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Union of American Hebrew Congregations, 1944-1945.



THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

PUBLISHERS AND BOOKSELLERS · *Books for Jewish Education*

34 WEST SIXTH STREET · PHONE: PARKWAY 7345 · CINCINNATI, OHIO

RABBI LOUIS I. EGELSON, *Administrative Secretary*

880

July 24, 1944

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

In the absence of Rabbi Egelson who is on his vacation, I am acknowledging receipt of your letter of July 19. With regard to "The Jew and His Religion" by Feuer and Glazer, we do not know whether this publication is still out of print and we are writing to the publisher today. We will advise you as soon as we receive this information. We have eleven copies of "The Jew and His Religion" on hand and if this amount will be of help to you, please let us know and we will be glad to send them to you.

In another letter you asked us if we knew whether a better quality edition of "The Story of the Jew" by Levinger has been printed. This is not probable as most books are printed in only one quality of paper. You will find that the grade of paper which is used this coming year will not be up to the usual standard, due to the paper shortage.

If we can be of any further service to you, please let us know. With kind greetings, I am

Very sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Floyd) Edythe B. Fierman
Assistant to Rabbi Egelson

EBF:RY

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NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE YOUTH

34 WEST SIXTH STREET • CINCINNATI, OHIO • PHONE Parkway 7345

September 19, 1944

Dear Rabbi:

V-Day is coming. We are all longing for it. We are waiting for it with prayerful hearts. May it come soon and bring peace and healing to its train!

We all know that the day will be celebrated with jubilation throughout the length and breadth of the land. Keeping in mind the unbridled and sometimes ill-advised demonstrations which characterized the celebration of the Armistice in the First World War, many communities are planning a more restrained and more devout expression of joy, mingled with thanksgiving and gratitude to the Giver of all good Who has kept us alive, preserved us, and brought us to the joyful day of victory over the enemies of peace and freedom. We Jews, perhaps more than any other group, have cause to thank God for the dawning of the day of liberty for our long enslaved brethren, as well as of liberation for the oppressed multitudes of men.

I trust that in common with many churches and synagogues, and where feasible, in joint interfaith services of thanksgiving, you are planning a special V-Day service to be held as soon as victory shall be definitely announced. As you know, the president of the C.C.A.R. has sent out a leaflet containing suggestions including a most appropriate prayer and Scriptural readings for the V-Day service. You will no doubt also arrange for proper music and ceremonial. If we can be of assistance to you in any way in planning your service, please do not hesitate to write to me, and I am certain that, through our always efficient department of Synagogue Activities, we can be of help to you.

Trusting that the fruits of victory may be sweet and enduring, I am

Faithfully yours,

Maurice N. Eisenkrath

Director

MNE: PWK

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THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE YOUTH

34 WEST SIXTH STREET • CINCINNATI, OHIO • PHONE Parkway 7345

October 5, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
c/o The Temple
E. 105th St. & Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Friend:

I am enclosing a copy of the notice of the meeting of the Program Committee for the next Council of the Union. Since you are undoubtedly planning to be in Cincinnati on the 18th for the meeting of the CCAR Executive Board, Mr. Goldman has asked me to request you to try to arrange to be present at the meeting of our Committee on Program.

With kind greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

Louis I. Egelson

Administrative Secretary

LE:EF

Encl.

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34 WEST SIXTH STREET • CINCINNATI, OHIO • PHONE PARKWAY 7345

October 5, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
10311 Lake Shore Drive
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

At the request of Mr. Robert P. Goldman,
Chairman of the Committee on Time, Place and
Program of the 39th Council of the Union, I am
calling a meeting of a subcommittee of the Com-
mittee.

We will meet on Tuesday, October 17, 1944
at 5:00 p.m. in Parlor I of the Netherland Plaza
Hotel, Cincinnati. We will have dinner together
and then continue with our meeting.

Please make every effort to be present. A
postal card is enclosed for your convenience in
replying.

With kind greetings, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Louis I. Egelson
Administrative Secretary

LE:EF

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



WRHS
Rabbi Louis I. Egelson
7th Floor
34 W. 6th Street
Cincinnati 2, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Egelson:

Date

I am _____ planning to attend the meeting of the subcommittee on Program of the 39th Council on Tuesday, October 17, 1944, 5:00 p.m., at the Netherland Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, Parlor I.

Signature

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34 WEST SIXTH STREET • CINCINNATI, OHIO • PHONE Parkway 7345

October 20, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
c/o The Temple
E. 105th at Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Enclosed is copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the sub-Committee of our Committee on Time, Place and Program for the next Council of the Union.

Also enclosed is a tentative outline of the program. I should like to have your suggestions or approval, so that we may proceed further with plans for the program.

We shall have a meeting of the full Committee in New York on Saturday evening, November 25, the night before the Executive Board meeting, at which time a full report will be submitted.

With kind greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

Robert P. Goldman

Robert P. Goldman
Chairman, Program Committee

RPG:EF
Encl.

Meeting of Sub-Committee on
Time, Place and Program
for Next Council of the Union

Cincinnati, Ohio
October 17, 1944

At the call of the Chairman, Mr. Robert P. Goldman, a meeting of the sub-Committee on Time, Place and Program for the next Council of the Union was held at the Netherland Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, October 17 at 5:00 P. M.

Present were: Robert P. Goldman, Chairman, Adolph Rosenberg, Maurice N. Eisendrath, Rabbi Julian Morgenstern, Mrs. Hugo Hartmann, Dr. Hiram B. Weiss, Lester A. Jaffe, Rabbi Louis I. Egelson, and Arthur L. Reinhart. Mr. Max Schroyer of Chicago, a vice-president of the Chicago Federation of Reform Synagogues, who was in the city for another meeting, attended on invitation of the Chairman.

Time and Place

Rabbi Egelson reported that he had investigated the possibilities of holding the next Council at the Stevens Hotel, the Palmer House, and the Drake Hotel in Chicago. The Drake Hotel did not have adequate facilities for our Convention. The Stevens Hotel is admirably equipped, but a Convention is scheduled for the dates that we had in mind for our Convention. The Palmer House, which has adequate facilities for the Union Convention and the auxiliary bodies, has a convention scheduled to close on the day on which we desire to open. The Promotion Manager, MacLellan King, is trying to have that date released to us, and will have definite information in about a week.

Rabbi Egelson was authorized to make definite arrangements with the Palmer House for the dates Thursday, March 22, through Sunday, March 25, 1945, for the Convention.

The Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee were read.

Rabbi Eisendrath stated that we are committed to Toronto for the first Council after the war.

Mrs. Hartmann and Dr. Morgenstern suggested that it would be well to have other choices for meeting places in case the arrangement with the Palmer House fell through.

The following choices were decided upon in the order indicated: Chicago, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati. The dates agreed upon for the Convention are Thursday, March 22, through Sunday, March 25.

The Program

Rabbi Eisendrath presented a number of subjects for the program of the Convention.

After considerable discussion, a tentative program was agreed upon, in accordance with the attached outline. It was resolved to send this outline to all members of the Committee on Program and ask for their approval.

The details in connection with the program are to be taken up at the meeting of the Committee to be held in New York City on Saturday evening, November 25, preceding the Executive Board meeting.

On receipt of approval of the outline of the program, a letter was authorized to be sent to the Board of Governors of the Hebrew Union College, recommending that it approve the project of holding a Convocation in connection with the Convention, together with the award of honorary degrees.

ROBERT P. GOLDMAN, Chairman

LOUIS I. EGELSON, Secretary



TENTATIVE OUTLINE

PROGRAM OF XXXIX COUNCIL

Thursday, March 22, 1945

Morning

Organization of Conventions of U.A.H.C.;
N.F.T.S.; N.F.T.B.; and perhaps N.F.T.Y.
(Meeting separately.)

Afternoon

Joint Meeting

Brief reports by Presidents of Union and
auxiliary bodies.
Report by Director of the Union.
Report by Chairman of Board of Governors, H.U.C.
General Discussion.

Evening

Town Meeting

"The Future of Reform Judaism in America."
Participants: Two rabbis and two laymen
representing different points of view.
A presiding officer.
General Discussion.

Friday, March 23, 1945

Morning

Business Session

1. Discussion of Executive Board's position
on the American Jewish Conference
2. Revision of Constitution
3. New Name for the Union

Afternoon

Symposium

"The Synagogue and the Returning Service Men
and Women."

Participants: Two chaplains and two service
men and women.

A presiding officer.

General Discussion.

Committees of Council will meet.

Evening

Religious Service and H.U.C. Convocation.

Saturday, March 24, 1945

Morning

Religious Service

Afternoon

Group Conferences

1. Afternoon with President and Director of the Union.
2. Afternoon with Congregational Secretaries.
3. Afternoon with Campaign Representatives.

Evening

Committees of Council will meet.

A Social Hour given by the Chicago Federation of Reform Synagogues.

Sunday, March 25, 1945

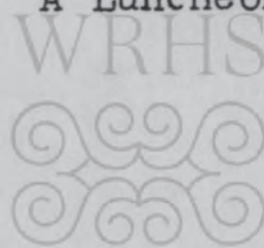
Morning

Business Session

Reports of Council Committees.

Noon

A Luncheon with Inspirational Address.



October 23, 1944

Mr. Robert P. Goldman
Chairman, Program Committee
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
34 West Sixth Street
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Mr. Goldman:

In reply to your letter of October 20, which was accompanied by a tentative outline of the program for the next Council of the Union, I would like to make the following observation.

Rabbi Eisendrath spoke to me last Wednesday in Cincinnati concerning my participation in the Town Meeting on "The Future of Reform Judaism in America." I believe that the subject is most timely and I was inclined to accept the invitation. In the course of the conversation, however, it developed that the subject in fact will be a Town Meeting on Zionism in which representatives of the point of view of the American Council for Judaism (or the Houston Congregation) will meet with representatives of the Zionist point of view for another full dress debate on the subject of Zionism and Reform Judaism. I believe that that would be a great mistake. The Union and the Conference have now taken a position of neutrality on the subject which has met with the approval of the overwhelming number of our congregations and their members. It is a program on which Reform Judaism can now proceed and carry on an intensified program of activity in behalf of liberal Judaism in this country. There is a small irreconcilable minority which will remain irreconcilable regardless of what you do. To project this controversial issue again into the Council is to create further discord, rancor and confusion. The Council will be converted into a battle royal on the subject of Zionism. Qui bono? The Zionists are not pressing the Union to adopt a Zionist program. The non-Zionists are satisfied with the attitude of neutrality which has been adopted. Only the anti-Zionist die-hards would welcome the platform, and the sounding board of a Council meeting to broadcast their anti-Zionism. The Council should not lend itself to that.

"The Future of Reform Judaism in America" should be discussed. It should be in the nature of a symposium on the part of Rabbis and laymen, each contributing his best thought on how to advance Reform Judaism in this country, new methods and techniques to be employed, how to improve our educational methods and schools, how to enrich our public worship,

Mr. Goldman

-2-

October 23, 1944

how to reach the masses of our people, how to enrich Jewish scholarship etc. etc. In other words -- a positive, constructive approach which might yield some very helpful ideas and will not again lead us down into the great Serbonian bog of fruitless and bitter discussion.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK



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WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

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1421



October 31, 1944

Dr. Abba H. Silver
Tifereth Israel Congregation
Cleveland, O.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I know how very crowded your schedule is but I am wondering if you ever received my letter of October 10, copy of which is enclosed, and whether you will be able to visit the three cities mentioned in this letter at any time during the winter or early spring season. It would be a tremendous help to us if you could manage to include them in any trips you are making around Chicago and I hope that I shall have a favorable reply from you.

With kindest regards, I am

Cordially,

Jerome L. Levy
Jerome L. Levy
National Finance Director

JLL:ks

Encl.

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October 10, 1944

Dr. Abba H. Silber
Tifereth Israel Congregation
Cleveland, O.

Dear Dr. Silver:

The officers of the Joint Campaign for the Union and the College have asked me to write you to ascertain if your busy schedule would permit some visits for us in December and January. We should very much like to have you go to Minneapolis, St. Paul and Milwaukee. Milwaukee is virgin territory and badly needs contact.

If you can possibly arrange these trips and will let me know, I shall communicate immediately with the presidents and rabbis of these congregations and offer any dates you are willing to give. Perhaps you are travelling in that direction on other business sometime during the year and, if so, could fit these visits into your itinerary.

We shall be most grateful for your cooperation.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Cordially,

Jerome L. Levy
National Finance Director

JLL:ks

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Administrative Secretary

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Honorary Secretary

THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE SISTERHOODS

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE YOUTH

34 WEST SIXTH STREET • CINCINNATI, OHIO • PHONE Parkway 7345

November 3, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
c/o The Temple
E. 105th St. at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

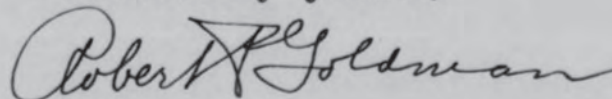
Dear Dr. Silver:

Thank you for your letter commenting on the proposed program for the next Council of the Union.

Your suggestions will be considered at another meeting of the local members of the Program Committee, which will be held next week, and also at the meeting of the whole Committee, to be held in New York on Saturday evening, November 25. I sincerely trust you will be able to attend the latter meeting.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Robert P. Goldman
Chairman, Program Committee

RPG/mg

November 13, 1944

Mr. Robert P. Goldman, Chairman
Committee on Time, Place, and Program
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
34 West 6th Street
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Mr. Goldman:

Permit me to acknowledge your letter of November 10. I believe that the decision of the Sub-Committee to postpone the Council of the Union to the Fall of 1945 is a wise one in view of the position taken by the office of Defense Transportation.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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RABBI LOUIS I. EGELSON
Administrative Secretary

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Honorary Secretary

THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

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THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE SISTERHOODS
THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE YOUTH

34 WEST SIXTH STREET • CINCINNATI, OHIO • PHONE Parkway 7345

November 10, 1944

Dr. Abba H. Silver
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

We had a meeting yesterday of a sub-committee of the Committee on Time, Place and Program for the next Council of the Union.

Rabbi Egelson reported on a conference that he had with the regional informational officer of the ODT in Chicago. The ODT feels that it is inadvisable for the Union to plan a Convention for the early part of 1945 because passenger traffic both by rail and bus lines are carrying more than the peak load at the present time.

Enclosed is copy of a letter which the ODT official in Chicago wrote to Rabbi Egelson. In view of the above, the sub-committee feels that the Council of the Union should meet in the fall of next year, preferably on November 1-4 or October 25-28, if proper accommodations can be secured in Chicago.

If you agree with the above decision of our sub-committee, then there really is no need for a meeting of the full Committee as planned for Saturday evening, November 25, in New York.

We could report to the Executive Board on Sunday, November 26, that it is the consensus of our Committee that the Council be postponed until fall.

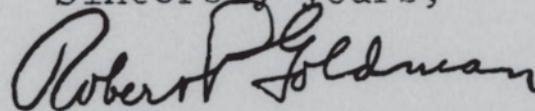
Please let me know by return mail or wire whether or not you agree with the decision of the sub-committee. Unless there is substantial objection to the postponement, we shall not hold the meeting on Saturday

evening, November 25, but if there is objection, we shall hold the meeting and consider the problem of Time, Place and Program.

I shall let you know whether the meeting is to be held as soon as I have replies from the members of the Committee.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Robert P. Goldman, Chairman
Committee on Time, Place, and Program

RPG:hd



OFFICE OF DEFENSE TRANSPORTATION
Regional Information Office
Room 570-209 So. Wells Street
Chicago 4, Illinois
Andover 3600

November 1, 1944

Rabbi Louis I. Egelson
913 Chicago Temple Building
77 West Washington Street
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Rabbi Egelson:

I wish to thank you for your very pleasant visit to our office today. I also wish to reiterate the reasons given to you as to why, in the opinion of the ODT, it is not advisable to plan a convention of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations for the early part of 1945.

As I pointed out, and our files here will verify, passenger traffic, both by rail and bus lines, are carrying more than their peak load at the present time. Rail equipment has bogged down in its effort to supply necessary war materials for our fighting men in our two ocean war. All non-essential travel is being discouraged by radio, newspaper, and other media at our disposal.

Quite a campaign is in the immediate offing to place the glare of publicity upon all unnecessary conventions, meetings, and gatherings in the Chicago area. I am sure that your worthy organization would not care to share in this publicity. The Office of Defense Transportation feels happy in the cooperation of your organization in this plan. It is our feeling that your anticipated convention should not be scheduled for Chicago prior to Labor Day of next year, at which time we are hopeful that the travel situation will be a more controlled factor in the war situation.

As I pointed out, the war effort has changed from the eastern rail lines where the majority of trans-continental railroads have two and three rail lines to the west coast where most of the lines are single track railroads. As war material for the Pacific war must be carried over the same rails which carry passenger traffic, you can readily see the terrific strain that has been placed upon these western railroads.

I could give you copies of numerous releases which tell the story over and over of various deserving and well-thought of organizations that have cancelled all conventions for the

Rabbi Louis I. Egelson

November 1, 1944

duration in the belief that the winning of the war is now and should be the main thing in which we are all interested.

Thanking you very much for your understanding and cooperation in this matter, I am,

Sincerely,

CLIFFORD BLACKBURN
Regional Information Officer

Attachment



UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

M I N U T E S
OF
T H E E X E C U T I V E B O A R D

November 26, 1944



MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Union of American Hebrew Congregations

New York, N. Y.

November 26, 1944

Pursuant to the call of the President of the Union, Mr. Adolph Rosenberg, the Executive Board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations met in the Hotel New Yorker, New York City, on Sunday, November 26th, at 10 a.m.

The President, Mr. Rosenberg, presided and Rabbi Louis I. Egelson, Administrative Secretary, recorded the Minutes.

The following members of the Board were present: Messrs. Jacob Aronson, Rabbi B. R. Brickner, Jesse Cohen, Rabbi Maurice N. Eisen-drath, Solomon Elsnor, Irvin Fane, Lee M. Friedman, Robert P. Gold-man, Joseph Greenberg, Rabbi Samuel Gup, Mrs. H. Hartmann, Dr. S. S. Hollender, Lester A. Jaffe, Eldon S. Lazarus, Philip Meyers, James H. Miller, Rabbi Julian Morgenstern, Herbert C. Oettinger, Henry Oppenheimer, Theodore D. Peyser, Adolph Rosenberg, Rabbi Abba H. Silver, Eugene B. Strassburger, Aaron Straus, Hiram Weisberg, Dr. Hiram B. Weiss, Sidney N. Weitz, Herman Wile, Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, Rabbi George Zepin, Honorary Secretary, and Mr. Hyman Kanter, Accountant.

Messages were received from members of the Board, regretting their inability to attend.

Mr. Rosenberg called on Rabbi Julian Morgenstern, who opened the meeting with prayer.

Mr. Rosenberg welcomed the members and expressed the appreciation of the Union for their willingness to come to the meeting under the difficult travel conditions of today and stated that it was an additional evidence of their deep interest in the work and progress of the Union.

Election of New Members of the Board

Mr. Rosenberg pointed out that there were two vacancies on the Executive Board caused by resignations of two members from the New York area. He called upon Mr. Robert P. Goldman, the chairman of the Committee on Nominations, who presented the names of Mr. Oscar M. Lazrus and Mr. Frank L. Weil, both of New York, for election to the Executive Board.

Upon motion duly made, Messrs. Lazrus and Weil were unanimously elected members of the Executive Board. Mr. Rosenberg welcomed the new members.

Annual Reports of Departments of the Union

Mr. Rosenberg stated that the annual reports of the Departments of the Union had been sent to the members of the Executive Board in

advance of the meeting so as to eliminate the necessity of reading them at the meeting. The reports are as follows:

- 1: National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods
- 2: National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods
- 3: National Federation of Temple Youth
- 4: New York Federation of Reform Synagogues
- 5: Chicago Federation of Reform Synagogues
- 6: Commission on Jewish Education
- 7: Commission on Information about Judaism
- 8: Commission on Synagogue Activities
- 9: Combined Campaign of U.A.H.C. - H.U.C.
- 10: Committee on Endowment and Trust Funds

It was moved and carried that the Reports be received and printed in the Year Book.

Report of Board of Governors, Hebrew Union College

Dr. Hiram B. Weiss, chairman of the Board of Governors, Hebrew Union College, announced that the Report of the Board was ready for distribution at the meeting and that it would undoubtedly be sent out with the Minutes of the meeting. (Appendix "A")

Instead of reading the Report, Dr. Weiss spoke of the need for more income for the College in order to strengthen the faculty, to meet the problem of the returning Chaplains, and to take care of retirement allowances for faculty and employees. He also indicated that the Board is considering its own enlargement through greater representation from other parts of the country. He expressed gratification that the College and the Union are working together harmoniously in a fine spirit of cooperation.

It was moved and duly carried that the Report be received, sent to the members of the Executive Board with the Minutes of this meeting and then printed in the Union Year Book.

Director's Report

Mr. Rosenberg called upon Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, Director of the Union, to present his report. (Appendix "B")

It was moved and duly carried that the Report of the Director be received and that the recommendations therein be taken up later in the session.

Report of Committee on Time and Place XXXIX Council of the Union

Mr. Robert P. Goldman, chairman of the committee, reported that the Committee on Program had met and had selected March 22 - 25 as the time for the meeting of the Council in Chicago. A tentative program had been arranged and a meeting of the full committee had been called for New York on the night before the meeting of the Executive Board.

In the meantime, a communication had been received from the O.D.T., discouraging the holding of conventions in Chicago because of interference with transportation in connection with the war effort, and it was suggested to us that we postpone our meeting until the fall of 1945. A subcommittee of our committee met and decided that in view of the suggestion of the O.D.T. it would be advisable to postpone the next Council of the Union until either October or the early part of November, 1945. This was communicated to the full committee. Of those that replied all except one favored postponement.

Mr. Goldman added that the Committee, in setting up the program, planned to grapple with the fundamental problems confronting the Union and to give ample time for full discussion.

Mr. Goldman moved that the Report be adopted and the Committee be authorized to arrange for a meeting in Chicago, or, if that is not available, in some other Midwestern city, either the last week of October or the early part of November, 1945. The motion was seconded and duly carried.

Mrs. Hartmann suggested that it would be well to have a letter from the O.D.T., stating their policy with regard to conventions and, furthermore, that we should let the office of the O.D.T. know that we are complying with their request.

Rabbi Egelson stated that we have such an official letter from the O.D.T. and that the O.D.T. would be informed of our action at this meeting.

Report of Committee on Revision of Constitution

Mr. Irvin Fane, chairman of the Committee on Revision of the Constitution, reported that a subcommittee considered various proposals that were made from time to time looking toward the democratization of the Executive Board. The special committee prepared a tentative draft that was sent to all the members of the committee. This was followed by a meeting of the Committee on Constitution, which considered the various suggestions made by the members and prepared a second tentative draft.

Mr. Fane called attention to the various changes introduced in the draft of the new Constitution.

It was moved and duly carried that a copy of the new draft of the Constitution be sent to each member of the Executive Board for study and for suggestions to be transmitted to the chairman of the Committee. (Appendix "C")

Mr. Fane called attention to the fact that the Committee is working on a definition of the relationship to the Union of the auxiliary bodies of the Union, namely N.F.T.S., N.F.T.B. and N.F.. T.Y., for inclusion in the Constitution. He asked that the president appoint a joint committee of the four organizations to consider

the matter and arrive at a mutual agreement which might be incorporated into the Constitution.

Mr. Fane presented a resolution which was adopted by Congregation B'nai Jehudah, of Kansas City, at its annual meeting on November 15, 1944, which reads as follows:

"RESOLVED, That Congregation B'nai Jehudah, of Kansas City, Missouri, submits to the Executive Board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations the following amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and requests that said amendments be submitted to the Council at its next regular meeting."

Dr. Hollender called attention to the fact that at the meeting of the Executive Board following the Council, it was resolved that a committee be appointed to consider a change of name for the Union and he asked whether this question of a change of name had been recommended to the Constitution Committee.

Mr. Rosenberg replied that the sub-committee on change of name was not yet ready to report and that in all likelihood the report would be presented before the next Biennial and could then be incorporated in the new Constitution.

Mr. Aaron Straus inquired whether members of the Executive Board living at a distance, who find it impossible to attend a meeting could not furnish an alternate to act for them under a power of attorney.

Mr. Rosenberg stated that that would be referred to the Committee on Constitution for consideration.

Mr. Rosenberg expressed the sincere thanks of the Executive Board to Mr. Fane and to his Committee for their work thus far in connection with the Constitution.

Request for Subsidy for Committee on Scouting

Mr. Rosenberg stated that Mr. Frank L. Weil had presented a communication to the Executive Board for a subsidy for the work of the Jewish Committee on Scouting and that because Mr. Weil was obliged to leave the city at noon, he had asked for consideration of the request for a subsidy at this time. At the request of Mr. Rosenberg, Rabbi Egelson read the communication from Mr. Weil.

Mr. Weil stated that the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Central Conference of American Rabbis are both members of the National Jewish Committee on Scouting which is advisory to the National Scouting Organization. The Jewish Committee on Scouting has a threefold objective:

- 1: To encourage Jewish boys to become Scouts
- 2: To encourage Jewish institutions to foster Scout troops
- 3: To interpret to the Scout organization Jewish religious requirements.

The function of the Jewish Committee on Scouting is to parallel in all respects the Committees of other faiths.

A budget committee of the Jewish Committee on Scouting met a few weeks ago and adopted a budget of \$9,000.00 for the next three years.

Mr. Rosenberg informed the Board that the whole problem of how far we can go in giving subsidies to outside organizations would be considered later in the day. He assured Mr. Weil that the request of the Jewish Committee on Scouting would receive the consideration of the Board.

Judge Elsner spoke of an incident in Hartford with reference to the Boy Scout work and expressed surprise that this Youth movement seems to have a tendency toward segregation along the line of religion. His own Temple offered housing facilities to a Boy Scout group but stated that under no circumstances was it to be a sectarian group.

Report of Committee on Rabbinical Relief

Mr. Herbert C. Oettinger, chairman, read the report of his committee. (Appendix "D")

Mr. Rosenberg explained that the interest received formerly from the Pension Fund would now be turned over to the Rabbinical Pension Board. Accumulated interest from preceding years plus an allocation of \$405.98 will meet the needs for this year.

It was moved and duly carried that the Report of the Rabbinical Relief be received and printed in the Year Book; the request for the appropriation of \$405.98 to meet the deficiency be authorized.

Report of Committee On Pensions of Union Staff

Mr. Jacob Aronson, chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Pensions for the Union Staff. (Appendix "E")

Mrs. Hartmann pointed out that the 40% retirement ratio be based on the maximum salary rather than on the average salary for the last 10 years of service preceding retirement, because during the depression employees of the Union took a drastic cut in salary.

Mrs. Hartmann called attention to the fact that the N.F.T.S. has no employees and that those working for the Sisterhood are all employees of the Union.

Mr. Aronson stated in reply that the 40% is not specified as a maximum, but that the Executive Board, those in office at the particular time of the retirement of any employee of the Union, could raise the supplementary allowance to any percentage it deemed appropriate.

He accepted Mrs. Hartmann's amendment to his Report and eliminated the section referring to employees of the N.F.T.S., N.F.T.B. and N.F.T.Y.

Mr. Jaffe inquired whether the granting of the 40% retirement allowance to the clerical employees of the Union would not be a higher percentage than would be received by a substantial number of the rabbis of the country under the primary pension plan.

Mr. Aronson replied that to the extent that employees are in the younger ^{age} bracket - that is under 35 and 40, there would be no obligation to the Union with reference to the supplementary allowance - that the 3% and 7% provisions will generally provide the 40% level. It is only in the cases of those who are not in the younger age class where the employing organization will have the obligation to make up past service accruals.

It was moved and duly carried that the Report be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved in principle and that the legal language be spread on our Minutes to cover all necessary requirements. The following is the resolution thus adopted:

"Draft of resolution for minutes of
Executive Board, UAHC meeting,
Held November 26, 1944.

"Report dated October 26, 1944, of Subcommittee on Staff Pensions, consisting of Mr. Jacob Aronson (Chairman), Mr. Ralph W. Mack and Rabbi George Zepin, was submitted by Mr. Aronson.

"Whereupon, after discussion, it was unanimously

"RESOLVED, That the said report of the Subcommittee on Staff Pensions, dated October 26, 1944, be received and the recommendations therein set forth be approved; and, pursuant to such approval, it is further

"RESOLVED, (1) That those members of the Union staff as are eligible to participate in the Rabbinical Pension System be invited to do so, and in the case of those who do so, the Union, as employer, contribute toward premium costs in the proportion of 7% of salary, as against 3% to be contributed by the participating individuals, said premium contributions to be supplemented by grants through the agency of the Rabbinical Pension Board, as provided in the Rabbinical Pension Plan;

"RESOLVED, (2) That there be offered to all lay employees of the Union who have completed five years or more of continuous service with the Union, the opportunity to enter a contributory pension plan under which the individual will contribute 3% and the Union 7% of

the annual salary as premiums for annuity policies (with meantime insurance in cases where such insurance is available), such annuities to become payable upon attainment of the same ages as in the case of rabbis, except that, in the case of women, 60 years shall be the age for the commencement of annuities;

"RESOLVED,(3) That a Union Staff Pension Committee, to be appointed by the President, is authorized to take all action deemed by it to be necessary or appropriate to formulate the detailed terms and conditions of a pension plan embodying the principles set out in this resolution, including authority to make applications to the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, or any other life insurance company selected by said committee, for insurance and annuity policies, and to manage and administer the said pension plan, and to make rules and regulations in connection therewith; and the President, upon the recommendation of the Union Staff Pension Committee, is authorized to execute any trust agreements and other instruments in writing, necessary or appropriate in connection with the formulation and administration of such pension plan;

"RESOLVED,(4) That the Executive Board declares its adherence to the policy of supplementing annuities, described in the foregoing paragraphs, in the case of those who avail themselves of the said pension plans, so as in the aggregate to produce pensions equal to 40% of average annual salaries for the last ten years of Union employment preceding retirement, the Executive Board reserving in each case the determination of age attainment, between 65 and 70 in the case of men, and between 60 and 65 in the case of women, at which such supplementary allowances shall become effective, and the Executive Board reserving in each instance determination of the minimum number of years in Union service that shall be a prerequisite for such supplementary allowance; it being now expressly recited, however, that the declaration of policy stated in this paragraph '(4)' is not intended to and does not constitute the assumption by the Union of any legal and binding obligation."

Mr. Jaffe inquired whether the proposed appropriation for the staff pensions had been included in the budget. Mr. Kanter replied in the affirmative.

The meeting adjourned for luncheon and reconvened at 1:45 p.m.

Afternoon Session

Mr. Peyser announced the passing of Mr. Maurice D. Rosenberg of Washington, an honorary member of the Executive Board. Upon motion by him the president was authorized to appoint a committee to draw up suitable resolutions in the memory of Mr. Maurice D. Rosenberg for transmission to his family. The president stated that he had known Mr. Maurice D. Rosenberg for many years and that he was one of the most lovable and valuable members of the Executive Board and that we feel genuine regret at his passing.

Report of Budget Committee

Mr. Rosenberg called upon Mr. Kanter to read the Report of the Budget Committee. (Appendix "F")

It was moved and duly carried that the Report of the Budget Committee be approved and spread upon the Minutes.

Report of Rabbinical Pension Board

Mr. Aronson, Chairman, read the first Annual Report of the Rabbinical Pension Board. (Appendix "G")

Mr. Aronson paid a tribute to Rabbi Zepin who "has given unselfishly and magnificently of his time and effort in the direction of making this Pension Plan a success."

Mr. Aronson informed the Board that he was taking up with the Internal Revenue Bureau at Washington the question that arises under the tax laws in the pension system. The question arises in the case of individual rabbis who receive the benefits of the 7% contribution toward premiums that are paid by their congregations and of the supplementary grants that we issue through the agency of the Pension Board, whether or not those payments toward premiums constitute additional current income to each of the rabbis.

It was moved and duly carried that the report be received and spread upon the Minutes and printed in the Year Book.

Upon motion by Mr. Aronson, which was duly carried, the president of the Union was authorized to appoint a small committee representing the Union, to associate itself with a similar committee representing the Central Conference of American Rabbis which shall have authority to administer the capital funds in line with the obligations assumed by the Union in the trust agreement. Mr. Aronson suggested that it would be proper that the small committee be of the type of men that give attention in the Executive Board to the investment of our funds.

Mr. Jaffe reminded the Board that Mr. Aronson, the chairman of the Rabbinical Pension Board, has rendered tremendous service in this task.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Rosenberg expressed sincere thanks to Mr. Aronson, whose highly valuable experience and direction has brought the Pension system to its present status.

Rabbi Gup stated that the Conference of Rabbis "almost signed away its financial life" when it gave up \$150,000.00 to the Pension Plan. The Conference still has the problem of the relief of its members who are in need. It was the income of the \$150,000.00 which helped to maintain the Conference's relief system. He recalled that at a meeting of the Conference Board in Cincinnati, Mr. Rosenberg assured the Conference that if it were to become financially involved in a deficit and could not take care of the needs for Rabbinical relief, the Union would come to its help.

Mr. Rosenberg in amplifying the statement of Rabbi Gup made the following declaration:

After the Pension Plan was approved by the Central Conference and the Union, the Executive Committee of the Central Conference hesitated to sign the Trust Agreement because this meant relinquishing the interest on the Conference's Pension Fund which had been used in the past, to defray the cost of relief cases. The members of the Executive Committee felt that these relief cases could not be neglected and feared that their income without the interest on the Pension Funds would not suffice to meet the requirements of the relief cases.

At the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Central Conference held in Cincinnati last June which I attended, this question was brought up. Upon the presumption that the agreement was already authorized by action of the Conference and the Union, applications for pension policies had already been accepted and about 30 rabbis had been medically examined. We had been dealing with the situation as though it were an accomplished fact. At that time, I recognized that it would be a terrible setback for the pension plan, if the Executive Committee would repudiate what the Conference had agreed to do at the preceding meeting. My statement to them was to this effect:

"Gentlemen, you dare not refuse to sign this Trust Agreement at this particular stage, but if you find yourselves in difficulty because of the relinquishment of the interest on the Pension Fund, we, the Union representing the laymen of the country, recognizing our responsibility toward the pensioning of the rabbis, will do whatever is in our power to help you meet this expense. We don't know precisely what the deficit is going to be; it can't be very much. We have a very friendly attitude toward the Central Conference of American Rabbis, also toward the pension problem which we are undertaking to solve." I also said: "We are going out to the country on a drive for \$550,000. Included in this drive is an item for Rabbis' pensions."

At that time, I thought we had included \$30,000 for Rabbis' pensions, but it developed that it was only \$15,000. However, we have set up \$26,000 for that purpose in this year's campaign prospectus.

"Now," I said to them, "the monies that we raise in the Campaign will be proportionately allocated, as close as possible to the items named in the prospectus. From that allocation, we will gladly make an appropriation for the purpose of relieving any deficit on the part of the Central Conference of American Rabbis due to the causes above described. Secondly, if the Campaign is successful, we may be enabled to enlarge the allocation for the pension plan, so that ultimately the rabbis will get even larger pensions than was contemplated in the Trust Agreement."

After the above statement by Mr. Rosenberg, it was moved by Dr. Barnett R. Brickner, seconded and duly carried that the Executive Board approve the statement of Mr. Rosenberg.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Herbert C. Oettinger presented a summary of the financial operations of the Union for the year ending June 30, 1944. (Appendix "H")

It was moved and duly carried that the report be received, spread upon the Minutes and printed in the Year Book.

Mr. Oettinger presented a note, dated December 6, 1933, made payable to the First National Bank of Cincinnati, for \$207,000.00, and added that the note is marked, "Paid, July 20, 1944."

Mr. Rosenberg expressed gratification that this indebtedness had been discharged.

Mr. Rosenberg suggested the appointment of a committee to confer with the College in order to settle the question of how much the Union actually owes the Hebrew Union College Library Building Fund.

It was moved and duly carried that the president be authorized to appoint such a committee, with power to act.

At this point Mr. Rosenberg welcomed Mrs. Jerome Harris, president of the New York Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, and Mr. Harry Sahlman, a member of the Executive Committee of the New York Federation of Reform Synagogues.

The Report of Committee on Nominations

Mr. Robert P. Goldman, chairman, presented the report of his committee as follows:

A: Commission on Jewish Education

Renominated for 3-year term, beginning January 1st, 1945: Rabbis Bernard J. Bamberger, Samuel Blumenfield, Barnett R. Brickner, Maxwell Dubin, Maurice N. Eisendrath, Dr. A. N. Franzblau, B. Benedict Glazer, Samuel H. Goldenson, Alan S. Green, Jacob R. Marcus, Abraham Shusterman.

Nominated for a 3-year term, beginning January 1st, 1945: Rabbis Baruch Braunstein and Bernard Heller.

B: Commission on Public Information about Judaism

Renominated for a 3-year term, beginning January 1st, 1945: Rabbis Israel Bettan and Sidney S. Tedesche.

Nominated for a 3-year term, beginning January 1st, 1945: Rabbis Samuel Berman, Abraham Feinstein, Norman Goldberg, Theodore Gordon, Joseph I. Gorfinkle and Milton Grafman.

The chairman stated that four or five additional laymen are to be added to the Commission.

C: Commission on Synagogue Activities

Renominated for a 3-year term, beginning January 1st, 1945:

Rabbis Daniel L. Davis, Emil W. Leipziger, Ahron Opher, David H. Wice, George Zepin and Mrs. Samuel T. Rice.

Nominated for a 3-year term, to take the place of Rabbi Solomon N. Bazell, while he is serving as Chaplain:

Rabbi Sylvan Schwartzman.

D: Joint Committee on Ceremonies

Renominated for a 3-year term, beginning January 1st, 1945:

Rabbis George B. Lieberman, Jacob D. Schwarz.

All the above have been confirmed by the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

E: World Union for Progressive Judaism

Renominated for 1 year, beginning January 1st, 1945:

Jesse Cohen, Mrs. J. Walter Freiberg, Harry N. Gottlieb, Mrs. Hugo Hartmann, Adolph Rosenberg, Eugene B. Strassburger, Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath.

F: Synagogue Council of America

Renominated for a 3-year term, beginning January 1st, 1945:

Arthur D. Berliss, Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, Charles M. Stern.

Nominated for a 3-year term, beginning January 1st, 1945:

Robert Rosenbaum of Philadelphia.

G: Commission on Interfaith Institutes on Judaism

Nominated for membership on the newly formed Commission, for a term ending December 31st, 1947:

Messrs. Emil N. Baar, of Brooklyn; Emil Kitzinger, of Chicago; Jeffrey Lazarus of Cincinnati.

H: Board of Governors of Hebrew Union College

Renominated for a 4-year term, beginning January 1st, 1945:

Mrs. Hugo Hartmann, Lester A. Jaffe, Leon Lederer, Mortimer May, Nathan Ransohoff, Adolph Rosenberg, Dr. Hiram B. Weiss, Irvin F. Westheimer.

The chairman added that one place is being left open for the nomination of a resident of New York City.

It was moved and duly carried that the nominees presented by the chairman be declared elected and that the committee be authorized to select a New York resident to fill the vacancy.

Recommendations in the Director's Report

The recommendations in the Report of the Director, Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, were taken up seriatim, as follows:

1: The American Jewish Conference

Rabbi Eisendrath pointed out that at the forthcoming meeting of the American Jewish Conference the question of converting that organization into a permanent one and to have it include the American Jewish Scene, will undoubtedly come up for discussion. He recommended that the Union's delegates to the American Jewish Conference be instructed to oppose any attempt to convert the American Jewish Conference into such an all-embracing agency. If the Conference should seek, by majority action, to violate the terms of reference adopted at Pittsburgh, our delegates should indicate that our Executive Board will be constrained to review our relationship with the Conference.

Mr. Straus, of Baltimore, asked what would be the attitude of the Union in the event that the American Jewish Conference reaffirms the Palestine Resolution.

Mr. Jaffe responded that there could be no change in the attitude of the Executive Board until the Biennial Council of the Union meets.

Rabbi Eisendrath pointed out that should it resolve to reaffirm the Palestine Resolution the representatives of the Union would be in duty bound to indicate publicly the position that the Union has taken regarding the Palestine Resolution.

Mr. Strassburger declared that we should put ourselves on record as opposed to the expansion of the function of the American Jewish Conference.

Mr. Eldon Lazarus inquired whether the American Jewish Conference was not intended to last one year, rather than to become a permanent organization.

Mr. Rosenberg replied that the Conference was organized to deal with certain questions which are not yet resolved, one of which was the matter of selecting the delegation to represent the American Jewish community at the Peace Conference. For that reason the Conference did not go out of existence after the last meeting.

Rabbi Brickner stated that the American Jewish Conference was born out of two concepts: one was to meet the emergency, which is still in existence, and the other, though not expressed was nevertheless latent, that there be created an over-all organization which would be a platform on which American Jews could express themselves regarding the issues that affect their lives. He asked that if a motion is presented at the Conference to have it include the American scene, would our delegates then rise to say that they withdraw from the Conference?

Rabbi Eisendrath replied that the work of the American Jewish Conference has gone on during the entire year in three areas: with regard to Palestine; in the field of rescue; and in the field of post-war Jewish reconstruction. The Union has not been participating in the Commission on Palestine. With regard to the other two areas the work of the American Jewish Conference is by no means completed.

Mr. Jaffe added that our delegates are authorized to go forward and cooperate in the fields of rescue and of rehabilitation. But with regard to making the Conference a permanent body, or expanding its scope to include the American Jewish Scene, our delegates are to vote "No" and to take any steps they can to prevent that result.

Mr. Rosenberg declared that if it is desired to include the American Jewish Scene within the activities of the Conference, the proper course would be for the American Jewish Conference to dissolve and have new elections upon the basis of the new program which it desires to develop. In that case we would not be involved as the Union, but rather as individuals.

Mr. Peyser inquired whether it was correct, as he had heard, that before the Congressional Committee, where the Palestine Resolution was presented, the fact was stated that the Union of American Hebrew Congregations was a member of the American Jewish Conference and was supporting that particular Resolution.

Mr. Rosenberg replied that that is the first time that he heard that the Union was involved in that way. The Union was asked to wire approval of the position of the American Jewish Conference, and the Union's reply was that it could not do so since under the resolution which was passed at the meeting of the Executive Board in Chicago, January 18, 1944, the Union had no authority to make any representation with regard to the Palestine Resolution. Had any notice come to us of the matter as reported by Mr. Peyser, the Union would have made a public denial.

Mr. Straus, of Baltimore, moved that unless the Conference rescind the Resolution on Palestine, the U.A.H.C. resign from the Conference.

Rabbi Morgenstern stated that it is most providential that the U.A.H.C. remained within the Conference, in order that it might have the opportunity to express its point of view and to resist such a program which, it seems, the American Jewish Conference is seeking to impose upon the entire Jewish community. Had we withdrawn from the Conference when it was urged upon us, we would have forfeited this opportunity. It is important that we remain in the Conference to express our point of view.

Mr. Straus indicated that he would withdraw his motion at this time, but would like to have it recorded in the Minutes.

It was moved and duly carried that the Union's three delegates to the American Jewish Conference be instructed to act in accordance with the recommendation of the Director.

2: Good Wishes to Rabbi Smoller

It was moved and duly carried that the recommendation of Rabbi Eisendrath be approved, namely, that a communication be sent to Rabbi Phineas Smoller, the Director of the Chicago Federation of Reform Synagogues, who is ill, expressing the good wishes of the Executive Board and the hope for his speedy recovery.

3: Bank Account in New England

It was moved and duly carried to approve Rabbi Eisendrath's suggestion that a bank account be opened at Waterbury, Connecticut, to take care of the regional office which has been operating on a part-time basis.

4: Regional Office for the Pacific Coast

It was moved and duly carried to give authorization to Rabbi Eisendrath to establish a Western office, if, as, and when it proves feasible.

5: Interfaith Institutes

It was moved and duly carried that the Executive Board ratify the agreement made with the Anti-Defamation League of the B'nai B'rith with regard to the Interfaith Institutes, sponsored by the U.A.H.C. in cooperation with the C.C.A.R.

6: New Offices

It was moved and duly carried that the Executive Board authorize Rabbi Eisendrath to establish Executive offices of the Union, preferably in the mid-town section of New York City, for the Director and for such other executives of the Union as he shall deem necessary.

7: Cooperation with J.I.R.

Rabbi Eisendrath pointed out that in our fund-raising program special consideration should be given to congregations where graduates of the Jewish Institute of Religion are serving as rabbis.

Mr. Jaffe stated the attitude of the H.U.C. as a participant in the Joint Campaign; that such consideration could be given in any locality where such is deemed necessary, rather than on a National basis.

Rabbi Eisendrath pointed out that far more was involved in his recommendation than fund-raising alone. He felt that the whole question of our relationship with the J.I.R. required examination.

It was moved and duly carried that a committee be appointed representing the U.A.H.C., the H.U.C., the J.I.R. and the C.C.A.R., to explore the avenues of cooperation between the U.A.H.C. and the J.I.R.

8: Review of Membership of Executive Board

Rabbi Eisendrath pointed out that before our new Constitution is approved it will be helpful to bring in new members on the Executive Board.

It was moved and duly carried that the Executive Board concur in Rabbi Eisendrath's recommendation that the Administrative Committee ascertain whether a number of our Executive Board members,

inactive for years, desire to retain their membership, and to elect new members in the place of those who do not desire to remain on the Executive Board.

9: Synagogue Council

Rabbi Eisendrath called attention to the fact that the Synagogue Council contemplated a considerably expanded program, calling for an increase in its budget and in its personnel. He recommended that our Committee on Synagogue Council be asked to study this matter further.

It was moved and duly carried that Rabbi Eisendrath's recommendation be approved.

10: Needs of Returning Men

Rabbi Eisendrath asked for authorization to call a conference of representatives of the C.C.A.R. and National affiliates of the Union to discuss the problem of the men and women returning from the armed services.

Rabbi Brickner suggested that the Union take the initiative of calling an all-inclusive conference of all groups to study the problem. Our point of view is not a secular one, but a religious one, and therefore it is within our province to present such a program.

Mrs. Hartmann expressed agreement with that point of view and emphasized the need of our assuming leadership in this direction.

It was moved and duly carried that a committee be appointed to determine, first, what organizations should be included and to work out a tentative approach to the problem of the returnees, before calling the conference that the Director proposed.

11: Radio Broadcasting

Rabbi Eisendrath pointed out that originally there was an agreement with the N.B.C. that no individual institution or group in Jewish life would be permitted to have exclusive time on the air. This agreement has apparently been broken through the sponsorship by a single institution of the "Eternal Light" broadcast. The Reform Jewish group has a right to present its claim to the N.B.C. for equitable treatment as to equal time on the air, or to request that the original agreement be restored, and that the present program, or any other program, be under joint auspices.

Rabbi Wise presented a history of Jewish broadcasting for the past decade including the "Eternal Light" broadcast and suggested that a committee be appointed, including the Director, the President and himself, to study the entire situation and to see what can be done.

It was moved and duly carried that the President be authorized to appoint such a committee.

12. Recordings

In accordance with Rabbi Eisendrath's recommendation it was moved and duly carried that we accept the offer of Rabbi Jonah B. Wise and the United Jewish Layman's Committee, to distribute their

recordings of choral responses for Holy Day, Festival, and Sabbath services, and that we express our sincere thanks to Rabbi Wise and the United Jewish Laymen's Committee for their offer.

13: Remodeling the Bernheim Library Building

It was moved and duly carried to approve Rabbi Eisendrath's recommendation for authorization of the expenditure of an amount up to \$25,000.00 for remodeling the Bernheim Library Building to accommodate the Union's offices, so that the Union's activities in Cincinnati will be housed on the campus of H.U.C.

Rabbi Eisendrath expressed his thanks to the Executive Board for the fine spirit of cooperation that it manifested with reference to the recommendations in his Report.

Mr. Eldon Lazarus suggested that Rabbi Eisendrath's Report be printed and sent to the presidents of congregations in the Union, to the rabbis and to as large a list as possible. It was so ordered.

Mr. Rosenberg expressed the thanks of the Executive Board to Rabbi Eisendrath for his splendid services to the Union.

14: Report of Certified Public Accountants

Upon presentation of the report of the Certified Public Accountants it was moved and carried that the report be received and printed in the Year Book.

15: Requests for Subsidies

Rabbi Eisendrath pointed out that we are being increasingly approached for subsidies by a number of national organizations which we were instrumental in organizing or which we were requested to sponsor after they had been initiated.

Three requests were before the Board:

- 1: The request of \$1,500.00 by Mr. Frank Weil for the Boy Scouts.
- 2: Request for \$500.00 from the Jewish Educational Council, and
- 3: Membership of \$100.00 per annum in the National Peace Conference.

Rabbi Wise pointed out that when we join an organization we assume some obligation and we might appropriate sums from year to year.

Mr. Friedman called attention to the fact that when we go to the public for money for the Union and College, the money thus given to us is earmarked for certain purposes, for our own work, and not to be passed on to other organizations. If we join an organization where there is a membership fee, that is justifiable. But if we begin to pass out funds to other organizations as subsidies, there will be no end.

Mr. Miller agreed with the point of view expressed by Mr. Friedman and added that some of the organizations that apply to us should receive their support from the Welfare Funds.

Dr. Morgenstern expressed the thought that evidently there is a realization that the income of the Union is growing and that we will undoubtedly receive more requests for subsidies than ever before. He suggested that a Committee on Subsidies be appointed to which such requests should be submitted for study and for recommendation to the Executive Board.

Upon motion it was voted that the president appoint such a committee.

It was moved and duly carried that \$500.00 be provided as this year's subvention to the Committee on Scouting, with the understanding that this is not a commitment for the future.

The request from the Jewish Occupational Council was referred to the committee that is to be appointed for the study of subsidies.

It was moved and duly carried that the U.A.H.C. become a member of the National Peace Conference at the cost of \$100.00 per year.

Mr. Rosenberg complimented the Board upon the manner in which the Union's business had been handled at the meeting.

ADJOURNED



AMERICAN JEWISH
ADOLPH ROSENBERG
President

LOUIS I. EGELSON
Administrative Secretary

Appendix A
Annual Report
Board of Governors Hebrew Union College

Cincinnati, Ohio,
November 17, 1944

Executive Board
Union of American Hebrew Congregations

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The following report covers the fiscal year ended June 30, 1944, and likewise will include references to various matters so as to bring the report to current date.

Board of Governors

The Board of Governors is organized as follows: Chairman of the Board, Dr. Hiram B. Weiss; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Lester A. Jaffe; Treasurer, Mr. Leon Lederer; Vice-Treasurer, Mr. Irvin F. Westheimer; Secretary, Mr. Benj. Mielziner; Assistant Secretary, Mr. Maxwell Lyons.

Executive Committee: Mr. Alfred M. Cohen, Dr. J. Victor Greenebaum, Mr. Lester A. Jaffe, Mr. Simon Lazarus, Mr. Leon Lederer, Mr. Nathan Ransohoff, Mr. Alfred Segal, Dr. Hiram B. Weiss, Mr. Irvin F. Westheimer.

The Executive Committee is organized as follows: Chairman, Dr. Hiram B. Weiss; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Lester A. Jaffe.

Trustees of the Endowment Fund: two-year term, Mr. Oscar Berman; three-year term, Mr. Lester A. Jaffe, Mr. Adolph Rosenberg.

During the past year the Board of Governors lost by death Rev. Dr. William Rosenau, an honored and beloved fellow member for 30 years as well as a distinguished and scholarly alumnus.

During the year Dr. Adolph S. Oko, former Librarian of the College, and upon whom the College had conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Hebrew Law (D.H.L.), also passed from this life. We mourn their loss and pay tribute to their blessed memory.

The Board of Governors held regular meetings throughout the year. The Executive Committee also met regularly. In addition to the regular Standing Committees several Special Committees were appointed on matters calling for study and consideration of a special nature and of a temporary character. All of these committees have given careful thought and time to the purposes for which they were appointed.

The administration, business, and work of the College has been conducted in an eminently satisfactory manner.

President and Faculty

As heretofore the President and members of the Faculty have taken part in various public functions throughout the country. President Morgenstern visited many communities in the interest of the College and the Union, and conducted Institutes for Christian Ministers in San Antonio, Texas; Newark, New Jersey; Detroit, Michigan; Kansas City, Missouri.

Under the auspices of the Teachers Institute, members of our Faculty have conducted series of lectures in many communities throughout the country. The cost of these activities is defrayed by the Jacob H. Schiff Fund.

Of great interest to our institution was the presentation by the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra of the symphony Requiem by Dr. Eric Werner, Lecturer in Jewish Music at the College. This premier performance was enthusiastically received and the newspaper reviews were highly commendatory, all of which added greatly to the prestige of our College.

Professor Jacob R. Marcus delivered the Exchange Lectures before the Faculty and students of the Divinity School of Duke University and Professor H. Shelton Smith, of Duke University Divinity School, delivered a course of lectures at the College this past year, under the auspices of the Jeannette Miriam Goldberg Memorial Foundation. The value of these Exchange Lectures has been convincingly demonstrated.

On September 30, 1944, Dr. Walter E. Rothman, Librarian of the College, terminated his fifteen years of service. A Special Committee has been appointed to supervise the work of the Library pending the appointment of a new Librarian.

Three members of our Faculty are on leave of absence, Dr. Abraham N. Frenzbau and Dr. Franz Rosenthal in the service of our armed forces, and Dr. Nelson Glueck as Director of the American School of Oriental Research.

Student Body

Our 69th academic year came quietly to an end, since there were no Graduation Exercises this year. The usual prizes, however, were awarded on recommendation of the Faculty.

For the current year 8 new students were admitted to the College. The present enrollment is 65, of which number 13 have been licensed to serve as replacement Rabbis, and 3 are serving in the armed forces of our country.

51 students of the College officiated in congregations during the High Holydays this year in all parts of the country. Many letters of appreciation were received from congregations, lauding the high quality of the services rendered by our students.

All students qualified for such service, and so authorized by the Faculty Committee on Student Ministrations, are officiating in bi-weekly positions as student-rabbis.

The Student Welfare and Hygiene Committee has carefully watched and safeguarded the health of our students.

Alumni

On June 24th special exercises commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Alumni Association of the Hebrew Union College were held in the College Chapel. A gift of two stained glass windows was presented to the College by the Alumni Association, through its President, Rabbi Harry S. Margolis. Before the close of the exercises, announcement was made that funds had been guaranteed to the Alumni Association which would make possible the installation of stained glass windows in the four remaining windows of the Chapel.

In connection with these exercises the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity (D.D.) was conferred upon eight distinguished alumni of the College, as follows:

Rabbi Samuel Hirschberg, Milwaukee, Wis. ('91)
Rabbi Harry Levi, Boston, Mass. ('87) (degree awarded posthumously)
Rabbi Joseph Blatt, Oklahoma City, Okla. ('01)
Rabbi Joseph Rauch, Louisville, Ky. ('05)
Rabbi Solomon B. Freehof, Pittsburgh, Pa. ('15)
Rabbi James G. Heller, Cincinnati, O. ('16)
Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman, Hartford, Conn. ('18)
Rabbi Moses Cyrus Weiler, Johannesburg, South Africa ('33)

The Fourth Annual Summer Institute for Rabbis was held at the College during the week of June 26th. In many respects this Institute seemed to have been the most successful held. It confirmed the practical value of the project and demonstrated that it should be continued as a regular activity of the College.

Ninety-three graduates of the College are in the Chaplaincy service of the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy. This number constitutes more than one-fourth of the approximately 350 graduates of the Hebrew Union College still in active rabbinical service. It is a record of which our College may indeed be proud.

This situation, however, has created a serious problem in that many congregations were left without adequate rabbinical ministrations. To meet this emergency 13 students were licensed to serve these congregations without rabbinical ministrations. Several congregations have expressed their sincere satisfaction with this arrangement and their appreciation of the cooperation which the Hebrew Union College is giving them.

President Morgenstern announced a gift of \$500.00 from his former parishioners of Lafayette, Ind., for the establishment of the Solomon Loeb Memorial Prize, to be awarded in June, 1946, for the best study in book form submitted in competition by the alumni of the College, on the subject "The History of American Reform Judaism," in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the coming of Dr. Isaac M. Wise to America.

Publications

The Hebrew Union College Annual, Vol. 18 (1944) appeared in October. A number of members of the Faculty as well as other recognized scholars were contributors to this volume. This publication has rendered a distinct service and has greatly increased the prestige which the Hebrew Union College enjoys in the world of Jewish scholarship.

The Alumni Lectures delivered during the academic year 1943-1944 by Rabbi Samuel S. Mayerberg ('17) have just appeared in book form under the title "Chronicle of an American Crusader."

The Founder's Day oration delivered this year by Rev. Dr. Abraham Shusterman ('31) on the theme, "Isaac M. Wise and America's Opportunity," has been printed and widely distributed, and has been very favorably received.

An attractive pamphlet, the first of a series to be published on the Hebrew Union College, dealing with the history of the Hebrew Union College Library and Museum, appeared this year and has served in making the College better known to many more people throughout the country.

The Hebrew Union College Bulletin, a quarterly, has been mailed not only to alumni of the College but also to the general Jewish public, with the idea of bringing the cause of this institution before the layman. A very favorable response has resulted.

The address delivered by President Morgenstern at the inauguration of the 69th academic year of the College on the theme, "Nation, People, Religion, What Are We?" as well as the address given by him at the opening exercises in October, 1944, on the theme, "The Task of the Hebrew Union College," have been published and widely distributed.

There is now in press a brochure titled "After Seventy Years." This will be the story of the College, particularly in relation to American Jewish life and what it has meant to the American Jewish community. It will be a handsomely illustrated book and in every way worthy of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Hebrew Union College.

Budget and Finance

For the year ended June 30, 1944, the total expenditures of the College amounted to \$221,662.29, for the following three purposes and in the amounts indicated.--

For Educational and General Needs	\$149,393.18
For Dormitory and Student Activities	29,599.70
For Non-Educational Needs (i.e., Scholarship Awards, Prizes, Refugee Scholars and Rabbis, HUC ANNUAL, HUC BULLETIN, Publicity, etc.)	42,669.41

The income for the year was \$142,751.05 (excluding the \$90,000.00 annual depletion) and was derived from the following sources:

From Interest on Investments	\$ 70,999.79
From Gifts and Grants	43,918.75
From Dormitory	25,734.14
Other Income	2,098.37

Included in the income for the year is the amount of \$29,452.41, representing the allocation from the combined fund-raising campaign of the Union and the College and likewise, included in the Dormitory income were payments aggregating \$11,712.50 made by students toward their maintenance.

The operating deficit was met by the \$90,000.00 annual depletion of the Endowment Fund, the minimum required in accordance with the terms of the "Rosenwald Agreement." As we now operate, the annual depletion, still essential to the maintenance needs of the College, enabled us to close the year with a balance of \$11,088.76, which has been added to our general reserve.

During the year contributions and/or bequests to our Endowment Fund aggregated \$23,448.86, compared with \$4,000.00 for the preceding year. This increase was due to a single bequest of \$20,500.00.

General

Our buildings, grounds, and equipment have been kept in a high state of repair and efficiency. A post-war program of replacements and repairs is now being considered by our Committee on Buildings and Grounds.

During the course of the academic year 1943-44, for a period of five months, the fourth floor and the east wing of the third floor of the Dormitory were made available to the University of Cincinnati for the housing of 65 ASTP students stationed at the University by the U.S. Army.

In addition thereto the College Gymnasium as well as our laundry facilities were made available to these soldiers. A number of Jewish soldiers in this group were invited to attend our evening services in the Chapel and also extended the hospitality of our Dining Room on Friday evenings.

The outstanding event of the year was the Convocation held in New York City on April 16th, at the Central Synagogue. The Honorary Degree of Doctor of Hebrew Letters (D.H.L.) was conferred on Dr. Salo W. Baron, Mr. James N. Rosenberg, and Mr. William Rosenwald.

October 3rd, 1945 will mark the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Hebrew Union College. A special program committee, in cooperation with our Committee on Public Relations, has been appointed to plan a program to celebrate this anniversary, which should attract nation-wide attention to the role that the Hebrew Union College is playing in American Jewish life.

Respectfully submitted,

HIRAM B. WEISS
Chairman



Appendix D
ANNUAL REPORT OF
COMMITTEE ON RABBINICAL RELIEF

Cincinnati, Ohio

November 1, 1944

To the Executive Board of
The Union of American Hebrew Congregations

Ladies and Gentlemen:

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1944, the Committee on Rabbinical Relief expended \$4,530.75 for relief payments during the year. The interest earned amounted to \$4,010.79. The deficiency of \$519.96 has been charged against the Unused Interest Reserve Fund. At present this Interest Fund amounts to \$3282.05.

On June 21, 1944 the Union entered into an agreement with the Central Conference of American Rabbis, creating a Rabbinical Pension Board to administer a pension fund for the rabbis who are members of the Conference and serving Union congregations. One of the terms of agreement called for the allocation of one-third of the Synagogue Pension Fund to the Rabbinical Pension Board. For the year 1944-5, we estimated our income for relief purposes to be \$4,500.00. Each of the religious organizations, Orthodox, Conservative and Reform would receive one-third of this amount for relief purposes. Since the one-third income allocated to the Reform group is to go to the Rabbinical Pension Board, your committee requests the approval of the Executive Board to continue to make relief payments to the rabbis designated by the Reform group, and charge this deficiency against the one-third share of the Unused Interest Reserve Fund. Since July 1, 1944, we have been expending \$125.00 per month for relief for these Reform rabbis, and by February 28, 1945 we will have used up the one-third of the unused interest reserve.

Your committee is faced with two alternatives - we can either request the Board's permission to notify the Reform group that they should review their relief requirements with the purpose of reducing the monthly expenditures so that payments can be met until June 30, 1945, or we can request the Board to appropriate a sum of \$405.98 to meet this deficiency. For the year 1944-45 we will have to request an appropriation of a sum not to exceed \$1,500.00 to meet the relief payments for the rabbis of the Reform group.

Respectfully submitted

HERBERT C. OETTINGER
Chairman



Appendix E

Report of the Subcommittee on Staff Pensions Presented to the Executive Board with the Approval of the Committee on Salaries Tenure of Office and Pensions

New York, N.Y.
October 26, 1944

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your Sub-Committee on Staff Pensions, consisting of Messrs. Jacob Aronson, Ralph W. Mack and George Zepin met with Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath and Mr. Hyman Kanter on October 26th following conferences on various occasions between the chairman and individual members above mentioned. Our recommendations are set forth in the following paragraphs.

The staff of the Union divides itself into two classes -- (a) those who have rabbinical status and are members of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and (b) the other members of the staff, consisting of lay department heads and the clerical personnel.

1. As to the rabbinical group in the employ of the Union: We recommend that the Union declare its willingness to include members of the group in the Rabbinical Pension Plan of the Union and Conference on the same terms as prevail in the case of rabbis in the employ of participating congregations. This program provides annuities (plus meantime life insurance in the case of those who meet the health requirements of the Insurance Company) beginning at age 65 in the case of those now not over 49 years and 6 months of age, and at age 70 in the case of those older than 49 years and 6 months.

The participating individuals would make annual contributions toward premiums of 3% of annual salaries and the Union, as employer, would contribute at the rate of 7% of such salaries. Inasmuch as these cases are eligible under the terms of our Rabbinical Pension System, primary and supplementary grants would be additionally contributed by the Rabbinical Pension Board from the pension capital funds and other funds available to the Pension Board for such purpose.

We think that we are morally bound to take this initial step without delay so as to square our own action as a direct employer with the action which we have urged our constituent congregations to take in the case of their respective rabbis.

2. We further recommend that the Union offer to all of its lay employees who have completed five years or more of continuous service with the Union the opportunity to enter a contributory pension plan under which the individual will contribute 3% and the employing Union 7% of annual salary as premium for annuity policies with meantime insurance in cases where such insurance is available. Such annuities would become payable

upon attainment of the same ages as in the case of the rabbis, except that in the case of women the retirement age shall be 60 instead of 65.

3. If all of our staff were now below age 35, the foregoing proposal might be considered as offering prospective annuities which, although modest, would nevertheless represent minimum reasonable pensions. It is recognized, however, that we are now in midstream, so to speak, and are under an inescapable ethical obligation to temper the impact of old age maintenance in the case of our middle-aged and older employees. In order to equalize the inadequacy of annuities which will eventuate in the case of these older employees, it is recommended that the Executive Board of the Union declare its adherence to the policy of supplementing annuities which would result from the foregoing insured basis, so as, in the aggregate, to produce pensions equal to 40% of average salary for the last ten years of service preceding retirement. This supplemental pension would be available only in the case of those who, at time of retirement, shall have been in the service of the Union for a reasonable minimum period which need not now be determined but which would be considered upon the occasion of the future employment of persons of advanced age. It is also recommended that the Executive Board of the Union reserve the determination, in each case, of the age attainment, ranging from 65 to 70 for men and from 60 to 65 for women, at which such supplementary pension allowance shall become effective.

In order that such supplementary pension allowances may not in any one or more future years prove a burden on the annual expense budgets out of which such payments would be made, it is recommended that the Union now inaugurate the accumulation of a fund which shall be available for such future supplementary pension allowances or such portions thereof as may in any particular years otherwise constitute a burdensome obligation. For this purpose, it is recommended that \$2,500 be set aside in the current year, and that \$5,000 per annum thereafter be added to the fund, until, in the light of our prospective obligations it is found that the fund is adequate. Such segregated fund (to be known as the Supplementary Pension Capital Fund for the Union Staff) should have the benefit of income thereon pending its ultimate liquidation.

4. With reference to both rabbinical and lay members of the Staff, we further recommend that such members who are thus retired have the privilege of engaging in gainful occupations thereafter, if they so desire, and that the Executive Board of the Union be privileged, if satisfactory arrangements can be made, to retain the pensioned employees for part-time services or restricted duties upon remuneration commensurate thereto.

5. The costs that will be involved (not including the recommended annual appropriations for the purpose of creating a reserve out of which supplementary pension allowances may be drawn) are as follows:

Maximum Cost to the Union on the 3% - 7% formula

6 Rabbis \$3,367.00

19 lay employees 3,752.84 maximum total \$7,119.84

6. It is further recommended that if the foregoing proposals are approved by the Committee and thereafter authorized by the Executive Board of the Union, that the latter authorize the disbursement of the Union's obligations under said plan and also adopt an appropriate resolution authorizing the officers of the Union or such committee as may be appointed by the president to take all steps to effectuate the program, including the execution of a Pension Trust agreement and the procurement of policies.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOB ARONSON, Chairman

RALPH W. MACK

GEORGE ZEPIN



Appendix F

Report of the Budget Committee of the Union

Cincinnati, Ohio
November 1, 1944

To the Executive Board of the
Union of American Hebrew Congregations

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am pleased to inform the Executive Board that the Union closed its fiscal year, beginning July 1, 1943 and ending June 30, 1944, without a deficit.

Our actual income for the period amounted to \$240,314.52, and our expenditures totalled \$229,625.60, leaving a surplus from operations of \$10,688.92.

The budget for the current year, beginning July 1, 1944 has been approved by the Administrative Committee at its meeting on May 21, 1944. This budget calls for an appropriation of \$262,953.50, exclusive of campaign costs and Refugee Scholars. Since then, your committee has revised its appropriations for 1944-45 and we are now submitting a revised budget of \$263,063.04 for your approval. Included in the revision is an additional appropriation of \$2,519.84 for Pensions for the Union Staff members, \$2,500.00 for the Union Staff Pension Reserve Fund, \$1,000.00 for the Philadelphia Federation, and \$10,000.00 for Interfaith Institutes. Reductions have been made in the appropriations for Regional Rabbis, \$12,300.00, Moving and Remodeling Expenses, \$3,523.00.

Your Budget Committee is in close touch with the office and is carefully scrutinizing each month's expenditures.

Hebrew Union College

The budget of the Board of Governors of the Hebrew Union College has been submitted to your chairman. It calls for an appropriation of \$247,629.33 for 1944-45. It estimates its income, including the annual \$90,000.00 depletion from its endowment fund, to be \$266,273.00. This indicates a prospective balance of reserve at the end of the year of \$18,644.00.

Your Committee recommends that the budget of \$247,629.33 be approved, and the 3% depletion voted by the Board of Governors be concurred in.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID F. KAHN, Chairman

Appendix G
FIRST ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE

RABBINICAL PENSION BOARD

New York, N. Y.
November 26, 1944

To the Executive Board
Union of American Hebrew Congregations

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your Board will be gratified to learn that the contributory pension plan authorized by action of your Board and by the Central Conference of American Rabbis has been successfully inaugurated and is now in operation.

The pension plan is based upon a Trust Agreement between the Central Conference and the Union which was executed on June 21, 1944. The Rabbinical Pension Board authorized by the above agreement was duly appointed and held its first meeting on June 27 last.

This Trust Agreement has been mailed to all members of the Board and there is, therefore, no need of repeating here, at length, the items contained therein. Briefly, it sets forth the pension plan and the agreement by the Central Conference to devote its Pension Fund consisting of about \$150,000, and by the Union to devote one-third of the Jacob H. Schiff Pension Fund and the total of Joseph Schonthal Fund, the total of same having an adjusted market value of \$69,683.10, to increasing the pensions of the participants.

It also recites the pledge of the Union and the Conference each to pay \$5000.00 a year for the increase of the Pension Funds and \$1500.00 a year, each, or as much thereof as may be needed for the expenses of maintaining the office of the Rabbinical Pension Board.

The Trust Agreement appears as an appendix to this report and it is recommended that it be printed in the yearbook of the Union for future reference and easy access.

Since the plan was put into operation, that is to say, within the last five months, we have received 100 applications, and on those, 81 policies have already been issued, and 19 are in the process of being issued by The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company.

The receipts of the Pension Board to October 31 consisted of \$38,259.75 received from rabbis and congregations to apply towards the premiums on policies, \$5000.00 from the Union, and \$5000.00 from the CCAR to apply toward Primary and Supplementary Grants and toward our share of the Waiver of Premiums on policies involving life insurance, a total of \$48,259.75.

Our expenditures to October 31 consisted of payments to the Insurance Company on policies issued including prepayment on policies applied for but not yet issued in the amount of \$41,949.48.

Our balance in the bank consists of \$6310.27, representing \$300.00 advance payments on the first year's premium by rabbis and congregations, not yet turned over, but payable to the Insurance Company, \$70.78 representing Primary and Supplementary Grants owing but still unpaid, leaving a net balance of \$5939.49.

Several observations, interesting in themselves, may be of guidance to the Union and Conference and to the Pension Board in the future conduct of this enterprise.

Of the 100 applications, 74 represent rabbis serving congregations and 26 rabbis serving as Chaplains in the U.S. Armed Forces.

A number of congregations have entered two rabbis in the plan, one congregation having entered their three rabbis. Frequently one of these rabbis is and in one case two are serving as chaplains.

A number of chaplains who severed connections with their previous congregations are paying the complete premiums themselves.

In a number of cases, owing to the advanced age of the rabbis, the congregations have entered them on a larger percentage of the salary basis in order to assure the rabbi of a more adequate annuity.

In a number of cases, owing to the advanced ages of the rabbis and the smallness of the annuity yield based upon premiums consisting of 10% of present salary (at that age), the congregations intimate that they do not consider their pension obligation fully discharged by entering their rabbi in this plan, but that they propose to meet the remainder of their obligation out of current income or from funds set aside for this special purpose.

It is interesting to note that in a number of cases, the congregations pay the rabbis' as well as the congregations' share toward the premiums.

PENSION FUNDS

Your Pension Board recommends that the Union and the Conference appoint a joint committee for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of Article IV Section of the Trust Agreement dealing with the integrated administration of the Capital Pension Funds.

We trust that our efforts will merit your continued confidence and support.

Respectfully submitted,
JACOB ARONSON
Chairman

Appendix H
TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Cincinnati, Ohio

November 1, 1944

To the Executive Board of the
Union of American Hebrew Congregations

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I submit herewith a summary of the financial operations for the year ended June 30, 1944. Complete details are reflected in the report of the auditors.

The Union

The income of the Union exceeded the expenditures by \$10,688.92. Our Publication Department ended the year with a surplus of \$720.85.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1944, the Joint Finance Committee of the Union and the College realized \$240,190.91 from congregations, individual subscriptions and Welfare Fund allocations. This represented an increase of \$65,864.12 over last year's collections. According to the agreement between the Union and the College, the following was the distribution:

Collections - - - - -	\$240,190.91
First Charge - Campaign - - - -	\$37,423.30
Second Charge - To H.U.C. for Refugee Scholars	6,137.20
Third Charge - Union Allocation	<u>150,000.00</u>
	<u>193,560.50</u>
Balance to be distributed - - - - -	<u>\$ 46,630.41</u>
50 per cent to H. U. C.	23,315.21
50 per cent to U.A.H.C.	23,315.20
Total Received by H.U.C.	<u>\$29,452.41</u>

The Union's income consisted of the \$150,000.00 allocation plus the distribution of the balance, \$23,315.20, and \$66,999.32 from other sources, or a total of \$240,314.52. Our expenditures, exclusive of fund-raising costs and Refugee Scholar expenses totalled \$229,625.60 for activities and reduction of indebtedness.

As of July 1, 1943 our indebtedness to the First National Bank amounted to \$87,500.00. During the year we reduced this amount by \$22,500.00, leaving a balance of \$65,000.00. As of November 1, 1944 we have further reduced the balance by \$19,000.00, leaving a balance of \$46,000.00 due the First National Bank. Our indebtedness to N.F.T.S. was reduced by \$1,500.00 during the fiscal year, leaving a balance of \$9,750.00. As of November 1, 1944, we reduced this indebtedness to a balance of \$9,150.00.

Hebrew Union College

The income of the College, including the \$90,000.00 annual depletion of the special Endowment Fund, was \$232,751.05. The expenditures totalled \$221,662.29. The surplus of \$11,088.76 was transferred to the Reserve for maintenance.

Respectfully submitted,

HERBERT C. OETTINGER
Treasurer

OFFICERS

ADOLPH ROSENBERG
President

HARRY N. GOTTLIEB
FREDERICK F. GREENMAN
JACOB W. MACK
EUGENE B. STRASSBURGER
Vice-Presidents

HERBERT C. OETTINGER
Treasurer

RABBI MAURICE N. EISENDRATH
Director

☆

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Honorary Members

Marcus Aaron, Pittsburgh
Isaac W. Bernheim, Denver
Simeon M. Johnson, Cincinnati
Henry Morgenthau, New York
Henry Oppenheimer, Baltimore
A. L. Saltzstein, Milwaukee
Isidore Wise, Hartford

Lester D. Alexander, Toledo
Jacob Aronson, New York
Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner, Cleveland
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Lloyd W. Dinkelspiel, San Francisco
Gustave A. Efroymson, Indianapolis
S. Mason Ehrman, Portland
Mark Eisner, New York
Solomon Elsner, Hartford
Irvin Fane, Kansas City
Fred F. Florence, Dallas
Irving S. Florsheim, Chicago
Rabbi Solomon B. Freehof, Pittsburgh
Julius W. Freiberg, Cincinnati
Harry Freund, St. Louis
Lee M. Friedman, Boston
Robert P. Goldman, Cincinnati
Harry N. Gottlieb, Chicago
Joseph J. Greenberg, Philadelphia
Edgar N. Greenebaum, Chicago
Frederick F. Greenman, New York
Harry C. Grossman, Detroit
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Louis L. Kaufman, Cincinnati
Eldon S. Lazarus, New Orleans
Oscar M. Lazrus, New York
Jacob W. Mack, Cincinnati
Rabbi Louis L. Mann, Chicago
Irving S. Metzler, Los Angeles
Melvin S. Meyers, Louisville
Philip Meyers, Cincinnati
James H. Miller, Cleveland
Rabbi Julian Morgenstern, Cincinnati
Herbert C. Oettinger, Cincinnati
Theodore D. Peyser, Washington, D. C.
Adolph Rosenberg, Cincinnati
Gilbert Sanders, Trinidad, Colo.
Bernard G. Sang, Chicago
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Cleveland
Archibald Silverman, Providence
Eugene B. Strassburger, Pittsburgh
Aaron Straus, Baltimore
Roger W. Straus, New York
Lewis L. Strauss, New York
Frank L. Weil, New York
H. Hiram Weisberg, Syracuse
Dr. Hiram B. Weiss, Cincinnati
Sidney N. Weitz, Cleveland
Melville S. Welt, Detroit
Herman Wile, Buffalo
Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, New York
Abe Wurzburg, Memphis

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RABBI LOUIS I. EGELSON
Administrative Secretary

RABBI GEORGE ZEPIN
Honorary Secretary

THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE SISTERHOODS

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE YOUTH

34 WEST SIXTH STREET · CINCINNATI 2, OHIO · PHONE Parkway 7345

December 21, 1944

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I wish to inform you that though we had hoped to have the next Council of the Union in Chicago, we find it is now impossible to get a hotel there for 1945. Rabbi Egelson has conferred with the various hotels in Chicago that could handle our convention, and he reports that they already have commitments for the period that we have set aside for our Council and cannot change them.

Because of the urgency to make a decision immediately, I am calling a meeting of our Committee on Time and Place for Thursday, December 28, at 12:30 P.M. at the Netherland-Plaza Hotel, Parlor L.

As you know, 1945 marks the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the Hebrew Union College, and the College authorities are very eager to see the next Council of the Union meet in Cincinnati.

That is the important issue that we must decide at once.

Since you are at a distance from Cincinnati and may have difficulty in securing transportation, you may send me your vote by mail as to whether you favor Cincinnati for the next Council of the Union. I will bring your letter to the attention of our Committee when it meets next Thursday.

With kind regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Robert A. Goldman

Chairman

RPG:hd

December 26, 1944

Mr. Robert P. Goldman, Chairman
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
34 West 6th Street
Cincinnati, 2, Ohio

My dear Mr. Goldman:

In reply to your letter of December 21 - It is my feeling that the next Council of the Union should not be held in Cincinnati, but in some other city where the meeting of the Council may stimulate interest in the Union and in our work generally. The last few years, we have had quite a number of meetings in Cincinnati. If I recall correctly, the C.C.A.R. met in Cincinnati twice in the last two or three years. All the national institutions of Reform Judaism are centered in Cincinnati, and I believe that it would be preferable to change the date, if necessary, in order that the Council may be held in some other large city.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Tentative Draft
of
Revision
of the
Laws of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations

PREAMBLE

The congregations represented in this Union of American Hebrew Congregations affirm their faithful attachment to the sublime principles of Judaism, and conscious of Israel's sacred duties, undertake to discharge these effectively pursuant to the laws of the country and under the protection of benign Providence.

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. NAME

This body shall be known as the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

Article 2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Union are:

- a) To encourage and aid the organization and development of congregations and synagogues.
- b) To promote religious instruction and encourage the study of Jewish history and literature.
- c) To maintain the Hebrew Union College of Cincinnati, Ohio.
- d) To foster other activities for the perpetuation of Judaism.

Article 3. MEMBERSHIP

Any American Jewish congregation, upon approval by the Executive Board, may become a member of this Union by subscribing to its Constitution and By-Laws.

Article 4. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The legislative body of the Union and its highest authority shall be the "General Assembly," which shall be composed of representatives of congregations comprising the Union.

Each congregation shall be entitled to two delegates and to such additional representation in the General Assembly as the By-Laws may provide.

At the General Assembly meetings each delegate shall be entitled to a vote.

The General Assembly shall elect its own officers.

Article 5. MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Regular meetings of the General Assembly shall be held biennially at such time and place as the General Assembly or the Executive Board may determine. Special meetings of the General Assembly may be called by the President of the Union and shall be called upon written request of the majority of all the members of the Executive Board or upon written request of fifty member congregations.

Article 6. EXECUTIVE BOARD

There shall be an Executive Board of ninety-nine members which shall have complete charge of the affairs of the Union and which shall be its highest authority when the General Assembly is not in session.

The term of office of the members of the Executive Board and the method of their election shall be determined by the By-Laws.

Article 7. OFFICERS OF THE UNION

The officers of the Union shall be a President, one or more Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, a Director, an Administrative Secretary, and at the option of the Executive Board a chairman of the Executive Board, all of whom, except the Administrative Secretary, must be members of the Executive Board. The Director and Administrative Secretary shall be selected by the Executive Board. The remaining officers shall be elected by the Executive Board immediately after the close of each biennial session of the General Assembly for a term of two years, or until their successors shall have been elected and qualified. The officers of the Union shall be the officers of the Executive Board.

Article 8. AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the General Assembly by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present provided that the delegates present represent at least one-third of all the member congregations. Such amendment may be initiated by the Executive Board or may be submitted in writing by a member congregation to the Executive Board. In either event the Executive Board shall transmit the same to the member congregations at least sixty days in advance of the next regular or special meeting of the General Assembly. The Executive Board shall present said amendment to the General Assembly, with its views thereon.

BY-LAWS

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The Executive Board, consisting of ninety-nine members, shall be constituted as follows:

(a) Six members thereof shall be elected by the Central Conference of American Rabbis from its own membership for regular terms of four years. At the first meeting of the Central Conference of American Rabbis following the adoption of this By-Law, the Conference shall elect six members of the Executive Board, three for four years and three for two years, and thereafter, biannually shall elect three members for four years. In addition, the President and Vice-President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, during their terms of office, shall serve as ex officio members of the Executive Board with power to vote.

(b) The Chairman of the Board of Governors of Hebrew Union College, the President of Hebrew Union College, the President of the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, the President of the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods, and the President of the National Federation of Temple Youth shall be ex officio members of the Executive Board with the right to vote, provided, however, that each of the members aforesaid shall be a member of a constituent congregation of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

(c) Sixty members of the Executive Board shall be elected by the General Assembly upon a basis of equitable geographical distribution as hereinafter provided.

Each of the organized regions of the Union shall be entitled to representation upon the Executive Board. Each Federation of Congregations now or hereafter established by the Union shall constitute a region for the purposes of this subsection. The number of Executive Board members from each region shall be governed by the number of congregations within the region and the total number of individual members of the congregations within the region.

Each of the organized regions of the Union shall present the names of their quota of Executive Board members to the Nominating Committee of the General Assembly.

Wherever there is no organized region of the Union, or in the event an organized region shall fail to present such names, the delegates from that geographic area in attendance at the General Assembly shall submit such names to the Nominating Committee.

(d) The remaining twenty-six members of the Executive Board shall be elected by the General Assembly as representatives at large without special reference to the regions.

At the semi-annual meeting of the Executive Board, which shall be about six months prior to the regular General Assembly meeting, the President shall appoint, with the approval of the Executive Board, a committee whose duty it shall be to present to the Nominating Committee appointed by the General Assembly, a list of carefully selected candidates, in the number to be elected, for election to the Executive Board by the General Assembly.

A list of the nominees shall be sent to the delegates at least ten days in advance of the meeting of the General Assembly. Any twenty delegates present at the General Assembly may make additional suggestions to the Nominating Committee of the General Assembly for election to the Executive Board.

(e) At the meeting of the General Assembly at which this By-Law shall be adopted, one-half of the members of the Executive Board shall be elected for two years, and one-half for four years. Subsequently at each meeting of the General Assembly one-half of the Executive Board members shall be elected for a term of four years.

(f) Vacancies caused by death or resignation shall be filled by the Executive Board for a period lasting until the next meeting of the General Assembly, at which time the General Assembly shall elect members to fill the unexpired terms. Such vacancies shall be filled from the bodies to which the retired members were accredited, on nominations from those bodies.

(g) For the purposes above mentioned, rabbis of Union Congregations, and wives of members of congregations shall be considered members of the respective constituent congregations of the Union.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall meet at least once a year at such time and place as the President of the Union shall designate. Special meetings of the Executive Board shall be held on the written request of twenty of the members thereof or when the President shall so order. Twenty-five members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum. The Executive Board shall be ex officio the trustees of all property belonging to the Union.

Section 3. The Executive Board shall have the power to elect to honorary membership on the Executive Board without the right to vote, such persons whose long and distinguished services have merited such consideration. However, at no time shall there be more than fifteen honorary members on the Executive Board.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

Section 4. The Administrative Committee of the Executive Board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations shall consist of the President of the Union, the Chairman of the Executive Board if there is one so elected, and the Director of the Union, ex officio, with right to vote, and from twenty to twenty-five other members of the Executive Board appointed by the President and approved by the Executive Board. The Administrative Committee shall exercise all the powers and functions of the Executive Board in the interim between meetings of the Executive Board, provided, however, that all matters of general policy shall be determined by the Executive Board. The President of the Union shall be ex officio Chairman of the Administrative Committee and the Administrative Secretary of the Union shall be ex officio

Secretary of the Administrative Committee. Meetings of the Administrative Committee may be called at such time and place as may be determined by the President of the Union, or a Vice-President in the absence of the President. The expense of the members of the Administrative Committee in attendance at meetings thereof shall be borne by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS

Section 5. The presidents of the congregations affiliated with the Union shall meet in council, either nationally or regionally, at the call of the President of the Union, at such time and place as he may designate, but at least once every two years. The council shall serve as an advisory body and present recommendations for the strengthening of progressive Judaism, either to the General Assembly or the Executive Board of the Union. Report on the recommendations of the Council shall be made either to a succeeding Council or to the General Assembly of the Union, or both.

THE DIRECTOR OF THE UNION

Section 6. The Director of the Union, elected by the Executive Board of the Union or its Administrative Committee, shall have charge of all the activities of the Union. New projects, recommended by him, must receive the approval of the Administrative Committee before being put into effect. The Director shall be an ex officio member of all Boards, Commissions and Committees of the Union. He shall present reports at periodic intervals to the Administrative Committee and the Executive Board of the Union, and a biennial report to the General Assembly of the Union.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Section 7. The Administrative Secretary, in addition to his duties as departmental head, shall act as Secretary of the General Assembly, the Executive Board and the Administrative Committee, and of committees appointed by these bodies, as designated by the Director.

FISCAL YEAR

Section 8. The fiscal year shall end on the thirtieth day of June, annually, after which time all reports shall be made, and the same shall be printed by the Executive Board, and published for distribution, and shall be submitted to the General Assembly at the regular meetings thereof.

FINANCIAL EXAMINATIONS

Section 9. The books of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations shall be audited at least once a year by an auditor chosen by the Executive Board.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Section 10. At the regular semi-annual meeting of the Executive Board, a budget shall be submitted; this budget shall be prepared in ample time and shall have been passed upon by a Budget Committee of five members of the Executive Board appointed by the President at a previous meeting. The budget and any additional monetary appropriations shall require an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Executive Board present at the meeting, but in all events not less than twenty-five of the members of the Executive Board. The various Boards appointed or elected by the Executive Board shall submit to the Union on or about March 30, their estimates for the coming fiscal year, approved by their respective Boards by majority vote. None of the Boards or institutions subsidiary to the Executive Board shall have authority to spend money except with the approval of the Executive Board.

ENDOWMENTS AND TRUST FUNDS

Section 11. The Executive Board shall biennially appoint five members thereof as a Committee on Endowment and Trust Funds. Said Committee shall be vested with the custody and control (a) of all trust funds, money, securities and trust property of the Union; (b) of all other funds and securities of the Union including those held for or requiring temporary investment. Said Committee shall have full power and authority to sell and dispose of all funds and securities and trust property which may come into its hands as above provided, and to invest and reinvest the proceeds thereof, and its chairman or vice-chairman shall have full authority to sign any and all transfers, instruments and papers which may be necessary or required, and to do so whenever he may be so empowered by resolution of the committee. Such power and authority shall be exercised by said Committee by a vote of not less than a majority of the whole Committee. All funds and securities coming into the custody and control of the Committee shall be kept in a safe deposit box.

DUES

Section 12. Each member congregation of the Union shall pay yearly into the treasury of the Union either directly or through its individual members an amount equal to \$3.00 per member. This shall be considered minimum dues and shall not preclude the raising of additional funds through individual subscriptions or otherwise to meet the budgetary needs of the Union.

BANK DEPOSITS

Section 13. All banks of deposit for Union funds and all banks of deposit for revolving funds for the various departments of the Union shall be named by the Executive Board. Checks, drafts and other instruments for the withdrawal of funds on the major accounts shall bear such signature or signatures as may be determined from time to time by the Executive Board or the Administrative Committee.

AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT GIFTS, ETC.

Section 14. The President, the Chairman of the Executive Board, any Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Director, or the Administrative Secretary of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations is authorized to sign in the name and on behalf of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations a receipt and/or release for any legacy, bequest or devise received from any executors, administrators, trustees or other representatives of decedent estates.

REPRESENTATION IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Section 15. The representation of the member congregation in the General Assembly shall be based on the number of persons for whom it pays dues. Each congregation shall be entitled to two delegates and to one additional delegate for each one hundred persons or major fraction thereof for whom it pays dues over and above the first one hundred.

Members of the Executive Board and of the Board of Governors of the Hebrew Union College, by virtue of their office and for the duration of same, shall also be members of the General Assembly during the period of its meeting with all the privileges of delegates including the right to vote and the right to office; these additional members of the General Assembly shall not prejudice the right of the congregations of which they are members to appoint as many delegates as the membership of such congregations would entitle them to, provided that each delegate shall have only one vote. Honorary members of the above named Board shall be considered honorary members of the General Assembly but without the privilege of voting or election to office, other than honorary, unless duly elected delegates by a congregation belonging to the Union.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Section 16. Thirty members, in addition to the President of the Hebrew Union College, shall constitute the Board of Trustees (known as the Board of Governors) of the Hebrew Union College. Nineteen members shall be elected by the Executive Board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and six shall be elected by the Alumni Association of the Hebrew Union College, and five shall be elected as Trustees at Large by the Central Conference of American Rabbis from among its membership. Members of the Board of Governors shall be elected biennially for a period of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified.

Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Governors shall be filled by the Body by which the retiring member was elected. Honorary Trustees may be named by the Board of Governors.

The President of the Union, the Director of the Union, and the Chairman of the Executive Board shall be elected on the Board of Governors as part of the nineteen members which the Executive Board elects. The quota of the Union shall be elected at the

regular semi-annual meeting of the Executive Board, for terms of office to begin on January 1, following.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE MAGAZINE OF THE COMMISSION ON SYNAGOGUE ACTIVITIES

Section 17. Out of the dues paid by each congregation into the treasury of the Union, the same consisting of \$3.00 per member and applying especially to the dues paid by the congregation for the members of the Board of Trustees of the congregation, there shall be set aside twenty-five cents for each member of a Board of Trustees and other members designated, the same to apply as a subscription price for the Magazine of the Commission on Synagogue Activities, published by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Section 18. The President of the Union shall call the delegates to the General Assembly to order and ask for the election of a temporary Chairman and a temporary Secretary. When these are elected, the temporary Chairman shall appoint a Committee on Credentials and a Committee on Permanent Organization. After a report of the Committee on Credentials shall have been adopted the General Assembly shall consider the report of the Committee on Permanent Organization and shall elect such officers of the General Assembly as it deems proper. Unless otherwise ordered by the General Assembly, the President of the General Assembly shall then appoint such committees as he shall deem necessary, and shall without debate refer to them the reports of the several officers and boards and of the committees previously appointed, in such manner as he may deem advisable.

He shall also appoint such other committees as the General Assembly during its session may order.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS OF A GENERAL CHARACTER

Section 19. Any motion or resolution purporting to express the views or sentiments of the Union or its constituents or personnel upon any question not directly affecting the conduct of the affairs of the Union or its constituents, when presented at any General Assembly meeting shall require for its passage an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the representatives present at said meeting of the General Assembly and voting.

AMENDMENTS

Section 20. The By-Laws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any meeting of the Executive Board, provided notices of proposed changes have been given thirty days in advance, or by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at any meeting of the General Assembly.

CONGREGATIONAL AUTONOMY

Section 21. Nothing contained in this Constitution and By-Laws shall operate so as to interfere in any manner whatsoever with the worship, the school or any of the congregational institutions of its constituent members.



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EUGENE B. STRASSBURGER
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☆

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Isaac W. Bernheim, *Denver*
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Philip Meyers, *Cincinnati*
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Herbert C. Oettinger, *Cincinnati*
Theodore D. Peyser, *Washington, D. C.*
Adolph Rosenberg, *Cincinnati*
Gilbert Sanders, *Trinidad, Colo.*
Bernard G. Sang, *Chicago*
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, *Cleveland*
Archibald Silverman, *Providence*
Eugene B. Strassburger, *Pittsburgh*
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Dr. Hiram B. Weiss, *Cincinnati*
Sidney N. Weitz, *Cleveland*
Melville S. Welt, *Detroit*
Herman Wile, *Buffalo*
Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, *New York*
Abe Wurzburg, *Memphis*

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RABBI LOUIS I. EGELSON
Administrative Secretary

RABBI GEORGE ZEPIN
Honorary Secretary

THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE SISTERHOODS

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE YOUTH

34 WEST SIXTH STREET · CINCINNATI 2, OHIO · PHONE Parkway 7345

January 24, 1945

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
19810 Shaker Boulevard
Cleveland, Ohio

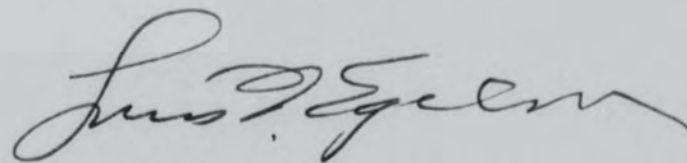
Dear Rabbi Silver:

I have heard from a number of rabbis who spoke in very high praise of Rabbi Freehof's recent book on "Reform Jewish Practice."

I would like to send a review of this book to the Jewish press. Would you, in your very busy life, take the time to write a four hundred or five hundred word review?

With kind regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,



Administrative Secretary

LE:mh

February 5, 1945

Dr. Louis I. Egelson, Administrative Sec'y
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
34 West 6th St.
Cincinnati 2, Ohio

My dear Dr. Egelson:

Had I the time, I should be most happy to review Dr. Freehof's book, "Reform Jewish Practice." But I spend most of my time on the railroad these days, and I certainly would not be able to get to it and to it justice.

Dr. Freehof's volume is a welcome scholarly presentation of the subject written in his characteristic style of clarity and precision, and it will be widely read, I am sure.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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34 WEST SIXTH STREET · CINCINNATI 2, OHIO · PHONE Parkway 7345

February 16, 1945

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have your letter of February 5 and can very well understand that it is impossible for you, right now, to write a review of Freehof's recent book.

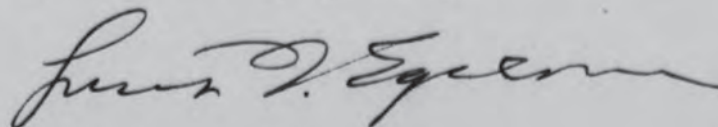
You have given me one good paragraph that I would like to use for publicity. Could you possibly enlarge upon it with an additional paragraph which would make your statement regarding the book quite effective?

I was with Freehof last Tuesday in Pittsburgh to discuss a number of problems relating to our chaplaincy, and particularly the Emergency Placement Committee, of which Sol is the chairman. Naturally, we also discussed the Conference and some of the problems that will arise as a result of the restrictions on holding conventions. I hope that the developments abroad will cause a relaxing of those restrictions so that the Conference can be held at the end of June.

Mrs. Egelson and I were in Boston this last weekend and saw your son. He is a fine boy and will give you much joy.

With cordial regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,



Administrative Secretary

LE:mh

February 23, 1945

Dr. Louis I. Egelson
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
34 West 6th St.
Cincinnati 2, Ohio

My dear Dr. Egelson:

I am enclosing herewith a paragraph or two
on Dr. Freehof's book.

With all good wishes, I remain.

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF UAHC
CINCINNATI, OHIO

March 4, 1945

At the call of the President of the Union, Mr. Adolph Rosenberg, the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the U.A.H.C. was held at the Netherland Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, Sunday, March 4, 1945 at 10:00 A.M.

The following members of the Committee were present: Messrs. Adolph Rosenberg, Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, Jesse Cohen, Solomon Elsner, Robert P. Goldman, Lester A. Jaffe, David F. Kahn, Jacob W. Mack, Melvin S. Meyers, Philip Meyers, and Rabbi Julian Morgenstern.

Messrs. Louis L. Kaufman, Herbert C. Oettinger, Dr. Hiram B. Weiss, members of the Executive Board living in Cincinnati, and Mr. Bernard G. Sang, President of the National Federation of Temple Youth, were present on invitation of the President.

Regrets for non-attendance were received from Mrs. Hugo Hartmann, Rabbi Solomon B. Freehof, Melville S. Welt and Rabbi Jonah B. Wise.

Mr. Rosenberg presided and Rabbi Louis I. Egelson, Secretary, recorded the Minutes. Mr. Jerome L. Levy, Finance Director, and Mr. Hyman Kanter, accountant of the UAHC, were also present.

Mr. Rosenberg welcomed the members of the Committee and stated that the main purpose of the meeting was to hear the report of Rabbi Eisendrath who had just returned from a comprehensive visit to the Western and Southwestern States on behalf of the Union. Mr. Rosenberg called attention to the fact that we once did intensive work on the Coast and that Rabbi Egelson was the first regional rabbi in that area.

REPORT OF RABBI EISENDRATH

Rabbi Eisendrath stated that the communities that he visited were very well prepared in advance through an earlier visit made by Mr. Jerome L. Levy, the Finance Director. Rabbi Eisendrath emphasized the fact that his trip was not solely for the purpose of fund-raising. The tour would have been imperative if it hadn't resulted in the raising of a single dollar. However, he expressed his confidence that the tangible results will be gratifying. With one or two exceptions, quotas have been accepted by all the congregations visited and should yield from \$30,000 to \$40,000 additional revenue.

It is important that each community have at least one contact annually; not merely for an address but to meet with the leaders of the community and to spend at least three days with them. As a result of his visit, Rabbi Eisendrath feels that he knows the

leadership in each congregation and understands their problems. He met many young men in each community who are interested in the national movement. Among them are potential material for our Executive Board.

He found an abysmal ignorance of the Union in many quarters. The change of congregational Boards due to rotation in office has resulted in lack of knowledge of the Union and its program. The older group has yielded leadership and the younger men are now at the helm. More frequent contact is therefore more than ever necessary with these new congregational leaders. Rabbi Eisendrath returned with a definite belief that our future is bright, in spite of many universal problems such as: poor temple attendance, the continued complaints that many of our children do not like to attend the religious schools, the seeming indifference of youth. Our congregations are gaining in strength, in numbers and in interest. Everywhere there was expansion of building programs, and more members were being added to the congregational roster. There was activity everywhere. Rabbi Eisendrath feels that the Union can be "sold" to our congregational leadership. Everywhere he received an eager response to his presentation of the program of the Union.

The question of the Union's position on Zionism came up everywhere, although, in most communities, our leaders quite properly are more concerned with Temple affairs and religious matters. With but one or two conspicuous exceptions, our congregations are satisfied with the position that the Union adopted. There are a few extremists on both sides who are not satisfied with the decision, but the explanation made by Rabbi Eisendrath of the Union's position seemed, in almost every instance, to prove satisfactory.

KANSAS CITY

The fruitage of the loyal and fervid rabbi, Samuel Mayerberg, and an interested member of our Executive Board, Mr. Irvin Fane, was evidenced in Rabbi Eisendrath's visit to Kansas City. The warmth of response that he received there could not be excelled.

DENVER

The congregation is not 100 per cent for the Union and College. We will have their cooperation, but to a limited extent. In view of the fact that this congregation is now served by a graduate of the Jewish Institute of Religion, a formula was suggested to the congregation whereby both the J.I.R. and the U.A.H.C. might share equitably in the proceeds of the campaign.

In Denver he met with a delegation from Colorado Springs concerning the need for rabbinic leadership for Colorado Springs and Pueblo.

SEATTLE

A fine loyal rabbi, Raphael Levine, and good lay leadership made the visit to Seattle comparatively easy and fruitful. The

intellectuals among us are becoming interested in religion. Rabbi Eisendrath found that in Denver and in Seattle a Rhodes Scholar was in leadership of the congregations.

PORTLAND

Mr. S. Mason Ehrman, the President of the Congregation and a member of our Executive Board, was very helpful, and would not let anything interfere with the program of the congregation. On the subject of our continued membership in the American Jewish Conference, Rabbi Eisendrath gave the reasons which persuaded an overwhelming majority of the members of our Executive Board to determine to remain in the Conference.

SAN FRANCISCO

At a meeting with the Board of Temple Emanuel, Rabbi Eisendrath presented the position of the Union and the College on the American scene. As a result, the congregation resolved to adopt the \$3.00 per capita dues and support our request to the Welfare Fund for a substantially increased subsidy.

Sherith Israel, the other congregation in San Francisco is growing rapidly. While it has not adopted the \$3.00 per capita dues, it is considering the adoption of a plan to contribute 10 per cent of the congregation's dues receipts to the Union-College annual campaign.

SAN JOSE, BERKELEY

Rabbi Eisendrath conferred with the leaders of San Jose and with a group from Berkeley who sought counsel regarding the establishment of a new Reform congregation.

SACRAMENTO-STOCKTON

A joint meeting of the representatives of both congregations was held in Sacramento and they were stimulated to further support of the Union.

OAKLAND

Rabbi Eisendrath addressed the Board of the congregation and likewise urged more support for the Union's program.

LOS ANGELES

Mr. Irving Metzler, a member of our Executive Board, was very helpful. He felt keenly his responsibility to advance our cause. He gave a luncheon and invited the congregational Board members to meet Rabbi Eisendrath. One of the leading fund-raisers in Los Angeles was secured to take care of the Union's campaign in Los Angeles. He stated that he would be personally responsible for the amount to be raised.

Rabbi Magnin was similarly helpful. He suggested that we assemble a group of Reform Jewish leaders, particularly the rabbis, to discuss with them the needs of the Union and galvanize them into action. These rabbis should be urged to spend at least a few days in each of our 20 large cities to address the congregations, the Sisterhoods, the Brotherhoods, the Youth groups and tell them of the Union's and College's program and needs. It was his thought that since our leading rabbis are giving so much time to other causes they ought not withhold similar cooperation from the Union and the College.

Through the cooperation of Rabbis Trattner and Nussbaum, Rabbi Eisendrath met with the representatives of seven congregations that are Reform or tending toward Reform. Three of these congregations indicated their intention of joining the Union.

HOLLYWOOD

Rabbi Eisendrath met with a group of chaplains who were located in the vicinity. Chaplains have a feeling that they are being "let down," that the best pulpits that become vacant at this time are taken by those rabbis who stayed at home. It is urgent that this situation be satisfactorily dealt with.

At Hollywood, Rabbi Eisendrath had a conference with Mr. Jack Skirball, a graduate of the Hebrew Union College who has become one of the leading independent producers in Hollywood. Rabbi Eisendrath discussed with him a motion picture on the Union and College, to tell their dramatic story and to depict what our institutions have done for America.

Rabbi Eisendrath also conferred with a certain writer suggested to him by Mr. Skirball and subsequently had a meeting with both of them. The writer felt that the Union has a striking story to tell. Mr. Skirball stated that such a film could not be done for less than \$100,000 but he offered to supervise the production of the film personally if the basic cost, that is, \$25,000, would be provided.

SAN ANTONIO - DALLAS - NEW ORLEANS

In these cities, our leadership, both rabbinical and lay, are interested in the Union and will do all that is necessary to advance the cause of the Union and the College.

HOUSTON

Rabbi Eisendrath met with the Board of Beth Israel and listened again to the charges that had been formally made about the Union and the College to which he replied and cleared up many misunderstandings. They now understand the Union's position better than they did before. The congregation will continue to fight for its point of view, but he had the assurance of both its rabbi and president, that it would do so within the ranks of the Union.

Emanu-El, the new congregation that has been formed is making progress. They already have over 400 members, have purchased a site, and have raised a considerable sum of money for a building. They had been somewhat disappointed in the Union because, allegedly, we did not espouse their cause. Rabbi Eisendrath pointed out that the Union and College had placed all their facilities at the disposal of the new congregation.

CONCLUSION

Rabbi Eisendrath concluded his report by emphasizing that we are the leaders of a growing and expanding movement and that we have a promising future ahead of us.

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

Resulting from Rabbi Eisendrath's presentation, the following specific recommendations were made:

1. That we implement Rabbi Magnin's suggestion by convening a group of rabbis. This should be coordinated with a similar project that is being planned by the H.U.C.
2. Another effort to be made by the Union to urge upon the Emergency Placement Committee of the C.C.A.R. to protect the interest of the chaplain wherever possible.
3. With reference to the motion picture project it was the opinion of the Board to approve the project in principle.

Mr. Rosenberg stated that Rabbi Eisendrath's story was fascinating because he so graphically placed before us the problems which confront our institutions.

Mr. David F. Kahn thought that Rabbi Eisendrath's report should be made known to a larger group.

Rabbi Morgenstern agreed with Mr. Kahn and said that the report presented, while of great interest to the Executive Board, also has definite meaning for our constituency, that it would give them hope in the future of our movement. He suggested that a booklet be published embodying the main results of Rabbi Eisendrath's visit to the Coast and distributed to our constituency.

Mr. Rosenberg suggested that an article on the Western trip might be printed in LIBERAL JUDAISM.

In response to questions by Mr. Kahn and Judge Elsner as to whether ideological discussions have affected membership in the Union, Rabbi Eisendrath reported that he believes that we have weathered the storm, that we have convinced our constituent congregations that the Union has taken the proper position. Nowhere did he find a congregation that desired to take a poll among its own

members on the subject, for the reason that it would split the congregation. That is likewise true with regard to the Union. Both Zionist and anti-Zionist leaders, excepting the extremists, are satisfied with the position that the Union has taken. Individuals may decide for themselves as to where they stand ideologically, but the congregation as such will take no action. Nor should the Union.

NFTY APPEALS FOR WORKERS

Mr. Bernard G. Sang, the President of NFTY gave a short history of the Federation since its birth in 1939. For two years thereafter the growth continued by leaps and bounds. Then the war came and stopped the growth.

The Director of the Federation, Rabbi Selwyn Ruslander, became a chaplain. It was decided then to maintain a skeleton of organization. Miss Helen Goldstrom succeeded Rabbi Ruslander, and recently she was succeeded by Miss Helen Strauss in the Directorship.

The movement has been growing in New York. There are twenty-six active Youth groups there. Because Miss Helen Strauss has concentrated her efforts there, this growth was possible. Mr. Sang pointed out that we need professional youth leaders all over the country, particularly on the West Coast. He asked the Administrative Committee to authorize engaging leaders as soon as they could be secured.

Rabbi Eisendrath pointed out that to bridge over our shortage of manpower, we are using part-time workers and stated that it might be possible to do the same in Chicago at the present time.

Mr. Rosenberg assured Mr. Sang that he had presented the Youth problem forcefully, and that efforts would be made to solve the problem.

OFFER OF A YOUTH CAMP

A letter was presented from the owner of Camp Osceola of Hendersonville, N. C., stating that he had a well-equipped camp which the Union might wish to acquire. It was pointed out that a few years ago \$5,000 was appropriated for a Youth camp but when the war came, no further action was taken in that direction.

Mr. Sang was authorized to investigate the possibilities of Camp Osceola.

XXXIX COUNCIL

Mr. Robert P. Goldman, the Chairman of the Committee on Time, Place and Program of the XXXIX Council reported that originally it had been planned to hold the Council of the Union in Chicago during this month.

The O.D.T. asked us to postpone our convention and we, therefore, decided to hold it in Cincinnati, November 23-26 of this year

in conjunction with the 70th anniversary of the organization of the Hebrew Union College. Then the O.D.T.'s announcement banning all conventions came. Even if the war in Europe should be over soon, we may not be permitted to hold our convention in November as planned. It might be wise for us to postpone the Council until March of 1946. Mr. Goldman inquired whether we should aim for November of this year or definitely postpone it until March.

In the discussion it was pointed out that it would require a minimum of three or four months to make adequate preparation for a Council. It was thought advisable to defer action until the proposed meeting of the Executive Board in May and make the decision at that time.

Rabbi Eisendrath called attention to the fact that we ought to have a Biennial as soon as possible. The delegates should meet and discuss the problems of the Union. It is essential that we define our aims and know where we are going. We should have the convention in the Fall of this year if we can possibly do so.

It was voted that we wait until the May meeting of the Executive Board before arriving at a definite decision. In the meantime, Rabbi Egelson was authorized to try to secure tentative dates in Chicago for March of 1946.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Mr. Robert P. Goldman, Chairman of the Committee, reported that pursuant to the authority granted to the Committee on Nominations to select a New York resident for membership on the Board of the Hebrew Union College, Mrs. Arthur Hays Sulzberger of New York was appointed. It was moved and duly carried that this appointment be confirmed.

In accordance with the action of the Executive Board at its meeting on November 26, the Committee on Nominations was authorized to suggest additional names of laymen for the Commission on Information about Judaism. Mr. Goldman reported that his Committee presents the following names: Messrs. David L. Ullman, Philadelphia, Pa.; Jacob D. Dresner, New Orleans, La.; Dr. Louis Levy, Memphis, Tenn., and Leonard N. Simons of Detroit, Mich. It was moved and duly carried that these gentlemen be elected to membership on the Commission on Information about Judaism.

Mr. Goldman reported that Mr. Louis A. Rosett, the Chairman of the Committee on Nominations of the New York Federation of Reform Synagogues, had presented the following names for election as delegates-at-large to the Federation: Jacob Aronson, Alfred R. Bachrach, Paul Baerwald, Samuel Bisgyer, Jesse Cohen, Mark Eisner, Mrs. Isaac Gilman, Dr. Benjamin B. Greenberg, Lt. Col. Frederick F. Greenman, Isaac S. Heller, Dr. Harold Korn, Henry L. Lambert, Hon. Irving Lehman, Julius Loeb, Mrs. Albert J. May, Hon. Henry Morgenthau, Alexander Pfeiffer, Isaac Rittenberg, Carl Rosenberger, Mrs. Louis A. Rosett, Louis F. Rothschild, M. L. Seidman, Hon. Meier Steinbrink, Roger W. Straus, Benjamin Velt, Mrs. Felix M. Warburg, Mrs. Leon L. Watters, Frank L. Weil, and David H. M. Weynberg.

It was moved and duly carried that we confirm the election of the above named appointees as delegates-at-large to the New York Federation of Reform Synagogues.

ELECTION TO PENSION BOARD

Because of the recent death of Mr. Ralph W. Mack there is a vacancy on the Pension Board. Mr. Mack's term extended to December 31, 1946. It was moved and duly carried that Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath fill the vacancy as a member of the Pension Board for the unexpired term.

CONSTITUTION FOR REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rabbi Eisendrath reported that Rabbi Alfred Wolf of Dothan, Ala., was working admirably in the states of Georgia, Florida and Alabama as part-time regional rabbi. A request has been received from that section for organization as a Federation like New York and Chicago. They have drafted a constitution modeled after that of the other Federations and asked our approval.

Rabbi Eisendrath spoke of the difficulties that had arisen in connection with the constitution of the Chicago Federation. Everything was adjusted satisfactorily with one exception and that is with reference to funds collected by the Federation. We feel that if any Federation has authority to gather funds for any other purposes than the Union, it would detract from the centrality of the Union. This principle, if expanded, might in course of time develop in a submergence of the needs of the Union to other causes. Furthermore, inasmuch as it is intended to organize other regions, it is highly desirable that the constitutions of such large communities as New York and Chicago serve as pattern constitutions. Rabbi Eisendrath thought there ought to be something in our national constitution to cover these points.

Mr. Goldman pointed out that when the Constitution of the New York Federation was prepared, the committee in charge were very vigilant regarding the Union's interests. The matter of control of funds was one that was resolved satisfactorily. Mr. Goldman felt that we should not concur in the provision of the Chicago Federation on the subject of funds and should so advise the Federation.

Judge Elsner discussed the activities of Rabbi Polish and his cooperation with him in the region where Rabbi Polish is operating. In that section there is also a desire to organize and Judge Elsner advised Rabbi Polish that before doing so it would be necessary to secure the sanction of the Union, so that they could organize as part of the Union.

Rabbi Eisendrath suggested that perhaps we had used wrong terminology in the organization of the Chicago and New York Federations. There is a danger that the Federation will be so emphasized that the fact that it is part of the Union may be overlooked. He stated that that might also apply to our affiliates as well; that the connection of some of the affiliates with the Union is not

sufficiently stressed.

Rabbi Morgenstern said that we should anticipate the conditions that arise in order to avoid constant friction and suggested that a committee should be appointed to solve the problem and prepare a model constitution that each region to be established might use. It would be pointed out in the constitution that these organizations are subdivisions of the Union.

Judge Elsner suggested that regions might be further subdivided into divisions or sections or state organizations.

It was moved and duly carried that we sanction the organization of the Connecticut Valley division of the U.A.H.C.

It was moved and duly carried that a committee be appointed in accordance with Dr. Morgenstern's suggestion to draw up a model constitution for each region. This model constitution would then be presented to the Georgia, Florida and Alabama group of congregations.

It was moved and duly carried that the Chicago Federation be requested to appoint a committee of three to meet with a committee of three from our Executive Board to iron out the difficulty that has arisen in connection with the Constitution of the Chicago Federation with regard to fund collection.

STATUS OF MOVE TO COLLEGE CAMPUS

Mr. Louis L. Kaufman reported that the Executive Board had authorized the expenditure of \$25,000 for moving the offices of the Union to the College campus. In accordance therewith, an architect had drawn up plans, but the W.P.B. refused to approve the project because of labor and material shortages.

It was then suggested that we utilize the Bernheim Library building, remodel it and then perhaps, after the war, make an addition to it at a cost of \$35,000, or a total cost of \$60,000. Mr. Bernheim refused permission to utilize the Bernheim Library building for any purpose other than that for which it was originally intended. Rabbi Eisendrath reported that while on the West Coast he had spoken to Mr. Bernheim and had found him adamant on this point. Mr. Kaufman suggested that perhaps a member of the Executive Board should see Mr. Bernheim's son-in-law and daughter and explain the matter to them and have them carry the message to Mr. Bernheim in the near future.

Upon motion by Mr. David F. Kahn, it was voted that, regardless of Mr. Bernheim's decision as to the use of the library building, the Union should have its own building on the College campus; that in view of the fact that the N.F.T.S. has been working toward this goal, we urge the N.F.T.S. to undertake the project now; and that a committee of three be appointed to explore the possibilities with power to act.

NEW YORK PERSONNEL

Rabbi Eisendrath reported that at a meeting of the Committee on Salaries, Pensions and Tenures, the retirement of Mr. Arthur Meyerowitz was discussed. The Committee agreed that he should be continued for a year at full salary, but not on full-time service. During that period Mr. Meyerowitz could help in the breaking in of a new man. At the end of the year, Mr. Meyerowitz should be retired at 40 per cent of his salary. He pointed out that Mr. Meyerowitz had been faithful and conscientious in his devotion to the cause of the Union.

It was moved and duly carried that Mr. Meyerowitz be paid his salary in full for a year beginning July 1, 1945; that thereafter he be retired on a pension amounting to 40 per cent of his salary, for one year, any renewal thereof to be voted upon annually.

CHICAGO FEDERATION

Rabbi Eisendrath reported that Rabbi Phineas Smoller, the Director of the Federation had become ill about six months after he assumed charge of the Federation. During his illness, we have been able to keep the Federation's activities going because Rabbi Egelson divided his time between Chicago and Cincinnati. Recently Rabbi Smoller has been working on Federation projects from his home while Rabbi Egelson was in Cincinnati. Rabbi Smoller's doctor has given assurance that Rabbi Smoller will definitely recover, but that it may take a few months longer.

Rabbi Eisendrath reported that at one time Rabbi Smoller had offered to resign but that his resignation was refused. Rabbi Smoller now offers to take a leave of absence without pay. It was moved and duly carried that Rabbi Smoller be granted a leave of absence for a month with pay.

TRAINING COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROFESSIONALS

Dr. Morgenstern explained that because of the growth of community councils there was a tendency to engage men to handle community relations for these councils. The College had been asked if it would prepare to give training courses on Jewish background. Dr. Morgenstern stated that the College would be ready to give such courses as soon as feasible. He reported that those men who would be attracted to those courses are now overseas. He had a conference with Mr. Richard Bluestein of the Cincinnati Council who is to present further information on the subject to Dr. Morgenstern.

Mr. Jaffe pointed out that the professionals working for the Community Relations Councils meet at periodic intervals and are scheduled to meet in Cincinnati during May. He suggested that if they are to meet here, it would be well to have them meet at the College. They could at the same time receive lectures on Jewish

background. The regular students at the H.U.C. might likewise attend lectures devoted to Jewish community problems. He pointed out that the interests of the Union might be promoted if it could assist in some way in making these courses possible.

It was moved and duly carried that Rabbi Eisendrath be given authority to go into this project further.

REQUEST FROM BOOK COUNCIL OF AMERICA

Rabbi Egelson reported that the Jewish Book Council of America had asked for a set of our books to be placed in their library for the purpose of stimulating Jewish education. It was voted that this be referred to Rabbi Eisendrath with the power to act.

REMISSION OF PAST DUES OF NORFOLK CONGREGATION

Mr. Rosenberg read a letter from the past President of the Congregation at Norfolk asking for remission of past dues in order that the congregation may begin its relations with the Union with a clean slate. Mr. Rosenberg added that the congregation had not paid dues for a long time but had resumed payment in the last two years.

Dr. Morgenstern thought that since there is to be a new deal in the Norfolk congregation it would be wise to forego past dues. He added that there was ample opportunity there for the development of a splendid congregation.

It was moved and duly carried that in view of the new spirit of the Norfolk congregation the dues of the congregation be remitted.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR WORLD UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM

A letter was presented from the World Union asking for 500 pounds for continuation of their work. It was pointed out that for a number of years our contribution to the World Union was \$1,500 annually; that this had been reduced to \$500 and subsequently raised to \$750.

It was moved and duly carried that we communicate with the World Union and ask for a statement of its income and expenditures and that this report be presented to the Executive Board at its next meeting which will probably be held in May.

REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION FOR AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE

Mr. Rosenberg presented a letter from the American Jewish Conference asking for \$3500 for its work.

Mr. Jaffe pointed out that in the past some of the expenditures of the American Jewish Conference were in connection with the implementation of the Palestine Resolution. If we are in the Conference and are not participating in the Palestine Resolution, we should not contribute the money of the Union for that purpose. We ought to determine the cost of operations of the American Jewish Conference for other purposes than the Palestine Resolution and then pay our share. Dr. Morgenstern stated that at this meeting we have two requests for subsidies; that there should be a standing committee on subventions to study the facts and present them to our Board together with recommendations.

Mr. Rosenberg replied that the Executive Board had authorized the appointment of a committee to study such requests for subsidies and that he had appointed Judge Elsner as Chairman of that Committee.

Mr. Kahn pointed out that since our own congregations are divided on the question of membership in the American Jewish Conference we should see that we are in the clear on this subject.

Rabbi Eisendrath stated that as our share of the organizational expense of the Conference the Union gave \$2,000 to the Conference.

It was moved and duly carried that we allot to the American Jewish Conference \$1,000 for the fiscal year 1945-46.

STATUS OF FINANCES

Mr. Rosenberg called on Mr. Jerome L. Levy who reported that for the eight months' period through February, our campaign has yielded \$202,527.69. If we merely repeat during the next four months what we received in that period last year, we would close the year with receipts of over \$300,000. He stated that for the past fiscal year ending June 30, 1944, our campaign receipts amounted to \$240,290.91. The members of the Committee expressed satisfaction with the status of the campaign.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

1. Mr. Jaffe stated that authority had recently been given to appoint a sub-committee on Salary, Pensions and Tenures and that this committee had not as yet reported.

Mr. Rosenberg replied that three members of the committee who were to be present on the day before the last Executive Board meeting, November 26, 1944, could not attend and for that reason no action was taken.

Mr. Kahn suggested that we should ascertain our legal rights with reference to government regulations as to increases and that the Budget Committee be given an opportunity to review the recommendations of the sub-committee.

2. Rabbi Eisendrath called attention to recent letters sent out by a group from Pontiac, Michigan, which had adopted principles similar to that of Houston, Texas. Rabbi Glazer had written Rabbi Eisendrath that the Pontiac group is a very small one and he counseled us to withhold replying to Pontiac. The Board decided to follow this counsel.

3. Rabbi Morgenstern reported that he had had a letter from Rabbi Wolsey with reference to the reported conversion of the rabbi of Rome, Italy, to Catholicism. Rabbi Wolsey felt that a letter of encouragement and hope might be sent to the congregation at Rome.

It was moved and duly carried that a committee consisting of Rabbis Morgenstern, Eisendrath and Jacob R. Marcus be appointed, and that they prepare a statement to be sent both to the congregation at Rome and to the press generally.

ADJOURNED.



AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES
ADOLPH ROSENBERG
President

RABBI LOUIS I. EGELSON
Administrative Secretary

UNION OF AMERICAN

HEBREW CONGREGATIONS / RABBI MAURICE N. EISENDRATH, DIRECTOR

THIRTY-FOUR WEST SIXTH STREET · CINCINNATI 2, OHIO

March 5, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
19810 Shaker Blvd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Friend:

I have returned tremendously stimulated from my extensive trip to our congregations in the West and Southwest. There are many problems to be met, but I am definitely encouraged by the conviction that there are infinite possibilities ahead of us.

I contemplated calling a small, informal meeting of some of my very intimate friends in the Conference, to consider with me some of the matters growing out of my recent trip. However, at a meeting of the Executive Board of the Hebrew Union College, held the other evening, it became quite clear that the immediate opportunities for the College must take priority. Consequently, I have heartily endorsed the night letter which is being sent to you this evening by Dr. Morgenstein and Dr. Weiss. I do hope that by this time you have already indicated your acceptance.

This meeting, called by the College, can very easily be coordinated with some of the things that I had in mind to discuss with you. Consequently, I am going to ask you to make every possible effort to remain over in Cincinnati - as a guest of the Union and the College - for an additional full day's discussion of some of the plans and procedures for the expansion of our Union program. Will you wire me, collect, at once, whether you will spend Wednesday, March 21, with us?

Hoping to have your favorable reply by return mail, and looking forward to seeing you at that time, I am, as ever,

Yours most cordially,

Maurice

g. e. g.
MNE:MR

Charge to the account of

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
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TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
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OVERNIGHT TELEGRAM	NIGHT LETTER
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Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

WESTERN UNION

1206-

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ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

3- 45

COLLECT

Rabbi Maurice Eisendrath
Cincinnati, Ohio

REGRET DEEPLY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND MEETING MARCH 20 or 21 WILL BE IN NEW YORK FOR A TESTIMONIAL DINNER GIVEN IN MY HONOR. I WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS IN YOUR PROPOSED PLANS FOR EXPANSION.

KINDEST REGARDS

WANT A REPLY?

"Answer by WESTERN UNION"
or similar phrases may be
included without charge.

March 6, 1945

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Irvin Fane, *Kansas City*
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RABBI LOUIS I. EGELSON
Administrative Secretary

RABBI GEORGE ZEPIN
Honorary Secretary

THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE SISTERHOODS

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE YOUTH

34 WEST SIXTH STREET · CINCINNATI 2, OHIO · PHONE Parkway 7345

March 18, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple.
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have been in and out of Cincinnati since I received your last letter. In fact, I am writing this from Chicago and I am going this afternoon to New York to the CANRA meeting.

Your statement with regard to Freehof's volume is excellent and I shall certainly use it for publicity purposes.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Louis I. Egelson
Administrative Secretary

LE: IS

APPENDIX B

Excerpt from Telegram from American Jewish Conference
to U. S. Secretary of State, April 8, 1945.

"..... Your attention is called especially to the fact that the Conference includes not only official representatives of Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Judaism but all shades of opinion on the Zionist question. The non-Zionist viewpoint is represented in the Conference by organizations which have remained in the Conference out of respect for the majority decision, although they did not, as organizations, support the Palestine resolution in its entirety. These include: among others, B'nai B'rith, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, the National Council of Jewish Women and others."

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Mark Eisner, New York

Solomon Elsner, Hartford

Irvin Fane, Kansas City

Fred F. Florence, Dallas

Irving S. Florsheim, Chicago

Rabbi Solomon B. Freehof, Pittsburgh

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Jacob W. Mack, Cincinnati

Rabbi Louis L. Mann, Chicago

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Melvin S. Meyers, Louisville

Philip Meyers, Cincinnati

James H. Miller, Cleveland

Rabbi Julian Morgenstern, Cincinnati

Herbert C. Oettinger, Cincinnati

Theodore D. Peyser, Washington, D. C.

Adolph Rosenberg, Cincinnati

Gilbert Sanders, Trinidad, Colo.

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Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, New York

Abe Wurzburg, Memphis

☆

RABBI LOUIS I. EGELSON

Administrative Secretary

RABBI GEORGE ZEPIN

Honorary Secretary

THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE SISTERHOODS

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE YOUTH

34 WEST SIXTH STREET · CINCINNATI 2, OHIO · PHONE Parkway 7345

May 1, 1945

Dear Friend:

During the past year or so you have been treated to a veritable flood of congregational correspondence hailing from such places as Temple Beth Israel in Houston, from Lincoln, Nebraska, and from Pontiac, Michigan. Incidentally, the sources of these communications in Lincoln and Pontiac comprise tiny groups in no way associated with the existent Reform congregations in their respective communities and unaffiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

This letter, which I trust you will read in its entirety, despite its great, though unavoidable length, is prompted by the above mentioned correspondence. It has likewise grown out of the experiences which have been mine upon an extensive trip to the Western and Southwestern states from which I have just returned.

The most important accomplishment of this recent visit to our Union congregations in the above mentioned regions was not the increased financial support of our Joint Union-College Appeal - although I have every reason to believe that this will be most encouraging - but rather the opportunity it afforded me of stating clearly to our congregational members and their leaders the present policy and program of the Union. Everywhere I found gross misconceptions of where the Union stands today and where it is seeking to go. These misconceptions ranged all the way from sincere misunderstanding in most places to what in some quarters I cannot but designate as deliberate misrepresentation.

I cannot possibly attempt in this letter to deal with all of these allegations, but I should like to select just a few, in order to indicate how fantastic are some of the rumors that are being

fomented and disseminated concerning the College and the Union, and how untenable is the basis of much of the agitation to which we have been subjected.

For example, in many places I was challenged by the suggestion that the Union should withdraw forthwith from the American Jewish Conference. This recommendation, of course, is made in sublime innocence of the fact that the Union is not subject to the caprice of a few individuals in Cincinnati, but to the will of the majority of its member congregations. That majority has not as yet signified its desire for withdrawal. On the contrary, it has indicated its hearty endorsement of the Union's membership in the Conference. The Executive Board of the Union has dealt at length with the contention that by membership in the Conference we have "sold out" to the Zionist cause in its extensive reply to Congregation Beth Israel of Houston, a copy of which I will be happy to forward to you on request. May I supplement this, however, by indicating that upon every possible occasion, your executive officers have vigilantly safeguarded the position of the Union. Our President declined to become one of the Chairmen of the Interim Committee of the American Jewish Conference. We appointed no representatives on the Palestine Commission. When our support was sought for the Conference's espousal of the Commonwealth Resolution before the Congress of the United States, we indicated that our Executive Board's action precluded our acquiescing therein. Our President likewise placed upon the official record of the Conference and we gave wide-spread publicity to an unambiguous statement on the Union's position. Most recently, to prevent any possible misunderstanding of our Union position, your President and Director addressed to the Interim Committee of the American Jewish Conference the attached unequivocal declaration and insistence upon due public cognizance being given to the Union's stand. (Appendix A.) We are happy to report that our letter was favorably received and has already been positively implemented. (Appendix B.)

From these few facts, it can be seen that your Executive officers have scrupulously safeguarded our Union's interests and, in view of our vigorous voicing of our reservations, there should be pride rather than prejudice over the fact that we Reform Jews have taken our place beside the other religious groups, as well as beside the whole composite of American Jewry in this hour of our greatest trial.

The criticisms of the Union, I repeat, ran the entire gamut from this assumption that the Union's President or Director could at will take the Union out of the Conference - against the apparent wish of the majority of our congregations to remain within its fold - to the deliberate fabrication that "the Hebrew Union College teaches Zionism," "that the College is reverting to Orthodoxy," "that all the students at the College worship with yarmelkes," "that the Director of our Commission on Jewish Education will accept no manuscript for publication except if it makes Palestine central to its thesis." None of these statements is

true, and they are really too absurd to warrant reply. Yet, because they have been made the motive for official congregational actions and resolutions, because even now they are being circulated from congregation to congregation, like some choice morsel of village gossip, I would like to deal briefly with them, in order to indicate the lengths to which some Jews, supposedly espousing the cause of religion, are prepared to go in their seeming zeal to bring into disrepute two most significant religious institutions - the Hebrew Union College and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

Take this "yarmelke business," for example. As much capital is being made of this allegation as was made of some of the erstwhile Bolshevik scares of yesterday. The fact is that the College provided the sole asylum for a handful of German refugee rabbinical students who, although orientated to Reform Judaism in Germany, were not quite as Reform as is the practice in most parts of the United States. Yet, some who are constantly proclaiming themselves Americans are apparently so un-American as to deny to these few students that "freedom of worship" for which ostensibly we are shedding so much blood today.

With regard to the accusation that the Hebrew Union College teaches Zionism, it might be pointed out that there is but one lone member of the HUC faculty to whom the Zionists would lay even a remote claim. The College teaches neither Zionism nor anti-Zionism, but Judaism -- the Judaism of the Bible, of the Talmud, of the philosophers. Nonetheless there are those who portray the College as some kind of sinister center of Zionist propaganda!

With regard to the wide-spread insinuations concerning the Educational Director of our Commission on Jewish Education, it must be pointed out that only about a half dozen out of more than 250 titles in our religious school catalogue even mention contemporary Palestine - much less espouse the cause of Zionism. And for those who urge the elimination of even these few passages and who argue that their inclusion constitutes a betrayal of Reform Judaism, we would suggest an application of the American and United Nations' pledge of "freedom of expression" within our own fold. The Central Conference of American Rabbis, by a considerable majority, has affirmed that "Reform Judaism and Zionism are not incompatible." Shall the rights of this majority be altogether repudiated by a minority which always has the prerogative of omitting such so-called "objectionable" volumes from their respective religious school curricula?

The most striking example of the far-fetched misrepresentation concerning the products of our Commission on Jewish Education centers in the attack upon one of our most recent publications that was frequently iterated in my presence and regarding which I recently received a scathing written denunciation. It concerns "The Stream of Jewish Life," by Mrs. Dorothy Alofsin, in which it is alleged that our Reform institutions are "played

down" and that it is written with "malice toward none." With regard to the suggestion that, like other of our recent texts, our books are thus written with "malice toward none" because we have "an eye to the larger market in the Conservative and Orthodox school," we have likewise dealt in our printed reply to Temple Beth Israel of Houston. However, may I add parenthetically, that if it be true that our volumes are written with "malice toward none," then surely we have made some advance over the acrimonious religious hostilities of yesterday.

It is ironic that this particular book, "The Stream of Jewish Life," should be singled out for special malediction, in view of the fact that the late lamented Rabbi William Rosenau of Baltimore, one of the most ardent champions of "classical" Reform, and one of the leading anti-Zionists, who was Chairman of the Subcommittee on Schools of the Commission on Jewish Education, charged with the responsibility of passing on this manuscript, categorically stated in a signed letter dated April 26, 1942, after reading the manuscript: "I consider the contemplated book a valuable and admirable contribution which will be useful not only to pupils of the elementary grades but also to our adolescent youth and even adults. I had long hoped that the treatment of our American Jewish institutions might be presented in interesting form, and here we have such - luckily." More specifically in reference to this text's treatment of Reform, Rabbi Rosenau wrote: "I am very much impressed with her (Mrs. Alofsin's) presentation, from every possible angle - that is, subject-matter, factual statements, and literary character."

I have singled out these few salient examples among many others that I encountered on my recent trip and which have been adumbrated in recent resolutions on the part of several congregations, in order to indicate the danger of taking such congregational action without ascertaining the facts and without granting to the accused the fundamental American right of a hearing. In not a single instance have those groups who have not hesitated to impugn the Americanism of others, granted to any official representative of the College or the Union the fundamental American prerogative of being heard before spreading such false reports throughout the country and before publicizing in the general Jewish press such allegations as cannot but conspire to the weakening of our religious movement at the very time when it should be strengthened.

May I point out that at virtually every congregational Board meeting at which I had the privilege of answering such contentions with incontrovertible facts, I was able to convince the large majority of our constituents that the course that the Union is today pursuing is unassailable and represents the will of all but a comparative handful of our members. It was not too difficult a task to convince the more fair-minded majorities on our Boards that of all the institutions and organizations in America that are protesting their religious orientation and proclaiming themselves the symbol and spokesmen of the religious identity of

American Israel, the Union is the only institution which for more than seventy years has been doing, is doing now, and is determined in the future to do the actual work of religion, to implement these otherwise empty protestations. What institution, other than the Union, has served so effectively to achieve tangible results in the spiritual realm: to make possible the training of a whole generation of American rabbis, to enrich our religious educational program which, despite every criticism, stands second to none in achievement, actually to organize religious schools and synagogues, to distribute incalculable quantities of religious literature, to bring our religious heritage to hosts of Jews and non-Jews alike? The Union's record of tangible religious work refutes these barbs of petty criticism.

I wish it were possible for me to visit immediately every congregation within the Union to "accentuate this positive" program of the Union and to fortify with facts those who lack knowledge and are fed on fictions. Our Boards are being bombarded with all manner of literature reflecting the kind of allegations referred to above. They receive periodically lengthy and vehement denunciations of institutions which in most instances they have learned to respect because of the conspicuous service which these institutions - notably the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Hebrew Union College - have bestowed upon their own individual congregations and upon the whole of American Israel. They are becoming confused by all this cross fire of propaganda that is being foisted upon them. Almost daily I receive some communication either from a rabbi, an officer of a congregation, a member of a Sisterhood or Brotherhood Board, filled with apprehension lest their organizations will become hopelessly divided upon the issues raised by these continuous communications which, because of the similarity of their language seem to indicate a common source - a source which for one reason or another, seems determined to divide our congregations on the local level and to embarrass our Union on the national scene. I have been informed that cells are being organized in many congregations, Sisterhoods and Brotherhoods, seeking to have them pass similar resolutions against the present policy of the Union, as well as to exclude from full membership in their Temples those who, according to the official statements of the Union and the Central Conference of American Rabbis have every right to be within our fold. This way lies anarchy and the kind of chaos which Isaac Mayer Wise sought so sedulously to correct a century ago by creating the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

Lest by sheer inertia and default we permit this situation to degenerate further, and since it is impossible for me within the comparatively near future to visit all the congregations for the purpose of refuting personally - as I did on my recent Western tour - most of these misconceptions and misrepresentations which are contributing to all this confusion - I am addressing this communication to each and every member of our Boards of Trustees within the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Sisterhoods, Brotherhoods, and Youth, in the hope that he or she will regard

it as a direct and personal entreaty, to the end that, in accordance with the simplest axiom of American justice and of Jewish decency, no judgments be passed by our congregations or their affiliates until the facts are known. More particularly, I am urging each responsible congregational leader not to precipitate any official action within his congregation that has to do with the controversial questions alluded to above until his delegates will have had the opportunity fully and freely to debate these issues at the next Biennial Council of the Union.

I ask this in full recognition of the absolute and unquestionable autonomy which every congregation in the Union enjoys and without which there could be no Union. Nonetheless, I am earnestly requesting a deferment of action until after the next Biennial Council which we hope will be held next fall, in connection with the seventieth anniversary of the founding of the Hebrew Union College, here in Cincinnati - the heart and center of Reform Judaism in America. The Program Committee of the forthcoming Biennial has long since planned to place this entire matter foremost on the agenda. Not merely the subject of Reform Judaism's attitude toward Zionism and the Union's relationship to the American Jewish Conference will be thoroughly discussed, but the future course of Reform: whether it is to remain wedded to the Pittsburgh Platform of 1885, whether it is to be limited to the Columbus Statement of Principles of 1937, or whether it will move forward toward some new program; whether it shall be restrictive or expansive; whether it will continue its present course which some mistakenly call a "reversion to Orthodoxy" or become even more classically Reform -- all this will be the essence of what will undoubtedly be the most crucial and decisive Biennial Council in the Union's history.

It will seriously jeopardize the understanding with which we must approach these challenging issues, if in the meantime our congregations are going to be divided by acrimonious debate and if our Union is to be impeded in its tremendous positive program by rancor and bitterness, by unilateral action on the part of individual congregations, each anarchically doing what is right, in its own sight, but what, as far as I have been able to gather by extensive personal contact and voluminous correspondence, is considered woefully wrong in the sight of the majority of its sister congregations.

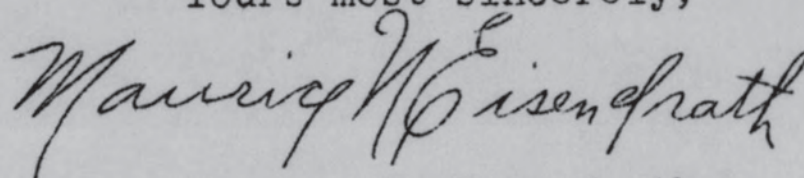
If then, we have any confidence in the American tradition of democracy, I believe my plea for an armistice and for a postponement of any congregational action on the specific subjects discussed in this letter will be heeded. There is really so much of a constructive character that the Union is achieving and that it has immediately before it, that we dare not be deflected from this, our essential purpose, by internecine strife based upon false rumors and upon unwarranted distortion of the facts.

I trust that you will regard this letter as the intimate message to yourself personally that I intend it to be. However,

although I wish you to regard it as personal, it is by no means confidential. I would appreciate your sharing its contents with as many of your fellow members as is possible.

Hoping that I may have your personal reply assuring me that we may count upon your whole-hearted assent to my suggestion that we defer these controversial matters until the Biennial and that we proceed full speed ahead on our positive religious and educational program that the Union was created to foster and to further, I am

Yours most sincerely,



Maurice N. Eisendrath
Director

MNE:JA



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RABBI LOUIS I. EGELSON
Administrative Secretary

RABBI GEORGE ZEPIN
Honorary Secretary

May 4, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am calling a meeting of the Executive Board of the Union at the Hotel Stevens, Chicago, Sunday, June 3, 1945 at 9:30 A.M.

Matters of great importance will be considered by our Board and I hope you will set other business aside and arrange to attend the meeting.

On Sunday evening we are to be the guests at a dinner that is being arranged by the Chicago Federation of Reform Synagogues. The Chicago Federation is making excellent strides and its value to the Union is becoming more apparent every day. By our full attendance at the dinner, we will indicate our support of their endeavors and show our appreciation of the fine work they are doing.

I hope you will be able to attend the evening dinner also.

With kind greetings, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Adolph Rosenberg

Adolph Rosenberg
President

AR:JA

P.S. Should you desire a reservation at the Stevens Hotel, please let us know.

May
Seventh
1945

Dear Dr. Eisendrath:

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of your interesting letter of May first addressed to Board members, of Temples, Brotherhoods and Sisterhoods, and dealing with some very pertinent problems confronting the Reform Congregations of America. Pursuant to your sincere request for a reply, I am doing so in hopes that you will in turn read this letter.

At the outset I must say that my reaction to the whole tenor of your letter is that you are putting the Union of American Hebrew Congregations on the defensive, and implicit in such an approach is admission of some of the allegations contained in the communications from the Temples in Houston, Pontiac, Lincoln and others, which I am sure you did not mean to do. It further occurred to me that it ill behooves the dignified Union to cast aspersions on the congregations of Lincoln and Pontiac because of their "tiny groups" - they are small because there is a minimum number of Reform Jews in those cities and certainly "size" and "numbers" per se are not conclusive. When the sainted Isaac Mayer Wise began preaching reform Judaism in this country he had but a few adherents - a "tiny group," and other great movements in the World's history started with "tiny groups" - Lincoln and Pontiac should not be condemned because of their size - "Good things come in small packages."

This is written without regard as to whether I am in agreement or disagreement with the aims of those congregations who have adopted the "basic principles" but stems from your own plea for "freedom" and for "democracy" and certainly inherent in these priceless liberties, is the right for Houston, Pontiac, Lincoln or whatever other communities so desire, to adopt a form of worship agreeable to "their majority" and as

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Dr. Eisendrath, dated May 7, 1945.

your illustrious predecessor Rabbi Edward Israel
said at the Bi-ennial in Cincinnati:

"....there are unfortunately in the
de-Judaized German community the
many who are frantic and bewildered,
devoid of the sense of the religious
message of Israel which bids man, if
needs be, to suffer death for the
positive values we hold dear."

Among the "misconceptions" which you say you found
on your recent tour was "the suggestion that the
Union should withdraw forthwith from the American
Jewish Conference." You then proceed to explain
that some nebulous "majority" has not indicated its
desire for withdrawal. Yet in your Appendix "A",
which is a copy of a letter from Mr. Adolph Rosenberg,
President of the Union, to the Interim Committee of
the American Jewish Conference, there is ample evi-
dence that suggestions for the Union's withdrawal
are not made "in sublime innocence." The constituent
congregations of the Union were never consulted as
to whether the Union should become a member in the
first instance, and after the first memorable meeting
of the Conference, in answer to a letter the congre-
gations and board members received from Mr. Rosenberg,
asking then whether the Union should withdraw, I re-
plied, that since the Union did not ask the congrega-
tions in the first instance, whether the Union should
become a member of the Conference, there was no need
now to ask the congregations whether the Union should
withdraw, but that if the Union was the representa-
tive of the Reform religious group in America, they
had no alternative but to withdraw, because the chief
plank of the Conference, was the urging of a Jewish
Political state and as such was incompatible with the
thinking of the largest segment of Reform Jews of
America.

It is difficult to be such a small part of the Confer-
ence as the Union is (with its rejection of the Politi-
cal state plank, because of "diversity of opinion within
the ranks") and not suffer the misrepresentations of the
officials of the Conference, when they indicate they
are speaking for all Jews on everything in their pro-
gram, as objected to in Mr. Rosenberg's letter

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(your Appendix "A"). Despite this letter they further vociferously expressed themselves in recent days at the San Francisco United Nations Conference. The tone of the telegram (your Appendix "B") from the American Jewish Conference to the U. S. Secretary of State is perfunctory. It is strange that when they purport to represent all the Jews, the Conference blasts it from the housetops and in all the newspapers, and when in order to further coddle the Union and enjoy the prestige of its continued membership in the Conference, they make explanations in a single telegram to the Secretary of State without any semblance of wider publicity. Regardless of this, however, it merely follows the technique of a group of Jews in America who are determined against all odds to continue their self-appointed leadership and spokesmanship for all Jews, and as aptly stated in Morris L. Ernst's new book "The Best is Yet," when he said:

"The anti-semitic forces have been aided by the lack of Jewish leadership. Between Stephen Wise, with his flamboyant bravery, and Joseph Proskauer, with his brilliant timidity, there is little forthright leadership. On the one hand, there is extreme frightened racial consciousness and on the other, a policy of closing eyes whispering hush hush." (I know that Judge Proskauer withdrew his American Jewish Committee from the Conference.)

It follows indubitably therefore that if the Union seeks a neutral position if not an affirmative one, then it should definitely and forthwith withdraw from the American Jewish Conference, and continue at least that far in its traditional representation of Reform Judaism, and thus leave no ambiguity as to how much or how little of the Conference program it supports or refutes. Such action would end the necessity for explanations, retractions, etcetera, which can go on ad infinitum. Furthermore from a practical point of view, it is difficult for the Union to continue its membership on a hyphenated basis, and if the Union withdrew the Sisterhood would withdraw, which is as it should be.

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Dr. Eisendrath, dated May 7, 1945.

As for other "misconceptions," I believe you underestimate the intelligence of the American Jewish Community when you dismiss as "a deliberate fabrication" the charge that Zionism and the influence of Zionist leadership is creeping into the Union and its affiliates. People form conclusions from a series of circumstances, events, utterances, etcetera, and even in law, people are found guilty on what is termed "circumstantial evidence." So it is with those of us who feel that the "Zionist" charge is not a "deliberate falsehood." The director of the Commission on Jewish Education, which you refer to is an avowed militant Political Zionist, by his own admission, and it would be expecting something superhuman of this erudite teacher, if in the last twenty years when he has been in charge of the Educational Commission of the Union, he would not even unconsciously permit the text books to become infiltrated with Zionist philosophies. Further, even the venerable President of the Hebrew Union College has seen fit in recent months to modify his hitherto strong feelings on the incompatibility of Political Zionism and Reform Judaism, and is there any remote connection with the fact, that one of the recent additions to the Board of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, a fine young Rabbi, who just before being elected to the board resigned as a member of the Board of the American Council for Judaism. These happenings and many more are ominous signs, bases for conclusions on the part of many people not all of whom indulge in "deliberate fabrication" or are in "sublime innocence."

There is a definite place for the Union and all its affiliates in the lives of Americans of the Jewish faith - it has justified such a conclusion by its long successful history of implementation of Reform Jewish life in America. However, it is not omnipotent, it is governed by humans who are subject to all the pressures, influences, caprices and frailties of man. As such there has been if not a departure from its traditional moorings, a failure in the true meaning of Reform to go forward, to be as you indicate "positive."

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Dr. Eisendrath, dated May 7, 1945.

For that reason I cannot agree with your insistent plea to shut off discussion now but wait for the Bi-ennial. In your own words of "confidence in the American tradition of democracy," you should encourage full and complete discussion of all pertinent matters concerning the Union - its successes, its failures, its Conference membership, its inculcation of Zionist philosophy, etcetera etcetera - between now and the time for the Bi-ennial, not only because such discussions will serve to crystallize thought for action at the Bi-ennial but in encouraging these discussions now about Union problems you enlarge the scope of interest in the Union itself.

In attempting to quell discussion now, you leave yourself open to the conclusion, that you fear the result of these discussions - that they might prove some of the allegations you heard, and that if you thwart current discussion, you give yourselves an opportunity to better organize and possibly "stack" the Bi-ennial with delegates of your persuasion in the issues involved. Furthermore it must be remembered that at best not more than 1000 delegates will attend - why deny the hundreds of thousands of others an opportunity for discussing these matters, coming to some conclusions and fortifying their delegates with the results of these thoughts and conclusions - that surely is "confidence in the American tradition of Democracy."

Wittingly or unwittingly the Union created these "controversial" issues and now you ask the Union's constituency to abstain from discussing them.

I hope very much that you will accept this letter in the same spirit in which it was written and in the same spirit in which I read your letter, and while I do not mean for this to begin an endless exchange of correspondence (only because I am in business and you have other things to do) still I would appreciate an early reply from you, with an indication that discussion of the issues involved between now and the Bi-ennial, are in the spirit of "freedom" "democracy" and if you please "Judaism" (as Isaiah taught it) and should definitely be encouraged so that the Union from the forthcoming Bi-ennial, can gain new strength, new

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energy and a reccrudescent spirit to build anew as
the poet said:

"Build thee more stately mansions, O my soul,
As the swift seasons roll!
Leave thy low-vaulted past!
Let each new temple, nobler than the last,
Shut thee from heaven with a dome more vast,
Till thou at length are free,
Leaving thine outgrown shell by life's
unresting sea!"

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) I. Edward Tonkon

Dr. Maurice N. Eisendrath, Director
The Union of American Hebrew Congregations,
34 West Sixth Street,
Cincinnati, 2, Ohio

I. EDWARD TONKON

SANGER BROTHERS

DALLAS 2, TEXAS

May 25, 1945

Dear friend:

I am sure that you received a copy of Dr. Maurice N. Eisendrath's letter of May 1st, discussing his recent trip through the West and the Southwest and giving some of his observations. These observations are not entirely consonant with the feelings of a great segment of Reform Jews in the area he visited and elsewhere. Pursuant to his request I answered as per enclosed copy.

Since then on May 4th, he gave an interview to the New York Times, in which he said among other things about a "New Pattern of American Judaism may emerge:"

"...the Central Conference of American Rabbis, representing Rabbinical leadership has veered very definitely from its former anti-Zionist position....." and

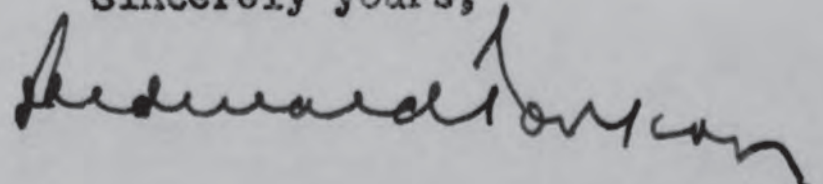
"While agreeing that Palestine must play some part in the world Jewish life, he explained 'we have not become Zionist but we have ceased to be anti-Zionist.'" (Underscoring is mine)

It occurs to me that these kind of statements made by people cloaked with officialdom in the Union are quite unfair to a very large segment of the Union's membership. Utterances of this character have been too frequent - they corroborate my contentions in the reply to Dr. Eisendrath's letter that the Union has wittingly or unwittingly been placed in the position of being definitely partisan on the Political Zionist issue - notwithstanding its denial of support of the Palestinian plank in the platform of the American Jewish Conference.

It further seems to me that with all that has transpired the Union has but one obligation to its constituents and that is to forthwith withdraw from membership in the American Jewish Conference and simultaneously reannounce its stand as the citadel of the tenets of traditional American Reform Judaism, and thus resume its important role as the representative of Liberal Judaism in America, and re-solidify the forces of Reform Judaism in America. Further infiltration will change completely its historic place as the guardian of, "a liberal religious faith measured to the breadth of American Democracy" and referring to the sainted Isaac Mayer Wise "He preached that Jews must be of the bone and sinew of American life, not separate from it. Wise challenged ghettos, spiritual as well as physical: ghettos built by enemies and ghettos built by Jews themselves" - from the brochure issued by the Union in the past few weeks entitled "After 70 Years."

In the interests of keeping the Union strong and virile for the purposes for which it was originally organized, and with cordial greetings I am,

Sincerely yours,



IET:B
Enc.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

Chicago, Illinois
June 3, 1945

Pursuant to the call of the President of the Union, Mr. Adolph Rosenberg, the Executive Board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations met at the Hotel Stevens, Chicago, on Sunday, June 3rd at 10:00 A.M.

The President, Mr. Rosenberg presided and Rabbi Louis I. Egelson, Administrative Secretary, recorded the Minutes.

The following members of the Board were present: Messrs. Lester D. Alexander, Jesse Cohen, Gustave A. Efroymsen, Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, Irvin Fane, Harry Freund, Lee M. Friedman, Robert P. Goldman, Edgar N. Greenebaum, Rabbi Samuel M. Gup, Mrs. Hugo Hartmann, Dr. S. S. Hollender, David F. Kahn, Eldon S. Lazarus, Rabbi Louis L. Mann, James H. Miller, Rabbi Julian Morgenstern, Adolph Rosenberg, A. L. Saltzstein, Bernard G. Sang, Eugene B. Strassburger, and Melville S. Welt. Mr. Jerome L. Levy, Finance Director and Mr. Hyman Kanter, Accountant of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, were also present.

Mr. Rosenberg called on Rabbi Louis L. Mann who opened the meeting with prayer.

Mr. Rosenberg greeted the members of the Board. He welcomed as guests Judge Charles C. Simons of Detroit and the following members of the Executive Committee of the Chicago Federation of Reform Synagogues who had been invited to attend the meeting: Messrs. Maurcy M. Ball, Mrs. Max Biesenthal, David H. Brill, Archie H. Cohen, Rabbi G. George Fox, Oscar Hollander, Mrs. Harry I. Iverson, Nathan A. Joffe, Max R. Schrayner, Charles Simon and Rabbi Phineas Smoller.

IN MEMORIAM

Mr. Rosenberg announced the passing of Mr. Isaac W. Bernheim who had been a member of the Executive Board for many years and had given the Bernheim Library Building to the Hebrew Union College. In respect to the memory of Mr. Bernheim the Board stood for a minute in silence.

It was moved and duly carried that a committee be appointed to draw up resolutions in memory of Mr. Bernheim.

Mr. Rosenberg stated that a committee with Mr. Theodore D. Peyser as Chairman, had been appointed to prepare resolutions in memory of Maurice D. Rosenberg. The resolutions were not ready for presentation.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, Director of the Union, presented a report covering the activities of the Union for the period since the last meeting of the Executive Board, November 26, 1944. (Appendix "A" — printed pamphlet, coming under separate cover.)

At the conclusion of his report, it was decided to consider his recommendations later in the meeting.

CHANGE OF NAME FOR THE UNION

Mr. Rosenberg stated that the Committee on Change of Name for the Union is not yet ready to present its report. The Chairman of the Committee, Rabbi Solomon B. Freehof, could not attend the meeting of the Executive Board. He had been in correspondence with the members of his committee but was not prepared to present its decision.

REVISION OF CONSTITUTION

Mr. Irvin Fane, Chairman of the Committee on Revision of the Constitution of the Union, expressed his thanks to the members of the Executive Board who had sent in their suggestions for revision. He stated that his committee had met in Chicago, Friday afternoon and Saturday evening, June 2nd, to consider the relationship of the affiliates to the Union as well as the suggestions that had been made for revision. There are a number of points still to be decided. In the meantime, a revised tentative draft will be sent to the members of the Executive Board for their future consideration and suggestions. He expressed the hope that at the next meeting of the Board in the Fall of the year, the complete draft may be ready for submission.

Mr. Rosenberg expressed the thanks of the Board to Mr. Fane's Committee and particularly to Mr. Fane himself for the tremendous amount of time and effort that he had devoted to the preparation of the new constitution.

JOINT CAMPAIGN OF THE UNION AND COLLEGE

In the absence of Mr. Roger W. Straus, National Chairman of the Combined UAH-C-HUC Campaign, his report was read by Mr. Jerome L. Levy, Finance Director. (Appendix "B")

Upon motion by Mr. Fane it was voted that the report be received with thanks and filed.

BUDGET FOR 1945-46

The Chairman of the Union Budget Committee, Mr. David F. Kahn, asked Rabbi Louis I. Egelson to read the report of the Committee. (Appendix "C")

Provision is made for the expenditure of \$311,871 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1945 as against an estimated income for the same period of \$311,900.

Upon motion duly carried the report was received with thanks and approved.

THE NEXT BIENNIAL OF THE UNION

Mr. Robert P. Goldman, Chairman of the Committee on Time, Place and Program of the next Biennial convention of the Union, presented the report of his Committee. (Appendix "D")

He also read a letter that had just been received from the sales manager of the Statler Hotel at Cleveland indicating that the hotel could clear the last week of April, 1946, for our convention.

Upon motion by Mr. Edgar N. Greenebaum, it was moved that the report of the Committee be adopted to hold the convention early in March in Cincinnati and that the Administrative Committee be given power to adjust time and place according to circumstances as they may develop.

RECOMMENDATIONS IN DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Rabbi Morgenstern suggested that, if feasible, in the future the report of the Director be sent to the members of the Executive Board in advance of the meeting.

I. Synagogue Loan Fund

Rabbi Eisendrath reported that the new congregation in the Wynnfield District of Greater Philadelphia is making progress. The Administrative Committee of the Union had voted a loan of \$7,500 to the congregation to assist it in purchasing a home to be converted into a synagogue.

Upon motion by Mr. James H. Miller, the Executive Board ratified the action of the Administrative Committee.

With reference to the recommendation that a sum be set aside as a synagogue loan fund, Mr. Alexander suggested that such a fund might be used in connection with utilizing the services of returning chaplains in the organization of new congregations.

Mr. Kahn thought that if a resolution were passed establishing such a fund, a limit should be set upon it. He added that if the Union did not have the money, it could be borrowed.

Rabbi Julian Morgenstern called attention to the fact that now that a precedent had been established, we would undoubtedly hear from other congregations making similar requests for loans. He thought that we must have definite rules and therefore suggested that a committee be appointed for governing the project in the future.

Mr. Lee M. Friedman envisaged a large field of activity in the direction of encouraging congregations to organize. He

stated that the American Unitarian Association goes very far in this direction. They even buy a church building or build one where they think such is necessary. The whole matter ought to be considered as a project of starting new congregations he thought, and the Union ought to take the initiative in some instances and finance such projects.

Mr. Eugene Strassburger thought that this is one of the best investments that the Union could make since it is a primary object of the Union to establish new congregations. We ought to meet the situations as they arise.

Mr. Goldman thought that the project could be handled by the Administrative Committee, that rules would be gradually evolved as conditions arise.

Mr. Kahn thought that one rule might be that no money should be advanced to existent congregations and the amount should be limited in proportion to the total to be utilized for the establishment of a new congregation.

Rabbi Morgenstern pointed out that already two rules had been suggested since the subject came under discussion. He felt that many requests that will come to the Union may have to be rejected; and, therefore, a set of rules is necessary.

Upon motion by Rabbi Morgenstern it was moved and duly carried that a special committee be appointed to draw up rules for a Synagogue Loan Fund and to report to the Administrative Committee in sixty days.

II. Motion Picture Project

Rabbi Eisendrath stated that the cost of the motion picture which he had in mind for the Union and the College would cost about \$25,000; that Jack Skirball said it should be done well if at all. The first thing necessary is the writing of the scenario which would cost about \$2,500. The scenario should be done during the Summer or early Fall, then possibly a committee could make a special appeal for this work.

Mr. Lazarus inquired whether it would be desirable to include other organizations in this project. It ought to be considered from the public relations angle.

Rabbi Eisendrath responded that if we asked other organizations to join with the Union in financing the picture, we could not emphasize the work of the Union and the College as we desire.

Mr. Sang asked what we intend to do with the completed picture, whom will we try to convince?

Mr. Rosenberg responded that it would serve to build up the prestige of our movement and its institutions and will win a favorable attitude in connection with our efforts for a larger measure of support.

Mr. Lazarus thought that we might approve the writing of the scenario and then determine whether it is desirable to go ahead with the motion picture.

Dr. Hollender stated that in some instances the motion picture producers became so interested in certain projects such as we contemplate that they themselves financed them.

Mr. Fane thought well of the whole project and expressed the hope that the Union would not "miss the boat" in this connection.

Upon motion by Mr. Lazarus it was voted to appoint a committee to explore the whole field and that the Union appropriate \$2,500 for the scenario and then later to determine whether it is desirable or not to go ahead with making the picture.

The meeting adjourned for lunch and voted to reconvene at 1:30 P.M.

III. Endorsement of Program for Securing Unaffiliated.

At the suggestion of Rabbi Eisendrath, Mr. Rosenberg called upon Mr. Max Schroyer to speak of the preliminary work being done by the committee that is considering the project of establishing new congregations.

Mr. Schroyer pointed out that the Commission had divided its work under three headings:

- a. In big cities where more Reform congregations could be organized.
- b. In the small cities where new congregations could be established.
- c. To encourage labor groups to affiliate with our Reform congregations.

Mr. Rosenberg pointed out the advisability of having more rather than fewer congregations in large cities so that rabbis can do more effective work in their congregations. He would discourage the movement to merge congregations. He added that we have reached the stage where we must strengthen our Reform institutions. Religion must become more influential on life in general. If we have a point of view we must fight for that point of view and must endeavor to secure more adherents.

Various members of the Board spoke of the conditions in their own communities with regard to the possibility of the formation of new congregations.

Upon motion by Mr. Alexander it was voted that we endorse the program for securing the unaffiliated.

IV. Union Week

Rabbi Eisendrath spoke of his desire to have a number of coordinated programs in our several communities, on behalf of the Union and the College, during one particular week. It would be a religious emphasis week during which our rabbis and many of our laymen would spend a few days on a visit to another community.

Upon motion by Rabbi Morgenstern, approval of the project was voted.

V. Cooperation with J.I.R.

Rabbi Eisendrath pleaded for a coordination of efforts with the J.I.R. He felt that some aspects of our program could properly be linked up with New York on the basis that ours is a national enterprise.

Dr. Morgenstern pointed out that a few years ago an effort was made to merge the H.U.C. and the J.I.R. in to one institution, that a program of amalgamation had been drawn up which was submitted to the Boards of both institutions. The negotiations came to naught. He was in favor of the principle as enunciated by Rabbi Eisendrath, but suggested that it be referred to the Board of Governors for consideration.

It was moved by Rabbi Morgenstern and duly carried that Rabbi Eisendrath's recommendation should be rephrased so as not to commit the College in advance and should be recommended to the Board of Governors for sympathetic consideration.

VI. Memorandum to Synagogue Council

Rabbi Eisendrath spoke of a memorandum that had been approved by the Union representatives on the Synagogue Council. (Appendix "E")

He explained that the Council should be a coordinating body rather than a functional one.

Upon motion by Rabbi Mann it was voted that we assent to the principle enunciated by the Director, and approved by the Union representatives on the Synagogue Council; that we are opposed to the Synagogue Council going out for a drive for funds at the present time and that we notify our congregations of our action.

VII. Joint Conference-Union Commission on Justice and Peace

Rabbi Eisendrath explained that almost every church group has such an organization.

Mr. Goldman recalled that some years ago the Union had a Joint Commission with the Conference and that he had expressed the thought at a public meeting that the rabbis should be more advanced in their social thinking than the laymen.

Rabbi Morgenstern pointed out that today there is a tremendous competition in the formulation of fundamental principles and that the Union must move forward in every field. We must have a progressive point of view. The rabbis should point the way and the laity should follow.

Upon motion by Mr. Fane it was voted that we authorize Rabbi Eisendrath to explore the possibility of a Joint Commission.

Mr. Greenebaum complimented Rabbi Eisendrath on his splendid report and moved that copies be printed and sent to the Board members of our affiliated congregations and that extracts of the report in four-page leaflets be made available to the membership of our congregations if they desire it. The motion was carried unanimously.

THE JONESBORO PROPERTY

In the absence of Mr. Herbert C. Oettinger, the Chairman of the Committee on Endowment and Trust Funds, Rabbi Egelson read the report of the Committee with particular emphasis on the Jonesboro property. (Appendix "F") It was moved and duly carried that the report be received with thanks and that the action therein be approved.

RABBINICAL PENSIONS

Mr. Rosenberg explained the plan of the Union's addition to the Rabbinical Pension Fund; namely, that each year a certain sum be allocated to the Pension Fund from the proceeds of the Joint Campaign. He recommended that we allocate \$2,000 to the Pension Fund for this past year.

Rabbi Gup called attention to the amazing success of the Pension Fund since it had been inaugurated. One hundred and fifty rabbis are now enrolled in the plan. He pointed out that rabbis and congregations are counting on the Union to enlarge the Pension Fund and pleaded that this subject be not derogated to a minor place on the Union's program.

Mr. Rosenberg added that the Union is desirous of showing the rabbis that we are with them in spirit and will increase the allocation to the Pension Fund as the proceeds from our campaign increase.

Upon motion by Rabbi Morgenstern it was voted that \$2,500 be allocated for this fiscal year to the Pension Fund.

APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION FROM PONTIAC CONGREGATION

Mr. Rosenberg read the letter of application for affiliation which had been received from the American Reform Jewish Congregation of Pontiac, Michigan.

Mr. Goldman moved that action on the application be deferred. Mr. Eldon Lazarus moved as a substitute that the application be declined on the ground that there is no room in such a small community as Pontiac for two Reform congregations. Mr. Lazarus' substitute motion was lost. Mr. Goldman's motion was carried. Mr. Lazarus asked to be recorded in the negative.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE

A letter from the President of Temple Sinai in New Orleans, addressed to Mr. Eldon Lazarus, requesting that the Executive Board withdraw the Union from the American Jewish Conference was presented.

Mr. Lazarus stated that the Executive Board of the Union had taken action to refer the matter of membership in the American Jewish Conference to the next Biennial. When the Executive Board entered the Conference it was the thought that the Conference would meet and then dissolve. Some delegates went to the second meeting of the Conference under protest and have declared that they would go to no further meetings. The Union of American Hebrew Congregations is strictly a religious body. Zionism today is an avowed movement political in scope. Since the main purpose of the Conference is Zionist, the Union should withdraw from the Conference.

Mr. Lazarus moved that the Union withdraw its membership from the American Jewish Conference.

Mr. Goldman pointed out that the Executive Board entered the Conference with reservations and voted favorably on all Resolutions adopted by the American Jewish Conference with the exception of the Palestine Resolution. The protests that are being received from various sources are based on the misunderstanding of the purposes of the Conference. The Conference was called into being for three purposes:

1. To adopt a united policy which American Jews should uphold on the position of the Jews in the post-war world.
2. To try to reach an agreement on the Palestinian program.
3. To appoint delegates to present these points of view, as a united Jewish voice, to the Peace Conference.

The Conference's Resolutions on Rescue and Rehabilitation were equally as important as the Palestinian question, but they did not get the same publicity. It would be a tragic mistake for the Union to withdraw from the Conference. It would place us outside the stream of Jewish life; it would condemn us to extinction. If our feelings do not go out to the suffering Jews of the world; if we do not realize that it is merely an accident of history that we are here and not there; if we do not join with our brethren everywhere, we should be read out of the Jewish fold.

Mr. Goldman stated further that he fought the Palestine Resolution at the Conference and still disagrees with the Conference,

but we have got to stay in because of the many important problems before us.

Mr. Strassburger pointed out that there were five hundred delegates at the Conference; that he cast a vote against the Palestine Resolution but that he still feels that the Union should stay in the Conference.

Mr. Lazarus' motion was lost without a dissenting vote.

Rabbi Morgenstern pointed out that this question has come up frequently at the Executive Board and that we concluded each time that the best thing for the Union to do is to remain in the Conference and continue to publicize its stand of neutrality on the Palestine Resolution. He felt that congregations should be informed that the matter was considered at four separate meetings of our Executive Board.

Upon motion by Mr. Friedman, it was voted that a committee of three consisting of Mr. Rosenberg, Rabbi Eisendrath and Mr. Goldman be appointed to draft a formal statement presenting the position of our Board and that that statement be circularized among our congregations.

RESIGNATION OF MR. FREIBERG

A letter was read from Mr. Julius W. Freiberg of Cincinnati resigning from the Executive Board. It was moved that the resignation be accepted and that the thanks of the Board be expressed to Mr. Freiberg for his many years of service to the Union.

CONFIRMATION OF DELEGATES AT LARGE

In accordance with the Constitution of the Chicago Federation of Reform Synagogues, the delegates at large elected by the Federation are to be confirmed by the Executive Board of the Union. It was voted that the election of the following be confirmed:

Judge Archie Cohen
G. H. Emin
A. L. Fader
J. Logan Fox
Judge Hugo M. Friend
Louis L. Kahn
Emil B. Kitzinger
S. B. Komaiko

A. M. Krensky
Philip Levit
Mrs. Lester Stern
Arthur Strauss
Mortie Inlander
Robert Lee Straus
Herbert van Straaten

LETTER OF GREETING TO MR. GOTTLIEB

Mr. Rosenberg called attention to the fact that Mr. Harry N. Gottlieb, a Vice-President of the Union, had been ill and was now on the road to recovery. It was voted that a communication be sent to Mr. Gottlieb expressing the hope for a speedy recovery.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bernard Sang spoke of the need of a camp for Youth and asked how far the Union is willing to go toward the purchase of a camp. He expressed the thought that if the Youth were permitted to make a solicitation, they could raise sufficient money for the purchase of a camp.

Mr. Rosenberg called attention to the fact that the Union had appropriated a sum of money for that purchase and that negotiations had already been undertaken for the purchase of a camp. However, the war intervened and the project had to be temporarily postponed.

He suggested that Mr. Sang secure the facts as to cost of purchase, maintenance, etc., and that his report will be considered at the next meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Union.

ADJOURNED.

ADOLPH ROSENBERG
President



LOUIS I. EGELSON
Administrative Secretary

APPENDIX B

REPORT OF THE COMBINED CAMPAIGN OF UAHC-HUC

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

JULY, 1944 - JUNE, 1945

To the Executive Board of
the Union of American Hebrew Congregations,
Chicago, June 3, 1945

1. Background

For the fiscal year 1938-39 the income of the Union had sunk to \$121,800 derived from the following sources:

Individuals	\$ 78,000
Congregations	34,800
Welfare Funds	9,000

For the fiscal year 1942-43, our income had increased to \$168,700, as follows:

Individuals	\$117,000
Congregations	38,000
Welfare Funds	13,000

There was no special campaign for increased support during 1940-41-42.

It was during the summer of 1943 when, after serious discussion, it was agreed to hold a Combined Campaign on behalf of both the Union and the College.

2. Progress First Year

These discussions were culminated by direct action taken by Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath in securing the services of Jerome L. Levy, who at that time was with the United Jewish Appeal. Mr. Levy agreed to become our National Campaign Director and started his duties at Cincinnati September 1, 1943. He spent his first four months in Cincinnati studying the situation and planning for a national organization with important lay and rabbinical leadership to assist him in his efforts.

Campaign activities actually started early in January, 1944. During the first year, considerable progress was made with the cooperation of a number of lay leaders and volunteer rabbis who visited constituent congregations in various parts of the country. Special Campaign literature was prepared and a Campaign Bulletin was started to give adequate publicity to those who were assisting in the financial program. This Bulletin, ALERT, has reached a circulation of 10,000 and is published on the average of once every 8 or 10 weeks.

The gross returns of the Campaign for the year 1943-44 reached a total of \$240,000. This permitted the Union to make a grant to the College of \$29,500. This was the first such support that the Union has been able to give to the College since 1927, when the Adolph Ochs Endowment Fund was established.

3. Current Year

The outstanding event of the fiscal year 1944-45 was the West Coast trip made by Rabbi Eisendrath and Mr. Levy. They visited over thirty congregations in 22 cities and made very definite progress securing increased financial support. Two new congregations were brought into the Union and several others are good prospects. Our position on the West Coast has improved materially but there is still need for further development. Considerable progress has been made with the major communities. This list includes St. Louis, Boston, Baltimore, and Cleveland. I am pleased to report that Cincinnati, the home city of our two institutions, leads the nation. Substantial progress has been made in New York and Chicago through the instrumentality of our Federations of Reform Synagogues in these two Metropolitan centers. As of June 1st, the Combined Campaign has produced \$279,419.43 from the following sources:

Congregations	\$169,925.53
Individuals	92,626.15
Welfare Funds	16,867.75

In addition to this, we have received \$18,659.50 from Welfare Funds and individuals who remitted directly to the College. Our total for this year should exceed \$300,000.

In keeping with the terms of the Combined Campaign, this means that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1945, the Combined Campaign will be in a position to grant the College a minimum of \$50,000.

4. Current Situation

Raising money for any religious institution is not easy in comparison with the larger and pressing war-time campaigns which have demanded our attention in recent years. In our own case, there are many involved situations where the personal attitude of the rabbi, the president, or some member of the Board of Trustees prevents our receiving the support to which we think we are entitled. In addition to this, there is no real uniformity in the payment of dues to the Union and as it is a matter of volunteer cooperation, there is no way to enforce the payment of these dues. In other words, every congregation presents a special case for special handling. It is good to note that the majority of our rabbis and the vast majority of our lay leadership is interested in these two central institutions of Liberal Judaism and are willing to give time, money and effort to support them. There are, however, a few malcontents in both groups, and when the occasion arises for actual fund raising, they will have to be by-passed. It is interesting to note that in spite of the many problems facing the Union, it enjoys today the largest membership it has ever had. There are now more than 320 congregations affiliated with the Union.

5. Recommendations

- A. I think it would help considerably if we had a strong program which we could present to the country and which should be something tangible and easily understood.
- B. I believe firmly that the Union should repeat over and over the same kind of helpful financing that it has done in the case of the new small congregation in Wynnefield, a suburb of Philadelphia. Both rabbis and laymen will be impressed with this tangible sign of progress.

6. Conclusion

The benefits of the cooperation of the Union and the College in the Combined Campaign has proven itself in dollars and cents. It has likewise been a means of stimulating the interest and the cooperation of many important laymen and rabbis from coast to coast.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my personal thanks to Mr. Irving S. Florsheim of Chicago, National Treasurer of our Combined Campaign, for the outstanding services he has rendered to our cause. Other leaders who have been a tower of strength to us in the initial stages of our national program and whose services I wish to acknowledge publicly are: Judge Meier Steinbrink, President of Federation of Reform Synagogues of New York City; Dr. S. S. Hollender, President of the Chicago Federation of Reform Synagogues; Oscar M. Lazrus, Chairman of the Finance Committee of the New York Campaign; Day Apte of Tampa, Fla., Vice-Chairman in charge of the Southeast Region; Mortimer May of Nashville, Vice-Chairman of the Kentucky-Tennessee Region; Judge Solomon Elsner of Hartford, Connecticut; Lee M. Friedman, Joseph H. Cohen and Louis Salvage of Boston; Abe M. Luntz, James H. Miller and Judge Maurice Bernon of Cleveland; Mrs. Hugo Dalsheimer of Baltimore; Alex Frieder of Cincinnati; Irving S. Metzler, Haskell Kramer, I. E. Chadwick, and Ralph P. Levey, all of Los Angeles. In addition to these, I can only speak in the highest terms of the invaluable service rendered the Campaign by many of the rabbis in their own communities, but particularly by those men who volunteer to travel far and wide on behalf of these two vital institutions of Liberal Judaism.

I feel certain that if we move forward with determination and sincerity of purpose, we can achieve the goal which we have set for ourselves.

Respectfully submitted,

ROGER W. STRAUS

Chairman

APPENDIX C

REPORT OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE OF THE UNION

Cincinnati, Ohio
May 31, 1945

TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE
UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your Budget Committee has given careful consideration to the needs of the Union for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1945, as well as the sources of income for that period.

We expect to spend in 1945-46 the sum of \$311,871. Our estimated income for the same period is \$311,900. This latter figure is based on the estimate of the Joint Finance Committee that the proceeds of the joint campaign for the coming fiscal year will amount to \$385,000.

It gives me much pleasure to report to the Executive Board that as of July 1, 1945, our indebtedness to the First National Bank is \$29,000. As a result of the proceeds of the sale of the Jonesboro property together with supplementary funds we plan to reduce our indebtedness to the First National Bank by \$15,000 before the end of this fiscal year. Furthermore, we have made provision in our budget to discharge the entire indebtedness to the First National Bank by the close of our next fiscal year, June 30, 1946.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID F. KAHN

Chairman

APPENDIX D

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TIME AND PLACE OF
THE NEXT BIENNIAL CONVENTION

TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE
UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

Ladies and Gentlemen:

At the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Union held on March 4, 1945, it was voted that we wait until this meeting of the Executive Board before arriving at a definite decision as to the date for our next Biennial Council.

The date for our convention had been set tentatively for November 23-26, 1945 at Cincinnati. We wrote recently to the Office of Defense Transportation calling their attention to the fact that at their request we postponed our convention from March to November and asking whether we may plan to hold our convention in November of this year. We are in receipt of a reply from the Secretary of the War Committee on Conventions as follows:

"It is impossible to foresee what the restrictions will be next fall and the Committee does not anticipate any relaxation or modification in the immediate future. Because of the return of service men to this country and their subsequent redeployment to the Pacific Theater the load on transportation presents a serious problem from both the volume and the time angle. In view of the above it is suggested that your convention be canceled or deferred until a later time when the present emergency has ceased to exist and the ban is modified or removed."

In the meantime Rabbi Egelson was authorized to secure tentative dates for Chicago for March of 1946. He conferred with the authorities of the Stevens Hotel and the Palmer House, and was informed that the Union could not be accommodated at those hotels during March 1946 because the groups that had planned to hold their conventions this year and had been obliged to postpone them, have made tentative reservations for the early months of 1946.

Cleveland then came under consideration for March 1946. Rabbi Eisendrath had conferred with Rabbis Brickner and Silver who had indicated that the Union convention would be welcome in Cleveland. Subsequently Rabbi Egelson conferred with the Promotion Department of the Hotel Statler in Cleveland and learned that the situation obtaining in Chicago was duplicated at the Hotel Statler and that the time we desired for our convention was already tentatively assigned.

We have made a tentative reservation for the Netherland Plaza Hotel at Cincinnati for Friday, March 1 through Monday March 4, 1946. We hope that restrictions will be removed long before that time so that we may hold the greatly deferred convention.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT P. GOLDMAN

Chairman

APPENDIX E

To the
UAHC Delegates to the
Synagogue Council of America

Gentlemen:

The interest in the Synagogue Council of America on the part of the Reform representatives in general, and of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in particular, is beyond question. Originally proposed by the then President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the late Dr. Abram Simon, the Synagogue Council came into being through the initiative of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Since that time the Union has watched with great satisfaction the development and progress of the Synagogue Council. One does not, as a rule, seek to limit the scope of one's own offspring, even though at times one does endeavor to provide guidance, to the end that the twig may grow as it was first bent. The purpose of this memorandum is to call attention to the original purpose of the Synagogue Council and to certain tendencies which have more recently developed that might deflect the Synagogue Council from the purpose which was in the minds of those who first called it into being.

There can be no doubt as to the even greater need today of a coordinating agency such as the Synagogue Council was intended to be. Far more pressing is the demand at the present hour to unite the spiritual forces of American Jewry against the rising tide of secularism in our time. Consequently, there is not the remotest intention on the part of the Union to restrict the development of the Synagogue Council in this direction. On the contrary, we have noted with considerable gratification the progress which the Synagogue Council has made, especially under recent administrations and through the continuing executive labors of Rabbi Ahron Opher who, for a number of years past, has served as the efficient and effective Assistant to the President of the Synagogue Council.

Nonetheless, we wish to call attention to the unambiguous reservation that was included in the original Declaration of Principles of the Synagogue Council, to the effect that it is "clearly provided that such proposed Council in no way interfere with the religious and administrative autonomy of any of the constituent organizations." However, certain recent statements, actions, and proposed plans of the Synagogue Council have caused some measure of apprehension on the part of the Union representatives concerning the possible interference on the part of the Synagogue Council with activities which for many years past have been pursued by the Union. By way of illustration, we might point to the fact that, for unnumbered years the Union has released to the press of the country statements relative to the observance of the Jewish holidays and festivals. Insofar as we have been able to ascertain, these press notices were favorably received on every hand and were considered non-sectarian and non-denominational in their character. The fact that the Synagogue Council has now undertaken to issue such press notices may be a very small matter,

but it is indicative of a tendency which might be far-reaching. If it is within the province of the Synagogue Council to publish such press notices, it might easily be conceivable that the Synagogue Council may well enter the larger area that would include the publication of such pamphlets, tracts, etc., which is one of the principal projects of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

As a matter of fact, one of the leading spirits in the Synagogue Council recently informed the Director of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations that in order to build a stronger Synagogue Council it may be necessary for the Union to relinquish some phases of its present endeavors. We do not conceive of the Synagogue Council in such terms. We believe that the Synagogue Council was created for the exclusive purpose of coordinating and, insofar as possible, strengthening its constituent bodies and, by this means, strengthening itself. Instead of intimating, for the purpose of building a stronger Council that it may be imperative for the Union or other constituents of the Synagogue Council to relinquish some aspects of their work, the very opposite should be the case. By encouraging the constituents to take on more and more enterprises, while at the same time coordinating these respective activities with those of the other constituents of the Synagogue Council, we shall be able to gain stronger synagogue representation in American Jewry.

To illustrate further the fact that the above mentioned concern on the part of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations is not by any manner of means imaginary, we wish to point to the report of the recently formed Synagogue Council's Committee on "The Synagogue and the Workingman." This Committee seems to have been established in sublime innocence of the fact that, for years now the Central Conference of American Rabbis has been vitally concerned with this field, and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations has likewise been interested in a rapprochement between Synagogue and Labor. As a matter of fact, conferences have been held by representatives of the Union and those concerned with the labor movement. No attempt was made by the Synagogue Council to ascertain whether its own committee would in any way intrude upon the work of the Union. In addition, this report suggests that a pamphlet is to be prepared dealing with Jewish traditional attitudes and pronouncements on the general subject of labor. Such a pamphlet has been considered by the Commission on Public Information of the Union and lies directly within the purview of the Union's regular activity. Any attempt to establish a Labor Temple on the part of the Synagogue Council, as is indicated in the above mentioned report, would again duplicate the long-established program of Synagogue Extension of the Union in general and their specific plan of working in this field as soon as the personnel now in chaplaincy service is available.

Furthermore, in a letter recently addressed to all the congregations of the Synagogue Council's constituents, the President of the Synagogue Council indicated that part of the Council's contemplated program includes the publication of a magazine. Already

the Union, together with the Central Conference, is issuing LIBERAL JUDAISM, and the Rabbinical Assembly has just announced the projected publication of a quarterly, "Conservative Judaism." Once again it appears that the Synagogue Council, instead of being a coordinating body, is seeking to include all manner of functions that are already well provided for by its constituent organizations. With regard to radio programs also, we believe that the time allocated to the Synagogue Council should in turn be apportioned to its national constituents rather than to individuals.

Another case in point is the recent communication addressed to the rabbis of America relative to the observance of V-E Day and the providing of such rabbis with suggested services for the occasion. The congregational leaders, both lay and rabbinic, look to the Union, as undoubtedly they do to their other parent bodies, for precisely this kind of service. If the Union did not provide this kind of assistance, it would again be accused, as it has been in the past, of being "asleep on the job." It cannot constantly be relinquishing its essential tasks to others, and for the Union to provide this kind of assistance and for the Synagogue Council to do so likewise is a useless duplication of effort. Such illustrations could be multiplied, but they should suffice to indicate the dangers that are involved.

It was primarily because of this danger to convert the Synagogue Council from its original purpose as a coordinating agency into a functioning body gradually taking over the work of its constituents that motivated the Union's disinclination to approve of the projected plan to raise \$100,000 for the expansion of the Synagogue Council. While the Union agrees that the Synagogue Council may require a larger measure of support than it is now procuring, it does not in any wise envisage a program justifying an appeal for \$100,000. To be sure, one of the leaders of the Synagogue Council intimated that although the appeal would be made for \$100,000, it would be well pleased if \$25,000 was forthcoming. However, we wish to point out that an appeal for \$100,000 might seriously interfere with the fund-raising efforts of the Synagogue Council's constituents and would result in a weakening of the Council rather than a strengthening of it.

Nor does the Union approve of any appeal whatsoever being made directly to its own congregations. These congregations are the only medium through which the Union itself can function, and it hinders rather than helps its own program to have a double appeal made by the Synagogue Council. Regardless of the different character of the latter's appeal, the result has already proved to be most confusing. We have been the recipients of innumerable letters protesting against the Synagogue Council appealing directly to our congregations. We therefore urge a rethinking of this entire question of the financing of the Synagogue Council, and we propose that such financial appeals be restricted to the constituents of the Synagogue Council itself, or to Welfare Funds which represent a cross-section of Jewish community life.

As a matter of fact, we do not believe that the Synagogue Council should, under any circumstances, be in continuous communication or contact with the individual congregations or congregational leaders, but should function solely through its constituent bodies, at least in such instances where the constituent body is equipped and prepared to act as a medium for the Synagogue Council's communications. We therefore strongly recommend that all contemplated programs and procedures of the Synagogue Council that have to do with synagogue activities shall be channelled exclusively through the constituents of the Synagogue Council.

The Union is more than prepared to give due credit to all plans and programs that originate in the Synagogue Council, but it insists that it must serve as the medium for communication with its own congregations and congregational leaders.

We recommend, furthermore, that no new programs be initiated by the Synagogue Council without due notice being given to the official heads of the constituent bodies sufficiently in advance to enable such directing heads to confer with their respective representatives to the Synagogue Council prior to such meetings at which consideration is to be given to such projected plans.

Any number of new ventures have been undertaken recently which the administrative officers of the constituent bodies have not had the opportunity fully to discuss prior to their presentation at Synagogue Council meetings. We feel that we can no longer be responsible for action on the part of the Synagogue Council upon which we have not been able fully to deliberate.

In conclusion, we wish to state that the above reservations and requests are voiced not in any way to attenuate the effectiveness of the Synagogue Council but rather to make it even more effective in the realm in which it was intended to act. As a united voice and as a coordinating representative of the religious forces in American Jewry we wish it to continue to grow from strength to strength, but within the area of actual synagogue functioning we believe that it can only grow in power and influence through the increased influence and enterprise of its constituent bodies.

We trust that the reservations and the concrete recommendations herein contained will be given the earnest and sympathetic consideration of the Synagogue Council.

Respectfully submitted,

UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

Maurice N. Eisendrath
Director

APPENDIX F

COMMITTEE ON ENDOWMENT AND TRUST FUNDS

May 31, 1945

TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE
UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am very happy to report that the entire Jonesboro, Arkansas matter has been settled. All the properties have been sold and our obligations to Mrs. May Meyer have been consummated.

In June, 1936, the Union, through its Endowment and Trust Fund Committee, invested \$36,364.11 @ 4% in Jonesboro, Arkansas. We have received \$56,550.00 from the sale of the properties. After paying commissions, legal fees, abstracts, taxes, and the accrued interest to the Endowment Fund, the Union will net about \$12,700.00.

At the meeting of the Committee on Endowment and Trust Funds, the members voted to recommend to the Executive Board that this \$12,700.00 be used to reduce our Bank indebtedness.

Our committee wishes to commend Mr. Louis L. Kaufman who devoted much time and thought to the successful completion of this venture, as well as our Chief Accountant, Mr. Hyman Kanter, who made several trips to Jonesboro and handled the details of this difficult task efficiently and tactfully.

Respectfully submitted,

HERBERT C. OETTINGER

Chairman

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RABBI LOUIS I. EGELSON
Administrative Secretary

RABBI GEORGE ZEPIN
Honorary Secretary

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THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE SISTERHOODS

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS

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34 WEST SIXTH STREET · CINCINNATI 2, OHIO · PHONE Parkway 7345

June 4, 1945

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:

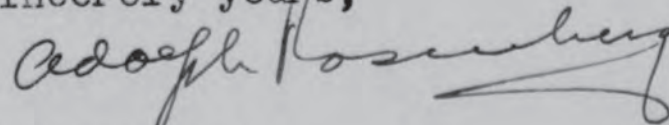
I was very sorry that you could not attend the meeting of our Executive Board in Chicago yesterday. The spirit was fine. The matter of our continued membership in the American Jewish Conference came up once more. Without a dissenting vote it was decided that we remain in the Conference and leave the final decision to the Biennial Council.

The Office of Defense Transportation has withheld permission to hold our convention this Fall. We have a tentative date for Cincinnati, March 1 - 4, 1946. The Board felt that it would like to come to Cleveland, but the Statler Hotel could not take care of us until the latter part of April. We are writing to the Statler and asking them to see if they cannot shift some of their tentatively scheduled meetings so as to permit us to come to Cleveland sometime in March or the very first week in April.

A copy of Rabbi Eisendrath's report to the Executive Board, which was very well received, as well as the minutes of the meeting will be sent to you soon.

With kind greetings, I am

Very sincerely yours,



Adolph Rosenberg
President

AR:IS

June 8, 1945

Mr. Adolph Rosenberg, President
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
34 West Sixth St.
Cincinnati 2, Ohio

My dear Mr. Rosenberg:

Thank you for your kind letter. I regret very much that I was unable to attend the Executive Board meeting in Chicago. I received a report of the meeting from Mr. Miller of Cleveland who attended it. I am pleased with the action taken with regards to the Union remaining in the Conference.

Should you be able to make arrangements to have the convention of the Union in Cleveland, we shall be most happy to welcome you here.

With all good wishes and trusting that I may have the pleasure of seeing you in the near future, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK