

## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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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.

Reel	Box	Folder
19	6	404

Central Conference of American Rabbis, "A" and "B", 1945-1946.

Western Reserve Historical Society 10825 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106 (216) 721-5722 wrhs.org American Jewish Archives 3101 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220 (513) 487-3000 AmericanJewishArchives.org Euclid Avenue Temple Euclid at East Cighty-Second St. Cleveland

Barnett R. Brickner, Ph. D. Rabby

July 9th 1945

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, the Executive Director of the Committee on Army and Navy Religious Activities of the National Jewish Welfare Board has written me asking several questions, which I am referring to you for an answer.

1. On June 6th, we received from Rabbi Joshua Loth Liebman a resignation, copy of which I am enclosing. Rabbi Liebman has found it impossible to attend the meetings of CANRA during the past year, though he is very much interested in this work. He is also a member of the Publications Committee of CANRA and JWB and his inability to attend meetings and to function means that we were inadequately represented on this Committee. The Committee deals with all of the publications which we send out to the men in the armed services as well as with the drawing up of an educational program.

I referred the resignation of Rabbi Liebman to Rabbi Freehof, but he declined to deal with it because he was going out of office and wanted you to make the decision. It is, therefore, up to you to decide whether Rabbi Liebman's resignation should be accepted and if so a substitute should be made to fill this vacancy, until the expiration of the year when Mr. Frank Weil, acting upon the recommendations of the presidents of the three Conferences, formally appoints the CANRA.

2. If I may suggest, I would like to see Rabbi Louis Egelson formally appointed as a member of the Committee. Up to date he has been acting as an alternate. He attends the meetings in New York regularly and usually takes the place of Rabbi Magnin, who is unable toattend but once or so a year.

3. Rabbi Bernstein wants to know whether you are planning to serve on CANRA. It is the practice to have the president of a Conference a member of the Committee. Both Heller and Freehof have served.

4. Our membership on CANRA is as follows: Rabbis Freehof, Granison, Heller, Liebman, Magnin, Voorsanger, and Brickner. Please let me know what your thinking is at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Brickner (1)

BRB:VW

Dictated, but sent during Rabbi's absence from the city.



Revelow Sturis, Cape Cos, mass. July 27-45 Dra alba.

Jon letter of July 23 has been

forwarded to me tere when I am Spending two weeks in the they fam. 14.

I am hans mitting the letter to trank

hie for Micial action.

dan pleased That you are prepared to Sur on Carra,

Some hing for I mould like to sit down with you and descuss on work.

half a mile byour the Armis post Mics. Ou cottage is To Gernand Eldridge - The Filyshore mentre is Drawis 6%. Sine be fan The whe they St. de the hot by one asun . Phi

You will be the first CCAR member to join Caura during they incumbercy. and I would like to Share our Experience mith you as fully as possible. it armed for my phasant if the Schons and Ben time comed get togethe to soy tello daring the next week. We are only about 50 miles apart. Unfortunately us have to means of trasportation. De you? of So, hould you like to drive up - los are on the hain thighway to hormeetown, just

July 29, 1945

Rabbi Mailip C. Birnstein Executive Director Committee on argy and Nevy Religious Activities Rational Josish Callere Board of East Arm 25. New York 17, N.Y.

### Ry Merr Subbi Dirnstein:

Abbi Frickner has informatine dive Abbi Jachas Lour Lichan has sent in his realignation of enclose the Conr. Countree because it is incontained for his to steam the section.

I builtere and anobi Liebarn's realgnation deculated comptet, and I have so notified him. I should the to have subblicate hypolated to find this sectory unsit the exploration of the representatives of the sit the mass of the representatives of the C.C.L.d. to Mr. Frank will. I decule these to appoint hebei Louis iglowy so fill onto y can I unicrotate the number of the n it there herecovers. I show that he has rendered excellent orvice to the consistent.

Nobi Brichner also and me that you would like to know shother I plan to serve on the Conra. I understand that it has been the practice to have the Freedmant of the Conference of bester of the description. I shall follo that practice.

With all good alones, I remain,

Dear Colleague:

It was impossible to change the date of the meeting of the Executive Board. There will be a meeting of the Executive Board, therefore, Tuesday, October 9, ninsthirty A.M., Hotel Gibson. Please plan to attend and be on time.

> Isuac E. Marcusor Isaac E.Marcuson

Administrative Secretary

## TENTATIVE AGENDA

- 1. Opening Prayer
- 2. Approval of Minutes
- V 3. Applications for Membership
- 4. Reports of Officers
- V5. Reports of Committees -
- . Publications Report Prayer Books. Manual for Proselytes
- 7. Relief and Subvention
- 18. Yearbook Material
- 19. Rabbis Manual
- 10.Solicitation of Funds
- 11.World Union

VII- Sourd Juster Hore -12. Pensia - trubert - Vacancies p. 43. Dr. to Barli

12. Such Other Matters as the President May

VIS Sconting

PLEASE BRING THIS AGENDA ALONG TO THE MEETING.

Euclid Avenue Temple Euclid at East Cighty-Second St. Cleveland

Barnett R. Brickner, Ph. D. Rabbi October 5th 1 9 4 5

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, President Central Conference of American Rabbis Ansel Rd. Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Each of the Rabbinical Groups represented on CANRA is entitled to the appointment of several alternates, who may attend and vote in the absence of regular members.

Rabbi Egelson and I conferred on this matter and we suggest to you the appointment of Rabbis Ben Friedman and William F. Rosenblum, both of whom Rabbi Egelson tells me would serve as alternates.

We are calling a meeting of the CCAR Chaplaincy Committee in Cincinnati on October 15th, and I hope you will find it possible to attend. We would like you to report on the meeting of the three presidents with Mr. Frank Weil.

Sincerely yours, Mrilling

Barnett R. Brickner

BRB:VW

October 5th 1 9 405

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, President Central Conference of American Rabbis Ansel Rd. Temple Cleveland, Ohio

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Sincerely yours,

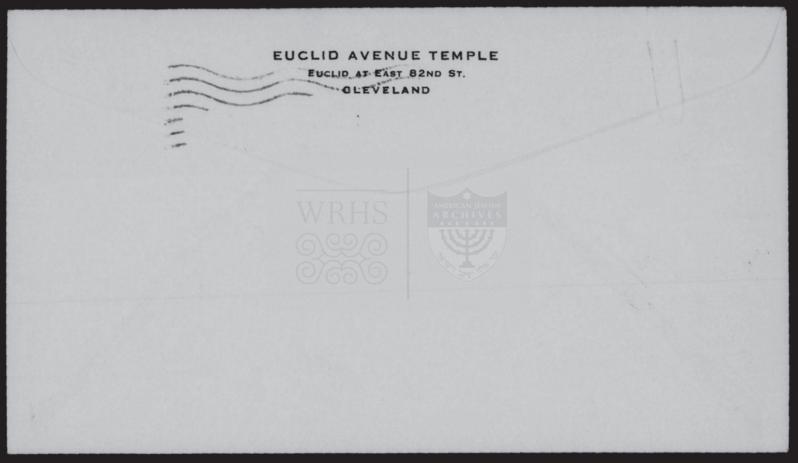
Barnett R. Brickner

BRB :VW





Rabbi Louis Egelson Merchants Bldg. Cincinnati, Ohio



## NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

145 EAST 32nd ST., NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

FROM: RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN



DATE October 12, 1945

TO : Dr. A. H. Silver

Attached is copy of letter which has come from Chaplain Jeshaia Schnitzer. You will note his interesting suggestion of exploring the possibility for chaplains to study at the Hebrew University in Palestine. OD you have any practical recommendations to implement such a plan. Does your group have any scholarship funds that might be used for this purpose?

I will be grateful for your consideration and comments concerning this matter.

## CHAPLAIN JESHAIA SCHNITZER POST HEADQUARTERS CAMP FICKETT, VA.

1 October 1945

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein National Jewish Welfare Board 145 East 32nd Street New York 16 N Y

Dear Rabbi Bernstein:

4

Soon many of the Chaplains will be leaving the Armed Forces to return to civilian life. Just as the staff of CANEA has been interested in the welfare of the Jewish Chaplain throughout the war, even so I am sure the leaders of CANEA will be concerned with seeing the Chaplain re-established in civilian life. From time to time, I have seen your interesting erticles and suggestions in "The Jewish Chaplain", concerning the Beturning Chaplain and his future. At this appropriate time, I would like to bring to your attention an idea and a suggestion which CANEA might develop and bring to the attention of Jewish Chaplains.

Inmediately upon my release from the Chaplaincy Corpe, I hope to take advantage of the GI HILL of Rights, in connection with a year of study at a university. I hope to spend a year in Palestine and to study at the Mebrew University. I have already taken preliminary steps in these connections.

I know that many of the Chaplains will be taking advantage of the educational opportunities offered by the CI BLU, both in refresher courses and study for degrees. Here is an excellent opportunity, not only to help him readjust to sivilian life, but also to live in brots, in the midst of the great living movement of his people, and study at the Mebrew University. It will take some time for the 500 dewish Chaplains now in the Service, to find positions in the American fabbinate. A year of leave to study at the Service will versity, will not only enrich his experience, but will be the required waiting period of readjustment to normal living.

If the staff of CANRA would interest themselves in fostering such a program, perhaps an American Class of Jewish Chaplains and Rabbis to study at Hebrew University, could be established.

Some months ago, I wrote to the Veterans' Administration to get their endersoment to attend Hebrew University under the GI Bill. As yet, I have received no official answer. CANRA could most likely work more efficiently toward these ends. In the meantime, information and programs concerning courses could be obtained from the Hebrew University.

I am bringing this idea to your attention because I know you will give it your full consideration and if there is any real worth to the idea, you and the staff of CANRA can develop the program.

Cordially yours,

(signed) JESHAIA SUHNITZER Chaplain (lat Lt) aus

Euclid Avenue Temple Euclid at Cast Cighty - Second St. Cleveland

Barnett R. Brickner, Ph. D. Rabbi October 14, 1945

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Our Congregation has been requested, no doubt yours has too, to take cognizance of the Hebrew Union College 70th Anniversary, and to arrange for a joint celebration that will be appropriate for the occasion.

In order to achieve that, I would like to suggest an informal meeting of the presidents of the two Congregations, the members on our Boards who are members of the Executive Board of the Union, and the two Rabbis for the purpose of discussing the matter and for recommending to the Boards of both Congregations a plan for this celebration. I understand that Mr. Sidney Weitz and Mr. James Miller have had some conversations regarding this same matter.

Recently I had word from Dr. Morgenstern in response to an inquiry on my part and I excerpt from his letter the enclosed.

Let me hear from you at your earliest convenience.

incerely your R. /Brickner Barnett

BRB:VW

Excerpt from letter to Rabbi BRBrickner from Dr. J Morgenstern Hebrew Union College

. . . . . Of course, here in Cincinnati, I find it difficult almost impossible, to suggest whether this celebration should take the form of a Temple Service or a banquet. Perhaps if I point out to you and Silver that our aim is not merely to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the College, but it is also to present the College and its work to the Jewish public in such a way that their respect for it, faith in it and loyalty to it may be heightened, and that this may manifest itself promptly still within the course of this year, if that be possible, in enlarged financial support of the College, perhaps you and Silver andyour associates can determine whether a Joint Service, or a dinner, or perhaps a combination of both would serve the purpose best. That the College and its Alumni will be not only happy, but even eager to participate in such a celebration, should such participation be desired, in whatever way you may suggest, goes without saying. If both of you and your associates who will plan this celebration would wish some person connected with the College, either me or some one else, to come to Cleveland and participate in your program, we would, of course, be delighted to do this. I am sure no difficulty will be experienced in finding a suitable date. Or, if you would prefer to have some alumnus of the College not directly connected with the College itself, this would be equally satisfactory to us and might be even more effective. You can count upon our participation, of course, without the slightest restriction.

If this discussion is not adequate, please let me know in what respect you wish me to be more specific. October 25, 1945

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein National Jewish Welfare Board 145 E. 32nd St. New York 16, N.Y.

My dear Rabbi Bernstein:

Thank you so much for sending me a copy of Chaplain Schnitzer's letter which I read with much interest. His suggestion that chaplains, upon leaving the service, may be interested in carrying on a year of study at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem seems to be a very happy one. I might suggest that you get in touch with the Hebrew University, in Palestine or at its offices in New York, and explore the possibilities a little more. I do not know, at the moment, of any such scholarships such as that which are available. However, I understand the G.I. Bill of Rights finances a period of study at a university.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS: BK

November 7, 1945

Dr. Bernard J. Bamberger West End Synagog 160 West 82md St. New York 33, N.Y.

My dear Friend:

The Executive Board of the C.C.A.R. at its last meeting voted to revise the Manual for Proselytes. I understand that there is a long story connected with the attempt to organize a revision committee, and we need not rehearse it here. I should like you to continue as chairman of the committee and to coopt three or four members of the Conference to assist you with the revision. Please let me know the names of the members of the Committee whom you appoint. In writing to them, please tell them that they have been appointed by the Conference, and a so arrange for a meeting.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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Committee on Army and Navy

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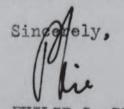
Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein Executive Director Rabbi Isaac Toubin Assistant Executive Director Rabbi Samuel H. Gordon Field Representative Rabbi Philip Graubart Dear Abba:

Although we do not yet have in writing the official replies of the Chiefs of Chaplains to our request for the reopening of commissioning, we have received authentic informal word which I wish to pass on to you without delay.

As you know, Dr. Pool and I made representations on this subject to the Chiefs of Chaplains of the Army and Navy, and they in turn explored this matter with higher authorities. I regret now to inform you that there is to be no reopening of commissioning. In due course I will be sending you the written replies which may indicate the reasons, but now for your guidance I am transmitting to you the basic fact.

At the same time I wish to inform you that processing has been reopened for the Officers Reserve Corps for those candidates who were in process as of September 2nd. We have been able to secure no clear indication as to the date when these men are likely to be called. At the present time there seems to be little reason to believe that they will be summoned in the near future. This does not constitute, I wish to point out, a reopening of commissiong for the current war emergency, but rather a resumption of commissioning for future Reserve needs.

My own judgment is that nothing further is to be gained by additional representations on this matter. Our chaplains are now being separated in increasingly greater numbers and the War and Navy Departments are unlikely to look with favor on any plan for the reopening of commissioning for the current emergency. However, I am prepared to follow the wishes and guidance of the Presidents Group and the CANRA Executive Committee in this matter.



145 EAST 32nd STREET NEW YORK, 16, N. Y. LExington 2-4949

November 23, 1945



The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

## WB118 NL PD=WASHINGTON DC

9 CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBISIDE SOLOMON FREEHOF

## MAIL THE RUSKIN APTS

=FEDERATION OF ATOMIC SCIENTISTS REPRESENTING ONE THOUSAND ATOMIC SCIENTISTS INVITES YOU OR REPRESENTATIVE YOUR ORGANIZATION TO INFORMAL MEETING TWO PM FRIDAY NOVEMBER 16 MAYFLOWER HOTEL ROOM 259 PLEASE REPY 1018 VERMONT AVE NW WASHINGTON DC:

> =DR L B BORST FOR FEDERATION OF ATOMIC SCIENTISTS. May 6566 MADDS W BRAN MAIL

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

December 20, 1945

Dr. Louis Binstock Temple Sholom 3480 Lake Shore Dr. Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Binstock:

Rabbi Feldman has informed Dr. Silver that you have kindly consented to act as Treasurer until such time as Rabbi Margolis will be able to resume his work as Treasurer of the Conference. I am therefore sending you the enclosed letter which Dr. Silver received from Rabbi Margolis.

Dr. Silver did not make the trip from Cleveland to Louisville on October 1, nor did he make the trip from Cleveland to Chicago on October 29. I'd a preciate it very much if you would check these items.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. Silver

BJK Enc. January 4, 1946

Dr. Barnett R. Brickner Euclid Avenue Temple 8206 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Brickner:

At Dr. Silver's request, I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter which Dr. Silver received from Dr. Freehof of Pittsburgh.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK Enc. Secretary to Dr. Silver

January 3, 1946

Dr. Leo Baeck Commodore Hotel New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Baeck:

I am very happy that you have arrived in the United States. I trust that you are well, and I am looking forward with pleasure to seeing you.

At the last meeting of the Executive Board of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, of which I have the honor to be the President, it was voted unanimously to extend an invitation to you to address the forthcoming convention of the oldest Rabbinical body in the United States on Thursday evening, June 27, 1946. The place of the Convention has not yet been set, but it will probably be in one of the Eastern Seaboard cities.

Your colleagues would feel highly honored to welcome you as their distinguished guest and to receive a message from you. The subject of the address is left entirely to your determination.

With all good wishes, and hoping that I may have the pleasure of hearing from you in the near future, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS: BK

### OFFICERS 1945 - 1946

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ABRAHAM J. FELDMAN, Vice-President Hartford, Conn.

HARRY S. MARGOLIS, Treasurer St. Paul, Minn.

ISAAC E. MARCUSON, Administrative Secretary Macon, Ga.

SIDNEY L. REGNER, Financial Secretary Reading, Pa.

COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

FEUER, LEON I., CHAIRMAN

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CONFIRMATION PRACTICES BILGRAY, ALBERT T., CHAIRMAN FEUER, LEON I. GAMORAN, EMANUEL POLISH, DAVID SCHWARTZ, LAWRENCE W.

## CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CONFIRMATION PRACTICES

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN 1411 MANOR AVE. MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD

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January 15, 1946

### Dear Colleague:

The special Committee on Confirmation Practices has been gratified by the response of the Conference to our letter of April 12.

You will remember that we sought to find out what the Rabbis desire to learn from the contemplated study. The replies have come in. The men want a thorough survey of Confirmation Practices, appended by an investigation of Bar Mitzvo Practices. They also feel that they would like to have a picture of the aims and objectives of Confirmation, as viewed by members of our Conference.

Following these wishes, your Committee has met a number of times and drawn up the enclosed questionnaire. Please give it your very careful and prompt consideration so that the Committee may proceed with its plans for the next session of the Conference.

With every good wish, we remain

Cordially,

Albert T. Bilgray

#### ATB:emk

P. S. If you are not at present serving a congregation, please fill out the section on "Aims and Objectives," as well as any other portions on which you choose to comment.

## CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

## STUDY OF COMFILMATION PLACTICES

Name of Rabbi

Congregation

## City

No. of Families in Congregation: \_\_\_\_; No. of Pupils in Keligious School? \_\_\_; Number of Pupils in Confirmation Class (1945)? \_\_\_;

No. of Boys in Confirmation No. of Girls in Confirmation Class?\_\_\_\_.

I

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Committee presents the following tentative statement for your consideration. Please revise or re-formulate as you see fit. (Use other side or appended page if desired.)

The Aims of Confirmation are:

- 1. To cultivate a spiritual outlook resulting in devotion to Godand His laws of righteousness.
- 2. To help the confirmand understand the essentials of Judaism (as expressed in the "Guiding Principles of Reform Judaism", adopted by the CCAR, 1937).
- 3. To inculcate a feeling of belonging to the congregation.
- 4. To develop a sense of identity with the Jewish people throughout the world.
- 5. To strengthen the confirmand's appreciation of the Jewish heritage and his responsibility for its continued growth.
- 6. To help the confirmand feel secure, emotionally and intellectually, in his contacts with the non-Jewish world.

To what extent do you believe that the above statement of "Aims and Objectives" (or your revised statement) have been achieved in your school? In replying to the following questions, please indicate the Present Practice in your school as well as your <u>Kecommendation</u> for any change.

II

## REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFIRMATION

Present Practice R

Recommendation

- 1. At what age is the child confirmed?
- 2. SECULAR School GRADE at time of confirmation?
- 3. RELIGIOUS School GRADE at time of confirmation?
- 4. How long must a pupil attend your school (or another acceptable school) prior to confirmation?
- 5. What proportion of students confirmed have met more than the minimum requirements stated in Question 4?

### Please write

additional information or recommendations

on back of this page

(or appended sheet).

III

CONFIRMATION CLASS CURRICULUM

		Present Practice	Recommendation
l.	When does the class meet with the Rabbi?		
	For how long?		
2.	Does the class meet with an other teacher?	ny	
	When?		
	For how long?		
3.	hat subjects are taught duthe confirmation year?	uring	
4.	What textbooks are used?	AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES	
	6)92		
5.	Are supplementary readings required? If so, please 1:	0 ist	
6.	Is any other work required	?	
7.	That are your minimum requi (Please check)	irements?	
	<ul> <li>(a) Class attendence?</li> <li>(b) Sabbath Service Attendence?</li> <li>(c) Examinations?</li> <li>(d) Profficiency in Hebrey language?</li> <li>(e) Others?</li> </ul>		
8.	Do you have individual cons with members of your class How often?		

3

	4
Recomme	ndation

Present Practice

9. What other provisions for worship or religious expression do you make?

6.0

10. hat provisions do you make for participation in extra curricular activities? (Please check) (a) Clubs? b) Youth movements? c) Philanthropy? (d) Visits to Jewish institutions? (e) Civic activities? (f) Inter-denominational activities? (g) Others? 11. What provisions do you make for discussion with parents, covering religious and educational aspects of confirmation? 12. Please evaluate the textbook you use in the Confirmation Class. 13. Do you believe that the CCAR should recommend the publication of a new confirmation textbook? Please write additional information or recommendations on back of this page

(or appended sheet).

THE CONFIRMATION CFREMONY

IV

		Present Practice	Recommendation
1.	Is Confirmation held on Shavu	os?	
	If not, when?		
2.	Do the pupils write their own essays, speeches or prayers?		
3.	What form does the Confirmati ceremony take? (Please check		
	(a) Union Prayer Book?		
	If so, conducted by who	m?	
	(b) Individual recitations?		
	(c) Group recitations?		a frank an a fille
	(d) Cantata or other dramat production?	ic	
	(e) Pledge of faith?	AMERICAN JEWISH	
	(f) Additional practices:		
		T	
	0000		a secolar a secolar
4.	How much classroom time do yo devote to rehearsals for the confirmation ceremony?	u	
5.	Do you have a program of Post-Confirmation study?		
6.	What proportion of your confi class returns for Post-Confir study?		
7.	What methods do you use to en Post-Confirmation study?	courage	
8.	What proportion of Post-Confi participate in Congregational groups?		
	For how long?		

9. Should the CCAR recommend the publication of a volume of various types of Confirmation services?

If so, should it include cantatas and other dramatic materials?

.

2

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Have you introduced any new features in the ceremony of confirmation?

If so, please describe.

14

The committee welcomes FURTHER COMMENTS on this section of the study as well as Confirmation PROGRAMS and other MATERIALS relating to the Confirmation Ceremony

6

## BAR MITZVO

V

10

The N. Y. Federation of Reform Synagogues, in a study of Bar Mitzvo in the Metropolitan area (1944), published the following summary.

Please check statements you consider valid and record (on other side or elsewhere) any additional comments.

Rabbis and Principals OPPOSING Bar Mitzvo state that:

- \_\_\_\_1. Bar Mitzvo adversely affects continued attendance in the Religious School.
- 2. Bar Mitzvo has been adequately replaced by Confirmation in the Reform Synagogue.
- 3. Preparation for Bar Mitzvo in many cases is wholly inadequate to achieve the larger purposes of religious education.

Rabbis and Principals FAVORING Bar Mitzvo state that:

- \_\_\_1. Bar Mitzvo serves as a valuable link with tradition.
- 2. It is still regarded by many in the Reform Synagogue as an important ceremony of Judaism.
- 3. It makes Reform Judaism more meaningful and attractive to persons of Orthodox or Conservative background.
- 4. It draws to the Synagogue many who would otherwise not attend Services.
- 5. It has been the instrument for causing many to become affiliated with the Reform Synagogue.
- 6. Bar Mitzvo is an individual ceremony, a milestone in the life of the individual boy and provides a psychological and emotional experience such as the group Confirmation ceremony cannot equal.
- 7. Bar Mitzvo motivates the learning of Hebrew and serves as an incentive for attendance in the weekday School conducted in several Reform Synagogues.

		Present Practice	Recommendation
1.	Do you have Bar Mitzvo in your Congregation?		
2.	Do you:		
	(a) Encourage Bar Mitzvo?		
	(b) Conduct only upon request of parents?		
	(c) Discourage Bar Mitzvo	?	
3.	If you have Bar Mitzvo, does the preparation require:		
	(a) Attendance in your schoo (or another acceptable s	l chool)?	
	For how long?		
	(b) Private instruction? _		
	What kind?	AMERICAN JEWISH	
	For how long?		
	(c) Ability to translate and understand passages read		
4.	In the Bar Mitzvo ceremony d the Candidate:	.oes	
	(a) Read or chant?		
	(b) Give a prayer or a s	speech?	
	If so, is it writhe pupil?	tten by	
5.	Which of the following does Bar Mitzvo candidate do? (Please check)	the	
	(a) Blessings over Torak (in Hebrew)?	1	
	(b) Torah passage (in Hebrew)?		
	(c) English translation of Torah passage?		-

continuance of Jewish studies until
<pre>(f) Haftarah (in English)?</pre>
<pre>(g) Read a portion of the Sabbath ritual? (h) Additional practices?</pre>
Sabbath ritual? (h) Additional practices?
What provisions do you make for the continuance of Jewish studies until
What provisions do you make for the continuance of Jewish studies until
Confirmation?
WRHS AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES
6000 WY
07656
Do you conduct the ceremony of Bas Mitzvo?

0

4

The committee welcomes additional comments or materials of value in this study.

Please return this Questionnaire to A. T. Bilgray, 1411 Manor Avenue McKeesport, Pennsylvania

January 20, 1946

Dr. Barnett R. Brickner 8206 Buclid Avenue Cleveland 3, Ohio

Dear Dr. Brickner:

I acknowledge your reply to my commication of December 21st 1945.

I respectfully suggest you overloaded the heart of that communication. A person who read the telegram you sent as Chairman of the Chaplaincy Consittee could get the impression that I refuged to serve my country during the war, thus impugning my periotism. This I repudiete. I think I have the right to insist that a telegram be dispatched to correct such false impressions by embodying the crucial fact of my communication that I volunteered syself for the armed services of my country. To do less would not be telling the whole truth. And I know you want to tell the whole truth.

With kind personal regards, I am

Very cordially yours,

(Signed)

BARUCH BRAUNSTEIN.

January 29, 1946

Dr. Louis Binstock 3480 Lake Shore Dr. Chicago, Ill.

My dear Dr. Binstock:

Enclosed herewith are some checks sent by Rabbi Regner for signature.

"ith best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK Enc.



Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

2-5-46

WANT A REPLY? "Answer by WESTERN UNION"

or similar phrases may be Included without charge.

NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL CHAPLAINS CONFERENCE Henry Hudson Hotel 353 W. 57th St. New York, N.Y.

MAY I JOIN THE HOST OF FRIENDS OF RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN IN EXTENDING TO HIM AN EXPRESSION OF PROFOUND GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATE FOR THE OUTSTANDING SERVICE WHICH HE RENDERED THE CAUSE OF JUDAISM AND AMERICA DURING THE WAR YEARS AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CANRA. OUR CHAPLAINS IN THIS WAR WROTE AN UNFORGETTABLE CHAPTER IN AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY. THEY BROUGHT HONOR TO THEIR PEOPLE AND THEIR CALLING. RABBI BERNSTEIN OCCUPIED THE KEY POSITION OF LEADERSHIP IN THIS GREAT SPIRITUAL ENTERPRISE AND HIS MUST BE THE DEEP SATISFACTION OF A GREAT SERVICE GREAT PERFORMED IN A GREAT AND TESTING HOUR.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

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Dear Abba:

Thank you very much for the telegram which you sent to the dinner in my honor. Of course I know that the real job was done by the chaplains in the field. Nevertheless, it is heartwarming to receive these expressions of appreciation and friendliness.

Again, thanks and all good wishes.

As ever,

## PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN



145 EAST 32nd STREET NEW YORK 16, N. Y. LExington 2-4949

> Cable Address: JEWELBO New York

February 14, 1946

Euclid Avenue Temple Suclid at Gast Sighty - Second St. Cleveland

Barnett R. Brickner, Ph. D. Rabbi

February 26, 1946

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

The enclosed copies of correspondence is self-explanatory.

Egelson gave me the information that the Executive Board of the Conference is likely to meet in Cincinnati. I hope that you will find time to consider the matter, and if you wish, I shall be very glad to be present when this discussion takes place.

With kindest regards, I am

Juito h. Julluer Sincerely yours,

Barnett R. Brickner

BRB:VW

Enc.

#### JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION WEST SIXTY-EIGHTH STREET NEAR CENTRAL PARK NEW YORK 23, N.Y.

February 27th, 1946

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver The Temple East 105th Street at Ansel Road Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

On Sunday evening, March 17th, the Jewish Institute of Religion is sponsoring a dinner at the Hotel Biltmore, New York City, saluting fifty of its graduates who have been serving as chaplains with our armed forces. The dinner will also pay tribute to Dr. Stephen S. Wise, founder and president of the Institute, who has trained and inspired them for service to their country and people.

We would be greatly honored to receive a message from you which could be read on this ocassion and included in our printed dinner program. We feel that a word of greeting from you would be heartening to these men who have been serving, many with great distinction on farflung battle fronts, bringing comfort and aid to the armed forces, working shoulder to shoulder with the spiritual leaders of other faiths in a great bond of brotherhood and devotion to God.

The Jewish Institute of Religion, one of the major Jewish seminaries in America, has always emphasized the Rabbi's responsibility as a leader and teacher of his fellowman. We feel that the large proportion of our graduates in the Chaplaincy Corps (nearly one-third of our alumni) is indicative of the sound training and leadership imparted by Dr. Wise who this year rounds out fifty years of public service.

Inasmuch as our program must go to press soon, we would greatly appreciate receiving a message from you as early as possible.

Assuring you of our appreciation. I am

Very sincerely yours,

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein Chairman, Dinner Committee The Temple Ansel Road and E. 105th St. Cleveland 6, Ohio March 12, 1946

Dr. Leo Baeck 283 Watford Way London 2, W. 4 England

My dear Dr. Baeck:

I trust that you are well, and I regret that I did not have a chance to see you when you were in the States. I had intended to extend to you in person an invitation to address the annual convetion of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, but you left the country before I could get around to seeing you.

Do you plan to return to the United States this Spring? Our convention will be held beginning June 25th in the City of Chicago. The membership of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the eldest Rabbinical body in the United States, comprising all the liberal and Reform Rabbis, are most eager to meet with you and to receive a message from you. The subject would be one of your own choosing. I would appreciate hearing from you, if possible, by cable as we should like to complete our program.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS: BK

# rerican EWISH CONFERENCE New York 17, N.Y. Phone MUrray Hill 2-7197

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521 Fifth Avenue

March 13, 1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, President Central Conference of American Rabbis The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

It is our privilege to submit to you, a constituent organization of the American Jewish Conference, our request for your 1946 contribution.

As you know, the Third Session of the Conference brought together once again all the constructive forces in the American Jewish community and witnessed their rededication to the common aspirations of the Jews of America with regard to the problems of the postwar world. Your attention is directed to the virtual unanimity of the constituent groups as to the past achievements of the Conference. The resolutions adopted call for continuation of the work of the Conference as an instrumentality for Jewish survival and security abroad, and as an influence toward Jewish unity in the United States.

Despite the steady growth in the scope and volume of its work, the Conference operations will continue on a conservative basis. From our experience in the last two years, an increase over the 1945 \$250,000 budget is not required. On the other hand, may we point out that we shall not be able to secure the minimum budget unless each constituent organization of the American Jewish Conference discharges its full financial responsibility for the current year.

We therefore earnestly request that you contribute, for 1946, the amount we requested last year, namely \$750.00. This is the minimum amount we require from your organization to meet our budgetary needs. We urge that your contribution be forwarded at as early a date as possible so that our program may be carried forward, unhampered by lack of funds.

In appreciation of your cooperation, we are

Sincerely yours,

Aaron Droock, Chairman

Louis Lin Hei Monsky CO-CHAIRMEN, INTERIM COMMITTEE

BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE DELEGATES OF THE AMERICAN THE INTERIM COMMITTEE WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE DELEGATES OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK, SEPT. 2, 1943, TO IMPLEMENT ITS RESOLUTIONS ON: THE RESCUE OF EUROPEAN JEWRY; THE RIGHTS AND STATUS OF JEWS IN THE POST-WAR WORLD; THE RIGHTS OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE WITH RESPECT TO PALESTINE

March 14, 1946

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein Chairman, Dinner Committee Jewish Institute of Religion New York 23, N.Y.

My dear Rabbi Bernstein:

I deeply regret that I cannot attend the dinner which is being sponsored by the Jewish Institute of "eligion on Sunday March 17 honoring its fifty graduates who have served as chaplains in the armed forces of the United States. The day being Purim, I must remain with my own congregation which has planned a few activities in connection with the holiday.

Personally, and as President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, I am delighted to send greetings to this gathering. American Jewish chaplains have written a glorious chapter in the history of American Judaism. They have brought honor to their people. They have served and are serving in the noblest tradition of Israel's spiritual leaders who always in the past rose to great heights in an hour of crisis and challenge.

I know that the Jewish Institute of Religion is very proud of its alumni who served as chaplains. It must be a matter of especial gratification to the distinguished founder and President of the Institute, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, to whom I send my warmest greetings.

The Central Conference of American Rabbis, of which the Institute alumni are members, is also very happy at the splendid record written by so many of its members who volunteered their services as chaplains during the war. The prestige of the Conference has been enhanced, and its life will be greatly enriched by the experience and the deeper insights which these chaplains are bringing to it as they return from their vital ministries.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

My dear Jr. Tilver, Les me thank you very heartily for your kind letter of March 12th. I have purciled my brains about finding a wory to be able to respond to your invitation. It is a deep vegres to me, that I do not have it, I am under so ninch obligations to the next months . I am awave of the high inspiration, and the valuable information too, the convention of the Central onference would give me. Would you allow not to send a message in due time: a feel a real delight in vernembering the weeks I was privileged to spend in America. They have produced a profound impression on me, especially by the dynamics of Juoish life. I am deriving to be anow them for some time. With all good wishes, I am Very cardially yours, L. Dauk.

March 18, 1840.

April 4, 1946

Dr. Leo Baeck 283, Watford Way, Hendon, N.W. 4 London, England

My dear Dr. Baeck:

I regret that you will not be able to attend the forthcoming Convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. I hope that we may have the pleasure of having you with us at some future Convention. We shall, of course, be delighted to receive a message from you to be read at the occasion.

With all good wishes and trusting that you are well, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS: GR



Brandeis Camp Institute, Inc. THE POCONOS

HERMAN L. WEISMAN President DR. SHLOMO BARDIN Director

381 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 16, N. Y. MUrray Hill 3-1683

Camp Address: WINTERDALE, PA.

April 5, 1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple E. 105th St. & Ansel Road Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

It was with true regret that I received the sad message that you were unable to attend the luncheon at our National Youth Commission Conference. We all missed you very much, indeed. I am now turning to you with another request, and I hope you will see your way clear to granting it.

In the relatively short history of the Brandeis Camp Institute, it has almost become a tradition that the Presidents of our parent bodies honor our Zionist Youth Community by their presence, and spend with us a few days or a weekend.

On several occasions during the last few years, I extended to you an invitation to visit the Brandeis Camp. Every time you were good enough to say that if only time permitted you, you would be glad to pay us a visit. Knowing how great was the burden of your duties. I refrained from pressing the matter.

But, this year, you are our President. Though your duties are probably much heavier than in previous years, I feel that youth too may justly make a claim on you. I need not tell you how much your visit will mean to the numerous youth leaders who come to Brandeis Camp from all over the country. Besides, with all humility, I feel it will offer you also, some relaxation, and I hope a great deal of "nachas".

(over)

Under the Auspices of:

American Zionist Youth Commission

p 129

Joint Youth Agency · Zionist Oganization of America and Hadassah

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver - Page two - Mpril 5, 1946

Our camp season starts July first, and any weekend, or any day in July that is convenient for you, will become our "Red Letter Day".

Looking forward with eagerness to hearing from you, and with cordial greetings, I remain

Sincerely yours, w

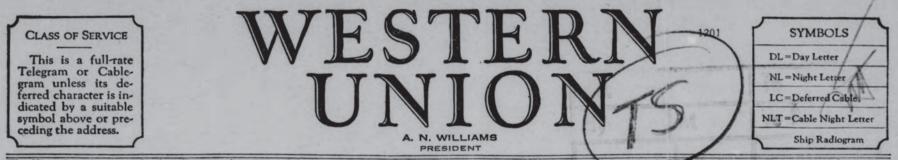
SHLOMO BARDIN

SB:mg

.....

P.S.:-

Enclosed for your interest, please find our "Information Bulletin" and Camp booklet.



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NB296 NL PD=NEWYORK NY 19 DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER: THE TEMPLE CLEVE=

1946 APR 19 PM 3 10

THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE DEAR DR SILVERS WRITING AT THAS 1E THE UNREPRESEN 17 IS S RABBIS ANFRI CAN OF PLACE TAKE RABBINICAL TENURE SUBJECT OF THE THURSDAY APRIL 25TH AT 1030 ISH F AM COMING THE 1 YORK NEW SYNAGOGUE IN PORTUGESE AND TS 1-HAS BODY RABBINICAL OTHER VER SCHOOL AND YOU AT FROM HEAR PLEASE WE PARTICIPATE MAY MOMENT = THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TENURE NEW YORK BERMAN COMMITTEE ON JEREMIAH J MINISTERS . 3 CONCERNING ITS JEWISH OF THE BOARD

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COLMAN A. ZWITMAN RABBI (ON LEAVE) CHAPLAIN, U. S. ARMY

SAUL B. APPELBAUM

TELEPHONE 9-1757

## TEMPLE ISRAEL OF MIAMI, FLORIDA 137 N. E. 19TH STREET

April 24, 1946

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

For your records as president of the C.C.A.R., I am sending you a copy of my letter of resignation from Temple Israel of Miami, in accordance with the conditions set forth by the Chaplaincy Committee.

My plans are indefinite now, and any aid that I may be able to secure from you will be greatly appreciated.

I am greatly disturbed over the tendency I am beginning to detect concerning men like myself who tried to enter the Chaplaincy and couldn't, and who took replacement positions. We are finding ourselves shunted to the background as the Chaplains return, and find ourselves at a tremendous disadvantage. I believe it is a matter which the Chaplaincy Committee should carry, and standards of the Rabbinate should discuss.

With kindest personal greetings, I am

Sincerely yours, ras Saul B. Appelbaum

Saul B. Appelbaum Rabbi

SBA:ss

April 24, 1946

Mr. Max Orovitz, President Temple Israel of Miami 137 N.E. 19th Street Miami 36, Florida

Dear Mr. Orovits:

Your letter of April 22nd, advising me that the Board of Trustees has taken official notice that Rabbi Zwitman has been discharged from the United States Army, and will return to this pulpit on June 15th, 1946, has been recaired.

Therefore, in keeping with the understanding entered into when I arrived here on December 15th, 1944, I am herewith tendering my resignation from Temple Israel, effective June 15, 1946.

I note the final paragraph in your letter, in which you convey to me the affirmation of the terms of my contract which were entered into December 15th last.

I shall be privileged to communicate with the Board at a later date, and to express to the congregation at its annual meeting on May 22nd, the reciprocal greetings of mutual understanding and good will, and shall, at those times, convey my sense of appreciation for the work we have been able to do together.

With kindest personal greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

Saul B. Appelbaum Rabbi

S BA : 88

co: Rabbi Colman A. Zwitman Rabbi Barnett R. Brickmer Rabbi Louis I. Egelson Dr. Abba Hillel Silver/ Dr. Julian Morgenstern Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath May 2, 1946

Rabbi Saul B. Appelbaum Temple Israel 137 N.E. 19th St. Miami, Florida

My dear Saul:

Thank you for your letter of April 24. I hope that you will soon find a post so that you will be able to continue your fine ministry. I am glad that you have brought to the attention of Egelson and Brickner the matter of replacement Rabbis. I am sure that they will give it careful consideration and will probably bring in some recommendations to the Conference when it meets.

"ith all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS: BK

CLASS OF S		TTT	CTT	<b>D N T</b> 1206-	CHECK
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transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.		A. N. WILLIAMS	NEWCOMB CARLTON CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD	J. C. WILLEVER	5

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

May 16, 1946

WANT A REPLY? "Answer by WESTERN UNION" or similar phrases may be Included without charge.

0,0

Rabbi Philip Bernstein Statler Hotel Washington, D. C.

IN VIEW OF YOUR INABILITY TO DELIVER CONFERENCE LECTURE WOULD APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM YOU AS TO THE INSTITUTE MAN TO INVITE TO SUBSTITUTE FOR YOU. KINDEST REGARDS.

Silver

GR

# The New York Board of Jewish Ministers, Inc.

(FOUNDED 1881)

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**RECTOR 2-9248** 

May 16, 1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

My letter of May 2nd to you reported on a conference held in New York City on the subject of writing a standard, rabbinical agreement.

Present at that meeting were Dr. Julian Morgenstern, Dr. Louis Finkelstein, Dean Samuel Sar, Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Dr. Robert Gordis. It was agreed that each of the five rabbini-cal seminaries and each of the three rabbinical bodies and the New York Board of Jewish Ministers appoint one representative to a nine-men committee to write the contemplated agreement.

The time for the meeting of the nine-men committee has been set for Thursday, May 23rd at 10:30 A. M. at the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, 2 West 70th Street in New York City.

Thus far the Hebrew Union College has appointed Rabbi William F. Rosenblum, the Jewish Theological Seminary has appointed Chaplain Bernard Segal and the Jewish Institute of Religion has appointed Dr. Wise himself to represent them.

We would appreciate hearing from you very shortly indicating your intention to appoint a representative of the Central Conference of American Rabbis and also the name of the representative you choose to designate.

Sincerely yours, Jeremiah J. Berman

Jeremiah J. Berman, Chairman Committee on Tenure

jjb;k

May 17, 1946

Rabbi Jeremiah J. Berman The New York Board of Jewish Ministers, Inc. 150 Nassau Street New York 7, N. Y.

My dear Rabbi Berman:

In reply to your kind letter of May 16, I have requested Rabbi Nathan A. Perilman of Temple Emanuel of your city to represent the Central Conference of American Rabbis at the meeting of the Committee called for Thursday, May 23.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS: GR



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1945 MAY

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AM

H111 14= NEWYORK NY 19 1055A RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER= TEMPLE EAST 105 ST ANSEL RD===

RECOMMEND RABBI JACOB RUDIN CONFERENCE LECTURE THANKS CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAM WILL DO BEST I CAN= PHILIP S BERNSTEIN: May 20, 1946

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein National Jewish Welfare Board 145 East 32nd Street New York 16, N. Y.

My dear Philip:

I received your telegram this morning.

Not having heard from you previously, I asked Feldman to get in touch with Wise and get his suggestions. He suggested Berman and Rudin. Feldman is contacting Berman. If Berman cannot accept, then to will get in touch with Rudin.

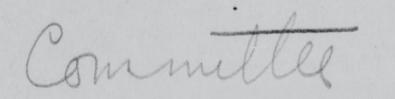
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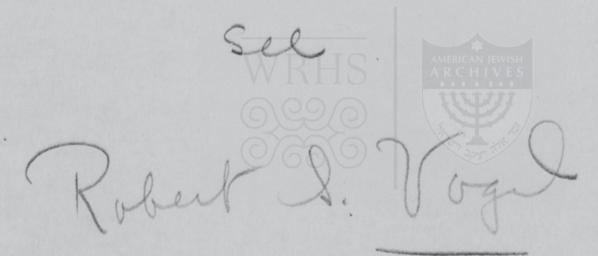
With all good wishes on your great mission, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS: GR

american Friends Service





Rabbi Philip Bernstein

see falder on

Committee on Cleaplains