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

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Non-sectarian Anti-Nazi League to Champion Human Rights,  
1938-1941.

REPORT OF  
SPECIAL INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE



Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League  
20 West 47th St.  
New York City



## Report of Special Investigation Committee

At a meeting of the National Advisory Council of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, which Council was elected by the Convention, a special investigating committee was elected consisting of the following persons:

Mitchell Salem Fisher  
A. Harkavy  
vi. Mannes  
Ezekiel Rabinowitz  
Clarence Low

The Committee was requested to investigate the various rumors with respect to the personality and conduct of Benjamin F. Levy. The rumors and charges were in general to the effect that Mr. Levy was not honest, was some kind of a racketeer and was associated with racketeers. Statements were made with respect to alleged sales of territory and improper activity of canvassers.

The Committee met and members of the Committee interviewed the various persons who had made the charges, interviewed Mr. Levy and attempted to check on both the statements of the persons making the charges and Mr. Levy's references and replies.

One of the definite charges was that an application by a customer's man named Saul Cooper of Weingarten & Co. had been held up by the Securities and Exchange Commission by reason of an alleged relationship of Cooper and Mr. Levy. Upon inquiry at the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Committee was advised that the Commission never passed upon applications of customer's men. There was nothing in the files of the Commission concerning such application and nothing was known concerning Mr. Benjamin F. Levy.

Mr. Walter Coleman, Assistant Manager of Offices and Personnel of the New York Stock Exchange, stated that the reason why Mr. Cooper's applica-



tion had been held up was that Cooper had represented that he was the proprietor of the Bertlee Corporation of Pittsburgh and Washington and that the Exchange had learned upon communication that this fact was not true and that Cooper while having an interest or acting as officer in such corporations was not the proprietor. This was the sole reason why the application was delayed and not for any reason of Cooper's connections with the Bartlee Corporation.

Bishop's Agency reported that they had no listing for Benjamin F. Levy or the Bertlee Corporation. The only report they had was a report on B. Franklin Levey who had been involved in some mining transaction. The report of Bishop's was obtained and reviewed and there was no connection established between B. Franklin Levey and Benjamin F. Levy.

Mr. Victor Poletcheck, one of the leading executives of the Hearst organization, upon being interviewed by a member of the Committee, stated that Mr. Levy had been quite successful in a contractual relationship with the New York Daily News and that contracts had then been made with Mr. Levy for the placing of advertising signs in various cities. Mr. Levy's work was thoroughly satisfactory. Mr. Poletcheck trusted Mr. Levy and regards him as completely honest. As far as their organization was concerned, they were very pleased with his work. There were some complaints from the recipients of the signs. By this he indicated that occasionally rather high pressure salesmanship talk was made, local customers would first be sold some rather cheap signs and then later induced to buy some more expensive signs and that there would be a longer period in which the newspaper would distribute the papers than was actually the case. There were never any lawsuits concerning these complaints. On the other hand, Mr. Poletcheck indicated that in a very large newspaper campaign of this kind energetic salesmen frequently make exaggerations and that there was no evidence indicating that Mr. Levy was at all responsible. Mr. Poletcheck stated that on the basis of his experience over a period of time with Mr. Levy he was certain that Mr. Levy was not a racketeer and that Mr. Levy was quite honest and did not see any reason at all why Mr. Levy's connection with the Non-Sectarian



Anti-Nazi League should embarrass such organization in the least and why the League should not retain his services.

There was no report with the National Better Business Bureau with reference to Mr. Benjamin F. Levy or the Bartlee Corporation, with which Mr. Levy had been connected. The New York City Better Business Bureau had no record of the individual Benjamin F. Levy. They had a record of the Bartlee Corporation. The first inquiry and complaint occurred in April 1934 and after that there were several complaints which in general concerned delayed delivery, wrong delivery and alleged misrepresentation concerning (1) the display signs, (2) the name of the company giving the signs, and (3) the discontinuance of the photo-service of the signs at an earlier period than that stated by the salesman. The last entry is of May 7, 1935, at which time the company appears to have gone out of business. Mr. Benjamin F. Levy presented records indicating that in March 1934, he had discontinued his connections with the Bartlee Corporation.

The Committee found that there was no basis to any reported indictment of Mr. Levy in Omaha, Nebraska, and that in fact Mr. Levy had never been in Omaha, Nebraska. There was no police record of Mr. Levy. On the other hand, it appears that in April 1935 the Grand Jury of the County of Kings indicted Mr. Levy of the alleged crime of grand larceny in the second degree. The charge was that on February 27, 1930 he had obtained from one Joseph S. Chasnoff a check in the sum of \$231.75 by falsely representing that an application had been made to, and accepted by, the New York Stock Exchange of the listing of United Wholesale Grocery Company stock. It will be noted that the charge was some five years after the alleged occurrence. It would appear that at the time in question Mr. Levy was employed as a customer's man and that no dissatisfaction with the purchase was made for a period of upwards of five years. On February 13, 1935 Mr. Levy's attorney moved for an order to inspect the minutes of the



Grand Jury which was granted by Algernon I. Nova, Justice, on February 27, 1935. On April 12, 1935 upon a motion of Mr. Levy's attorney, the indictment was ordered dismissed on the ground that same was illegal and that there was no evidence before the Grand Jury warranting the indictment. Mr. Levy then instituted an action for malicious prosecution in the civil courts against Mr. Chasnoff. The civil suit encountered various technicalities and was not brought to completion. A report of one phase of the action appears in the official reports of the Appellate Division of New York, Vol 245- at page 607; 283 N.Y. Supp. 891.

The only other criminal proceedings in which Mr. Levy was at any time involved was a recent matter involving some \$200. likewise based on a complaint many years after the occurrence and which was summarily dismissed in the Magistrate's Court and the Magistrate advised Mr. Levy to seek civil redress by reason of the wrongful accusation.

Mr. Edward Knight of the French Line in New York City upon being requested for information stated that while Mr. Levy was not actually employed by the French Line he did display advertising work for the Line and that his work and personality were quite satisfactory.

Mr. Harry Kosch, previously in charge of the Roxy Theatre, advised that Mr. Levy had done display advertising work for them for a period of approximately nine months, that his work was very satisfactory, that Mr. Levy was very honest and "100% O.K.".

Members of the Committee interviewed the two persons who had made the charges against Mr. Levy and after consideration the Committee was of the opinion that by reason of various facts these persons were not disinterested, that their attacks sprung largely either from jealousy of Mr. Levy, past commercial conflict or a desire to supplant Mr. Levy. In one important respect it seemed reasonably clear to the Committee that one of the informants was definitely not



telling the truth.

The Committee investigated the files of the League and it appears that in practically every single case the amounts received from the public were accompanied by signed slips indicating full knowledge of the fact that the subscriptions were being made to the Anti-Nazi Bulletin so that there is little basis as far as the Committee can determine for the charge that contributors were solicited without reference to subscriptions for the Bulletin. The original arrangements with Mr. Levy clearly contemplated solicitation of individuals for a large number or group subscriptions.

The Committee investigated the charge that there had been sales of territories and can find no evidence supporting said charge. With respect to the particular letter written by a Cleveland attorney to Mr. Levy, the Committee finds no evidence that the letter was solicited by Mr. Levy or that in response thereto any arrangements were made with said attorney.

It would appear that in any large organization in which groups of canvassers are utilized, it is frequently difficult to control the sometime over-enthusiastic energies of the canvassers. In view of the great number of canvassers previously employed by Mr. Levy in the Bartlee Corporation and at present employed by him, the infrequency of complaint tests to Mr. Levy's integrity and honesty. In conclusion, the Committee begs to report that on the basis of the evidence presented to it, and its investigation, it is of the opinion that the charges against Mr. Benjamin Levy were unfounded and unjustified. The Committee has found no financial irregularities of any kind arising out of the connection of the League with Mr. Levy, and is of the opinion that especially in view of the industrious and energetic work of Mr. Levy, a clear injustice has been done to him. As indicated, the report is made on the basis of evidence submitted to the Committee and as will be noted the Committee was not content merely with the reception of such evidence but actively investigated.



It was not within the province of the Committee to pass upon the economic merits of the percentage relationship now existing. The Committee is of the opinion that such percentage relationship should be revised markedly downward, as far as Mr. Levy is concerned.

June 14, 1938.

Respectfully submitted,

Clarence Low  
Mitchell Salem Fisher  
A. Harkavy  
I. Mannes  
Ezekiel Rabinowitz





# NON-SECTARIAN ANTI-NAZI LEAGUE

TO CHAMPION HUMAN RIGHTS, Inc.

20 WEST 47th STREET

NEW YORK

MEDALLION 3-2720

July 13, 1938

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Enclosed herewith is the report of the Special  
Investigation Committee.

This Committee consisting of:

Clarence Low,  
Mitchell Salem Fisher  
A. Harkavy  
I. Mannes  
Ezekiel Rabinowitz



was elected at a meeting of the National Advisory Council  
of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League to investigate certain  
rumors with respect to the personality and conduct of Benjamin  
F. Levy who is conducting a campaign for subscriptions to the  
Anti-Nazi Bulletin. The question was brought up by the Cleveland  
delegation at the Convention of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi  
League to Champion Human Rights, Inc. which took place on  
May 22nd, 1938.

If you entertained any doubts as to the morals or  
ethics of Mr. Levy, we trust that this report dispels those  
doubts.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League

*by BJS*

BK:RC



New York City  
July.29,1938.

Mr.I.R.Morris  
1578 Union Trust Building Co.  
Cleveland,Ohio.

My Dear Mr.Morris,

Undoubtedly you have received report of Special Investigating Committee of Anti-Nazi League,regarding Mr.Bert Levy,and signed by Messers. Low, Fisher,Harkavy,Mannes,Rabinowitz. I am enclosing herewith copies of reports from Bishops Service,Better Business Bureau of New York,and a news-clipping from the New York Times,which I suggest you compare with the Leagues report.

Inasmuch as I have been referred to as an informer and liar with ulterior motives,including getting Levys job,I have gone to the trouble and expense of getting these reports,

I would like to mention that Dr.Kalb of the Newark branch of the Anti-Nazi League stopped in to see me at my office this morning,and mentioned,in the course of our conversation ,that you are having trouble in Cleveland with Mr.Gillson on account of the remarks you passed about him on the floor of the recent convention. I hope it is not so.

Very respectfully yours,

*Saul Cooper*

Saul Cooper  
320 Central Park West  
New York City,N.Y,

P.S.

*Please see to it that Dr. Silver  
knows the true facts*



REPORT OF BISHOPS SERVICE ON BERT LEVY

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July.5,1938.

Gentlemen;

In firther reply to your inquiry regarding BERT LEVY,226 W.70 St., N.Y.C.,we report that he is about 51 years of age,married and has resided in a mode rate priced apartment with his wife Celia Levy at the given address during the past year.

In the latter part of 1926 subject of inquiry came here from Chicago, Ill.,where he was identified with the operation of a chain of retail cigar stores,where he also sold stock for various concerns and also engaged in the organization of clubs,and is said to have also been for a time located in England.

From January 1928 and for a time thereafter he had been employed as office manager for J.O.JOSEPH & CO.,a professional stock selling concern of poor standing.Prior to his connection with J.O.JOSEPH & CO.,Levy was employ- ed by F.A.BLACK & CO.,55 W.42 St.,astock selling concern,now out of business.

Also in 1928 Levy appeared as a principal in the stock selling concern of KEGELMEYER,LEVY & CO. He was only in this firm a short time and Kegelmeyer later informed us that he was glad to get rid of Levy and criticised his business methods.

In 1931 we had occasion to report on a B.FRANK LEVY & CO.,545 Fifth Ave.,N.Y.C.,a style used by B.Frank Levy,also known as Levey,engaged in the sale of securities and corporate financing business,for a period of about a year.

Bert Levy,has in the past been known as

BERTRAM LEVY  
BENJAMIN LEVY  
B.FRANK LEVY  
B,FRANK LEVEY

ands some years ago maintained offices at 247 Park Ave.,New York City,and also was located at 1775 Broadway,N.Y.C.

In 1933 or 1934 BERT LEE CO.,engaged in the manufacture of neon lights, came into existence,in which company Bert Levy appeared as an officer and one of the parties financially interested in same. Joseph O.Joseph,formerly of the firm of J.O.JOSEPH & CO.,heretofore mentioned,appeared as president and dominating factor in the business. This company maintained a suite of offices in the Hammerstein Theatre Building,Bway. at 53 St.N.Y.C.,up until two and half years or so ago,at which time the business was moved to 469-479 Tenth Ave.,N.Y.C., shortly after which Levy resigned as an officer in the corporation,disposed of his interest in same and subsequently became identified with the "NEWS FLASH", 152 W.42 St.,N.Y.C.,which concern was engaged in the operation of Neon Flash- lights.In March 1936 the BERT LEE CO.,went out of business,at that time Bert Levy had no connection with the business.



He also was during the latter part of 1936 or early in 1937 identified with the BEN FORGE CAPITAL CORP., 570 Fifth Ave., N.Y.C., in the merchandising of neon lights. that concerns activities was of short duration, many complaints were heard regarding its' operations and a number of criticisms made. Levy is also said to have been connected with "WORLD EVENTS" Inc., now out of business, in a selling capacity and has had a varied business career, and some of his operations in the past have come under criticism.

During the past three months he has been employed as a circulating campaign manager by the NON-SECTARIAN ANTI-NAZI LEAGUE, 20 W. 47 St., N.Y.C., a non-profit making educational service organization for conducting boycott of German-Nazi goods, in which Samuel Untermyer, attorney, had been president up until recently.

Bert Levy has charge of the ANTI-NAZI BULLETIN, a publication gotten out by the NON-SECTARIAN ANTI-NAZI LEAGUE, this being an affiliate of said organization, and Levy works strictly on a commission basis, receiving 60 % of all the collections and subscriptions he takes in.

At the house wherein subject of inquiry resides he is spoken of as a desirable tenant and pays his rent promptly. We have never been able in the past to establish any business or financial responsibility and there is nothing to indicate at this time, any business or financial responsibility. He has had somewhat of a checkered business career in the past, and looked upon more or less as a professional stock salesman of no particular standing.

On consulting the litigation records we find that Bert Levy has been the subject of considerable litigation in the past, which is enumerated as follows;

The following suits were instituted against Levy,

1775 Bway., Sept. 13, 1935. a suit for \$55. by the Marl-Bel Trading Corp., for breach of contract.

Nov. 6, 1935 a suit for \$575. by L.I. Note Corp. on a note.

Feb. 3, 1936 a suit for \$31.82 by the Western Union Trl. Co. for services.

On May 8, 1936 a suit for \$569.02 was filed against Bert Levy served at 152 W. 42 St. by S. Baumann & Bros. Inc. for goods sold and delivered.

On Jan. 23, 1931 a suit was filed against against Bert and Celia Levy served at 785 West End Ave., N.Y.C., for \$467.92 by Stern Bros. for account stated.

Also on May. 28 1931 a suit for \$369.85 against Bert Levy served at 129 W. 67 St. for

\$100. by 112-114 E. 88 St. Corp. for rent.



Oct.29,1935 a judgment was instituted against Bert J.Levy and Celia Levy, address not stated,for \$273.30 by the Riverside 95 St.Inc.

Also on Sept.1,1934 a suit for \$69.40 against Bert and "ANNA" Levy served at 165 W.91 St.,N.Y.C.,by Maxim Cleaners and Dyers for services rendered.

Also on Feb.7,1931. a suit for \$176.30 was filed against Bert and Anna Levy by I.MILLER & Sons,Inc. for goods sold and delivered.

On March.29,1938 a suit for \$200. against Bert Levy 565 Fifth Ave.,Bklyn.,by M.Newton Jasper for services rendered.

Aug.1932. a suit for \$85. against Bert Frank Levy 884 West End Ave. by Claff M.Manning on a check.

On Oct.1,1931. a judgment for \$109.01 filed against B.FRANK LEVY, Benjamin Levy, address not stated, by the N.Y.TEL. Co., nature of action not stated.

Nov.1931 there were four judgments filed against B.Frank Levey address not stated.

On April 30.1936 a suit against Bert Levy ,Park Central Hotel,N.Y.C.,for \$22.56 by K.& B. Dairy Products for goods sold and delivered.

Levy's only known source of income is,that which he receives for his services with the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League,20 W.47 St.,N.Y.C.,his means are said to be of limited proportions,is unknown to have any outside business interests and any business contemplated should be on a fully protected basis.

Respectfully yours,

BISHOPS SERVICE INC.



At the request of the Attorney-General's office, the Better Business Bureau supplied the following information from their files regarding Mr. Bert Levy:

1. For the years that the Bertlee Co., ( of which Mr. Levy was an officer) was in business, the Better Business Bureau had continuous and constant complaints as to the operations of said Bertlee Co.,
2. In 1930, in Chicago, Ill., Bert Levy and Joseph O. Joseph and one Stern operated the International Lloyds Co., The salesman misrepresented by leading customers to believe that the company was the same as the famous Lloyds of London. Joseph O. Joseph was indicted for MAIL FRAUD, he pleaded GUILTY and was fined \$1,000.
3. Around 1925 in Michigan, Bert Levy, Joseph O. Joseph (this time known as ABRAHAM J. JOSEPH) and the same Stern formed the Michigan Merchant's Association, selling small insurance policies, represented to cover Burglary, Holdups, etc., However, when the policies became payable, it was found that the policies covered only "Daylight Safe Protection". There were so many complaints that they were ordered to cease complete operations by the Insurance Commissions of Michigan.

There is much more information on Mr. Bert Levy, which may be obtained from the Better Business Bureau, 280 Broadway, New York City.





## Sale of Georgia Cotton Up to 25c in Savannah

SAVANNAH, Ga., July 25 (AP).—The Cotton Exchange purchased today the season's first bale of cotton on a bid of 25 pounds. The bale was of grade with a good staple, purchased for the account of the exchange by Joseph Doolan, the first bale sold for 60 pounds and reached the market.

## WEEKS RAILWAY JAMAICA BAY

Hesterberg and Harbo, negotiating with L. I. R. R. New Harbor Plan.

## AR FEE PROPOSED

By Would Provide Money  
cks—Committee to Act  
Offer Before Fall.

try to the development of  
world's great harbors  
fifty-five-mile waterfront  
Bay, a committee com-  
porough Presidents Henry  
and George U. Harvey  
and Queens, respective-  
commissioner of Docks  
approve, representing the  
Estimate, is negotiating  
Long Island Railroad for  
vice to the shore of the  
was ascertained yester-  
officials at the Brooklyn  
all following criticism of  
berg, chairman of the  
for alleged inaction on

no official meetings of  
had been held, it was  
negotiations had been  
and a report for the Board  
would be ready for the

allons are being compli-  
amendment to a State  
passed this year mak-  
atory for the city to ap-  
State Land Board for per-  
land proposed by New  
development purposes.  
ained. While the mem-  
committee appointed by  
Estimate are attempt-  
terms for a working  
with the Long Island  
creby tracks for com-  
wharfage use could be  
State Land Board has  
consulted regarding its  
matter.

session in the past year  
appropriated more than  
redredging purposes of  
Bay Basin and adjacent  
in preparation for the  
and dock expansion of  
in the meantime the  
City Dock Department  
initially completed plans  
arrangements.  
tracks now available  
proposed Jamaica Bay  
expansion cross Ralph  
avenue Dumas and Foster  
brooklyn, it was pointed  
difficulty which the com-  
meeting in its nego-  
the Long Island Rail-  
said, is due to the un-  
the amount of busi-  
develop, and the rap-  
development.

proposed routes for the  
bridge is said to be  
of Ralph Avenue with  
ing to the head of the  
main, which is almost  
edged. Thence one line  
suggested to run along  
avenue, north to the city  
port of Rockaway Park-  
side, and another south  
main development.

or any other tracks  
all the land must be  
the State Land Board  
stretch of vacant land  
avenue purchased. It  
ated by Brooklyn

## COTTON UP DESPITE HITTING 1930 LOWS

Effect of Rains in Drought-  
Stricken Sections Is Offset  
by Covering by Shorts.

## TRADE BUYS ON DECLINE

Final Dealings in July Contracts  
Are at 12.43 Cents, Against  
16 1/4 Cents in February.

Further rains in drought-ridden sections of Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas caused yesterday a renewal of selling pressure on the Cotton Exchange, but the market developed resistance at the lower level. An early decline established new bottom marks for the year, with October below 12 1/2 cents and the lowest quotation since the record crop season of 1926.

The steady decline of about 90 points from prices at the close of last week and the fact that hot, dry weather still continued throughout Texas and Oklahoma developed short covering. The list closed 1 to 10 points higher than on Thursday.

From a quarter to a third of the stations reporting from three States in the northern part of the Mississippi Valley received beneficial moisture, with general rainfall in Alabama. Virtually no relief, however, has so far been received in Texas and Oklahoma, where temperatures reached 108 degrees. Private reports from Western cotton-growing sections reflect a loss in crop prospects in contrast with excellent progress in Eastern States. Strength of the corn market stimulated covering by professional interests and scale buying orders for trade account absorbed contracts at the decline.

## July Trading Down.

The final trading in July contracts was done at noon at 12.43c, compared with more than 16 1/4 for July when the Farm Loan Board took over the holdings of cooperative associations early in February. This decline of 4c, or \$20 a bale, represents a loss of approximately \$16,000,000 in the market value of the 800,000 bales delivered on the May and July positions, exclusive of commissions, costs of handling and carrying charges.

Yesterday's quotations here follow:

Open High Low Close Pre. Day.  
July 12.32 12.55 12.32 12.43 12.46  
Oct. 12.67 12.92 12.67 12.84 12.74-75  
Dec. 12.51 12.64 12.42 12.57 12.52  
Mar. 12.60 12.67 12.46 12.58 12.81-92  
May 12.66 12.74 12.59 12.72-73 12.67-68  
Jan. 12.96 13.09 12.96 13.04 13.09  
Mar. 12.72 12.88 12.70 12.81 12.76  
May 12.93 13.08 12.88 13.01 12.97-99  
July 13.10 13.22 13.05 13.16-17 13.15-16  
\*Expired at noon.

The local market for spot cotton was steady at 10 points advance to 12.75c for middling upland. Sales, 200 bales.

Southern spot markets were: Galveston 12.40c, 5 points advance, sales 56 bales; New Orleans 12.49c, 5 points advance, sales 124 bales; Savannah, 11.92c, 5 points advance; Augusta, 12.31c, 6 points advance, sales 113 bales; Memphis, 11.80c, 5 points advance, sales 445 bales; Houston, 12.80c, 5 points advance, sales 1,303 bales; Little Rock, 11.57c, 7 points advance, sales 242 bales.

Yesterday's cotton statistics in bales were:

Port receipts: Yesterday, 1,417; Last Yr., 3,159. Exports: Yesterday, 1,417; Last Yr., 3,159. Season: 6,599,174; 6,774,798. New York stocks: 240,237; 237,453. Ports: 1,537,560; 1,583,296. New York arrivals: 1,935; 1,414.

## Liverpool Spot Cotton Quiet.

Liverpool cables: Spot cotton quiet, 11 points decrease to 7.49d for middling. Sales 2,000 bales, American

## BROKERS ENJOINED; STOCK FRAUD CHARGED

J. O. Joseph & Co. Accused of  
Selling Shares Worth \$3 and  
\$4 at \$9 to \$12.50.

Charged with having sold \$300,000 worth of stock fraudulently, J. O. Joseph & Co. and its president, Joseph O. Joseph, were temporarily enjoined yesterday from further stock sales by Supreme Court Justice Strong in Brooklyn on motion of Attorney General Hamilton Ward. A hearing was set for Aug. 4, when application will be made for a permanent injunction and appointment of a receiver.

Joseph, who had an elaborate suite of offices at 247 Park Avenue, sold 25,000 shares of stock of the United Wholesale Grocery Company of Philadelphia at prices ranging from \$9 to \$12.50 a share, according to Henry B. Staples of the State Bureau of Securities, who represented the Attorney General in court.

The defendants used the "sale and switch" method of stock sales, Mr. Staples said, also charging that in many instances where customers were induced to buy stock costing \$3 and \$4 for \$12.50, statements were made that the United Wholesale Grocery Company had issued certain "rights" to stockholders to take more stock at \$9 a share.

"The United Wholesale Grocery Company never issued any 'rights' nor had any intention of doing so," Mr. Staples said.

He also charged that Joseph had wrongfully represented that the stock was to be listed on the New York Curb Exchange, and that expected increased earnings of the United Wholesale Grocery Company would result in an increased dividend rate.

Mr. Staples said in his affidavit that he had been informed that Joseph was indicted and fined in Pittsburgh in 1922 and in Chicago in 1925 for mail fraud. The action taken yesterday was the result of many complaints and several months of investigation.

## C. K. FANKHAUSER HELD IN STOCK TRANSACTION

New York Broker Arrested at  
Rochester on Complaints by  
New Haven Investors.

Special to The New York Times.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., July 25.—Charles K. Fankhauser, 56, New York broker, is under arrest here on a fugitive warrant charging him with grand larceny, first degree.

He is wanted in New Haven, Conn., where he is accused of swindling Thomas P. Smallman by accepting \$2,590 for stocks which were not delivered. He had been sought by New York and New Haven authorities for six weeks. He had been directing stock sales for the Wise, Bundock Company, a furniture manufacturing concern, at Brockport.

Fankhauser was identified after his arrest by Harry A. Brinkerhoff, president of the Brinkerhoff Electric Company of West New York, N. J.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., July 25 (AP).—William H. Geer was held here today under \$5,000 bond as an accomplice of Charles K. Fankhauser in connection with alleged stock-swindling deals here and in New York City. Police were planning to extradite Fankhauser and bring him to New Haven to stand trial with Geer. They are alleged to have taken cash and securities from several persons in exchange for stock which they failed to deliver.

Charles Fankhauser, according to the records of the Prevention of

## HARRY S. BLACK LEFT ESTATE TO FAMILY

Widow and Nephew to Share  
Residue After Bequests of  
\$175,000 Are Paid.

## GIFTS TO CHARITY PLANNED

Organizations Here and in Chicago  
May Benefit Later—Other  
Wills and Appraisals.

With the exception of an estimate of "more than \$100,000" placed upon his personal property, the true value of the estate of Harry S. Black, chairman of the United States Realty and Improvement Corporation, owner of a chain of hotels, including the Hotel Plaza in this city, was not disclosed yesterday when his will was filed for probate in Surrogate's Court.

Mr. Black, who was 66 years old, committed suicide on July 19 at his country home at Lloyd Harbor, near Huntington, L. I., by shooting himself, according to the police.

Richard G. Babbage of 555 Park Avenue, counsel for the estate and one of the executors named in the will, said last night that he was "not at liberty" to reveal the value of the property. The petition for probate, filed with the will, said that the personal property owned by Mr. Black was worth more than \$100,000 and that he left no real estate in this State.

## Widow and Nephew Chief Heirs.

The document, dated Dec. 31, 1929, and consisting of eight and one-half pages, makes bequests of more than \$175,000 to various relatives and friends and leaves the residue in trust for the widow, Mrs. Isabelle May Black, who lives at the Plaza, and a nephew, George Allon Fuller of 350 Park Avenue, who is the son of a sister of Mr. Black's first wife, Allon Mae Fuller, who divorced him in May, 1905. The widow is the daughter of Colonel and Mrs. Henry May of Washington, D. C.

His widow and nephew are to receive the income from the residue during their lives, the will stipulates, and the principal is to pass to their issue when they die. If they leave no issue, the will directs, the residuary principal is to be held in trust by the executors and trustees, who are to "distribute the income among duly organized charities which, in their judgment, are kindly and wisely contributing to the relief of unfortunate men, women and children who are either sick or physically disabled."

## Aids Charity in Two Cities.

"As the beginning of the estate, which goes into this trust," continues the will, "was made in the city of Chicago, and its completion in the city of New York, I hope that my trustees will endeavor to distribute about 40 per cent of the net income to such organized charities of the general character as I have outlined herein as are located in Chicago, and the residue to such organized charities of the general character as I have outlined here to the city of New York. I would also suggest to my trustees that they consult with the president of Columbia University in the city of New York and the president of the University of Chicago in regard to the selection of the organized charities to receive the income from this fund."

"It is my desire that this trust shall be referred to as the Harry S. Black and Allon Fuller Fund."

The executors and trustees are Mr. Babbage and Joseph D. Tooker, Tompkins Road, Scarsdale, N. Y., who gets a bequest of \$20,000.

Mr. Fuller, who is married, also receives jewelry and wearing apparel, and the widow gets household effects furniture and automobiles.

## Brothers and Sister Benefit.

The will also bequeaths \$20,000 each to Mr. Black's brother, Frederick S.

Seventh Avenue, who is named executor.

F. R. Appleton Estate \$803,188.

Francis R. Appleton, capitalist, who died Jan. 2, 1929, left an estate appraised yesterday at \$1,047,338 gross and \$803,188 net, the estate being reduced by debts of \$173,923 and other deductions. The bulk of the estate consisted of securities worth \$924,048, of which \$636,795 was the value of 801 shares of the National Park Bank. He had \$60,571 insurance, cash amounting to \$4,135 and personal effects appraised at \$41,950, of which \$40,000 was the value of a Gilbert Stuart painting of George Washington.

Mrs. Fannie Lanier Appleton, widow, received \$719,688, while \$11,000 went to Francis Jr., son, and \$10,000 each was left to Ruth A. Wendell and Alice A. Hay, daughters, and their husbands, William G. Wendell and Clarence L. Hay. Randolph M. Appleton, a brother, received \$5,000. Gifts of \$5,000 each were left to the Harvard Club, of which he had been president; the Porcellian Club of Harvard, the New York Farmers, an agricultural advancement corporation, and the Ascension Memorial Church.

Complete list of wills and estate appraisals on page 28.

## COUNTESS'S WILL FILED.

Knowlton Trust Income Goes to  
Count von Francken-Sierstorff.

An exemplified copy of the will of Countess von Francken-Sierstorff, who was the former Mary Knowlton of Brooklyn, has been filed in the Surrogate's Court in Brooklyn, it was learned yesterday. The original document was probated in Berlin where the Countess died July 21, 1929. The Brooklyn proceeding was brought to administer her property in that borough. Ancillary letters of administration were granted to the Bank of America National Association by Surrogate Wingate.

The Brooklyn assets comprise a \$1,200,000 trust fund created by the will of the Countess's father, Edwin F. Knowlton, a straw goods manufacturer. The income from that fund is to be paid to Count Hans Clemens von Francken-Sierstorff, son of the testatrix, and eventually is to pass to his issue. The Countess's will, which left to her son only "the legal share due him," directed that the chief heir of the family lands and fortunes over which she has power of disposition shall be the eldest son of her son or, if he has no son, to his eldest daughter. Codicils to the will proscribed many of her son's titled friends from entering the family estates at Zyrowa in Silesia, and direct that her heir be reared in the Catholic faith.

## LIVE STOCK IN CHICAGO.

Special to The New York Times.

CHICAGO, July 25.—Hog prices were generally steady early today, but the demand became less aggressive late and prices dropped sharply. Lightweights generally were 25 to 40 cents lower at the last, while other kinds were off 1 to 25 cents, medium weights showing the least loss. Most sales were at \$7.90 to \$9.50, with heavyweights \$8.25 to \$9.20, medium \$8.80 to \$9.65, lights \$9.25 to \$9.75 and packing sows \$7 to \$7.90. The top was 5 cents higher at \$9.75, while the day's average was off 20 cents at \$8.60. Packers bought 14,400 and shippers 4,000, with 3,000 left over. Receipts were 15,000, with 7,000 estimated for tomorrow.

Offerings of cattle were small, but demand was slow and bids were weak to 25 cents lower, the general market being the lowest since 1924. Prices are off 50 cents from the close of a week ago, and as much as \$3 under last week's prices. Receipts at \$7.00 per Corp. of Amer. 50 54  
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Do D 50 54  
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Do S 50 54  
Do T 50 54  
Do U 50 54  
Do V 50 54  
Do W 50 54  
Do X 50 54  
Do Y 50 54  
Do Z 50 54

Receipts, 91,588  
In short held stock  
with tone steady.  
State, flats, 23-  
Fresh, specialties, 1-  
Fresh, fancy, 1-  
Wet, Young Amer.  
Held, 23-  
Receipts, 16,205  
the general run of  
is firm because of  
from Central  
Bk of Pt Receipts  
Cit Tr, Pius 36, New Y  
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## SUGAR

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26,100 tons

September  
December  
January  
March  
May  
July (31)

The price  
No.

July  
September  
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May  
July (31)

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July (31)

\* Nominal.

MILD

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The price

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July (31)

\* Nominal.

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Seconds, 84 to 87

score 32

Lower grd., 31-32

Centralized:

90 score, 34

88 score, 34 1/2

84 to 87

Lower grd., 31-32

Receipts, 91,588

In short held stock

with tone steady.

State, flats, 23-

Fresh, specialties, 1-

Fresh, fancy, 1-

Wet, Young Amer.

Held, 23-

Receipts, 16,205

the general run of

is firm because of

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Bk of Pt Receipts

Cit Tr, Pius 36, New Y

Com T, Erie 140, N



S. Cooper  
320 Central Park West  
N. Y. C.



Mr. I. R. Morris  
Attorney at Law  
1578 Union Trust Bldg.  
Cleveland, Ohio.



November 29, 1938

Dr. S. William Kalb  
Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League  
20 West 47th Street  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Kalb:

Let me thank you for your letter of November 25. I am sorry that I will not be able to attend the meeting of the National Advisory Council on Sunday, December 4, inasmuch as I must occupy my own pulpit on that day.

I am glad that you are coming to the point of amalgamation with the Joint Boycott Council. You may recall that I suggested it some time ago and for some reason never quite explained to me, it was rejected out of hand. I still think that the situation calls for unity of planning and action.

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



THIS ARTICLE SHOULD BE READ CAREFULLY  
BY EVERY TRUE CHRISTIAN!

Americans want tolerance, not bigotry; brotherly love,  
not hate; truth, not lies; Cardozas, not Coughlins;  
religion, not Nazi paganism; and unity, not dissension  
in our battle against dictatorships.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1938.

NEW YORK WORLD TELEGRAM

## Fair Enough

By Westbrook Pegler



Father Coughlin was correct in contending that many Jews have been vigorous Communists in Russia and elsewhere, but it would be equally true and equally unfair to the members of his own faith in the United States to point out that Fascism started in a Catholic country and that a Catholic Cardinal welcomed the Nazis to Austria.

Father Coughlin said that by their failure to use the press, the radio and the banking houses, "where they stand so prominently," to fight Communism as vigorously as they fight Nazi-Fascism, the Jews invite the charge of being supporters of Communism.

If that is so, however, it must follow that American Catholics have a similar obligation to oppose Fascism and Nazism as vigorously as they fight Communism. It will be conceded, I suppose, that both Communism and Nazi-Fascism are equally inimical to the American ideal and that Nazi-Fascism is more actively dangerous to this country at the moment.

It would be foolish to pretend that the hatred of Nazi-Fascism among Jews is purely intellectual and political. It would be hated much less if it were not anti-Semitic, and some Jews might even indorse it as a system of government. But the Jesuits themselves are Communists in a sense, and the Catholic opposition to Communism is largely due to religious considerations.

### Victims of Persecution.

The Nazis persecute Jews. Therefore Jews cry "Outrage!" and hate Nazism.

The Spanish Loyalists persecute Catholics. Therefore the Catholic clergy and press and many of the laymen also cry "Outrage!" and hate the Loyalist side.

But it is no more true to say that all American Jews are Communists or fellow-travelers or to accuse them of tolerating Communism than it is to say that American Catholics are Nazi-Fascists or that they sympathize with Italy and Germany, which, in league with Japan, are fomenting hostility toward this country's ideals and material interests.

Father Coughlin will yet turn to be the greatest aid and comfort to the recurrent anti-Catholic move-

ment in the United States. These waves rise and fall, and when the next one sweeps along great emphasis will be placed on reports of an open-air meeting in Brooklyn during the Presidential campaign of 1936 at which Father Coughlin, of Detroit, a Catholic priest and politician, was attended by an honorary bodyguard of armed and uniformed men.

This incident will be exploited as evidence of a private militia, and although neither Catholics nor the Catholic Church were at all concerned in it, by Father Coughlin's own method of argument in holding all Jews accountable for the activities of some Jews the armed guard episode will be fair material. It needn't even be true, because Father Coughlin himself has established precedent for the use of unverified but sensational material.

### When the Shoe Pinches.

I doubt, also, that the Brooklyn Tablet, a Catholic publication, would be willing to accept in that case a condition which it laid down last week in discussing Father Coughlin's latest controversy.

"He said openly what millions are saying in their ordinary conversation at home and on the streets," the Tablet said.

That probably is true, but there have been times when millions of people in this country said, in their ordinary conversations at home and on the streets, many vicious and utterly false things about Catholics and Catholicism, and a time may come when they will say them again. And right now if some anti-Catholic orator were to take the air as prominently as Father Coughlin did and accuse all the Catholics of the United States of being Nazi-Fascists or Nazi-Fascist sympathizers, of plotting to deliver this country to the Pope, Mussolini or Hitler, the Brooklyn Tablet would be less tolerant of the open declaration of every canard currently on the lips of many individuals. The Tablet is not famous for its tolerance.

By Father Coughlin's own argument it would be fair and just to hold that Catholics exert a corrupting influence in American politics because Tammany Hall and the New York City Hall were dominated by Catholic politicians in days of atrocious corruption and because the same phenomenon has occurred in Jersey City and Kansas City—a fact which, incidentally, has been discussed by millions in their ordinary conversations at home and on the streets.



## Temple Beth El

12 Breed Street  
Lynn, Mass.

December 6, 1938

Rabbi Abba H. Silver  
The Temple  
105 Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The Rabbinical Association of Greater Boston and of neighboring cities, representing more than 20 congregations, saw fit to take concrete action to counteract the destructive influences of Coughlinism and of similar manifestations in our own State of Massachusetts.

However, realizing that this is a nation-wide problem we felt that we ought to be guided by the counsel as well as by the actions of the leaders of the most prominent Jewish National Organizations of this country.

As for our own group, the following suggestions have been made:

1. To bring public pressure upon our local radio-stations that they discontinue all of Coughlin's addresses.
2. That periodical radio broadcasts be made by our own group in refutation of these libels.
3. That a concise and factual refutation be signed by all the members of our association and to be prominently published in all newspapers of greater Boston.
4. That an appeal be made by us to the Catholic Church of America that they officially repudiate all of Father Coughlin's unfounded charges against our people.
5. That our Committee call on Cardinal O'Connell in person and urge him to make such a refutation in his own name.

Will you be kind enough to state your opinion as to the advisability of any or of all of these suggestions; and will you be kind enough to give us the benefit of your judgment as to what should be done to avert this menace of Coughlinism, the effects of which are very seriously felt in this state with its perponderate Catholic population.

Hoping that you will give this your immediate attention and thus help guide the action of our Committee, we are,

Sincerely yours,

Committee on Public Pronouncements  
Rabbinical Association of Greater Boston

*Harburg*  
Secretary



*Non-Sectarian  
Anti-Nazi League*

## REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Submitted to the Meeting of the Board of Directors on December 20, 1938

The balance sheet of the LEAGUE on September 1, 1938, five days before I took office, indicated a credit balance of \$2358.23. On that day the bills outstanding totalled \$1464.27. At that time the income from the mail campaign averaged about \$100 a day. An additional income averaging about \$200 a week was received through the efforts of Mr. Zatkowitz who had been retained after the contract with Mr. Benjamin Levy was discontinued. Thus both income and expenses of the LEAGUE averaged about \$1,000 a week.

Aside from the mail campaign conducted under the supervision of Mr. Barsel, the subscriptions solicited by Mr. Zatkowitz and one or two others, and the routine work done by the Publicity and Research Departments, the LEAGUE was not engaged in any vital activities. There was no organizational work in progress and no special emphasis was being laid on the development of boycott activities. Our supply of propaganda material and mail campaign folders was virtually exhausted and no effort had been made to replace these.

Several reasons were responsible for this condition. In the first place, we had just passed through the summer period when activity naturally tends to slacken. Secondly, there had been no executive head or a person to assume responsibility and direction for work since May. The office personnel was demoralized and disorganized by suspicions of lack of loyalty, charges of inactivity and inefficiency, shifting around of workers into positions for which they were unsuited, and what the personnel interpreted as an unsympathetic attitude toward the demands of their union. Finally, the lack of enthusiasm and action on the part of the professional personnel was a reflection of the factional strife through which the LEAGUE had just passed and the uncertainty as to its future.

At this time the LEAGUE suffered under two very serious handicaps insofar as its reputation and public relations were concerned. Mrs. Mark Harris, who had resigned from the organization, was extremely active in spreading among both influential Jews and non-Jews misinformation concerning the honesty, financial responsibility and radicalism of the LEAGUE. She also made grave charges regarding the integrity, personal ambitions and intentions of the Chairman of the Board of Directors and the Chairman of the Executive Committee. These charges were responsible for several resignations from the Board of Directors, including George Gordon Battle, Richard Beamish and J. David Stern. They were also reflected in the antagonistic reaction of people whom your Executive Director approached for support and cooperation immediately upon taking office.

The second of these handicaps was the connection of Benjamin Levy and his crew of solicitors with the LEAGUE. In addition to the general disapproval of the high commissions paid to these solicitors, there were specific instances where the solicitors had cashed bad checks, borrowed money on the strength of their connection with our organization, run up hotel bills and other debts. For a period of at least one month following the severance of contractual relations with Levy, the National Office received reports from New York City and other Cities throughout the East concerning these incidents. In all cases the LEAGUE itself was held responsible and, in many instances, threats of legal action were made against the LEAGUE. The attached copies of an exchange of letters with Mr. Aaron Wittstein, one of the wealthiest and most influential citizens of Bridgeport, will serve as an example of this reaction to the activities of Levy's solicitors. Mr. Wittstein had received a letter from Mr. Schroeder of our Organization Department requesting him to help in establishing a chapter in Bridgeport. He did not reply to Mr. Schroeder but returned the letter to Levy with the comments that are quoted below:



THE CITY LUMBER CO.

75 THIRD ST. BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

September 8, 1938

Mr. B. Levy  
c/o Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League  
20 West 47th Street  
New York, N.Y.

Dear sir:

I am returning to you enclosed a letter recently received from your organization. In view of our correspondence since our letter to you of July 28th, what do you think my reaction is toward the enclosed letter? As you did not show us the courtesy of a response to our letters of August 4th and August 10th we were just about to write you again regarding the matter when the enclosed letter was received. We were just about to write you that, while we are wholly in sympathy with the purposes and efforts of your organization, we would not only never contribute again in the future but would make it our business to make it known throughout this community what sort of an organization is behind the movement. Mr. Teller was your agent and representative while he was in Bridgeport and therefore you are responsible for his acts and representations as we had no knowledge whatever that he was no longer with you until we received your letter of July 29th in reply to ours of the 28th.

In response to the enclosed letter you may not only not count upon my cooperation until the \$10.00 in question is refunded to us but I shall do everything in my power (and I flatter myself that I have some influence in the Jewish community of this city) to prevent the formation of a branch of your organization in this city.

What are you going to do about it?

Very truly yours,

THE CITY LUMBER COMPANY  
of Bridgeport, Inc.

(Signed) Aaron Wittstein  
Treasurer

September 13, 1938

Mr. Aaron Wittstein  
The City Lumber Company  
75 Third Street  
Bridgeport, Conn.

My dear Mr. Wittstein:

By a stroke of luck your letter of September 8th addressed to B. Levy, care of the League was opened in this office and finally turned over to me. I need hardly say to you that I find your communication extremely disturbing and I am determined to straighten out this matter to your satisfaction.

However, let me give you a little of the background of the entire situation in order to clarify matters. As you will realize when you have read it, this information is private and I trust you will keep it confidential. Let me say, parenthetically, that in so far as the sum of ten dollars is concerned I shall see to it that it is refunded to you if, after reading the rest of my letter, you feel that the League is in no way responsible.

Some time in April the League entered into an agreement with this man, Levy, to solicit subscriptions for our Bulletin. This was undoubtedly one of the most foolish and unfortunate arrangements that it was possible for the League to make. Johannes Steel, Executive Secretary of our organization at that time, was asked to resign for this and other reasons but the League was still left with the Levy contract on its hands.



Cont'd - Mr. Aaron Wittstein

September 13, 1938

Levy had an organization of professional solicitors operating independently of the League, whose personnel was unfortunately unknown to our officers. These men spread all over this community like a flight of locusts. Such instances as you report occurred in a great many places. The difficulty was that the reports of their activities came directly to Levy and he kept them from the notice of the officers of the League.

Within a couple of months we were able to get enough information on Levy's character and background to enable us to break our contract and to sever all relations with him and his gang but by that time the crew had done irreparable damage to the League. This was only realized since Levy was requested to leave the office and it is up to me to do what I can to rectify the costly mistake of our association with that crew.

You can readily recognize what a terrible thing this has been to our organization. At least a dozen men have echoed your words "while we are wholly in sympathy with the purposes and efforts of your organization, we would not only never contribute again in the future but would make it our business to make it known throughout this community what sort of an organization is behind our movement."

I do not need to urge you to reconsider such a statement. I have had some experience of your courtesy and fairness in the past and I know that you will not hold an idealistic movement, which is both honest and sincere responsible for the activities of a gang of unscrupulous solicitors which was never "behind the movement."

I have just begun my work here as Executive Director and this is an unpleasant duty which I feel I must perform in order to enable our movement to exert the efforts and reach the purposes which you approve. As I mentioned before, if you desire it after this explanation, I shall have the money returned to you in the next mail. Meanwhile I am informing Levy who has established headquarters at 2 West 46th St., New York City, that I shall withhold any and all commissions which may be due him for some belated mail contributions until they total the sum which is due to you and which I shall thereupon send you.

Please let me hear from you at your earliest convenience and please bear in mind that this movement is greater than any of its individuals and deserves your support and cooperation.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) Johan J. Smertenko  
Executive Director.

September 23, 1938

Mr. Johan J. Smertenko  
c/o Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League  
20 West 47th Street  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Smertenko:

This will acknowledge your very welcome letter of September 13th explaining the background of the situation relative to my complaint. Naturally, the mere fact that you are now actively connected with the League changes the picture entirely and I join with you in the regret that an organization such as yours had the misfortune to be associated with an unscrupulous group of profiteers.

In view of your explanation you are right in presuming that I would not ask the organization to refund the ten dollars to me. You understand, of course, that it was not a question of the money involved but the idea of being so grossly taken in after having made a substantial contribution and extended help in other way.



Mr. Johan J. Smertenko - Cont'd

September 23, 1938

However, should you accumulate sufficient funds which may be due Mr. Levy, naturally I shall be glad to have the ten dollars refunded to me out of such funds.

Your letter restored my faith in the organization and I wish you every success as Executive Director.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Aaron Wittstein





## OFFICE

### PERSONNEL

Upon taking office your Director first turned his attention to the personnel. He made a satisfactory agreement with the Union which raised the salaries of a number of the underpaid workers. At his suggestion one of the workers who had been accused of disloyalty to the LEAGUE, especially in connection with Mrs. Harris, found other employment. An office manager was appointed and the workers were assigned to tasks for which they were best qualified under stricter supervision than they had had before. By systematizing the routine work of the various departments and initiating new activities it was possible to arouse the enthusiasm and cooperation of the entire personnel which is now functioning in an efficient manner. There is a marked improvement in the morale of the office and I am happy to report that I am satisfied that the workers are now conscientiously and efficiently performing their duties.

Despite two additions to the office force, however, the office is very seriously understaffed. We are now doing more than ten times the amount of work which was done before I began my program of activities and it is physically impossible to cope with this work with the number of people who are at present available. In order to overcome some of the handicaps of the inadequate staff, as well as the taxing demands on my own time, I have had to arrange that one of my secretaries come at eight o'clock each morning in order to allow me an hour of dictation before the rush of business begins. I have also had to request from the office force a great amount of overtime work, sometimes extending to past midnight in order to keep up with the demands made upon me and the office.

Another serious handicap has been the office itself which is so constituted that it is impossible to achieve maximum efficiency. Aside from the fact that the dilapidated condition of the office makes a very bad impression on the public which is constantly streaming in through our doors, there is the question of arrangement of rooms which do not permit any privacy or concentration on the part of the Executives. I have been forced to take several mornings each week for work in my own home with either one or two secretaries in order to overcome this difficulty.

An increased personnel and improved office space are imperative for the successful development of our organization. Our present income as well as our general prospects justify action in this connection. I am convinced that with these improvements we can further increase our income by greater and more effective activity.

## ORGANIZATION

### DEPARTMENT

One of my first actions was to establish a functioning Organization Department with a view to forming local chapters throughout the country and branches in the City of New York. Mr. Gerhard Schroeder was put in charge of this department and he is assisted by Mr. Samuel Maness as Field Secretary. It is due to their efforts that a Chapter has been established in Philadelphia with a membership exceeding 700. They have also been able to organize 30 neighborhood groups in Greater New York which are now being combined into branches representing the various boroughs. Steps have been completed toward the establishment of a Connecticut organization with chapters in Hartford, New Haven, Waterbury and New Britain. At the present time Mr. Maness is in Albany where a strong Chapter is being organized in a very strategic position. Preliminary steps have also been taken in other up-State cities of New York, in Pennsylvania and in Massachusetts, as will be evident from the report of the head of the Organization Department.

An attempt has been made to secure greater cooperation with the New Jersey Chapter. At the time I took office certain members of the Executive Committee were under the impression that the New Jersey Chapter sought to establish itself as an autonomous organization totally independent in policy and financial relations from the National Office. This impression served to create considerable misunderstanding and resentment which are gradually being dispelled. I have attended two meetings of the Actions Committee of the New Jersey Chapter addressing them on certain problems of the LEAGUE. We have recently received \$100. on account of an outstanding debt and in part payment for BULLETINS and dues to the National Office. The New Jersey Chapter is still \$1,767.60 in arrears for the year 1938 but Mr. Alenick has indicated the intention of the Chapter to balance its account at the earliest opportunity.



**WOMEN'S DIVISION** I wish to call special attention to the most successful achievement of the LEAGUE in recent days which is due chiefly to the untiring efforts of Mrs. Esther Fisher and her Executive Committee who have been able to establish a Women's Division in New York City. There are now over 600 members in this Division. They have been able to carry on their activities without any cost to the LEAGUE. We spent \$607.18 in forming this Division and every cent has been turned back to the LEAGUE treasury. At the same time, the groundwork has been laid for further financial returns which will go to the development of the Division and the up-keep of the National Office.

In addition to fund-raising activities, the Women's Division has established active committees of propaganda, boycott, membership, organization and office help. These committees have been instrumental in spreading the work of the LEAGUE and enlarging our general membership. They have arranged to have the Christmas truck drive through the streets of Greater New York all this month to stimulate the boycott of German goods. This truck has been particularly helpful in picketing the German exposition at the Grand Central Palace.

By means of drawing-room meetings the Women's Division has won a sympathetic hearing among many groups in the City who previously had no knowledge whatsoever of the organization or its activities. Under the leadership of the Manhattan Executive Committee, headed by Mrs. Esther Fisher, similar work has been done in Brooklyn, Queens, and the Bronx. Branches of the Women's Division have been established there. Under its auspices three overflow mass meetings have been held in Manhattan and Brooklyn.

**SMALLER GROUPS** A significant development in the organizational work of the LEAGUE has been the formation of smaller groups which are now being coordinated into the borough branches of the City. It has been my aim to establish the entire organization on a membership basis. The purpose of this is two-fold. I believe that by this means we shall really get active workers who will spread the propaganda of our movement throughout the nation. I also believe that when the entire country is organized on this membership basis we shall have a clear idea of the assets of the LEAGUE and on the basis of this information we can organize a regular annual budget which will enable us to apportion our funds among the various departments of the LEAGUE and not carry on a hand-to-mouth existence which, at this time, limits our plans and programs for the future. \*

As a result of one such meetings at the home of Mrs. I. M. Zacharias, we have been able to bring into the movement Mr. and Mrs. Albert J. Seligsberg. Mrs. Seligsberg has personally raised about \$1000. among her friends. Through her help I have been able to obtain Mr. Alphonse A. Shelare as Treasurer of our organization. With her cooperation I have just arranged to meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Stern, 875 Park Avenue, which will be attended by men and women of their acquaintance including Messrs. and Mesdames Percy Strauss, Max Steuer, Howard Dietz, William S. Paley, Paul Block, Howard S. Cullman and others. At the request of Mrs. Seligsberg we have been promised new quarters for our offices by Mr. David S. Shulte as soon as he can arrange to free the amount of space which we require.

A similar group has become interested in the LEAGUE through the efforts of Mr. Harold Lack. This group has pledged itself to raise funds for a project of a confidential nature which I have outlined to them and which will require between \$10,000. and \$15,000. Mrs. Zacharias has been able to interest some of the outstanding musicians in New York City and it is through her work that we have the offer of a concert by Toscanini's orchestra for the benefit of the LEAGUE. She is also making arrangements to put at our disposal the services of the Primrose Quartet.

A special word of praise must be given to the workers of the North Queens Branch which has been organized through the efforts of Mrs. Vieland, Mr. Martel, Mr. Rivlin, Mrs. Linnet and Mrs. Pierson. This includes memberships from Sunnyside, Astoria, Jackson Heights, Elmhurst and other communities. Since its organization three weeks ago, this branch has contributed over \$300. to the LEAGUE and it is doing very effective propaganda work in a community which has had a strong anti-Semitic campaign.

\* The groups in question have been established by the use of drawing-room meetings and our efforts have been rewarded by a very enthusiastic response. So far, fifty-two parlor meetings have been held which have been addressed by your Director, Mr. Schroeder of the Organization Department, Dr. Mitchell Salem Fisher, Mr. Samuel Maness, Mrs. Esther Fisher, Mrs. Breakir, Mrs. Josephine Geddes and other occasional speakers. As a result, thirty groups have been formed, some of them of the most significant character.



It is obvious that these organizational efforts need to be coordinated and it is in this respect that the LEAGUE owes a great debt to Dr. Mitchell Salem Fisher and Mr. Herman Hoffman who have interested some of the most influential members of our community in the formation of a Greater New York Chapter. A preliminary meeting has been held at the home of Dr. Fisher for this purpose and a Temporary Executive Committee has been elected. To this Committee representatives from all the groups within the City are being added and the organizational meeting of these representatives is scheduled to be held immediately after the New Year. With the formation of this Chapter, we shall have the strongest single unit of the LEAGUE functioning in New York.

I need not point out here to those who realize the difficulties of organizational work how great a problem this has been to Mr. Schroeder and his small Department. Limited by the amount of clerical help which he could obtain, Mr. Schroeder has done an extraordinary job in establishing these local units of the LEAGUE and at the same time in carrying on the work of building the organization outside of New York.

In this connection it may be mentioned that the recent Nazi outrages in Germany taxed the office of the LEAGUE to the utmost in the matter of supplying the demand for speakers at protest meetings. While not all of these protest meetings were held under the auspices of the LEAGUE nor served to establish new groups, they did succeed in making the organization widely and favorably known.

Since November 11, I have spoken at nine large meetings and to over a dozen smaller groups. I have been particularly active in addressing the colleges of New York speaking to the students at New York University, City College and Brooklyn College as well as to several Young People's Leagues of Temples. These meetings have enabled me to begin the organization of an active Youth movement which I consider a prime necessity at this time. I am scheduled to address the City Federation of Women's Clubs, the Drama League, the Rand School Forum, and the Forum of the Community Church on questions of boycott and Nazi activities in this country. Wherever I have considered it essential to the organizational activity of the LEAGUE, I have participated in drawing-room meetings and the results have justified my attendance at these smaller meetings.

I feel confident that following the present program, the LEAGUE can establish a membership of over a quarter of a million people in New York City within the next year and a similarly large membership throughout the United States. There have been demands for organizational work from almost every major city in the country.



PUBLICITY  
DEPARTMENT

As I have said above, the Publicity Department had done effective routine work in the publication of the BULLETIN and the sending out of publicity concerning the LEAGUE but there was no real creative effort made for a long period of time. The stock of all pamphlets was running low and nothing had been done to replace this with new material. The BULLETIN itself was amateurish typographically, poorly printed and full of ridiculous errors. Responsibility for this situation must chiefly be laid to the fact that estimates for printing were requested from small and incompetent shops and the jobs were given to the lowest estimate offered without taking into consideration the quality of the work that was done and the services rendered. Such questions as proof-reading, make-up and lay-out were not even considered. What was more important is that the LEAGUE had lost standing with the New York City newspapers, the press associations and the important papers of the country. There was also very little cooperation from the Labor and the Yiddish press.

My first efforts in the matter of publicity were directed toward establishing a more satisfactory relationship between the LEAGUE and the press. By getting in touch with personal friends on the editorial staffs of the various newspapers and magazines and by furnishing these papers with significant material, we have been able to establish a changed attitude toward the LEAGUE. We now have a good representation of the press at our press conferences and we are called up for comment by papers and the press associations on the situations affecting Nazi activities in this country and abroad. It is thus possible to get a good deal of educational propaganda into the columns of the newspapers. Moreover, in the past few weeks material furnished by us has been used by the Nation and the New Republic as well as in Commonweal and Tide magazines. Our meetings and broadcasts have received prominent space in the New York City newspapers and our comments on the Coughlin situation were reprinted in almost every newspaper in the United States.

I have made revisions in the character of the BULLETIN and further revisions are contemplated. This has become possible in a large measure due to the fact that, by applying for estimates to large printing plants, we were able to save over \$100. a month on the printing cost of the BULLETIN. In addition to saving money, we are getting a proof-reading service which we never had before, and which saves us a large amount of time; moreover we get the benefit of a large choice of types and other printing facilities and of expert workmanship. By making an arrangement with the Western Newspaper Union we are also able to save money on the cost of mailing the BULLETINS and we have received substantial reductions in the cost of smaller printing items such as application blanks, bills, stationery, etc.

I have, however, failed to produce the BULLETIN on schedule. This has been largely due to the fact that I found the material intended for the September issue wholly unsatisfactory and I considered it wiser to omit that issue than to produce something which was not in keeping with the character of the LEAGUE. The November issue was also omitted because at the time when I, personally, was under the greatest pressure, due to the crisis in Germany, the Coughlin situation, and to our own work in the radio and organizational fields, Mr. Howard suddenly resigned to take a more remunerative job. It took some time to obtain a satisfactory Director of Publicity and, since he was new to the work, the burden of getting out the BULLETIN fell chiefly on my own shoulders. I have given it every moment I could spare from what seemed to me more pressing needs of the organization and the December issue of the BULLETIN is now in the press. I expect to regularize this publication and to have no such lapses in the future.

Much of the LEAGUE'S publicity depends upon conditions over which we have no control. Consequently, except for meetings, radio broadcasts, etc., which are usually planned weeks in advance, publicity, especially daily newspaper publicity, calls for quick decision and concentrated effort. However, some publicity projects can be planned a month or more ahead. Several such projects are now being prepared which should give nation-wide publicity to the LEAGUE.

The first of these is the establishment of a "Democracy Award". Steps have already been taken to get an expression of opinion from fifty outstanding educators, publicists and historians as to the person who has contributed most to the cause of Democracy in the past year. The plan is to take the names submitted by these people and arrange with newspapers



throughout the country - one in each large City - to hold a popular vote to choose this person. To the winner, a gold plaque will be given in the name of the LEAGUE. It is obvious that this project will give us continuous publicity in the newspapers of the country and that the presentation of the medal or plaque will form an occasion where we can get international recognition.

Another project, well under way, is the establishment of public hearings at which refugees of all faiths will have an opportunity to tell in person their experiences in Nazi Germany. A "Court of Honor" composed of distinguished citizens will sit on each case and the press will be represented. We have interested several radio stations in the possibility of broadcasting these hearings which will be held weekly. This, again, offers a splendid chance to keep the name of the LEAGUE in the public eye. An immediate project which will take place Wednesday or Thursday of this week is the celebration of the Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party by holding a dumping party of German goods in New York harbor. The publicity value for the boycott of this stunt needs no amplification.

Other propaganda work of an educational nature is being carried on by means of pamphlets. Recently, we have published a pamphlet, "Nazism vs. Catholic Church," which is being circulated among Catholic groups and congregations. Material for a new pamphlet on the boycott is now ready for the press and several reprints of old pamphlets with improvements and revisions are being prepared. I am now writing a pamphlet describing the character of the LEAGUE, the work of the National Office and the program of activity for local chapters. There has been a great demand for this particular pamphlet and it is expected to help in stimulating and coordinating the activities of our smaller groups. The Research Department is preparing, under my direction, a new boycott pamphlet which lists German products by trademarks and labels in the various categories. This pamphlet will also contain authenticated reports from the cities throughout the country of stores which handle German goods so that our membership at large is able to function more efficiently in the prosecution of the boycott. Material for several pamphlets which will be published under other auspices than that of the LEAGUE is being prepared at present. The reason for this anonymity is that it is considered more important to impress the public with the facts contained in these pamphlets than to advertise the LEAGUE. We have the cooperation of nationally known organizations in disseminating this material.

#### RADIO

**DEPARTMENT** Outstanding in the work of propaganda has been the success of our Radio Department. Aside from the protest broadcast that initiated all the protests in America against the Nazi outrages which I was able to organize, this Department has carried on a systematic series of broadcasts on New York City stations with national hook-ups informing the public concerning conditions in Germany. Three symposia have been held - on the Nuremberg Laws, on Labor Conditions in Germany and on the Nazi attack on Religion. Among those who participated have been Bishop McConnell, Jeremiah Mahoney, Professor Leo Wolman, Frank P. Walsh, Matthew Woll, Dr. MacFarland, Reverend Sockman, Rabbi Louis I. Newman, Michael Williams and a number of the officers of the LEAGUE. Individual broadcasts on Nazi penetration into America have been delivered under the auspices of the LEAGUE by congressmen and New York State legislators as well as other distinguished speakers. Programs have been held in Yiddish as well as in English.

I have been able to cooperate with station W-H-N in a special program of refugee artists and actors by securing outstanding American writers to act as Masters of Ceremonies. With this Station I have just arranged the broadcast of a program to be called, "The Women's Voice on the Air," which will be under the direct auspices of the LEAGUE. We are also preparing the material for a dramatic broadcast in connection with the spy trials which will serve to make Nazism hateful to the American public. We are organizing a radio program in German in which noted refugees will participate describing conditions in Germany today. These activities have established a cordial relationship between the LEAGUE and W-M-C-A, W-O-R, W-H-N, WOE-V-D and smaller stations. This permits us to acquire the radio time sufficient for our needs. It is, of course, a well-known fact that one protest broadcast was given on Friday, November 11, and again repeated on the following Monday to an even larger audience. The LEAGUE arranged to have records made of this broadcast and the recordings were sent to 31 stations throughout the United States at their request. These stations are chiefly in the South, the Middle-West and Far-West and include California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, New



Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. The largest independent station in Buffalo, New York, also used this broadcast as did W-L-T-H in New York City which made connections with another station in Buffalo and in Cumberland, Maryland.

#### RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

This Department, which I believe forms the most important single unit in our organization, was distinguished from all others when I undertook my duties as director by the fact that this most effective work was done not by a paid personnel but through the volunteer efforts of the head of the Research Committee, Mr. Leo Spanglet. The paid Secretary of the Department was particularly handicapped in being unable to conduct correspondence in English, so that the letters sent out in the name of the LEAGUE had the minimum amount of effectiveness and reflected very little credit to the LEAGUE. At my request the Administrative Committee added to the personnel of this department, Mr. Shandler who has been able to improve the character of the correspondence.

I shall not prolong this report by citing the individual cases dealing with this Department, but refer the Board of Directors to the report which shall be made by Mr. Shandler. The Board will be interested to know that there is now an opportunity for a thorough reorganization of the Department as we have received the resignation of Mr. Renner who handicapped its activities.

#### FINANCES

The question of the LEAGUE'S finances will be dealt with in a report of the Finance Committee which presents for the consideration of the Board the campaign decided upon by the Administrative Committee. There are, however, several important phases that require brief mention from me. As you know, the Finance Investigating Committee, which met in May and June to consider the work of Mr. Levy, also concerned itself with the mail campaign for funds which at that time was under the direction of Mr. Barsel. Mr. Barsel's arrangement with the LEAGUE entitled him to a 16% commission of the income from this campaign provided that his commission and expenses did not exceed 40%. It was the contention of certain members of the Board of Directors that there were some gross irregularities in Mr. Barsel's conduct of this campaign and I will not at this time recapitulate all the charges that were made. The fact remains, however, that the Administrative Committee had before it a record which indicated that in the year 1937-1938 the income from the mail campaign totalled \$36,919.27 and that the commission and expenses totalled \$19,645.89. His 40% on this income only came to \$14,767.71. Mr. Barsel was overpaid a total of \$4878.18 which represents 53% of the income. I called the attention of the Committee to the fact that Mr. Barsel's commissions and expenses were not justified by the work which he was doing in connection with this mail campaign. The folder for the campaign was used for two years without any changes and the letter accompanying this folder was totally inadequate in presenting the appeal of the LEAGUE. At my recommendation, the Administrative Committee discontinued Mr. Barsel's contract when it expired and the mail campaign has been run directly from the office without the payment of any commissions. At present it averages almost \$200. a day in income. Since the cancellation of Mr. Barsel's contract we have received \$4553.65 and the cost in the printing of new folders, letters, bills, etc. has been \$1256.43, representing a 27% cost and a net of 73% as contrasted with a net of 47% when the mail campaign was supervised by Mr. Barsel.

At the urging of Dr. Dubovsky several attempts have been made to find a place for Mr. Barsel in the financial department of the organization. These attempts have involved the LEAGUE in an expenditure of an additional \$200. without any financial benefits to the LEAGUE.



In contrast to the financial status when I became Executive Director, the situation today is that there is an amount of \$2950.65, cash on hand and \$1001.13, bills payable at the present time. Thus, despite the budget, in which the salaries alone have been increased from \$323, a week at the time I came in to \$604. a week and in which all other activities have been proportionately increased, we have been able to forge ahead in financial resources. I feel certain that the work done will meet with an ever increasing financial response from the American public as it begins to realize its importance to our country.

This cursory report of the activities of the past four months definitely indicates the possibilities of our organization. I sincerely trust that the Board of Directors will see fit to take advantage of these possibilities by establishing a body of influential leadership which can command the respect and loyalty to all those in America who are interested in combating Nazism.



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December 21, 1938

Rabbi Israel Harburg  
Temple Beth El  
12 Dreed Street  
Lynn, Mass

My dear Rabbi Harburg:

Please pardon the long delay in answering your kind letter. I have been away from the city a good deal of the time and my correspondence has lagged.

Rather than answer your questions myself, I would suggest that you get in touch with Mr. Edgar Kauffman who is president of the Council of Jewish Organizations. He will, I am sure, be in a position to give you the consensus on these subjects which now prevails among four major Jewish national bodies in the United States. In these days it is highly advisable to concentrate responsibility and leadership. I know that the Council has been at work on all the problems mentioned in your letter.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



# Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League TO CHAMPION HUMAN RIGHTS, Inc.

20 WEST 47<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK • MEDALLION-3-2720

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JOHAN J. SMERTENKO  
*Executive Director*



447

December 21, 1938.

Dr. S. William Kalb,  
416 Clinton Place,  
Newark, New Jersey.

My dear Dr. Kalb:-

After giving the matter the most careful consideration, I have come to the conclusion that it will be impossible for me to achieve the purposes of the NON-SECTARIAN ANTI-NAZI LEAGUE with the newly established and illegally constituted Board of Directors.

When I undertook the work of Executive Director, I was assured by those who headed the movement that it was their intention to establish a truly non-sectarian national organization to combat Nazism both here and abroad. I was likewise assured that they recognized the need for calling into the leadership of the LEAGUE outstanding non-Jews and Jews who were in sympathy with our movement and willing to aid in its development.

I have succeeded in gaining the support of men and women of that calibre and I have repeatedly requested such action by the Board as will make possible the inclusion of these representative, influential Americans in the Board of Directors.

This request has not been granted. Instead, by action contrary to the provisions of our Constitution and in complete contradiction to the intent and the wishes of the convention, there has been established a Board of Directors consisting of seventy-two persons, the great majority of whom, are neither distinguished by their positions nor by their activities in the interests of the LEAGUE. Moreover, these people are without exception Jews and they now constitute so large a body of Jews on the Board of Directors that it would be impossible to establish the non-sectarian character of the LEAGUE without making the Board a ridiculously huge and unwieldy body.



Dr. S. William Kalb

-2-

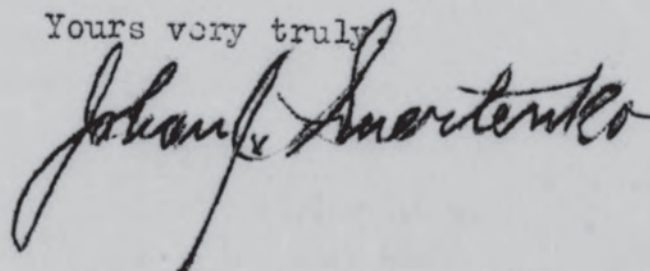
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Aside from this consideration, however, I must state candidly that it is impossible to win the confidence and loyalty of the American public for an organization where such outstanding personalities as Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia, C.H. Lew, Rabbi Leon Fram, Rev. John Haynes Holmes, Bishop Francis J. McConnell, Frank P. Walsh, Alphonse A. Shelare, Abraham Cahan, Professor Paul Douglass, Dr. Mitchell Salem Fisher, Sidney Hillman, Herman Hoffman, Rabbi Edward I. Israel, Rev. P. Luecke, Dr. Kurt Rosenfeld, Dean William E. Taylor, Dr. Max Winkler and Max Zaritsky are overwhelmingly outnumbered by obviously insignificant and unknown people.

At this time, when hundreds of mushroom groups are seeking to exploit the situation for selfish ends, the American people are scrutinizing every organization which comes before them as to its character as well as to its purposes and ends. It would be absurd to expect the people of this country to accept the aims of the NON-SECTARIAN ANTI-NAZI LEAGUE when these aims are clearly violated by the new Board from which some of the important members have already resigned in protest.

I must therefore ask you to inform the Executive Committee that unless and until a complete reorganization of the Board of Directors has been put into effect in accordance with the original intentions and ultimate aims of our movement, I cannot serve as the Executive Director of the LEAGUE.

Yours very truly,



S/K



Pioneer Import Co.

C O P Y

Room 4410  
60 East 42nd St.  
New York.

January 24th, 1939.

Pioneer Import Co.,  
565 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:-

Recently, the current imports of rayon staple fibre from Germany have increased sharply - over a quarter of a million pounds being imported in November ("Daily News Record", January 10th, p. 14)

This material, used in the production of spun rayon and for blending with wool, cotton, linen, etc., had not been imported to any great degree from Germany previously. Today, there are a number of importing firms attempting to build up the import of this material who have started to spread propaganda to increase its sale. An example is an article appearing in the "American Wool and Cotton Reporter" for January 19th (pp. 17, 18).

The product is made in the United States and any surplus requirements which our mills may have, may easily be filled by shipments by countries which do not threaten the continuance of the things we believe our country stands for. It should be mentioned that the imports are largely subsidized and that the fibre sells for less here than abroad. Unfortunately, some mills have not realized the seriousness of the use of this fibre and we, as a group of fabric houses, feel that we should know when this fibre is being offered to us in merchandise.

As a result our group has taken the following step to ensure our knowledge of what raw materials are being used:

"RESOLVED, THAT THE INSTITUTE REQUEST ALL MILLS  
HEREAFTER TO INDICATE UPON ALL GREIGE GOODS CON-  
TRACTS THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF THE MERCHANDISE  
COVERED THEREBY AND OF RAYON YARN AND RAYON STAPLE  
FIBRE USED IN THE MANUFACTURE THEREOF."

We submit our idea to you for whatever action your organization may care to take.

Yours very truly,

THE TEXTILE DISTRIBUTERS INSTITUTE, INC.

Signed: Herman Chopak, Chairman.



January 26th, 1939.

Textile Distributors Institute, Inc.,  
60 East 42nd Street  
Room 4410,  
New York, N.Y.

Attention of Mr. Herman Chopak, Chairman.

Gentlemen:-

As our motto in replying to your letter of January 24th, 1939, dealing with the importation of German staple fibre, in which you expressed some understandable sentiments, we might well choose the words used by Dr. Frank Kingdon, President of the University of Newark, in a speech delivered yesterday:

"ONE CANNOT FIGHT HATE WITH HATE, PASSION WITH PASSION".

Germany's present attempts at self-sufficiency, with their necessary regimentation-but hardly necessary-injustices, are emergency measures to which Germany never would have resorted had it not been for the inability of Germany's creditors to comprehend the monetary and transfer problems which vexed the German government long before the present one came into power.

Let us forget for a moment the violent aspects of the National-Socialist doctrine. Let us realize that United States citizens and would-be United States citizens - namely worthy German emigrants - have investments in Germany totaling many Millions of Dollars. Let us further realize that large sections of the population of the United States - the cotton growers of the South, the farmers and the meat packers of the Middle-West, the fruit growers of the West, the miners and oil men wherever ores and oil are produced, and many others - have a big interest in the Central European market, of which Germany with its 80 million population is the heart.

We - United States citizens in general and you gentlemen of the Textile Distributors Institute - have of course a perfect right to give vent to our indignation in regard to the excesses which have taken place in Germany. But it is also your duty as a body of intelligent men - many of whom are of the Jewish faith and therefore undoubtedly wish to be helpful to your co-religionists in leaving Germany - to consider the interests of the German emigrants and the many people in the United States who do not wish to be made the pawn of the "anti this or anti that".



Textile Distributors Institute Inc.

January 26, 1939.

The American Export Fraternity and the hinterland they serve, can only hope to find a market for their goods in Central Europe, if a corresponding amount of German merchandise finds entry at our shores.

There is at the present time a faint sign of conciliation coming to us from Germany. Mr. Rublee and his assistants are in Berlin. The German government is discussing with the American government not only the emigration problem, but the servicing of its debt.

The German Jew has been the unfortunate victim of the ever-growing bitterness and vituperation exchanged between the German propaganda machine and Messrs. Wise, Untermyer, Ickes, La Guardia, etc. - a bitterness which has resulted in constantly heightened retaliation. This German Jew has been hopeful time and again that further challenges and counter-challenges - such as yours - might be avoided.

It is time to call a truce - if for no other reason than to assist the German emigrant, the American investor and the American exporter. We submit to your consideration the following thought: Broaden your resolution to the effect that you will not object to the use of German fibre in greige goods, provided:

- 1) 50% OF THE VALUE OF THE GERMAN INVOICE BE PAID WITH BLOCKED FUNDS BELONGING TO GERMAN EMIGRANTS OR AMERICAN CITIZENS, AND PROVIDED PROPER PROOF TO THIS EFFECT BE SUBMITTED. -
- 2) THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF THE GERMAN PRODUCT IN THIS COUNTRY BE EARMARKED - INsofar AS THEY ARE NOT APPLICABLE TO THE GERMAN EMIGRANT'S OR AMERICAN CITIZEN'S BLOCKED MARKS - FOR THE PURCHASE OF AMERICAN RAW MATERIALS AND GOODS DESTINED FOR GERMANY.

We will undertake to have the United States Treasury Department approve of this procedure.

There is room - as pointed out by yourselves - for foreign staple fibres in the United States. Our suggestion is to let the previously described victims of transfer problems benefit from this situation by placing German fibres with American greige goods mills, rather than to have these mills purchase fibres in countries in which American or emigrant funds are not anxiously awaiting transfer in the same manner as they are in Germany.

Dumping does not, as suggested in your letter, apply - in our opinion - in the case of the German fibre. The German home-market value is an artificially high one. Nevertheless, duty on German merchandise entered so far, has been paid on the German home market value. Neither is it likely that section 303 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (countervailing duties) will be invoked, as the German government does not subsidize staple fibre imports to this country.

In closing, we should like again to refer to the words of Dr. Frank Kingdon in his yesterday's speech:



Textile Distributors Inc.

January 26, 1939.

"Democracy has surrendered its leadership - it will not get it back unless it solves the problem of food and shelter for the people".

Every economist today agrees on the necessity of increased world trade as a solution to "the problem of food and shelter for the people". To block the interchange of goods between two countries which need each other commercially as much as the United States and Germany do, is an unsound undertaking and must therefore sooner or later collapse - no matter how much our personal feelings may be outraged.

We shall be glad to cooperate with your institute by further discussing your letter of January 24th and our letter herewith submitted.

Very truly yours,

PIONEER IMPORT CORP.



Werner Von Clemm.



WC:JP.



January 26th, 1939.

Miss Dorothy Thompson  
c/o The Herald Tribune  
230 West 41st Street  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Thompson:-

You have done so much in influencing public opinion in one direction or another -- would you not consider the time ripe to use your column for the presentation of the pros and cons of the enclosed correspondence?

Letter No. 1 has just been written by the Textile Distributors Institute Inc., representing all prominent textile converters -- the majority of which are of the Jewish faith. The converters, as you may know, buy from the so-called greige goods mills the cloth in the raw, dye it and finish it, and then sell it to the cutting-up trade. The greige goods manufacturers are predominantly non-Jewish firms who would like to buy some of the German staple fibre under discussion, for the reason that its quality is excellent.

The letter from the Textile Distributors Institute Inc. represents what you might term the Old Testament angle -- "An Eye For An Eye, A Tooth For A Tooth". Letter No. 2, sent by us, endeavors to look at the facts dispassionately. We honor the feelings of the people who condemn the German anti-semitic excesses on humanitarian grounds but we also try to do justice to the broader requirements of the innocent bystander, both in the United States and Germany. Is it not the duty of those who comprehend the difficult economic problems, to come forward at this time, when not only Mr. Rublee and his assistants, but also men like Field-Marshal Goering are trying to find a solution of the difficult transfer problem, as it affects both human beings and their funds?

You put it so ably in a recent article in your column: Conditions in Germany never would have got to where they are, if it had not been for the lack of understanding on the part of the Allies - at Versailles and the years succeeding the peace dictate.

It seems the natural thing to do, to criticize Germany -- we all read your column with great relish if we are anti this or anti that -- but would it not be greater at this point "to be different" and to make an attempt at bringing the two factions, which admittedly have both erred and sinned, together?



Miss Dorothy Thompson

January 26th, 1939.

Having lived in Germany as long as you have, you know that at heart, Germany would much prefer to let the bars down and revert to some measure of free trade. Every fair-minded person must admit that barter was the only way open to Germany, even had Bruening stayed in power.

I am wondering whether you read Mr. Schacht's speech delivered before the Deutsche Akademie on November 29th, 1938, of which the enclosed is a translation. A nation whose position was reversed from that of a creditor nation -- in 1908 Germany owned property abroad amounting to twenty five Billion Reichsmarks -- to a debtor nation which owed exactly that sum in 1931, could not have done differently than it did in adjusting its foreign trade to the principle of barter.

If we honestly believed that punitive measures -- whether sanctions or boycotts -- would be successful, people who wish to punish Germany might still pursue this course. But we all know today that neither one nor the other can be successful. In spite of the boycott which already existed in the years under consideration, Germany managed to reverse its passive trade balance of 285 Million R.Marks in 1934, into an active trade balance of

550	"	"	"	"	1936
and 443	"	"	"	"	1937.

These figures are taken from Mr. Schacht's speech. Germany's trade balance slumped back into a passive one in 1938 for the reason that Germany imported tremendous quantities of war materials. I have no doubt that Germany has it within her power to change back her trade balance to an active one, and, it is this argument in my mind which makes me think that REASON rather than SENTIMENT should prevail. - Let us make ourselves the champions of the people whose funds are in Germany and who would like to get them out. Let us make ourselves the champions of the many Americans whose lot might be bettered if trade between the United States and Germany were improved.

Staple fibre is a typical example. There is not enough in America to go around. A certain amount of it has to be imported. Why then not import it from Germany on the basis shown in our letter to the Textile Distributors Institute Inc.? The proposal incorporated therein has been offered for consideration to the German government. -

If our efforts would assure its acceptance on this side, we believe that Germany would entertain it on theirs.

Very truly yours,

PIONEER IMPORT CORP.

WC:JP.

Werner Von Clemm.



# Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League TO CHAMPION HUMAN RIGHTS, Inc.

20 WEST 47<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK • MEDALLION-3-2720

Organized 1933

May eighteenth  
1939

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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

You remember when we met to my great surprise on the terrace of the airport in Washington a few weeks ago I told you that I would keep in touch with you and let you know how we are getting on. I am sure that you would be interested in the proceedings of our annual Convention which took place last Sunday at the Hotel Astor.

We had a very fine turn out indeed, 508 delegates representing 2148 organizations, chapters, divisions and branches of the League attended. The proceedings went off most smoothly. An excellent set of resolutions was adopted, the principal ones concerning, naturally, the intensification of the boycott, a resolution supporting the Czechs and their struggle for reestablishment of a democracy, one dedicated to Mothers' Day and urging American mothers to join us, a resolution reaffirming the non-political, non-sectarian purposes of the League and stating unequivocally the League's rejection of any political dominance or influence.

Our directorate was greatly strengthened, we believe. Among the new directors, I may mention in passing that an amendment to the constitution has fixed the size of the directorate at not more than fifty members, are Prof. James H. Sheldon of Boston University, Rev. Stephen M. James of Albany, Dr. Harold Rypins, secretary of the State Board of Regents, John Frederick Lewis, Jr., a very prominent Philadelphian, the Rev. Donald G. Lothrop, pastor of the Community Church in Boston, Madam Irene Harand, leader of the tolerance movement in Austria, Tony Sender and Gerhart Seger, former members of the German Reichstag, Katharine Hayden Salter, a writer, better known under her pen name of Katharine Shepard Hayden, Joseph White a prominent Catholic layman of Boston and member of the Boston Board of Education and Dr. Gerald Machacek, leader of the American Czechs and head of the Czech provisional (revolutionary) government.

The first meeting of this new Board will be held on Tuesday  
Nazi Germany is the Enemy of Civilization • Refuse to Trade with the Enemy



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evening next, May 23rd, at which time the officers for the coming year will be elected. We propose to elect eight vice-presidents, among them several of the gentlemen already mentioned and including Mayor LaGuardia, Bishop McConnell and Rabbi Fram, now functioning in that capacity. We also propose to elect Simon M. Goldsmith, Grand Master of the Free Sons of Israel, as treasurer of our organization. We have strong hopes of persuading Dr. Nelson P. Mead, acting president of the College of the City of New York, to become chairman of our Board of Directors. Dr. Mead is now a director and is really interested in our work.

From all this you will see that we really are building to create the kind of a Board which we have always wanted and which, for many reasons of which you are aware, we have never been able to set up. In the circumstances, don't you think that you can join with us? We want you very, very badly. I personally have always relied upon your exceptionally wise counsel and sensible advice. I think, in fact, I know that you can be a tower of strength to us and with the new set up I am sure not only that you can be of enormous assistance but that you will gain real satisfaction from the association. If you can see your way clear to join us again I should appreciate a telegram to that effect for I would like to propose your name as a director and vice-president at our meeting on Tuesday night.

Now, as to another matter. We naturally invited the Cleveland people to send delegates to the Convention. We further wrote them asking them to propose a member of their Board as a vice-president for the coming year. We then telegraphed them asking who would represent them at the Convention and for the names of their proposals for vice-president and for two additional directors. To all these communications we received but one answer, namely a telegram worded as follows:

"Grace Meyette ill, no action taken.  
"Secretary Carolyn Stone."

I have written to Cleveland on several occasions during the last few months and have never received the courtesy of a reply. This, I think you will agree, is all wrong. If the Cleveland group intend to work entirely independently and to cease all connection with the League, that is of course their right and privilege. On the other hand, if such is the case we should certainly be notified to that effect. As you know, the arrangement between our groups were that we were to refrain from soliciting in Cleveland and that the Cleveland group would, through the Cleveland Welfare Fund, subsidize our organization to the extent of \$1000 a year. During 1938 we received but \$750 of this sum, the last payment from Cleveland having been received by us during December of that year. So far this year we have received




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nothing at all and although I wrote to Miss Meyette in this connection I did not, as previously stated, receive any reply to my letter. The situation is simply this: If the Cleveland organization does not intend to continue its affiliation and does not intend to grant us support, there is no reason whatever why we should not enter the Cleveland field. We know that there are hundreds, one may even say thousands, of ladies and gentlemen in Cleveland who believe in our work and the methods by which we have accomplished so much and I feel convinced that were we to approach them they would be inclined to support us financially as well as morally. Will you please, Dr. Silver, consider this matter carefully and advise us, and me particularly, as to what you would suggest we should do in the circumstances.

I cannot tell you how happy I was to have seen you in Washington. I do hope that you will once more join with us in the fight we are waging and, whether you do or not, please believe me when I say that I am, as always

Very cordially and faithfully,

  
G. Egerton Harriman,  
Executive Secretary

GEH:DP

P.S. I am enclosing two of our most recent folders. Will you give me your opinion about them? Thank you.



NON-SECTARIAN ANTI-NAZI LEAGUE

To Champion Human Rights, Inc.

20 WEST 47th STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y.

ORGANIZED 1933

Office of  
The Executive Secretary

Telephone  
MEDALLION 3-2720

June sixth

1939

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

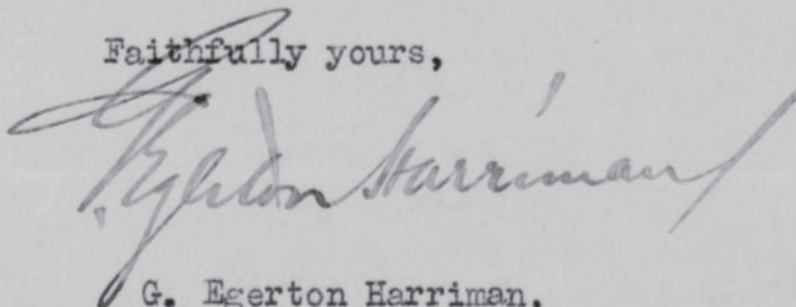
Dear Dr. Silver:

I wrote you on May eighteenth regarding certain matters of importance in which I felt sure you were interested.

I know how busy you are but I would appreciate a line or two from you covering the various points which I raised.

With warmest personal greetings,

Faithfully yours,



G. Egerton Harriman,  
Executive Secretary

GEH:DP



# Anti - Semitic Lectures

WRHS





June 11, 1939

Mr. Bernard Lecache, President  
Rassemblement Mondial Contre Le Racisme et L'antisemitism  
40, Rue de Paradis, 40  
Paris  
France

My dear Mr. Lecache:

Permit me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter and the kind invitation to attend the anti-racialist International Congress which you are convoking in London in July. I shall make every effort to attend the Congress. I am leaving Europe at the end of this month. I trust that nothing will arise which will make it impossible for me to attend the sessions.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



June 11, 1939

Mr. G. Egerton Harriman, Executive Secretary  
Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League  
20 West 47th Street  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Harriman:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of May 18. I am sorry that I could not acknowledge it any sooner. I have been out of the city a great deal of the time and ill part of the time.

I am pleased to learn of the re-organization through which the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League is now passing. I hope that you will succeed in achieving a stable and functioning organization.

I appreciate very much your asking me to go on the Board again. I am afraid that with the many new activities which I have undertaken in the last two or three years, particularly as National Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, I cannot accept office in any more organizations.

Miss Mayette has been ill for some time. She is just out of the hospital. I believe that if you will write to her again, you will receive all the cooperation which you ask for.

The Cleveland Jewish Welfare Fund, of which I am chairman, has again allotted you the sum of \$1,000 for the coming year, so that you need not worry about the Cleveland contribution. The \$250 owing you on the 1938 allocation will undoubtedly be paid to you. Please communicate with Mr. Samuel Goldhamer, secretary of the Jewish Welfare Fund of Cleveland.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK