



The Bertha Corets Papers

Manuscript Collection No. 307

Box 1

Folder 8

General Correspondence

**May – December
1939**

UNITED STATES LINES

UNITED STATES LINES COMPANY

PANAMA PACIFIC LINE
AMERICAN PIONEER LINE

PIER 60 NORTH RIVER, NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE
GENERAL MANAGER

May 1st, 1939

Mrs. Bertha Corets
National Ladies' Auxiliary
Jewish War Veterans of the United States
956 Edison Avenue,
Bronx, N. Y.

Dear Madam:

Thank you for your letter of April 20th, making certain inquiries with regard to the citizenship of the crew employed in the vessels of the United States Lines.

Under the law, we are allowed to carry ten percent of aliens in the Stewards Department of our passenger vessels. In the Deck and Engine Departments, we have to carry one hundred percent American citizens. In actual practice, the Company insists upon maintaining its percentage five percent below the amount allowed so that we carry a grand maximum of five percent of aliens aboard any one of our vessels and these, necessarily, are in the Stewards Department and are mostly cooks. In the case of several vessels, we have one hundred percent American citizenship.

For a long number of years, the United States Lines has been operating American flag vessels between New York and the United Kingdom and Germany. It is only in recent years that native born Americans have shown any interest in working aboard American vessels in the Stewards Department and they are still extremely rare. The personnel of American passenger vessels in the Stewards Department is, therefore, largely made up of American citizens of foreign birth, and generally speaking, such men seek employment on ships plying to and from the land of their origin. Thus, you will find Germans working on board vessels running to Germany; English, Irish and Scotch on those vessels plying to the United Kingdom; and various Latins in the runs to the Mediterranean, South America and the West Indies. This situation is not satisfactory, but it is one intermediate to the times when there were no native born Americans going to sea in the Stewards Department and the future when we hope to find all American-born stewards on board our vessels. Such an ideal condition, which must not conflict with the requirements of service to passengers, lies in the future. American ships will be depending for some years to come on foreign-born stewards in exactly the same manner as American restaurants and hotels.

There has always existed a feeling between native-born Americans and foreign-born American citizens working on the same ships. They tend to form into cliques. Breaking these cliques is impossible at one stroke - it is a question of long education. For years, we have been listening to complaints that on some ships Englishmen have all the good jobs and native-born Americans are discriminated against. We have had exactly the same complaints on board vessels where we have been depending upon stewards of German birth. These complaints usually originate with men who have been dismissed for just cause and when their attention is drawn to the fact that we have an increasing number of native-born Americans occupying preferred positions, the complainers usually finish their arguments by saying that such men are just the "pets" of Department Heads.

During the rise of opinion in this country against the present European ideologies, as so clearly demonstrated in the pamphlet you enclosed, we have had a great increase of anti-German, anti-English and anti-Spanish pronouncements from our ships. The direction the remarks took depended upon whether the "boss" was German, English or Spanish in origin or extraction. We have had just as many complaints of our discrimination in favor of English stewards as we have had with regard to our protection of employees who have worked faithfully for this Line for fifteen or twenty years and who happen to be of German birth. Unfortunately, the present upset condition of mind seems to make the German fair game for the attacks of the press and he seems to be considered guilty until he proves himself innocent. I think the above will give you the information you want on general conditions.

As to specific instances, the first would be the steward you mentioned who went ashore in Nazi uniform. This statement is absolutely ridiculous on the face of it as even the most rabid Nazi would have more sense than to parade a German military uniform on board an American Naval Reserve vessel. However, we investigated the case and found that the steward supposed to have so acted is the son of two Germans who reside in this country, that he came with them in his childhood, that his wife is an American and that his children are being educated in America and have never visited in Germany. The gentleman in question happened to be the Manager of a ship's soccer team and once gave a speech on board a German vessel in answer to one of congratulation for his team's having won the North Atlantic Championship. He replied in German and the fact that he gave such a speech was interpreted by poorly informed fanatics as proof that he was a Nazi.

In the case of Mr. Dick who was a musician on board the SS WASHINGTON, he was given a trial in Germany and he was convicted of violation of German monetary and Customs' laws. The Company took no part in either his prosecution or defence. It was believed on board that his dealing in German musical instruments was one of long standing.

Another voluble complainer against Germans on board the ship is a man who was recently convicted in the English Court of smuggling ashore in England jewelry and gold which he had smuggled out of Germany. Regardless of one's feeling at the present time, it has to be admitted that this man violated the Customs' and monetary laws of Germany and the Customs' law of England. Some months prior to his conviction in England he made numerous complaints that he was being "fingered" by German agents on board our ships and that he was being persecuted because he was Jewish. He claimed at that time to be completely innocent of any conspiracy and that he was not violating any laws. As a consequence, the Company had prepared a notice to all members of the crews, a copy of which I am forwarding herewith.

I am sure you will agree that the policy expressed is the proper one for a Company and that it should have produced ideal results. The immediate effect may be to cause stronger feeling between the parties on board and also to have each feel that the Company was singling it out for attack. This goes to show how an organization such as ours can be embarrassed by an unreliable person. However, the Company's position is undoubtedly correct and will produce the desired results in the long run.

For the past two years, a great traffic has taken place in the buying up of German marks at a very low rate in New York and the use of them in Germany in violation of German monetary laws. This traffic has caused stringent control of our vessels by the German authorities who seem to be continuously finding members of our crews committing flagrant violations. Such violators always accuse someone else of telling tales and they invariably try to take out their spite on someone else.

While a steamship company might very well have spies of foreign governments in its employ, every possible effort is made to prevent their infiltration. Any complaint, or the slightest expression of suspicion brings a prompt and rigorous investigation from various government bureaus among which are the Naval Intelligence Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. There have been many investigations made over long periods of time and as yet, these investigations have served no end but to exonerate the men in question.

I trust the above explanation will serve to enable you to counteract some of the wholly unfair criticism of our employment of seaman of foreign birth and I also believe you could do a great service to the promotion of American ideals if you would attempt to clear away the haze of misunderstanding caused by the persecution of German-born American citizens who have done faithful and loyal work in building up the prestige of the American Merchant Marine. Further investigation will prove to you that these men have had many opportunities to return to Germany with their German citizenship restored and work under conditions which are at least equal to those obtaining in this country for the same type of work.

Very truly yours,


GENERAL MANAGER

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES

National Headquarters ♦ 276 Fifth Avenue ♦ New York, N. Y.

MUrray Hill 4-1389

ISADOR S. WORTH
National Commander

LOUIS H. ROSENBERG
MEYER NEUMANN
I. BERNARD ROTBERG
HARRY M. WENGROW
SAMUEL FRIEDMAN
HARRY LOCKE

National Vice Commanders

HARRY H. SCHAFFER, P.N.C.
National Field Secretary

HON. JOSEPH S. GREENBERG
National Judge Advocate

J. DAVID DELMAN
National Adjutant

LOUIS D. SAMUELS
National Quartermaster

DR. PERRY P. BURNSTINE
National Surgeon

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
National Chaplain

MAXWELL COHEN
Chief of Staff

MORTON P. LEVY
National Patriotic Instructor

ISIDORE WEILL
National Historian

JOSEPH WOOLFSON
National Inspector

DR. IVY A. PELZMAN
National Liaison

J. GEORGE FREDMAN, P.N.C.
National Editor

BEN V. LEVIN
National Supply Officer

MORRIS STONE
National Intelligence Officer

BENJAMIN SACHAROW
National Recruiting Officer

MORRIS BAUMFELD
National Hospitalisation Officer

SAMUEL ROSE
National Radio Officer

CHARLES EISENSTEIN
National Chairman
"Sons of J.W.V."

LOUIS SAIEWITZ
Nat'l Graves Registration Officer

BENJAMIN KAUFMAN
Chief National Aide

HARRY BERKOWITZ
National Americanism Officer

HARRY GOLDEN
National Sergeant-at-Arms

DAVID FELTZ
National Color Sergeant

SAMUEL A. HORROWITZ
National Membership Chairman

CLARENCE GREENBERG
Nat'l Disaster and Relief Officer

May 1st
1939

Dear Mrs. Corets:

We have succeeded in getting the Center Hotel, on 43rd Street for our meeting May 11th (Thursday). Notices will go out within the next couple days.

You will recall the refugee who came to our office, inquiring about work in a glove factory. Can you advise anything regarding this at this time?

One of our members came in to our office Saturday, to tell me about an electrician calling attention to a German-made lighting fixture. This was made by the Lightolier Co. I thought it was the same case you have reported in the release, and told him so. However, I have the names of the people involved, and will give you the full information when I speak to you over the telephone.

With kind regards, and hoping your little boy is feeling alright now, I am

Sincerely,

Cecile
Cecile Schaffer

SCHERK

NEW YORK

26 WAVERLY PLACE
NEW YORK, N.Y.

May 2, 1939

Mrs. Bertha V. Corets,
National Ladies' Auxiliary,
Jewish War Veterans,
956 Edison Ave.,
Bronx, N.Y.

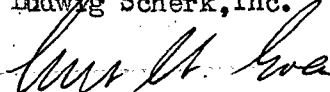
Dear Mrs. Corets:

We are in receipt of your letter of April 19th. and are sorry to say that we can not furnish you with the advertisement which you desire, as no formal announcements are ever made of the 'arianization' of Jewish firms.

The few Jewish firms which still existed in Germany a few months ago could not, by decree, obtain any advertising space whatever. As soon as the regular advertisements of such firms suddenly appeared again it was therefore self evident that control had passed in Arian hands. I have no doubt that the reason for choosing this method was to prevent unfavorable impressions abroad.

I am sorry that we are thus unable to work out the plan along the lines you have suggested, but we wish to assure you of our appreciation for your kind interest in this matter for which please accept our sincerest thanks.

Very sincerely yours,
Ludwig Scherk, Inc.



Curt St. Goar,
Secretary & Treasurer.

NATIONAL LADIES' AUXILIARY
JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE U. S.
NEW YORK, N.Y.

May 3rd
1939

Dear Sisters:

Please take note that definite information will be in readiness for Sunday, May 21st; therefore, a National Executive Committee meeting will be called for Sunday afternoon, May 21st, at the Edison Hotel, 228 West 47th Street, New York City.

As you know, the Parade is to be held that morning, at which you are expected to be present, and the meeting will be held from one to six in the afternoon. Please be prompt.

All Convention Committees will be announced on that day. Reports will be read at this meeting.

Loyally yours,

Malvina V. Freeman

Malvina V. Freeman
National President

MVF/cjs

NATIONAL LADIES' AUXILIARY
JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE United States
NEW YORK, N.Y.

May 5th
1939

TO AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS AND BOYCOTT CHAIRMEN

Dear Sisters:

A Toy was brought to Headquarters that may be described as the singing, spinning top and can be purchased in stationery on 5 and 10¢ stores. On the side was printed "Made in the U.S.A. J. Choin & Co." A curious member pried it apart and found that inside the musical plate bore the mark "Made in Germany". Correspondence with this Company reveals their claim that Germany is the only source of supply. They claim they are making preparations to manufacture this plate in their own factory. After six years of boycott they are somewhat behind in preparation so we suggest avoiding the purchase of these products until we inform you they are free from German parts.

Parke, Davis & Co., thru a representative, has informed us that their products are 100% American made. In addition to that for a number of years now it has not been necessary for them to import anything from Germany. This applies as well to the glass tubing from which ampules are made. This is a concern of manufacturing chemists and their products of high quality are sold in reliable drug stores.

Woolworth Stores: - We are receiving a great many inquiries on this 5 & 10 chain because the Joint Boycott Council and the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League have removed them from the boycott list. We have not removed this chain because the questionnaire we mailed to you last Fall revealed that their stores all over the country were selling Nazi made merchandise. The cooperation of a few managers or stores where the boycott pressure is very strong does not excuse the policy of the company revealed by the majority of stores. If more detailed information is necessary, we are in a position to supply it. F. W. Woolworth Co. continues on our boycott list.

We are quoting an incident that reveals another avenue for boycott activity. An electrician was hanging a very expensive crystal fixture when he suddenly noticed that the "Made in Germany" mark was imprinted on it. He reported it to the owner of the house, who called up her contractor and demanded an American made article. The fixture was removed and an American made one supplied.

Father Coughlin in some of his speeches has tried to show by innuendo that the Jews are responsible for many of the woes in this country. An example of such baseless remarks was made in his speech of January 22nd when he said "this system which we are following was developed for us by the Rothschilds, and inflicted upon us by the International Bankers." A letter addressed to the Treasury Department quoting this statement by Father Coughlin, was answered as follows: "I know no basis for this statement. The monetary system of the United States is based on laws enacted by the Congress pursuant to its Constitutional responsibility."

Since the 25% penalty impost on German barter deals to the United States became effective April 21st, a definite falling off in German exports is noted. We feel that the Hitler government is now entering a very critical state in its economic history. One may expect more vigorous attacks and criticism of the boycott than ever. Therefore a few words of statistics may be important and helpful. The toy industry is now almost 98% American made. The fabric glove industry is 100% American. American made cameras of high speed are competing with the former German monopoly. Chinaware, leather goods, artificial flowers have had a new birth here. There is a concerted movement among the dealers in semi-precious and synthetic stones to make this an American industry. At one time our ships were second place in the car-

goes carried between this country and Germany. We may be proud of the fact that the boycott has helped our merchant marine fight from under this strong competitor and they are now carrying more tonnage than the Nazi boats. It must be remembered that Central Europe must ship thru Hamburg and Bremen. As a result of the fine boycott work done in the Drug line, imports from Nazi Germany have been greatly reduced and the American chemical industry stimulated.

The above is but a brief digest of the work done by the National Ladies' Auxiliary and is sent to you to assist you in making an interesting report at your meeting.

Please make a report on your Merchant Marine activity, also boycott report for the year.

Best personal wishes,

Sincerely

956 Edison Ave.,
Bronx, N.Y.

BERTHA V. CORETS
National Ladies' Auxiliary

BVC/cjs

A. J. Lipp Company

307 WEST 38TH STREET
NEW YORK • BRYANT 9-8681

Offset Printers • Typographers

May 6, 1939

Dear Bertha,

I must ask you to pardon me for not giving you a report in answer to your telegram, but I have been pretty busy both with JWV activities and because I just affilitaed myself with this firm.

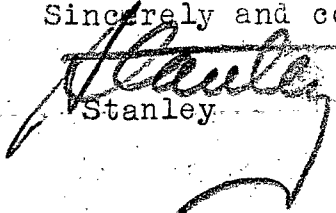
In refernce to the party you asked me to check it so happens that his name is Richard Roiderer and he is rather well known by this time throughout the city because of the fact that he is the fellow who parades all over the principal streets carry a big sign with a caricature of Hitler and the one arm is articulated and pulled by a string. The arm swings up and down and is supposed to indicate Hitler's ruthless methods.

He has spoken at my meeting's as long as three years ago and I also believe that he has been a speaker at other JWV posts. He also published a monthly sheet known as the Idealist which is both anti-Nazi and Anti-Communistic and stresses democracy. I also believe he is more or less subsidized by the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi Leggue or the American Jewish Congress. His policy is to speak at any meeting and all he aks is that those present buy his paper which is priced at 5¢ per copy.

If you feel that he can be of any use to us would suggest that you take the matter up with him directly and use your own judgement.

Trusting that this report will give you the necessary iformation, I am, with kindest regards from Violet and myself,

Sincerely and cordially,


Stanley

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES

National Headquarters ♦ 276 Fifth Avenue ♦ New York, N. Y.

ISADOR S. WORTH
National Commander



J. DAVID DELMAN
National Adjutant

May 12th
1939

TO ALL COMMANDERS,
DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

Dear Comrade Commander:

Your attention is called to the Hanley Bill that was recently proposed in the legislature in the State of New York. It has the full sponsorship of both the Democratic and Republican parties, and will in all probability be passed.

The Bill provides for the outlawing of military and semi-military organizations, which tend to introduce foreign uniforms, drills, salutes, etc. into the State of New York. It is aimed mainly at the German American Bund and tends in that way to remove from that obnoxious body its most impressive feature. The proponent of the Bill in the Assembly, (No.2964), is Speaker Oswald D. Heck, and the proponent of the Bill in the Senate, (No.2741), is Senator Joe R. Hanley.

You are urged to write to your Senators and Assemblymen, urging them to vote in favor of that Bill and offering your cooperation whenever needed in connection with that measure.

Yours in comradeship,

J. George Fredman
J. GEORGE FREDMAN, P.N.C.
National Boycott Chairman

JGF/cjs

5/20/39

Dear Mrs. Coets

If you have
time - you may find
this Institute of
interest. Hope you come
In haste - But

thinking of you.

Sincerely,

Lillian Smith

Knepfer's Sport Shop

36 MAIN STREET

YONKERS, N. Y.

PHONE: YONKERS 4040

G

O

P

Y

May

Twenty-fourth

1939

Mr. Fox
c/o McLoughlin Brothers
Springfield, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Fox:

We were greatly shocked and no little bit chagrined when one of our very best customers directed our attention to the "Mother Goose" poem which you have on pages 224-228 in your book, "The Big Book of Nursery Stories".

The inclusion of a poem such as this is certainly neither Democratic nor Christian. We cannot understand how any organization which unquestionably takes a great deal of its income from its Jewish customers, as ourselves, can possibly include this vicious propaganda in a book directed either to children or adults.

While it is true that the business we have done with your firm has not run into a great deal of money, you have never lost a penny on our account in the many years during which we have had business relations. Poems like this, we might expect to find in a children's book in Hitler's Germany but not here. We assure you that neither McLoughlin Brothers nor Milton Bradley will send us another penny's worth of merchandise unless you make a conscientious effort to recall all of the books which are still in circulation.

I assure you that we are not alone in feeling as we do about this book.

Very truly yours

KNEPFER'S SPORT SHOP

DK:MFZ

by David Knepfer

McLOUGHLIN BROS. Inc.

Publishers Since 1828

Books

C
O
P
Y

May 27, 1939.

Mr. David Knepper,
Knepper's Sport Shop,
36 Main Street,
Yonkers, New York.

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of the 24th regarding the poem in THE BIG BOOK OF NURSERY STORIES on Page 284-228.

We wish to thank you for calling this to our attention. This is a set of English plates. We have published this book for many years and it has contained this poem and this is the first time it has been brought to our attention.

This poem certainly should not appear and will be removed from this book. We are just printing a new edition of this volume and your timely letter has arrived at a time when it will save us a great deal of expense as this signature containing this poem will be reprinted.

Again thanking you for bringing this matter to our attention, we remain

Very truly yours,

McLOUGHLIN BROS. Inc.

(Signed) George A. Fox

GAF:MEM

Chairman Board of Directors

Knepfer's Sport Shop

36 MAIN STREET

YONKERS, N. Y.

PHONE: YONKERS 4040

C
O
P
Y

May
Twenty-ninth
1939

Mr. George A. Fox
64 Park Street
Springfield, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Fox:

Thank you for your reassuring letter in regards to the new printing of "The Big Book of Nursery Stories".

However, as expressed in our letter, we feel that you should recall all volumes of this book which are still out on dealers' shelves. This may be asking quite a lot of you but it is the only real evidence of good faith which we can understand.

Very truly yours

KNEPFER'S SPORT SHOP

DK:MFZ

by David Knepfer



May 25, 1939.

Dear Comrade:

The Stamp which appears in the upper right hand corner of this letter should speak for itself. A few loose stamps are enclosed. What is needed is wide distribution. THAT is up to YOU!

You may recall that in 1933 we started off the Boycott movement with the stamp which appears in the upper left hand corner. Your distribution of 10,000,000 of these stamps helped to make the Boycott a world-wide movement, with results familiar to all.

America is imperilled by "the enemy within" -- Spies. Several were convicted in New York City -- some in Panama, and others on the Pacific Coast. It is said every Nazi steamer brings over additional spies, and that they now honeycomb our ammunition plants, our shipbuilding yards, our airplane factories. Right now they are copying and sending our secrets across the sea. When "The Day" arrives, they expect to blow up every key factory, just as they did Black Tom in 1917. Americans are naturally indifferent. They must be awakened to this spy peril, and these stamps should help to do it. They should be pasted wherever possible.

But these stamps will serve a double purpose -- in addition to helping Preserve Democracy, they will provide a source of much needed revenue for your post.

The stamps are printed in sheets of 24 stamps. You can purchase them of National Headquarters for five (5¢) cents per sheet. You can resell the stamps for twenty-five (25¢) cents per sheet and make a handsome profit. One large post has already ordered 60,000 of these stamps. Send in check or money order with your order. Due to cost of package and mailing, we cannot accept orders under \$1.00. These stamps afford an opportunity for every comrade to be occupied in Americanism work. They afford an opportunity for unemployed comrades to earn a livelihood.

Yours in comradeship,

J. GEORGE FREDMAN, P.N.C.
National Boycott Chairman

JGF/cjs
enc.

May 25th
1939

Mrs. Malvina V. Freeman, President
National Ladies' Auxiliary, J.W.V.,
431 Homestead Ave.,
Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

Dear Mrs. Freeman:

Enclosed is copy of release which we are
sending to all Post Commanders. It's self-explan-
atory. I believe you may want to do the same with
your Auxiliaries. St. Louis post ordered 60,000,
and everyone that sees them think they are fine.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

J. GEORGE FREDMAN, P.E.C.
National Boycott Chairman

JGF/cjs

enc.

May 27, 1939.

Sidney Z. Davidson, Commander
Dept. of New York, J.W.V.,
707 Powers Bldg.,
Rochester, N.Y.

Dear Sidney:

There was recently passed by both branches of the State Legislature in New York, a bill known as the "Mark of foreign origin bill". This bill is now before Governor Lehman awaiting his signature.

The Jewish War Veterans are 100% behind this bill and its becoming a law will aid us greatly in prosecuting evaders and violators of the boycott. In view of the hesitancy of the Governor to sign this bill, you are urged to immediately contact each and every Post Commander under your jurisdiction, and urge them to immediately send telegrams or letters to Governor Lehman, indicating our support and urging him to sign this bill.

Yours in comradeship,

J. GEORGE FREDMAN, P.N.C.
National Boycott Chairman

JGF/cjs

Same to Sr. Vice Commander, County Commanders
Copies to Nat'l Boycott Committeemen, Nat'l Vice Commander,
Nat'l Executive Committeemen and National President

Knepfer's Sport Shop

36 MAIN STREET

YONKERS, N. Y.

PHONE: YONKERS 4040

May
Thirty-first
1939

Mrs. George Goldstein
8 Lefferts Road
Yonkers, New York

Dear Mrs. Goldstein:

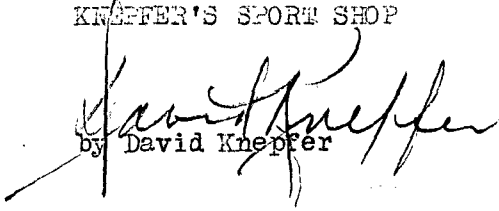
In accordance with your request, I am attaching the correspondence we had with McLoughlin Brothers in regards to what we considered unfair copy that was in a volume of one of their books.

Needless to say, we are always anxious to do what we can to stamp out this sort of thing whenever it is brought to our attention.

Your many kindnesses in the past have always been greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours

KNEPFER'S SPORT SHOP


by David Knepfer

DK:MFZ
Enc.

HERMAN SCHMIDT & BRENDLE, INC.

IMPORTERS OF

HANDKERCHIEFS - FINE LINENS

389 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK, N. Y.

June 1, 1939

Jewish War Veterans of the United States
276 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Attention of Mr. Friedman:

Dear Sir:

We acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 31st, and in reply wish to state that we are a strict American concern, and do not import any merchandise from Germany.

All our merchandise is imported from Switzerland, Ireland, and China. However, we still have a small amount of German merchandise on hand, which was imported many years ago, and are trying to dispose of it, with a heavy loss.

If you need any further information, in this case, you may call any time at our office.

*Send
to Mrs. Grets
to check up as
to why they cant
destroy or give rest
& charity*
JUN 2 - 1939

Very truly yours,

HS:EP

Herman Schmidt & Brendle, Inc.

Herman Schmidt

Pres.

J. GEORGE FREDMAN

591 SUMMIT AVENUE

JERSEY CITY, N. J.

JOURNAL SQUARE 2-0693

June 2, 1939

Mrs. Bertha Coretz,
Bronx, N. Y.

Dear Bertha:

Miss Schaffer has just sent me a copy of the
"Propaganda Analysis" for June 1st.

It is very good and interesting. I do not
know whether you have seen it, but there is equally as fine
an article, if not better, in the current issue of Mercury
Magazine, written by a non-Jew.

I was informed by the American Jewish Committee
that they are having reprints of this article made, which
will be off the press very shortly. They have promised us
a certain number of copies gratis to supply all of our
Commanders, Boycott Chairmen and possibly a large part of our
membership.

In view of this I think it would be wasteful
to buy copies of the Propaganda Analysis, except possible
for members of the National Boycott Committee.

Very truly yours,


National Boycott Chairman.

JGF/f
Enc

P.S. Did you know that the dead-line for the magazine was
the 20th of the month? I kept it open a few days longer
this time on account of the Memorial Services, but your
letter of May 30th was received after the magazine had already
gone to press - sorry. Data is returned, per your instructions.

June 3rd
1939

Eitinger Bead Co.,
36 West 37th St.,
New York, N.Y.

Attention: Mr. Joseph Eitinger

Dear Sir:

Relative to your recent phone conversation with Mr. Martin Bjutman, member of our National Executive Boycott Committee, wherein you advised that you have received within the past several weeks shipments of beads from Germany, formerly Czechoslovakia; that these goods were orders that you had placed sometime ago and could not be cancelled, and that you do not intend to purchase any more goods made in Germany, will you be good enough to confirm this statement in writing?

With reference to the stone importers from Germany, we would appreciate if you will kindly let us have a list giving the names and addresses of these firms now occasionally engaged in this trade.

Thanking you for your cooperation,

Sincerely yours,

J. GEORGE FREDMAN, P.N.C.
Nat'l Boycott Chairman

JGF/c js

G
O
P
Y

McLOUGHIN BROS. Inc.

Publishers Since 1828

New York Sales Office
200 Fifth Avenue

New York, New York
June 7, 1939

Mr. David Knepper,
Knepper's Sport Shop,
36 Main Street,
Yonkers, New York

Dear Mr. Knepper:

Your letter of May 29, addressed to Mr. G. A. Fox in Springfield, Mass., has been referred to the writer for attention.

The Big Book of Nursery Rhymes to which you refer contained rhymes that have not been edited by us for the past 30 years and we can assure you that it was not our intention to distribute this book, had we known there was any offensive rhymes in it and please be advised that we have had no stock of this book for nearly a year and that our new edition, which will be released approximately July 15, has been re-edited and the rhymes in question changed.

Regarding the recall of all volumes that are now out, we should be more than pleased to do so and in the event that you have any in stock or know of any of these copies being offered for sale, please let us know immediately.

Very truly yours,

McLOUGHLIN BROS. INC.

(signed) E. J. Bailie

EB:HG

E. J. Bailie

Knepfer's Sport Shop

36 MAIN STREET

YONKERS, N. Y.

PHONE: YONKERS 4040

C
O
P
Y

June
Ninth
1939

Mr. E. J. Bailie
205 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Bailie:

Will you please advise your Mr. Fox that we are returning directly to Springfield six copies of "The Big Book of Nursery Stories"? This is in accordance with your letter of June 7.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours

KNEPFER'S SPORT SHOP

DK:MPZ

by David Knepfer

June 8th, 1939

Dear George,

I am not familiar with the dead-line of the Veteran. However, one issue later is not important.

The question to consider is, is it important to publish. After thinking it over again, I think so. We must fight un-american activities with better Americanism. I think this prináipal is cognizant of his responsibility and must have given a great deal of thought to the subject.

He is cooperating with us in having the essay contest.

This man is at the head of a great school. He realizes the insidious ways of propaganda, and in order to prevent such work taking root, he is giving a daily dose of pure Americanism.

I do believe as an example for others to follow, and as recognition of his work, we should give him some publicity.

An oasis of good will such as his school stands for is so important today.

Sincerely,

956 Edison Ave.,
Bx NY 6/8/39

Dear George,

Regarding the enclosure which seems to ask for an opinion on the E. B. Meyrowitz Co., I have read it over and really do not get clearly what the question is.

It seems to me that somebody has suggested that they buy up the German goods the Meyrowitz Company has in order to make them clear.

I am afraid that is not at all practical. The most important thing to do with Meyrowitz is to get their pledge that they will discontinue buying and importing German made merchandise.

It is my opinion that they are continuous importers from Germany and have been on the boycott list for some time.

Sincerely,

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES

National Headquarters ♦ 276 Fifth Avenue ♦ New York, N. Y.

ISADOR S. WORTH
National Commander



J. DAVID DELMAN
National Adjutant

June 10th
1939

TO NATIONAL BOYCOTT COMMITTEE, BOYCOTT CHAIRMEN,
NAT'L OFFICERS, COMMANDERS, AND PRESIDENTS

Dear Comrades and Sisters:

The regular monthly Joint Boycott Meeting will be held on Monday evening, June 19th, 1939, at Center Hotel, 108 West Forty-Third Street, New York City, at 8:50 P.M. sharp.

We have two treats in store. Our Guest Speaker will be Hon. Estelle M. Sternberger, radio commentator, who represented the United States at the Pan-American Conference at Lima, Peru, and who has been one of the few women honored by speaking in the House of Parliament in England.

Mrs. Sternberger will be introduced by Mrs. Mark Harris, who for several years was Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, and has a wealth of knowledge and experience on the Boycott.

It is most important that we have a good representation. Therefore, you are invited to bring your relatives and friends, in which way we will also be able to get new recruits in the Boycott movement.

Sincerely yours,

J. George Friedman

J. GEORGE FRIEDMAN, P.N.C.
National Boycott Chairman, J.W.V.

Bertha V. Corits

BERTHA V. CORITS
National Boycott Chairman,
Ladies Auxiliary, J.W.V.

/cjs

P.S. Turn out with your friends at Central Park Mall, Wednesday evening, June 14th, at 7:45 P.M. for our Monster Flag Day Service.

P.P.S. First meeting of the Council of Administration, State Dept. of New York Auxiliary, June 22nd, at 8 P.M., at Edison Hall.

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June 13, 1939

Jewish War Veterans of the United States
276 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Attention: J.G. Fredman, P.N.C.
Nat'l Boycott Chairman

Dear Sir:

We acknowledge your letter dated June 3rd, and contents carefully noted.

We wish to state that we do not import any articles of any kind from Germany, or do we intend to do so, but we want to state that there are quite a few importers in kindred lines to ours that still continue to bring in German Merchandise. The reason they give is that they cannot procure such goods from other sources. Therefore, they are compelled to import articles of this sort in order to continue in business.

From our stand point of view we do not think it is at all fair as all of our goods in the past has come out of the old Czecho-slovakia and Germany, but we were successful in locating other sources in other countries and are glad to state that we are receiving merchandise weekly without importing the undesirable German wares.

Hoping that the above explanation will meet with your approval, and any other information that you may desire get in touch with our Mr. Eitinger and he will at all times be glad to give same to you upon your request.

Very truly yours

HE:RS

JUN 14 1939

*Benita
They should
be written
wait to
find out what
these other
importers are
also where
they are
get their
substitutes
HJ*

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE U. S.
276 Fifth Ave.
New York, N.Y.

June 23rd
1 9 3 9

TO ALL COMMANDERS

Dear Commander:

For many years, J.W.V. has been advocating a suitable monument to the memory of HAYM SALOMON. Chicago will shortly make this an accomplished fact. Too few Americans and many Jews are still unfamiliar with the patriotism and sacrifices made for the cause of the Colonies by this Polish Jewish patriot. The false charge of our lack of patriotism is one of the shameless weapons of anti-semites.

In view of these conditions, we congratulate Warner Brothers on their movie short "SONS OF LIBERTY". This technicolor depicts graphically some highlights of the career of Haym Salomon.

You will recall the distressed condition of Washington's army at Valley Forge, how ill-clad and foodless soldiers were deserting, how the General's aides were advising him to surrender. History relates how in the emergency General Washington decided to again call upon Haym Salomon for another \$400,000. After you see "SONS OF LIBERTY" you will never forget that stirring scene where General Washington's messenger arrives at the Synagogue in the midst of the Yom Kippur Services. Unlike many of our faith today, the early Jewish patriots had faith in liberty, appreciated what freedom meant to the Jew - AND THEY GAVE! You must see "SONS OF LIBERTY"!

Please post this notice on your Bulletin Board. Notify your comrades and sisters to see this picture, and urge their friends and neighbors to see it. In addition, have a number of your comrades communicate with the managers of your local movie theatres, urging them to bill this picture. Also make numerous inquiries as to when the picture will be shown.

Yours in comradeship,

J. George Fredman

J. GEORGE FREDMAN, P.N.C.
National Editor

JGF/cjs

P.S. 1. We recently sent you Congressional Record copy of "The Egregious Gentile Called To Account". Several posts have ordered hundreds of copies which they have distributed to their non-Jewish friends. Could you not use an additional supply?

P.S. 2. Enclosing the following:-

"CATHOLICS FIGHT BIGOTRY"

"FATHER COUGHLIN: HOLY MEDICINE MAN"
(reprinted from the "American Mercury"
of June 1939)

Additional copies on request.

P.S. 3. How are you progressing with the distribution of the "PROTECT YOUR AMERICA * "STOP NAZI SPIES" stamps. Since the report of Attorney General Murphy and Edgar Hoover on the dangerous spy menace in the U.S.A., these are more appropriate than ever.

J.G.F.

June 30th
1939

J. Geo. Fredman, P.M.C.,
National Boycott Chairman, J.W.V.,
591 Summit Ave.,
Jersey City, N.J.

Dear George:

I spent about 45 minutes with Mr. Van Praag of the Kayser Co., on Thursday, June 29th. Mr. Van Praag informed me that he was the head of the concern, and that he is of the Jewish faith, and is very strongly anti-Nazi.

He stated that his concern formerly owned 51% of a factory in Germany, but that this interest was confiscated by the German government in 1918. Subsequently, the Kayser Co. arranged to buy the output of this German factory for this American market. Three years ago the Kayser Co., according to Mr. Van Praag, discontinued purchasing or importing merchandise made in Germany. Instead, Czechoslovakian imports were resorted to, but this also was discontinued when the Sudetenland was seized by the Nazi government.

Mr. Van Praag stated that they are attempting to establish additional factories in the United States, so that they will be entirely independent of any foreign purchases. The machinery recently imported for the factory in Tennessee was unprocureable at any other source.

The above is briefly and substantially the situation as outlined to me, and if there is any other action you want me to take, or if there is any further information or comment you want from me, I am at your service.

Kindest regards.

Yours in comradeship,

EDGAR H. BURMAN

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES

National Headquarters ♦ 276 Fifth Avenue ♦ New York, N. Y.

ISADOR S. WORTH
National Commander



J. DAVID DELMAN
National Adjutant

Bertha - This has to do with Christian Front activities.

July 28th, 1939

Dear Comrade:

Due to the present situation confronting us in metropolitan New York, it has been decided that a meeting of all Commanders of the Metropolitan area take place in New York City in the near future.

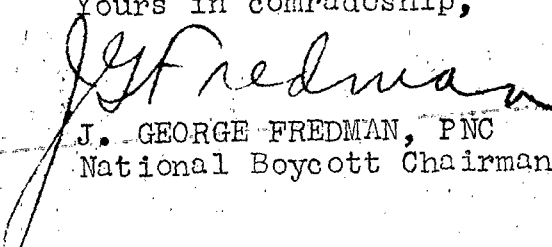
Accordingly, a meeting has been arranged for National Headquarters, 276 Fifth Avenue, New York City, for Thursday evening, August 3rd, 1939, at 7:00 P. M.

I would very much like to have you present at this meeting which will begin promptly and end at an early hour so that you may attend any other meeting or function you may desire after this one closes.

We look for your cooperation. It is imperative that you attend.

With kind personal regards,

Yours in comradeship,


J. GEORGE FREDMAN, PNC
National Boycott Chairman

JGF/ob

956 Edison Ave.,
August 3, 1939

Dear Miss Schaffer,

The conclusion of my official year as National Boycott Chairman, is fast approaching, and I am taking this opportunity to let you know that I have appreciated the service you have given me during the year.

There have been times when I have been exasperated beyond normal endurance, - there have been times when you have been ~~pleas~~ obliged to make explanations.

Please be assured that I have always been able to make allowance for the complicated structure of our National Office and have always had nothing but friendly feelings toward you.

In addition, as last year, I must complicate you on your ability as a stenographer

It is also my sincere conviction that were you not there to answer the telephone on boycott inquiries, the work would not have gone on so smoothly or efficiently.

Best wishes to you,

Sincerely,

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES

National Headquarters ♦ 276 Fifth Avenue ♦ New York, N. Y.

Murray Hill 4-1389
August 9, 1939.

ISADOR S. WORTH
National Commander

LOUIS H. ROSENBERG
MEYER NEUMANN
I. BERNARD ROTBERG
HARRY M. WENGROW
SAMUEL FRIEDMAN
HARRY LOCKE
National Vice Commanders

HARRY H. SCHAFER, P.N.C.
National Field Secretary

HON. JOSEPH S. GREENBERG
National Judge Advocate

J. DAVID DELMAN
National Adjutant

LOUIS D. SAMUELS
National Quartermaster

DR. PERRY P. BURNSTINE
National Surgeon

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
National Chaplain

MAXWELL COHEN
Chief of Staff

MORTON P. LEVY
National Patriotic Instructor

ISIDORE WEILL
National Historian

JOSEPH WOOLFSON
National Inspector

DR. IVY A. PELZMAN
National Liaison

J. GEORGE FREDMAN, P.N.C.
National Editor

BEN V. LEVIN
National Supply Officer

MORRIS STONE
National Intelligence Officer

BENJAMIN SACHAROW
National Recruiting Officer

MORRIS BAUMFELD
National Hospitalization Officer

SAMUEL ROSE
National Radio Officer

CHARLES EISENSTEIN
National Chairman
"Sons of J.W.V."

LOUIS SAIEWITZ
Nat'l Graves Registration Officer

BENJAMIN KAUFMAN
Chief National Aide

HARRY BERKOWITZ
National Americanism Officer

HARRY GOLDEN
National Sergeant-at-Arms

DAVID FELTZ
National Color Sergeant

SAMUEL A. HORROWITZ
National Membership Chairman

CLARENCE GREENBERG
Nat'l Disaster and Relief Officer

(CONFIDENTIAL)

Dear Comrade:-

General opinion is that Father Coughlin is doing great injury to Catholics and the Catholic Church, and therefore, should be handled by Catholics. Accordingly a group of prominent Catholics have organized to publish a newspaper known as "The Voice". In the event you have not seen this paper, we are sending you a copy.

"The Voice" should be read by as many Catholics as possible. Since they may not be aware of its existence, it is desirable to have a sample copy sent to them, especially to Priests, Public Officials, Teachers, Policemen, prominent laymen, officers of Knights of Columbus, Holy Name and other organizations.

The paper sells for 5¢ each, but in quantities of 100 or more, it may be had at \$2.00 per 100. Send your order to National Headquarters and we will have your order filled immediately. Your Committee or your Post may not have funds available for this purpose, but we do not know of a single city where they could not be raised with a little effort--just as they were for the Flag Day Ad recently. Such activity is an important part of every Post program, and we would appreciate 100% cooperation. It is urgent enough to call a "Special Meeting of your Post" in the event you will not have another meeting for several weeks.

Yours in comradeship,

J. George Fredman
J. GEORGE FREDMAN, P.N.C.
National Boycott Chairman

JGF/cjs

enc.

St. Louis Post has already sent in its order for 900 copies. If St. Louis can do it, so can YOUR post!

956 Edison Ave.,
Bronx, N.Y. City August 12, 1939

French Correctional Court,
Paris,
France.

Dear Sirs,

I noticed in one of the recent newspapers, an account where a communist was punished for distributing anti-semitic pamphlets.

It appears from that account a law was passed prohibiting the fomenting of anti-semitism, in France.

I would greatly appreciate it, if you could send me a translated copy of that law, and assure you if any expense is involved, I will send you the sum immediately.

Hoping to hear from you, as the subject is of vital interest to me,

Yours respectfully,

Bertha V. Corets

956 Edison Ave.,
Bx NY 8/12/39

Mr. Falk Harmel,
709 Longfellow St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Comrade Falk,

Just to let you know I received your Post Scripts and enjoyed reading it very much.

It appears to me that you have aggressive members and a progressive Post and Auxiliary.

I was extremely interested in your effort to combat Nazi propoganda and thought you might like to know, in connection with the Franklin Lie, that in the publishes letters of Benjamin Franklin, there actually is a letter in which he warns against the Germans. His words run to the effect - that unless they are curbed, one day great disorders may arise from them. Also - like the young Hottentots, they do not think they have reached manhood unless they beat their mothers. Others' remarks were to the effect that they do not assimilate, forming Bunds and speaking their own language, - always quarreling with their clergy - etc.

I proposed to our committee that we should print the lie on one side of a paper about the size of your Post Script and with the statement from Professor Beard and also from the Franklin Institute that that statement was a lie and forgery - and - on the other side the authentic letter with the book and page number in which it appears.

My suggestion was not taken up with the remarks that we Jews do not fight that way.

What do you think? Personally I am becoming very discouraged and feel that most of the work in our organization is talk and swaggering bravery within our own midst. If we are right and innocent, we must smash the lies that bind us in a ghetto and ring of persecution.

Hoping Judith is feeling very much better, and best wishes to you,

AMERICAN LEAGUE

FOR PEACE AND DEMOCRACY

NEW YORK CITY DIVISION

79 FIFTH AVENUE

ALgonquin 4-9290

October 13th, 1939

Dear Friends:

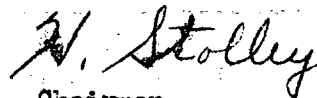
"When you are in a crowd, yell 'Kill the Jews!'" "What we need in America is another Franco or Hitler!" These are actual quotations from the murderous harangues of Father Coughlin's followers in the "Christian" Front. We are certain that Hitler must heartily approve the use of this technique in America, in these crucial times.

We feel sure that, in the light of your own aims and purposes, you will want to have some part in putting an end by democratic means, to the pernicious acts and purposes of the "Christian" Front, as much for your own protection as for that of the victims of the Coughlinite attacks. Will you therefore --

1. Distribute the excellent pamphlet by the Rev. Alson J. Smith -- THE CASE AGAINST THE "CHRISTIAN" FRONT, a copy of which is enclosed.
2. Help us roll up our total of 100,000 signatures to the petition requesting that a Commission of distinguished citizens investigate the "Christian" Front and its activities, and end its abuses.
3. Have a speaker appear before your membership to give an account of the background, activities and purposes of the "Christian" Front.

We hope you will fill out the enclosed postal card with your requirements and mail to us at your earliest possible convenience.

Yours very sincerely,



Chairman,
Anti-Nazi Department

hs;hs
uopwa #16

Pamphlets are 5¢ per copy; 4¢ in quantities of 100 or more.

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

LADIES' AUXILIARY

to the

Jewish War Veterans of the United States



President

BERTHA V. CORETS
956 Edison Avenue
Bronx, N. Y.
UNderhill 3-1499
WEstchester 7-5248

Corresponding Secretary

Daisee Haberman
2850 Claflin Avenue
Bronx, N. Y.

Treasurer

Pauline H. Woolfe
324 North High Street
Mount Vernon, N. Y.

Recording Secretary

Anne de Waltoff
459 61st Street
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Nov. 16, 1939

Mr. Jean Matthias, Commander,
Department of New York,
Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.,
10 E. 20th St.,
New York City.

Dear Jean,

We are having our Department meeting on Nov. 29th at the Belmont Plaza, 49th street and Lexington.

At this time we shall have a talk by Rabbi Shohet, - IS ANTI-SEMITISM UNCHRISTIAN. This is part of our cultural activity.

We shall also have the honor of an official visit from our National President, Frances Brams.

It is with pleasure that I extend to you this invitation to join us on that evening, with your staff, as I hope it will show the serious work of the Auxiliaries.

Hoping to greet you,

Loyally,

Bertha V. Corets
Bertha V. Corets, Pres.
Dept. of New York

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF U.S.
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

276 Fifth Avenue, New York City, December 23/39

TO : ALL COMMANDERS, NATIONAL OFFICERS, AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS

Dear Comrade:-

In these times of oppression when minority groups are being persecuted, the people of Finland now find themselves in the same position as the Jews of Germany and elsewhere found themselves when Hitler and others of his "ilk" came into power. We as Jews appeal to the World for help - we as Jews are now in a position to give help to the people of Finland.

It was decided in a Conference at National Headquarters, that we of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S. present to the courageous people of Finland an ambulance. We appeal to every post and auxiliary and Outpost and Youth unit to help us to gather together the fund necessary to purchase this ambulance. It is necessary that you act at once to forward your contribution to National Headquarters. Be sure and mark it "AMBULANCE FUND". This ambulance is to be purchased for cash and we, therefore, respectfully request that you do not forward any pledges. The matter is urgent and requires immediate cash returns. We are looking forward to receiving 100% cooperation from every unit of the organization, in this humanitarian undertaking.

My very best wishes to you and yours for the New Year.

Yours in comradeship,

ABE COHEN
National Adjutant

AC/eb