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

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Central Conference of American Rabbis, 1947-1948.



CENTRAL CONFERENCE  
OF  
AMERICAN RABBIS

OFFICERS 1947-1948

ABRAHAM J. FELDMAN, *President*  
Hartford, Conn.

JACOB MARCUS, *Vice-President*  
Cincinnati, Ohio

PHINEAS SMOLLER, *Treasurer*  
Chicago, Ill.

ISAAC E. MARCUSON, *Administrative Secretary*  
Macon, Georgia

SIDNEY L. REGNER, *Financial Secretary*  
Reading, Pa.

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY  
204 BUFORD PLACE  
MACON, GA.

July 10, 1947

EXECUTIVE BOARD

*Immediate Past President*  
ABBA HILLEL SILVER, Cleveland, Ohio

JOSEPH L. BARON, Milwaukee, Wis.  
DANIEL L. DAVIS, Lancaster, Pa.  
MAX EICHHORN, New York, N. Y.  
LOUIS I. EGELSON, Cincinnati, Ohio  
ABRAM M. GRANISON, New York, N. Y.  
THEODORE GORDON, Madison, Wis.  
ROBERT I. KAHN, Houston, Texas  
MAX MACCOBY, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.  
LEVI A. OLAN, Worcester, Mass.  
WENDELL A. PHILLIPS, El Paso, Texas  
THEODORE ROSS, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
WILLIAM F. ROSENBLUM, New York, N. Y.  
JOSHUA TRACHTENBERG, Easton, Pa.  
SIDNEY E. UNGER, Asheville, N. C.

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

Dear Colleague:

You told me at the Convention that you would send me a corrected copy of the President's message for printing in the Yearbook. This is simply to remind you, also please let me know who was to write the Currick memorial resolution. You never did let me know who was appointed.

Cordially yours,

*Isaac E. Marcuson*  
Isaac E. Marcuson  
Administrative Secretary

IEM:re

*Frederick*  
*In answer*



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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
701 FARMINGTON AVENUE  
HARTFORD, CONN.

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SIDNEY E. UNGER, Asheville, N. C.

October 14, 1947

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
East 105th Street and Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

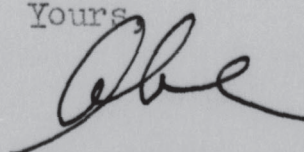
My dear Abba:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter which I received from George Zepin.  
I know that on several occasions you challenged some of these statements.  
However, I am not familiar with the details and I would be exceedingly grate-  
ful to you if you would take a moment and write me just what the circumstances  
were and what the agreements were with the UAHC in the establishment of the  
Pension Fund. I shall be very grateful.

My kindest regards to Virginia.

ajf;sh

Yours,



Abraham J. Feldman,  
President



Dr. Abraham J. Feldman  
President - CCAR  
1145 Ballard Drive  
West Hartford, Conn.

October 10, 1947

Dear Abe:

I am not unmindful of the fact that your new duties as president of the CCAR are many and I have no desire to add to them unnecessarily.

When you have the time, I wish you would consider the following matter.

The contract between the Conference and the Union, called the Pension Trust Agreement, specifically sets forth that both parties to the contract shall contribute annually the sum of \$5000.00 to increase the Capital Pension Fund in order to keep the Pension Plan on an actuarial basis.

For the last several years, the Conference has reduced this to \$2500.00. The effect of this reduction will not be noticeable until some years from now, but the absence of a number of \$2500.00 checks will show up in the end. Nor can such a deficit easily be made up.

Some have argued that the burden of pensioning the rabbis belongs to the employer. This is quite true, but the Union is not the employer of the Rabbis. Whatever grants the Conference and Union give are only free-will offerings to increase the ultimate annuities.

Two serious difficulties in here in the present situation. One is that we are morally bound to keep the plan on an actuarial basis. Unfortunately, the state laws do not supervise private pension plans. Otherwise, we would be compelled to do so.

The other difficulty with the present situation is that, it is a constant temptation to the Union to likewise reduce its appropriation. With all the current talk about an impending depression, or if you will, inflation, I dread the day when the Union may have to count its pennies. When they begin to cut down, I am not sure in just what direction they will cut down.

As long as the Conference lives up to the contract, it can morally compel the Union to do likewise. If the Conference continues to break the contract, what moral grounds has it for asking the Union to do otherwise.

We have just started a new fiscal year. It may be altogether too soon to make such a request. Please advise when I can write you officially asking for a restoration of the \$5000.00 agreed to in the Trust agreement.

I ought to call your attention to one more fact. When we inaugurated the plan we had \$200,000.00 in the Joint Capital Pension Fund. This, together with the \$5000.00 annual contributions from CCAR and UAHC was intended to keep the plan on an actuarial basis. We now have \$240,000.00

However, it is estimated that the Additional Grant just approved by both bodies will cost the Capital Pension Fund in the neighborhood of \$60,000.00 from now to the maturity of these policies. This is already an encroachment of \$20,000.00 on these funds.

While the day of reckoning is still far off, it is the part of wisdom to prepare for it.

If you are altogether opposed to this proposal, I will refrain from pressing it, But if you are in sympathy with it, I will leave it to you to say when the matter shall be officially brought to the attention of the Conference Executive Board.

With kind regards,

Cordially,

George Zepin,  
Secretary



[1947]

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

To the Members of the Executive Board:

OFFICIAL NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the Executive Board  
Tuesday Morning, October 21, at 9:30 A.M. at  
the Gibson Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio. Please  
arrange to attend on time.

Isaac E. Marcuson

*Isaac E. Marcuson*  
Administrative Secretary

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Opening Prayer
2. Applications for Membership
3. Resignations
4. Reports of Officers
5. Reports of Committees
6. Relief & Subvention
7. Reform Magazine
8. Time & place of next Convention
9. Program
10. Synagogue Council Dues
11. Appointments of Committees and Commission
12. Such other matters as the President may present

Please bring this with you to the meeting.



MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE BOARD OF CENTRAL CONFERENCE  
OF AMERICAN RABBIS - CINCINNATI, OHIO, OCTOBER 21, 1947

The meeting of the Executive Board of The Central Conference of American Rabbis was held at Hotel Gibson, Tuesday, October 21, 1947, with the President Abraham J. Feldman in the chair.

OPENING PRAYER: The opening prayer was offered by Rabbi Jacob R. Marcus.

MEMBERS PRESENT: The following members attended: Abraham J. Feldman, Jacob R. Marcus, Phineas Smoller, Isaac E. Marcuson, Sidnelly L. Regner, Daniel L. Davis, Max Eichhorn, Abraham M. Granison, Theodore Gordon, Robert Kahn, Max Maccoby, Levi A. Olan, Theodore Ross, William F. Rosenblum, Sidney E. Unger. Messages of regret were received from Wendall Phillips, Abba Hillel Silver, Louis I. Egelson and Maurice Eisendrath.

ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP: The following were elected to membership: David Schwartz, Henry David Arrow, Harry Z. Schreiner, Rayfield Helman, Randall M. Falk, Abraham J. Brachman.

Rabbi Marcus reported on the applications which had been referred to him for investigation. The secretary was instructed to write to Sol H. Oster and Ernest Trattner suggesting that they apply to one of the Rabbinical Seminaries so that they can receive a formal semicha. The application of Harry S. May was referred back to the committee and Rabbi Marcus was requested to communicate with the Anti-Defamation League for information about May.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT: The President reported that he had sent greetings to Rabbi Magnes on the occasion of his 70th birthday anniversary.

That in accordance with the action of the Conference, he had contacted Mr. Proskauer of the American Jewish Committee in regard to cooperation between the various national organizations. Mr. Proskauer had stated that there was cordial cooperation between the various organizations. The President was authorized to write Mr. Proskauer that the Conference appreciates his willingness to cooperate and meet with the other committees 3 or 4 times a year, and it is our hope that he will pursue this voluntary cooperation. It was moved and adopted that the President shall contact the heads of the other national organizations and get their reaction in regard to these periodic meetings and voluntary cooperation.

The President reported that he had consulted the representatives of the movie interests to see that nothing appears in any of the films which misrepresents Jewish life. It was moved and adopted that the Conference should work through and with the Synagogue Council who are doing similar work along this line and Rabbi Rosenblum stated he would be glad to have the President sit in with the committee of the Synagogue Council.

The President reported that he had reappointed Louis I. Newman as our observer for the sessions of the United Nations.

The President stated that the committee on Marriage, Family and the Home had asked permission to hold a symposium and had been told to submit estimates on the cost of such a meeting, but they had failed to submit the estimate.

The President was authorized to issue a statement on behalf of the Conference on occasions to members of the Conference or to the Public but was asked to be careful about joining in with other organizations in issuing such statements.

The President states that he had sent a telegram to the President of the United States and to the Secretary of State asking that the United States support the majority report of the Committee of United Nations and the action of the President was approved.

The President announced that the automobile which the Executive Board was authorized to present to the secretary had been delivered. Rabbi Marcuson thanked the Executive Board for their generous gift.



The President read the statement which had been prepared by the Synagogue Council and which was part of the report of the Committee on Church and State and the statement was approved.

The President reported that he was asked to send a statement on the attitude of the Conference in regard to the new calendar by the League for Safe Guarding the Fixity of the Sabbath, and that he had sent such a statement.

REPORT OF TREASURER: The Treasurer reported that no progress had been made in securing a settlement of the 3 matters mentioned in his annual report. He was instructed to make every effort to secure an early settlement. The treasurer was authorized to invest \$15,000 in government bonds.

The following members were reported in arrears and the secretary was instructed to notify them that they will stand suspended unless they pay their dues in full or in part by December 1st: Ralph DeKoven, Abraham Goldberg, Judah Seidler, Joseph Spevak, Mayer Lipman, Henry Rabin, Harry Weiss and Harold F. Reinhart.

The following were exempted from dues: Sol Finesinger, Jacob Klien, Isaac L. Rypins, Adolph Spiegel, Henry Englander, Theodore, Joseph, Jacob Menkes, Mendel Silver, Joseph H. Stolz and Moses Abels.

The membership of Frederick Frank was discontinued upon information that he had given up the Rabbinate.

The Secretary was instructed to write to Rabbi Harold Rosenman to inform him he must pay his dues if he desires to continue his membership in the Conference.

REPORT OF FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Rabbi Regner read the report of the Financial Secretary. It was moved and adopted that a voucher for \$1,000 be sent to the Jewish Publication Society as part payment on printing the Yearbook.

PUBLICATIONS: Rabbi Marcuson reported for the publications committee. He read a request from the South African Union for Progressive Judaism stating that they had introduced the Union Prayer Book and wished to act as agent for the sale of the book in South Africa. They also asked permission to have certain changes made in the book at their own expense to adapt the book for their needs. The request was granted.

RELIEF AND SUBVENTION: There being no report of the Committee on Relief and Subvention, the President and treasurer were named as a committee to pass on and approve the report when it is received.

LIBERAL JUDAISM: There being some question as to the appointment of representatives on the Board of Editors of Liberal Judaism, the President was instructed to consult with the President of the Union as to method of appointment, length of term of service, appointment of editor etc.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT CONVENTION: The committee on Time & Place reported that there was an invitation from Kansas City, Mo., asking the Conference to hold its next convention in that city. The invitation was accepted and the dates of the convention were fixed for June 22 - 29, 1948.

PROGRAM FOR CONVENTION: Rabbi Jacob R. Marcus, chairman of the Committee on Program presented a program for the next convention. After a lengthy discussion, the program was adopted and the chairman was authorized to complete the program and the Secretary was instructed to send out to the members.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS: It was moved and adopted that the custom of reading memorial resolutions in honor of members who dies during the year be restored but that those preparing the resolutions should be notified that the memorial shall be limited to 300 words both for reading and inclusion in the Yearbook.

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL DUES: It was moved and adopted that the Conference shall pay as dues to the Synagogue Council the same amount that is actually paid in by the other religious organizations up to \$100.



**Synagogue Council:** A request from the Synagogue Council that they be permitted to ask contributions from congregations was referred to the President to see what action the UAHG takes in the matter and our representatives on the Executive Board of the Union shall be authorized to tell the Union that the Conference is not opposed to such solicitation, but desires to cooperate with the Union in this matter.

**GLAZER PAPER:** The Editor of the Yearbook reported that he had never received the paper read by Rabbi Benedict Glazer at the Montreal Convention and that Rabbi Glazer had notified him that he was having it printed for distribution. The Editor was authorized to write Rabbi Glazer and inform him that the paper was the property of the CCAR and that if it is distributed independently, it shall not be printed in the Yearbook which has been a standing rule of the Conference.

**PALASHAS:** A request for subvention for the Palashas was referred to the Subvention Committee.

**PENSION BOARD:** It was found that the nominating committee had brought in the name of Maurice Goldblatt to succeed Abraham J. Feldman on the Pension Board. It was pointed out that Feldman was on the Pension Board following the constitutional provision that the Vice President of the Conference should serve. The Secretary was instructed to bring this to the attention of Rabbi Goldblatt and Vice President Jacob R. Marcus was named to fill the vacancy.

**BENHAMIN SCHULTZ:** The President reported that his attention had been called to certain articles written by Benjamin Schultz reflecting on some of the members of the Conference. It was moved and adopted that if the New York Committee finds that Rabbi Schultz had been guilty of unethical conduct, the President of the Conference is authorized to refer the matter to the Arbitration Committee.

**BRITISH MARRIAGE LAWS:** A letter was read from Rabbi Israel I. Mattuck in regard to the rule in England about issuing certificates to Reform Rabbis authorizing them to perform marriage ceremonies. It was moved and adopted that the Secretary shall write to the Secretary of the World Union asking their support to have the law changed and assuring them of our hearty approval of such a change.

**SCOUTING:** The Chairman of The Committee of Scouting was asked to prepare a report outlining the plans of this committee for a Jewish section of Boy Scouts of America.

**AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE:** The Executive Board discussed the question of creating a permanent Jewish American Conference. The President was asked to attend the meeting without instructions with the feeling that the Executive Board favors the principle of an over all American Jewish organization democratically organized on a permanent basis, but that we are not committed to the plan submitted or any other specific plan at the present time.

**COMMITTEE ON INCOME:** A committee to study the income of the Conference for the last ten years asked to be dismissed since the income of the Conference depended on the sale of the books from year to year and was so variable and indefinite that no general conclusion could be reached. The committee was dismissed.

**MARCH MEETING:** It was moved and adopted that a meeting of the Executive Board be held in Cincinnati on Thursday, March 11, or Monday, March 15, depending upon the program for the installation of the new president of the Hebrew Union College. It was moved and adopted that the expenses of the members of the Executive Board be paid for one day.

**NATIONAL STATISTICAL COUNCIL:** The Conference was asked to appoint representatives on the National Council for Statistics of Jews. The President named Louis I. Newman, Abraham J. Feldman to serve until 1949 and William Fineshriber and Albert Baum to serve until 1950. Rabbis Granison, Dan Davis, Max Reichler, Jacob Rudin and Abraham J. Feldman were named as a committee to cooperate in issuing a Jewish Directory for the Jewish Statistical Council.



-IV-

COMMITTEE ON PSYCHIATRY: Following a resolution adopted at the Montreal Convention that a standing committee on psychiatry be established, the executive board named: Abraham Franzblau, Chairman, Alfred Goodman, Gustav Falk, Stanley Brav, Samuel S. Mayerburg to act on this committee.

The meeting adjourned;

Respectfully Submitted,

*Isaac E. Marcuson*

Isaac E. Marcuson  
Administrative Secretary





October 24, 1947

Rabbi Isaac Marcuson  
204 Buford Place  
Macon, Ga.

Dear Dr. Marcuson:

I am returning herewith the corrected proof of the address which Dr. Silver delivered at the convention of the C.C.A.R.

On the first page, fourth paragraph, fifth line you will note that Dr. Silver did not insert the roll-call at the convention. Will you kindly check that number and insert it for him?

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK  
Enc.



# A STATEMENT

*Issued by the*

*Institute on*

## JUDAISM

AND

## CIVIL RIGHTS

*Sponsored by the*

Commission on Justice and Peace

*of the*

Central Conference  
of American Rabbis



"And the work of JUSTICE shall be PEACE"

Isaiah XXXII: 17



St. Louis, Mo.

April 17-18, 1948



## PREFACE

The Institute on Judaism and Civil Rights was convened by the Commission on Justice and Peace of the Central Conference of American Rabbis in Temple Israel, St. Louis, Mo., on Saturday evening, April 17, 1948, at 8:00 o'clock. Some 300 Rabbis and laymen from various parts of the country were in attendance. Rabbi Julius Mark, chairman of the Commission, presided.

After the invocation by Rabbi Samuel Thurman and an introductory statement by the chairman, greetings were brought to the Institute by Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. Mr. A. Abbot Rosen, Chief of the Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, read a message from Hon. Tom Clark, Attorney General of the U. S.

The keynote addresses were delivered by Mr. Joseph L. Rauh, Jr., chairman of the Executive Committee of Americans for Democratic Action, and Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn, a member of the President's Special Committee on Civil Rights. The meeting was closed with a benediction by Rabbi Julius Gordon, president of the St. Louis Rabbinical Association.

On Sunday morning at 9:30 the delegates and visitors, divided in Round Tables to study various phases of civil rights, met in the Y.M.H.A. The list of Round Tables, with leaders, chairmen and rapporteurs, follows:

### ROUND TABLE NO. 1:

#### *"The Jewish Background of Civil Rights"*

Leader: Rabbi Martin W. Weitz, Des Moines.

Chairman: Mr. Raymond Wittcoff, St. Louis.

Rapporteur: Rabbi Ulrick Steuer, Bloomington.

### ROUND TABLE NO. 2:

#### *"Economic Aspects of Civil Rights"*

Co-leaders: Miss Rose Perlin, St. Louis and

Mr. Joseph L. Rauh, Jr., Washington.

Chairman: Mr. Stanley Richman, St. Louis.

Rapporteur: Rabbi Harry Essrig, Grand Rapids.

### ROUND TABLE NO. 3:

#### *"Social Aspects of Civil Rights"*

Leader: Mr. Saul D. Alinsky, Chicago.

Chairman: Mr. Milton Goldstein, St. Louis.

Rapporteur: Rabbi Byron T. Rubenstein, Michigan City

### ROUND TABLE NO. 4:

#### *"Political Aspects of Civil Rights"*

Co-leaders: Prof. Paul Freund, Cambridge,

and Mr. A. Abbot Rosen, Washington.

Chairman: Mr. William Stix, St. Louis.

Rapporteur: Rabbi Selwyn D. Ruslander, Dayton.

### ROUND TABLE NO. 5:

#### *"Educational Aspects of Civil Rights"*

Leader: Prof. Milton D. Stewart, New York.

Chairman: Dr. Richard Silverman, St. Louis.

Rapporteur: Rabbi Alfred L. Friedman, Lansing.



The afternoon sessions of the Round Tables convened in Temple Israel House at 2:00 o'clock. At 4:30 P. M. a plenary gathering was held. The rapporteurs presented their reports and, after discussion, a statement embodying the views of the Round Table participants was adopted. Upon motion, the chairman appointed an editorial committee consisting of Rabbis Isserman, Eisen-drath and Mark and Messrs. Rauh and Wittcoff. The Institute adjourned with a benediction by Rabbi Isserman.

## A Statement from the St. Louis Institute on Judaism and Civil Rights

### I. INTRODUCTION

Civil Rights are affirmed in covenants arrived at by the community of men who compose the State. Jews are bound by the higher authority of their covenant with God to respect the human covenants which affirm the basic human rights.

The report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights entitled, "To Secure These Rights," is in direct continuity with the legacy of Israel across the centuries from the ancient bondage in Egypt "unto this day." In the Committee report, four principles are set forth which form the basis of civil rights and which should be accepted as the authentic implementation of the articles of the faith of Israel.

1. *The Right to Safety and Security of Person:* All men are equal in the sense that they are created in the image of God. No man is above the authority of the divine law nor beneath its protection. "One law and one ordinance shall be both for you, and for the stranger that sojourneth with you" (Numbers 15:16). In the sight of God, there are no strangers. Every individual is safe and secure in his person and property, even against governments (II Sam. 12: 1 to 6: Kings 21). This protection is extended also to the enemy; "If thine enemy be hungry; give him food to eat; if he is thirsty give him water to drink" (Proverbs 25:21).

2. *The Right to Citizenship and its Privileges:* "Proclaim liberty throughout the land to all the inhabitants thereof" (Lev. 25:10). To deny to an individual a voice in his government is to reduce him to a form of slavery in defiance of God's will. When the prophet Samuel warned the people against surrender of their rights to an earthly ruler, he admonished them, "On this day ye have rejected God." (I Samuel 8).

3. *The Right to Freedom of Conscience and Expression:* Each man has a right to express or keep private the dictates of his soul, for the soul is the divine element in man and cannot be interfered with by other men or governments of men. "The spirit of man is the light of the Lord" (Proverbs 20:27). The Talmud teaches that where honest differences prevail and agreements are difficult; "These and those might be the words of the living God." It was that "flaming fire within"



(Jeremiah 25:9) that impelled the prophet to speak out even at grave personal risk.

4. *The Right to Equality of Opportunity*: All men are entitled to equal opportunity to work, home, health, and education. "The heavens are the heavens of the Lord, but the earth hath He given to the children of men" (Psalms 115:16).

These are the rights which each man of whatever race or creed may claim in the name of God. The Bible, Talmud and the later Jewish literature abound in statements which support these principles. They are conferred by authority higher than the custom or law of any particular community. Disrespect for basic human rights may be a crime in the eyes of the civil authorities; it is surely a sin in the sight of God. With all rights go corresponding duties. Respect for the civil rights of all men is each man's duty to God. Jews are challenged by their religion to support the basic human rights of every one: "What is hateful unto thee, do not do unto thy neighbor" (Talmud, Shabbos 8). Jews are challenged by the teachings of their prophets to support these rights forthrightly. Only thus will they prove their loyalty to their religious tradition and be at one with God.

## II. POLITICAL ASPECTS OF CIVIL RIGHTS

As Jews we are bound to the democratic tradition of government and the prophetic requisite of implementing this tradition in practice.

1. *Citizenship*. Basic to the enjoyment of many political rights, notably that of suffrage, is the status of citizenship. While in general all persons born in the United States are thereby citizens, the privilege of becoming naturalized is discriminatorily denied to many Asiatics. An important step forward was taken during the war through the removal of the previous ineligibility of Chinese for naturalization. The remaining vestiges of racism have no place in our laws of citizenship and are contrary to our religious tenets.

2. *Voting*. The right of qualified persons to vote, without regard to race or color, as guaranteed by the Constitution, has provided a flagrant example of the divergences between the law in the books and law in action. We hail the action of those states which have eliminated the poll tax and other devices of disfranchisement. We urge the elimination of all disfranchising techniques, whether discriminatory or potentially discriminatory. Consequently we endorse Federal action to abolish poll taxes. Furthermore, we recommend that the work of the Department of Justice be invigorated by the enlargement of the Civil Rights Section into a Division, by the provision of additional funds and personnel and through appropriate revision of the laws upon which its authority depends. Needed as these actions are and salutary as they will be, thoroughgoing protection of the rights of suffrage calls for recognition by the several states of their moral responsibility to assure these rights to all citizens and state action in accordance therewith.

3. *Freedom of Speech*. The freedom of speech and freedom of the press guaranteed by the Constitution are



the cornerstone of democracy and must remain inviolate. This means the freedom to express views with which we disagree as well as those with which we agree.

We condemn any attempt to restrict the free expression of opinion either by legal sanctions or by extra-legal pressure of intimidation. Local law enforcement agencies must vigorously defend the right of all persons to express their opinions publicly without fear or molestation.

The government has a proper concern for the loyalty of its employees, and a grave concern where strategic positions are involved. In administering a program to assure such loyalty, however, it is essential that certain safeguards be scrupulously observed: (a) There must be no identification of unconventional or unpopular opinions with disloyalty; (b) Guilt by association must not be recognized as sufficient; (c) The procedures must give the greatest, not the least, possible protection to the employee. We are entitled to loyal public servants; but in the effort to discover those few who may not be such, we must not destroy the morale and the spiritual and intellectual freedom of the great body of devoted government workers. Government is the great exemplar in our society, and can provide a model of fairness or of ruthlessness.

4. *Safety and Security of the Person.* The right to safety and security of the person, the right of personal liberty, subject to abridgment only after a fair judicial hearing conducted with scrupulous attention to the mandates of the Constitution, belong equally to all Americans irrespective of race, color or creed.

It is deplorably commonplace for members of minority groups to be terrorized by use of force, often with connivance of public officials, to be arrested for little or no cause, to be subjected to indignities and cruelties while in the custody of the police and to be tried before juries from which members of their group have been excluded.

The essence of justice is the exercise of community responsibility. Yet where local authority neglects or fails to act, the Federal government should—and must—have the power and authority to act vigorously. We urge the strengthening of existing Federal civil rights statutes and expansion of the Federal law enforcement agencies so that our national government will have sufficient authority to cope with violations of civil rights where local conditions require.

### III. SOCIAL ASPECTS OF CIVIL RIGHTS

1. Any abuse of civil rights based upon race, creed, color, national origin, or political beliefs constitutes a negation of the principles of Judaism and of the American way of life. This is specifically true whenever such abuses prevail in religious institutions, housing, the armed forces, public service, hospitals and clinics or in professional, business, political and labor groups.

2. We declare that such abuses prevent the full development of the individual and engender severe tensions and resentments in the American social scene; that such practices are major contributing elements in the creation of the American slums from which arise disease, delinquency, demoralization and hate.



3. We believe that the wide gap between our *principles* on civil rights and our *actual practice* involves us in a dilemma in which we are faced by the necessity of justifying our conduct by rationalizations supporting the myths of racial superiority. This conflict between conscience and conduct leads inevitably to personality conflicts, group tensions, and to the development of attitudes hostile to, and destructive of, democratic society.

4. We believe that the most subversive and un-American groups in our population are those whose minds and hearts are poisoned by prejudice and who, by demanding restrictions on housing, employment, recreation, and on other free and equal opportunity, frustrate the forward march of Democracy.

5. We believe that the practice of civil rights among all our citizens is essential to the realization of world peace and the neglect and abuse of these rights imperil that peace and the future of the democratic ideal in the world. The future of the democratic ideal among men depends upon its thorough application in our own country. The vast majority of the peoples of this world (who are not of the white race) judge us *by what we do, not by what we say*, with regard to our treatment of their fellows in this country.

6. We believe that prejudice is not a separate social issue but is a concomitant of a host of fundamental social ills; that therefore the most effective program to conquer prejudice is to develop the full potentialities of the democratic way, so that all men can live in decency and dignity, making the maximum contribution of which they are capable to society. To this end, we urge the creation of community organizations designed to promote maximum participation and to activate democratic functions.

#### IV. ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF CIVIL RIGHTS

In its economic implications, equality of opportunity has not been extended to all of our people, thus imperiling the security and the happiness of large segments of our population.

Unstable economic conditions aggravate the problem. In order to achieve equal economic opportunity for minority groups, we must strive for a well balanced, healthy economy offering full employment opportunity to all.

A broad continuing program of public enlightenment and information is necessary and desirable to condition the public mind to a fuller appreciation of the meaning of equal opportunity; this is a long term approach. To implement and accelerate this process legislative action must be taken, for it not only serves as an educative device but immediately eliminates to some extent discrimination in actual practice. The very enactment of legislation through the democratic processes serves as a crystalization of public opinion.

We therefore recommend:

1. The enactment of Federal, State and local Fair Employment Practice Acts forbidding discrimination in employment based on race, color, creed, or national origin. Merit and capacity should be the criteria of em-



ployment. These acts should be applicable to private industry, labor unions, trade and professional associations, and to the government.

2. Governmental financial assistance to public or private agencies should be conditioned upon the absence of discrimination and segregation in any form.

3. Segregation must be abolished in the armed forces, in transportation, in health facilities, in public housing, and in all phases of public service. The historic approach of separate facilities for different groups has failed to provide adequately for all our people and violates the basic principles of human equality. Not equal, but the *same* facilities, should be available to all.

4. Laws should be enacted invalidating restrictive covenants and practices. Such written contracts and "gentlemen's agreements" should be declared null and void.

These measures are the most effective instruments available today in the treatment of the economic ills suffered by the victims of prejudice and intolerance. Their contribution to the welfare of the people of our nation may well spread beyond its borders into the hearts and minds of persecuted peoples everywhere and bring hope and faith where now only want and fear prevail.

## V. EDUCATIONAL ASPECTS OF CIVIL RIGHTS

Education is a primary force in the fight for civil rights. If men are to be educated for freedom, their education must stress the principles which underlie civil rights.

We believe every person should be free to enrich his own life and that of the community by realizing all of his potentialities for growth. Educational institutions should strive not to reflect the prejudices of the community; they should be exemplars to the community in their respect for civil rights.

We recommend immediate abolition of all academic practices which, either by intent or in effect, limit the admissions of certain religious, racial or national groups into our institutions of learning. In the very nature of the case, a separation of one group from another, based on race, implies an inferiority. Segregation in education humiliates and degrades. It is futile to ask our children to believe in the democratic way of life if their segregated schooling teaches them that we do not expect reality to conform to our ideals.

We recommend that the same policies of fairness which govern the admission of students should apply to the selection of the teaching and research faculties.

We call for the maintenance of a free spirit of academic inquiry and for freedom of conscience and expression for both faculty and students in our institutions of learning.

We commend the State of New York for its pioneering enactment of legislation supporting fair educational practices.

We call for the extension of Federal aid to education. Our ultimate aim should be no discrimination or segregation in the use of Federal funds for education.



We recommend that all of the educational resources of the community—homes, schools, churches, parent-teachers' organizations, press, radio, and motion pictures—combine their forces to build a vigorous public opinion in support of civil rights.

Though we recognize the long range importance of education and discussion, it is our firm belief that the crisis in civil rights is so crucial that we cannot rely only on policies which are long range. These must be supplemented by legislation and court enforcement procedures. Outlawing restrictive covenants, for example, will tend to control the external behavior patterns of prejudice. When people of different races and faiths will live in the same areas, the tendency to develop the inner emotions of prejudice will be diminished. Thus can laws accelerate the processes of education and help to secure civil rights.

## VI. CONCLUSION

The future peace and well being not only of America, but of the world, depend upon the willingness of men and women to share with their fellow men the rights which they demand for themselves. Americans, because of their magnificent heritage of freedom, should set the example.

Upon American Jews there devolves a double obligation ever to be in the forefront among those who demand that no man's political, social, economic or educational rights shall be abridged by reason of his color, creed or national origin. It isn't sufficient merely to point with justifiable pride to the glorious prophetic teachings of God's Fatherhood and Man's Brotherhood. We must endeavor to practice them conscientiously in our every day relations with our fellow human beings.

### *Editorial Board*

MAURICE N. EISENDRATH  
FERDINAND M. ISSERMAN  
JOSEPH L. RAUH, JR.  
RAYMOND WITTCOFF  
JULIUS MARK, Chairman

Copies of this Statement on Judaism and Civil Rights  
may be secured by writing to:

Rabbi Julius Mark, Chairman  
Commission on Justice and Peace, CCAR  
136 Seventh Ave., N.  
Nashville, 3, Tennessee

Price: 10c per single copy

5c per copy in quantities of 20 or more





[April 7, 1948]

EMIL W. LEIPZIGER, RABBI EMERITUS  
TOURO SYNAGOGUE  
NEW ORLEANS 15

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
East 105th Street and Ansel Road,  
Cleveland 6, Ohio.

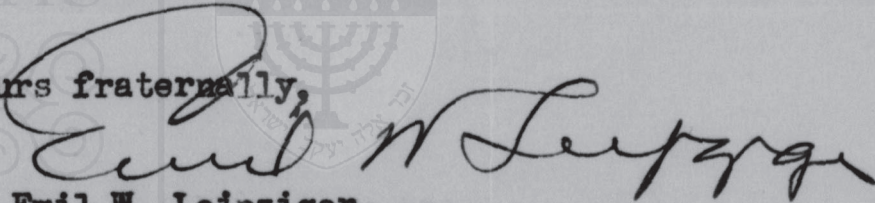
Dear Colleague:

This is the last call. You are the only member of the Arbitration Committee who hasn't answered my letters of February 11th and March 16th in the case of Levin vs. Frishberg.

I know that sifting thru material of this kind is not nearly so exciting as fighting for Israel, but you are on the Committee and I hope I may hear from you by return mail whether you agree with the Chairman's opinion or not.

Looking forward to having your help in finishing my Report to the Executive Committee of the Conference, I am with warm personal greetings

Yours fraternally,

  
Emil W. Leipziger  
Chairman  
Arbitration Committee  
Central Conference of American Rabbis

ewl;jlg



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JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

1201

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A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

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To MUEHLBACH HOTEL

MAY 21 1948

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Street and No. \_\_\_\_\_

Place KANSAS CITY? MO.



CAN YOU RESERVE SMALL SUITE FOR ME ATTENDING CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN

RABBIS BEGINNING TUESDAY MORNING JUNE 22. PLEASE WIRE MY EXPENSE.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE TEMPLE

Sender's name and address  
(For reference only)

Sender's telephone  
number



May 26, 1948

Mr. Leo Wertgane, Chairman  
Hotel Committee  
Central Conference of American Rabbis  
Hotel Muehlbach  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Wertgane:

Thank you for your wire of May 24th regarding accommodations for Rabbi Silver in connection with the meeting of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. We are awaiting receipt of confirmation.

We find that the best travel accommodations will bring Rabbi Silver to Kansas City the night of June 21st, and I shall appreciate your making such arrangements for him. His plane is due to arrive in Kansas City at 9:40 p.m.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Rabbi Silver

er



May 28, 1948

Dr. Emil W. Leipziger, Chairman  
Arbitration Committee  
Central Conference of American Rabbis  
Touro Synagogue  
New Orleans 15, Louisiana

My dear Dr. Leipziger:

I am sorry that in the crowded days through which I have been passing, I have been unable to reply to your letters and to look into the case of Levin vs. Fishberg. I am sure that you realize that there were many, many things which I have been compelled to pass by, not the least of which were many of my own congregational duties.

Nor have I the time at the moment to go through the literature in the case. I would, therefore, suggest that in making your report, you just mention the fact that I was unable to serve because of lack of time. I hope that I shall be able to do better next year if I am a member of the committee.

With all good wishes, and hoping to see you in Kansas City, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er



EMIL W. LEIPZIGER, RABBI EMERITUS  
TOURO SYNAGOGUE  
NEW ORLEANS 15

June 1, 1948

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
East 105th Street and Ansel Road,  
Cleveland 6, Ohio.

Dear Colleague:

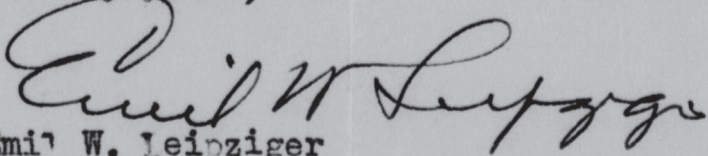
At last I am able to make a final report on the Levin- Frishberg case.

You will note in the material which I sent you on February 11th that it was my opinion that Rabbi Levin has no case against Rabbi Frishberg. All of the members of the Arbitration Committee were in agreement with my opinion, although Dr. Jonah B. Wise put the matter a little differently than the rest. He says: "I am voting to drop the Levin- Frishberg case without prejudice to either party".

You were the only member who recused himself.

I shall make this report to the Executive Board at the pre- Conference meeting in Kansas City.

Sincerely yours,



Emil W. Leipziger

Chairman

Arbitration Committee

Central Conference of American Rabbis

ewl;jlg



June 7, 1948

Mr. Leo Wertgame, Chairman  
Hotel Committee  
Central Conference of American Rabbis  
Hotel Muehlbach  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Wertgame:

I am writing you once again regarding hotel reservations for Rabbi Silver in connection with the meeting of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. It now appears that he will not be arriving in Kansas City until late in the afternoon of Wednesday, June 23rd. Will you, therefore, be good enough to make this change with the Hotel Muehlbach and send us a revised confirmation. Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth Rice  
Secretary to Rabbi Silver



June 10, 1948

Dr. Abraham J. Feldman, President  
Central Conference of American Rabbis  
701 Farmington Avenue  
Hartford 7, Connecticut

My dear Abe:

I am enclosing herewith a letter and a copy of the resolutions which were adopted at the Annual Meeting of the American Unitarian Association on May 27th. These resolutions are directed to the Central Conference of American Rabbis. You might wish to acknowledge them and to bring these resolutions to the attention of the Convention of the C.C.A.R.

I am looking forward with pleasure to seeing you in Kansas City.

With all good wishes, I remain

As ever yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er  
Encs.



# Congregation B'nai Jehudah

TELEPHONE WABASH 5011



LINWOOD BLVD. AND FLORA AVE.

*Kansas City 3, Missouri*

June 11, 1948

My dear friend and colleague:

It brought me great personal delight to learn from our Hotel Reservations Committee that you are coming to Kansas City to attend the Central Conference of American Rabbis Meeting June 22-27. Dear Gertrude and I want you to know that we are eager to serve you while you are here. We will have a room at the Muehlebach Hotel so that we may be available whenever we can render you a personal service. Please do not hesitate to call upon us.

With every good wish, in which my dear wife joins heartily, I am,

Sincerely,

*Samuel S. Mayerberg.*

*It will be a thrill to have you.*



June 15, 1948

Mr. Merrill E. Bush  
Unitarian Commission on World Order  
25 Beacon Street  
Boston 8, Mass.

Dear Mr. Bush:

Your letter of June 3rd addressed to Dr. Silver, my predecessor, has been relayed to me.

In responding to it, may I say to you, and thru you, to the American Unitarian Association, that we appreciate very deeply the graciousness of the action taken by the American Unitarian Association in communicating to us its greetings and congratulations upon the birth of the Republic of Israel and its satisfaction in the recognition accorded to the State of Israel by the President of the United States.

We appreciate the spirit of generosity and the understanding which prompted the vote on that Resolution and I am sure that I speak for my colleagues when I say to you that we are greatly heartened and cheered by your action, and your representation to the President of the United States that the recognition of the State of Israel "be implemented in every way authorized by the Congress of the United States and by the Constitution of the United States."

I shall deem it a privilege, my dear Mr. Bush, to present your Resolution at the convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, which will be held next week in Kansas City.

With every good wish, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Abraham J. Feldman

Copy to Dr. Silver

AJF:mm



**Tentative Program**  
**FIFTY - NINTH**  
**ANNUAL CONVENTION**  
**OF THE**  
**CENTRAL CONFERENCE**  
**OF**  
**AMERICAN RABBIS**



**KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE TWENTY-SECOND**  
**SUNDAY, JUNE TWENTY-SEVENTH**  
**NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FORTY-EIGHT**



# PROGRAM

**Tuesday Morning, June 22, 1948, 9:30 A. M.**

**Muehlbach Hotel**

**MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Tuesday Evening — 8:00 P. M.**

**Muehlbach Hotel**

Opening Prayer ..... Samuel Wolk  
Greetings  
Response ..... Jacob R. Marcus  
President's Message ..... Abraham J. Feldman  
Memorial Tributes: Samuel Levinson ..... Sidney S. Tedesche  
                    Carl Herman ..... Frederick I. Rypins  
Kaddish and Closing Prayer ..... Lou H. Silberman

**Wednesday Morning, June 23, 1948, 9:30 A. M.**

**Muehlbach Hotel**

Opening Prayer ..... Norman H. Diamond

## REPORTS:

President ..... Abraham J. Feldman  
Administrative Secretary ..... Isaac E. Marcuson  
\*Financial Secretary ..... Sidney L. Regner  
\*Treasurer ..... Phineas Smoller  
\*Finance ..... Sidney L. Regner  
\*Investments ..... Phineas Smoller  
\*Publications ..... Isaac E. Marcuson  
\*Solicitations ..... Abraham Shusterman  
\*Synagogue Council ..... William F. Rosenblum  
Contemporaneous History & Literature ..... Herbert I. Bloom  
\*Synagogue Activities ..... Jacob D. Schwarz  
\*Committee on Palestine ..... Edward E. Klein  
\*Arbitration ..... Emil W. Leipziger  
Chaplain Committee ..... Solomon B. Freehof  
12:45 — Religious Service ..... Felix S. Mendelsohn

**Wednesday Afternoon**

## REPORTS:

\*Religious Work in Universities ..... Arthur J. Lelyveld  
Church & State ..... Joseph L. Fink  
\*Ceremonies ..... Louis Witt  
\*Curator of Archives ..... Sheldon H. Blank



Synagog Music ..... Jacob Singer  
Justice & Peace ..... Julius Mark

**ROUND TABLE:**

"The Hillel Foundation" (20 minutes) ..... Harry Kaplan  
Discussion (40 Minutes)

**CONFERENCES:**

(A) Religious Services ..... Jacob J. Weinstein and Alan S. Green  
(B) Preaching ..... Julius Gordon

**Wednesday Evening**

**PAPERS:**

(A) "The Nature of Man" ..... Levi A. Olan  
(B) "The New Judea and the America of Tommorrow" —  
Philip S. Bernstein  
Discussion

**Thursday Morning, June 24, 1948, 9:30 A. M.**

Opening Prayer ..... Joseph I. Weiss

**REPORTS:**

\*Pensions ..... Samuel M. Gup  
\*Scouting ..... Aryeh Lev  
Marriage, Family and the Home ..... Samuel Thurman  
\*Information on Judaism ..... Harry W. Ettelson  
\*Relief and Subvention ..... Samuel M. Gup  
\*Institutes on Judaism ..... Louis L. Mann  
12:45 P. M. — Religious Service ..... Leonard J. Mervis

**Thursday Afternoon**

**OPEN FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Thursday Evening — 8:00 P. M.**

**PAPER:**

(A) The Future Pattern of Liberal American Judaism —  
Sylvan D. Schwartzman  
(B) The Union: An Evaluation and a Hope ..... Leon Feuer  
Discussion

**Friday Morning, June 26, 1948, 9:30 A. M.**

**Religious Education Day**

Albert T. Bilgray — Chairman

Opening Prayer ..... William B. Silverman

**REPORTS:**

Commission on Jewish Education ..... Solomon B. Freehof  
Committee on Confirmation Practices ..... Albert T. Bilgray



Special Committee on Adult Education ..... Joseph L. Baron  
12:45 P. M., Religious Service ..... Baruch Braunstein

### Friday Afternoon

#### REPORTS

Committee on Nominations

Committee on Resolutions

Committee on Placement ..... Louis L. Mann

### Friday Evening — 8:30 P. M.

Temple B'nai Jehuda

Opening Prayer ..... Nathaniel M. Keller

Evening Service from the Union Prayerbook ..... Joseph Ginsberg

Conference Lecture ..... Samuel Thurman

Adoration and Kaddish ..... Samuel Soskin

Benediction ..... Abraham J. Feldman

### Saturday Morning — June 26, 1948, 10:00 A. M.

Temple B'nai Jehuda

Opening Prayer ..... Milton Greenwald

Morning Service ..... Frederick A. Doppelt

Torah Reading ..... Herbert A. Friedman

Conference Sermon ..... Edward E. Klein

Adoration and Kaddish ..... Jerome Folkman

Benediction ..... Jacob R. Marcus

### Saturday Afternoon — 2:30 P. M.

A series of brief statements by the members of the Conference on some special fields of research in which they are engaged.

Immortality Within the Framework of Modern Science .... Max Kaufman —

Leopold Zunz's Philosophy of History ..... Luitpold Wallach —

The Medieval 'Sh'tarr' ..... Abraham I. Jacobson —

### Saturday Evening

Joint Alumni Dinner

### Sunday Morning — June 27, 1948

Opening Prayer ..... A. Lincoln Krohn

#### REPORTS—

Committee on President's Message

Committee on Thanks

Closing Prayer ..... Nelson Glueck

### Sunday Afternoon

#### MEETING OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

Reports marked \* to be presented to the Executive Board only. All others to be condensed.