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Jewish Community Council, Cleveland, Ohio, 1941-1942.

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The Jewish Community Council Cleveland

Chester-Twelfth Bldg. • CHerry 8176

Rabbi A H Silver
The Temple
E 105th & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I'm sorry that I haven't had an opportunity to give you the information you wanted for a reply to Rev. McClintock's letter.

I have checked the available data I know about. The most exhaustive argument against the released time plan was drafted by Dr Horace Kallen. I am informed that Dr Eisenberg already has sent Rev. McClintock a copy, in reply to the letter which he received. Rabbi Brickner and Mr Benesch also have replied.

I am enclosing a copy of the memorandum which Philmore Haber presented to the East Cleveland Board of Education last night. You might want to send it to Rev. McClintock.

I thought you might want to have some of my reactions to the statements he makes:

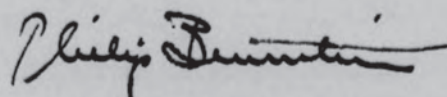
- (1) The Jews are not "obstructionist" in the matter. They are opposed to the plan as a matter of deep principle. Nor is the opposition entirely Jewish. Very prominent Protestant leaders have expressed the judgment that the released time plan is not the answer to the problems of religious education. We mentioned two of them in Mr Haber's statement. There are others. At the recent meeting of the East Cleveland Board of Education, the opposition came not from the Jews but from prominent Protestant lay church leaders. In New York the United Parents Association, the Teachers Guild, the Public Education Association, and other non-sectarian groups are opposed to it. The New York Times on Monday, May 19, reported that the New York Kindergarten-6B Teachers Association was asking for the repeal of the released time law.
- (2) The opposition of religious educators is based in part upon their doubts that the plan would strengthen the religious foundation of the nation. They believe, on the contrary, that one hour per week is not enough for a meaningful religious education, and that it might be a boomerang by discouraging participation in more intensive programs. They feel also that the transfer of this function to the public schools would weaken the influence of the home and the church, and that in the long run this would not be in the best interests of religion.

Rabbi A H Silver

- (3) For these reasons, and others, they do believe that the plan might encourage religious illiteracy, rather than overcome it.
- (4) All Jewish youth are not receiving a religious education. We have the same problems as Christians. But we believe that we must continue to try to reach those not now receiving a religious education through the home and the synagogue, and not by giving the responsibility to the public schools.
- (5) The constitutional question has not been settled. Court decisions and attorney generals' opinions in other states have taken both sides. It has never been tested in the United States Supreme Court. It has never been tested by the courts of Ohio. We are convinced that it violates the spirit and intent of the doctrine of separation of Church and State.
- (6) We have every desire to cooperate cordially with the Protestant and Catholic groups in the effort to arrive at some mutually acceptable program that will intensify the influence of religion in the lives of our children. When we heard through the newspapers that the released time plan had been agreed upon by the Catholic and Protestant groups in East Cleveland, we took the initiative in arranging a meeting to exchange views. We proposed that other meetings follow in which the three groups would continue to try to arrive at a joint program. Unfortunately we heard nothing more until we received a copy of the petition for released time which already had been sent to the East Cleveland Board of Education. If there is to be any charge of lack of cooperation, I think that clearly the shoe is on the other foot.

If there is any other information which you want, I shall be happy to supply it if I can.

Cordially yours,



Secretary

May 21, 1941

JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Summary of Meeting Wednesday, June 25, 1941, at 8:30 p.m., at Euclid Ave Temple

1. Minutes Copies having been mailed to all members, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

2. Finance Mr Abraham Stern, treasurer, reported that during the first five months of 1941, the sum of \$435.00 had been received from 107 organizations. With the balance carried over from 1940, the total income had been \$741.00. Expenses had totalled \$245.44, leaving a balance on June 1 of \$506.66.

Thirty-four organizations owed dues for 1941, and five of them owed back dues. The Executive Committee had informed the groups which owed dues for previous years that although their participation was needed and desired by the Council, in fairness to the other organizations the Committee would be compelled to suspend their membership unless their back dues were received before its next meeting. The report was accepted by the Council.

3. Committee Appointments The Chairman, Mr Philmore Haber, announced the appointment of the following committees, stating that an effort had been made to add new members and that one-third of those appointed were serving for the first time. Others would be given an opportunity to serve whenever possible.

Schools Committee: Rabbi B R Brickner, Chairman; Dr Azriel Eisenberg, Mrs Benjamin Levine, Abraham Kollin, Rabbi Louis Engelberg, and Mrs Joseph Stashower; Arbitration Committee: Herbert Rosenthal, Chairman; D R Hertz, Vice-Chairman; Rabbi Harold Goldfarb, Judge Samuel Silbert, Rabbi S M Zambrowsky, Dr I Milcoff, Harold Glickman; Kashruth Committee: Rabbi Israel Porath, Chairman; Abraham Stern, Julius Schweid, Rabbi David Genuth, Rabbi Hugo Klein; Political Issues Committee: Rabbi A H Silver, Chairman, Saul Danaceau, Dan Wasserman, Max Simon, and Mrs Milton Halle; Committee on General Jewish Council: Albert Woldman, Chairman; Edward M Baker, George W Furth, and Julius Weisberg.

4. National Budgeting The Chairman informed the Council that at the last meeting of the Executive Committee, a motion had been made to urge the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds to abandon its national budget advisory proposal, because of the closeness of the vote in the referendum. The Committee had agreed that before any action were taken on the motion more information should be secured on the present status of the matter, and that the subject should be placed on the agenda of the Community Council meeting.

The official tally had been 141 votes in favor of the proposal (cast by 54 cities), and 127 votes against the proposal (cast by 53 cities). A number of agencies which had the right to vote had not done so.

The Board of the national Council had therefore agreed not to institute budgetary recommendations, as had been contemplated by the proposal. Instead, it was seeking to extend its present services in accordance with the Minority Report and the minimum wishes of those who favored the budget proposal, on some basis of mutual agreement if possible.

The Secretary had learned from Mr Simon Shetzer, chairman of the national committee which had opposed the budget proposal, that this committee was not asking communities for further expressions in the matter at the present time. He had learned also from Mr Harry Lurie, executive director of the national Council, that his organization likewise was not asking for further expressions. Mr Lurie had given public assurance that even had the majority been larger, the nature of the opposition was such that the Council would not have gone ahead with the budget plan. The Chairman reported that negotiations were now under way to work out a program mutually acceptable to the advocates of the plan, and it was hoped that these efforts would result in some harmonious agreement.

Under the circumstances, it appeared that any further action by the Community Council would be neither wise nor necessary at the present time. It was therefore moved, duly seconded, and carried that the matter be referred back to the Executive Committee, with power to act.

5. Kashruth The Council at a previous meeting had referred to the Executive Committee the question of dietary observance by community-wide Jewish organizations in their public functions. The Chairman reported that in considering the matter the Committee had recognized that it was not the function of the Council to decide or legislate religious questions. The Committee felt, however, that the matter did involve community harmony and a consideration for the religious convictions of various elements.

The Executive Committee had unanimously voted, therefore, to recommend to community-wide organizations which seek the interest and participation of all elements of the community that they have non-meat menus at their public luncheons and dinners. The Committee felt that this would not invade private practices, and was a reasonable courtesy to extend to persons who otherwise would find it difficult or impossible to attend these functions. Such a policy would add the strength of their participation, and would not detract from the participation of fairminded and sincerely interested persons whose views differed on dietary practices. A letter embodying this recommendation would be sent to all Jewish organizations which came within the scope of its purpose.

6. Arbitration Mr Herbert Rosenthal chairman of the Arbitration Committee, reported on the following cases: (1) a dispute between two factions of a small synagogue and the landlord, had been arbitrated by Judge Samuel Silbert, David Ralph Hertz, and Meyer Wolpaw, and the decision had been complied with; (2) a suit by a Congregation against an adjoining property owner had been handled by Mr Rosenthal as conciliator, and an agreement had been reached; (3) a dispute between the Orthodox Rabbis and a butcher over Kashruth had been arbitrated by Henry Rocker, Morris Berick, and Ezra Shapiro, and the decision had been complied with; (4) a dispute over the collection of a loan made by a recent Hungarian immigrant had been settled by the Secretary as conciliator; (5) a suit against a Congregation for re-sale of a cemetery plot had been handled by Mr Haber, and an agreement had been reached.

The Committee and arbitrators were commended for the time and effort given, and the service rendered the community.

7. League for Human Rights Mr Irving Hexter, Chairman of the League for Human Rights informed the Council of major recent local and national developments with regard to anti-Semitic and un-American movements and their relationship to the current war situation. He asked the organizations to report to the League office any such matters which required attention.

8. General Jewish Council Mr Albert Woldman, chairman of the special Committee concerned with the General Jewish Council, reviewed recent developments and presented the recommendations of his Committee. He stated that at the beginning of the current year the situation of the General Council seemed hopeless, and that in March two of the constituent agencies, the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League and the American Jewish Committee, had launched a joint fund-raising campaign independently of the other two members. The American Jewish Congress had strongly objected to this action, and after failing to secure passage of a motion to dissolve the General Council, had withdrawn from it early in April.

Mr Woldman's Committee had written to the national organizations and had received replies from all but the Congress. Another letter was being sent to it. Mr Woldman read the letters from Henry Monsky, president of B'nai B'rith; Adolph Held, chairman of the Jewish Labor Committee; Sidney Wallach, of the American Jewish Committee; and Isaiah Minkoff, recently appointed executive director of the General Jewish Council.

The reports were uniformly optimistic, stating that the General Jewish Council had been reorganized by the remaining three agencies, which had invited the Synagogue Council of America also to affiliate; the Executive Committee and Public Relations Committee had been reorganized; a capable executive director had been employed; the Plan and Scope Committee had brought in a program for more effective action; a Committee of lay-men and professionals from the various agencies had been formed to coordinate their activity; plans were being made for cooperation with other organizations; the doors were open for the return of the American Jewish Congress; and other steps were under way in a general spirit of cooperation.

Letters had come also from about 20 of the 45 cities to which Mr Woldman's Committee had written. None of them had taken any action in the matter since the withdrawal of the Congress, although several had expressed concern over the lack of national unity and asked to be informed of what the Cleveland Council did.

On the basis of this information, the committee made the following recommendations to the Community Council:

"1. That we write to the General Jewish Council to express our gratification with the activity now under way to make the General Council the active and effective organization which American Jewry needs and wants.

"2. That we express our gratification with the movement to make the General Jewish Council more inclusive and more representative.

"3. That we express the hope that the American Jewish Congress will resume its membership in the General Jewish Council.

"4. That we urge that machinery should be set up promptly to provide for the regular exchange of information and advice between the General Jewish Council and communities throughout the country. We feel that the lack of this contact has been one of the major weaknesses of the General Council in the past, and that it is necessary for more intelligent and more effective action nationally and locally.

"5. That we send copies of our communications to other communities, in view of their request for this information."

The Committee had also considered the suggestion made at a previous meeting of the Council, namely that it call a national conference of representative Community Councils to consider the question of national Jewish leadership and unity. It had agreed that the time was not ripe for such action and that an opportunity should be given to the revived General Jewish Council to develop. If after a reasonable time the General Council did not function properly, the proposal would then be reconsidered.

The report was discussed at length. It was criticized by some as having failed to touch what was regarded as the central issue, namely joint fund raising, and that this would have to be the foundation for any real co-ordination. It was said that the Committee had not explained adequately why the Congress had withdrawn, and these reasons were given as (1) failure of the General Council to achieve coordination of activities; (2) failure to formulate plans for cooperative action; (3) failure to coordinate defense activities in local communities; (4) by failing to make policies, it had added to the confusion in communities; (5) it had actually stimulated competition among the agencies.

It was said further that all major national organizations should be called upon to join in some democratic action. It was feared that the present status of the General Council was more in the realm of promise than activity, and that any premature praise might lead other communities to do likewise. It was believed that more information and thought were required, and it was therefore moved and duly seconded that the whole question be referred to the Executive Committee for further study.

Others, however, stated that the present start made by the three organizations should not be lost, but should serve as a nucleus for

further development -- that "half a loaf was better than none"; that the report already included some of the thoughts of those who were critical of it; that in general the report went as far as the Community Council could go at the present time; that the essence of the problem was not joint fund raising, but rather coordination of defense activities, and that this shouldn't be sacrificed because of differences in ideologies; that even at the present time the Council included many of Congress members through their affiliation with the B'nai B'rith and Jewish Labor Committee; that the addition of the Synagogue Council made the General Council substantially representative of American Jewry. It was said also that the representatives present were ready and able to act on the report, and were responsible for doing so -- that this was the function of the Council, and that the matter should not be referred back to the Executive Committee.

A substitute motion was made and duly seconded, that the Council approve the recommendations calling for the return of the Congress to the General Jewish Council, and for the General Council to become more inclusive and representative; and that the recommendation expressing gratification with the present activity to make the General Council more effective should be referred to the Executive Committee. This motion was defeated.

It was then moved, duly seconded, and carried that the Council approve the recommendations of its Committee.

9. Festival of Freedom A I Hausman reported that a Committee composed of James Miller, Chairman, Samuel Horwitz, Leo Ascherman, Mrs Jack Bloch, and himself had been cooperating with the Festival of Freedom in behalf of the Community Council. About \$650 had been raised by the Committee to date from Jewish organizations and a limited number of individuals to help finance the event. He asked those who had not yet sent in contributions to do so promptly. He reported that an outstanding program was being arranged, dedicated to the freedom of speech, the press, assembly, and religion, and to the unity of the entire community. A capacity attendance of 75,000 was expected for the event, which would be held in the Stadium on the evening of July Fourth with admission free.

10. Schools Dr Azriel Eisenberg, reporting in the absence from the city of Rabbi B R Brickner, reviewed the situation since the last meeting with regard to the proposal for denominational classes in the East Cleveland Public Schools which had been made by the Protestant and Catholic clergymen there. He reported that at the May 5 meeting of the Board when the matter was presented, opposition to the plan had been expressed by several Protestant laymen; that the Schools Committee had presented the reasons for the Jewish community's opposition at a meeting of the Board on May 20, with Mr Habor, Rabbi Brickner, Joseph Stashower, and Mr Hertz speaking in behalf of the Community Council.

The Board had informed the Schools Committee at that time that it had informally rejected the proposal of the clergymen and had offered two alternatives; (1) a non-denominational religious class which all students could attend; (2) permission for children to leave school and attend classes in their respective churches. On June 2 the clergymen had officially informed the Board of their rejection of these two proposals and that they would continue to seek adoption of their own plan, but would postpone action until there was a "better understanding" of it. The president of the Board was quoted in the newspapers as stating that the question would rest until the clergymen took the initiative in raising it again.

While the matter apparently was temporarily suspended, the Schools Committee would continue to give it close attention, with the advice and assistance of the officers and several other prominent members of the community. It was emphasized that the Committee had consistently and cordially pointed out its desire to cooperate with the Catholic and Protestant groups in some plan that would not violate American principles, and plans were now being considered for a city-wide interfaith committee to study the whole question of weekday religious education. It had tried to make clear too that the division was not entirely between Jews and Christians, but that there were differences among Protestants on the question. The Committee was commended for the work it had done.

11. Membership Upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, and upon motion made, duly seconded, and carried, the Council approved the membership applications of the Heights Jewish Center, and the Young Men's and Young Women's Organization of the Heights Jewish Center.
12. United Service Organizations The Chairman explained the purposes of the United Service Organizations campaign to provide recreational activities for the men in the army and navy, and urged full support for the campaign.
13. Reports The Chairman urged the representatives to report promptly and regularly to their organizations on the meetings and communications of the Community Council. He emphasized that such reports were the only means by which the groups could know what the Council was doing and could indicate to their representatives what they wanted the Council to do.
14. No other business coming before the meeting, it was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) Philip Bernstein

Secretary



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The Jewish Community Council

Cleveland

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Cleveland Zionist Society

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The question of dietary practice by community-wide organizations in their public functions has been brought to the Jewish Community Council for consideration, and the Council authorized the Executive Committee to take whatever action it thought appropriate.

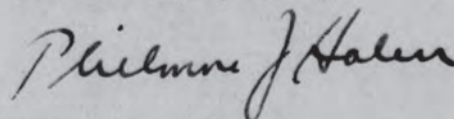
In giving thorough consideration to this question, the Committee has done so with the recognition that it is not the function of the Community Council to legislate or determine religious practice. Rather, the Committee has approached it from the standpoint of the effectiveness of the organizations involved, and the unity and harmony of the community.

After full discussion, the Committee has voted to recommend to Jewish organizations and agencies which seek the interest and participation of all elements of the community that they arrange non-meat menus for their public dinners and luncheons.

The Committee believes that this is a reasonable courtesy to extend to those elements which want to assist community wide organizations but which have felt that they could not attend their public functions because the menus violated their religious convictions and sensibilities. We know that Jewish organizations sponsoring an interfaith meeting on Friday would not have a meat menu, out of courtesy to their Catholic guests, and we are confident that every community-wide organization will want to show the same degree of consideration to Jewish participants.

The Committee believed that such a reasonable policy will help to encourage the participation of various elements of the community and thus will add strength to our community wide agencies, without detracting in any way from the interest of fair-minded persons whose views may differ on dietary practice.

Sincerely yours,



Philmore J Haber
President

June 27, 1941

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Copies to Dr Stephen Wise-Amer. Jew. Congress

Sidney Wallach - Amer. Jew. Committee

Henry Monsky - B'nai B'rith

Adolph Held - Jew. Labor Committee

Mr Isaiah Minkoff, Executive Director

General Jewish Council

295 Madison Ave

New York, N Y

Dear Mr Minkoff:

At the meeting of the Jewish Community Council on June 25, a full report was given on the current status of the General Jewish Council as described in your recent letter and in similar letters from Mr Monsky, Mr Held, and Mr Wallach.

Our Council which on several occasions has expressed its deep concern over the need for a united and active national Jewish leadership in the defense of Jewish rights, has instructed me to express to you our gratification with the activity now under way to make the General Jewish Council the active and effective organization which American Jewry needs and wants.

We are gratified, too, with the movement to make the General Jewish Council more inclusive and more representative, and we earnestly hope that the American Jewish Congress will resume its membership in the General Jewish Council.

We would urge, too, that machinery should be set up promptly to provide for the regular exchange of information and advice between the General Jewish Council and communities throughout the country. We feel that the lack of this contact has been one of the major weaknesses of the General Council in the past, and that it is necessary for more intelligent and more effective action nationally and locally.

We trust that you will convey this message to your Executive Committee, and that you will keep us informed of developments as they occur.

Sincerely yours,

Philmore J Haber
President

June 27, 1941

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Dr Stephen S Wise
American Jewish Congress
330 W 42nd Street
New York City

Dear Dr Wise:

I regret very much that we have not received a reply to our letter of June 16, inquiring concerning the attitude of the American Jewish Congress toward the General Jewish Council at the present time and the plans of the Congress in this matter. We had hoped to present your response to our Community Council at its meeting on Wednesday, June 25.

The Council did have before it replies from the other three defense organizations, and from Mr Minkoff, executive director of the General Council, whom we wrote at the same time. It considered, too, the points made by the Congress in the memorandum which your organization presented to the General Council when the Congress withdrew.

After a full discussion of the situation, our Council instructed me to write to the General Council, and I am enclosing a copy of the letter which was authorized. You will note that our Council, which is composed of all elements of Cleveland Jewry including the leaders of the four major defense organizations, earnestly hope that the American Jewish Congress will again become a member of the General Council, so that the apparent revival of the General Council may develop and provide the united and active leadership which all American Jewry has been seeking.

We are most anxious to know your views and those of the Congress in the matter, and we trust that you will favor us with an early reply.

Sincerely yours,

Philmore J Haber
President

June 27, 1941

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LETTER TO OTHER CITIES WHICH ASKED FOR INFORMATION

We appreciate your prompt response to our inquiry of June 12, and are pleased to inform you of the action taken by our Jewish Community Council, in accordance with your request.

At the same time we wrote to you, we also communicated with the heads of the four organizations which had constituted the General Jewish Council and Mr Isaiah Minkoff, who was recently appointed executive director of the General Council.

The replies which we received from them informed us that the General Council had been reorganized by the B'nai B'rith, American Jewish Committee, and Jewish Labor Committee; that they had invited the American Jewish Congress to resume its membership and had invited the Synagogue Council of America also to affiliate on a par with the others; the Executive Committee and Public Relations Committee have been reorganized; a capable executive director has been employed; the Plan and Scope Committee has brought in a program for more effective action; a Committee of lay-men and professionals has been formed to coordinate the activities of the agencies; that plans are being made for cooperation with other organizations; and that other steps were under way in a general spirit of cooperation.

On the basis of this information and after a full discussion of the matter, our Council instructed me to write in its behalf to the General Council, and I am enclosing a copy of my letter for your information.

Sincerely yours,

Philmore J Haber
President

June 27, 1941

COPY

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
386 Fourth Avenue.
New York, N. Y.

July 8, 1941

Dear Mr Haber:

This is in reply to your letter of July 7th, copies of which I am sending to Messrs Gutstadt and Minkoff.

Everyone was distressed by the Hock articles in the June and July issues of the Atlantic Monthly. There was immediate collaboration between the Anti-Defamation League and ourselves. We are in a position to say to you that James Marshall, the son of Louis Marshall and now president of the Board of Education in New York City, will write the reply that will appear in the August issue of the Atlantic Monthly. Following that, it is expected that in September there will be a symposium on the same subject with possibly Prof. Compton as one of the contributors.

You will be encouraged to learn that many people were indeed scornful and distressed not only at the approach taken by Mr Hock, but by the fact that the Atlantic Monthly would initiate a series of articles by someone who professedly declares his ignorance of the subject. We are hopeful that there will not ensue a debate after this series as planned is concluded.

Cordially yours,

(signed) Sidney Wallach

Mr Philmore J Haber, President
Jewish Community Council
Chester-Twelfth Bldg
Cleveland, Ohio

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Mrs. Siegmund Herzog

Irving Hexter

Dr. S. F. M. Hirsch

Max Kohrman

S. L. Kossoff

Mrs. Benjamin Levine

Dr. I. Milcoff

A. E. Persky

Rabbi Israel Porath

Rabbi Rudolph Rosenthal

Rabbi A. H. Silver

Max Simon

Mrs. Clarence Weidenthal

Julius Weisberg

Maurice Weltman

Albert A. Woldman

The Jewish Community Council

Cleveland

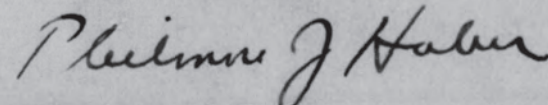
Chester-Twelfth Bldg. • CHerry 8176

Rabbi A H Silver
The Temple
E 105th & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I thought you would be interested in the enclosed copy of a letter from the American Jewish Committee concerning the article on the Jewish problem in the last issue of the Atlantic Monthly. We have had similar word from the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League.

Sincerely yours,



Philmore J Haber
President

July 11, 1941

Officers

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Philmore J. Haber
First Vice-President
Ezra Z. Shapiro
Second Vice-President
Jerome N. Curtis
Third Vice-President
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Treasurer
Abraham Stern
Secretary
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Executive Committee

Milton P. Altschul
Edward M. Baker
Rabbi B. R. Brickner
Mrs. George Burkin
Rabbi Armond E. Cohen
Rabbi Louis Engelberg
George W. Furth
Rabbi David Genuth
Rabbi Harold Goldfarb
Mrs. Joseph Goldhamer
Mrs. Joseph H. Gross
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The Jewish Community Council Cleveland

Chester-Twelfth Bldg. • CHerry 8176

URGENT

To Presidents and Representatives:

We have just been asked by the Mayor of Cleveland to help in the collection of aluminum for national defense. We are of course happy to give all possible aid.

Specifically, our member organizations (and other civic groups) are asked to supply volunteers to make a house to house canvass and to note which houses have old aluminum articles which they can give to the government. They are only to make a note of these houses and turn in their reports.

They are NOT to collect the aluminum themselves. This will be done by trucks later and will be arranged by the city on the basis of these reports.

The city has been divided into districts for the purpose. Each district has a chairman. A list of these chairmen is enclosed. We have noted the districts in which the members of our organizations are most likely to work. The district chairmen will give your workers full instructions.

Will you or someone from your organization please call the chairman of the district in which your members will work and tell him how many workers he can count on from your group? This job must be completed immediately. Will you please call him at once?

Sincerely yours,

Philmore J. Haber

Philmore J Haber
President

July 16, 1941

P.S. If you have any questions about this, please call Mr Bernstein, Cherry 8176.

GENERAL COUNCIL (VAAD LEUMI) OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF PALESTINE

August 7, 1941

Mr Philip Bernstein
Jewish Welfare Federation
Chester-Twelfth Bldg
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr Bernstein:

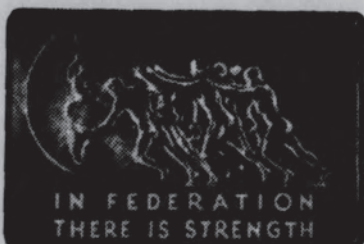
We beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of \$948.25 cabled to us through Barclay's Bank, Jerusalem, as well as your cable of June 27th and your letter of June 23, 1941. Promptly upon receipt of your letter, we distributed your allocation in strict accordance with your instructions (with the exception of your allocation to Kolel Warsaw Poland), as follows:

Hebron Yeshivah, Jerusalem	\$38.25
Chief Rabbi Herzog's Refugee Fund	60.00
Pealei Agudath Israel, Tel Aviv	250.00
Free Loan Society Sheare Chesed	100.00
Ohel Jacob Kindergartens	100.00
Kolel Shearei Hachemot	200.00
Shevet Sofer Yeshivah of Pressburg, Jerusalem	<u>50.00</u>
	\$798.25

Your contribution of \$150 to Kolel Warsaw Poland we are withholding for the following reason: Disputes have arisen within this Kolel which have not yet been settled by the Chief Rabbinate, as to which of two conflicting groups in the Kolel is to constitute the administration of the institution. Moreover, due to the Kolel's failure to pay past debts incurred by it, the Chief Executive Officer of the Palestine Government has ordered the attachment of all moneys received for the Kolel. We would therefore have to transmit your allocation of \$150 to the Execution Office, Jerusalem. As we feel certain that the Cleveland donors wished to have their allocation distributed among the needy Kolel members and not to pay off old debts, we are withholding this money, particularly as in your letter you state that we may modify any allocation, "if conditions have changed with regard to any of the institutions". If, despite the above, you wish us to transmit your allocation to the Kolel, i.e. to the Execution Office, please inform us accordingly. Otherwise, you may (a) earmark the allocation for another agency or agencies, or (b) authorize our Advisory Committee to distribute the money at its discretion among existent and active institutions. We trust that you will send us the necessary instructions without delay.

Sincerely yours,

Ch. Yeffet
Dep't of Social Service



The Jewish Welfare Federation
and
The Jewish Welfare Fund
of Cleveland

Room 320, Chester-Twelfth Building
Telephone: CHerry 8176-7-8-9

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS
of
THE JEWISH WELFARE
FEDERATION

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Rabbi Israel Porath
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Rabbi R. M. Rosenthal
William J. Schoenberger
Jacob Soglovitz
William C. Treuhaft
Alex S. Wintner
Eugene E. Wolf

Rabbi A H Silver
The Temple
E 105th & Ansel Rd
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

You will be interested in the enclosed copy of a letter received from the Vaad Leumi, concerning the grants which were authorized by the Contingent Fund Committee at its meeting in June. The question raised concerning the allocation to the Kolel Warsaw Poland can be considered by the Committee at its Fall meeting, when a number of other applications also are to be acted upon.

Sincerely yours,

Philip Bernstein
Assistant Director

September 2, 1941

Officers

President

Philmore J. Haber

First Vice-President

Ezra Z. Shapiro

Second Vice-President

Jerome N. Curtis

Third Vice-President

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Albert A. Woldman

The Jewish Community Council

Cleveland

Chester-Twelfth Bldg. • CHerry 8176

Dear Rabbi Silver:

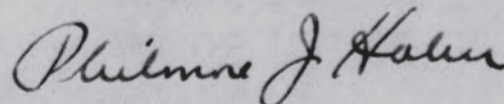
These are critical times -- even more so for the Jewish people and other minorities than for the general population. They involve critical decisions for our Jewish Community Council, which has the central responsibility for determining what shall be done in behalf of the 90,000 Jewish people of Cleveland to meet the problems from without, and to strengthen our community from within.

Our Executive Committee this year, more than ever before, will have a place of crucial importance. Its burden of guiding the Council in these days will not be an easy one.

We shall need your full participation and the full participation of every member -- in attendance at meetings, and in active assistance between meetings. Our Committee is so balanced that the absence of any member is a distinct loss, and hurts. The absence of even a few can easily affect the representative character of the Committee -- a condition which it cannot afford if its judgments are to retain the confidence and respect they must have.

Our first Executive Committee meeting of the season will be held next Wednesday evening, September 17, at 8:15 p.m. sharp, at the Jewish Center (Board Room). Will you please be sure to attend?



Sincerely yours,



Philmore J Haber
President

September 9, 1961

Attached are the minutes of our last Council meeting. Will you please read them carefully before the meeting on Wednesday evening, September 17, at 8:15 p.m., at the Jewish Center.



Philmore J Haber

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Jewish Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting Wednesday, September 17, 1941, at 8:30 p.m., at the Jewish Center

1. Attendance There were present: Philmore J Haber, Chairman; Philip Bernstein, Mrs George Burkin, Rabbi Armond E Cohen, Jerome N Curtis, George W Furth, Mrs Jos Goldhamer, Myron Guren, A I Hausman, Dr S F M Hirsch, Max Kohrman, S L Kossoff, Mrs A F Mellman, Dr I Milcoff, Rabbi Israel Porath, Julius Weisberg, Maurice Weltman, Albert Woldman; Henry Kutash, and Herbert Rosenthal.
2. Minutes Copies having been mailed to all members, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.
3. Reported The Chairman reported briefly upon the following action:
 - Kashruth Letters -- In accordance with the action taken at the last meeting, letters had been sent to all community-wide Jewish organizations, asking them to have non-meat menus at their public luncheons and dinners.
 - Festival of Freedom -- The special Committee headed by James Miller had raised its quota of more than \$800 to help meet the expenses of the event. The Festival had been a great success, attracting more than 65,000 people. The work of the Council's Committee had received repeated praise from the leaders of the Festival, and the Committee was commended for its effort and achievement.
 - Aluminum Collection -- The invitation from the Mayor of Cleveland to assist in the collection of aluminum for national defense had been gladly accepted. All of the member organizations had been contacted immediately to enlist volunteers for the house to house canvass, and a number of such workers had been provided.
 - Citizenship -- The Council was again cooperating with the joint Committee of B'nai B'rith and the Council of Jewish Women in providing citizenship training for Jewish aliens. Several hundred persons had been assisted in the past few years through class instruction and personal advice. A special effort was being made to reach those who had dropped out of classes, and refugees who were now eligible for citizenship.
 - Allen Bill -- Upon the request of Mr Woldman and the American Jewish Congress, the Council had cooperated with other agencies in having people write to Congressmen in opposition to the Allen Bill, HR 4873. The Bill would bar from the United States persons interned for any reason by a government at war until a year after their unconditional release, and would work great hardship upon innocent refugees and Nazi prisoners. The Bill was opposed by liberal organizations throughout the country.
 - Atlantic Monthly -- When the first article on anti-Semitism appeared in the Atlantic Monthly, the Council contacted the national civic-protective agencies to learn what they were doing and to urge effective action. They replied that they were working together on it and informed the Council of their activity. The articles had been answered in the last two issues by James Marshall, Professor Louis Finkelstein, Congressman Geller, and Mrs Frances Straus. The matter was discussed by the Executive Committee.
 - Jewish People's Committee -- On previous occasions the Community Council had found it necessary to inform the Jewish community about the sponsorship and purposes of the Jewish People's Committee, and to take other steps which would help to prevent misrepresentation to the general public. It had been learned that since the German invasion of Russia this organization had been arranging "Jewish" mass meetings in other cities. Precautionary steps had therefore been taken by the Chairman recently to avoid misrepresentation should the group take similar action in Cleveland.

Community Calendar -- Organizations had been asked again this year to submit the dates of their special events, so that conflicts might be avoided. The material for women's groups was being compiled by the Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations, and the joint calendar would again be published weekly in the Jewish newspapers.

Informative Material -- The officers had tried to be alert to informative material that came to their attention, and to send it to Community Council members. Several weeks ago a pamphlet on the economic contributions of refugees to America had been mailed to all presidents and representatives of member groups, and the Executive Committee had been placed on the mailing list for the national weekly review of the Yiddish Press. A basis for intelligent action by the Council was an informed Jewish community, and it was planned to send such items to the members from time to time.

National Budgeting -- There had been no concrete developments during the summer on the proposed national budget advisory service. Mr Jacob Blaustein, chairman of the Committee which favored the plan, and Rabbi Silver as a leader of the opposition, had been asked to try to work out a mutually acceptable solution. There had been some correspondence between them, but the matter had been in obedience for the past few weeks. It was expected that a report would be made to the Board of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds when it met in Cleveland on September 27 and 28.

4. Schools In accordance with previous practice, the Schools Committee headed by Rabbi Brickner had sent calendars of the Jewish holidays to the superintendents and deans of the local schools and colleges, with the request that examinations and other important work be avoided so that Jewish students would not be penalized by their absence. As in the past, their replies had been very cordial. The Committee also had written to the Rabbis and Jewish educators to ask their help in securing the cooperation of Jewish parents and children.

There had been no further local developments during the summer on the Released Time question. In Chicago the Board of Education had deferred action. In Missouri, the Supreme Court had declared illegal a parochial School which had been incorporated as a public school. The Committee had continued to gather information on the question, and some of the members were co-operating in the formation of an inter-faith Committee in Northeastern Ohio to study the entire problem of religious education.

Rabbi Cohen described the procedure which had been followed in another large city in the matter. Rabbi Porath raised the question of loss of pay by Jewish teachers because of absence on the Jewish holidays. It was agreed that the matter should be referred to the Schools Committee and should be brought back to the Executive Committee before any action were taken by it.

5. Round Table The Chairman, Mrs Mellman, and Dr Hirsch reported on the luncheon of the Conference of Christians and Jews which had been held on the previous day. More than 600 persons had attended, with the great majority of them Christian, and had heard an eloquent plea for neighborliness and good will from Mrs C J Carlin, Catholic leader. The newspapers had given the event tremendous front page publicity, and the general effect had been splendid. A special committee of the Community Council had assisted in it.

There was some discussion, however, of the statement by Mrs Carlin that "many educators and civic leaders, recognizing the need of spiritual training, are advocating the teaching of religion in our public schools..." It was agreed that care should be taken to avoid any false impression that the local Round Table supported that position.

6. Jewish Book Week It had been suggested that the Community Council sponsor or cooperate in Jewish Book Week, which is observed in December each year. The Cleveland Public Library had offered to assist fully in it. In the discussion it was agreed that the project deserved the full

support of the Council, to help develop a more informed Jewish community, but that the Bureau of Jewish Education was the logical sponsor rather than the Council. It was therefore moved, duly seconded, and carried that the Council should aid the Bureau and other agencies in making the event a success, and the Chairman was authorized to appoint a Committee for the purpose. It was suggested that the Director of the Bureau might be asked to address the Council on the subject at its next meeting.

7. Mass Meetings It had been proposed by a representative of the Jewish Bakers Union that the Council endorse a series of proposed mass meetings in the Jewish neighborhoods to "arouse and inform" people on the international situation. The proposal was discussed at some length, and it was the unanimous judgment of the Executive Committee, upon motion made, duly seconded, and carried, that it would not be wise or helpful to have such meetings.

8. Arbitration Herbert Rosenthal, Chairman of the Jewish Arbitration Court, reported on the following cases: (1) a controversy between a family and a congregation over a permit to place a headstone on a grave -- efforts were still being made to have the congregation agree to arbitration; (2) another dispute over a cemetery lot had been settled by payment of a substantial sum by the congregation and a second purchaser to the original purchaser; (3) collection of an overdue loan was being made in a third case; (4) encroachments on the property of a synagogue had been removed in a fourth dispute.

9. General Jewish Council Albert Woldman, Chairman of the Committee on the General Jewish Council, reported that shortly after the last Council meeting two letters had been received from Dr Stephen Wise of the American Jewish Congress, stating that he knew of no activities under way in the General Council but that the Congress was always ready to consider any genuine program to consolidate the national Jewish defense activities. The Synagogue Council, comprising Reform, Orthodox, and Conservative Jews, had accepted membership in the General Council tentatively, with the right to continue its efforts to achieve a "more comprehensive, responsive, and durable form of organization".

Among the activities of the General Council during the summer were the following: (1) weekly meetings of the Coordinating Committee to eliminate duplication and implement the defense programs; (2) cooperation with non-sectarian pro-democracy groups; (3) contact with communities, through local chapters of the national agencies and Community Councils; (4) planning a three or four day meeting in October to bring together persons engaged in Jewish defense work in all parts of the country, to analyze common problems and develop means of more effective action; (5) reorganization of the Public Relations Committee under the co-chairmanship of Emil Schlessinger and Ira Hirshfeld, to deal with federal and state legislation of special concern to Jews.

Mr Woldman stated that while these developments did represent activity, the fundamental objective of unity had not been achieved and could not be achieved until the American Jewish Congress was again a member. He thought that every effort should be made to have the General Council and the Congress resolve their differences. The situation was discussed by the Executive Committee, and Mr Woldman's Committee was asked to report further to the next meeting of the Community Council.

10. Negro-Jewish Relations Henry Kutash, Chairman of the Committee of Negro-Jewish Relations, explained the origins and operation of the Committee to date. Other members were Sidney Weitz, Leonard Labowitch, Stanley Friedman, George Segal, and Mrs Joseph Weinberg for the Community Council; and Sidney Williams, Roosevelt Dickey, Clayborne George, Chas White, and Arthur Taylor for the Negro group.

The Committee had been formed as a result of conversations which Mr Segal had had with Chas Quick, former director of the Cleveland Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people. Mr Quick had pointed to a growing anti-Semitism among Negroes nationally and locally, and had expressed the desire to cooperate in counteracting it. The trend had been caused in part by Nazi propaganda to set group against group and thus divide America, by

the desire of Negroes to imitate Gentile whites, and by specific irritations in dealing with Jewish landlords, domestic employment, and business and employment relationship with Jewish merchants.

While it was recognized that the problem might not be solved entirely, two meetings of the joint Committee had agreed upon the following: Further investigation should be made of complaints against a large Jewish property holder who apparently had created a great amount of ill will, as a basis for possible action; a sub-Committee of professional workers should serve as a fact finding body and should bring back to the larger Committee a proposed long range program; an educational program should be inaugurated to build up better mutual understanding. The Committee was just beginning to function and was proceeding carefully in seeking the means to deal effectively with the problem, recognizing the importance of the matter and the danger of divided minorities in America.

11. Suspension The Committee was informed that four organizations still owed dues for years prior to 1941, despite repeated requests for payment. In accordance with the action taken by the Committee at its last meeting, due notice of which had been given to the groups involved, it was moved, duly seconded, and carried that the membership of the following groups in the Council should be suspended after October 1, 1941, unless their back dues were received before that date, and that thereafter payment of back dues in full would automatically reinstate their membership: Kinsman Auxiliary of the Orthodox Jewish Orphan Home, Queen Esther Ladies Aid Society, Sigma Alpha Mu Graduate Fraternity, and Tau Epsilon Rho Graduate Fraternity.

12. Membership Upon motion made, duly seconded, and carried, the Committee voted to recommend approval of the following membership applications: Ohel Yavneh Congregation, Kinsman-Shaker B'nai B'rith Lodge, Auxiliary of the Montefiore Shelter Home, and the Poltaver Aid Society.

13. Defense There was some discussion of the local situation with regard to un-American and anti-Semitic activity. Upon motion made, duly seconded, and carried it was agreed that a major part of a future Executive Committee meeting should be devoted to a report and discussion with representatives of the League for Human Rights, so that the members might have more information on the situation.

14. Meeting It was agreed that the next meeting of the Community Council should be held as soon as possible after Succoth.

15. No other business coming before the meeting, it was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) Philip Bernstein

Secretary

Officers

President

Philmore J. Haber

First Vice-President

Ezra Z. Shapiro

Second Vice-President

Jerome N. Curtis

Third Vice-President

Mrs. A. F. Mellman

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The Jewish Community Council Cleveland

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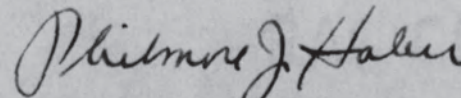
Dear Rabbi Silver:

I'm sorry that you couldn't be at the last meeting of our Executive Committee. We really missed you.

You will note from the enclosed minutes that we covered an unusually large number of items. I'd appreciate it greatly if you could review them carefully and would give me any comments or suggestions you may have.

With all best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



Philmore J. Haber
President

September 26, 1941

Officers

President

Philmore J. Haber

First Vice-President

Ezra Z. Shapiro

Second Vice-President

Jerome N. Curtis

Third Vice-President

Mrs. A. F. Mellman

Treasurer

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Julius Weisberg

Maurice Weltman

Albert A. Woldman

The Jewish Community Council Cleveland

Chester-Twelfth Bldg. - CHerry 8176

TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

You will recall that at the last meeting of our Executive Committee, and at one or two previous meetings, we discussed the necessity of keeping our own Jewish people accurately informed as well as others. Too often, Jews are unable to answer baseless charges made about our people, and try to excuse apologetically a condition which does not actually exist, or even become unwittingly guilty themselves of spreading these false rumors.

A very informative pamphlet, "To Bigotry No Sanction", has come to our attention which I believe should be in the hands of every representative and president of our member organizations. Its cost in quantity would be very small (about 5 cents per copy - \$15 total), and would be well worth while, in my judgment.

I shall appreciate it very much, however, if you would take the time to read the enclosed copy and would let me know without delay if you approve our purchasing and distributing without charge copies of the pamphlet to our presidents and representatives. We might then charge for additional copies requested by the recipients, at cost.

Sincerely yours

Philmore J. Haber

Philmore J Haber
President

October 2, 1941

October 3, 1941

Mr. Philip Bernstein
Jewish Community Council
Chester-Twelfth Building
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Phil:

I wonder whether you can help me out with some data? I shall need, before October 13, all relative data with reference to Jewish Community Councils in the United States -- how many there are, their general function, whether they have had any national conferences, etc. When you have gathered the information, will you kindly get in touch with me? I want to discuss the entire situation in detail with you.

With love to you, Florence and the baby, I
remain

As ever,

AHS:BK

JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Summary of Meeting Tuesday, October 21, 1941, 8:30 p.m., at The Temple

1. Minutes Copies having been mailed to all members, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.
2. Reported The Chairman, Philmore Haber, reported briefly on the following action:

Kashruth Letters -- In accordance with the action of the Executive Committee, and reported to the last Council meeting, letters were sent to all community-wide Jewish organizations, asking them to have non-meat menus at their public luncheons and dinners.

Festival of Freedom -- The Council's special Committee, headed by James Miller, and including Leo Ascherman, Samuel Horwitz, A I Hausman, and Mrs Jack Bloch was commended for having raised its quota of more than \$800 to help finance the Festival of Freedom. The Festival had been a great success, attracting more than 65,000 people, and the Council's Committee had been praised repeatedly by the general sponsoring group for its excellent work.

Aluminum Collection -- The invitation from the Mayor of Cleveland to assist in the collection of aluminum for national defense had been gladly accepted. All of the member organizations had been contacted immediately to enlist volunteers for the house to house canvass, and a number of such workers had been provided.

Citizenship -- The Council was again cooperating with the joint Committee of B'nai B'rith and the Council of Jewish Women in providing citizenship training for Jewish aliens. Several hundred persons had been assisted in the past few years through classes and personal advice. A special effort was being made to reach those who had dropped out of classes, and recent immigrants now eligible for citizenship. Information on the time and place of classes could be secured from the Community Council secretary.

Atlantic Monthly Articles -- The Council had communicated with the national civic-protective agencies when the articles by Albert Jay Nock on anti-Semitism first appeared in the Atlantic Monthly. The articles were answered in the last three issues by James Marshall, Prof, Louis Finkelstein, Congressman Celler, Mrs Frances Straus, and Dr Arthur Compton.

Mass Meetings -- In several other large cities so-called "Jewish" mass meetings on the international situation had been held during the past summer. The groups calling the meetings had acted on their own responsibility, appearing to represent the Jewish communities although in fact they represented only a restricted group. The sponsors were the same ones who had held similar meetings before the Russian-Nazi Pact in 1939, and then became silent until the German invasion in June.

While no announcement had been made of such a meeting in Cleveland, the matter was called to the attention of the delegates as a precaution against any misunderstanding. Persons having any questions about such groups or meetings were asked to call the Community Council office. The Council and Executive Committee had given serious consideration to the question, and had called such meetings when the representatives thought they would serve a useful purpose. The Executive Committee at its last meeting had unanimously agreed that such Jewish meetings at this time would not be helpful.

Community Calendar -- More organizations than ever before had submitted the dates of their special events, to avoid conflicts. The material for the women's groups had been compiled splendidly by the Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations. Groups which had not yet sent in their dates were asked to do so immediately. The Calendar was being published weekly in the Jewish newspapers.

Informative Material -- From time to time informative material was being sent to the representatives and presidents. The last item had been a

pamphlet on the economic contributions of refugees to America. Delegates were asked to spread such information among their groups, since the basis for intelligent action by the community was widespread, accurate information.

Round Table Luncheon -- A special Committee of the Council had cooperated in the first luncheon of the season held by the Conference of Christians and Jews. More than 600 people had attended, and the event had received excellent front-page publicity. The Conference had established a regional office in Cleveland, and the local Round Table was planning the most active year in its history. Members of the Council's Committee who assisted in the luncheon were Henry Frankel, Dr S F M Hirsch, Bernard Goldman, Samuel Klopfer, Robert Kopper, E J Meisel, Nelson Moss, Lawrence Sobel, and P N Warshaw. The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations had contacted the women's groups.

National Budgeting -- There had been no definite action during the summer on the proposed national advisory budget service. Leaders of both the sponsors and opponents of the plan had been asked to work out a mutually acceptable solution, and negotiations were in progress.

Finance -- Only one organization had failed to pay its back dues. In accordance with the action taken by the Executive Committee and reported to the Council, this organization, the Sigma Alpha Mu Graduate Fraternity, had been suspended until it made such payment.

Radio -- The Council had been asked to take responsibility for monthly radio programs over Station WHK, as part of a series which would include Catholic and Protestant programs. The broadcasts would be held on Sunday afternoons, 2:30 to 3:00 p.m., and it was hoped that they would build better community understanding of the various religious groups and their constructive activities. A Committee consisting of Milton Widder, Rabbi Melbourne Harris, Dr William Levenson, Rabbi Milton Rosenbaum, and Alvin Fisher had been appointed to arrange the Jewish programs. The first would take place on November 2.

Arbitration -- Two cases pending at the time of the last Council meeting had been settled. One, involving the re-sale of a cemetery plot and the burial of another person unknown to the original purchaser, had been settled through payment of \$300 to the original purchaser. In the other case encroachments on a synagogue property had been removed.

3. Jewish Book Week The Executive Committee had agreed that the Council should give its full cooperation to Jewish Book Week, which is observed annually throughout the country and would be marked in Cleveland during the week of Chanukah. Dr Azriel Eisenberg reported on the preliminary plans for the observance, to stimulate the reading and purchase of Jewish books and magazines -- in English, Yiddish, and Hebrew. Various channels of publicity would be used, the public library and the congregational libraries had offered their full cooperation, bibliographies would be distributed, and there would be an intensive program for the children. The whole-hearted cooperation of the various organizations was asked.

4. Schools Mrs Benjamin Levine reported that the Schools Committee had again sent letters to the superintendents and deans of local colleges and schools, asking their continued cooperation in the excuse of Jewish students on the Jewish holidays so that they would not be penalized because of absence. Cordial replies had been received. Letters had also been sent to the Rabbis and Jewish educators, asking their help in securing the cooperation of Jewish parents and children, and this had been done. Almost no complaints had been received.

The Committee had continued to watch the situation with regard to the proposal for religious education in the public schools. Apparently there had been no developments in East Cleveland since the Board of Education there had rejected the ministers' proposal. In Chicago, the Board of Education had deferred action on the plan. The Central Conference of American Rabbis had rejected the Released Time Plan, as had the national board of the Council of Jewish Women. The Supreme Court of Missouri had ruled unconstitutional a parochial school which had been incorporated as a public school. Mrs Levine quoted from

a study made by the U S Office of Education, which showed that the problem was very widespread, but that more than 90 communities had abandoned the Released Time program in recent years.

The Council was informed that plans were under way for the formation of a Northeastern Ohio section of the Religious Education Association. It was thought that such an interfaith group might study the entire problem of religious education, and perhaps evolve some programs which were in keeping with the traditions of American democracy and acceptable to all faiths.

There was considerable discussion on the report, in which the opposition of the Community Council to any denominational instruction in connection with the public schools was strongly reiterated. It was emphasized that this was fundamental in any activity which the Committee might undertake.

5. Negro-Jewish Relations Mrs Joseph Weinberg reported on the newly formed Committee on Negro-Jewish Relations. She recalled that a few years ago the Community Council had handled successfully such a problem, and that it had been agreed thereafter to refer all matters involving relations between the two groups to the Council.

During the summer, it had come to the attention of the Council that there had been a marked rise of anti-Semitism among Negroes, nationally as well as locally. In order to secure more information, two meetings had been held with a group of Negro leaders, who had reported that this trend was due in part to Nazi propaganda, and in part to the activities of a few individual Jewish employers, housewives, business men, and landlords. While the latter did not represent the Jewish community, unfortunately they were the only Jews with whom the mass of Negroes came in contact.

It had been agreed at these conferences that a joint Committee should continue to meet, to handle problems as they arose. It was hoped that they could be met quietly but effectively. The Chairman had appointed the following Committee for the purpose: Henry Kutash, Chairman; Sidney N Weitz, Leonard Labowitch, Stanley Friedman, George Segal, and Mrs Weinberg.

A joint Sub-Committee had been appointed to plan a long range educational program. A Sub-committee of the Council's group also had investigated complaints against a large Jewish landlord and had conferred with him. He had promised to cooperate in helping to overcome the situation.

It had been recognized that the Committee should confine its attention to matters of Negro-Jewish relations, and that broad minority problems could be handled more effectively and more properly by general pro-democracy groups who recognized the problems for what they were, namely American problems. The program would be a mutual one, and the Negro leaders would attempt to correct any complaints coming from Jews.

The problem was a very important one, with the Nazis trying to divide minorities and thus divide America. The Committee was just beginning to function and the Council would be informed further of its activity.

The report was discussed and praised.

6. General Jewish Council Albert Woldman, chairman of the special Committee concerned with the General Jewish Council reported that since the last meeting the following had occurred: word had been received from Dr Stephen S Wise in June that he knew of no activity under way in the General Jewish Council, that the American Jewish Congress was developing its own program which would not duplicate those of other agencies, and that the Congress was prepared "to give consideration to any serious proposal for the genuine consolidation of the activities of the defense agencies"; it had been recently reported that several tentative proposals were being considered for resumption of membership by the Congress in the General Council; similar discussions were under way between the General Council and other groups; the Synagogue Council of America, including Orthodox, Reform, and Conservative synagogues and Rabbis, had tentatively accepted membership in the General Council.

The reorganized General Jewish Council, including the American Jewish Committee, B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League, and the Jewish Labor Committee, had evolved the following activities: (1) a Coordinating Committee was meeting weekly to eliminate duplication and implement the agencies' programs; (2) cooperation with non-sectarian pro-democracy organizations; (3) cooperation with government agencies in civilian defense and civilian morale; (4) investigation of civic-protective agencies and journals which sought the financial and moral support of Jews; (5) direct contacts were being established with Jewish communities throughout the country; (6) a seminar was being arranged for persons engaged in civic-protective work in the various communities; (7) the Public Relations Committee had been reorganized to investigate and advise on federal and state legislation of particular concern to Jews; (8) plans were being made to coordinate the work done by various Jewish agencies for presentation of Jewish interests at the peace conference to follow the war.

It was evident that the General Council had been active, and that a beginning had been made toward coordination in several respects. The movement had been in the right direction, and Mr Woldman's Committee believed it should be encouraged. The Committee pointed out, however, that it was only a beginning and that complete coordination could not be achieved so long as the General Council and the American Jewish Congress were separate. The Committee was likewise convinced that neither the Cleveland Jewish community nor American Jewry at large could be satisfied with the national efforts until a unity of forces was achieved.

The extreme gravity of the times and of the decisions which must be made was emphasized, and the Committee urged that there should be every effort to find a common ground upon which the two groups could join forces, and that every reasonable concession should be made by both groups short of sacrificing the most fundamental principles. The Committee recommended further that the Community Council should continue to exert all possible influence to help bring about unity in American Jewry.

In the discussion of the report, it was stated that unity could not be expected directly from the organizations involved, and that it would have to come from the Jewish communities throughout the country. It was therefore moved, duly seconded, and carried that the Committee should again investigate the possibility of calling a conference of Jewish Community Councils throughout the country and to report its findings to the Executive Committee, with the Executive Committee having power to call such a conference if it seemed wise after the committee's investigation.

7. League for Human Rights L W Neumark, of the League for Human Rights, reported fully to the Council on the Turner Type Founders Co's negotiations with the League, to support the League's action. The report was discussed by the Council. (A copy is on file in the Community Council office.)

8. Membership Upon recommendation by the Executive Committee, and upon motion made, duly seconded and carried, the Council approved the membership applications of: B'nai B'rith Kinsman Shaker Lodge, Poltaver Aid Society, Montefiore Shelter Home Auxiliary, and the Ohel Yahvne Congregation.

9. Balfour Day Ezra Shapiro announced that all of the Zionist groups of the city had jointly arranged a Balfour Day meeting for Sunday evening, November 2, at 8:30 p.m., at the Jewish Center. The program would also pay tribute to the late Justice Brandeis and Menahem Ussishkin. Participants would include Rabbis Brickner, Armond E Cohen, Israel Porath, Rudolph Rosenthal, and A H Silver. At 3:00 p.m. on that day there would be a special tree planting ceremony in the Hebrew Cultural Gardens. Delegates were asked to secure the full attendance of their organization members.

10. Community Fund The Chairman asked full support of the current Community Fund Campaign, pointing out that this was almost the

only country where such mutual aid continued, and suggesting that help for the Fund be viewed as an opportunity rather than a burden.

11. Attendance The Council was commended for the excellent attendance.
The representatives were asked to be sure to report the Council's activities to their organizations, and to have discussion by their groups on these matters.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) Philip Bernstein

Secretary



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Ezra Z. Shapiro

Second Vice-President

Jerome N. Curtis

Third Vice-President

Mrs. A. F. Mellman

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Albert A. Woldman

The Jewish Community Council Cleveland

Chester-Twelfth Bldg. - CHerry 8176

October 28, 1941

Rabbi A H Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I thought you would want to have the following memorandum on the Jewish radio program on which you have kindly consented to speak:

Date -- Sunday, November 2

Time -- 2:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Station -- W H K (Terminal Tower Bldg)

Theme -- Balfour Day and a Tribute to Justice Brandeis

Music -- Jewish Singing Society & Eunice Podis

We are arranging the musical portion to be consistent with the theme of the program.

In accordance with your request we checked with the radio station and the Catholic group to find out how long Archbishop Schrembs spoke last Sunday. We are informed that he spoke exactly $4\frac{1}{2}$ minutes. You will recall that this was our original understanding from the station about the length of talks on these programs. Our Committee, however, has set aside 8 minutes for your talk, and I hope that this will give you enough leeway to make the kind of talk you feel the occasion requires.

I know you understand how deeply we appreciate your participation in this first program to launch the series.

With kindest regards,

Cordially,

Phil
Philip Bernstein

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The Jewish Community Council

Cleveland

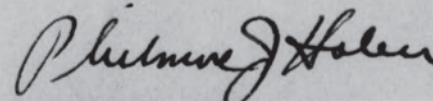
Chester-Twelfth Bldg. • CHerry 8176

Rabbi A H Silver
The Temple
E 105th & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I know that the entire Jewish Community Council shares with me the feeling of deep gratitude to you for your participation in our program yesterday. I listened to the program at home and it was truly magnificent. The singing by the chorus and the playing of Miss Podis came accross beautifully, and your own message was eloquent and held our interest every moment of the time. Altogether it made a splendidly balanced program, and you may be sure that I am grateful to you.

Cordially yours,



Philmore J Haber
President

November 3, 1941

From - "Trend of Events" November 7, 1941

NEW YORK MUNICIPAL CAMPAIGN LEAVES MANY SCARS

All efforts to prevent the misuse of the Jewish vote in the New York municipal elections failed. Against their own will the Jews of New York were dragged into a controversy that had nothing to do with them as a community. The fault partly lies with the Jewish advisors of the candidates and partly with the temperamental vehemence of some Jewish leaders. They meant well when they intervened but instead of extinguishing the fire they inadvertently fanned it.

It will take some time before the scars are healed and the casualties in the Jewish ranks are on their feet again. Many friends will be estranged by this campaign.

The Balfour Day demonstration in Carnegie Hall last Saturday missed some of its outstanding speakers - Governor Lehman and Senator Wagner, to mention just two - because of the attacks allegedly made against them by men who were to speak from the same platform. Many Democratic leaders are sore because of the articles and advertisements in the Jewish press which pictured them as anti-Semites.

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The Jewish Community Council Cleveland

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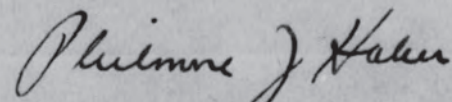
Dear Rabbi Silver:

You may recall that one of the Protestant leaders we quoted in our presentation to the East Cleveland Board of Education as questioning the Released Time plan, was Prof. Ernest J Chave of the University of Chicago.

Prof. Chave is Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Religious Education Association of the United States and Canada, and will be in Cleveland on Tuesday, November 25. While here he has kindly consented to meet with a few of our leaders to discuss with us religious education and public education.

We are therefore arranging a small luncheon for the purpose on that date at the Mid-day Club at 12:15 p.m. I know that this exchange of views will be very helpful, and I hope very much that you can attend.

Sincerely yours,



Philmore J Haber
President

November 14, 1941

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First Vice-President

Ezra Z. Shapiro

Second Vice-President

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The Jewish Community Council Cleveland

Chester-Twelfth Bldg. - CHerry 8176

Rabbi A H Silver

The Temple

E 105th & Ansel Road

Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

As chairman of our Committee on Fictitious Jewish Political Issues, you will be interested in the enclosed summary of the recent New York political campaign. Happily, our recent local campaign apparently was more free from this abuse than at any time in many years. I believe that it reflects in part the work which our Council has done and I hope that we can continue to keep such fictitious issues out of our campaigns.

Sincerely yours,

Philmore J. Haber

Philmore J Haber
President

November 18, 1941

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The Jewish Community Council Cleveland

Chester-Twelfth Bldg. - CHerry 8176

December 16th, 1941.

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Mrs. George Burkin

Rabbi Armond E. Cohen

Rabbi Louis Engelberg

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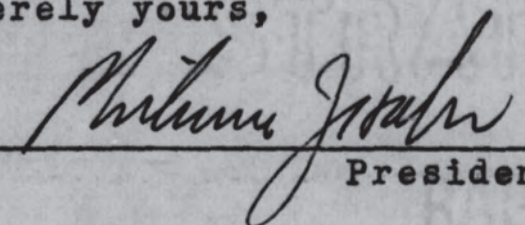
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
Ansel Road and East 105th Street,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:-

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 15th, 1941 advising of a meeting at the Temple to organize a Reception Committee for the Conference of the United Palestine Appeal.

I am planning to attend with Mr. Bernstein and perhaps one other representative of the Council.

Sincerely yours,


President

PJH/MM

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The Jewish Community Council Cleveland

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Rabbi A H Silver
The Temple
E 105th & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We have had other previous complaints about the Hungarian paper, "A Jo Pazstor". We have already checked into it. You will be interested to know that the New York Times on December 7 had quite a long article on the pro-Fascist articles in that newspaper.

Cordially yours,

Phil

Philip Bernstein
Secretary

December 18, 1941

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Jewish Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting Tuesday, December 30, 1941, 8:30 p.m., at the Heights Temple

1. Attendance There were present: Philmore J Haber, Chairman; Milton P Altschul, Philip Bernstein, Jerome N Curtis, Rabbi David Genuth, Mrs Joseph Goldhamer, Myron Guren, A I Hausman, David Ralph Herts, Dr S F M Hirsch, S L Kossoff, Dr I Milcoff, A E Persky, Rabbi Israel Porath, Ezra Z Shapiro, Max Simon, Abraham Stern, Mrs Clarence Weidenthal, Maurice Weltman, and Albert Woldman.

2. Minutes Copies having been mailed to all members, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

3. Reported The Chairman reported the following action:

1942 Representatives -- All member organizations had been asked to select their representatives to the Community Council for 1942, with special emphasis on picking the very best people so that the quality of the Council might be the highest possible. The returns to date indicated unusual care in making the selections.

Letters -- In behalf of the Council, an expression of condolence had been sent to Mr A E Persky on the passing of his wife; and congratulations had been expressed to the Temple on the Heights on the observance of its 75th anniversary.

Informative Material -- During the past few weeks several items had been distributed, including the pamphlet "To Bigotry No Sanction", which had been mailed to presidents and representatives, with the result that they had ordered 200 additional copies for members and friends; and the annual report of the Council for Democracy, information on Albert Jay Nock and W J Cameron, and the Weekly Review of the Yiddish Press, which had been sent to the Executive Committee.

Community Calendar -- The Community Calendar for three months had been mailed to all member groups. More organizations than ever before were calling in to check dates before scheduling events, and this practice was becoming a generally accepted one.

Albert Kahn Luncheon -- The Council had arranged a luncheon for Albert Kahn, editor of The Hour, and had invited the Boards of the Jewish Welfare Federation and League for Human Rights, in addition to the Council's Executive Committee. Mr Kahn was returning from a cross country trip, and described the current activities of the America First Committee, Christian Mobilizers, and other groups. He had predicted also their tactics, should the United States become formally involved in the war. This information was reviewed, and was of great interest and extreme importance.

Round Table -- Several members of the Committee had been present at the Round Table luncheon of the Conference of Christians and Jews which had been addressed by Dr Clinchy, Rabbi Lazon, and Father Donovan. It was one of the greatest civic events in years, thrilling the large audience. The Community Council's special Committee of about 20 men, and the Committee of the Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations had helped promote the event. It was announced also that the Round Table was inaugurating a series of weekly radio broadcasts on Sunday afternoons at 1:40 p.m., over Station WGAR.

Political "Issues" -- Attention was called to the fact that the recent political campaign had been more free from false so-called "Jewish Issues" than in many years. While this was due in part to the nature of the two candidates, it also reflected in part the work done by the Council's Committee headed by Rabbi Silver, and the psychology which had been built up in the community. The disgraceful situation in New York's campaign was cited in contrast.

Radio Programs -- The first three radio programs in the monthly series sponsored by the Council had been held, and all presidents and representatives had been notified in advance by mail. A magnificent standard had been set

by these broadcasts, with excellent addresses and some of the finest musical talent in the city participating. The station officials had stated that they were among the best programs ever broadcast by it. The members were asked to take special note of the programs, and their comments were invited. The Committee was also informed that the President of the Council was helping to arrange a local outlet for the Message of Israel program.

Church Federation -- A special shelf of Jewish books had been placed in the Cleveland Church Federation through the generous gift of Mr. and Mrs M D Shanman. Arrangements had been made by the Bureau of Jewish Education and Community Council, and the Federation had expressed deep and cordial appreciation.

Council Meeting -- The next general meeting of the Community Council was set for January 6, at the Community Temple.

U P A Conference -- The President of the Community Council had been invited to welcome the delegates to the National Conference for Palestine when they convened in Cleveland January 17.

4. Finance Abraham Stern, Treasurer, reported that from January 1, 1941, to December 30, 1941, the Community Council had an income of \$864.60 and total expense of \$535.43, leaving a balance of \$329.17. The report was accepted and ordered filed.

5. National Unity Albert Woldman, Chairman of the Committee on National Jewish Unity, reported that since the last Community Council meeting letters had been sent to the General Jewish Council, its member organizations, and to the American Jewish Congress, urging them to find some basis for the Congress' resuming its membership in the General Council, and for coordination and unity in civic-defense work. The Committee had also gathered preliminary information on Jewish Community Councils throughout the country, in accordance with the Council's action at the last meeting directing that the Committee explore the possibility of calling a national conference of these bodies.

The replies from the national agencies in the General Council had stated that they were eager to have the Congress return, and that the General Council was continuing to coordinate their activities. Rabbi Stephen Wise of the American Jewish Congress, on the other hand, stated that he did not believe the General Council would ever become the agency which American Jewry needs.

The Committee had information that at least four efforts were under way to achieve coordination: (1) that being done by the General Jewish Council; (2) Rabbi James Heller, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, had been conferring with the leaders of the various agencies for this purpose; (3) The American Jewish Congress had recently invited the agencies of the General Council and other large national bodies to an informal conference for this purpose; (4) a Committee of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds would report on the matter to the national assembly of that organization in Chicago on January 31.

In the light of these facts, and inasmuch as several of the national leaders involved in these negotiations would be in Cleveland on January 17 and 18 for the United Palestine Appeal Conference, the Committee had agreed that before taking any other action it should seek to get a first-hand picture of the situation and to discuss it with these persons directly. The Committee was therefore seeking to arrange a small, informal meeting for the purpose.

In the discussion of the report, it was further indicated that the calling of a conference of Community Councils might serve to confuse rather than clarify the situation at this time in view of the other current developments, and that the country's absorption in other matters might bring a minimum response. It was expected that not only would the Committee get a

better knowledge of what was happening as a result of the projected meeting with national leaders, but it would also be an opportunity to bring to them the impact of community opinion. Particular stress might be placed on the fact that the national groups could not continue aimless discussions indefinitely. It was suggested in this regard that leaders of a few other major communities might be invited to the meeting.

6. Jewish Book Week Myron Guren, Chairman of the Council's Committee for Jewish Book Week (other members were Mrs Albert Goodman and Rabbi Milton Kopstein) reported that the Committee had cooperated with the Bureau of Jewish Education and the Jewish Young Adult Bureau, sponsors of the event, in promoting an elaborate program of activities. The event had been observed during the period of Chanukah, and was aimed to stimulate a greater year-around interest in Jewish literature.

Among the special items and events had been the following: a manual of suggested activities for the observance; special book marks; picture puzzles and quiz series for children in the religious schools; display posters; exhibits and book lists in the public libraries; exhibits in the congregational libraries; bibliographies; announcements by the rabbis; publicity in temple and organization bulletins; promotion of purchase of books, with sales being made by congregation libraries; subscriptions to Jewish magazines; the Community Council radio program devoted to the theme; neighborhood meetings in branch libraries, with addresses and recitations dealing with Jewish literature; and others.

The Community Council had cooperated by distributing some of these materials and by contacting its member organizations on several occasions to stress the importance of the event and to indicate suggested activities and methods of cooperation. It was believed that the observance had been highly successful.

7. Schools Ezra Shapiro reported on the luncheon which had been held by the Schools Committee on November 25 with Dr Ernest Chave of the University of Chicago, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Religious Education Association of America. Dr Chave had expressed opposition to sectarian religious instruction in connection with the public schools, as embraced by various forms of the Released Time Plan. Instead he had favored promotion by the public schools of the universal ethical doctrines common to all faiths, without sectarian theological connection. The latter is the function of the churches, he stated, and they should encourage the public schools in the broad task of character education that should permeate all phases of the school curriculum.

Dr Chave had held other meetings in Cleveland with church religious educators and with public school teachers and officials, in which he had likewise expressed disapproval of the Released Time Plan, and his opposition had received newspaper publicity. As a result of his visit, there was being organized a northeastern Ohio chapter of the Religious Education Association, and Dr Azriel Eisenberg had been asked to serve as Secretary of the Committee responsible for its formation.

The Schools Committee was continuing to watch developments in other cities, as well as to keep in touch with the local situation. It was also gathering information on the question which had been referred to it at the last Executive Committee meeting, concerning loss of pay by Jewish teachers absent on the Jewish holidays.

8. Negro-Jewish Relations Since the last Community Council meeting, the Committee on Negro Jewish Relations had held one general meeting with the Negro representatives, and had agreed to operate through a few small sub-committees on newspaper educational publicity, direct mail, speakers, and housing. Unfortunately the activity of these groups had been delayed because the Negroes had not appointed their representatives to them. The Committee had continued its activity with regard to housing, however, and was cooperating with the Mayor's Fair Rent Committee. It was also continuing to gather information locally and nationally, and it was clear from the national studies that there had been a definite Nazi-inspired program to

stir up anti-Semitism, anti-British, and anti-American sentiment among Negroes throughout the country.

The report was discussed at some length, and suggestions were made as to the nature of the problem and how the Committee might get effective cooperation.

9. Defense The President of the Council had written to Mayor Frank J Lausche and Keith Wilson as local heads of civilian defense to offer the full cooperation of the Community Council and its member groups. Acknowledgements had been received, expressing gratitude for the offer and asking that the members of the organizations register individually for such service. Letters had been sent therefore to the groups urging their members to register for civilian defense, become blood donors, save and provide waste materials, and buy defense bonds and stamps.

The women's and young adult groups, and such men's organizations as the Jewish War Veterans particularly had developed elaborate programs for intensive service, and thousands of their members were already assisting in many ways. Individuals and groups also had made large purchases of defense bonds.

Recently the President had conferred personally with the Mayor, explaining the resources of the Council and how it might help. The Mayor had been pleased to receive the information and had said he would be glad to use the facilities of the Council for this task. In all of these activities, it was clear that Jewish persons were serving not as a separate group but as American citizens aiding the official agencies.

There was considerable discussion as to how the Council might render further aid. The possibility of holding a large defense rally to encourage individual service was considered, but it was believed premature at this time. It was suggested that the individual members of the Executive Committee set an example by having all of them volunteer as blood donors immediately, and it was proposed further that a special Committee be appointed to concentrate on securing maximum participation and aid from Jewish groups and individuals.

After further consideration and recognition of the present status of civilian defense plans and organization, it was agreed that Mayor Lausche or Keith Wilson should be invited to address the next meeting of the Community Council, and that concrete plans could better be made after such information had been received from them.

10. Shaker Heights Council The Committee was informed that the President and Secretary had been asked to serve as consultants in the formation of a Shaker Heights Community Council, to mobilize the voluntary strength of that community for civic improvement and unity.

11. Nominating Committee After discussion, it was moved, duly seconded, and carried that the following persons should be recommended to the Community Council for election as a Nominating Committee: I J Kabb, Joseph Stashower, Mrs S O Freedlander, Barney Winograd, Philip Warshaw, Leonard Labowitch, and Samuel Klopfer.

12. Synagogue Vandalism It was reported that a local synagogue recently had been entered by vandals and that sacred items had been broken or damaged. A similar situation had been experienced by a Catholic church two or three months before. After discussion, it was agreed that other synagogues should be asked to have their watchmen take special care in guarding their property.

13. Membership Upon motion made, duly seconded, and carried, it was voted to recommend the Glenville Auxiliary of B'nai B'rith for membership in the Council.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed)

Philip Bernstein
Secretary

Officers

President

Philmore J. Haber

First Vice-President

Ezra Z. Shapiro

Second Vice-President

Jerome N. Curtis

Third Vice-President

Mrs. A. F. Mellman

Treasurer

Abraham Stern

Secretary

Philip Bernstein

Executive Committee

Milton P. Altschul

Edward M. Baker

Rabbi B. R. Brickner

Mrs. George Burkin

Rabbi Armond E. Cohen

Rabbi Louis Engelberg

George W. Furth

Rabbi David Genuth

Rabbi Harold Goldfarb

Mrs. Joseph Goldhamer

Mrs. Joseph H. Gross

Myron Guren

A. I. Hausman

David Ralph Hertz

Mrs. Siegmund Herzog

Irving Hexter

Dr. S. F. M. Hirsch

Max Kohrman

S. L. Kossoff

Mrs. Benjamin Levine

Dr. I. Milcoff

A. E. Persky

Rabbi Israel Porath

Rabbi Rudolph Rosenthal

Rabbi A. H. Silver

Max Simon

Mrs. Clarence Weidenthal

Julius Weisberg

Maurice Weltman

Albert A. Woldman

The Jewish Community Council

Cleveland

Chester-Twelfth Bldg. - CHerry 8176

To the Representatives:

The Jewish Community Council will meet on Tuesday evening, January 6, at 8:15 p.m., at the Community Temple - 9801 Euclid Ave.

A major purpose of the meeting will be to plan further how our groups and members can best help in the present war effort. This is obviously of the utmost importance.

In addition, we shall want to report and consider the work of the Council with regard to national Jewish unity, local relations with other racial and religious groups, schools, informative material, book week, radio, etc. Other matters such as the election of a Nominating Committee for 1942 also will be before us.

Will you please put the date on your calendar now, and be sure to attend?

Sincerely yours,

Philmore J. Haber

Philmore J. Haber
President

December 31, 1941

[1941?]

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FOR DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY

Compiled by the Jewish Community Council and the Federation
of Jewish Women's Organizations

Only special events are listed below. Will you please check carefully to make sure that all of your group's programs for the three months are included; and if any are omitted or have been changed, please call the office of the Jewish Community Council, Cherry 8176.

Additional events are being phoned in daily. Before scheduling a new program for these or later months, will you please call the Council office to make sure that the date you want is still clear?

<u>Month</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Event</u>
December	1	Jewish Day Nursery Zionist Council for Youth United Order of True Sisters Ezrath Yetometh	Food Shower Program Meeting Program Meeting Program Meeting
	2	Euclid Ave Temple Sisterhood Temple Men's Club Jewish Center Men's Club	Style Show Program Meeting International Affairs
	3	Council of Jewish Women Los Angeles Jewish Cons. Aid Auxil.	Program Meeting Program Meeting
	5	Junior Hadassah Business & Professional Hadassah	Oneg Shabbat Shabbos Tea
	6	Pioneer Women, Chapter 2	Donor Rally
	7	Oheb Zedek Congregation Child Care Association	Annual Dinner Donor Dinner
	8	Orthodox Old Home Auxiliary Cleveland Auxiliary B'nai B'rith Pioneer Women, Chapter 2 Heights Lodge B'nai B'rith Cleveland Zionist District	Program Meeting Program Meeting Program Meeting Program Meeting Public Meeting
	9	Community Temple Women	Donor Tea
	10	Ezrath Yetometh Daughters Jewish Consumptive Relief Soc Temple Women's Association	Donor Luncheon Lecture Program Meeting
	14	Hadassah B'nai B'rith League Cleveland Hebrew Schools	Donor Program Program Meeting Chanukah Supper
	15	United Order of True Sisters	Program Meeting
	16	Community Temple Women Euclid Ave Temple Men's Club Glenville Lodge B'nai B'rith Jewish Center Sisterhood Immediate Aid Society	Donor Luncheon Round Table Election Program Meeting Program Meeting
	17	Daughters of Bikur Cholim Business & Professional Hadassah Balfour Auxiliary B'nai B'rith Orthodox Old Home Auxiliary Cleve. Hebrew Schools PTA National Home for Jewish Children Aux.	Linen Shower Program Meeting Program Meeting Chanukah Box Social Chanukah Celebration Program Meeting

<u>Month</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Event</u>
December	19	Euclid Ave Temple	Chanukah Rededication Service
	20	United Order of True Sisters	Carnival
	21	Council of Jewish Juniors Jewish Center Congregation Temple on the Heights Temple Women and Men's Club	Chanukah Party Chanukah Program Jubilee Program Special Program
	22	Heights Lodge B'nai B'rith	Election
	23	Immediate Aid Society	Party
	24	Jewish Center Alumni Ladies Bikur Cholim	Chanukah Dance Linen Shower
	28	Junior Hadassah	Program Meeting
	29	Jewish Day Nursery Histadruth Ivrit	Program Meeting Lecture (tentative)
	30	Euclid Ave Temple	College Tea
	31	Daughters of Bikur Cholim Jewish Consumptive Relief Society	Party Party

January	4	B'nai B'rith League	Installation Luncheon
	5	Zionist Council for Youth United Order of True Sisters	Program Meeting Program Meeting
	7	Council of Jewish Women Los Angeles Jewish Consumptive Aid Aux.	Program Meeting Program Meeting
	8	Ladies Bikur Cholim	Donor Luncheon
	11	Euclid Ave Temple Alumni Jewish Recreation Council Workmen's Circle Chorus & Orchestra	Social Tea Annual Banquet
	12	Orthodox Old Home Auxiliary Cleveland Auxiliary B'nai B'rith Ezra's Yotometh Pioneer Women Chapter 2 Heights Lodge B'nai B'rith	Program Meeting Program Meeting Social Tea Program Meeting Installation
	13	Community Temple Women Jewish Center Sisterhood Heights Temple Sisterhood	Mid-Winter Program Program Meeting Program Meeting
	14	Euclid Ave Temple Sisterhood & Men's Club Cleveland Hebrew Schools PTA Temple Women's Association	Special Program Cultural Meeting Program Meeting
	16	Junior Hadassah	Oneg Shabbat
	18	Council of Jewish Juniors Jewish Center Alumni National Home for Jewish Children Auxil.	Program Meeting Dinner Meeting Theater Party
	19	Jewish Day Nursery United Order of True Sisters	Program Meeting Program Meeting



<u>Month</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Event</u>
January	20	Giddings Mothers Club Temple Men's Club Jewish Center Immediate Aid Society (Tentative)	Party Program Meeting Lecture Anniversary Program
	21	Hadassah Groups Pioneer Women	Joint Program Donor Luncheon
	24	Oheb Zedek Sisterhood	Theater Party
	25	Zionist Council for Youth (tentative)	Palestine Night
	26	Orthodox Old Home Auxiliary Child Care Association Jewish Social Service Bureau	Party Program Meeting Annual Meeting
	28	National Home for Jewish Children Aux.	Program Meeting
	30	Business & Professional Group Hadassah	Shabbos Tea

February	1	Heights Lodge B'nai B'rith Orthodox Old Home	Anniversary Banquet Annual Banquet
	2	Zionist Council for Youth	Program Meeting
	3	Euclid Ave Temple Men's Club Jewish Center Men's Club	Round Table Dinner
	8	B'nai B'rith League Daughters of Bikur Cholim Oheb Zedek Congregation Workmen's Circle Chorus & Orchestra	Program Meeting Theater Party Father-Son Dinner Musical Program
	11	Cleveland Hebrew Schools PTA	Cultural Meeting
	13	Junior Hadassah	Oneg Shabbat
	15	Council of Jewish Juniors Jewish Center Alumni Cleveland Hebrew Schools	Program Meeting Quiz Bee Annual Banquet
	18	Business & Professional Group Hadassah	Program Meeting
	21	Council of Jewish Juniors	Hayride
	22	Euclid Ave Temple Junior Hadassah Jewish Center	Father-Son Dinner Program Meeting Father-Son Dinner
	23	Orthodox Old Home Auxiliary	Donor Luncheon
	28	Jewish Center Alumni	Splash Party



JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Summary of Meeting Tuesday, January 6, 1942, 8:30 p.m., at the Community Temple

1. Welcome The Chairman, Philmore J Haber, congratulated the representatives for the splendid attendance despite the blizzard, and welcomed the organization presidents who had been invited specially to this meeting.

2. Reported The Chairman reported briefly on the following activity:

Pamphlets -- Copies of "To Bigotry No Sanction" had been mailed to all representatives and presidents, and about 200 additional copies had been ordered by them for members and friends. The timeliness of the information was cited, and the members were informed that the Community Council office had more copies available.

Community Calendar -- The Community Calendar for December, January, and February had been mailed to member organizations. All major groups were regularly calling the Council office before setting the dates of their events. A few of the smaller groups were reminded of the value of doing this, for the mutual benefit of all involved.

Round Table -- A large Committee of the Community Council had assisted in the luncheon of the National Conference of Christians and Jews which had been addressed by Dr Elinch, Rabbi Lazon, and Father Donovan, and the co-operation of the women had been secured by a Committee of the Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations. Both Committees were commended for their splendid work. The luncheon itself had been one of the greatest civic events in many years, thrilling the large audience. Announcement was made also of the weekly radio programs sponsored by the Round Table over Station WGAR on Sunday afternoons at 1:40 p.m., aimed at building up better inter-faith understanding and unity.

Political "Issues" -- Attention was called to the fact that the recent local political campaign had been more free from false so-called "Jewish Issues" than in many years. While this was due in part to the nature of the two candidates, it also reflected the work done by the Council's Committee headed by Rabbi Silver and the psychology which had been built up in the community. The disgraceful situation in New York's campaign was cited in contrast.

Radio -- The first three monthly radio programs sponsored by the Council had already been broadcast, and the special Committee headed by Milton Widder was commended for the magnificent standard which had been set. Some of the finest speakers and musicians in the city had participated, and the station officials had said that the programs were among the best ever broadcast by it. The programs alternated with the Catholic and Protestant programs on Sunday afternoons at 2:30 p.m. over Station WHK.

Negro-Jewish Relations -- At the last joint meeting of the Committee on Negro-Jewish Relations, the members had agreed to function through a few small Sub-committees, working in various ways to break down Nazi-inspired anti-Semitism among Negroes, and to build up better mutual understanding. The intensive work which had been planned was delayed however until the Negro group appointed their representatives to the Sub-committees, but the Council's Committee had gathered information and was continuing its work on the housing situation.

United Palestine Appeal Conference -- The president of the Community Council had been invited to extend the welcome of the Jewish community to the national conference of the United Palestine Appeal when it convened in Cleveland January 17 and 18. Mrs A F Mellman announced that tickets were available for the closing banquet on Sunday evening, January 18, and could be secured from any of the Zionist organizations, Council of Jewish Women, and B'nai B'rith.

Arbitration -- The Jewish Arbitration Court was working on two cases.

Rabbi Porath's Book -- Rabbi Israel Porath, a member of the Council's Executive Committee, was congratulated upon the publication of the first volume of his "Outline of the Talmud".

3. Civilian Defense Mayor Frank J Lausche was introduced by the Chairman, and addressed the Council on the civilian defense program. He stressed the importance of the three major groups participating directly in the nation's war effort: (1) the men on the armed forces; (2) persons employed in defense industries; (3) the civilian population; and discussed the following questions:

Air Raids -- It was unlikely that Cleveland would be subjected to air raids, but it was possible, and the city must be prepared for them. The tragic results of unpreparedness had already been witnessed in other lands, and could not be risked here.

Sabotage -- There was definite danger of sabotage, and precautions against it were essential.

Bomb Shelters -- It was not planned to build underground bomb shelters. The cost was prohibitive, and unless they were more than 40 feet underground, they did not protect from direct hits. The safest protection was to scatter the population; within homes to get under heavy tables, protected from splinters by screens; and in factories to get between specially built adjoining walls.

Civilian Arms -- There would not be any armed civilians for special emergencies. Arms and ammunition in the hands of the wrong people were too dangerous.

Evacuation -- It was not planned to evacuate children. Bombing of Cleveland, if any, was likely to be hit-and-run, and not sustained. If possible, school children would be scattered among their homes. If not, they would be sent to the safest part of the building.

The Mayor described the air raid program as follows: Ohio, Michigan, and possibly Indiana were in one major district. In each 6 mile square (36 square mile area) there was an airplane observer. Whenever the observer spotted an enemy plane, he flashed the news to the central office in Detroit, which in turn immediately notified the central office in Cleveland. Cleveland's central office then notified 29 report centers scattered through Cuyahoga County; and these report centers notified the air raid wardens in 4,500 sectors into which the area had been divided. Three signals would be given the wardens; the first when the planes were first spotted, the second when they were coming closer, and the third when it was certain they would come over the city. The general population would be notified only after the third signal, so that there would be no unnecessary alarm or confusion should the planes veer off to another city after the first or second signal.

There would be 6 air raid wardens for each sector -- an area of not more than 500 people, which a person could cover in walking in about 5 minutes. Each warden would be on duty for 4 hours a day. He would have to be at home during those 4 hours, available for duty if necessary. At least 27,000 air raid wardens -- both men and women -- were needed for the County. The duties would be to warn the people of an air raid and clear the streets, notify the report centers of all damage and medical aid needed, to give first aid, take proper action in case of damage, and help fight fires. The Mayor stressed the training necessary for this, pointing out that untrained persons could actually harm victims in first aid, or spread the blaze instead of controlling it. Air raid wardens would be required to take 40 hours of instruction in first aid, fire-fighting, etc.

In the question period which followed his address, he amplified the above; pointed out that aliens could register and assist in civilian defense; emphasized the importance of women in maintaining the morale of their families; and informed the group that they could register for civilian defense at the Public Hall or any fire station or suburban city hall. He closed by stressing that preparedness was essential and that too many nations were now suffering unimaginable cruelties because they were indolent and complacent, that minority groups had a tremendous stake in the war and in the peace to follow, the central issue of which was the fight for freedom, and that without the fundamental freedoms life was empty and meaningless.

Following the Chairman's expression of gratitude to the Mayor for his address, and the pledge that he could count upon the Community Council for complete cooperation and assistance, Mrs Joseph Weinberg, president of the Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations, informed the Council that the Jewish women had: (1) aided in the original Cooperating Committee for defense in the Spring of 1941, to assist social agencies, and had helped finance the central office for that purpose; (2) helped lay the groundwork for the civilian defense registration; (3) supplied one-third of the women volunteers in the first registration, although they formed only 8% of the population; (4) aided in such fund-raising as British War Relief, establishment of a nursing home in England, Mt Sinai Hospital campaign, Red Cross drive, etc.; (5) were compiling a list of Jewish men in the armed forces for the national Jewish Welfare Board; (6) rolled bandages; (7) knitted; (8) sewed; (9) served as hostesses at lounges for army and navy men two days a week; (10) about 90% of the groups had Red Cross classes in first aid and nutrition, assisting also smaller groups which did not have facilities for this; (11) participated in the County Consumer's Defense Council; (12) stimulated purchase of defense bonds and stamps; (13) supplied volunteer clerical workers for civilian defense offices; (14) each group had a recruiting Committee to secure blood donors.

Harry Rosen, director of the Jewish Young Adult Bureau, then reported that in addition to assisting organizations which were being affected by members' leaving for the armed forces or being heavily involved in defense industries, the Bureau had taken the following action with regard to 61 groups for civilian defense; (2) organized first aid classes, with 12 classes set to start and 30 probably organized by the end of the current week; (3) stimulated purchase of defense bonds and stamps by every individual, with at least \$25,000 already purchased on their own initiative; (4) prepared a physical fitness program under the direction of the Jewish Recreation Council; (5) arranged to have accurate information reach each group quickly; (6) planned a defense rally for February for educational and demonstration purposes; (7) cooperated in conservation and consumer education; (8) established knitting programs; (9) secured 350 young people to serve as working members of various Committees to carry out this program. These activities supplemented the enrollment in direct protective work, and the Bureau had been asked to help set up the youth defense organization for the city.

The reports of Mrs Weinberg and Mr Rosen were warmly applauded, and they were congratulated upon the splendid work being done. The representatives were reminded to urge all of their members who had not already done so to register for civilian defense, save and provide waste materials, enroll for blood donations, and buy defense bonds and stamps. Members were asked to fill out application blanks for blood donations at the end of the meeting.

4. Schools Committee Dr Azriel Eisenberg reported that Prof. Ernest Chave, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Religious Education Association of America, had been in Cleveland on November 25 and 26 to address several groups of religious leaders and public educators, including a meeting with the Schools Committee. Prof. Chave expressed agreement with the point of view of the Schools Committee in opposing the Released Time Plan, and had made this clear to the groups he had addressed.

5. Jewish Book Week A special Committee composed of Myron Guren, Chairman; Mrs Albert Goodman, and Rabbi Milton Kopstein had assisted in Jewish Book Week in behalf of the Community Council. Among the activities which had been fostered, with the Bureau of Jewish Education acting as clearing house, were: exhibits at the public libraries, display posters, publicity in the Jewish newspapers, intensive programs in the religious schools featured by quiz games and essays, the Council's radio program, 15 meetings devoted to the theme, wide distribution of book lists, exhibits and sale of Jewish books at the congregational libraries, stimulation of subscriptions to Jewish magazines and year around purchase and borrowing of books, distribution of 5,500 special book marks, and other activities. It was believed that the observance had been very successful, and it was stressed that the purpose of Jewish Book Week was to stimulate a greater year-around reading of Jewish literature.

6. Finance The treasurer, Abraham Stern, reported that during the year 1941 the Council had a total income of \$874.60, and total expenditures of \$535.43, leaving a balance of \$339.17 at the close of the year. There was still due a total of \$41 from 11 organizations for 1941 dues.

7. Nominating Committee Upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, and upon motion made, duly seconded, and unanimously carried, the following persons were elected to serve as a Nominating Committee: Joseph Stashower, I J Kabb, Mrs S O Freedlander, Barney Winograd, Philip Warshaw, Leonard Labowitch, and Samuel Klopfer.

8. National Unity Since the last Council meeting the Committee consisting of Albert Woldman, Chairman, Edward M Baker, George W Furth, and Julius Weisberg, had written to the General Jewish Council, its member organizations, and to the American Jewish Congress, to urge them to find some basis for the Congress' resuming its membership in the General Council, and for coordination and unity in civic-defense work. It had also gathered preliminary information on Jewish Community Councils throughout the country, in accordance with the Council's action at the last meeting directing that the Committee explore the possibility of calling a national conference of these bodies.

The replies from the national agencies in the General Council had stated that they were eager to have the Congress return, and that the General Council was continuing to coordinate their activities. Rabbi Stephen Wise of the American Jewish Congress, on the other hand, stated that he did not believe the General Council would ever become the agency which American Jewry needs.

The Committee had information that at least four efforts were under way to achieve coordination: (1) that being done by the General Jewish Council; (2) Rabbi James Heller, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, had been conferring with the leaders of the various agencies for this purpose; (3) The American Jewish Congress had recently invited the agencies of the General Council and other large national bodies to an informal conference for this purpose; (4) a Committee of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds would report on the matter to the national assembly of that organization in Chicago on January 31.

In the light of these facts, and inasmuch as several of the national leaders involved in these negotiations would be in Cleveland on January 17 and 18 for the United Palestine Appeal Conference, the Committee had agreed that before taking any other action it should seek to get a first-hand picture of the situation and to discuss it with these persons directly. The Committee was therefore seeking to arrange a small, informal meeting for the purpose.

9. Membership Upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, and upon motion made, duly seconded, and carried, the Council admitted to membership the Glenville Auxiliary of B'nai B'rith.

10. Meetings The Chairman informed the Council of the 37th annual dinner meeting of the Jewish Welfare Federation on January 28 at the Oakwood Club, to be addressed by Frank L Weil of New York, president of the national Jewish Welfare Board, and to be marked by the presentation of the Eisenman Award; and of the public meeting on Sunday afternoon, January 11, 2:30 p.m., at Public Music Hall, to be addressed by Jan Masaryk, foreign minister of the provision Czechoslovakian government. Members were urged to attend these meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) Philip Bernstein

Secretary

Officers

President

Philmore J. Haber

First Vice-President

Ezra Z. Shapiro

Second Vice-President

Jerome N. Curtis

Third Vice-President

Mrs. A. F. Mellman

Treasurer

Abraham Stern

Secretary

Philip Bernstein

Executive

Committee

Milton P. Altschul

Edward M. Baker

Rabbi B. R. Brickner

Mrs. George Burkin

Rabbi Armond E. Cohen

Rabbi Louis Engelberg

George W. Furth

Rabbi David Genuth

Rabbi Harold Goldfarb

Mrs. Joseph Goldhamer

Mrs. Joseph H. Gross

Myron Guren

A. I. Hausman

David Ralph Hertz

Mrs. Siegmund Herzog

Irving Hexter

Dr. S. F. M. Hirsch

Max Kohrman

S. L. Kossoff

Mrs. Benjamin Levine

Dr. I. Milcoff

A. E. Peraky

Rabbi Israel Porath

Rabbi Rudolph Rosenthal

Rabbi A. H. Silver

Max Simon

Mrs. Clarence Weidenthal

Julius Weisberg

Maurice Weltman

Albert A. Woldman

The Jewish Community Council

Cleveland

Chester-Twelfth Bldg. • CHerry 8176

Organization CLEVELAND ZIONIST SOCIETY

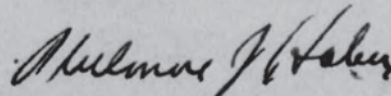
Dear Rabbi Silver:

We have not yet received word from you as to who will represent your organization in the Jewish Community Council this year.

Since we must have this information without delay, will you please fill in and return the enclosed blank immediately?

It is essential, in view of the important and increased responsibilities of the Council, that organizations pick their very best leaders to represent them. It is also essential that persons who accept this position should agree to attend Community Council meetings regularly.

Sincerely yours,



Philmore J Haber
President

January 23, 1942

P S Your 1941 representatives were Jerome Curtis, Saul Danaceau, and Judge Joseph Silbert.

Officers

President

Philmore J. Haber

First Vice-President

Ezra Z. Shapiro

Second Vice-President

Jerome N. Curtis

Third Vice-President

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Mrs. Siegmund Herzog

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Dr. S. F. M. Hirsch

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Rabbi Rudolph Rosenthal

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Max Simon

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Julius Weisberg

Maurice Weltman

Albert A. Woldman

The Jewish Community Council

Cleveland

Chester-Twelfth Bldg. • CHerry 8176

Rabbi A H Silver
The Temple
E 105th & Ansel Rd
Cleveland, Ohio

February 20, 1942

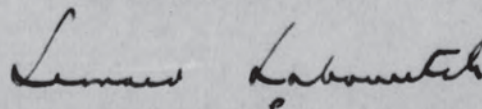
Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am very pleased to inform you that the Nominating Committee is recommending your name to the Jewish Community Council for election as a member of the Executive Committee for 1942. I know that we need not emphasize the importance of the responsibility which the Executive Committee has in guiding the policies of the Council, affecting directly the position and well-being of the entire Jewish community of Cleveland.

We trust that you will consider this a primary responsibility and that you will make every effort to attend the meetings of the Committee. It is so balanced that the presence of every member is essential if it is to represent accurately a cross section of Jewish opinion.

We are sure that your participation will be a real service to the Cleveland Jewish community.

Sincerely yours,



Acting Chairman for the Nominating Committee

Mrs S O Freedlander

I J Kabb

Samuel Klopner

Leonard Labowitch

Joseph Stashower

Philip Warshaw

Barney Winograd

Jewish Community Council
Chester-Twelfth Bldg
Cherry 8176

February 23, 1942

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Your Nominating Committee, after full and careful consideration, recommends the following persons for election as officers and members of the Executive Committee of the Jewish Community Council for 1942:

Philmore J Haber	--	President
Ezra Z Shapiro	--	First Vice-President
Jerome N Curtis	--	Second Vice-President
Mrs A F Mellman	--	Third Vice-President
Abraham Stern	--	Treasurer
Philip Bernstein	--	Secretary

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Milton P Altschul	I L Kenen
Edward M Baker	S L Kossoff
Rabbi B R Brickner	Mrs Leonard Labowitch
Mrs George Burkin	Dr I Milcoff
Rabbi Armond E Cohen	Rabbi Israel Porath
Rabbi Louis Engelberg	Rabbi Rudolph Rosenthal
George W Furth	Julius Schweid
Rabbi David Genuth	Rabbi A H Silver
Rabbi Harold Goldfarb	Max Simon
Mrs Joseph Goldhamer	Philip Steinberg
Myron Guren	Mrs Clarence Weidenthal
Mrs Milton Halle	Mrs Joseph Weinberg
A I Hausman	Julius Weisberg
David Ralph Hertz	Maurice Weltman
Dr S F M Hirsch	Albert A Woldman

Respectfully submitted,

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

(Members: Mrs S O Freedlander, I J Kabb,
Samuel Kloppe, Leonard Labowitch,
Joseph Stashower, Philip Warshaw, Barney
Winograd)

ARTICLE VIII, Section 4 of the Constitution: "At least fifteen days before each annual meeting the list of nominations for officers and members of the Executive Committee made by the Nominating Committee shall be mailed to each representative. Such nominations, together with any additional written nominations, signed by fifteen representatives and submitted to the chairman of the Nominating Committee or to the Secretary of the Council not later than three days before the annual meeting, shall be presented to the annual meeting. Only from the names so nominated shall be elected the officers and members of the Executive Committee" Official petition blanks for written nominations may be secured from the Secretary of the Council.

JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Summary of Annual Meeting Thursday, March 26, 1942, 8:30 p.m. at Euclid Ave Temple

1. Welcome Philmore J Haber, Chairman, welcomed the new representatives to their first meeting. Pointing out the importance of their responsibility, he stressed the necessity of regular attendance and active participation.

2. Reported The Chairman reported briefly on the following activity:

Finance - Most of the organizations already had paid their Council dues for 1942. The others were asked to do so without delay.

Arbitration - The Arbitration Court recently had completed a case involving a synagogue; had reached agreement in a family dispute; had made progress in a refugee situation; and was negotiating with two factions of a Jewish organization.

Radio - The Council's monthly radio programs, part of the inter-faith series, had received very favorable comments from the station and listeners. The next program would be Sunday afternoon, April 19, 2:30 p.m., over Station WHK.

Negro-Jewish Relations - A joint meeting of this Committee had considered several matters, and procedures had been developed for handling them. A sub-committee on housing also had been active. Only the barest beginning had been made, however, and much fundamental work remained to be done.

Infantile Paralysis Campaign - Gratitude was expressed to the member groups, and to the Council's special Committee headed by Mrs Clarence Weidenthal, for their splendid cooperation in the March of Dimes Infantile Paralysis Campaign. The Council had received a Certificate of Award for Distinctive Service in this inter-faith project.

Community Song Festival - Plans were under way for a great inter-faith community song festival to be held soon, under the direction of a civic committee in which the Council was representing the Jewish community. It was intended to serve as another means of building better community understanding, and organizations would be notified as soon as specific plans had been developed.

Inter-faith Cooperation - The Council had been invited to assist also in the Karamu House campaign and in the Knights of Columbus Track Meet.

National Budgeting - The National Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds at Chicago had unanimously approved a compromise plan developed by the sponsors and opponents of the original program. The plan called for a representative Committee to analyze and report on the work, needs, and expenditures of national and overseas Jewish agencies, but not to make specific recommendations on quotas or allocations.

Shaker Heights Council - The Community Council had been invited to send a delegate to the newly-formed Shaker Heights Community Council to represent the Jewish residents. Mr Haber already had been elected to the Board of the Council, and he was authorized to appoint a representative as requested.

3. Election Mrs James Miller was asked to take the chair to conduct the annual election. I J Kabb, reporting for the Nominating Committee, expressed the gratitude of the Council to the officers and Executive Committee who had served in 1941. Continuing the policy of rotation, the Nominating Committee recommended the election of several new persons to the Executive Committee, at the same time paying tribute to the splendid service rendered by the outgoing members. Upon motion made, duly seconded, and unanimously carried, the report was accepted and the following persons were elected:

Philmore J Haber, president; Ezra Z Shapiro first vice-president; Jerome N Curtis, second vice-president; Mrs A F Mellman, third vice-president; Abraham Stern, treasurer; Philip Bernstein, secretary. Executive Committee - Milton P Altschul, Edward M Baker, Rabbi B R Brickner, Mrs George Burkin, Rabbi Armond E Cohen, Rabbi Louis Engelberg, George W Furth, Rabbi David Genuth, Rabbi Harold Goldfarb, Mrs Joseph Goldhamer, Myron Guren, Mrs Milton Halle, A I Hausman, David Ralph Hertz, Dr S F M Hirsch, I L Kenen, S L Kossoff, Mrs Leonard Labowitch, Dr I Milcoff, Rabbi Israel Forath, Rabbi Rudolph Rosenthal, Julius Schweid, Rabbi A H Silver, Max Simon, Philip Steinberg, Mrs Clarence Weidenthal, Mrs Joseph Weinberg, Julius Weisberg, Maurice Weltman, Albert A Woldman.

4. Annual Report -The Chairman then summarized the work of the Council during the past year, comprising perhaps the busiest year in the history of the Council, and evaluated the activities in terms of the obligations imposed by a world at war. Their basic significance was considered in terms of the leadership required of American Jewry, as the largest and one of the last free Jewish communities of the world, the necessity of united and coordinated national action, the responsibility for local inter-faith and inter-group unity in America and thus for combatting the movements which seek to divide and weaken this nation, the need for all-out aid to the nation's war effort, and the basic necessity of a well-informed and intelligent community. Judged by these requirements the work of the Council was deemed to have fundamental importance and proper direction, and the community was urged to move ahead with courage and spirit to meet the critical demands of this historic hour.

5. Army and Navy -Louis S Bing, Jr., chairman of the local Army and Navy Committee of the Jewish Welfare Board, asked the organizations to give free tickets for their public events to men in uniform. Many groups already were doing this. Organizations having private parties and wishing to invite service men were asked to contact Mrs Joseph H Gross. He requested further the authority to designate a sub-committee to act for the Jewish community in making proper expression to the families of Jewish men lost in the war. Both matters were referred to the Council's Defense Committee, with power to act.

6. Defense The Chairman informed the Council that following the last meeting and in accordance with the suggestion of the Executive Committee, a joint Defense Committee had been appointed to coordinate the work of the Council's groups and to mobilize the full resources of the Jewish community in behalf of the nation's war effort. Nathan Loeser was Chairman, I L Kenen and Mrs Joseph Weinberg, Co-chairmen, and Miss Mildred Heller, Vice-chairman.

Mr Kenen reported that the basic function of the Committee would be to recruit persons for civilian volunteer services and to transmit accurate defense information to the members of Jewish groups. He stressed that there would not be separate Jewish defense activities. Rather, volunteers would be referred to the official agencies, where they would take their places with all other Americans.

Since the women's and young adult groups already were thoroughly organized, the Committee had concentrated on organizing and coordinating the men's and mixed groups. Those which had not already done so were being asked to appoint Defense Chairmen as contact persons for this work. The immediate tasks were: (1) to recruit more civilian defense volunteers, especially air raid wardens and volunteer firemen; (2) recruit more blood donors; (3) continue Defense Bond and Stamp purchases; (4) assist Councilmen and suburban mayors in selection of air raid wardens; (5) stimulate a maximum attendance at the city Civilian Defense Rally on March 31.

In the discussion of the report, it was announced that the B'nai B'rith had secured headquarters at 11905 Superior Ave., and had made available the facilities to the city for defense activity. The Community Council was likewise invited to hold its next meeting there.

7. National Unity Albert Woldman reported that his Committee had met with national Jewish leaders in Cleveland during the United Palestine Appeal Conference, and had discussed thoroughly with them the problem of unity in the defense of Jewish rights. Present had been Henry Monsky and Maurice Bisgyer of B'nai B'rith; Louis Lipsky and Miss Lilly Shultz of the American Jewish Congress; Sidney Wallach of the American Jewish Committee; Rabbi James Heller of the Synagogue Council and the Central Conference of American Rabbis; and Harry Lurie of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds; in addition to the officers and special Committee of the Community Council.

The Committee had expressed the deep concern of the community over the failure to achieve full national coordination in this work, and had pointed out that unless the agencies themselves could achieve it, the communities would be compelled to take direct action. The national leaders were asked to outline the status of the present negotiations, and the obstacles which barred the path to unity.

After a long discussion, the Committee had been requested to define what it meant by unity, and had set forth the following essentials; (1) a joint policy-making body representative of the four civic-defense agencies, other national groups, and the communities of America; (2) power in this group to determine uniform mandatory policies; (3) allocation of functions by this body to the various protective agencies; (4) joint budgeting; (5) joint fund raising. Mr Lurie had then pointed out that these elements coincided with the recommendations of a Committee of the Council of Jewish Federations, with the addition of a central Jewish journal and central field service.

Mr Monsky expressed his approval of the program, taking partial exception to the field service; Mr Lipsky, Miss Shultz, and Rabbi Heller also voiced their approval; Mr Wallach said he was not in position to express judgment as yet; and the meeting closed with agreement that full support should be given this program at the Chicago Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations.

The Secretary then reviewed the Chicago Assembly session at which the report presented by Edgar Kaufmann and Max Simon had been unanimously approved, following the public announcement that the program had the formal endorsement of the Executive Committees of the American Jewish Congress and the Jewish Labor Committee, the president of B'nai B'rith (with the partial exception of the central field service), and the President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis - and that the American Jewish Committee would give it sympathetic consideration. The Executive Committee of the Council of Jewish Federations thereupon had appointed a special Committee to carry the matter further.

Max Simon, as a member of the national Committee, reported on the negotiations which had taken place in New York recently. He made it clear that action was being confined to the field of civic-protective work, and described the complications and divisions which obstructed the road to unity. Despite the favorable expressions at Chicago, a definite solution was not yet in sight, and his Committee was to report soon to the Executive Committee of the national Council, after trying to arrive at agreement itself.

In the discussion of these reports, the question of a conference of Jewish Community Councils was again raised, and despair was expressed that there ever would develop a solution on the initiative of the national agencies themselves. Another suggestion was that local financial support should be withdrawn from the agency or agencies which were blocking the path to unity. Since the National Committee was expected to report within a few weeks, the entire matter was referred back to Mr Woldman's Committee for further attention. A suggestion that the latter Committee be enlarged was taken under advisement.

8. Refugee Eugene H Freedheim, chairman of the local Refugee Service Committee of the Jewish Social Service Bureau, reviewed the problems and work of the Committee since its reorganization in 1940. The affidavit service was being continued, with refugees still arriving in the United States despite the war - 1,000 in the last month - coming from Portugal, Unoccupied France, and South

and Central America. Resettlement from New York to Cleveland likewise continued, with aliens of Polish and Czech descent still permitted to move their residence.

Many of the 200,000 refugees in America were technically classed as "enemy aliens" although they were the most ardent opponents of Hitlerism. They could not be permitted to become public charges, and not one had been deported from America for this reason. Of the average of 70 families on the local agency's relief roll, one-third were short-time cases, another one-third was expected to become self-supporting in a brief period of time, and the last third were long-times cases. The refugees who had come in recent years were an older group and found it more difficult to earn a livelihood. The J S S B did case work directly to aid in personal problems, and worked through the Jewish Vocational Service, the Council of Jewish Women, and the Jewish Young Adult Bureau in dealing with employment and social problems.

The war had brought restrictions on travel, ownership of cameras and short wave radios, and other regulation of refugees in America. Employment problems and other difficulties were resulting, requiring added help.

9. Palestinian Jewish Army It was proposed by I L Kenen that the Council go on record urging the formation of a Palestinian Jewish army, and the matter was discussed at length by Mrs A F Mellman, Max Simon, James Miller, Aaron Resnick, Albert Woldman, Rabbi David Genuth, Ezra Shapiro, and others. The following points were made: the proposed army would be composed of Palestinian and stateless Jews only -- it would not include American Jews; Jews had enlisted in the British Palestinian forces up to the number permitted, but the total had been restricted by the British desire to keep some parity between the proportion of Arabs and Jews -- nevertheless 15,000 Jews were already in the army there, compared with 3,000 Arabs; the creation of the proposed army would add 60,000 Jewish men; they would fight under the banner of Britain or the United Nations; opposition to the proposal had been based on political not military, grounds.

It was stated further that the army was necessary to give the Jews of Palestine the basic humanitarian right to defend their homes and their families from the threatened Nazi invasion and a resulting massacre unless they were armed; that it was more than a Zionist or Jewish question -- it was an American problem, since the defense of the Middle East was vital to American interests; the creation of such an army would help block the path to India and to the vital oil fields sought by the Nazis; it would also make it possible for more Australians to serve at home instead of in Palestine; no one could deny that the United Nations needed every man possibly available; The Secretary of War, Secretary of Navy, Senators Barkley and Wagner, Admiral Sterling, and other high government officials had endorsed the formation of such an army; and the Central Conference of American Rabbis, among other groups, also had supported it.

The turning back of the Struma and the resulting death of its 750 passengers was deplored, and a change in policy was urged to prevent the recurrence of such tragedies. The bars of immigration should be let down for fleeing refugees for the duration of the war, it was urged so that they might join the forces fighting Nazism.

In analyzing the opposition to the formation of such an army, it was stated that part of it was due to a false impression that this would be a world wide Jewish army, instead of a Palestinian Jewish army; to the belief that it made for religious separateness, whereas the sponsors pointed out that the Jewish Palestinian army would not be a separate religious army but was comparable to the Free French and Free Czech armies, in view of the Balfour Declaration pledging Palestine as a Jewish homeland, sanctioned by the League of Nations, and affirmed by the United States; to a fear of a rupture in Arab-Jewish relations and the possibility of a demand for an Arab Palestinian Army, whereas after full opportunity to enlist only 3,000 had done so; and to the belief that this was purely a Zionist question, instead of a broadly humanitarian one of direct concern to America and the United Nations.

After full discussion it was moved, duly seconded, and unanimously carried that the Jewish Community Council urge the formation of a Palestinian Jewish Army, as embodied in the attached resolution. It was made clear that the action was taken as supporters of Great Britain and the United Nations, to strengthen their cause and their forces.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Philip Bernstein

Secretary



[Undated]



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

WRHS



Mr Philmore J Haber, President
Jewish Community Council
Chester-Twelfth Bldg
Cleveland, Ohio

I shall attend the meeting of the Executive
Committee Wednesday evening, September 17, at
8:15 p.m., at the Jewish Center (Board Room).

Signed _____

[undated]

Officers

President

Philmore J. Haber

First Vice-President

Ezra Z. Shapiro

Second Vice-President

Jerome N. Curtis

Third Vice-President

Mrs. A. F. Mellman

Treasurer

Abraham Stern

Secretary

Philip Bernstein

Executive Committee

Milton P. Altschul

Edward M. Baker

Rabbi B. R. Brickner

Mrs. George Burkin

Rabbi Armond E. Cohen

Rabbi Louis Engelberg

George W. Furth

Rabbi David Genuth

Rabbi Harold Goldfarb

Mrs. Joseph Goldhamer

Myron Guren

Mrs. Milton Halle

A. I. Hausman

David Ralph Hertz

Dr. S. F. M. Hirsch

I. L. Kenen

S. L. Kossoff

Mrs. Leonard Labowitch

Dr. I. Milcoff

Rabbi Israel Porath

Rabbi Rudolph Rosenthal

Julius Schweid

Rabbi A. H. Silver

Max Simon

Philip L. Steinberg

Mrs. Clarence Weidenthal

Mrs. Joseph Weinberg

Julius Weisberg

Maurice Weltman

Albert A. Woldman

The Jewish Community Council

Cleveland

Chester-Twelfth Bldg. - CHerry 8176

RE: ADMISSION OF ARMY AND NAVY MEN TO YOUR PUBLIC FUNCTIONS
CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS LUNCHEON JUNE 16

To Presidents & Representatives:

You will recall that at the last Community Council meeting the local Army and Navy Committee of the Jewish Welfare Board requested our organizations to admit free to their public functions Army and Navy men in uniform who desire to attend them. This policy prevails in cities throughout the country, and has been approved by our Council's War Aid Committee. We shall appreciate it deeply if your organization would inaugurate this policy for your future functions, if the policy has not already been in effect.

I should also like to call to your attention the luncheon to be held by the local Conference of Christians and Jews on Tuesday noon, June 16, 12:30 p.m., at the Allerton Hotel. The luncheon will honor the three new co-chairmen of the local conference, among them, I am pleased to announce, Eugene E Wolf as the Jewish co-chairman.

We shall be privileged to have as guest speakers the trio of Dr Everett R Clinchy, national president of the Conference; Rabbi Julian Feibelman, of Temple Sinai, New Orleans; and the Very Rev. Edward V Cardinal, of Loyola University, Chicago. It will be an outstanding civic event.

Tickets at \$1.15 per person may be secured from the Jewish Community Council office, from the Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations, or from any of the persons listed below. Will you please contact your members and friends so that we may help assure the large attendance which the luncheon merits.

Sincerely yours,

PJ Haber

Philmore J Haber
President

Tickets May Be Secured From

Harry W Arnstine, Jr.
Sol D Busch
Philip Carter
Emery W Desberg
Sidney Eisenberg
Dr F M Falkman
Suggs Garber

Samuel Gross
Nate A Grossman
I J Kabb
Samuel Kloppe
Abr Kollin
Benj B Levy
Harry A Levy
Dr David Magid

E J Meisel
Ben H Richman
Samuel Rosenthal
Judge Jos Silbert
Z Smilow
Lawrence Sobel
A B Webber

[Undated]

INFORMATION ON JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCILS

- A. Summary of Status
- B. Community Councils -- By Population Groups
- C. Community Councils -- By States
- D. Large Cities Which Have Community Councils
- E. Large Cities Without Community Councils
- F. General Description of Community Councils (Council of Jewish Feds. - 1939)



SUMMARY OF STATUS OF JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCILS

Title --

The term, Jewish Community Council, covers such a variety of organizations that it must be carefully qualified in any discussion of it.

Some include all elements of their communities. Others apparently do not.

Some serve as coordinating bodies. Others do not.

Some have a variety of functions. Others do not.

Some are active. Others appear to be quite dormant.

Some serve only to raise funds. Others raise no funds at all.

Some operate democratically. Others apparently do not.

Some organizations called by other names function more like Community Councils than do some of the Community Councils.

In the background of any analysis of Jewish Community Councils, therefore, must be a recognition of this condition.

Number --

There are about 55 Jewish Community Councils in the United States.

Size --

45 cities have a Jewish population of 10,000 or more.

19 have Jewish Community Councils. 26 do not.

Among those which do not are New York, Chicago, and Philadelphia, which have about half of the Jewish population of the country. (It has been reported, however, that Brooklyn has recently formed a Community Council. This requires confirmation.)

28 cities have a Jewish population of 5,000 to 9,999.

10 have Community Councils. 18 do not.

In cities of fewer than 5,000 Jews titles of organizations are particularly misleading. The following figures do not therefore represent accurately the degree to which they have central, representative, democratic organizations.

31 cities have a Jewish population of 2,500 to 4,999.

8 have Community Councils. 23 do not.

84 cities have a Jewish population of 1,000 to 2,499.

11 have Community Councils. 73 do not.

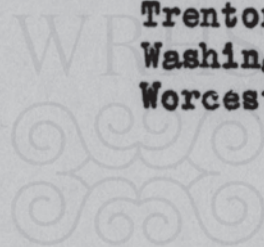
National --

There is no national association of Community Councils as such. Most of those which administer Welfare Funds are members of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

There has never been a national conference of Jewish Community Councils.

COMMUNITY COUNCILS -- BY JEWISH POPULATION GROUPS

<u>500,000 & over</u>	<u>Community Councils</u>	<u>No Community Councils</u> New York
<u>100,000 to 499,000</u>	Los Angeles	Chicago Philadelphia
<u>50,000 to 99,000</u>	Cleveland Detroit	Baltimore Boston Newark (St Louis)
<u>25,000 to 49,000</u>	Hartford New Haven Rochester	Milwaukee Pittsburgh San Francisco
<u>10,000 to 24,000</u>	Bayonne Bridgeport Cincinnati Houston Kansas City Louisville Paterson St Paul Springfield Toledo Trenton Washington Worcester	Atlanta Atlantic City Brookline, Mass. Buffalo Chelsea, Mass Denver Indianapolis Jersey City Maldon, Mass Memphis Minneapolis Mt Vernon Omaha Providence Seattle Syracuse
<u>5,000 to 9,000</u>	Akron Albany Columbus Dayton Elizabeth, N J Fall River, Mass Passaic Perth Amboy Richmond, Va Utica	Camden Dallas Lynn, Mass McKeesport New Brunswick, N.J. New Orleans New Rochelle Norfolk, Va Oakland, Calif Portland, Ore Revere, Mass San Antonio Scranton Stamford, Conn Waterbury, Conn Wilkes Barre Yonkers Youngstown



Community Councils

No Community Councils

2.500 to 4,900

Binghamton, N Y
Harrisburg
Hoboken
Jacksonville
Nashville
Reading
Schenectady
Sioux City

Birmingham
Brockston, Mass
Cambridge, Mass
Canton
Charleston, S C
Chattanooga
Des Moines
Duluth
East St Louis
Gary
Haverhill, Mass
Lawrence, Mass
Long Branch, N J
Lowell, Mass
New Bedford, Mass
Portland, Me
St Joseph, Mo
Salem, Mass
San Diego
Savannah
South Bend
Union, N J
Wilmington

1.000 to 2.400

Easton, Pa
Erie
Evansville, Ind
Johnstown, Pa
Kingston, N Y
Newburgh, N Y
Peoria
Plainfield, N J
Poughkeepsie
Troy
Tulsa

Allentown, Pa
Altoona, Pa
Asbury Park
Bangor, Me
Beaumont, Texas
Bethlehem, Pa
Beverly, Mass
Bloomfield, N J
Braddock, Pa
Burlington, Vt
Charleston, W Va
Chester, Pa
East Orange, N J
Elmire, N Y
El Paso, Texas
Everett, Mass
Fallsburgtown, N Y
Flint, Mich
Fort Wayne, Ind
Galveston, Texas
Gloversville, N Y
Grand Rapids, Mich
Hammond, Ind
Hazleton, Pa
Holyoke, Mass
Huntington, W Va
Irvington, N J
Lancaster, Pa
Lincoln, Neb
Linden, N J
Little Rock, Ark.

1,000 to 2,400 (continued)

No Community Council

Long Beach, Calif
Lynbrook, N Y
Madison, Wis
Mason City, Iowa
Meridian, Conn.
Miami, Fla
Montgomery, Ala
Monticello, N Y
New Britain, Conn
New London, Conn
Newport News, Va
Newton, Mass
Niagra Falls, N Y
Norwalk, Conn
Norwich, Conn
Oklahoma City, Okla
Orange, N J
Pasadena, Calif
Peabody, Mass
Peekskill, N Y
Pittsfield, Mass
Portsmouth, Va
Quincy, Mass
Rock Island, Ill
Sacramento, Calif
Salt Lake City
Shreveport
Somerville, Mass
South Orange, N J
Spokane
Stockton, Calif
Tacoma
Tampa
Terre Haute
Uniontown, Pa
Waco, Texas
Waukegan, Ill
West Hoboken
White Plains
Winthrop, Mass
Woodbine, N J
Woonsocket, R I



COMMUNITY COUNCILS - BY STATES

ALABAMA	none	
ARIZONA	none	
ARKANSAS	none	
CALIFORNIA		
Los Angeles	1937	Administers Jewish Welfare Fund
San Jose	1936	Combined with Federation.
Ventura	1939	Includes national and overseas campaign.
COLORADO	none	
CONNECTICUT		
Bridgeport	1936	Administers United Jewish Campaign
Hartford	1940	
New Haven	1927	
DELAWARE	none	
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
Washington	1938	
FLORIDA		
Jacksonville	1936	Coordinates and supports local social services.
GEORGIA	none	
IDAHO	none	
ILLINOIS		
Peoria	1933	Administers Jewish Welfare Fund
INDIANA		
Evansville	1936	Coordinates and supports local Jewish services.
IOWA		
Sioux City	1935	
KANSAS	none	
KENTUCKY		
Louisville	1934	Administers national and overseas campaigns.
LOUISIANA	none	
MARYLAND		
Cumberland	1939	Administers national and overseas campaign
MASSACHUSETTS		
Fall River	1938	
Fitchburg	1939	Administers national and overseas campaign
Springfield	1938	Administers Jewish Welfare Fund
Worcester	1936	
MICHIGAN		
Detroit	1937	
MINNESOTA		
St Paul	1931	
MISSISSIPPI	none	
MISSOURI		
Kansas City		
NEBRASKA	none	
NEVADA	none	
NEW JERSEY		
Bayonne	1938	Administers United Jewish Appeal including local social Service
Elizabeth	1927	Administers national and overseas campaign.
Hoboken	1936	" " " "
Montclair	1934	" " " "
Passaic	1933	" " " including local social
Paterson	1933	service.
Perth Amboy	1939	
Plainfield	1937	Administers national and overseas campaign, including local
Trenton	1938	social service.

NEW MEXICO	none	
NEW YORK		
(Brooklyn)	1940	
Albany	1938	
Binghamton	1937	Administers United Jewish campaign.
Kingston	1939	
Newburgh	1938	
Poughkeepsie	1940	
Rochester	1939	
Schenectady	1938	
Troy	1935	
Utica	1932	Administers United Jewish Appeal.
NORTH CAROLINA		
Winston Salem	1937	Administers local social services, national and overseas campaign
NORTH DAKOTA	none	
OHIO		
Akron	1939	
Cincinnati	1929	Administers Jewish Welfare Fund
Cleveland	1935	
Columbus	1940	
Dayton	1934	Administers National and overseas campaign.
Steubenville		Administers national and overseas campaign, local Jewish social services.
Toledo	1936	Administers United Jewish Fund.
OKLAHOMA		
Tulsa	1938	Administers United Jewish Campaign, local social services.
OREGON	none	
PENNSYLVANIA		
Easton	1939	Administers Allied Jewish Welfare Fund, local social services.
Erie	1936	Administers Jewish Welfare Fund, local social services.
Harrisburg	1932	Administers national and overseas campaign, local social services.
Johnstown	1939	
Reading	1935	Administers United Jewish Campaign, local social services.
RHODE ISLAND	none	
SOUTH CAROLINA	none	
SOUTH DAKOTA	none	
TEXAS		
Houston	1937	Administers United Jewish Campaign, local social services.
TENNESSEE		
Nashville	1936	Administers Jewish Welfare Fund.
UTAH	none	
VIRGINIA		
Richmond	1935	Administers national and overseas campaign, local social services.
WASHINGTON	none	
WEST VIRGINIA	none	
WISCONSIN	none	
MAINE	none	
Montana	none	
NEW HAMPSHIRE	none	
VERMONT	none	
WYOMING	none	

LARGE CITIES WHICH HAVE JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCILS
(over 10,000 Jews)

<u>Los Angeles</u> 100,000	Organized 1937. Relationship to Federation vague. Degree of general recognition to be determined. Administers Jewish Welfare Fund.
<u>Cleveland</u> 90,000	Organized 1935. Active and representative.
<u>Detroit</u> 85,000	Organized 1937. Active and inclusive. Relationship to Federation not completely harmonious.
<u>Hartford</u> 27,000	Organized in 1940.
<u>New Haven</u> 25,000	Organized 1927, but inactive and no prestige until recently. Now being revived.
<u>Rochester</u> 25,000	Organized in 1939. Includes only small number of organizations.
<u>Cincinnati</u> 23,500	Organized 1929. Active and representative. Administers Jewish Welfare Fund. Good relationship with Federation.
<u>Paterson</u> 22,500	Organized 1932. Activity unknown.
<u>Washington</u> 18,000	Recently organized. Quite inactive.
<u>Houston</u> 15,000	Organized 1937. Quite active. Administer United Jewish Campaign, local Social Service.
<u>St Paul</u> 14,000	Organized 1931. Apparently quite active.
<u>Worcester</u> 13,000	Organized 1936. Fairly active.
<u>Bridgeport</u> 12,000	Organized 1936. Active. Administers United Jewish Campaign.
<u>Toledo</u> 12,000	Organized 1936. Active. Administers United Jewish Fund.
<u>Trenton</u> 11,000	Organized recently. Activity unknown.
<u>Louisville</u> 10,000	Organized 1934. Inclusive, but questionable democracy. Organized from top down, organizations don't appoint own representatives. Administers national and overseas campaign.

<u>Bayonne</u> 12,000	Organized 1938. Administers United Jewish Appeal, including local social services.
<u>Springfield</u> 12,000	Organized 1938. Administers Jewish Welfare Fund.
<u>Kansas City</u> 24,000	Organized recently.



LARGE CITIES WITHOUT JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCILS

New York
1,750,000

Federation has Council of Fraternal and Benevolent Organizations, which is an affiliate of the Federation, mainly for assistance in campaigns.

Brooklyn has recently organized a Jewish Community Council. Representation and activity yet to be determined. Questionable recognition.

Manhattan, Bronx, and other boroughs require central representative organization.

Chicago
300,000

Has a "Jewish Community Council" which is merely an affiliate of the Jewish Federation. It serves to assist the Federation and to interpret it to the community. So far as is known, it has no other functions.

Philadelphia
250,000

No Jewish Community Council. Has Anti-Defamation Council to coordinate defense activity.

Boston
85,000

No community Council. Defense work done mainly by branch office of American Jewish Committee.

Baltimore
70,000

No Community Council. Has coordinating body for the four defense agencies.

Newark
65,000

No Community Council.

St Louis
50,000

Has no general Community Council. Does have Jewish Coordinating Council composed of about 10 groups to centralize defense activity.

San Francisco
38,000

No Community Council. Defense work done by central committee.

Milwaukee
25,000

No Community Council. Defense activity coordinated by central committee.

Minneapolis
22,000

No Community Council. Defense activity coordinated by state council.

Providence
21,000

No Community Council.

Jersey City
20,000

No Community Council.

Buffalo
20,000

No Community Council.

Chelsea
20,000

No Community Council.

<u>Denver</u> 17,000	No Community Council.
<u>Syracuse</u> 12,000	No Community Council.
<u>Atlanta</u> 12,000	No Community Council.
<u>Seattle</u> 12,000	No Community Council.
<u>Atlantic City</u> 12,000	No Community Council.
<u>Malden (Mass)</u> 12,000	No Community Council.
<u>Omaha</u> 11,000	No Community Council.
<u>Brookline</u> 10,000	No Community Council.
<u>Indianapolis</u> 10,000	No Community Council.
<u>Memphis</u> 10,000	No Community Council.
<u>Mt Vernon (N.Y.)</u> 10,000	No Community Council.
<u>New Orleans</u> 9,000	No Community Council.



As the table indicates, most of the community councils were organized in the last few years. They represent a new form of organization in Jewish life. Their rise is associated with the recrudescence of anti-semitism on a world scale, the diminution of group differences within American Jewry and a growing awareness of the need for unity of action on issues of concern to all Jews.

Organization and Structure

Practically all of the community councils were self-initiated. They began, grew and took on activities as local conditions permitted. Community councils are democratic. Membership is generally open to all Jewish organizations who are given representation on the basis of the number of their members. The constituent organizations surrender no autonomy upon joining, retaining full freedom of program and action.

Objectives

The purposes served by community councils reflect the conditions which brought them into being. Their objectives include the joint consideration of broad Jewish problems, the creation of better understanding between Jews and non-Jews in the community, coordination of Jewish activities, the safeguarding of Jewish rights, and the development of more widespread community leadership. These objectives are not, of course, common to all councils, nor are they always realized. Councils vary widely in the extent to which they are representative of all elements in the Jewish community, and in the range of activities conducted.

1. Promoting Better Relations Between Jew and Non-Jew*

Through appropriate committees four councils have kept watch on the channels of public information for manifestations of anti-semitism, and have striven to promote better relations between Jew and Gentile. The handling of Jewish news

* The operations of four councils in 1938 -- Detroit, Los Angeles, Cleveland and Bridgeport, Conn. -- are representative of the work of the larger and more active community councils and their activities are summarized in the sections which follow.

and editorials on Jewish questions has been discussed with the editors of local newspapers and their cooperation secured in presenting such material fairly and accurately.

In the same area belong efforts to combat discrimination against Jews seeking employment. Machinery has been set up for investigating cases of job discrimination. Efforts to secure the cooperation of employment agencies and placement departments of schools and colleges are reported. A number of employers, as a result of council activity, have engaged Jewish persons through the local Jewish employment agency.

2. Regulating and Coordinating Jewish Practice

In the interest of the Jewish community as a whole, community councils have used their good offices to regulate and coordinate activities tending to strengthen Jewish group life. Where Jewish educational activities are not coordinated through a central bureau, this function is sometimes assumed by the community council. Improved methods of instruction, sounder financing, a rise in the number of pupils, and wider community support of Jewish education, are some of the achievements in this area.

In an effort to keep out of court controversies between Jewish groups and individuals involving Jewish problems, courts of arbitration have been formally established by two councils and is now under consideration by a third on the basis of its experience in handling such disputes through a special committee.

The responsible enforcement of Kashruth regulations is a problem in a number of communities. Kashruth committees have been established by two councils. One community through its council, secured the cooperation of all elements in placing the administration of Kashruth on an acceptable level. This was followed by a study of the alleged high price of kosher meat. The council in a second community has had a fact-finding function only to date and at present is considering steps to be taken to effect proper enforcement of the state Kashruth law.

Another regulatory function performed by councils is the placing of community support for traditional European and Palestinian agencies on an organized basis, usually through a special contingency appropriation from the welfare fund.

3. Voicing Jewish Community Opinion on Events Abroad

In 1938 action was taken by all four councils on events affecting the welfare of Jews in foreign countries. Appeals were addressed to the President in October for American support of the maintenance of the mandate in Palestine on the basis of the Balfour Declaration. One community council, in addition, sponsored a mass meeting and circulated petitions. A somewhat different course was taken in relation to the November events in Germany, which were viewed as requiring a broad base of action. Mass meetings were discouraged and there seemed to be a general tendency to follow the policies of the General Council.

Related to this function was the moral support given anti-Nazi activities conducted by local organizations affiliated with the Councils. This support was in the direction of a strengthening the boycott against German goods, and combatting Nazi propaganda.

4. Unifying Jewish Life

The developments leading to the organization of the General Council of the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, B'nai B'rith and Jewish Labor Committee, and the activities of the General Council since have been followed with the closest interest by community councils. They voiced sentiments for an authoritative unit for American Jewry, called upon the four national bodies "to find some formula for cooperative action in defense of Jewish rights." They kept in touch with the General Council during the Palestinian crisis in October and the German crisis in November, generally patterning their action after the activities of the General Council.

In a desire to achieve local coordination of defense activities, the General Jewish Council, in November, circularized all community councils with the suggestion that they aid in setting up cooperating committees representing the local

affiliates of the four national constituents of the General Council. This proposal has raised a number of questions concerning the relationships of the General Jewish Council and local community councils, and the extent to which the suggested cooperating committee will duplicate activities already carried on by councils in a number of communities. Los Angeles, which alone among the four cities surveyed here, conducts no anti-defamation work through its community council, was the only one to establish a cooperating committee along the lines suggested.

5. Miscellaneous Activities

Other activities reported by councils in these cities in 1938 included community surveys; the promotion of increased Jewish participation in the local Chest drive; the sponsorship of a local committee for family case work and placement service to refugees; a population census; the maintenance of a community calendar; the sponsorship of an annual Yiddish cultural conference, resulting in the formation of a permanent organization to further Yiddish cultural activities.

January 15, 1939

[undated]

ORGANIZATION FOR CLEVELAND'S PROGRAM
NATIONAL DEFENSE ALUMINUM COLLECTION

Hon. Edward Blythin, Director of Civilian Defense for the Cleveland Area, Chrm.
Paul Brokaw, Coordinator

District Chairman:

1. Lee O Kurfis - State Commander, V.F.W.
3600 W 130th Street - OR 1044
2. John J O'Malley - Secretary-Treasurer
McCorray Brothers - 3040 Lorain Avenue - ME 1971
3. Rev. Anthony B Stuber, Pastor
St Ignatius - 10205 Lorain Ave - CL 0300
4. Malcolm C Heed (Brooklyn Kiwanis Club)
7714 Ackley Road - MA 2347
5. Rev. W H Stark - Pilgrim Congregational Church
4609 Broadle Avenue - FL 0774
6. William Spang - J Spang Baking Company
2701 Barber Avenue - PR 1640
7. Ben Hubbell, Jr.
4500 Euclid Avenue - EN 4500
8. John M Novak
1125 East 71st Street
9. Walter Sutter - Manager Cleveland Trust, E 105th and St Clair
(The Corner Club) GL 1450
9. East 105 Street district north of Massie & Adams to Bratenahl
East 88th Street to East 131 St along St Clair, Superior Through area
North of Primrose and Thornwood to St Clair.
10. Roy Ward - N.E. Business Association
740 East 152nd Street
10. East 110th St & St Clair East to Five Points.
11. Ralph E Shurtleff
17729 Windward - KE 3355
12. Norma E Wulff - Board of Education
1507 E 107th Street - CE 3134
12. East 105th Street area from Euclid north past Superior to Massie &
Adams. Superior Through area south of Primrose and Castlewood.
Includes Euclid-Cornell district.

13. Jack A Persky
2049 E 96th Street - MA 1038 or CE 1213
13. East 55th Street to East 105th Street -- Euclid Ave to Wade Park.
14. Rev. C. H Crable, Pastor Mt Haven Baptist Church
2223 E 43rd Street - HE 2600
15. Louis Tarcai - Publisher - Az Ujsag (Hungarian News)
8407 Woodland - MU 2288
15. Shaker Square, East 132 Street, Buckeye, Woodland district.
16. Rev. Peter W MacAulay, Pastor
Miles Park Presbyterian Church
17. Karl K Kist - Exec. Secretary Y.M.C.A. - 8303 Broadway
17. Kinsman area east of 140 Street to Shaker Heights boundary
18. Walter S Piotrowicz
3731 E 71st Street CH 1990 or MI 3412
19. Hugh McFarland - 9712 Heath Avenue - MI 7362
20. Leonard Smith
Broadway E 55th Neighborhood Merchants Association MI 7210
21. Vernon B Stouffer - CH 6521
21. Downtown

STATEMENT ON PETITION FOR RELEASED TIME

Submitted by the Jewish Community Council of Metropolitan Cleveland
To the Board of Education of East Cleveland

May 20, 1941

I should like to express our appreciation of the opportunity granted us to present our views on the proposal for denominational religious instruction in the East Cleveland Public Schools. The meeting this evening, and the consideration of all points of view, is in keeping with the American tradition of objective discussion of questions of deep public interest.

We appear before you this evening in behalf of the Jewish Community Council, which is the official spokesman for the Jewish people of East Cleveland. Our Council is composed of 150 organizations of every type -- temples and synagogues, fraternal, educational and others. We have no separate branch for East Cleveland. Our temples and Jewish agencies include the Jewish people of East Cleveland as well as those of other political units, covering the metropolitan area, as does the Catholic diocese.

The Jewish people are concerned with this question not only as citizens who are helping to support the public schools, but as parents of 450 Jewish children attending the public schools of East Cleveland, and as a religious group vitally concerned with the religious instruction of our children.

As such, we want to emphasize that we share with our Catholic and Protestant fellow citizens the earnest desire that the religious influences in the lives of our children and in society generally should be intensified and strengthened. There is no difference whatsoever among the three major religious groups in this objective.

We want to stress, too, that we have every desire to cooperate with our fellow Protestant and Catholic religious leaders in the attainment of those purposes. When we first learned from the newspapers that the released time plan had been agreed upon by the Protestant and Catholic clergymen and was to be proposed to this Board, we called them and arranged for a meeting at which we might exchange views on the subject.

Such a meeting was held, with a friendly and cordial discussion. We are informed that there were differences among the Protestant groups on the subject, and that the Catholic and Protestant leaders were not in complete agreement on the ultimate relationship of public schools and religious education. We expressed the hope that we might have other meetings to continue a joint consideration of the matter and attempt to arrive at some program in which all three religious groups could agree before any proposal was made to the Board of Education. Unfortunately, we heard nothing more until we received a copy of the resolution which had been sent to this Board.

The Schools Committee of the Jewish Community Council has studied the released time plan in its various forms over a period of several months. We have given it a great deal of thought. We regret very deeply that we cannot support the petition which is before you, and that the reasons for our position are so fundamental that as a matter of principle we feel compelled to present them to you. The last meeting of your Board revealed that some of the Protestant church leaders of East Cleveland, and such an important element in the community as the Cleveland Press, have similar objections to the proposal.

The fundamental objection to the plan, in our judgment, is that it violates the doctrine of separation of Church and State. This doctrine was made a pillar of our democracy by the founding fathers of this nation. In these times, of all times, that doctrine must be strengthened rather than broken down.

The plan would place denominational church instruction in the public schools. It would give the Board of Education direct or indirect responsibility for the curriculum of church instruction. It would give the Board responsibility for the passing upon the qualifications of religious teachers, at least in part. This is an involvement in church affairs which it was never intended for a public Board of Education to have, and which under our American system belongs to the Church rather than to the State.

The plan would also place the moral power of the State behind denominational church instruction through checking on the attendance of children at such classes. Although we recognize that attendance at such classes would be theoretically voluntary, there is no doubt but that such checks would exert a profound influence upon the children's attendance. And we have noted that the proponents of the plan elsewhere, while stressing the voluntary arrangement, have uniformly objected to any program in which the public schools would have no check upon, nor any knowledge of, the attendance of the children in the religious classes.

We do not believe it is the function of the public schools in American democracy to supervise such church class attendance. That is the job of the parents and the churches.

Other complications also inevitably would arise and have arisen in other cities. How far can the teachers go in encouraging attendance at religious classes? Can the teachers maintain strict impartiality in their remarks and references to classes of one denomination as compared to another? Rules may be set up requiring such impartiality or non-participation, but practice has demonstrated that it is almost impossible to maintain them.

These are only some of the involvements of Church and State that the plan would bring about. It seems clear to us that the traditional separation of the two would be broken, and that this objection is fundamental.

There are other auxiliary reasons which we want to set forth briefly. We believe that there is now considerable spiritual education and character training in the public schools, and that this is being done in accordance with the historic function of our public schools as distinguished from the churches. We believe that not all character education or spiritual training must necessarily be denominational. We believe that both the schools and churches have a function to perform in this field, and that the schools are teaching the ethical principles that are the foundation of an honest and honorable life.

In our judgment, the schools should continue to do their part of this task and indeed should intensify it and strengthen it. The churches likewise must continue to bear and intensify their part of the responsibility, and we do not believe that it would be wise or helpful to shift part of their burden upon the public schools.

To meet their present responsibilities the public schools already have a full time job. More and more the public schools have been asked to take over tasks which were formerly performed by the family and the home, and those fundamental responsibilities crowd the school hours. Before any further demands are made upon the schools, we ought to examine carefully whether this has been entirely to the benefit of family life and influence.

As a religious group with thousands of children in our Jewish religious schools, we fear that the plan may do more harm than good for religious instruction itself. One hour per week for forty weeks of the year -- in other words, forty hours during the year -- is not enough to give proper religious training. The central problem of religious education has not been to get children to enroll in religious school classes, but to get them to attend often enough and long enough to make that training really meaningful. We cannot believe that forty hours of instruction during the year is the answer to the problem which the churches face. And we have noted that some prominent church leaders -- including Dr. J. B. Armentrout, a national director of leadership education of the Presbyterian church, as quoted in his recent address in Cleveland, E. J. Chave of the School of Divinity of the University of Chicago, and others -- have expressed similar judgments that the released time plan is not the answer.

Our fear is that the released time plan for one hour per week may discourage children and parents from more intensive religious training of several sessions per week. It will be easy for a parent to salve his conscience through a program that apparently has the approval of the public schools, particularly with the kind of indifference which has given church leaders concern and has led them to propose this plan. In short, we gravely fear that the churches themselves may find this plan a boomerang.

We fear, too, the effect upon the children. At a time when we need unity more than ever, the plan would emphasize the differences among children. We believe that the public schools have accomplished something great and wholesome in building attitudes of respect and comradeship among children of different religious and racial backgrounds. That unity should be preserved and strengthened,

Instead, this plan would use the public schools to separate the children, each religious group going to its own class while those whose parents don't see fit to send them to the denominational class, or who are too few in number for their religious group to provide instruction, will remain behind. No child likes to feel himself different from the majority. Children cannot understand fully the reasons for these differences, and are easily apt to distort them in a way that is bound to be harmful. The effects of the plan may thus be embarrassment and even humiliation for many of the children.

In some classes the minority may be Catholic. In some Protestant. In others Jewish. The test of a sound democracy is not the treatment of majorities, but the rights and consideration of minorities.

These objections are not theoretical. In New York, where a modified form of instruction outside of the public school buildings is being tried with a small fraction of the children, already sharp differences and bitter controversy have arisen. There is already a movement to repeal the law which made possible church instruction in school time outside of the school buildings, and there have occurred differences among the sponsors of the plan over attempts by children to enroll others in the classes of their particular denomination.

It has been said that many other communities have the plan in operation. May we submit that almost none of these cities permit the use of school buildings for such instruction during school hours. May we point also to the statement by Dr. Harrison Elliot of Union Theological Seminary and head of the Religious Educational Association of America, that the program is still highly experimental even where it has been in operation. He has stated likewise that there has been no adequate study of the effectiveness of the program where it has been tried, and that such facts must be secured before we can know really what has been the experience to date.

It has also been stated that the Jewish people use a few of the school buildings in Cleveland for religious instruction. We want to point out the fundamental differences between our use of the school buildings and this plan. Our classes are held after school hours. They take place after all of the children have been dismissed from the public school sessions and have gone home. They do not involve the public school curriculum. They do not involve the public school teachers. They do not involve attendance checks by the public schools. They do not involve the public school administration in any way, nor interfere in any way with the public school program.

What we have been doing is merely renting space at a time when the buildings are not in use. This is done in the same manner as any other legitimate group may rent the public school buildings, for any proper purpose. This violates none of the principles we have tried to set forth. We can see no objection to any other legitimate group using the public school facilities in the same way.

As representatives of a religious faith we are anxious to support and participate in any acceptable program which would strengthen the religious influence in the lives of our children. As citizens we are directly concerned with the obligations and functions of our public schools. And as parents we are concerned with the operation of the schools and their influence upon our children.

In short, the plan which has been presented to you violates the American tradition and attempts to pattern a European practice. We regret that we cannot support it, because we are convinced that it would not be to the benefit of the schools, our children, or the community. We make this statement in the friendliest of spirit, and with the cordiality that has characterized our relations in the past. We are ready as always to cooperate with the other religious faiths in the development of some other plan which will be in keeping with the principles of American democracy, which maintains the separation of church and state, and which will achieve the common objectives which all of us seek.