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

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

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Central Conference of American Rabbis, 1949-1950.

JUDAH CAHN, *Rabbi*

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May 16th, 1949.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am enclosing an exchange of correspondence which I have had with Abraham J. Feldman.

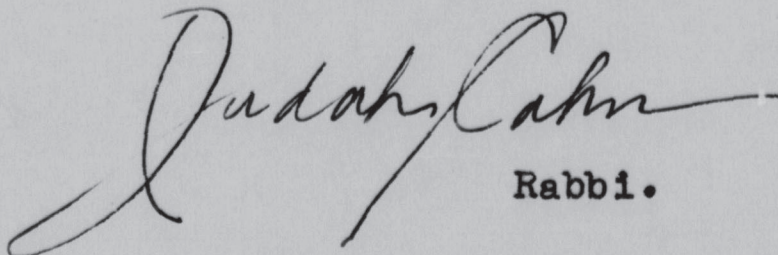
I am wondering whether there is anything further you can add which will help me bring a true picture of the circumstances to my congregation.

It seems shocking that if Abba Hillel Silver were asked to officiate at a wedding ceremony in Israel, that he would find it necessary to have present "an inspector." Those of us in the Reform Rabbinate, who have been consistent fighters for Zionism, now must suffer a discrimination which is neither democratic nor justified.

What would your opinion be of our making a strong representation to the Israeli government? Above all, how can we justify, if possible, this obvious theocratic tendency in the State of Israel.

For personal reasons I would appreciate an early reply.

Very sincerely yours,



Rabbi.

JC/z

C O P Y

May 11th, 1949

Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman
Congregation Beth Israel
701 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Rabbi Feldman:

I am writing to you concerning a problem which has been troubling the leaders of my congregation as well as myself for some months and I feel that perhaps you can be of some assistance.

Rabbi Herzog, Chief of the Orthodox Rabbinate in Israel, will visit our community in the near future. In anticipation of this visit, my rabbinical colleagues and I, together with a number of laymen, met for the purpose of arranging his reception. During the course of this meeting the statement was made that in Israel members of the Reform Rabbinate are not considered eligible to perform marriage ceremonies and that divorce actions between Jews must have Orthodox ecclesiastical sanction. If either statement is true, the members of my own congregation would feel very reluctant to join in honoring a man who in this sense does not recognize them as equals or their leader as a qualified Rabbi in Israel.

It is quite true that the same condition holds true in this country but in view of the separation between Church and State there are no practical resultants. In Israel, however, the separation between Church and State is not so sharp and therefore the results may prove to be more alarming.

May I ask:

1. Is either of these statements true?
2. If either or both are, does the C.C.A.R. anticipate making strong representation to the State of Israel in order to secure religious equality and freedom for members of the Reform Rabbinate?
3. Is this a problem for the World Union for Progressive Judaism?

It would seem very ironic that those members of the Reform Rabbinate who fought for Zionism in the face of great opposition should now face discrimination in the very land of which they fought.

I would appreciate an early answer to this letter so that the members of my congregation can act in accordance with the facts.

With my best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

C O P Y

May 13, 1949

Rabbi Judah Cahn
140 Central Avenue
Lawrence, L. I., N. Y.

My dear Judah:

I am answering the questions in your letter of May 11th, seriatim.

1. It is true that in Israel the rabbis in charge of the Liberal Synagogues (three of them), are not permitted to perform marriage ceremonies without the presence of an Orthodox representative, who as I understand it, is a sort of inspector to see that the Orthodox ritual is completely conformed to. I have no direct information about divorce actions, but it is fair to assume that since the Reform Rabbinate is not permitted to perform marriage ceremonies on their own, the same applies to divorce actions.
2. I shall have something to say on the subject in my President's Message, and if I get the support of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, I shall be glad to make representations to the government directly, when I am there this summer.
3. It is a problem for the World Union for Progressive Judaism. It has been taken up by the World Union and will probably be taken up again this July at its meeting in London. God willing, I shall be in attendance there, (but, as you know, they have tzoros with the same problem in England).

You realize of course, that this whole matter has a certain historic background and it may be a bit too soon for any effective changes to have taken place under the new conditions in Israel.

Under the Turkish regime, the religious affairs of each of the religious bodies were left in the hands of the religious body itself. The Moslems had their own court, Christians had theirs, and the Jews had theirs. Naturally the Orthodox Rabbinate was the Beth Din and had sole supervision of the religious life of the community. When, after World War I, the British took over the mandate, they continued the Turkish scheme in dealing with religious matters.

Now, the situation has changed of course. But, the fact remains that the Orthodox Rabbinate is in effect, "talking out of both sides of the mouth". They consent to separation of Church and State under three conditions which seem harmless on the surface. But, one of these three conditions seems to be conformity to the religious law in all public relations with the assurance which they give, that they will not meddle in the personal lives of the people. But, and here is the catch, since they interpret what is within the spirit of the Jewish law, they have the strangle hold.

I have given you above, the situation as I understand it, and I hope it will be helpful to you. I shall be interested to

know what decisions and actions you and your congregation will make and take.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Abraham J. Feldman



Temple Israel

5017 Washington Boulevard

Saint Louis 8, Mo.

FERDINAND M. ISSERMAN
Rabbi

January 18, 1950

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
Cong. Tifereth Israel,
E. 105th St. and Ansel Rd.
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Abba:

I have been appointed chairman of the committee of the Central Conference of American Rabbis to hold an institute on Jewish Theology, whose function it will be to prepare a statement on the basic teachings of Reform Judaism. This institute is to be held at the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio on Monday the 20th, Tuesday the 21st, and Wednesday the 22nd of March.

Those attending will be divided into seven round tables, each one of which will consider one theme. The themes around which the institute will center itself are as follows: God, revelation, prayer, immortality, the soul, the mission of Israel, and Reform Jewish practice.

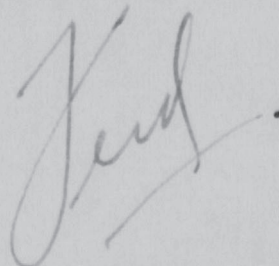
I should appreciate it very much if you would draw up a statement of your conviction of these themes. This statement should not cover more, and preferably less, than five typewritten pages, double spaced. Your statement with those of other members of the Conference, would be submitted to these round tables for discussion.

Let me know at once if you will prepare such a statement and send it to me before the 15th of February. The sort of statement I am interested in is one that you could put in the hands of a Sunday School teacher or an average member of your congregation who, on glancing at it would know the essence of Reform Judaism.

With all good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,

FMI:rs



January 20, 1950

Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman
Temple Israel
5017 Washington Blvd.
St. Louis 8, Missouri

My dear Ferd:

Thank you for your letter of January 18th and for your invitation to draft a statement to be used in preparation for the Institute on Jewish Theology. At the moment I am so immersed in work and committed to numerous out-of-town engagements that I am afraid that I shall not be able to do justice to the kind of paper which you would like to have. I, therefore, must ask to be excused.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILIEL SILVER

AHS:er

Temple B'rith-Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET

Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

February 16, 1950

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Congregation Tifereth Israel
East 105th Street and Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Abba:

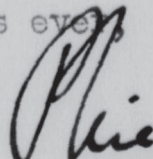
I have just received definite acceptance from Abe Sachar for participation in the Symposium on Sunday evening, June 11th. Therefore, I write to confirm the details.

This will be the climactic session of the CCAR Convention to be held in Cincinnati June 7th through 12th. The subject of this Sunday evening session in which I assume there will be much public interest is to be, "THE FUTURE OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY." The speakers are to be Sachar, Frank Weil and yourself, each speaking out of his own special background and interests. If agreeable, we will expect you to talk from thirty to forty-five minutes and, of course, to participate in the discussion which will follow the addresses.

I am really delighted about this meeting as I expect it to be "tops."

With cordial personal regards,

As ever



Philip S. Bernstein

PSB/ir

with particular reference to the role of the
Synagogues.

c
o
p
y

March 3, 1950

Rabbi Louis I. Egelson
34 West 6th Street
Cincinnati 2, Ohio

Dear Louis:

I thank you for sending me a copy of the letter from Rabbi Gittelsohn. Of course, neither he nor the committee would wish to stifle any discussion, but the method of procedure will tend to make the adoption of the plan a fait accompli before we ever get to the Biennial. Most of the congregations will not realize that this is not sent to them for approval, for simply their suggested revisions, and I am sure that many of them will vote on it now and so a large number of them will come already committed.

Of course, it may be a majority will come already committed against it, but you know this is not likely, first, because people generally prefer to accept a plan sent out by the national body rather than to reject it; second, the dangers of the plan are not immediately evident—only its benefits are immediately evident.

Therefore, it would seem to me that we should either inform the congregations that they are not expected to approve or disapprove, but merely to send suggestions for amendment and that they should please come to the Union Biennial uncommitted; or we should send out arguments for and against at once.

I know with what noble intentions this plan has been visualized and developed. If I were not convinced that the plan, in fact any such plan, will bring real danger to our profession, I would not oppose it even though I do not agree with it. But the fact is I do not merely disagree with it. I actually am afraid of it. That is why I should like us all to be extra-cautious.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Sol

(Solomon B. Freehof)

SBF/rms

RABBI SOLOMON B. FREEHOF, D. D.
RODEF SHALOM TEMPLE
FIFTH AND MOREWOOD AVENUES
PITTSBURGH 13, PENNSYLVANIA

March 7, 1950

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

Dear Abba:

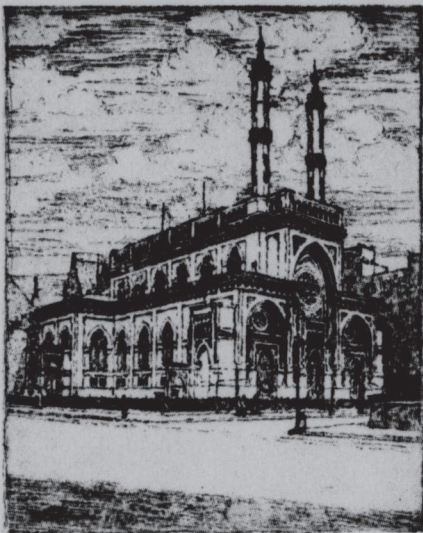
With regard to the Placement Plan, our letters must have crossed. I sent you a copy of a letter which I sent to Egelson.

I hesitate with regard to your suggestion that a number of rabbis get up an independent statement and circulate it to the congregations. You and I are in this peculiar position: The Conference overwhelmingly voted in favor of this plan. You and I are ex-Presidents of the Conference and it might seem strange if we initiated independent action contrary to the expressed will of the Conference. I would much rather have the impulse come from Gittelsohn's committee itself after we have urged it. Gittelsohn is fair-minded and he might well come to the conclusion if we continue to write on the matter to ask you and me and whoever wishes to join us to send a letter to the congregations expressing our point of view.

As ever,

Sol

SBF/rms



THE ISAAC M. WISE TEMPLE
K.K.B'nai Yeshurun
Cincinnati 29, Ohio

OFFICE - READING ROAD AND NORTH CRESCENT AVENUE
TELEPHONES - AVON 0334 - AVON 0335

RABBIS
James G. Heller Samuel Wohl

May 31, 1950

Dear Colleague and Friend:

Dr. Jacob Marcus, President of the CCAR, asked me to initiate a plan to place our Union Prayerbooks in the hands of the Christian ministers of America. It seems that this effort promises to accomplish two things:

1. An acquaintance on the part of Christian ministers with our Prayerbook, our ideas, and in the course of time the use of portions of it in the Protestant Churches.

2. The distribution of thousands of Prayerbooks, which will become a source of revenue for our Conference (the Conference needs additional funds).

The plan for distribution is something like this, which could be adopted in your own community to suit your own needs!

a) Every minister listed in the classified section of your community should receive a Prayerbook - not from any central organization - but from you, with a proper card saying that this gift is made possible by friends in your own community.

b) Select in your community a group of your congregants who will pay the cost of placing the Prayerbooks among the ministers of your community. In communities where there are more than one rabbi, it would be desirable to divide the list among the two, or several rabbis, in order to retain the individual presentation idea. Instead of selecting a small group, if you find it undesirable, you may send a personal letter to your entire community asking for contributions for this project.

I am giving you this idea now because I should like to have your immediate response, that I may report to the Conference in Cincinnati on June 11th how many of our colleagues approve the project and how best they consider the plan should be carried out.

Please take a little time now and write to me at once. I shall then be in a position to move ahead.

With warmest personal regards,

Cordially yours,

CENTRAL CONFERENCE
OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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April 19, 1950

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

Dear Abba:

Mr. Shneerson was in to see me the other day and we discussed the whole question of securing the YMCA in Israel as a hospice in Israel for Americans doing graduate work there.

As I envisage it, I would like to see the school used by Jews and Christians alike, but be limited to men doing some form of academic work or research. I would be willing to include American students who are also undergraduates at the University.

The project is a big one, and I am frank to say that I think you are one of the few men in this country, if not the only one, who could head it and bring it to a successful conclusion. I want you to know that if you take hold of it, the Central Conference will certainly support you and do everything it can in its power to help you.

I would like to see you go ahead and negotiate with the "Y" for a possible transfer of the buildings to an independent American corporation. I would like to see this corporation headed solely by religionists.

With kindest regards and all good wishes, I am

Very cordially yours,

John

M:h

STANDARD CONSTITUTION FOR CONGREGATIONS

Suggested by the Commission on Synagogue Activities

ARTICLE I

NAME

This Congregation shall be known as _____
Of _____, _____.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

The purpose of this congregation shall be to worship God in accordance with the faith of Judaism; to cultivate a love and understanding of the Jewish heritage; to stimulate fellowship in the Jewish community and to strengthen the bonds of loyalty with the Jewish people everywhere; to bring near the Kingdom of God on earth through an emphasis of the principles of righteousness and brotherhood in society at large.

In order to advance the cause of Liberal Judaism in America and throughout the world, this congregation shall affiliate itself with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

ARTICLE III

PRACTICES

The congregation shall follow the practices of Judaism as interpreted by the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Any person of the Jewish faith, or any person not a member of another faith, wishing to associate with the Jewish faith, twenty-one years of age or over, may be elected to regular membership on approval of his application by the board of trustees.

SECTION 2. The unit of membership shall be the individual, or in the case of married persons, the family. Members of the family over twenty-one who are self-supporting are not considered in the latter category.

SECTION 3. Young people from the age of confirmation to the time of regular membership shall, upon application, be eligible to junior membership. Junior members shall not have the right to vote or hold office.

SECTION 4. For the purpose of raising the revenues necessary for the maintenance of the congregation, the board of trustees shall fix the amount of the dues of each member according to his means. The system of dues shall make it possible for everyone to become a member, and necessary for all to contribute a just share. The board of trustees shall have the right to revise the dues of all members.

SECTION 5. The board of trustees may levy special assessments upon the members of the congregation, subject to the approval of the congregation, at a regular or special meeting.

SECTION 6. Each of the following shall be entitled to vote:

- (a) The individual member
- (b) In the case of a family, husband and wife shall each have one vote.

SECTION 7. Dues are payable in advance. A member in arrears for a year may, on the vote of the board of trustees, be suspended from membership after thirty days notice in writing, to be sent to the member by registered mail to the last address on record in the books of the congregation. Upon suspension, all rights and privileges of the suspended member in the congregation shall cease.

SECTION 8. A member thus suspended may be reinstated by the board of trustees on payment of all arrears and compliance with any other terms they may stipulate.

SECTION 9. The resignation of any member shall not relieve him from the payment of any obligation due the congregation at the time of resignation.

ARTICLE V

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SECTION 1. The board of trustees shall consist of the officers of the congregation and _____ members elected by the congregation. In addition, the brotherhood, the sisterhood, the youth group and other active groups affiliated with the congregation shall be represented by one member each. The immediate past president of the congregation shall serve on the board.

SECTION 2. The congregation shall elect, for the first year, half of the trustees to serve for one year, half to serve for two years.

SECTION 3. The congregation shall thereafter elect, as the above terms expire, _____ trustees for a term of two years, provided, however, that no trustee shall be elected for more than two successive terms.

SECTION 4. The appointees to the board from the brotherhood, the sisterhood, the youth group and other active groups affiliated with the congregation, shall serve for one year and may be reappointed by their organization for not more than two succeeding terms.

SECTION 5. The board of trustees shall have the general management of the affairs, funds, records, and property of the congregation. It shall act on all matters of policy, fill all vacancies in its personnel until the next congregational election, not herein otherwise provided for, and perform such other duties as the members in regular or special meetings assembled from time to time may prescribe.

SECTION 6. The board of trustees shall meet once every month on a week day and, in addition, may meet at the call of the president.

SECTION 7. _____members of the board of trustees shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 8. The office of any trustee who is absent without adequate excuse from three successive regular meetings of the board may be declared vacant by the board.

SECTION 9. The board of trustees shall be authorized to expend on any extra budgetary project up to _____dollars. Any appropriation in excess of this amount shall be approved by both the board and the congregation.

SECTION 10. The board of trustees shall have the authority to engage an executive secretary, a principal of the religious school, a director of education, and any other functionaries as they may see fit.

SECTION 11. The board of trustees shall have the management of all properties, real and personal, belonging to the congregation, including the sale of securities and investment of funds belonging to the congregation. The purchase, sale, disposition, leasing or mortgaging of such properties must be authorized by the congregation at a regular or special meeting thereof, by a two-thirds vote.

ARTICLE VI

OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The officers of this congregation shall consist of a president, _____vice-presidents, a corresponding secretary and a treasurer, all to be elected for a term of one year, at the annual meeting of the congregation.

SECTION 2. The duties of the president shall be to act as chairman at all congregational and board meetings, to appoint committees, of all of which he is to be an ex-officio member, to call special meetings, to sign all legal documents, and to perform all other duties incident to the office.

SECTION 3. The vice-president or vice-presidents in order shall automatically succeed to the office of president in case of a vacancy and shall act for the President in case of his absence or disability.

SECTION 4. It shall be the duty of the corresponding secretary to serve as secretary of the congregation and of the board of trustees. He shall keep the records of both bodies, keep a register of all the members of the congregation, with complete data as to their families, their membership in the subsidiary bodies of the congregation, and their occupations. He shall send out notices of all meetings, collect all dues and assessments, and perform all other duties incident to the office.

SECTION 5. The treasurer, in the absence of the vice-president or vice-presidents, shall assume all the duties and responsibilities incumbent upon that office. Before assuming office, he shall give good and sufficient bond. The board shall designate the bank or banks for the deposit of congregational funds. He shall be the custodian of all funds of the congregation including those collected by the office of the secretary and the cemetery committee and shall be the disbursing agent of the congregation as authorized by the board of trustees. He shall report the financial condition of the congregation monthly to the board of trustees. He shall report to the congregation at all regular or special meetings, and perform all other duties incident to the office.

ARTICLE VII

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The board of trustees may engage an executive secretary or executive director to perform such functions as may be assigned to him, in conformity with the duties of an executive secretary as outlined by the National Association of Temple Secretaries.

ARTICLE VIII

RABBIS

SECTION 1. Upon the establishment of a placement commission by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Central Conference of American Rabbis, this congregation shall abide by the rules and regulations of such commission.

SECTION 2. The rabbi (or rabbis) shall be selected by a special pulpit committee appointed by the president of the congregation at such salary and for such period of time as they may determine with the approval of the board of trustees. The matter shall then be referred to a meeting of the congregation where a two-thirds vote of those present shall be required for the election of the rabbi.

SECTION 3. The rabbi may be elected for a term of years, or, in the absence of any specified period of election, and after serving three years, he shall be considered the rabbi of the congregation until formal action to terminate this relationship shall be taken. Rabbi or congregation may terminate their relationship upon notice of not less than five months.

SECTION 4. The congregation may elect the rabbi for life.

SECTION 5. The congregation shall be a participant in the Rabbinical Pension Plan established by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and shall together with the rabbi or rabbis defray the cost of purchasing such pensions. If at the present age of the rabbi, the purchasable annuity is not in conformity with the standing and ability of the congregation, it shall either purchase an adequate annuity or make adequate provision by the creation of a pension fund to be used for this purpose.

SECTION 6. At the age of sixty-five or at such time as the congregation shall designate, the rabbi shall become rabbi emeritus for life, his privileges to be defined by the board of trustees. He shall exercise further rabbinical functions within the congregation at the invitation of the rabbi.

SECTION 7. Should the congregation have more than one rabbi, the functions of the assistant rabbi shall be defined by the rabbi, to whom he shall be responsible. The functions of the associate rabbi shall be defined by the board of trustees, to whom he shall be responsible. At the end of three years of service, an assistant rabbi who continues with the congregation shall be advanced to the rank of associate rabbi.

SECTION 8. The rabbi shall have the privilege of attending all meetings of the board of trustees and the congregation, except when requested for some special reason to be absent. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

ARTICLE IX

SEATS

Location of seats in the synagogue shall be unassigned. It shall however, be the duty of the board of trustees, whenever it may be necessary on special occasions, to reserve a sufficient number of seats to accommodate the membership, it being understood that no specific assignment to individuals shall be made within said reservation.

ARTICLE X

COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. The following standing committees shall be appointed by the president at the first meeting of the board of trustees, following the annual election:

- A budget and finance committee, consisting of not less than _____ members.
- A building and grounds committee, consisting of not less than _____ members.
- A music and choir committee, consisting of not less than _____ members.
- A membership committee, consisting of not less than _____ members.

A religious school committee, consisting of not less than_____members.
A cemetery committee, consisting of not less than_____members.
A religious practices committee, consisting of not less than_____members.
An adult education committee, consisting of not less than_____members.
A youth committee, consisting of not less than_____members.
A public relations committee, consisting of not less than_____members.
A committee for the advancement of Judaism, consisting of not less than_____members.

SECTION 2. It shall be the duty of the budget and finance committee to make a detailed estimate of the income and current expenses for the ensuing year, to submit an annual budget for the ensuing year, and to audit the accounts of the congregation. Any proposed major expenditure not provided for in the annual budget of the congregation shall be made first to the committee on budget and finance, which shall report to the board of trustees at its next meeting.

SECTION 3. It shall be the duty of the building and grounds committee to keep the building and property of the congregation in good order and repair.

SECTION 4. It shall be the duty of the music and choir committee to engage the musical staff of the congregation with the approval of the board of trustees, to promote better music on the part of the congregation during devine worship, and to submit an annual budget to the board of trustees.

SECTION 5. It shall be the duty of the membership committee to secure affiliation with the congregation of all like-minded members of the community who are not affiliated with congregations of a similar kind.

SECTION 6. It shall be the duty of the religious school committee to make all regulations necessary for the government of the school and to submit an annual budget to the board of trustees.

SECTION 7. It shall be the duty of the cemetery committee to manage the cemetery under authorization of the board of trustees.

SECTION 8. It shall be the duty of the religious practices committee in cooperation with the rabbi to consider the rituals and observances of the synagogue and to promote such practices in the home as will enhance the values of Jewish living.

SECTION 9. It shall be the duty of the adult education committee to promote educational activities and programs for the congregation and community, in order to increase the knowledge of our Jewish heritage.

SECTION 10. It shall be the duty of the youth committee to promote all manner of activities on the part of the young people and to contribute to their knowledge of Jewish tradition, their respect for Jewish religion, and their participation in wholesome social activities.

SECTION 11. It shall be the duty of the public relations committee to take charge of the publicity of the congregation, to insure that its motives and efforts are understood, and to advise the rabbi on public relations problems concerning which he may consult them.

SECTION 12. It shall be the duty of the committee for the advancement of Judaism to work with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations for the promotion of Liberal Judaism in the world at large and also to enlighten the general public on subjects concerning Jews and Judaism.

ARTICLE XI

MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The annual meeting of the congregation shall be held in the month of May. At this meeting, reports shall be submitted by the president and the rabbi, and by any auxiliaries or committees that may so desire; a budget for the coming year shall be approved; trustees, delegates and alternates to organizational meetings where the congregation is represented, shall be elected. Every member of the congregation shall be notified by mail at least ten days prior to the holding of the annual meeting or of any adjourned meeting.

SECTION 2. Special meetings of the congregation may be called by the president himself, or at the request of a majority of the board of trustees, or on written application of five per cent of the membership. The call for a special meeting shall set forth the purpose of the meeting and written notice thereof shall be mailed to such members at least five days prior to the time of such meeting; no business shall be transacted except that specified in the call.

SECTION 3. Ten per cent of the members of the congregation shall constitute a quorum at meetings.

ARTICLE XII

NOMINATIONS

SECTION 1. Nominations of all officers and trustees after the first election when the congregation is organized, shall be made by a nominating committee appointed by the president, with the consent of a majority of the board of trustees. The nominating committee shall consist of two members of the board of trustees whose terms of office do not expire at the next ensuing election and three members of the congregation at large.

SECTION 2. The slate of nominees shall consist of one nomination for each officer and for each trustee whose term of office shall expire at the close of the then current fiscal year.

SECTION 3. Nominations by the nominating committee shall be reported to the board of trustees, and notice of said nominations shall be mailed to the congregation at least one month prior to the election.

SECTION 4. Nomination for any elective office may be made by petition of ten members of the congregation, said nominations to be filed with the secretary at least ten days before the election.

SECTION 5. Notice of nominations by petition must be mailed to all members of the congregation at least five days before the election.

ARTICLE XIII

FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year shall begin annually on April 1.

ARTICLE XIV

CEMETERY

SECTION 1. The congregation may acquire and own land and other property for use as a cemetery. The management of such property shall be the responsibility of the board of trustees. An annual report shall be rendered to the board of trustees by the cemetery committee.

SECTION 2. The board of trustees shall delegate the management of the cemetery to a cemetery committee whose actions will be subject to the approval of the board. The cemetery committee shall set the charges for burial space, issue permits for burial, and arrange for maintenance and for perpetual care. It shall establish regulations for the landscaping of lots and other spaces in the cemetery and for the erection of monuments. All plans for monuments and landscaping must be submitted to the cemetery committee in advance for its approval.

SECTION 3. The cemetery is the property of the congregation which is entitled to use the surplus funds derived from its management, but it shall be the aim of the congregation to set aside enough money to maintain the cemetery in perpetuity. A special fund may be established for this purpose to be administered by the finance committee.

ARTICLE XV

AUXILIARY ASSOCIATIONS

Auxiliary or activity units of the congregation may be formed with the approval of the board of trustees.

ARTICLE XVI

PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE

Before any contract for the purchase, sale or alienation of real estate by or for the congregation shall be entered into, the board of trustees shall ascertain all of the relevant material facts and submit them to the congregation at a regular or special meeting to be called for that purpose. It shall require a vote of two-thirds of the members present to authorize any purchase, sale or alienation of real estate.

ARTICLE XVII

RULES OF ORDER

The rules of procedure at meetings shall be determined by Roberts Rules of Order, latest revised edition.

ARTICLE XVIII

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the constitution and by-laws shall be presented in writing and shall be proposed by the board of trustees or by at least ten per cent of the members of the congregation, and shall be filed with the secretary. Such amendments may be acted on at any regular meeting of the congregation or at any special meeting called for that purpose. Copies of the proposed amendments, with the arguments for and against them, shall be mailed to each member along with the notice of the meeting at least ten days prior thereto. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting shall be necessary to adopt any amendment.

Ethics and Arbitration

Leipziger, Emil W., *Chairman*

Cohen, Henry
Feldman, A. J.
Freehof, Sol B.
Glueck, Nelson
Goldenson, Samuel H.
Heller, James G.
Lefkowitz, David, Sr.
Levy, Felix A.

Magnin, Edgar F.
Morgenstern, Julian
Rauch, Joseph
Rudin, Jacob P.
Silver, Abba H.
Siskin, Edgar E.
Slonimsky, Henry
Wise, Jonah B.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE
OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY
222 BUFORD PLACE
MACON, GA.

NOTICE OF COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Dear Colleague:

I beg to inform you that you have been appointed on the committee hereto attached and request that you contact the chairman if you have not already heard from him.

Cordially yours,

Isaac E. Marcuson,
Administrative Secretary.



REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

To the Central Conference of American Rabbis,

COLLEAGUES:

I

Within recent years there has been a very large increase in the use of public raffles, bingos and games of chance as a means of raising funds for Jewish religious and other organizations and institutions. While Judaism has never issued a ban on gambling in all forms, the conduct of large public games of chance is contrary to the spirit of our faith and ought to be discouraged.

MARTIN PERLEY	JEROME MALINO
H. G. PERLMUTER	ABRAHAM JACOBSON
ARIEL GOLDBURG	EMANUEL SCHENK
EDGAR SISKIN	LEON KRONISH
ABRAM GRANISON	

Your Committee on Resolutions offers the following substitute resolution:

The CCAR deplores the use of gambling devices to raise funds for Jewish religious and communal institutions, as being contrary to our faith and tradition. The CCAR calls upon its members to discourage such practices.

The recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

II

Be it Resolved that the Conference go on record in favor of holding one of its next meetings in Jerusalem, and that the Executive Board be instructed at once to consider making arrangements for this meeting in the Holy Land, ascertaining its feasibility, and contacting congregations served by our members to secure their support.

F. M. ISSERMAN	MILTON GREENWALD
H. E. SNYDER	E. E. KLEIN
S. M. LEFKOWITZ	ABRAM GOODMAN
BENJAMIN FRIEDMAN	

Your committee recommends the following substitute resolutions:

We recommend to the Executive Board that it explore the feasibility of holding a future conference in Jerusalem.

Since there was a difference of opinion within the committee as to the action on this resolution and resolution III, it was moved and adopted that both resolutions be referred to the Executive Board to consider the feasibility of holding a conference or institute in Israel.

III

We recommend that the Conference through its Executive Board explore the feasibility of conducting an "Institute on American Judaism and Israel" in Israel.

BERNARD BRAUNSTEIN	LEON FEUER
MORTON FIERMAN	B. W. KORN

Your Committee recommends the adoption of this resolution.

Upon motion the resolution was referred to the Executive Board.

IV

In view of continuing efforts to secure international adoption of a reformed calendar continuing the so called "blank day."

The CCAR reaffirms its opposition to any calendar system which would prevent the observance of the historical Sabbath and instructs its officers to present our views on this matter to the proper agencies.

BERNARD J. BAMBERGER
NATHAN A. PERILMAN
MAX REICHLER

The committee recommends the adoption of this resolution.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

V

Resolved that Iyar 5 be officially recognized by the CCAR as the day on which Israel was restored to independence, and that we observe this day in proper manner in our synagogues.

Be it further Resolved, that the proper committee be designated to prepare a suitable ritual for this occasion.

W. GUNTHER PLAUT	DAVID POLISH
R. GITTELSON	JULIUS GORDON
LEON I. FEUER	THEODORE ROSS
MORTON BERMAN	B. R. BRICKNER

Your committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the Executive Board.

The recommendation of the Committee was adopted.

VI

WHEREAS the Committee on Liturgy has undertaken to prepare an anthology for home and private worship, for which there is great and urgent need, to supplement the Union Prayerbook; and

WHEREAS many communications from our rabbis have been received by the Joint Committee on Ceremonies and the Joint Commission on Synagog Activities expressing the opinion that the Union Haggadah should be revised to improve it and bring it into harmony with contemporary times; and

WHEREAS at the last meeting of the Commission of Synagog Activities the above stated facts were discussed and a subcommittee appointed to meet with a similar subcommittee of the Commission on Ceremonies to discuss the action that should be taken to bring these facts directly to the notice of the CCAR at its present convention; and

WHEREAS the two sub-committees meeting together decided after full consideration that a formal resolution be presented requesting appropriate action by the CCAR; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that this Conference highly commends the Committee on Liturgy and expresses full confidence in its preparation of the much needed prayerbook for home worship; and be it further

RESOLVED that this Conference, in the face of the great urgency as expressed by many of our members, instruct the Executive Board to take steps to expedite further the completion of the home prayerbook; and be it further

RESOLVED that this Conference instruct the Executive Board to take whatever steps may be necessary for the revision of the Union Haggadah at the earliest possible moment.

SIGNED:

ELY E. PILCHICK
GEORGE ZEPIN
DAVID H. WICE
DANIEL L. DAVIS

EMIL W. LEIPZIGER
JULIUS MARK
BERNARD J. BAMBERGER
PHINEAS SMOLLER

Your committee recommends that the CCAR instruct the Executive Board to expedite the completion by the Liturgy Committee of the Home Prayerbook, and the revision of the Union Haggadah to bring it into harmony with present conditions.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

VII

RESOLVED that a Constitution Revision Committee be appointed by the President of the CCAR and that its report be submitted for action at the next annual convention after 30 days notice, when the proposed changes shall have been submitted to the membership.

SIGNED:

PHINEAS SMOLLER
JACOB R. MARCUS

ISAAC E. MARCUSON
SIDNEY L. REGNER

Your committee heartily approves this resolution.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

VIII

We urge the program committee of forthcoming conferences to include at least one session on practical questions of rabbinical concern, such as proposals for meeting the increasing secularization of Jewish life, directions of ceremonial observance, goals for Reform Jewish child and adult education, a Reform Jewish code for rabbis, etc. Questions such as these and many others which are of immediate concern to our members should find proper place on the Conference program, and to this end it is hereby recommended that a rabbinical clinic, practicum, or other such working sessions become a regular feature of future Conferences. From such gatherings may well come programs, ideas and inspiration which shall lead to new achievement on the part of Reform Judaism and its rabbinical leadership.

I know I speak for many members who attended the informal session Friday evening when I urge the adoption of this resolution for presentation to the Conference as a whole.

SYLVAN D. SCHWARTZMAN
MILTON ROSENBAUM
NATHAN KABER

LEO BERGMAN
HERBERT DROOZ
ALBERT GOLDMAN

Your committee recommends to the Program Committee of the forthcoming Conferences that it include at least one session on Practical Questions of Rabbinic Concern, such as the increasing secularization of Jewish life, ceremonial observances, the goals of child and adult education, code for Reform practice. We recommend this be referred to the Executive Board as edited.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

IX

WHEREAS there are a number of standing committees of the CCAR whose purposes are important but fail to have the full value of the participation of their members because these committees do not meet;

WHEREAS the reports presented to the CCAR are fundamentally the sole product of the committee chairman, despite the addition of the signatures of the other committee members;

WHEREAS the CCAR does not have the funds to make possible defraying the expenses which would be involved in the occasional meetings of the committees if held at times other than during the CCAR conference;

BE IT RESOLVED that these CCAR committees be instructed to meet on the day of the evening which marks the opening session of the CCAR; or

That the CCAR Executive Board be directed to indicate a time for this purpose during the early part of the CCAR sessions.

H. E. SNYDER	M. H. STERN
ALBERT SHULMAN	DAVID LEFKOWITZ JR.
CHARLES B. LATZ	H. GORIN PERELMUTER
PHILIP D. BOOKSTABER	

Your committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the Executive Board.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

X

We reaffirm the statement in the Guiding Principles of Reform Judaism calling for the fullest observance of our Festivals and Holy Days. At the same time we deplore the increasing celebration by Jews of non-Jewish religious holidays in their homes and Jewish organizations and communal institutions. The observance by Jews of holidays of other religions and the adoption of symbols connected with such holidays adversely affect the celebration by Jews of the Jewish Holidays themselves, mar the purity of the faith of Israel and undermine the religious character of these holidays for those of other faiths.

We recommend that our Conference go on record as condemning such practices on the part of Jews and Jewish organizations and urge the fullest possible observance of our Jewish holidays and festivals, at the appropriate seasons of the year.

JAMES A. WAX,
ELY E. PILCHIK
SYLVAN SCHWARTZMAN

Your Committee recommends the following substitute resolution;

We reaffirm the statement in the Guiding Principles of Reform Judaism calling for the fullest observance of our Festivals and Holy Days. At the same time we deplore the celebration by Jews of non-Jewish religious holidays in their homes and Jewish organizations and communal institutions.

We recommend that our Conference go on record as condemning such practices on the part of Jews and Jewish organizations and urge the fullest possible observance of our Jewish holidays and festivals, at the appropriate seasons of the year.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

XI

Resolved that the CCAR favors the Sephardic pronunciation of the Hebrew language and recommends that it be used in worship and in the religious schools because it is more euphonious and will likewise aid establishment of community interest of Israel.

SAMUEL THURMAN	ALBERT GOLDSTEIN
D. EICHHORN	MAX KAUFMAN
ALBERT M. SHULMAN	DUDLEY WEINBERG
PAUL LINER	WM. B. SILVERMAN
J. MORGENSTERN	HARRY J. STERN

Your committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the Executive Board for transmittal to the appropriate committee for study.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

XII

RESOLVED that the Committee on Liturgy prepare special prayers to be used on Sabbath and Festivals that will express the unity and solidarity of the Jewish people in the reestablishment of Israel.

MAX KAUFMAN	PAUL LINER
SAM SILVER	S. THURMAN
CHAS. B. LATZ	ABRAM GRANISON
ALBERT M. SHULMAN	HARRY ESSRIG
JEROME MARK	SOLOMON FREEHOF
HARRY STERN	DAVID MAX EICHHORN
WM. B. SILVERMAN	ALBERT S. GOLDSTEIN

Your Committee recommends that this be referred to the Committee on Liturgy for study.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

XIII

RESOLVED that representations be made to the American Fund Committee for Palestinian Institutions for acceptance of Liberal Jewish agencies amongst its beneficiaries and that members of the Conference be informed of results so that appropriate action may be taken on local level.

ALBERT MINDA
JEROME MARK

Your committee recommends the following substitute resolution:

Resolved that the Executive Board through its Committee on Projects in Palestine make representations to the American Fund for Palestinian Institutions, urging the inclusion of Liberal Jewish agencies in Israel among its beneficiaries.

Be it further resolved that the Executive Board inform the members of the Conference the results of such representations so that they may appropriately counsel their local fund raising agencies.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

XIV

The CCAR heartily commends the American Association of University Women for its action in welcoming to membership all who are qualified, regardless of race, color or creed.

We hail this decision as an inspiring example of the extension of equality in the best democratic tradition of equality to all sections of the American population.

BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the president of the association with our heartiest congratulations.

B. BRAUNSTEIN	M. BERMAN
M. GREENWALD	A. MINDA

Your Committee concurs in this resolution.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

XV

This resolution was referred from the Commission on Justice and Peace.

Despite the great progress made in medicine in our country, masses of Americans are not receiving adequate medical care. Some plan is necessary to provide them with such services which are a right of citizenship and not an act of charity. Every individual should have access to medical care and the most advanced medical research regardless of his economic circumstances.

To achieve the goal involved in such a thoroughgoing program, the federal government must assume a responsible role in the field of public health through a system of compulsory national insurance. It is our considered judgment that among the various proposals before Congress, President Truman's recommendations come closest to satisfying the needs of our country today, and are in keeping with the social ideals we cherish. We strongly urge their enactment into law.

Your committee recommends the adoption of this resolution.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Respectfully submitted:

JULIUS MARK, *Chairman*

BERNARD J. BAMBERGER	ROBERT KAHN
MORTON BERMAN	BERTRAM KORN
BARUCH BRAUNSTEIN	LEON KRONISH
BARNETT BRICKNER	JEROME MARK
FRED DOPPELT	A. G. MINDA
LEON I. FEUER	WALTER PEISER
MORTON FIERMAN	MARIUS RANSON
A. M. GRANISON	J. M. ROTHSCHILD
ALAN GREEN	SLYVAN SCHWARTZMAN
MILTON GREENWALD	HENRY SLOMINSKY
FERDINAND ISSERMAN	JOSHUA TRACHTENBERG