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Unemployment insurance, 1939.

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January 27, 1939

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I was in Columbus several days this week, and spent part of one morning going through the headquarters office of the Unemployment Compensation Commission. I was tremendously interested in the system they have set up for benefit payments. The first checks will go out next Monday in payment of benefits for the first compensable week, which ends tomorrow. Unfortunately, as you probably know, there has been litigation as to the interpretation of the "average weekly wage". Although a very favorable decision has been handed down by the Judge in Columbus, before whom the case was heard, many people in their first checks will get much less than we think they are entitled to. Of course if the Judge's decision is interpreted in the proper way, extra amounts will be paid to these claimants later. I suppose it is too much to expect that such a large piece of machinery will move perfectly at first.

The Commission is arranging to have a ceremony next Wednesday morning in connection with the payment of the first checks. They had expected to have it Monday, when the first checks will actually be mailed out, but Governor Bricker was to be outside of the State, and the date was moved on. They are anxious to have present at the ceremony as many as possible of the people who worked for the adoption of the law. I don't suppose there is any chance that at this short notice you could arrange to go to Columbus especially for this. It occurred to me however, that if by any chance you are going to Cincinnati, you might arrange to stop off.

If you can't go there Wednesday, I do hope that you

Rabbi Silver.....2

1-27-39

will take time the first time you are in Columbus to go out to the Commission headquarters. I think you will be greatly impressed in seeing the law actually in operation.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth S. Magee

Elizabeth S. Magee,
Executive Secretary.



January 31, 1939

Miss Elizabeth S. Magee, Executive Secretary
The Consumers' League of Ohio
341 Engineers' Building
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Miss Magee:

Thank you so much for your letter of January 27. I wish I could go down to Columbus on Wednesday if only to see how the administration of the Unemployment Compensation has been organized. Unfortunately I must be in Cleveland on that day for important meetings. The next time I am in Columbus, I shall go to the Commission headquarters and look around.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK