal social workers and in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Welfare.
- 2) Applicants for adoption must be resident in Israel.
- 3) There is a waiting list involving an average waiting period of two years.
- 4) When a child is placed in a home there is an additional six months waiting period before the adoption becomes legal and final.
- 5) After that the parents are presumably free to do what they wish, including leaving Israel and taking the child with them.

These are simply the very rough outline rules, and there is no way of providing any refined details until you actually go into the Municipality and make the application, but on the face of it, it certainly seems that it is feasible if one wishes to come and live here in Israel for several years.

If I find out anything else I will continue to keep you informed.
Please let me know your thoughts.

Regards,

March 10, 1975

Mrs. Bessie Pine
Personnel Services
National Jewish Welfare Board
15 East 26th Street
New York, N.Y. U.S.A.

Dear Mrs. Pine,

I have just returned from travel abroad, hence the long delay in answering your letter dated January 2nd, 1975.

I am delighted to write a letter of reference concerning Philip Horn, because I have a high regard for his professional and personal characteristics. I have known him during the years, approximately 1972-1974, in which he served as the Director of the Young Men's and Women's Hebrew Association, here in Jerusalem, and I served as a member of his Board. I worked with him primarily on the budget sub-committee, and had full opportunity to watch him functioning in that difficult area. He prepared his budgets well and carefully; administrated them and lived within them as best one can in Israel; and handled himself quite well in negotiating subsidies for that budget from officials in the Ministry of Education, the Municipality and the Jewish Center Movement. He always displayed great firmness accompanied by great tact.

He enjoyed good relations with his own leadership; did not attempt to dominate the Board, as some executives have a habit of doing; yet, on the other hand, did not retreat into the background, leaving his personality unfelt, which is the opposite sin. He offered direction and guidance to the Board, yet with a soft touch.

The only other area in which I have personal evidence is in the manner in which he handled the children at the Center. My own children attended and I came with them often enough to see how he reacted and related with the kids pouring in and out of the lobby. His friendly smile created a warm and personal relationship with them.

His Jewish background and outlook seem to me to be quite strong. He has deep feelings about Israel and the Jewish people; his knowledge of the Hebrew language is fluent, and his appreciation of the Jewish heritage is comprehensive.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert A. Friedman



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January 2, 1975

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
HUC
13 King David Street
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

As part of its personnel service to Jewish Community Centers, the National Jewish Welfare Board maintains files for professional workers in the field including those who have been recently placed in Center positions. These files include data about the individual which he provides on our Personal and Professional History form and letters of reference from individuals who have been listed by him as knowledgeable about his skills.

Your name has been given as a reference by Philip Horn. We would appreciate receiving from you a letter of reference that will become part of his permanent file and made available to future employers. The enclosure will serve as a guide in preparing this reference.

Your prompt and frank response will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Bessie Pine

Mrs. Bessie Pine
Personnel Services

Encl:

REFERENCE LETTER GUIDE

As one of its services to members, the National Jewish Welfare Board maintains records of persons interested in and/or qualified for employment with Jewish Community Centers and YM-YWHAs affiliated with JWB. These files are of maximum value to local communities when they reflect accurately the person's capabilities as demonstrated in his or her work.

A request for a reference letter should not be interpreted as an indication that the person evaluated is seeking another position.

As reference letters are a most important part of a permanent personnel file, references are requested to prepare their letters with care. Please make every effort to evaluate objectively the person's actual job performance, his strengths and weaknesses and his potential for further development and additional responsibility.

References should feel free to comment on the work of the person evaluated as they see fit, but the following points are important to be included:

- Capacity in which you worked with the individual
- Dates of above relationship
- Professional skills and knowledge demonstrated in his work
- Ability to work with people, capacity for sound relationships
- Knowledge of program skills, community resources and ability to use them
- Organizational ability
- Jewish background and outlook
- Examples of strengths and weaknesses of performance
- Adequacy for Jewish Community Center work

An objective reference letter will be useful to the individual and to the field of Jewish Communal Service.

It is recommended that references be shared with the worker.

Please note: A reference letter is a statement of the qualifications of a person, while an evaluation is a professional instrument used by a supervisor together with the worker, to judge professional growth at a particular time. While the reference letter is included in the individual's profile, the evaluation is kept in his personnel folder for office use in career counseling and placement.

January 13, 1975

Rabbi Leonard Schoolman
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10021
USA

Dear Leonard:

I am writing this note on behalf of a very good friend of mine, Eli Bar-Lev, who was formerly a Lieutenant Colonel in the Israeli Army, located in the Army Spokesman's Office, where he dealt with important visitors and groups from abroad visiting Israel. Because of all this experience, it was only natural that Eli, when he left the army recently, should go into the travel bureau business. He really has a great touch in handling visitors and tours.

He plans to be in the United States at the end of January, and I gave him your name as a contact. I really do not know what role the Union plays in organising congregational tours, or servicing rabbis who take their own initiative, but I felt that if anybody knew how the inside organisation works, it would be you.

I know you will receive Eli with friendship and do your utmost to be helpful to him. With thanks in advance, I am,

As ever,

Herbert A. Friedman

cc: Eli Bar Lev.
Laron Tours
11 Ahad ha'am Street
Tel Aviv

Motti Cohen
32 Dam Hamokabin
03-30435 Greitaym

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Ehrenkantz

Fraunheim
g17

Rabbi Joseph H. Ehrenkranz

Congregation Agudath Sholom

*301 Strawberry Hill Avenue
Stamford, Connecticut 06902*

January 23, 1975

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
15 Ibn Gavirol Street
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Herb:

It was so great to hear from you. How are you? I trust you are doing well. I keep searching for your name as a member of Parliament if not future timber for Prime Minister.

I took care of your request immediately and I am enclosing a copy of the letter which I sent to the Beth Din of America which they in turn put their corporate seal on and added the note in Hebrew on the bottom of the letter so that it would be totally acceptable to the Rabbinate in Israel.

I wish you all the best and hope that I will have the opportunity to see you in Israel soon.

אברהם
אברהם
Joseph H. Ehrenkranz,
Rabbi

Regards to your family
JHE:rb

March 11, 1975

Mr. Max Braude
ORT
3 rue de Varembe
1211 Geneva
SWITZERLAND

Dear Max:

I was recently in Houston, and I had a long talk with Al Goldstein, who is retiring as the Executive Director there, after a long career of successful community service. He is interested in living and working abroad - part of the time in Europe and part of the time in Israel. I remember you once spoke to me about your need for people, and when Al spoke to me about wanting to work for some agency abroad, I thought of you. As a matter of fact I seem to recall his telling me he had one conversation with Murray Sklar.

He is a seasoned professional who knows his business, even though he has a lifetime of experience behind him, he is still quite young in physical appearance and mental outlook. A couple of years ago he did a study of Malben in Israel on behalf of the Joint. You might check with them to find out their opinion of his work.

I think it would be worthwhile for you two to get together, the next time you get to the States. There may be nothing he can do for you, and yet he may be just what you are looking for. His address is:

Mr. Albert Goldstein
Executive Director
Jewish Community Council of Metropolitan Houston Inc.,
5601 South Braeswood
Houston, Texas 77035
USA

Best wishes from house to house,

Sincerely,

Herbert A. Friedman

TEMPLE SINAI
Lakeside Drive
Stamford, Connecticut 06903

Office of the Rabbi
(203) 322-1649

SAMUEL M. SILVER, D. D.

7 Nov. 1974

Dear Herb,

My son, Barry, told me about meeting you as you conducted a class at HUC.

I'm delighted he was able to meet you.

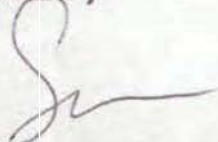
He's a bit diffident, and he perhaps did not tell you that he would like to coach tennis whilst being in Israel this year. He would do so anywhere: on a kibbutz, for a ~~school~~ school, etc.

~~Extensively~~ I wonder, with your many contacts, whether you could put him on the track to ply his art somewhere.

He's at care of Mr. Michael Handscher, 28/1 Smilansky, ~~Natany~~ ~~Natany~~ Natanya. Phone: 24355.

Glad to hear ~~you're~~ you're teaching at HUC. Elaine joins me in fond regards and thanks. Give our best to Francine.

Yours,



A Caribbean First



BAR MITZVAH IN HAITI. Richard Salzmänn reads his Haftarah at his Bar Mitzvah in Port au Prince, Haiti, as his father, Otto Salzmänn (left) and Rabbi Samuel Silver, stand by. The July simcha was the first rabbi-conducted Bar Mitzvah in the history of Haiti. On hand for the service were 150 people, Jews, Moslems and Christians, including the Israeli Ambassador, Hon. Zeev Bashan, who addressed the congregation at the reception, prepared by Mrs. Salzmänn. Mr. Salzmänn, a prominent businessman in Haiti, came to the island from Vienna in the days of Hitler. He and Rabbi Silver, of Temple Sinai, Stamford, Conn., are cousins. Photo is by another cousin, George Randall, of Florence, Alabama.

Haiti

By Rabbi Samuel Silver

What an adventure my wife and I had in Haiti!

That torrid Caribbean island is moving up in its economic life and in tourism.

It's a beautiful island, with majestic scenery.

American business enterprises are moving into the land, too. It's only three and a half hours from New York, and the tourist hotels are among the most luxurious on earth.

But that's not why I went to Port au Prince.

I went to do a Bar Mitzvah.

There are only a few dozen Jewish families in Haiti. Some are Sephardic Jews. Some are refugees from Nazism. And some are American entrepreneurs who love sunshine.

One of the Haitian Jews is a cousin of mine, Otto Salzmänn, who fled Vienna a step ahead of Hitler.

Otto's boy was turning 13 and he wanted him Bar Mitzvahed, but there is no synagogue, or religious school in Haiti.

So I sent young Richard the material he would have to learn to become Bar Mitzvah. An excellent tutor, Shlomo Cohen, once of Israel, trained Richard to recite his Hebrew.

And in July I flew down and in Mr. Salzmänn's home, I Bar Mitzvahed Richard at a service attended by 150 people, Jews, Christians, Arabs, white and black.

A lovely reception took place.

Among those on hand was a very talented Israeli diplomat (or am I repeating myself?) the Hon. Zeev Bashan, the Ambassador from the Jewish republic.

In fact, I made history twice. For while I was there I also Bar Mitzvahed David Fleischmann. He is the son of German refugees, Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Fleishmann. That event was graced not only by the entire Israeli delegation in Haiti, but by the secretary of the Israeli embassy in Santo Domingo, Eli Azulai.

Another pair of interested observers were the Rev. and Mrs. Carl Brown, Christian missionaries in Haiti.

Another interesting coincidence. Mr. Fleischmann, the father of one of the Bar Mitzvah boys, is employed by a business firm called House of Perfection, founded by Samuel Goldfarb, the renowned philanthropist, who lives now in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, a man I much admire.

It is truly a klaine veltele, a little world!

May 3, 1973

Mrs. Daniel Brandeis Wolf
North Willow
1433 Brewster Road
Indianapolis, Ind. 46260

Dear Mrs. Wolf:

I have your letter of April 23, and hasten to reply immediately. I had no idea that Sarah had been ill. Please tell her that had I known, I would certainly have sent her a get-well note. She certainly knows the affection and esteem in which I hold her. I pray that she will be dancing at your son's wedding.

Your notes and comments about your family's background were very interesting to me. I appreciate the strong statement of support, which is very encouraging. I don't know yet whether it will be an uphill fight, but in any case statements like yours are good for morale.

Please give Mark my best wishes for good success, and tell him to call the next time he is in Israel.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert A. Friedman

MRS. DANIEL BRANDEIS WOLF
NORTH WILLOW
1433 BREWSTER ROAD
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46260

23 April, 1973

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
P.O.B. 92 -Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Rabbi Friedman

Aunt Sarah (Goodman) has asked me to write to you, acting as a sort of "writing factotum" for her.

You may not know that on 10 March, she broke her hip. The usual pin-plate operation was performed and about ten days later she threw an embolism to the right lung, which had everyone extremely frightened, but with medication, this problem cleared. Aunt Sarah is now home, has full time nurses and in her words:

"I am determined I will walk again, it will be hard, but I will make it."

She is indeed walking with the aid of a walker, slow small steps and a therapist comes every other day. The pain is slackening, the going is tough but her doctors are most happy with her healing and progress.

Aunt Sarah thanks you for your good wishes and wants you to know that she is most interested in the work you have chosen as Director of Planning and Development for H. U. C., and she will be happy to cooperate to the best of her ability.

I say she will be dancing at our son Mark's wedding in August. You may remember Mark, one of the youth leaders on the Young Peoples Mission two summers ago. It was on this mission he met his "future". Mark is now a law student.

This past January Mark and I joined UJA Mission #7, my first (hopefully not last) and Mark's fourth trip to Israel. My husband had a temporary health problem which did not permit him to travel, so Mark happily came with me.

I too found your letter of great interest. Reform Judaism has too long been an "outcast" in Israel and inspite of the political expediency which has caused this; there are many Reform Jews who are slightly/to strongly resentful of this problem and rightly or wrongly or possibly just looking for an excuse, refuse to support Israel. For me personally, it is a step in a very positive direction. My maternal grandfather was a founder of Shaare Emeth in St. Louis, as was his father-in-law. Grandfather's family were Marranos in Lisbon, were found out and condemned to death. They escaped to Holland where one branch remained

to become Christians; where their descendants live to-day. The other branch braved the rigors of the new world and rejoiced in their new-found religious freedom and sent sons to serve in the American Revolution. ^{They were} charter members of Mikvah Israel in Philadelphia (Rebecca Gratz was my grandfather's religious school teacher). On my maternal grandmother's side, most of the family (Newmark) settled in California, having left Alsace-Lorraine about 1850. Her grandfather, Joseph Newmark, acted as lay Rabbi of Los Angeles from his arrival in 1854 until 1862 when he founded and became the first president of the Congregation B'nai Brith (now the Wilshire Blvd. Temple). He traveled to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama and sent his English wife and children by sailing vessel around the Cape. The Newmark name in California is legend, but again there has been much "straying" from the fold and christian conversion.

For a long-time I have been greatly concerned about the future of Reform Judaism and in your plan, I see a bright ray of light.

Again warmest thanks and good wishes from Aunt Sarah to you and yours.

Cordially

Marcia Wolf



March 5th, 1973

The Reservations Department
Red Rock Hotel
P.O.B. 306
Eilat

Dear Sirs:

With reference to your letter of February 20,
I would like to cancel the reservation I made for
two double rooms from March 16.

We have decided to make our trip to Eilat at a
later date, possibly at Pesach, and we therefore will
not need the accommodation at your hotel.

Many thanks for all your help.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert A. Friedman

HAF:amg



מלון הסלע האדום • אילת
RED ROCK HOTEL • EILAT

TEL. 059-3171-5
CABLES: REDROKOTEL
P. O. Box 306
TELEX: 03-717

February 20, 1973

משרד ההנהלה
EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Mr. Herbert Friedman
c/o United Jewish Appeal
P.O.Box 92
JERUSALEM

Dear Mr. Friedman

We can confirm your reservation for two double rooms only from March 16 or from March 18, for two nights, because March 17 is Saturday and we can not accept reservations beginning or ending on Saturdays.

In order to finalize the reservation please let us have your deposit of IL. 200.- not later than March 4, otherwise we shall be unable to guarantee the accommodation.

Thanking you for an early reply and assuring you of our best services at all times,

Yours Sincerely,

Reservations Department.

March 6, 1973

Mr. Norman Bensley
30 East 42nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10017
U. S. A.

Dear Norman:

Looking forward to your arrival on Thursday, March 15th at 10:20 a.m. via El Al #002. Francine and I will be there to meet with you, with bells on (Christian church bells, of course).

I have to proceed to Caesarea for an important meeting of our villa owners association which, unfortunately, has been long scheduled for that same day, in order to continue our fight against the feudal overlordship of the Baron Rothschild's heavy handed company.

You will proceed to Jerusalem with Francine, and there is a reservation for you at the Kings Hotel for the one night, Thursday. In this crazy country you cannot check in or out of a hotel on Saturday, so if you want to keep the room for Friday night you must also keep it for Saturday night, when you really don't need it because we will all be sleeping in Caesarea by then. Therefore, to save you money, I suggest you take the hotel room only for Thursday night and sleep on the couch at our house on Friday night, (it will only be for a few hours, anyhow, because we shall be at the Dinitz party very, very late and rising early to leave for Caesarea). After that long Purim weekend at Caesarea you can get your brains unscrambled and decide where you want to stay thereafter.

Regarding the contract with the HUC people, there is no immediate rush, which is the reason why I have not telephoned you to receive your comments. We have concluded all of our conversations here and we do have an understanding. The essential outline of the contract as you have it in front of you is acceptable to them. Their lawyer, with whom I have spoken here, is shortly returning to the States, he will do some cosmetic redrafting, consult with Herb Rose in about ten days, and then send the repaired draft here to me for my approval, so we have plenty of time to introduce any changes that you wish to suggest. I would much rather go over the document with you here, in person, when

.....

Mr. Norman Bensley

March 6th, 1973

Page 2

you arrive, than on the telephone.

Regarding appointments with people that you might want to see, I think we can arrange that once you are here, and I have a more specific idea of what subjects you want to talk about. Shimon Peres, the Minister of Transportation, usually responds to my telephone calls very quickly. So does Zev Sharef, the Minister of Housing.

It will really be good to see you, and to do some planning@ both for your future and for mine.

As ever,

THE JERUSALEM POST WEEKLY

PUBLISHED IN JERUSALEM BY THE JERUSALEM POST PUBLICATIONS LTD.

9 Reh. Hahavazelet
P. O. BOX 81
JERUSALEM
Telephone 28331

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48 King George Street
Jerusalem 94269

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January 19, 1972

The Jerusalem Post
Subscriptions Department
P.O.B. 81
Jerusalem

Dear Sirs:

I would like to order two subscriptions for overseas editions of the Weekly Jerusalem Post. The first is a renewal of an existing subscription, which is due to expire soon, and should go to:

Mr. Daniel Friedman
551 South State Street
Ann Arbor
Michigan, U. S. A.

The second is a new subscription and should go to:

Dr. and Mrs. Wayne Unice
2097 Cottonwood Drive
Vineland
New Jersey 08360, U. S. A.

Both subscriptions should be for six months, and I would be grateful if you would send the bill to the above address.

Many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert A. Friedman

January 26, 1973

Mr. Zeev Sher
Economic Minister
State of Israel
850 Third Avenue
New York, N.Y.
U. S. A.

Re; Charles Bensley

Dear Zeev:

I am writing this letter in case we miss each other when you are in Jerusalem with the Bond Delegation. I want you to know something about the above named individual, Charles Bensley, who is my father-in-law, but aside from that is one of the small group of top leadership on the American Jewish scene.

He used to be the Commissioner of Education of the city of New York and in that capacity Abba Eban, who was then the Minister of Education, invited him to come to Israel to give advice about comprehensive high schools. A few years later, Bensley became the first president of the Israel Education Fund of the U.J.A., and raised tens of millions of dollars to build a whole network of high schools and other facilities in Israel. He is also chairman of the Executive Board of ORT. As such, he is a great friend of Almogi as well as Sapir and Allon. He is also chairman of the Board of Governors of Haifa University and has helped build a group of chapters and friends for the new school.

All of this background is simply to indicate to you that he is a most devoted friend of Israel, not just a dear personal relative of mine. There is a matter concerning which he wants to come and see you, involving a potentially large investment in Israel. I simply wanted you to know who he was, so that when you receive him you will have this background information.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert A. Friedman

HAF:amg

from Herbert A. Friedman

MICHAEL AMBAR

SHIKMUNA 16/4

EILAT

RECEIVED CALL FROM DONATH AGENCY
SAYING THEY HAVE FOUND SUBSTITUTE
TENANT WHO WILLING PAY 600 POUNDS
TAKE OVER YOUR LEASE. THIS WOULD
LEAVE YOU ON HOOK FOR 300 BUT
DONATH PERSUADED LANDLORD TO COME DOWN
100 SO YOUR TOTAL OBLIGATION IS ONLY
200 WHICH YOU HAVE ALREADY PAID.
I ACCEPTED THIS COMPROMISE ON YOUR
BEHALF BECAUSE I THINK THIS IS
ABSOLUTELY CHEAPEST WAY OUT. WOULD
SUGGEST YOU WRITE NOTE OF THANKS TO
DONATH.

HERB

XXXX

HERBERT A FRIEDMAN UJA
POB 92, JERUSALEM

MICHAEL AMBAR
SHIKMUNA 16/4
EILAT

RECEIVED CALL FROM DONATH AGENCY SAYING THEY HAVE FOUND A SUBSTITUTE
TENANT WHO WILLING TO PAY 600 POUNDS TAKE OVER YOUR LEASE. THIS
WOULD LEAVE YOU ON THE HOOK FOR 300 BUT DONATH PERSUADED LANDLORD TO
COME DOWN 100 SO YOUR TOTAL OBLIGATION IS ONLY 200 WHICH YOU HAVE
~~NOT~~ ALREADY PAID. I ACCEPTED THIS COMPROMISE ON YOUR BEHALF BECAUSE
I THINK THIS IS ABSOLUTELY CHEAPEST WAY OUT. WOULD SUGGEST YOU WRITE
NOTE OF THANKS TO DONATH HERB



January 23, 1973

Mr. Michael Ambar
Shikmuna 16/4
Eilat

Dear Michael:

I'm afraid that I don't have very good news from the agency concerning the payment for the apartment. The attitude of the Real Estate agent and the owner is very simply that, while they appreciate that you no longer need the apartment, they do not feel like taking a loss of income.

Apparently they had someone else to whom they could have rented the apartment and they gave it to you instead. Now they no longer have the other person, who has taken another place. If they let you off the hook, they will have no one.

The apartment is rented again as of April 1st, to a different party, so they must look for a very short term tenant to replace you. If they are lucky enough to find one they would be prepared to have him as a replacement for you.

It's not too serious from a certain point of view. Actually your planning was correct, it was only an act of God that intervened. You should not berate yourself, you did the right thing. So, what the hell, it's only money. I am sure by the way that if you explain it to Stanley that way, he would understand and would offer to make it up to you.

By the way, he was planning to come at the end of April, because I was working on some reservations for him. Are his plans still the same? I think I shall write to him and find out.

As ever,

January 23, 1973

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Friedman
Karen Drive
Orange
Connecticut
U. S. A.

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Dear Stanley and Cydell:

Mazal Tov ! Your luck seems to run to girls. I have spoken to Michael on the telephone and Francine has spoken to Suzy, and everything seems to be well down there.

By funny coincidence, only a few days before the birth, Michael had written me a note asking me to serve as guarantor for a payment of \$900. for rent of an apartment he took in Jerusalem for the period February 1st to March 15th, in order to bring Suzy to Jerusalem to have the baby here. I signed the guarantee, of course, and sent it back to him in Eilat. Then I had a phone call to say the baby had been born. Now, of course, the apartment in Jerusalem is not needed and I have tried to get him out of the lease, but there is little chance because the Real Estate Agency cannot find a substitute tenant. So the rent will have to be paid and the apartment is at your disposal. Would you like an apartment in Jerusalem for six weeks?

Actually the thinking of Michael and Suzy was correct, namely, to try to have the baby in a better hospital here in Jerusalem, especially in view of their previous experience with the hospital in Eilat. Anyhow, this is all over now, and the important thing is that the baby should gain weight and flourish. We will try to figure out some opportunity of getting to Eilat to see them.

In view of this changed situation are you planning to change your arrival date? Incidentally we are working on all the reservations that you requested, and though I can't give you anything confirmed as yet, Vinitzky's office feels certain that we can get Eilat as your request plus the automobile as per your request.

Page 2

We should be able to get you something in Jerusalem
(God knows what because the city is badly oversold
for that week of the Independence Parade).

If you have any intention of changing your plans
because the baby has already been born, please drop me
a line so that we can start working on it right away,

Meanwhile you have a second generation here in Israel,
so you had better give some thought to yourself.

As ever,

January 18, 1973

Mr. Robert I. Kahn
Chairman
CCAR Committee on Liturgy
1500 Sunset Boulevard
Houston, Texas 77005
U. S. A.

Dear Bob:

I'm shocked, humiliated and incredulous. I have now gone through the draft copy of the new prayer book twice, and I can't believe my eyes. With the exception of a hackneyed old paragraph on page 105, I can't find anything about Israel in this book. Is this 1973 or are we back in the days of the Pittsburgh Platform? Even then Israel got more attention (albeit negative) than this prayer book gives it today. What happened? I cannot believe that this is simply an oversight. Has some person or committee or anonymous bureaucracy deliberately decided that this book shall exist without any reference to Israel reborn?

First of all, this book is about as universalistic as anyone could make it. There is a lot about the Sabbath, a lot about God, not enough about ethics and social justice - but basically this book, in its present form, is simply not Jewish enough. It is pallid, could easily serve liberal Protestants, has nothing of the fire and glory and grandeur of the religion and the peoplehood of Israel. O.K., I admit one could say that I am talking about matters of taste and style, so let's leave this point.

Regarding the total absence of Israel, however, I am not talking about form, rather about content. No prayer for the safety and welfare and security of the State of Israel, or the Jewish people living in it? No proclamation to be read annually on Independence Day? No reference to the fact that L'Shana Habah b'Yerushalayim is now an actuality for millions of people? No prayer expressing hope that once more new religious truth may emanate from the resurrected Israel? No nothing?

And what about the Shoa? Have we Reform Jews nothing to say about that event? Are we incapable of grappling with it in words? Are we blind to its challenge to religion? are we afraid to respond?

.... /

On page 235 Dachau is mentioned in a prayer before the Kaddish, as though we grudgingly remind ourselves of the Six Million Dead, for whom there is no one to say Kaddish. It's an insult that this spot should be the only place in the book where the dread fact is even alluded to.

This century has been marked by the two most outstanding events in the entire history of our people, standing in juxtaposition to each other within 15 years, (1933-1948) - one bringing the Jewish people close to death and the other giving birth to new life - both with the most intense religious implications. Are we either blind or stupid enough to print a new prayer book with no adequate handling of either of these transcendental matters? What are we trying to do - make believe that the murder never took place; or the recreation of statehood and nationhood never took place?

Bob - your covering mimeographed letter was dated 12 September, and gave the reader 90 days in which to make his comments. I'm late, because the book took longer to get to Israel, and because I thought even longer about whether to write this letter. But, even late, let me plead with you as hard as I know how, not to allow this book to be printed in a 19th Century vacuum (even though there is a reference to a rocket on page 229), offering a weak, pallid description of Judaism, bereft of its martyrdom and its rebirth. You can sense I am very disturbed, mainly because I am confused about the reason for the absences, I don't understand how it could have happened, and I beg you to see that it is corrected.

Lastly, let me say that if there is something in the theological and historical position of our Movement today which I don't understand, and which caused these oversights or makes it impossible to correct them, then the least thing I can do is to refuse to pray from this book, which is exactly what I shall do. There are, after all, other perfectly good prayer books. And if the Reform Movement insists on wrapping itself in the cloak of this weak poetry, then perhaps something is wrong with it. I thought we were moving in a different direction once the 1943 watershed was passed. Am I wrong?

As ever,

cc: Rabbi David Pélisch
Rabbi Tovia Ben Horin, Maram

Herbert A. Friedman

File