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

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Central Conference of American Rabbis, 1922-1923.

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OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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November 7 1922.

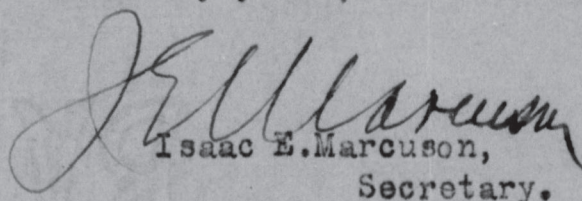
Rabbi Abba H. Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Colleague:

At a meeting of the Executive Board of the Central Conference of American Rabbis held in Cincinnati last week, the time and place of holding the next session of the Conference was taken up for consideration. The members have been circularized, and by an overwhelming majority, the vote favored a quiet summer resort, and in consequence, the Executive Board, much to its regret, was unable to accept your very kind offer made to the Conference to entertain the Conference in Cleveland at its next session.

I trust at some future time, this pleasure may come to us.

Cordially yours,


Isaac E. Marcuson,
Secretary.



The Hebrew Union College
CINCINNATI

Rabbi Abba H. Silver

c/o The Temple
Cleveland, O.

November 16, 1921

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I am very glad that you accepted the paper assigned to you by the Executive Committee. The Conference will meet, as usual, in the latter part of June. This gives you sufficient time to prepare the paper and as I hope, you will do good work, but I want to advise you not to delay starting to work on it. It is always better to have it ready sooner, than to have to hurry in the last few weeks.

With kindest regards

Cordially yours

Joseph Lauterbach

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November 22, 1922

Dear Silver:

I am really delighted with your letter to Witt. He and Schulman and a few others apparently want to use the CCAR as the means of driving us into an anti-Zionist position.

We had a fine gathering here last night along the lines of the conference, at which Wise and Cantor spoke, and with 250 people present. About 40 of them had been in Palestine. It is only the opening wedge. We made no attempt to raise money or to decide anything. Every Zionist phase was represented in the room besides some of the people who were in no way affiliated with the organization. What was impressive was that the greatest enthusiasm was manifested over a proposition that 100 Jews organize themselves, each with \$10,000 or \$20,000 apiece and go to Palestine and settle there. I do not mean to say at this moment that that is practical but I do think it shows an earnestness that betrays a change in the situation. We have not raised any money lately because I am trying to get the groups in shape and I don't think it is reasonably safe to try and raise money until we come to some understanding with the ZOA because my efforts, practically in every direction, strike up against that wall. People are beginning to hate the Z. O. and the Z.O. spirit, but they are looking for protection. They do not want a fight or be in the midst of a fight, and the ZO, with all its weakness is aggressive in trying to hold its ground. In three neighborhoods during the last week alone, a single ZOA zealot has made just enough trouble to stop action.

Kind regards.

Yours,

Jacob De Haas

P.S. Please let me know if you did anything about Scranton.

We should not let an opportunity like this go by unheeded.

December 5th, 1922.

Dr. Jacob Z. Lauterbach,
Hebrew Union College,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Lauterbach,

After accepting your kind invitation to read a paper before the Central Conference of American Rabbis, I feel very small in being compelled to request you to let me off this year. My reasons are many and weighty. In the first place, we have just begun the building of a new Temple and have broken ground this week, and the innumerable tasks involved in this work, are such as to leave me very little spare time to devote to the kind of paper I should like to read before the conference. In the second place, I plan to be gone the month of January on my honeymoon, and I shall be able to do very little work that month, not having access to my books. In the third place, there is a possibility of our going abroad this summer and being therefore unable to attend the conference.

I shall be very happy to read the paper before the conference in 1924 if you still want me.

Trusting that you will understand the reason which prompts this letter, I beg to remain

Very sincerely yours,

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS
1634 Monument Avenue
Richmond, Va.

December 5, 1922.

Mr. Jacob deHaas, Sect.
31 Union Square,
New York City

Dear Mr. deHaas:-

Replying to your letter of the 29th ult. will say that at the time I had the conference with Judge Mack I expressed the opinion that it would be desirable to have a conference of the Rabbis in the New York area before proceeding to any active propaganda. Judge Mack asked me under whose chairmanship that would be, and I told him it was my opinion that the chairman of our committee would be the proper one to arrange for that for our side as he represents the conference in this.

I am now writing to give you the names of the men whom I have appointed on the committees to represent the C.C.A.R. as follows: on the Central Committee, Rabbi Abram Simon, Chairman, Washington, D.C. Rabbis Isaac Landman, Nathan Stern, I. Marcuson, L.L. Mann and Chas. Levi.

On the General Council, Rev. Dr. Samuel Schulman, Chairman, L. Witt, L. Wolsey, Samuel Goldenson, E.N. Calisch and Horace Wolf. I had told Judge Mack that I was waiting for acceptances. There were one or two declinations of appointments and I had to make changes. I have just received a letter under date of November 30th from Dr. Schulman saying that he does not feel that he cares to accept the chairmanship of the committee on the Council, but I have written to him urging his acceptance and trying to convince him of the logic and necessity of his assuming that position. I am hoping that he will consent to receive it, but please bear this in mind, that his name is there tentatively until I receive a reply from him assuring me of his acceptance. If you happen to see him and speak with him about P.D.C. matters please remember that his place on the committee is depending upon his compliance.

Please give these names to Judge Mack and tell him that it was the waiting for acceptances of the several members of the committees, the necessity of rather extended correspondence and the question of changes that has caused the delay in my announcing the committees.

Returning to the original topic, the conference of Rabbis in preparation for any activity in the New York Area, I would suggest that you see Dr. Schulman and speak with him about it.

Whether he will consent to be officially connected with the committee or not I believe that none the less he should be consulted for a number of reasons. His prominence requires it, and I believe it would be advantageous and desirable that he be consulted, whether officially or personally.

With cordial greetings to Judge Mack and yourself,

Very truly yours,

(sgd) E.N. Calisch.

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January 1, 1923

To the members of the Central Conference of American Rabbis:-

The Executive Board held its meeting October 31st and November 1st. At this meeting a resolution was adopted to the effect that papers read at the conference and not furnished within reasonable time to the editor will not be printed in the yearbook. This action was brought about by reason of the fact that one of the papers read at the last conference was not handed to the editor of the yearbook for several months after the conference adjourned. The question was debated whether this paper should be printed in the yearbook, which at that time was practically ready to go to press. It was ordered that because of the nature of this particular paper it should be included in the yearbook this year, and the resolution as above quoted was thereby adopted. The attention of the members of the conference is called to this resolution for their guidance in the future. The editor of the yearbook makes every effort to have the book in the hands of the members within a short time after the meeting of the conference. He cannot do so if the material for the book is not furnished to him. This explains the delay in the publishing of the current yearbook which was compelled to wait upon this paper.

The Board officially endorsed the proposal for the publishing of "A Young Peoples' Encyclopedia of Jewish Knowledge" by Dr. Isadore Singer, and instructed your President to bring this project to the attention of the members of the conference and to commend it to their favorable consideration.

In accordance with the recommendation of the committee on synagogue music as adopted by the conference, the Board set aside Saturday, February 3rd, Sabbath Shirah, as Music Sabbath, to be observed by the members in their congregations. A suggestive program by the committee is herewith enclosed.

The chairman of the committee on revision of the Haggadah has given the assurance that the new Haggadah will be ready in time for the coming Passover festival.

The resignation of Rabbi Leo Mannheimer was accepted. Rabbis I. L. Rypins and S. Rabinowitz were elected as members.

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The sum of \$250.00 was voted by the Executive Board for the Pro-Falasha campaign, carried on by the committee appointed under instructions of the conference. The Board likewise desires to commend this campaign to the members of the conference and to urge their hearty support of it.

The Board set the dates of June 27th to July 3rd as the dates of the next meeting of the conference. The place of the meeting will be decided upon at the meeting of the Board, which will take place in New York City on Monday, January 22nd.

Edward N. Calisch,
President.

H. J. Wolf,
Cor. Sec'y.



Please file

For the Sabbath of Song

Feb. 3 - 1923

Suggestions by the Committee on Synagog Music

For this Sabbath the Committee on Synagog Music has in mind a service which will bring to our people the emotional appeal of music in public worship. The committee urges that the old masters like Sulzer etc. be given preference. There is a complete list of material printed in the yearbook vol. 26 (1916) pp.135-138. There are in this list a number of desirable choir anthems, to which can be added a list of anthems in the Union Hymnal p. 309 ff.

The chief purpose is to stimulate congregational singing particularly the responses, Borchu, Sh'ma and Mi Chomocho. In addition, use hymns Nos. 1, 6, 7, 8, 16, 51, 46, 71, and the two settings of En Kelohenu Nos. 245, 246.

The sermon should stress the power of music in the life of the synagog. Historical references should be used for introduction only. Dwell on the natural, heart-felt song which every religious revival finds to be necessary, e.g. the Hassidim and their song. Reform has fought the good fight against reaction and obscurantism with the weapons of reason. It must use different weapons in its fight with Philistine indifference and materialism.

The chairman of the committee, Rabbi Jacob Singer, (Lincoln, Neb.) requests that the members report results of the Sabbath of Song to him, giving details of program, the outstanding points in the sermon, and the reaction to the service on the part of the congregation. Members are urged to comply with this request.

Baltimore Hebrew Congregation

MADISON AVENUE AND ROBERT STREET

OFFICE OF THE RABBI

BALTIMORE, MD.

March 19th,
1 9 2 3.

My dear Sir,

There are many Rabbis who, having served until a ripe age, are no longer able to do the active work of the ministry. There are many widows of Rabbis who are dependant upon what little money can be given to them out of the special fund for the support of infirm Rabbis, their widows or orphans, established by the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

The Conference hitherto has made an appeal in a small way and gotten some moneys together to carry on this good work; but the number of cases of need in Rabbis' families is increasing and the President of the Conference, Dr. E. N. Calisch, has asked me to make a special effort to get together as large a fund for this good purpose, as possible.

There is no fund other than that established by the Central Conference, which takes care of the pathetic cases of men who have served our Jewish cause and who are now too old to do active work, or, having passed away, whose widows are in want.

I have written your Rabbi who is a member of the Conference, concerning the matter. Throughout the country during Pesach Week, April 1st - 7th, efforts will be made in every Congregation to collect as large a fund as possible. May I ask your hearty cooperation?

With kind regards and anticipating an early and favorable reply,

Sincerely yours,

Morris S. Lazoron

Chairman.

MSL-s

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WILLIAM ROSENAU - BALTIMORE, MD.
SAMUEL SCHULMAN - NEW YORK CITY
NATHAN STERN - NEW YORK CITY

March 29, 1923

Dear Sir:

The Central Conference of American Rabbis will hold its annual meeting at Cape May, N. J., June 27th to July 3rd, inclusive. The Conference is the representative organization of the American Jewish pulpit. Membership in it is a credential of good standing. Its meetings are devoted to a review and discussion of the conditions and needs of Judaism in America. Attendance at the meetings is of great benefit and help to the men who are able to attend, and through them, to the Congregations which they serve.

Many Congregations recognize this fact and provide for the expenses of their Rabbis while attending the Conference meetings. If your Congregation has been doing this, the Conference as a body desires to express its appreciation and to request a continuance of this wise provision. If your Congregation has not hitherto been among those who have done this, you are earnestly requested to make provision in your budget for this cause. Funds devoted to such purpose are a sound investment and bring large returns in more ways than one.

It has been the custom to present a list of such Congregations as provide for the attendance of their Rabbis at the Conference, and it is hoped that the name of your Congregation will be on this list.

For the C. C. A. R.

Sincerely yours,

Horace J. Wolf

Cor. Sec'y.

Edward N. Calisch,

Pres.

May 28th, 1923.

Rabbi Morris Lazaron,
1712 Linden Avenue,
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Rabbi Lazaron,

Referring to your letter in behalf of the Central Conference fund for infirm Rabbis, their widows and orphans, I am directed to advise you that at a recent meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Temple it was voted to donate \$100 to this fund for the current year. A check for this amount will be mailed to you during the early part of June.

Very truly yours,

Secretary.