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World Union for Progressive Judaism, 1930.

WORLD UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM.

Hon. Secretary:

The Hon. LILY H. MONTAGU, J.P.
Liberal Jewish Synagogue,
28, St. John's Wood Road,
London, N.W.8.

The Red Lodge,
51, Palace Court,
London, W.2.

April 3rd, 1930.

Dear Dr Silver,

You will no doubt have heard that the World Union for Progressive Judaism is holding its bi-ennial international Conference from July 19th to 22nd inclusive, at the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, 28, St John's Wood Road, London.

The central subject is to be:-

"Liberal Judaism and Some Aspects of Modern Thought".

On Sunday evening we are having a public meeting which we think of immense importance. On this occasion it is hoped that we may give a real stimulus to progressive thought in England particularly and to our delegates of the different communities distributed all over the world. It is for this reason that we want to choose speakers of particular power, and I am requested by the Governing Body to ask you if you would be good enough to be our American speaker.

Mons. Edmond Fleg has agreed to speak on "The Mission of the Jews" and we are asking a German of international reputation to speak on "Jews in the Modern World". The subject which we hope an American Rabbi will

treat is "The Task of Liberal Judaism" and this paper would come between Mons. Fleg's and that of the German author.

I need hardly say that our American colleagues on the Governing Body join with us in hoping, most earnestly, that you will be able to accede to our request.

Your subject will allow you to give us some inspiration on the all-important work for which our Union was started. We have to tackle indifference and spiritual apathy, in order to prevent the drift to a-religion which is going on all over the community, in every part of the world.

I do sincerely hope that you will accept our suggestion for we need you so very badly.

The time allotted to each speaker on the Sunday evening is half an hour. I do not know whether you speak extempore, but if so, I may tell you that we shall have a verbatim reporter who would be able to take down your speech, and there will be no discussion on the papers that evening. In any case, I should be very grateful if you would let me have a synopsis of your paper not later than the end of May, so that I may get it printed, and circulated among the delegates at the Conference. If you do write your entire paper, I should be very grateful if you would let me have two copies of it. I should also be glad if you would kindly let me know exactly how you would like your name to appear on the programme.

Dr Silver - 3

In inviting speakers, I have been asked to explain that it was decided at the meeting of the Governing Body recently held in Berlin, that instructions should be given to speakers and Chairmen, that the ruling with regard to Zionism at the Conference held in London in 1926, should be applied to the 1930 Conference, i.e. that the World Union has no official attitude on the subject of Zionism and on its compatibility or incompatibility with Liberal Judaism. We are telling the speakers and Chairmen beforehand, so as to avoid any possible friction, and we are making it clear to them that the object of the Governing Body is to make the Conference as all-inclusive as possible. It is for this reason that we do not want any speeches for or against Zionism.

Trusting for an early reply, and with Kind Regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ly Abucay

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card -

May 5th, 1930

The Hon. Lily H. Montague, J.P.,
The Red Lodge,
51 Palace Court,
London, W. 2. England.

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter of April 3d and for the invitation which you extend to me to deliver an address on "The Task of Liberal Judaism" at the meeting of the forthcoming Conference of the World Union for Progressive Judaism.

Nothing would have given me greater pleasure. Unfortunately I shall not be able to leave this country this summer. There are many tasks which I have undertaken which will make it necessary for me to remain in the United States during the summer months.

Perhaps at some future Conference I may be able to be of service to you.

With kindest regards and best wishes for a very successful meeting of the Union, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

WORLD UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM.

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The Hon. LILY H. MONTAGU, J.P.
Liberal Jewish Synagogue,
28, St. John's Wood Road,
London, N.W.8.

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51, Palace Court,
London, W.2.

May 16th. 1930.

Dear Dr. Silver,

Thank you very much for your letter dated May 5th.
I am indeed sorry that we shall not have the pleasure of seeing
you here, in London, where our Conference takes place. I, too, hope
that at some future Conference you may be able to take part.

With kindest regards and many thanks for your good
wishes for the success of the Conference,

Yours very sincerely,

Lily Montagu

Regret exceedingly can not travel
Abroad this summer letter follows

Cable sent 5/6/30

