Folder 5 -- Filurina, Rosa --1928 - 1929

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Dear Rabbi:

Just as soon as I found the addresses of the Doctor and the brother Horvitz, I wrote the following letter to each of them.

"I just returned from my vacation, having included Juarez, Mexico in my travels, and I came in contact with a condition existing and that should be of interest to you; and I ask you, at this time, to visit with me for a little while in my office at your convenience.

If you will call Cherry 2840, and make an appointment with either me or my secretary, I will be glad to give you the time, and I know it will be of much interest to you.

Awaiting to hear from you, I am,"

This morning Mrs. Horvitz, who seems to be the spokesman for the family, and the one with what little means there are in the family, came in in answer to my letter, and we had a long conversation. She seemed to realize what I wanted her for, but thought that it was in reference to some papers that were forwarded to them some time ago for signing, and which they did not sign because of some interferences that presented themselves.

This detail of course will not interest you at this time, so I might as well dwell into the important part of the situation -- and that is the finances. Mrs. Horvitz tells me that the Doctor is indebted for his outfit for his office and is up against it and has been up against it financially for some time -- that the sister in Lorain, Mrs. Goldberg, whose husband is a huckster, is getting along from hand to mouth, and that Mr. Horvitz is a painter, and what little he has is not available because it is invested in the home in which they live (on which they have two mortgages), and so forth and so on.

I then told her that if I had to take it from my body or my mouth, I would do so if I had anyone closely related that had surroundings such as I visualized in Mexico. I dwelt on the fact that they want to go back to Russia, and should be given an opportunity to do so, regardless of what sacrifice it would be at this time, and she left the office and returned in about two hours with some data that she had received at the Foreign Ticket Office -- namely, the cost
February 15, 1928
M. Zielonka, Page 2

of a woman with three children of the age that these children are to be returned to Russia by way of New York, third class. The amount of money was $845.00 (that did not include railroad from Texas to New York). She said that that was too much money for them to be able to raise, and was there not some way possible to have them assisted in making it possible for Mrs. Filurine and the children to be returned to Russia if they would raise all the money possible, but being positive that they could not raise nearly a thousand dollars, which it would take to handle the matter as it now presents itself.

I thought I had better give you the information since I had it at my disposal, and if anything comes up again, I might have to give it to you later, but I am positive that nothing can be done any farther than has been done unless it is a compromise between your community and the family, so that you would get rid of the charges you now have on your hands. I cannot do anything further unless I hear from you, with instructions.

With kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Max Rosenblum
Dr. Martin Zielonka  
Box 1367  
El Paso, Texas

My dear Rabbi:

The contents of your letter were well digested, and I am sorry that it is not possible for me to be of service to you in getting the situation adjusted as you would like to have it done.

I fully agree with you that it would be very dangerous to let this woman get away from her children, so long as the family here is not financially able to do anything for her -- not even in a position to promise me an allowance to be sent for their care -- and might make matters worse for all concerned.

There is only one thing left to do, and that is to get her back to Mexico City, and while I have tried to get her people here to write to her and pacify her, they said that as long as they cannot be of any service financially, that they see no good out of their writing.

Accordingly I will have to step out of the picture, as I told their family that I would, after a good scolding I gave the sister-in-law, who was the mouth-piece of the family. I personally am writing to Mrs. Filurin to try to pacify her to listen to your society for the solving of her problem because of the attitude her family hold, beside their financial status, and this may possibly help more than if she was encouraged by her own people. If it is her desire to get into the United States, you must use every effort at your disposal not to allow it to be done unless she has the children with her.

Nothing new stirring around here -- we are looking toward our Spring business. Everybody is well, and wants to be remembered to you and yours,

Very sincerely yours,

MR:GH
MARCH 3RD,
1928.

Mr. Max Rosenblum,
321 Euclid Avenue,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

Your letters of February 15th and 25th, addressed to Dr. Martin Zielonka, of this city, have been turned over to me, for the reason that we have handled the matter of Mrs. Filurine and her grandchildren, in cooperation with the El Paso Chapter Council of Jewish Women, and as I feel that it is not necessary to go into detail at this time, giving you our experience on this case, which has been very extensive and a great problem to the immigration authorities, as well as several Jewish Societies here. We have been trying to help her ever since she came to Juarez from Mexico City.

As it is our rule for one Society not to conflict with another in handling any particular case, and as the Council of Women, have been very successful in arranging for the children to come to school on this side, and taking care of Mrs. Filurine in as much as they are able to do so, wish to advise therefore, that I, in turn, am forwarding your letters to the Council of Jewish Women, of this city, for their guidance in such actions as may become necessary.

Thanking you for your interest in this case, I beg to remain,

Yours very sincerely,

[Signature]

Secretary.
Mrs. Elias G. Krupp, President,
El Paso Chapter Council of Jewish Women,
901 Baltimore Street,
El Paso, Texas.

My dear Mrs. Krupp:-

Attached herewith please find letters dated February 15th and 28th from Mr. Max Rosenblum of Cleveland, addressed to Dr. Martin Zielonka, with reference to Mrs. Rosa Filurine of Juarez, whom your Committee on work in Juarez is well acquainted with.

Dr. Zielonka has forwarded these letters to me for acknowledgment and attention, and as I am fully aware of the work of your Committee in this case, and as it has always been my policy not to interfere in the functioning of the several Societies, I am taking the liberty of sending you these letters, also copy of my letter to Mr. Rosenblum, and I know that you will place this matter in the hands of your Committee.

Yours very sincerely,

[Signature]

Secretary.

RW:b
Encl.
Mr. J. L. Weinberger, Manager
B'nai B'rith Bureau,
5A Calle De Hina 95,
Mexico, D. F.

Dear Mr. Weinberger:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter with reference to the Pilurina family in Juarez, together with letter received from the Jewish Immigrant Society of Canada, and wish to advise that I have turned both letters over to Mrs. F. Zlabovsky, who is the Secretary for the El Paso Chapter of the Council of Jewish Women, and whose address is 1016 Olive Street, this city.

Mrs. Zlabovsky is very familiar with all the circumstances in this case, and has had considerable experience on same. She will communicate with you direct about this matter.

With my kindest best wishes to you for a very Happy New Year.

I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

[Signature]

RW:b

Mrs Zlabovsky—
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Mrs Zlabovsky—
Mrs Zlabovsky—

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Your truly

[Signature]

October
8th
1929
Mr. J. L Weinberg,
Calle de Mina 95,
Mexico City.

Dear Mr. Weinberg,

I have before me a letter from Mr. Weinstein with reference to the Filurina case. I failed to receive the communication to which Mr. Weinstein referred in his letter. Will you kindly forward same with all information referring to this case. I have an unofficial report today that Mrs. Rosa Filurina was again granted entry into the U. S. thro the port of Canada. This however is not authentic. The grandchildren are at this border and the Council is taking care of them to the best of their ability.

Thanking you for the information and with holiday greetings, I am,

Sincerely yours,
In Answering Refer to Case No.

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,
Immigrant Aid, National Council Jewish Women,
1016 Olive St.,
El Paso, Texas.

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

Enclosed please find translation of a letter we received. We are writing this woman to send us more information, photo and clues if she has any. Do you know the woman? If so, please send us history of the case. If you have a correspondent in Juarez, this woman should be seen and advised.

Very truly yours,

Charles Zunser
CHIEF COUNSEL
I beg to advise you that on Oct. 12th of this year I was married to one, Jacob Lichtman and lived with him for but one month. He left "for business" and has not returned since. He has taken from me my last dollar and left me with my three children. He is an American citizen and had agreed to have me admitted to the United States as his wife of a citizen. He wrote the Washington authorities for a permit but tore up the answer when he received it. I am entirely without means and beg that an effort be made to ascertain what happened to him. His last known address was Phoenix, Arizona. The man is a junk peddler by occupation. My address is Rosa Filurin-Lichtman Ar. Lerdo 225, Ciudad, Juarez Chiho, Mexico.