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Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated.

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Central Conference of American Rabbis, 1920-1921.

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WASHINGTON HEBREW CONGREGATION

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

December 8, 1920.

My dear Rabbi:

Our Congregation rejoices in the prospective Session of The Central Conference of American Rabbis in our City during the second week of April, 1921. Preparations to warrant the largest attendance of Rabbis and their wives in the history of your Conference are already under way. Washington presents unique opportunities for a successful and congenial Convention.

The strong probability of a special Congressional Session immediately after the Inauguration brings the matter of hotel accommodations into paramount importance. Although it is too early to state the hotel rates which will then prevail, it is none too early to make requisitions for an approximate number of reservations. At a later date we shall give more definite information as to rates. At present we shall appreciate your indicating on the card the probability of your coming.

In the hope of meeting you at the next Conference Session,

I remain,

Sincerely,

Lee Baumgarten
President.

The New Synagogue

BROADWAY AND 76TH STREET

NEW YORK

CC AR
RABBI EPHRAIM FRISCH, MINISTER

140 CLAREMONT AVENUE

January 18, 1921

Rabbi A. H. Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Colleague:

I am going to make a request of you that I would have made early in November if a long illness of two months had not prevented.

I am Chairman of a sub-committee of the Conference of the Holy Day Prayer Book Committee. The task has been assigned to my committee of preparing a list of subjects for special prayers to be incorporated in the Yom Kippur day service. I am anxious to get your assistance in this work.

Would you undertake to write a prayer of the length of a printed page in the Prayer Book on one of the subjects listed on the enclosed slip or would you write a prayer on another vital subject of your own choosing? If you could give me the outline of such a prayer, or better still the complete text itself in time for our meeting on January 27th, I would be very grateful to you.

Would you favor me with a line on this subject?

Sincerely yours,

Ephraim Frisch

EF-VR

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*Reservation made
Mar. 5/1921*

February 10, 1921.

To the Members of the C. C. A. R.

THE WASHINGTON MEETING

As you undoubtedly know, the next session of the C. C. A. R. will be held in the city of Washington from Tuesday evening, April 12th until Monday, April 18th. A program of unusual excellence and timely interest has been provided for this meeting. Speakers of national and international prominence will participate. Moreover, problems of varied and timely interest to every member of the Conference will be discussed and papers dealing with both academic and practical subjects will be presented.

The Washington committee of arrangements is sparing no pains to afford the members of the Conference every possible comfort and convenience. It is necessary, because of the crowded conditions of the Washington hotels that the committee be advised at once of your intention to attend the meeting. If you have not already done so, please notify Mr. R. B. H. Lyon, Evans Bldg., Washington, D. C. without delay.

We sincerely hope that you will be able to attend the Washington meeting which promises to be one of the most important in our history.

Appeals for assistance:

(a) Foreign Rabbis.

The war has left uncounted thousands of our people in suffering and want but upon none have the prevailing conditions pressed more heavily than upon some of the rabbis and other scholars abroad. The Executive Committee has for many months been studying this situation with the desire of relieving it and we are glad to report at this time that we believe a plan will soon be consummated with other national agencies by which the necessary relief will be afforded to these men who deserve so much at our hands,

(b) The Block Fund.

At the last meeting of the Conference it was decided to purchase

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from Dr. Joseph Bloch of Vienna, his unpublished manuscripts in the Rphling case. At that time, the members of the Conference morally bound themselves to raise the sum of approximately \$1500.00 for this purpose. We regret to state that only about one-half of that amount has thus far been raised, and we call upon the members of the Conference to redeem their pledge by sending to the Treasurer as liberal an amount as they possibly can for the Bloch Fund.

(c) The Alliance Israelite Universelle have asked your executive officers to request the members of the Conference to make a special appeal in behalf of that organization on the Sabbath preceding Purim. We trust that our members will, if possible, act in accordance with the spirit of this request.

Reprints.

(a) The American Jewish Committee has recently published in pamphlet form "An address to Their Fellow-Citizens by American Jewish Organizations" to which our Conference was one of the signatories. These pamphlets under the title "The Protocols, Bolshevism and the Jews", are available in limited numbers to the members of our Conference. Should you be able to use these pamphlets advantageously, please send in your request for same to Mr. Harry Schneidermann c/o American Jewish Committee, 31 Union Square West, New York City.

(b) A number of reprints of Professor Scharfman's splendid address delivered at the last Conference, are still available for distribution. If you can advantageously use any of these reprints please notify Rabbi I. E. Marcuson, 810 Spring St., Macon, Ga., without delay.

Hoping to meet you at the Washington Conference and with fraternal regards, I am

Cordially,

FELIX A. LEVY, Secretary

By order of the President.

P.S. If you desire the Secretary to write to your officers regarding the Congregation's sending you to the Conference, kindly notify the Secretary to whom to write.

F.A.L.

March 5th, 1921

Mr. R. B. H. Lyons,
Evans Building,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:-

I am planning to attend the coming
Central Conference of American Rabbis' meeting,
in Washington, beginning April 12th. Please
make reservations for me. I shall be unattended.

Sincerely yours,

TENTATIVE PROGRAM
THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION
CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

Wednesday, April 13, 10 A.M.

Prayer ----- Address of Welcome ----- Response - Calisch -----
Roll Call

*REPORTS ----- President ----- Rec. Sec. ----- Cor. Sec. ----- Treasurer ---
Relief and Pension ----- Solicitation Committee -----
Finance Committee ----- Publications Committee -----
Investment Committee ----- Church and State -----
Religious Work in Universities.

*All reports of Committees are submitted to the Executive Committee,
but may be called before the Conference by the members.

Wednesday, April 13, 2 P.M.

REPORTS ----- Cooperating with national organizations ----- Revision
of Hagaddah ----- Revision of Union Prayer Book -----
Book of Meditations and Prayers ----- Marriage and
Divorce ----- Religious Work among Sephardic Jews ---
Contemporaneous History ----- Survey of Religious Con-
ditions.

Wednesday, April 13, 4 P.M.

History of Preaching with special reference to Jellenik- Mayer

Wednesday Evening, April 13, 8 P.M.

Prayer -----
President's Message -----
Memorial Resolutions ----- Eli Mayer - Koch
Cantor - Simon Cohen
Jesselson - Freund
Wolfenstein-Simon
Spitz - Harrison
Isaacs - Stern

Kaddish ----- Benediction ----- Reception -----

Thursday, April 14, 9:30 A.M.

Prayer ----- Reports ----- Action on Amendments -----

Thursday, April 14, 11 A.M.

Paper - The Attitude of the Jew to the Non-Jew - Lauterbach
Discussion

Thursday P.M.

Open for Committee Meetings

Thursday, April 14, 9 P.M.

Banquet

Friday, April 15, 9:30 A.M.

Report and Religious Education Discussion

Friday, April 15, 2 P.M.

Open for meeting of Alumni Association

Friday, April 15, 4 P.M.

Reception at White House (probable)

Friday Evening

Rabbis make Kiddush, followed by Divine Services

Sermon - Witt

Saturday April 16, 10 A.M.

Services - Sermon - A. Hirschberg

Saturday 1 P.M.

Boat Ride to Mt. Vernon

Saturday, April 16, 8 P.M.

Address by A. Leo Weil

Sunday, April 17, 9:30 P.M.

Reports -- Election of Officers -- Benediction, etc.

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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF
AMERICAN RABBIS:

Dear Colleague:-

Your attention is called to the action of the Executive Board represented in the first statement which follows and to the action taken by the Washington Conference as represented in the second statement.

The Executive Board, at a meeting held at Washington April 12, 1921, voted that the Central Conference of American Rabbis co-operate with other religious bodies of our country in an effort to bring about a reduction of armament-building by the nations of the world.

It agreed to unite with them in a simultaneous presentation from the pulpit of the religious and moral sense of humanity anent this great question.

You are, therefore, herewith requested to speak to your Congregation on the topic of the reduction of armaments, at a service on, or as near as possible to, May 21 or 22, and to present to your people the consideration of this problem whose solution means so much for the promotion of peace and happiness among men. This solution can be incalculably helped by our own Government, to whose initiative it is believed the world will gladly respond; for "the work of righteousness shall be peace, and the effect of righteousness quiet and confidence forever."

"Whereas it is a well established fact that according to the Jewish ritual law, unfermented wine may be used on all occasions for 'Sacramental purposes', and

Whereas the Central Conference of American Rabbis has recommended the use of unfermented wine for all religious purposes,

Therefore, be it resolved, that we the members of the Central Conference of American Rabbis refuse to sign any and all requests for the use of unfermented wine for sacramental purposes."

By order of the President,

Horace J. Wolf,
Corresponding Secy.

May fifteenth, nineteen twenty-one.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF
AMERICAN RABBIS:

In these times of widespread suffering, many are the worthy appeals for help that come to you almost daily. But the fact that you are already overburdened will not deter you, I am sure, from giving your loyal assistance to the American Committee of the China Famine Fund which has been appointed by President Wilson and in whose behalf I am addressing this communication to you.

Conditions in China are so horrible that they beggar description. Literally millions of human beings there face death by starvation. Unless we in this land of plenty come to their rescue, nothing can save them from destruction.

Will you help relieve this situation not only by your personal contribution to the cause but also by assisting in the organization in your community of an efficient local committee to take up the work?

The Protestant churches of America are planning to devote Sunday, Feb. 6th, to a special plea for the cause of starving China. It has been suggested that we set aside Sabbath - February 5th - or Sunday - February 6th - for a similar plea.

I shall depend upon you to respond to this call and to do what in you lies to relieve a situation that threatens the lives of millions of human beings.

Fraternally,

Leo M. Franklin

President