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MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

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

Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

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Central Conference of American Rabbis, 1941-1942.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE
OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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SAMUEL WOLK, Wilkesbarre, Pa.

May 21, 1941

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. and Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

You will recall that the Washington meeting of the Conference adopted a recommendation of this committee favoring the establishment of means to bring about a wider dissemination of the point of view of Liberal Judaism. We are happy to report that we have reached an agreement with the Seven Arts Feature Syndicate and are assured of their cooperation. We must now secure a few selected articles suitable for publication.

The Committee has therefore requested me to address you, urging you to give us an article of 1500 to 2000 words which we will be able to syndicate to the Anglo-Jewish press. I will not presume to suggest a title for I know that a wealth of subjects will suggest themselves to you which would prove appropriate for a syndicate dealing in popular, timely features.

We are also building up a portfolio of material suitable for Church, fraternal and labor publications, as well as for the general press. If you have something which you feel would be of interest and which treats some subject from the Jewish religious point of view, please send it to me and we shall do all we can to further its appearance in some strategic periodical.

We shall appreciate hearing that we can rely on you for an article.

Cordially,

Arthur J. Lelyveld

Arthur J. Lelyveld
for the Committee on
Synagogue and Community



P.S. Please address me at 2953 Pleasant Avenue, Hamilton, Ohio

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July 11, 1941

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

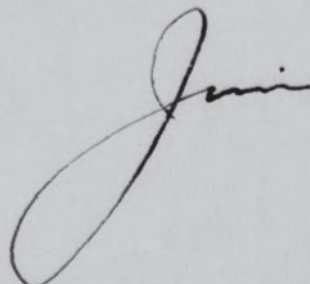
Dear Abba:

You have undoubtedly read that the new Director of the Board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations is to be Edward Israel. I am simply delighted with the fact. Now we can go ahead to remake the Union. Obviously the first step is to stop the present starvation. We must see that the Union gets an adequate budget. We promised this both in Atlantic City and Detroit. I am asking you to be a member of the National Campaign Committee, for the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, which will consist equally of Rabbis and laymen. I know that you have many other obligations but none is more important than this, we owe our first duty to our congregations, and to their joint interest and welfare through the Union.

Please let me have a word from you that you will serve on this committee.

With very friendly greetings, I am,

Yours sincerely,



JGH:VS



July 16, 1941

Rabbi James G. Heller
Isaac M. Wise Temple
Reading Rd. and N. Crescent
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Heller:

I, too, was very happy to learn that Rabbi Israel has accepted the post of Executive Director of the Union. I know of no one better qualified for the kind of a job which it should be.

I shall of course be very happy to serve on the National Campaign Committee for the Union but I hope that consideration will be given to the fact that I am heavily burdened with the work of the United Jewish Appeal and the United Palestine Appeal and that I have very little time to devote to a cause even as worthy as that of the Union. I have had to neglect many important tasks in my own Temple because of the demands of overseas and Palestinian needs. But I shall do all I can.

With all good wishes for a pleasant summer,
I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

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July 21, 1941

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

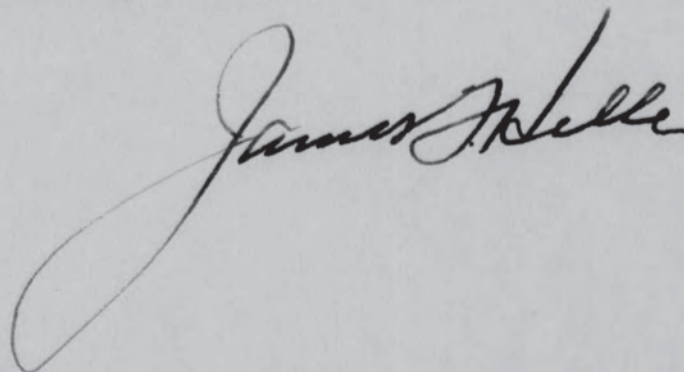
Dear Abba:

At my request the Central Conference of American Rabbis has made an arrangement so that all Officers and Board members may use the enclosed travel card. This entitles you to 15% discount on all fares. All that you have to do is to sign the enclosed card in the place indicated. The amount that you use for air travel is then charged to the Treasurer of the Conference, Rabbi Louis Binstock, who will bill you for it. I know that this arrangement will be a great convenience to me, and I hope that it will be useful to you too.

Friendliest greetings.

Sincerely yours,

JGH:VS



July 24, 1941

Rabbi James G. Heller
Issac M. Wise Temple
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Heller:

I am enclosing herewith a letter which I received from Dr. Aaron Kaminka of Tel Aviv. He wrote to me last year asking me to intercede with the C.C.A.R. for a subsidy to enable him to publish a second volume of his "Studies in the Bible and Talmud". I referred the matter to Rabbi Leipziger, but evidently no action was taken. I wonder whether something can be done for this great scholar to enable him to carry on his work. You may wish to get in touch with him directly. I have written to his son-in-law in Brighton, stating that I have referred the matter to you.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

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July 29, 1941

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
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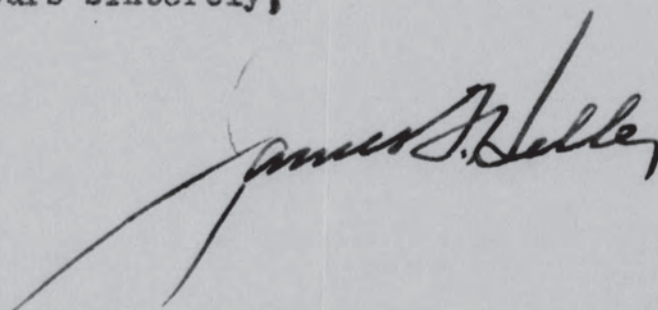
Dear Rabbi Silver:

I shall certainly see to it that some action is taken by the Executive Board when it meets here in October, on the request of Dr. Kaminka for assistance in the publication of the second volume of his "Studies in the Bible and Talmud." I see no reason why the request should not be granted.

With friendly greetings, I am

Yours sincerely,

JGH:AS



September 15, 1941

Dear Friend:

At the last Conference I presented a plan, according to which the Central Conference of American Rabbis was to try to prevail upon the other religious groups to convoke a Parliament of Religions, preferably in Washington. Nothing could do more good at the present moment than an impressive display of unity among religions. Such a Conference should show that we agree upon essentials, that we understand the centrality of religion in the present world crisis, and that we have enough vision and courage to unite in certain ways.

It is my hope that the President of the United States will come in with us later on. Dr. Wolsey, who has agreed to serve as Chairman of this Committee, is already beginning to consult with leaders of the Protestant and Catholic groups, and he will communicate to you the results of these conferences as soon as he can.

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that I have appointed you as a member of this important Committee, to serve under Dr. Wolsey. Will you be so kind as to notify me as to your acceptance of this appointment. The duties will not be onerous but ought to be exceedingly interesting and pleasant.

Awaiting word from you and with very friendly greetings, I am

Yours sincerely,

JGH:IM

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READING ROAD AND NORTH CRESCENT

CINCINNATI, OHIO

September 16, 1941

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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. at Ansel Rd.
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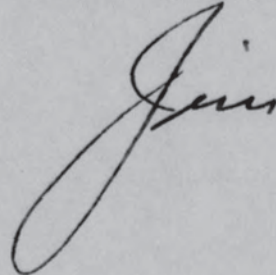
Dear Friend:

I have sent the enclosed letter to the members of the Committee on the Parliament of Religions. Wolsey and I agree that the Committee should be headed by an Executive of five: himself, you, Dr. Solomon Freehof, Dr. William Rosenau, and Dr. Louis Mann.

Will you be kind enough to let me know that you will serve on such an Executive of this Committee? I know that you are very busy, but this is really an inspiring and important task.

With very friendly greetings, and wishes for a very Happy New Year,
I am

Yours sincerely,



JGH:im

Enc.



September 18, 1941

Rabbi James G. Heller, President
Central Conference of American Rabbis
Wise Center
Reading Road and North Crescent
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Wise:

I shall be very pleased to serve
on the Committee on the Parliament of Religions.

With all good wishes, for a very happy
new year, I remain

Cordially yours,

AHS:BK

CENTRAL CONFERENCE
OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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OFFICE OF PRESIDENT

WISE CENTER
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October 7, 1941

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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
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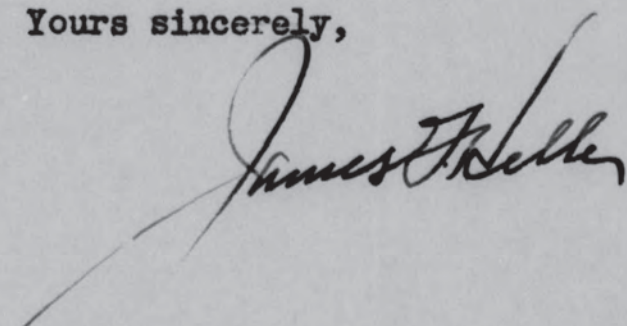
Dear Rabbi Silver:

I enclose herewith an AIR TRAVEL CARD for 1941 through 1942. With it, you will notice, is also a small yellow leaflet of instruction. Would you please be so kind as to let me have an acknowledgement of the receipt of this card from you for our records?

I hope that you went through the Holyday Season well and successfully, and that you will surely be here in Cincinnati for the meeting of the Executive Board on the morning of October 20th. There will be a large number of important matters to take up.

Friendliest greetings.

Yours sincerely,



JGH:im



October 8, 1941

Rabbi James G. Heller, President
Central Conference of American Rabbis
Wise Center
Reading Road and North Crescent
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Heller:

This will acknowledge the receipt of
the Air Travel Card which you sent me.

You refer to a meeting of the Executive
Board on October 20th which you hope that I will
attend. I do not know what meeting you refer to.
I am not a member of the Executive Board of the
C.C.A.R.

Very sincerely,

AHS:BK

CONGREGATION RODEPH SHALOM

615 NORTH BROAD STREET

PHILADELPHIA

LOUIS WOLSEY
RABBI

October 10, 1941

EUGENE J. SACK
ASSISTANT RABBI

To the Members of the Committee on Parliament of Religions
of the Central Conference of American Rabbis,

Dear Colleagues:

This is a preliminary report to you of the contacts which I have made on the
subject matter of our Committee.

You will note enclosed a copy of the letter sent me by Monsignor McCormick, in
the name of the Papal Delegate, in reply to my request for an interview with
the latter on the subject. While this is an expected refusal, it is my belief
that if there is any possibility in the creation of such a Parliament as our
president has in mind, we may have other avenues of approach to the Roman
Catholic Church.

On Wednesday, October 8, I had a very pleasant conversation with Dr. Samuel
McGrea Cavert of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ, at which we dis-
cussed the matter. It was Dr. Cavert's notion that while the project has
promise and value, it would be inadvisable for the Federal Council, as such, to
have official participation. He stated quite frankly that the reason was be-
cause Protestant Christianity is seriously divided into two schools, one of
which is definitely liberal, and the other quite implacably missionary, and
therefore, fundamentalist. The latter group, he felt, would not be interested,
and that, therefore, the Federal Council would not care to embarrass itself by
active participation. Naturally, he agreed that individuals could do so on
their own responsibility. He further advised that I speak to Dean Luther Weigle,
the President of the Federal Council. I have been in communication with Dr.
Weigle, for the purpose of fixing a date, but both of us have been too busy
recently to come together, but we shall do so soon.

Dr. Cavert is not very much enamored of the name "Parliament of Religions", or
even "Congress of Religions". He thinks it would be far more advantageous to
call it a Conference, and that it be organized under the auspices of some kind
of inter-denominational committee, to which would be committed the responsibility
of organization and program, and he believes that it ought to be confined to the
three major religions. He felt that all other communions would have a membership
so small as to be negligible in such a Conference.

To be sure, all of this is quite preliminary and tentative, but I should very
much like to present this brief story to the Executive Board when it meets in
Cincinnati on the 20th and 21st. If any members of the Committee have any sug-
gestions to make, either as to approach, or the character of the Conference, or
the program, I would be very grateful to receive such suggestions and report them
to our own Conference.

Fraternaly yours,

Louis Wolsey
Louis Wolsey, Chairman

LW:Y
enc.

C O P Y

ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA
CHANCERY OFFICE
1712 Summer Street
Philadelphia

September 22, 1941

Rev. Rabbi Louis Wolsey, D. D.
615 N. Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Rabbi:

His Excellency, Most Rev. A. G. Cicognani,
Apostolic Delegate, Washington, D. C., has directed
me to acknowledge in his name the receipt of your
esteemed letter dated September 8, 1941.

It is needless to say that your desire for the
spirit of religion to prevail in all matters is
praiseworthy. But the Catholic Church prefers to
conduct its own meetings for religious discussions,
as may be seen by referring to the letter of His
Holiness, Leo XIII, on September 18, 1895, addressed
to the then Apostolic Delegate to the United States.

In view of this, it is not opportune for His
Excellency, Archbishop Cicognani, to discuss with
you a Parliament of Religions.

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) J. Carroll McCormick

(Monsignor) J. Carroll McCormick
Chancellor

THE REV. DR. D. de SOLA POOL
Minister

Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue
Shearith Israel
Founded 1655

99 Central Park West
New York City

November 4, 1941

Rabbi James G. Heller
Isaac M. Wise Temple
Reading Rd. & N. Crescent
Cincinnati, Ohio

PERSONAL AND UNOFFICIAL

My dear Rabbi Heller,

For some time past I have desired to write you about the following matter:

I have it on unimpeachable authority that Rabbi Lazaron when in London on his triune mission to investigate the effect of the war on religion, took the opportunity to go to various people, including Anthony Eden, in order to assure them that Dr. Weizmann did not have American Jewry behind him.

Is there no way in which Lazaron's own colleagues can exercise some influence on him and stop his repeated using what are ostensibly religious functions for political machinations? I do not have to recall to you how he used the Message of Israel hour for an occasion to tell Dr. Weizmann that he was not wanted in this country. But this last instance is so serious in its implications and so far-reaching, that it seems to me that there is an inescapable duty resting on some of Lazaron's colleagues who can speak to him with authority to make him understand how Jewry has historically felt about a

70/18

Sincerely yours,

Dr. D. de Sola Pool

COPY

HARRY SCHNEIDERMAN
386 Fourth Avenue
New York City

November 7, 1941

Dear Rabbi Lazon:

I was very much disturbed recently to learn that about a month ago, at a meeting of the Rabbinical Assembly of the Jewish Theological Seminary, someone got up and said that there is a great deal of resentment among both conservative and reform rabbis because it is alleged that during your stay in England, you approached leading government personalities, including Winston Churchill, with a request not to change one iota of the White Paper.

Needless to say, I told my informant that I do not believe that the allegation has any foundation in fact. Probably some report of an entirely innocent action on your part has been garbled. I shall be grateful if you would let me know what you think may have given your unfriends ground for this story.

I heard the broadcast from London. It came over beautifully and I admired the masterly way in which you three divided the field, each speaking from a different corner.

With kind regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

HARRY SCHNEIDERMAN

Rabbi Morris S. Lazon
1914 Madison Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland

November 9, 1941

Dr. Morris S. Lazaron
Baltimore Hebrew Congregation
1914 Madison Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Morris:

I am deeply worried. Only two days ago I received a letter from a Rabbi, whose name I shall not now give you. He writes me as follows: "I have it on unimpeachable authority that Rabbi Lazaron when in London took the opportunity to go to various people including Anthony Eden in order to assure them that Dr. Weizmann did not have American Jewry behind him.

I cannot believe that you did anything of this kind despite his phrase "unimpeachable authority". I know how rabid you have been against Zionism lately, but surely you would not presume to take such a burden upon yourself, especially since you were sent to England on a mission which had nothing to do with Zionism. It seemed wise to me to write to you immediately to ascertain from you what measure of truth there is in this charge.

Unfortunately, I am leaving the city this afternoon and will be away until November 17th. Here is my schedule so that, if you would be so kind, you could reach me upon receipt of this letter. I can be reached at the Waldorf Astoria in New York, Monday, November 10th, at the Palmer House in Chicago on Tuesday the 11th, in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania, c/o of Charles Leopold, 7800 West Avenue, Wednesday the 12th and from Thursday through Sunday the 16th I can be reached at the Waldorf Astoria in New York.

Please either call me up or write to me so that I will hear from you as soon as you can. I am sure that you must realize that this is a very serious charge.

I need not tell you also, Morris, that I have always regarded you as a friend, and that I am writing to you in that spirit. But, it is also true, as know, that Zionism is very close to my heart and that it would pain me more than I could say to have had you commit so devastating an indiscretion, to put it mildly, as this. At any rate, please let me hear from you.

Friendly greetings.

James G. Heller

COPY

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS
Office of the President

November 9, 1941

Rabbi Morris S. Lazaron
1914 Madison Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Morris:

I am deeply worried. Only two days ago I received a letter from a Rabbi, whose name I shall not now give you. He writes me as follows: "I have it on unimpeachable authority that Rabbi Lazaron when in London on his triumphant mission to investigate the effect of the war on religion took the opportunity to go to various people including Anthony Eden in order to assure ~~xxx~~ them that Dr. Weizmann did not have American Jewry behind him."

I cannot believe that you did anything of this kind, despite his phrase "unimpeachable authority". I know how rabid you have been against Zionism lately, but surely you would not presume to take such a burden upon yourself, especially since you were sent to England on a mission which had nothing to do with Zionism. It seemed wise to me to write to you immediately to ascertain from you what measure of truth there is in this charge.

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Please either call me up or write to me so that I will hear from you as soon as you can. I am sure that you must realize that this is a very serious charge.

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Friendly greetings.

Yours sincerely,

JIM

THE RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA
3080 Broadway
New York City

November 13, 1941

Dear Dr. Heller:

The attention of the Executive Council of the Rabbinical Assembly was drawn to the anomalous situation where a member of the American rabbinate, sent on one mission to England, assumed the prerogative of representing American Jewry on a totally different matter before officials of the British government and the press. I refer, of course, to the trip which Rabbi Lazaron took on behalf of the Conference of Christians and Jews to England and the subsequent statements and interviews he made with respect to Zionism.

We feel that Dr. Clinchy and others in the Conference should know of our reaction in this instance and that it would be well if the Central Conference and the Rabbinical Assembly act in concert in the matter. I am therefore enclosing a copy of a cable which was sent to Rabbi Hertz and a letter to Dr. Clinchy.

If the Central Conference has any view in the matter, I would deeply appreciate hearing from you.

With best wishes, I remain

Cordially yours,

Leon S. Lang
President

Dr. James G. Heller
Isaac M. Wise Temple
Reading Rd. and N. Crescent
Cincinnati-Ohio

enc. --2

Copy of wire sent to
Chief Rabbi Joseph H. Hertz

Fell it desirable that you should know that the visit of Rabbi Lazaron was not sponsored by any national Jewish body in the United States and further that Jewish leaders in the United States were unaware of his mission until the time of actual departure. Would emphasize that Lazaron has at various times in recent years shown hostility to Zionism. He can in no way claim to represent American Jewish opinion nor are his views shared by the vast majority of the 300 members of the Rabbinical Assembly of America.

Leon S. Lang, President

November 13, 1941

Dear Doctor Clinchy:

At a meeting of the Executive Council of the Rabbinical Assembly, we were informed, through conversations that were held with Judge Louis E. Levinthal, President of the Zionist Organizations of America, of reports that seemed rather inexplicable with respect to Rabbi Lazon's mission to England.

According to these reports, Rabbi Lazon, sent to represent the Conference of Christians and Jews in a survey of religious problems in England in the present emergency, assumed also, of his own initiative, to consult with officials of the British and of the press with respect to the American-Jewish viewpoint on Zionism. While we reflect in no way upon Rabbi Lazon's right to express himself in his own behalf, we keenly feel the injustice of a representative of one mission assuming himself to be also a representative of American Jewry in another matter in which he has not the power to speak for any body in such capacity.

Accordingly, the enclosed cable was sent to Chief Rabbi Joseph H. Hertz of England. We feel that the Conference of Christians and Jews should also be informed of our viewpoint and of our action.

With kind regards, I remain,

Cordially yours,

Leon S. Lang
President

Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, President
National Conference of Christians and Jews
Three hundred Fourth Avenue
New York City

MORRIS S. LAZARON
1914 Madison Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland

November 14, 1941

Dear Jim:

I have received your letter and confess to considerable astonishment at its inquisitorial tone. Indeed, you seem to question my right to speak. Naturally, when in England, I discussed the problems of Jewish life, particularly those of post-war adjustment, with government officials and laymen, with Jews and non-Jews. These conversations were entirely informal and unofficial but I was voicing opinions shared, as you may know, by many here and abroad.

It will interest you, as it would undoubtedly be startling information to many people here, to know that the impression has been conveyed in England that the entire Jewish community of America was behind the political philosophy and program of the World Zionist Organization. Speaking for myself and for my friends, I not only had every right but a duty to correct such a misrepresentation of the American Jewish scene. This is quite different than the twist given by your "impeachable authority".

My conversations concerning Palestine with Mr. Eden and others, were, I believe, constructive. They explored the possibility of finding a basis for the economic development of Palestine upon which all groups of Jews could agree and would support, without drawing into an international political program those American and English Jews who reject such a program but who are anxious to help find homes for our ~~religionists~~ ^{refugees} in Palestine and elsewhere.

I cannot think you would mean to commit so "devastating an indiscretion" as to question the right of another rabbi to voice his own opinions or to give expression to the known opinions of a large group of American Jews.

Sincerely yours,

MORRIS

Rabbi James G. Heller
The Waldorf-Astoria
New York City

November 14, 1941

Dear Jim:

I have received your letter and confess to considerable astonishment at its inquisitorial tone. Indeed, you seem to question my right to speak. Naturally, when in England, I discussed the problems of Jewish life, particularly those of post-war adjustment, with government officials and laymen, with Jews and non-Jews. These conversations were entirely informal and unofficial but I was voicing opinions shared, as you may know, by many here and abroad.

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Sincerely yours,

Rabbi James G. Heller
The Waldorf Astoria
New York City

November 14, 1941

Dear Harry:

I am glad to have your letter. You may categorically deny that I "approached leading government personalities, including Winston Churchill, with a request not to change one iota of the White Paper". On the contrary, I voiced the judgment that no one was satisfied with the White Paper, neither the Jews nor the Arabs nor the British Government.

Dates reveal many things. Your letter dated November 7th states that the meeting at the Jewish Theological Seminary at which criticism was voiced occurred "about a month ago". My conversation with Eden about Palestine took place on October 3rd, the day of my departure from England, but even before I left for England, September 14th, certain Zionist controlled news releases and editorial comment referred to the fearsome possibility of my having conversations with government personalities.

To add to the interesting concatenation of events, the same mail that brought your letter brought one from Rabbi James Heller, copy of which I enclose as well as copy of my reply, which will reveal the facts to you and any others concerned.

What does it all add up to in your judgment, my friend?

As always,

Cordially,

Mr. Harry Schneiderman
386 Fourth Avenue
New York City

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OFFICE OF PRESIDENT

WISE CENTER

READING ROAD AND NORTH CRESCENT

CINCINNATI, OHIO

November 21, 1941

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Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. and Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Abe:

A matter has come up which disturbs me very greatly. I received a letter from David de Sola Pool, a copy of which is enclosed. In response to this I wrote to Morris Lazaron a letter, a copy of which is also enclosed and from him I received the enclosed reply. In addition to this I received yesterday the enclosed copies of letters from the President of the Rabbinical Assembly of America, a wire sent to Chief Rabbi Hertz, and a letter which was directed by him to Everett Clinchy.

As you will note, Lazaron contends that he was acting purely within his rights, regards the letter I wrote to him as "inquisitorial", and thinks that it is an indiscretion on my part to question his right to voice his own opinions.

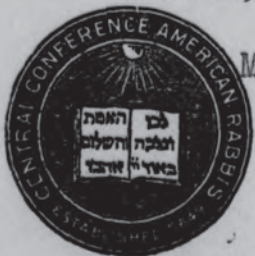
I have given the matter careful thought and I still believe that Lazaron was guilty of an impropriety, to put it mildly. He was sent to England as one of a group and his mission, I understand, was to get in touch with various religious leaders and groups, to ascertain how they worked together in war times. Certainly, this mission had nothing to do with Zionism, and his plea that he was acting as an individual, and is entitled to his own freedom of speech seem to me at variance with the circumstances under which he went.

I cannot, however, leap into this matter as President of the C.C.A.R. The action might be misinterpreted on purely Zionist lines. My opinion is that a better course of action probably would be for a group of men within the Conference (who had been apprised of this situation) to make a public statement and probably also to send a communication to Clinchy.

I am writing to you to ask your opinion as to this matter. Please understand that I have taken no public action and shall not do so. This letter is going to the following: Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner, Rabbi Julius Gordon, Dr. Solomon B. Freehof and yourself.

May I hear from you at your earliest convenience?

Sincerely yours,



JGH:im
Enc.

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WISE CENTER

READING ROAD AND NORTH CRESCENT

CINCINNATI, OHIO

November 26, 1941

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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. and Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

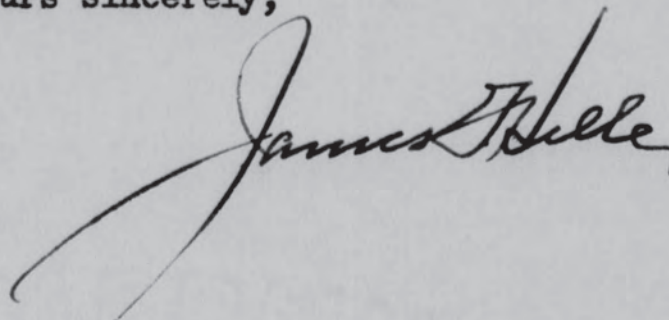
Dear Rabbi Silver:

I was very glad to get your letter and to know that you agree with me concerning the action of Morris Lazon. I have no desire to whip up a newspaper controversy which would obviously be exceedingly ill-timed. I heard about the conferences to which you refer when I was speaking to Maurice Wertheim in New York last week. However, I believe, equally, that we should not let this matter rest.

I am glad to know that you are writing to Clinchy and I hope that a great many more will do so. I intend to do this myself.

Thank you very much and friendly greetings.

Yours sincerely,



JGH:im



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OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN
5017 WASHINGTON AVE.
ST. LOUIS, MO.

January
Ninth,
1942.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
P. O. Box 102,
College Park, Md.

Dear *Abba Hillel* Silver:

Since the founding of the Central Conference over fifty (50) years ago, many of its members have rendered invaluable services to their communities, their state, and to the nation; through their espousal of the principles of prophetic Judaism and *their* application to ~~all~~ concrete situations.

I, personally, am convinced that American Rabbis have played a not insignificant role in American life. If all the facts could be gathered and compiled, there would be a glorious record in the history of the Rabbinate and American Jewry.

As chairman of the Commission on Justice and Peace, I am endeavoring to compile such a record for the future. Such history would prove a source of inspiration for future generations.

When a student at the college, I recall hearing you preach in Cleveland, and one of my most vivid memories is that you were a leader and influence in everything progressive. I have never forgotten your resignation from the Chamber of Commerce because it championed the American plan or open shop. I am wondering if some day *you* would not take time from your busy life, and dictate to your secretary your contributions along the lines of social justice and peace, civic reform etc., etc. I trust that you will not be inhibited by any modesty. Occasionally I read Rabbinic literature, and I am thrilled when I find a pronouncement on peace and world brotherhood. Such pronouncements have frequently been made by members of the American



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- 2 -

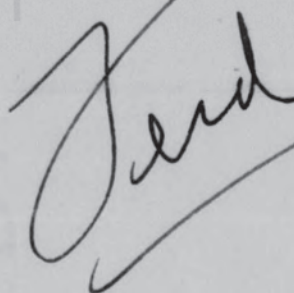
Dr. Silver

Rabbinate, yet nowhere has there been compiled any record of the contribution of the Rabbis. If you will send me such a record of your contributions, you will be helping this very important work.

My plan eventually is to write to all the members of the conference in a similar vein. I am writing to you first, and if I get a good response from you, I shall be encouraged to write the others.

With all good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,



FMI/S

Dr. S. -

*This was mailed to me
by mistake. How
much will you take
to change your name?*

Respectfully,

S.M. Silver



CENTRAL CONFERENCE of AMERICAN RABBIS

Volume XII

January 25, 1942

No. 2

- BULLETIN -

WRHS



CONVENTION
CINCINNATI, OHIO

FEBRUARY 24—MARCH 1st

The Convention for 1942 will be held in Cincinnati at the end of February. It marks the 100th Anniversary of the founding of Reform in Cincinnati by Isaac M. Wise. Let us all get together and observe it.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN — PLEASE NOTE

Get your reports ready and send them to your committee members for approval and signatures. They must be in the hands of the Secretary at least 10 days before the Convention. We want to mimeograph them and have them in the hands of the members at the opening of the Convention. But they must be signed by a majority of the committee.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

We are enclosing a copy of the tentative program. If you examine it you will see that it is one of the most worthwhile programs presented in many years. Plenty of time will be left for discussion. Let us make it a rousing meeting.

PRAYER IN TIME OF WAR

Enclosed you will find a special prayer to be used during this period of war. Our people need the comfort of prayer as never before. Make it part of every service. Additional copies will be furnished for 25c a hundred. Send your orders to the Secretary.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following have applied for membership:

If you have any objections, please notify the Secretary. The information will be treated confidentially.

Melvin S. Sands, H.U.C. '40, Aaron M. Kamerling, J.I.R. '32, Manfred Swarsensky, University of Berlin, 1930, Adolf Philippsborn, Shreveport, La., Sidney M. Bogner, J.I.R. '38.

BROTHERHOOD WEEK

The ninth annual observance of Brotherhood Week will occur February 15-22, 1942. Our members are urged to heartily cooperate in this observance, to strengthen national unity by overcoming prejudice and hatred in our midst.

SEFER TORAH

A hard worker in the ranks of Judaism, Ovadia Nathan, is doing fine work in Mexico City. He is appealing for an old sefer torah to be used at services there. Has any member one which his congregation is willing to donate to this worthy cause?

HOTELS

Headquarters for the Convention will be at the *Netherland-Plaza*.

Rates: On enclosed reservation card.

Hotel Sinton, rates: Single rooms, \$2.50 to \$5.00.

Double rooms, (twin beds), \$4.00 to \$8.00.

Hotel Gibson, rates: Single rooms, \$3.00 to \$4.00.

Double rooms, (twin beds), \$5.00 to \$7.00.

All these rooms have private baths.

A few rooms are available at the H.U.C. Dormitory for \$1.00 a day.

UNION PRAYERBOOKS

The following letter from Dr. A. J. W. Myers of the Hartford School of Religious Education will interest the members:

"For some years I have been collecting worship materials especially for use of the church school and young peoples societies, and I should like to include perhaps several pages full from the Union Prayer Book. May I have your permission to do so in case I should ever have it published?"

"The Union Prayer Book seems to me to contain the finest prayers I have found in any collection. May I congratulate you and your committee on their fine work."

PUBLICATIONS OF CONFERENCE

May we call attention to two publications which are being overlooked, both of them worthwhile.

Rabbi's Manual—Every member should provide himself with a copy.

Prayers for Private Devotion—This handbook containing prayers for every occasion should be in the hands of every member of your congregation. Please announce that such a book is available at 50c a copy.

Cordially yours,

Isaac E. Marcuson

Recording Secretary

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COMMITTEE ON SOLICITATION OF FUNDS

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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON SOLICITATION OF FUNDS

VINE STREET TEMPLE

136 7TH AVENUE, N.

NASHVILLE, TENN.

January 26, 1942

Dear Colleague and Friend:

To be Chairman of the Committee on Solicitation of Funds in a "normal" year - if we have had one lately - is a difficult enough task. You can well imagine what the job means in a time when the thoughts and energies of our Congregations are so largely directed - and justly so - to National Defense.

If ever a Chairman of a Conference committee needed the generous cooperation and help of his Colleagues, it is now!

Believing that figures have a better way of "talking" than words, I took special pains to inquire into the resources and actual needs of this Committee. Here they are! Read them for yourself! They cover the period between November 1, 1940 and November 1, 1942:

Income:

Receipts from Committee on Solicitation	\$12,168.27
Receipts from interest on investments	5,250.00
	\$17,418.27

Expenditures:

Refugee Rabbis	9,030.00
Relief to our own men	4,930.00
Subventions	2,515.00
Loans	750.00
	\$17,225.00

Fine, you will say! We did better than break even! BUT, we are using up our own Conference funds - the interest from investments - which we have been hoping to devote to the creation of a Group Insurance plan for the benefit of the members of the Conference.



February 5, 1942

Rabbi James G. Heller, President
Central Conference of American Rabbis
Isaac M. Wise Center
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Heller:

In a letter which Julius Mark sent out in behalf of the Committee on Solicitation of Funds, I learned that for the period beginning November 1, 1941 and ending November 1, 1942, the Central Conference of American Rabbis plans to spend on refugee Rabbis the sum of \$14,000, and that it did spend, last year, the sum of \$9,000. I am wondering whether the National Refugee Service can not be asked to take over this expenditure, or at least part of it. I do not know whether these "refugee Rabbis" whom the Conference supports are in the United States. If so, their support would be a legitimate charge upon the National Refugee Service which is supporting doctors, lawyers, writers and other professional people out of special funds. Perhaps the Conference has already gone into this matter.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

2.

And that isn't all! For the period beginning November 1, 1941 and ending November 1, 1942, the following MINIMUM BUDGET has been set up:

Refugee Rabbis	\$14,000.00
Relief	6,000.00
Subventions	2,600.00
	<hr/>
	\$22,600.00

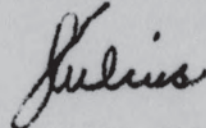
So, you see now how very badly I need your help! More money must be raised - and in a war year!

To save both of us the time and nuisance which the writing of more letters will entail, please fill out the enclosed card NOW, telling me which plan you propose to follow in raising the money. While I should like to make something of a report at the next Conference, I realize that the time is too short to do much about it. By November 1, 1942, however, all funds must be in the hands of the Committee, so that they may be reported in the Yearbook.

Please do what you can- as soon as possible! Above all, return the card, properly filled in, so that I may know that you are going to help me!

With warm personal greetings, I remain,

Faithfully yours,



JULIUS MARK

RABBI SOLOMON B. FREEHOF, D. D.
THE RUSKIN APARTMENTS
120 RUSKIN AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PA.

February 7, 1942.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
East 105th Street & Ansel Road.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Abba: *(I wrote this before I spoke to you on the telephone)*

There is some confusion about the parts that you and I will take in the Conference program in Cincinnati at the end of the month.

I am speaking on Friday night and you on Saturday morning. Normally, according to our Conference custom, the Friday night address is the Conference Lecture and the Saturday morning address is the Conference Sermon, and, indeed, Marcuson has the two addresses marked so in his tentative program.

But this year the two addresses, the Friday lecture and the Saturday sermon will not follow their usual mode. My address on Friday night is to be one of three addresses commemorating the Plum Street Temple's one hundredth anniversary; whereas you will speak alone in the morning. Hence you are to make a full-sized address and I am to speak about a half hour only (in spite of the fact that my address is to be called the Conference Lecture).

I just spoke to Heller over the phone and told him that the usual terminology (lecture-sermon) does not apply this year, and he said that I was right and asked me to explain the circumstances to you.

My rather brief address will be somewhat sermonic and I am writing to give you an idea of what I am going to say so as not to interfere with what you might want to say in the morning. We would not need to correspond about this matter except for this year's lecture-sermon confusion.

RABBI SOLOMON B. FREEHOF, D. D.
THE RUSKIN APARTMENTS
120 RUSKIN AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PA.

Dr. Silver - page two -

I am going to speak of the fact that it is Shabbas Zachor, when we remember that there is a continuity of evil in the world; and that the only antidote we have for the discouragement of that fact is (as the Midrash said) our thought of the zechus avos. Therefore, we think today of the fathers of modern Judaism and contrast them with our generation. Then I point out wherein we are better than they and wherein they were better than we. I shall end with the thought that their virtues be merged with our modern virtues, that the hearts of the fathers be united with the hearts of the children. Then we shall go through the flood and not be overwhelmed.

Will you tell me whether this line of thought will interfere in any way with yours? If not, I will go ahead.

I hope that you will bring Virginia with you so that Lillian, Virginia, you and I can foregather often.

As ever,

Srl

SBF.lsf

P. S. In case you intend to use the idea of Amalek, I can tell you that I intend to use the idea just in the Introduction and ~~a~~ not as an integral part of the sermon.

P. P. S. After our conversation over the phone, you do not have to answer this letter. I am just sending it to you to give you a notion of what I am going to say and also to tell you not to feel hampered by the fact that your address is marked "Sermon." You can make it lecture or sermon as you please, and, you have full time.

February 10, 1942

Dr. Solomon B. Freehof
The Ruskin Apartments
120 Ruskin Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa.

My dear Sol:

Thank you for your letter of February 7. I understand fully about the situation this year with reference to the Friday and Saturday addresses at the Conference. You will preach a sermon on Friday evening and I will preach one on Saturday morning. The Conference, I believe, will be able to put up with two sermons this one year.

I don't blame you for staking out the Parashah Zakor for your sermon. It is a choice, timely and very tempting text. But I had no intention of using it in the first place -- just because every Rabbi in the congregation will expect me to pounce upon that text.

I am looking forward with pleasure to seeing you in Cincinnati. I shall probably arrive late inasmuch as I shall be in San Francisco the early part of that week for the American Association of School Administrators.

With all good wishes to you and Lillian in which Virginia joins me, I remain

As ever,

AHS:BK

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OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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OFFICE OF PRESIDENT

WISE CENTER

READING ROAD AND NORTH CRESCENT

CINCINNATI, OHIO

February 11, 1942

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Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

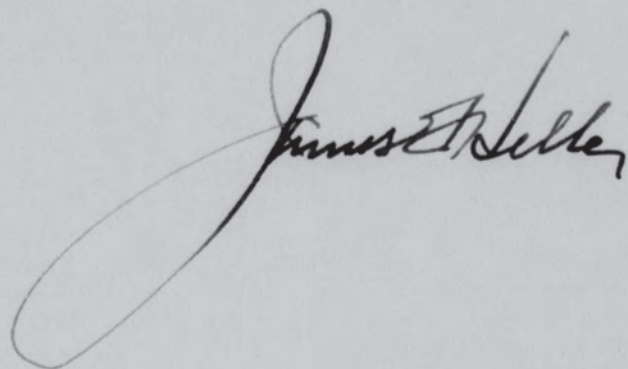
Dear Dr. Silver:

The Conference has made a number of requests of the National Refugee Service for assistance in regard to the refugee rabbis whom we have been subsidizing for some time. These appeals have never met with any success. Nevertheless, that does not mean that we ought not try again and let them know that this is a legitimate charge upon them and that they should help us.

Thanking you for the suggestion, and with kind regards,
I am

Yours sincerely,

JGH:IM



RABBI SOLOMON B. FREEHOF, D. D.
RODEF SHALOM TEMPLE
FIFTH AND MOREWOOD AVENUES
PITTSBURGH, PA.

February thirteenth
1942

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Abba:

I am glad we have the preaching matter settled for the Conference. The confusion, to the extent that there might be any confusion at all, could have come because of the use of the Friday night service as a joint service of the Conference and congregation.

The American Jewish rabbinate will have to do something about you and me. We think too much alike. When I saw your Bulletin I smiled at the fact that I thought of precisely the same subject but not for this week, but the week following. On February 15, I am speaking on "Partner and Problem--Our Russian Ally" and on February 22, I am speaking on "Character and Victory--Our Three War Presidents." When I read your explanatory paragraph on the second page of your Bulletin, I realized that our minds went along the same channel exactly.

Now, Abba, can't you cut your business a little short out west and come early so that we can have some fun in Cincinnati?

Sincerely yours,

Sol

SBF:GK

P. S. I do not take it that you have promised to do Jeremiah but simply that you are interested in discussing it further. That is quite enough for the present. I shall not say much at present about the commentary, but you know it is a great hope of mine that you and I will be able to do considerable work along this line for the sake of American Jewry. Having done the Commentary on the Psalms, I am convinced that I will enjoy doing Job and that you will have great pleasure doing Jeremiah. If that goes well, there will be other Biblical books to consider along the same line.

February 19, 1942

Dr. James G. Heller,
Reading Road and North Crescent Avenue,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Jim:

I should like to report to you on the matter of the Parliament of Religions. Naturally, I have been giving it a great deal of thought and have also discussed it with quite a number of important people. It is my judgment that we are up against a stone wall. There is no possibility whatsoever of getting the Catholic Church into the picture. I had felt all along that it might be possible to flank the opposition of the higher-ups, but I find that is altogether impossible. As the Church is now constituted and programmed, there will be no possibility of any kind of participation or cooperation.

If a Parliament or Conference were to be held without the Catholic Church, that would probably occasion the necessity for some explanation to the public and some bitterness which would be the very conclusion which your suggestion would want to avoid. People would ask why the Catholic Church does not join, and the answer would cause some prejudices against the Church on the one hand, and considerable anger within the Church on the other.

So far as the Protestants are concerned, there are literally hundreds of Fundamentalist Churches that would very greatly oppose any such Parliament. Their point of view is dreadfully reactionary, based upon a point of view which is missionary and proselyting in character. Because of this, the Federal Council of Churches of Christ as an organization could not participate at all. Participation of Protestants would have to be entirely on an individual basis; so that the only official participation would be upon the part of the Central Conference of American Rabbis and perhaps the other national religious bodies within Jewry.

The times do not seem to encourage any such gathering at the present moment. Your suggestion is born out of liberalism at a time when reaction is in the air.

I see no reason why the Executive Board of the Conference should not consider all of the above; but at least this letter represents my personal judgment. I shall send a copy of this letter to the members of the Committee, so that the members might express their viewpoint, if they have any, by the time the Executive Board meets.

With kind regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) Louis Wolsey

LW:Y

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OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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February
Twentieth,
1942.

COMMISSION ON JUSTICE AND PEACE

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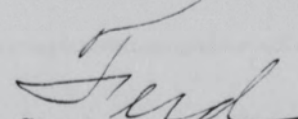
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LEE J. LEVINGER
EUGENE J. SACK
SAMUEL TEITELBAUM

Dear Abba Hillel:

I wish to thank you for the publication of the Race Relations Statement, issued by the Commission on Justice and Peace, of the Central Conference of American Rabbis in your Temple Bulletin. This cooperative effort on your is appreciated by the members of the Commission. It helped in the dissemination of a message whose purpose was to aid in the breaking down of racial barriers.

With all good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,



Chairman - Commission on
Justice and Peace.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
East 105th St. and Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio.





Netherland Plaza
Cincinnati
Ohio



THE FOLLOWING ACCOMMODATIONS HAVE BEEN RESERVED

Dr. A. H. Silver

Suite \$11.00 2/26/42

WRHS



WITH this confirmation of
your reservation we assure
you that the best of service
and hospitality awaits you here.

R. T. Zimmerman

THE MANAGEMENT

PLEASE NOTIFY US AT ONCE SHOULD YOU BE UNABLE TO ARRIVE AS SCHEDULED

On Arrival

1. Present this Reservation to Room Clerk.
2. If your room is not immediately ready for your occupancy retain this card. It assures you of your reservation.
3. This reservation void after 8:00 P. M. except when specified that your arrival will be later.
4. Care in writing your name and address PLAINLY will facilitate prompt delivery of mail, etc.
5. Ask for your mail

WHEN LEAVING

It will greatly aid in the assignment of arriving guests to release your room as early as possible.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE of AMERICAN RABBIS

March, 1942

- BULLETIN -

FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION

The Fifty-third annual Convention of the Conference has passed into history. Both in attendance and enthusiasm it was a great success.

SERVICE ON COMMITTEES

Please read carefully enclosed letter from the President of the Conference, concerning service on committees. Please check on enclosed card the activities of the Conference in which you are interested and name a committee with first and second choice on which you would like to serve. The President will do his best to grant your request.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CONVENTION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: President Heller in a strong message surveyed the field of Jewish history and suggested plans for the coming years.

CONTEMPORANEOUS HISTORY: This Committee urged the need of a democratic representative, American-Jewish body which shall formulate the demands of the Jews to be protected in the post-war peace settlement.

JUSTICE AND PEACE: In a long and vigorous report the newly reorganized Commission voiced the complete support for our country in the war, in spite of our age old peace traditions and our longing for a world at peace. Victory of the United Nations will bring blessing upon all humanity. There must not be a punitive peace nor need there be mass hatred. The coming Treaty of Peace should provide for some form of world government. It denied the oft repeated thesis that economic and spiritual collapse is inevitable at the close of the war. If we are spiritually prepared we can initiate a cooperative effort to help all mankind. The Commission further urged increased production, the protection of tenant farmers, and the extension of the Labor Relations Act to farm labor. The resisting of any effort to rescind progressive labor legislation; opposition to all profiteering, both by employers and workers. It favored a 100 percent excess profits tax on all war contracts; the just rationing of all essential commodities. It opposed a sales tax and applauded the government's handling of conscientious objectors. The Commission recommended the establishment of an award for outstanding social work in memory of Horace J. Wolf and Edward L. Israel.

PAPERS: All the papers were thoughtful studies of the contributions of Reform Judaism during the last hundred years, since the days of Isaac M. Wise and the other leaders of Reform.

CONFERENCE LECTURE: Dr. Freehof, in the Conference Lecture, urged the kind of faith in the present generation which upheld and strengthened the founders of the Reform movement.

CONFERENCE SERMON: Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, in the Conference Sermon, traced past tendencies in Reform and outlined plans for the coming years.

RESOLUTIONS: The Conference approved a nation-wide enrollment campaign under the auspices of the Union; urged the establishment of local Synagogue Councils; approved Boy Scout training; commended the efforts of those erecting a monument to Haym Salomon, and urged that the Jewish population of Palestine be given the privilege of establishing a military force under its own banner, under allied command.

OFFICERS: The same officers were re-elected. Rabbis Bazell, Bookstaber, Lawrence W. Schwartz, and Tedesche, were placed on the Executive Board.

PULPIT PLACEMENT: A long discussion on the report of the Committee on Pulpit Placement resulted in referring the plan back to the committee for further consideration.

PENSION FUND: The report of the committee on the creation of a Pension Fund was adopted, and the committee was authorized to proceed and organize a retirement plan for members of the Conference.

JOINT SESSIONS: The next Convention in June, 1943, to be held in Atlantic City, N. J., will be an historic one. Some of the sessions will be joint sessions with our conservative colleagues and if possible with the orthodox as well.

CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE: The new Chaplaincy Committee, under the Chairmanship of Rabbi Brickner, is doing an excellent piece of work, and quite a few of our members have volunteered for service as chaplains.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY COMMITTEES: The age-old rule of the Conference has been incorporated into the Constitution. No commission or committee shall send out a statement in the name of the Conference without first securing the approval of the President and the Executive Board.

NEW MUSIC FOR THE SYNAGOG

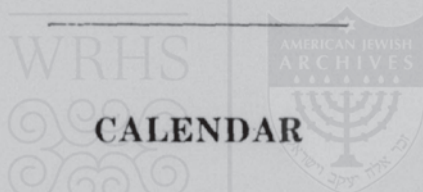
New music completing the services in the Union Hymnal will soon be ready for distribution. Be sure to introduce this into your synagogue. It is adapted to small choirs.

BOOKS FOR REFUGEES

Please note carefully the enclosed letter from Rabbi Sheldon H. Blank about books for refugees. If you have any books to spare send them to Rabbi Blank.

VISITING RABBIS

The members are urged when visiting communities on behalf of outside activities, to contact the local rabbi so that he may arrange if possible so that the visitor may address the Jewish community.



CALENDAR

We are enclosing a calendar. If you desire more copies for distribution, please ask for them.

Cordially yours,

Isaac E. Marcuson

Recording Secretary.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE
OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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OFFICE OF RECORDING SECRETARY

204 BUFORD PLACE
MACON, GA.

March 27, 1942

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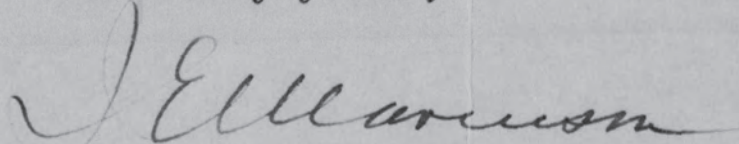
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Rabbi Melbourne Harris,
E. 105th St. & Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, O.

Dear Colleague:

The day that Rabbi Silver delivered the Sermon at the Convention in Cincinnati, I asked him for his manuscript and he promised to send it in a day or two. I know he left for England and I am wondering if he left it in the office and his secretary forgot to send it to me. If it is ready and available I wish you would ask her to let me have it. If not we shall have to wait until Dr. Silver returns, but I would like to have it as early as possible.

Cordially yours,



Isaac E. Marcuson,
Secretary

IEM:EM



CENTRAL CONFERENCE
OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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Reading, Pa.

OFFICE OF RECORDING SECRETARY
204 BUFORD PLACE
MACON, GA.

April 21, 1942

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SIDNEY S. TEDESCHKE, Brooklyn, N. Y.
LOUIS WOLSEY, Philadelphia, Pa.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
E. 105th St. & Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, O.

Dear Colleague:

Now that I see you have returned
I am wondering when I can expect the manuscript of
your Conference Sermon. Everything else has been
handed to the printer and I would like to get the
rest of the material as he has time to handle it
now. Please let me have it as soon as possible.

Cordially yours,

I. E. Marcuson

Isaac E. Marcuson,
Secretary

IEM:EM



RABBI EMIL W. LEIPZIGER
TOURO SYNAGOGUE
NEW ORLEANS

April 21st
1942

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
E. 105th St. and Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Colleague:

At the Pre-Conference Meeting of the Executive Board of the Conference the matter of the Pension Plan was discussed and it was brought to the attention of everyone that the Conference would have to use most of its accumulated assets if the Pension Plan goes through.

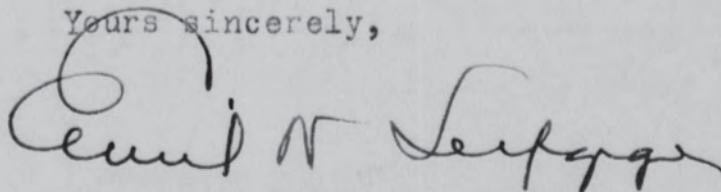
This would, of course, materially affect our ability to spend as much money as we have been spending on Refugee Rabbis. It was, therefore, moved and adopted that a Committee consisting of you, Jonah B. Wise and myself interview Mr. Warburg of the National Refugee Service to see whether the National Refugee Committee could not take over this responsibility.

I should like to hear from you as to what you think the possibilities are of having the N.R.S. take over this responsibility for Refugee Rabbis. I know that you and Rabbi Wise are in New York a great deal of the time and you could both interview Mr. Warburg concerning the matter. However, if you think it is important that I also be there we might arrange some time immediately before or after the June Executive Committee Meeting in Atlantic City. The exact dates of which are June 3rd and 4th.

At any rate, let me hear from you at your early convenience.

Trusting all things go well, I remain, with warm fraternal greetings

Yours sincerely,



EMIL W. LEIPZIGER

EWL:fk

April 24, 1942

Dr. Emil W. Leipziger
Touro Synagogue
New Orleans, La.

My dear Friends:

In reply to your kind letter of April 21 --
I am in full agreement with the suggestion that the
National Refugee Service should take over the care
of Refugee Rabbis. That is a legitimate charge upon
that organization. I wrote to Rabbi Heller about
it some months ago.

The person to see, however, is not Mr. Warburg
but Mr. William Rosenwald who is chairman of the
National Refugee Service. Mr. Warburg is chairman
of the Joint Distribution Committee.

I shall be in New York next Tuesday and Wednesday
and again on May 12. If you wish it, I will get in
touch with Jonah Wise, and together arrange to meet
Mr. Rosenwald either next week or in May. In that
case, I would suggest that you send me a statement
on the number of Refugee Rabbis the C.C.A.R. is taking
care of, the cost, etc., and whatever other data would
be relevant.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

RABBI EMIL W. LEIPZIGER
TOURO SYNAGOGUE
NEW ORLEANS

April 27th
1942

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

This is to advise that Rabbi Leipziger is
out of the city for a few days.

Immediately upon his return your letter of
April 24th will be brought to his attention.

Sincerely yours,

Sannie Krauss-

Secretary to
Rabbi Leipziger

fk

RABBI EMIL W. LEIPZIGER
TOURO SYNAGOGUE
NEW ORLEANS

May 1st
1942

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Colleague:

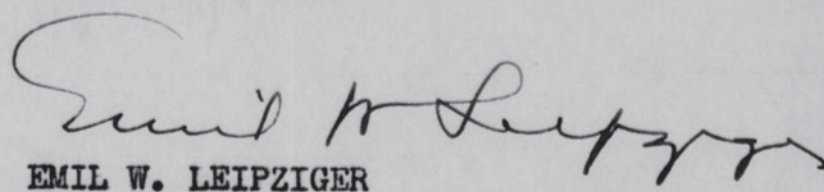
I have your letter of April 24th and I want to thank you for your prompt reply.

Unfortunately, I did not see it until this morning as I have been attending the Convention and Chaplaincy Meeting.

I have written to Marcuson to send you all the information that he has with reference to Refugee Rabbis and I trust when you get to New York you will do what you suggest in your letter - get in touch with Jonah Wise and with him present the claim to Mr. Rosenwald of NRS.

With warm fraternal greetings and many thanks, I remain

Yours sincerely,


EMIL W. LEIPZIGER

EWL:fk

COPY

Office of Corresponding Secretary
Perkiomen Ave. & 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

May 4, 1942

Dr. A. H. Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. and Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver

I have a wire from Marcuson asking me to let you know the number of refugees we assist and the cost. We are at the present time making monthly refugee grants to twenty persons with a total monthly outlay of \$850.00. In addition we are making monthly subvention grants to three men (Prof. V. Aptowitzer, Dr. Samuel Krauss and Elieser Rivlin) in the total amount of \$110.00 per month. Although we call these subventions and the others refugee grants perhaps these also ought to be considered as refugee allowances.

With kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Sidney L. Regner

CCAR

May 6, 1942

Rabbi Jonah B. Wise
35 E. 62nd St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Jonah:

You have probably heard from Rabbi Leipziger concerning the desire of the C.C.A.R. to have the National Refugee Service take over the care of refugee rabbis whom the Conference has been supporting heretofore. Because of its desire to proceed with the Pension Plan, the Conference will have no money with which to carry on this kind of service hereafter.

I already broached the matter to William Rosenwald when I was in New York, last week. I told him that I would procure the figures from the Conference, which I did this morning. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the letter which I received from Rabbi Regner. I told Rosenwald that when I am next in New York, you and I would get in touch with him.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

May 6, 1942

Mr. William Rosenwald
122 East 42nd St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Rosenwald:

You will recall that I discussed with you the matter of the Refugee Rabbis whom the Central Conference of American Rabbis has been assisting. I received, this morning, the enclosed letter from Rabbi Regner, secretary of the Conference, which gives the number of refugee rabbis assisted, and the cost. When I am next in New York, possibly next week or the week after, I will give myself the pleasure of telephoning you so that we may talk over this matter a little further. Rabbi Jonah Wise has also been asked to represent the Central Conference of American Rabbis in this matter.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

Temple Israel

BRYDEN ROAD AND 19TH ST.

COLUMBUS, OHIO

TELEPHONE FAIRFAX 7838

May 6th, 1942

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
E. 105th St. and Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Abe:-

I have been asked by Leipziger to send you all the information in my hands about the refugee Rabbis whom the Conference is assisting. They number 20. The amount involves \$10,200.00 annually. This list concerns only those who are residents in America. There is also a large number abroad to whom we are giving subsidies.

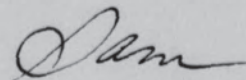
Our Conference is, at the present time, spending in excess of \$20,000 a year, all told, for refugee Rabbis here and abroad and for contributions to various institutions which serve them. This sum is more than we can continue to afford, and in view of the contemplated expenses in other directions, it is needful that we curtail the amount of help which we are now granting to refugee Rabbis.

I trust that this information ^{may} be helpful to you in your conversations with the N.R.S.

I am very much concerned about the call of the non-Zionist Rabbis. I think it is a terrible mistake.

Hoping things are well with you, and with warmest greetings, I am,

Cordially yours,



SMG:dr

May 7, 1942

Mr. William Rosenwald
122 E. 42nd St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Rosenwald:

Supplementing my last letter to you, I am enclosing the list of the refugee Rabbis whom the Central Conference of American Rabbis is now supporting. This list concerns only those who are residents in America. The Conference also supports a considerable number abroad. The cost of these subsidies for refugee Rabbis in America is \$10,200 annually. The Conference spends an additional \$9,800 in subsidizing refugee Rabbis abroad, and in contributions to various institutions which serve them. The Conference is no longer able to carry this two-fold load, especially in view of the contemplated expenses in connection with the Pension Scheme which it is about to consummate for all of its members.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

Temple Israel

BRYDEN ROAD AND 19TH ST.

COLUMBUS, OHIO

TELEPHONE FAIRFAX 7838

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

REFUGEE LIST

Dr. Max Grunwald	\$25
Mrs. Max Dienemann	\$50
Dr. Israel Nobel	\$25
Dr. Paul Lazarus	\$25
Rabbi Julius Bach	\$50
Dr. Chayim Bloch	\$50
Rabbi Emil B. Cohn	\$50
Rabbi Adolph Kober	\$50
Rabbi John Krengle	\$25
Rabbi L. Wallach	\$50
Mrs. Felix Perles	\$20
Dr. Hans Kronheim	\$50
Rabbi Julius Jelski	\$50
Rabbi Albert Wolf	\$50
Rabbi Alfred Veis	\$50
Rabbi Moritz Winter	\$50
Rabbi M. Aisenstadt	\$40
Isaac Rubenstein	\$50
Rabbi Ivan Gruen	\$50
Jacob Klatzkin	\$40



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SIDNEY L. REGNER, Corresponding Secretary
Reading, Pa.

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TEMPLE SHOLOM
3480 LAKESHORE DRIVE
CHICAGO, ILL.

May 7th, 1942

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EMIL W. LEIPZIGER, New Orleans, La.
JOSHUA L. LIEBMAN, Boston, Mass.
HARRY S. MARGOLIS, St. Paul, Minn.
JULIUS MARK, Nashville, Tenn.
ABRAHAM SHUSTERMAN, Tulsa, Okla.
LOUIS WOLSEY, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

Rabbi Leipziger has requested that I send you a list of the Refugee Rabbis to whom we send checks each month. It is as follows:

\$40	Rabbi M. Aisenstadt	Embassy Hotel	New York City
50	" Julius Bach	82 W. 92nd St.	" " "
50	" Chayim Bloch	2008 Davidson	Bronx, N.Y.
50	" Emil Be. Cohn	737 College	Menlo Park, Cal.
50	" Ivan Gruen	801 Fulton St.	Wausaw, Wis.
40	" Jacob Klatzkin	147 W. 55th	New York City
50	" Adolph Kober	214 W. 92nd St.	" " "
25	" John Krengle	4309 - 47th Ave.	Long Island City, N.Y.
50	" Hans Kronheim	58 Lakin St.	Jamestown, N.Y.
50	" Isaac Rubinstein	235 - 2nd Ave.	New York City
50	" Alfred Veis	215 S. 2nd St.	Clarksville, Tenn.
50	" L. Wallach	429 N. Poplar	Florence, Ala.
50	" Moritz Winter	78 Keystone	Santa Cruz, Cal.
50	" Albert Wolf	907 Olympia	Olympia, Wash.

If you desire any additional information, you may be able to get it from Rabbi Samuel Gup, who is the Chairman of the Pension and Relief Committee.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Gordon
Secretary to Dr. Binstock

pmg



May 7, 1942.

Dr. James G. Heller, President,
Central Conference of American Rabbis,
Reading Road and North Crescent,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Colleague:

We have thought long and earnestly about your letter.

It is based upon a complete misunderstanding of the nature and purpose of our meeting. You start out with the presumption that the above is schismatic. No such thought enters the mind of any of us. On the contrary, we assure you we desire unity in the Conference and in American Jewry as keenly as you - but not at the sacrifice of principle.

Why was the call to the meeting issued? It was issued:

- (1) Because the Cincinnati meeting passed a resolution which violated an agreement;
- (2) Because you as President had it in your power to declare the resolution out of order in accordance with the terms of the 1935 agreement. You did not.
- (3) To say that the Jewish Army Resolution was not a Zionist resolution in violation of the contract, is hardly tenable, when you permitted yourself, as President of the Conference, to share in an advertisement for the Jewish Army in the New York Times, in which all Zionist organizations were associated.
- (4) Furthermore, you are quoted in the same advertisement as saying that the resolution of the C.C.A.R. favoring the Jewish Army, is the only authoritative voice of the Conference on that issue, thereby committing us as members of the Conference. You did this despite the fact that the attendance was small and the vote represented less than one-fourth of the membership.

We do not say these things in anger or recrimination. What is done is done; but they are the facts.

(5) Now, if we believe, as we do, that the nationalist tendencies in Jewish life are deleterious to the best interest of American Jewry, world Jewry, even Palestine Jewry, and the united support of the war effort, we have no other recourse than to organize ourselves to oppose them and to do so within the Conference. This seems to us not only our privilege but our duty. We cannot believe you would take the position that like-minded members of the Conference should not meet together to discuss issues they believe to be of supreme importance, and to agree on some policy to promote them.

If, therefore, a split occurs, it can hardly be charged to our side.

(6) Personally, we can see only good coming from our gathering. Suppose we can agree on a practical program for Palestine's reconstruction at the meeting - a thing which we deeply desire - our suggestion is that you appoint a small committee of the Conference, whose membership would include Zionists and non-Zionists. This Conference committee might accept such a Palestine program and submit it to the Conference for approval at its next meeting. Thus, for the first time, united Conference action on this important and complicated subject might be secured - a consummation devoutly to be wished!

(7) And finally, you know that distinguished laymen are even now discussing this matter, and endeavoring to find some meeting ground between the Zionist and non-Zionist position for practical Palestine work. Surely these Rabbis should be able to give them guidance and leadership. The procedure we suggest offers us opportunity to do this.

1. It is wholesome and salutary that our meeting be held.
2. That you appoint the committee as above suggested, to prepare the ground for the adoption of a non-nationalist, non-political but pro-Palestine platform for the Conference.
3. Thus enabling rabbinical leadership to take the place it should in the formulation of opinion and action, not only in the matter of Palestine, but for Jewish unity in the nation.

You are in an extraordinary position to render even more distinguished service than you have already done, we are convinced, if you follow this procedure.

Faithfully yours,

Elmer Berger	Abraham Holtzberg	Samuel Sandmel
Edward N. Calisch	Isaac Landman	Abraham D. Shaw
Beryl D. Cohon	Morris S. Lazaron	Abraham Shusterman
Wm. H. Fineshriber	Clifton H. Levy	Malcolm Stern
Solomon Foster	Nathan Perilman	Nathan Stern
Norman Gerstenfeld	William Rosenau	Sidney S. Tedesche
Samuel H. Goldenson	William Rosenblum	David H. Wice
Alex. D. Goode	Eugene J. Sack	Louis Wolsey

CCAR
1441-42

TELEGRAM RECEIVED BY RABBI BRICKNER FROM RABBI MARCUSSON

FREEHOF AND HELLER HAD CONFERENCE WITH WOLSEY AND GOLDENSON YESTERDAY TENTATIVELY AGREED THAT IF THEIR GROUP AGREES THEIR MEETING CALLED FOR ATLANTIC CITY JUNE FIRST AND SECOND WOULD BE CANCELLED AND THAT SPECIAL SESSION OF CONFERENCE WOULD BE HELD MIDDLE OF JUNE PROBABLY IN ATLANTIC CITY AT WHICH PROPOSAL WILL BE MADE TO ADOPT BYLAW TO CONSTITUTION ABOUT NEUTRALITY ABOUT ZIONISM. PRESIDENT HAS ASKED ME TO WIRE YOU IF YOU AGREE TO THIS AND ASK YOUR SPECIFIC VOTE FOR CALLING SUCH SPECIAL SESSION OF CONFERENCE. WIRE ME BY WESTERN UNION COLLECT AT ONCE.



*D. dated over phone
5-15-42*

May 21, 1942

Rabbi Isaac E. Marcuson
204 Buford Place
Macon, Ga.

My dear Friend:

I am enclosing herewith the manuscript of the sermon or lecture which I delivered at the C.C.A.R. in Cincinnati a few weeks ago. I am sorry that because of my absence from the country the transmission of this manuscript to you has been delayed.

I would appreciate it if you would do for me in connection with this manuscript what you kindly did for me in the past. Have about two hundred and fifty special copies made of it in booklet form with a cover. I shall of course be happy to pay the charges. I am enclosing herewith the type of cover and inscription which you had made for me in 1939.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

May 28, 1942

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS:

Dear Colleagues:

Referring to the letter of our President under date of May 26, may we submit to you not alone the enclosed statements which were sent to all of those who planned to participate in the Atlantic City meeting or who were invited to it, but also the following comments upon Rabbi Heller's last letter. We are all deeply convinced that the President is sincere in both his desire and his effort "to act with the best interest of the Conference in mind". He states that he has "not acted as a Zionist, nor have I weighted the scales of my own mind in favor of one side or the other". We are very sure that he means this, though we are not convinced as to the unconscious influence which his Zionist convictions exercise while dealing with the situation both in the chair at the Cincinnati Conference and since. When the Army Resolution was submitted to the Conference in the very last hour of its sessions, after 180 members of the Conference had departed for home, and after the rather tense debate during the consideration of the resolution, Dr. Freehof made a motion to table the resolution. The secretary leaned over to the President and said to him that he ought to support the tabling resolution or there would be a split in the Conference. This suggestion of the secretary was unreplied to and unheeded, and this in spite of the Neutrality Contract (which was initiated by the President at the Conference of 1935) by which the members of the Conference were guaranteed their freedom of opinion on the subject of Zionism and anti-Zionism.

In the President's last letter to the members of the Conference he says: "I make no pretense of infallibility or omniscience. I may have been in error in not declaring the Army Resolution out of order. I still do not think so".

May we call the Conference's attention to the fact that at the Pittsburgh meeting, Dr. Heller definitely stated that he was in error in not ruling the resolution out of order. We conclude from his use of the word "may" that he is now in doubt on that matter. Naturally, we regret his change of mind. It is, however, our conviction that the entire proceeding was a violation of a definite contract, as unchangeable as is the right of freedom of opinion. Because we hold to that platform as basic both to Judaism and to Americanism, must we except to the President's conclusion that we have engaged in an "undemocratic procedure, implicit in the calling of this separatist meeting". It is our very earnest belief that where a political definition is imposed upon even the smallest minority, as is the case in the present instance, the "undemocratic" attitude is on the other side.

May we call the Conference's further attention to the fact that when the Jewish Army Resolution was read, Dr. Brickner moved that it be referred back to the Resolutions Committee for reconsideration. The President in the chair, putting the motion, stated that "the motion is that we substitute the original motion for the substitute". When the chair was informed that that was not the motion of Dr. Brickner, he asked Rabbi Brickner whether "this form is satisfactory to you". Dr. Brickner answered as follows: "I do not know. I wasn't on the committee and I don't know what the original resolution was". Then the chair asked for the reading of both resolutions. Then the President put the motion in the form of going back to the original resolution. The secretary called Dr. Heller's attention to the fact that no such motion had ever been made, and that the chairman had changed the

form of the motion. Therefore, when the chair refused to put the motion referring the matter back to the Resolutions Committee, the parliamentary character of the whole proceeding was interfered with by the chair. It also should be clear to the members of the Conference that since that meeting, Dr. Brickner has asked that the Yearbook report his motion that it be referred "back to the Resolutions Committee and to substitute the original motion".

All of the above is recited that you may exercise your own personal judgment upon the statement of the President that he did not act as a Zionist.

That Rabbi Wolsey's memory was faulty concerning the Pittsburgh meeting on the subject of expunging the resolution from the minutes, has been admitted by him to the colleagues who plan to participate in the Atlantic City meeting. For this he has been sorry, but in spite of that fact, the majority of the group of twenty-four was opposed to calling off the meeting due to the following considerations:

1: That there could naturally be no guarantee upon the part of the President that his recommendations would be accepted by the Conference.

2: That extremists on the Zionist side not alone were opposed to his recommendations and proposals, but even to a calling of a Special Meeting of the Conference, and who likewise believed that all those who proposed to hold the Atlantic City meeting should be "disciplined" or be expelled. The latter consideration was not prophetic, in our judgment, of any peace at a Special Meeting of the Conference.

3: That the temper of the vote for the Army Resolution was definitely in favor of a suppression of opinion. ?

4: That the desire of a group of like-minded men of the Conference to hold an informal meeting to discuss their ideology was unimpeachable, particularly as it was quite obvious that such procedures had been adopted by others in the history of the Conference. As a matter of fact, at the Pittsburgh meeting, Dr. Heller admitted that the resolution of 1935 on Neutrality which he had initiated, had been submitted to a group of Zionists who opposed his introduction of the resolution because it would have been "treason to Zionism". The presence of Hatikvah in the Hymn Book adopted at the Conference in Providence in 1930, was quite definitely due to an informal meeting of like-minded men at that Conference. There are other instances of similar procedures to which no exception has ever been taken by either those who approved or disapproved. The Atlantic City meeting is motivated entirely by a desire to discuss our right to believe that the Jewish people are to be defined upon a religious basis only.

We do not agree with the President in his foreseeing "a long period of a widening breach, driven not merely through the Conference, but through the Union and College too". We cannot emphasize too strongly the fact that we do not care for a breach, that we will not create one, and that, as always, we shall be loyal to the Conference, the Union, and the College from which we have received much and to which gratefully we have given much.

The President claims that we "ventured too far in prediction", a comment which we should very much like to apply to his own prediction as to a possible breach in the Conference.

The President refers to the "ramming of anti-Zionism down the throats of the Zionists" for forty-five years. We except to that because it should occur to anyone conversant with the motions and resolutions of the Conference, that many an action since 1917 has made concessions to the Zionistic point of view. (Cf. for example Yearbooks XVII, page 139; XXVIII, page 95; XXX, page 107; XXXI, page 85; XXXII, page 81; XXXIII, page 24 (where it was moved that \$500 be appropriated out of the General Fund of the Conference to the Rutenberg project. The principal and interest to finally go to the Hebrew University); XXXIII, pages 24, 92, 93; XXXIV, pages 105, 106; XXXVIII, page 140; LI, page 43; XLIV, page 131; XLVI, page 123).

We submit to our colleagues that these and other actions (as, for example the Revised Union Prayer Book, volume I), do not constitute "a ramming" of anti-Zionism down the throats of the Zionists.

It is our belief that the President has neither a moral, nor any other right to foreclose the privilege and sometimes the duty of any group within the Conference, to hold a free and amicable meeting to discuss religious questions. That right we hold to be unimpeachable and that it is not within the prerogative of the chair to enter a denial of that right, particularly as those men act in accordance with their privilege as free teachers in Israel and as free American citizens, who just happen to be members of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. None of us who meet in Atlantic City have opposed the meetings of others. We now claim the same right for ourselves, and we sincerely trust that the request of the President that those Reform rabbis who elect to attend the meeting, should not alone go unheeded, but that it should be regarded as a request exceeding his powers as President of the Conference. We entertain for him the kindest and friendliest of feelings, and we shall always continue to do so.

WILLIAM H. FINESHRIBER

LOUIS WOLSEY

May 29, 1942

Rabbi James G. Heller
3557 Alaska Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Heller:

Rabbi Brickner spoke to me prior to my receiving your letter. He told me of your proposed visit to Cleveland. I will be very happy to meet with you when you come. I would suggest that, if possible, you come before the meeting of the Executive, say on Tuesday, so that we could talk over the line to be followed at the Executive meeting. The Executive is rather heavily weighted with individuals who may yield to an appeasement maneuver.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

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PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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HW148 16=CINCINNATI OHIO 2 1137A

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

1942 JUN 2 PM 1 23

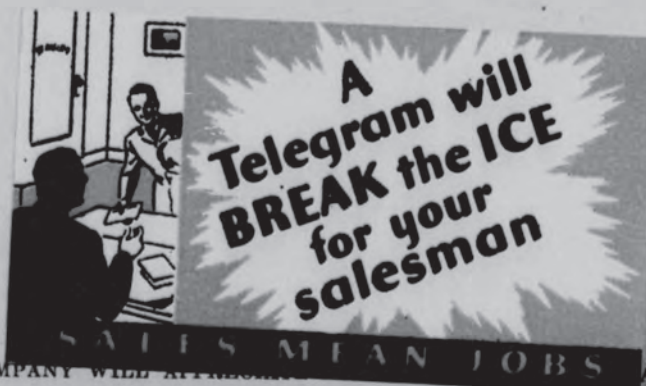
DELR CARE TEMPLE EAST 105 ST AND ANSEL RD=

COULD YOU MEET WITH BRICKNER AND I TEN AN JUNE NINTH
HOTEL CLEVELAND MY ROOM REGARDS=

JAMES G HELLER

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

*Regret will be
in N.Y. 9th + 10th
G.H.S
6-2-42*



AM

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1942 MAY 31 PM 12 59

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE CLEVE=

REGRET NOT ABLE RETURN CINCINNATI IN TIME TO BE CLEVELAND
TUESDAY PLEASE LET ME KNOW ANOTHER DAY LATER=

JAMES G HELLER.

ABBA HILLEL.

JTA

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
106 EAST 41ST STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. IX. NO. 124

Tuesday, June 2, 1942

NAZI COMMANDER ORDERS JEWS IN OCCUPIED FRANCE TO DON YELLOW BADGES

VICHY, June 1. (JTA)-- An order forbidding all Jews in occupied France to appear in the street after June 7 without a yellow Mogen David sewn on the left side of their outer garments, was posted today throughout the occupied territory, signed by General von Stulpnagel, commander of the German military forces in France.

The order specifies that the yellow badge must be worn by all persons over six years old. It must be the size of a hand and is to have a black border. The word "Jew" must be inscribed in black across the face of the yellow star. Violations will be punished by fines and imprisonment, including confinement in a concentration camp.

An announcement that Jews will be forced to wear a yellow badge was made last week by Louis Darquier de Pellepoix, French Commissioner for Jewish Affairs. Today's order instructs the Jews to apply to their local police stations for the yellow insignias and to surrender one coupon in their clothing ration book in exchange for the Mogen David.

The Paris radio today took the occasion to blame the Jews for the food riots which took place in Paris yesterday in which two policemen were killed. "It is true that the Jews did not participate in these riots, but it is obvious that they instigated them," the Nazi broadcaster stated. He expressed satisfaction over the fact that Jews will have to wear yellow stars "so that now we will be able to distinguish them on the streets."

ABOLISHMENT OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN POST-WAR WORLD URGED BY U.S. GOVERNMENT

WASHINGTON, June 1. (JTA)-- The United States Government is determined that racial and religious discrimination shall be abolished in post-war Europe under the provisions of a permanent system of general security promised by the Atlantic Charter, it was learned here today.

Under-Secretary of State Sumner Welles, speaking last Saturday at Arlington Amphitheatre, indicated that the United Nations will soon be approached to support the post-war security program now being prepared with a view "to assure the sovereign equality of peoples throughout the world."

"Our victory," Mr. Welles said, "must bring in its train the liberation of all peoples. Discrimination between peoples because of their race, creed, or color must be abolished."

ANTI-ZIONIST GROUP OF REFORM RABBIS OPENS TWO-DAY SESSION IN ATLANTIC CITY

ATLANTIC CITY, June 1. (JTA)-- More than sixty Reform rabbis from various parts of the country, constituting a minority group in the Central Conference of American Rabbis who oppose Zionism and the creation of a separate Jewish Army, opened a two-day session in the Chelsea Hotel here today to discuss a number of problems including the question of "whether the creation of a Jewish State in Palestine is consonant with the universal messages of Moses and the Prophets."

Dr. Louis Wolsey of Philadelphia, presiding at the meeting, in his opening address declared that "what we shall do here is subject to the considered opinion of those who have voluntarily and convincingly assembled here." He then explained that the conference will state "whether or not the Zionist speaker is right when he claims, even before the governments of the world, that he represents the opinion of our four million Jews and whether or not the Zionist movement means to absorb the totality of Jewish life."

"Here we shall have to say," Dr. Wolsey continued, "whether, as some have asserted, Zionism is equivalent to the Jewish religion; whether return to God means a return to nationalism; whether or not our salvation is in our religion or in a Jewish soil; whether retreat to nationalistic ghetto is a surrender of the great universal message of the Jewish prophet and sage; whether we shall yield our sacred Jewish tradition to a movement which is completely and deliberately non-religious; in a word, whether we should consent to the destruction of our faith."

Dr. David Philipson of Cincinnati read a paper on "The Message of Reform Judaism to American Israel" in which he traced the history of Reform Judaism contrasting it as a religion with Zionism, which he said is a purely political endeavor. Rabbi Abraham Shusterman of Baltimore spoke on the same subject.

DAVID COLIN, JTA CORRESPONDENT IN ROME, REACHES NEW YORK; REPORTS ON JEWS IN ITALY

NEW YORK, June 1. (JTA)-- David Colin, correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in Rome, who was interned together with other American newspapermen in Italy after the Axis declaration of war against the United States, arrived here today on the Swedish steamer Drottningholm bringing a first-hand account of the situation of the Jews in Italy and in Axis-occupied Yugoslavia and Greece.

Mr. Colin, who was one of the American journalists exchanged for Axis diplomats and correspondents in this country, stated that the terror to which Jews are subjected in the Nazi puppet-state of Croatia can hardly be imagined. In Italy, he asserted, the large majority of the population hate the Nazis. His detailed account of the treatment of Jews in Italy and in the occupied Balkan countries will be published in the JTA Bulletin tomorrow.

ARAB-JEWISH UNITY IN PALESTINE POSSIBLE AFTER THE WAR, BRODETSKY DECLARES

LONDON, June 1. (JTA)--Rapprochement between Jews and Arabs in Palestine can be and must be brought about after the war, so that a settlement may be reached concerning use of the land, which will be satisfactory to all and consistent with the principle of a Jewish state there, Prof. Selig Brodetsky, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, declared today, addressing the Jewish Historical Society at Leeds.

Palestine must become the Mecca of all Jews, from any part of the world, who desire to live there and contribute to the development of a Jewish national home and culture, Prof. Brodetsky stated. The Earl of Harewood, who is commonly considered to be pro-Arab, presided.

JTA

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
106 EAST 41ST STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. IX. NO. 126

Thursday, June 4, 1942

POLISH NATIONAL COUNCIL REJECTS PROGRAM FOR JEWISH RIGHTS IN POST-WAR POLAND

LONDON, June 3. (JTA)-- A four-point program on Polish-Jewish relations offered to the Polish National Council here by Dr. Ignacy Schwartzbart was rejected by the Council today after a two-day debate on the issue. In its place the Council adopted a resolution approving the declaration made by the Polish Government-in-exile on February 24 which pledged "free political, cultural and social development for all national minorities in post-war Poland."

The program, as suggested by Dr. Schwartzbart in the form of a motion presented to the Council, provided for the following steps to be taken by the Polish Government-in-exile:

1. The government should abolish all legal and administrative restrictions which were enforced against the Jews in Poland before the war.
2. The government should disassociate itself from the policy of "Jewish evacuation" proclaimed by the pre-war Polish regime and should issue a statement declaring that emigration from Poland is a right but not a duty of any citizen.
3. War refugees from Poland belonging to the Jewish and other minorities should be accorded the same facilities to return to Poland after the war as those accorded to Poles.
4. The government should declare null and void all the anti-Jewish discriminatory acts introduced by the Nazis in Poland, and should guarantee the return of confiscated property to Jews as well as compensation for any losses suffered by them.

Stanislaw Mikolajczyk, Polish vice-Premier and Minister of Interior, in replying on behalf of the Government to Dr. Schwartzbart's demands, stated that the general declaration of principles on the post-war democratic regime in Poland makes it unnecessary for the Government to issue any additional specific declarations. "The Government, he said, is constantly on guard to secure a sincere realization of its principles with regard to its national minorities and is ready to undertake proper steps for the issuing of appropriate orders in case of concrete necessity."

Polish Minister of Propaganda, Opposed by Jews, May Get New Post

LONDON, June 3. (JTA)-- The Polish Minister of Information, Stanislaw Stronski, was reported today to be slated for another post as a result of dissatisfaction which Jewish and other democratic members of the Polish National Council have expressed with regard to his policies.

Minister Stronski, it was learned here today, was named to the post of Polish ambassador to Soviet Russia to replace Stanislaw Kot who is to return to London to become a member of the Cabinet. The Soviet Government, however, refused to accept Stronski, who was one of the leaders of the anti-Semitic Endek party in pre-war Poland. He has modified his anti-Jewish views, however, since he became a member of the Polish Government-in-exile.

CONFERENCE OF NON-ZIONIST RABBIS ENDORSES ECONOMIC, CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF PALESTINE

ATLANTIC CITY, June 3. (JTA)-- The two-day conference of the sixty reform rabbis who, as a minority within the Central Conference of American Rabbis, are opposed to political Zionism, concluded here last night determined to strengthen the traditional interpretation of Reform Judaism.

The rabbis went on record endorsing the economic and cultural development of Palestine, but affirmed the primacy of religion as the basis of Jewish life. Basing their stand on the historic interpretation of Reform Judaism, they condemned the secularistic tendencies in American life. One of the central points in their discussion was the problem of what practical steps might be taken to enlist the interest of Jewish laymen in revitalizing the Reform movement.

Asserting its loyalty to the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the gathering unanimously agreed to prepare a statement on the subjects discussed at the sessions. This statement, which will also include the attitude of the rabbis to the Zionist movement, will be submitted to "like-minded rabbis" who were unable to attend the conference.

A paper on "Post-War Problems of the Jew" was presented to the conference by Rabbi Jonah B. Wise of New York. The conference declared its unswerving faith in the democratic way of life "as contained in the American Bill of Rights and now proclaimed to all men by the Atlantic Charter."

Among the projects discussed at the conference was the publication of a periodical. A committee consisting of Rabbis Samuel Goldenson, Louis Wolsey, Elmer Berger, Morris Lazaron, William Rosenau and William Fineshriber was appointed to implement the program of the group.

WAR-TIME PROGRAM FOR JEWISH CENTERS TO BE DISCUSSED AT SIX-DAY CONFERENCE OPENING TODAY

ROCHESTER, N.Y., June 3. (JTA)-- A program to gear the activities of the Jewish community centers to the war program will be discussed at the six-day annual meeting of the National Conference of Jewish Social Welfare, which opens here tomorrow.

More than 600 Jewish social workers from all sections of the country will participate in the sessions which will be launched tomorrow afternoon with a discussion on "The Community Center in the War." The conference meeting is being held in conjunction with the annual gatherings of the National Association of Jewish Center Workers and the National Council for Jewish Education. The education group will initiate its meeting with a discussion tomorrow afternoon on "Jewish Education in the War for Survival."

DR. JAMES BERNSTEIN LEAVING FOR LISBON TO DIRECT REFUGEE EMIGRATION WORK

NEW YORK, June 3. (JTA)-- Dr. James Bernstein, director of the Hias-Ica Emigration Association, is leaving this week for Lisbon to direct the work of facilitating the emigration of Jewish refugees from Europe to oversea lands, it was announced here today.

At a farewell dinner tendered to Dr. Bernstein yesterday in the Hias building, the speakers emphasized the importance of his return to Europe where he has supervised Jewish emigration during the last fifteen years. The dinner was presided over by Abraham Herman, Hias president. The speakers included Max Gottschalk, president of the Hias-Ica; Louis Oungre, managing director of the Ica; Adolph Held, chairman of the Jewish Labor Committee; Alexander Kahn, manager of the Jewish Daily Forward; John L. Bernstein, Harry Fischel and Isaac L. Asofsky, executive director of the Hias.

C
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Y

RABBI EMIL W. LEIPZIGER
TOURO SYNAGOGUE
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

June 10, 1942

Rabbi Jonah Wise,
35 East 62nd St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Jonah:

Have you been able to do anything about getting the National Refugee Service to accept the responsibility for the relief of refugee rabbis? I am afraid the Conference will have to reduce its relief work as soon as we make final arrangements for our Pension Plan and this is under way. You, Abba Hillel Silver and I, as you may remember, were appointed as a committee to look into this matter.

Abba Hillel was supposed to be in New York on May 12th and promised to do what he could with the heads of the NRS. You will remember our past correspondence with reference to this. I shall appreciate any information you may have.

Trusting all things go well with you, I remain

Yours fraternally,

(Signed) EMIL

EMIL W. LEIPZIGER

EWL:fk

Copy for: Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver ✓
Mr. William Rosenwald

June 15, 1942

Rabbi Emil W. Leipziger
Touro Synagogue
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Emil:

I have not yet effected any arrangement with the National Refugee Service. I really have not tried very hard. I think the chances are slim, as they are very much restricted in their income this year and would not be ready, I believe, to take on any added obligations.

I hope to see Rabbi Silver in the near future and discuss this matter with him.

Yours sincerely,

Jonah B. Wise

JBW/ks

TENTATIVE
PROGRAM
FIFTY-SECOND
ANNUAL CONVENTION
OF THE
CENTRAL CONFERENCE
OF
AMERICAN RABBIS



ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.
TUESDAY, JUNE TWENTY-FOURTH
SUNDAY, JUNE TWENTY-NINTH
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FORTY-ONE

PROGRAM

Tuesday, June 24th, 9:00 A. M.

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Tuesday Evening, June 24th, 8:00 o'clock

Opening Prayer
Address of Welcome
President's MessageEmil W. Leipziger
Memorial Resolutions:
 JACOB MANN
 JOSEPH STOLZ
Kaddish and Closing Prayer

Wednesday Morning, June 25th, 9:30 A. M.

Opening Prayer
Roll Call
REPORTS:
 PresidentEmil W. Leipziger
 Recording SecretaryIsaac E. Marcuson
 Corresponding SecretarySidney L. Regner
 TreasurerHarry S. Margolis
 FinanceSidney L. Regner
 InvestmentsHarry S. Margolis
 PublicationsIsaac E. Marcuson
 Cooperation with International and
 National OrganizationsEmil W. Leipziger
 Synagog CouncilEdward L. Israel
 Contemporaneous History and LiteratureJacob R. Marcus
 LiturgySolomon B. Freehof

Wednesday Afternoon

REPORTS:
 Commission on Synagog Activities
 Synagog and CommunitySamuel Wohl
 ArbitrationJulian B. Feibelman
 Church and StateAlbert G. Minda

4:00 o'clock

ROUND TABLE:

WHAT PRAYER MEANS TO ME—Maurice J. Bloom, Stanley R.
 Brav, Alan S. Green, Harry Kaplan, Max Maccoby, and
 Abraham D. Shaw. (10 minutes each speaker)

Discussion

Wednesday Evening, 8:00 o'clock

PAPERS:

GOD AND THE WORLD CRISIS—Can We Still Believe in Providence? Joshua Liebman.

Discussion

Thursday Morning, June 26th, 9:30 A. M.

Opening Prayer

REPORTS:

Responsa	Israel Bettan
Ceremonies	James G. Heller
Curator of Archives	Henry Englander
Social Justice	Edward L. Israel
International Peace	Joseph Rauch

Thursday Noon, 1:00-3:00 o'clock

REGIONAL LUNCHEONS

Thursday Afternoon, 3:00-4:30 o'clock

PAPER:

Feasibility and Advisability of Code of Practice (15 minutes)
Solomon B. Freehof.

Discussion

4:30-6:00 o'clock

FREE FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Thursday Evening, 8:00 o'clock

PAPER:

HOW ARCHEOLOGY HAS CONTRIBUTED TO OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE BIBLE AND THE JEW. Nelson Glueck.

INFORMAL DISCUSSION—The Condition of the Reform Rabbinate:
Unemployment, Overcrowding, Ethics of Pulpit Placement, Part
the Seminaries Play. (10 minutes each speaker) Louis Wolsey,
Samuel S. Mayerberg, and Wendell A. Phillips.

Friday Morning, June 27th, 9:30 A. M.

Religious Education Day

Opening Prayer

REPORTS:

Committee on Jewish Education	David Philipson
Committee on Religious Education	Leon I. Feuer
Release Plan for Religious Education	

Friday Afternoon

REPORTS:

Religious Work in UniversitiesBernard Heller
Marriage, Family and the HomeStanley R. Brav
Resolutions
Nominations

3:30-5:00 o'clock

Committee on ChaplainsSamuel H. Goldenson

Friday Evening, 8:00 o'clock

Opening Prayer
Evening Service from the Union Prayerbook
Conference LectureSamuel S. Cohon
Adoration and Kaddish
BenedictionEmil W. Leipziger

Saturday Morning, June 28th, 10:00 o'clock

Opening Prayer
Morning Service from the Union Prayerbook
Reading from the Torah
Conference SermonSolomon N. Bazell
Adoration and Kaddish
BenedictionJames G. Heller

Saturday Afternoon

FREE

Saturday Evening, 8:00 o'clock

Reserved for Alumnae Associations

Sunday Morning, June 29th, 9:30 A. M.

Opening Prayer

REPORTS:

TractsLeo M. Franklin
Synagog MusicJames G. Heller
ReliefSamuel M. Gup
Refugee RabbisFelix A. Levy
Pensions
President's Message

BenedictionJulian Morgenstern

Adjournment

Sunday Afternoon

Meeting of the Executive Board