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May 2020

# Folder 5 - Kaiser, Margarete - 1938

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## Comments:

Contains several handwritten documents. Some typewritten documents are blurry and dark so they're unreadable.

See also Kagan -- Kaiser. The file for *Kaiser* is located in "Additional Files" at the bottom of the page.

# **Recommended Citation**

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University Hotel, 5519 S. Blackstone Avenue, Chicago, February 13, 1938

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The Timenous Tax

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Mrs.Frank Zlabovsky 1016 Olive Street El Paso.Texas

Dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

I hope my wire reached you in time. As Mrs. Weinshenk of the National Council of Jewish Women here informed you I shall go to El Paso and meet my little girl there in order to change my status. Things had to be done in a hurry, I tried to arrange them as carefully as possible, and as far as documents etc. are concerned we worked everything out very thouroughly. My girl, 9 years of age, a very independent and smart youngster, who travelld all alone from St. Louis Mo. to Salt Lake City 9 months ago when her English was not as perfect as it is to-day, will leave Santa Barbara, California, Tuesday afternoon, will be met in Los Angeles Tuesday evening by Mrs. Dora Berres, and will be entrained there for El Paso. She will spend a night and a day on the train, and will arrive in El Paso at 7.45 pm Wednesday. I had planned first to have her arrive Thursday morning after myself.But There is sickness in the family with whom she lives, and I did not see a chance to have her stay in Los Angeles over night or leave Santa Barbara in reasonable time. Thus I arranged things that way. Please peserve a room for us in the Hotel Hilton which the Council recommended and install the girl there for the night. She is to lock her door, and that's all, I believe, I do not think that there is any danger for her, and she is not afraid and is very easy to handle. We have gone through so many things that she knows how life is and what is at stake! I have to lecture in Kansas City, Mo, on Tuesday and will leave Tuesday

night by bus or by train so as to arrive in El Paso Wednes Thursday morning. I planned to be there before the girl, but it is a matter of timing and money. It may be that I find a better train connection from Kansas City so that I will arrive Wednesday night, but I doubt it. Now, Mrs. Zlabivsky, I did not tell Mrs. Weinshenk here that things turned out that way and that the girl will arrive before me. I know that she would be terribly worried and I could not relieve her of that anxiety. I myself know that I can take the responsibility to have the girl travel that way. So I hope you will be willing and able to arrange the matter and that you will not think I am a crow mother.

Unfortunately I do not see a chance to give you an address where I can be reached. Things turned out that way because of my lectures which as I hoped would pay my way Southwest, but where some changes occurred.

I shall leave Chicago Monday afternoon, be in Parkville only for a few hours, and then start for El Paso.

Please get me an inexpensive room at the Hilton, but we will need a room with bath since I will not have any night in a bed between Monday and Thursday, and I do want to be in the best of my spirits for the trip to Juarez.

Looking forward to meeting you, and hoping that everything wild work out allright,

now even at . Office to see you at you after a dun at enables con the

Event like be a content poyon, this of carries of good to

Showwere I sud? salt ald noted in a rade E state

Margarete Raiser

I am

yours very sincerely

February 14, 1938

Lear Mrs. Llaborsky:

Some shanges to my previous letter:

My daughter will travel Tourist Sleeper beltiveen dos Augeles and Phrenix.

The will arrive at El Paso Y. Lt pun Wednesday.

I will take the train from Kansas leity and arrive the Same Wednesdeez at 10.30 pm, only a few hours later.

Clease eseruse the sheet, I am writing from the Postoffice to get this off acruail. Luoking forward to meeting you, yann yours very succerely Margarete H. Kaiser

# THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR CHRISTIAN GERMAN REFUGEES

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February 24, 1938

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky, 1016 Olive Street, El Paso, Texas.

RE: KAISER, MRS. MARGARETE H.

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

Miss Razovsky has referred to me the clipping which you sent to her in regard to Mrs. Margarete Kaiser and we note with interest your comment about her child.

We have had an appeal for some kind of assistance to be given to enable Mrs. Kaiser to immigrate through Juarez. Both Miss Razovsky and I will be very grateful if you can do anything to help Mrs. Kaiser to immigrate to the United States. Please let me know if there is any way in which you think we can be of service.

Mrs. Kaiser recently spoke at a luncheon in Chicago, so that she wrote to Mr. Robinson who was then the representative of our Committee in that city. Mrs. Kaiser said that the Consul in Juarez considered her means and possibility of support rather small and he did not like to break up a family. We do not know anything about Mr. Kaiser, but doubtless Mrs. Kaiser can give you that information herself. She must have some sort of document to prove that her husband does not oppose her immigration with her child.

Please do keep us informed of any progress of the matter.

With appreciation for your many kind acts of assistance,

Very sincerely,

Alice Waldo

Personal Service Secretary

Feb. 22, 1938

# Des Moines Tribune

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must be left DOWN when you finish.

When you pull the curtain back, that automatically raises the levers and registers your votes.

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Incidentally, since there obviously IS this considerable unfamiliarity with the voting machines, might it not be proper for the officials at the polling places to say, "Leave the levers down; they will come up when you pull the curtain back"?

# MRS. KAISER SHUT OUT.

During her recent appearances in Des Moines as a lecturer on the adult forum program, Mrs. Margarete Kaiser demonstrated her complete capacity for supporting herself.

She has appealed to friends here against the edict of the United States consul at Juarez, Mexico, who has refused to renew her passport and readmit her to this country, solely on the ground that she is without visible means of support.

Consular caution is, of course, a good thing. But there appears little occasion in this instance to permit it to work an injustice upon a woman who is cut off from a husband in Switzerland, from two sons in Germany, and one child in the United States, and who is now detained with another child in Mexico where she has probably no chance at all to help herself.

For while the Nazi-American bund parades in brazen propaganda, while the voice of communism is unstilled, and while democracy professes to open its arms to those who flee tyranny throughout the world, it is hardly in the best American tradition to shut our gates in the face of the mild-mannered Mrs. Kaiser.

# PRIMER LESSON ON DEBT.

On February 15, the national debt rose to a new high of \$37,587,803,500.

Dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

The enclosed copies go to you without the knowledge of the folks here.

I know that they will send them to you but I want you to have them in advance and not to tell about it. They are just want I wrote down after a long conference with Mrs. Weinshenk, and I authorized her to make all necessary changes, so that they may come to you altered by the red pencil.

I do hope I did things right in your interest.

Mrs. Weinshenk expressed herself most favorably about you, I assure you.

You know that I am quite clever in sounding out people but there seems to be nothing but praise. And this is what is right regarding you!

You know that Frances got stuck in the floods but finally arrived safely though minus her sutscase with all her things. May be they recovered it meanwhile. It takes so long for mail to get here from their California solitude.

We have had changing weather here, and I am not yet over the cold which I acquired in Earkville and which got so bad because I had to speak and meet people all the time. At present I am quite down because speaking engagements are rare since everybody is perfectly abashed through the European developments. As if they brought anything unexpected? That does not really trouble me, the trouble is that it affects me and my earnings! Anyway, I will pull through.

It does feel good to be in here sagly. Matters get worse every moment in

Europe. My family ate having trouble with passports and so on. If I am able to trade in my retung tieckt profitably I shall try to make a very brief trip to Switzerland. It would help my future lactures, too, at least in the eyes of my American audiences.

How have you been all these weeks, and what do you hear from your children?

I believe Frances will not get to Santa Monica so soon, the roads do not look to be passable. They told about bog boulders barring the highways, the CCC-boys from the nearby camp were on their way day and night to blast the rocks that had blocked the traffic. Were your people in Santa Monica in dager, too?

I believe I asked you about Dr. Richard Hertz. I learned that he thought he could go ahead without the help of the Council of Jewish omen, and then he suddenly appeared, quite despondent, because he had not been able to get into Canada at Detroit. He telephoned with the consul in Windsor who was perectly willing to give him a visa but could of course not bring him over! If he comes down to El Paso, make a mental note: He is a queer fellow, but everything is allright with him; you will have to examine him quite thouroughly so that he does not make a blunder, but he is very conceited and has already been examined so thouroughly that he has resented it. But he has a very lovely wife. All this is confidential, of course. May be a student of the University of Chicago has written to you for the name of the Catholic representative down there. I gave him your address. because it so happened that the Dean of Students who is catholic asked me how I had got my visa. All the Austrians here are panicky because they believe that they have to go back to Austria. What a nonsense, but that's that. Give my love to your husband; and to the Mayers. I am still broke, there fore have to sent another empty letter, but I don't forget, believe me. Yours most faithfully Margarete Kaiser

March 18, 1968

My Dear Mrs. Kniser:

inclusives. You saved me a lot of explaining to our offices in Chicago and her York, and it is sell in a tagy received the information direct from you. Indidentally, Ith informed that letters are still coming to saled, show with reference to your case, and he made the statement that he thinks I has gone for enough.

To date I have not received the communications mentioned in your letter, but will be glad to assist the applicants then they come here. I do not denote to sund their papers around because as I explained to you, wan here, it would delay the vist. If they bring their papers with them, and upon examination, I find them faulty, it sould be such better for those to remain in Hi Palo until the papers are completed and them present them to the Consul.

You fidled to improve my question about the sirvel pe, with the more light the kopers. Did you leave it is the Hotel office for me, or did you head it is not to them? Please advise we so that I may about up to the meal indebteckess to them.

lith kindest regards to you and grances, I am

dimerally young,

Find Feative.

March 28, 1988

Niss Cecilia Rayovsky Edi W. 57th St. Le Nork, N.Y.

RR: Mrs. Margaret Kaiser

Dear Miss Manovsky:

have a copy of the letter written by wra. Kaiser to the wear York and Chic so offices.

Her accusations are absolutely correct with refcrence to the Consul and Vice-Consuls' a titude toward the alien, but I do not think it wind at this time to stir any farther trouble.

The Conscients in Just and penbarded with non-unleathous from all sides on the major case, including a lengthy telegram from Sec ettry of State, incluing a lengthy telegram from Sec ettry of State, incluing sides her entry into the United States, they have received no end of unpleasant communications, which I thank is bringing them to a realisation that our organization demands respect.

as a result of all this, a recent clau presented by our department has received I vorable recognition. See cannot alford to antagonize the children in the sico, but should I have any further trouble, I will report it to you.

Did you see the editorial in the Day Moines Tribune of February the twenty second on the haiser Case?

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Frank labovsky, Field Executive

# University Hotel

5519 BLACKSTONE AVENUE TELEPHONE DORCHESTER 4100

Chicago March 29, 1938

Tear Mrs. Laborsky:

Thank you so much for your letter. Frances suitease has been found, y had a letter yester day. She is allright and back in her school routine. I am not sure about the money for Roper's, y believe left an envelage for you in the Statel Letter and wrote Mrs. Huper a letter, or did I send the money? But you had advised we not to may be I sent 2 dollar bills, somever. Please uiquire at the hotel and, if you see. them, ask the Ruper's and grie them

my regards. · Please tell Mir Shaw accasionally that I cannot help it if my friends Still write him. I have told all those whom I had informed previously that I have been successful. If It is quite interesting to see all the newspapers here shifting over gradually to an attitude of fatalism towards the European dictators. and your sure Hitler has not get got his last spoils although in the long Tun he will loose the game. They Allen to undermine Ezechoslovakia successfully in order to split her up later. My lectures go on slowly. I talked over a local radio in Mebraska. Meget week I shall write more. Host cordially yours M. Kaiser

Mrs. Margaret H. Kaiser

5519 S.Blackstone Ave. Chicago, November 18,1938

Dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

I returned from Europe November 1st, and...my husband and boys got their visas and will be coming over in January! What do you think of that?

Now I have a big problem on my hands. W ith my family has been living, on the basis of very substantial mutual help, y dear friend of mine with her two boys, age 7 and 10. She composed a letter which my husband sent to the Naples consulate in the spring and which was recognized as a regu-·lar inquiry and put him on the waiting list at an early date so that he got his quota number soon. Dr. Elly Weil did not sign the letter nor sent one of her own since at that time nobody attached any significance to such an unformal letter. When, after I had arrived in Italy and taken charge of her and my children, she motored down to Naples with my husband, they learned that he had been placed on the waiting list with a May number, but that she dod not get on earlier than September 6, since there had not been a letter from her directly. They were very nice down there, I went to Naples with the entire family and hers later; they said they could not very well move her ahead of other people. I know that it can be done if there is sufficient pressure behind, and I am trying whatever pull I have, this time in a nice way because the consul is not obstinate at all but may be needs some encouragement.

Now my husband and boys have got to come here not later than the end of January, and we are extremely happy, but we are perfectly frantic about leaving her alonge down there. She is dovorced from her husband who is not the type and not in the position to help her anyhow. You know the situation in Italy. Being a full-blooded Jewess and of the Hebrew faith, she will have to leave Italy soon, cannot send her boys to school, and God knows where she will be able to go.

Dr. Elly Weil is a woman of considerable means. She has ducumentary prooff of owning 30 000 Dollars to her name, at present in England, but transferable of course. She is absolutely able to travel and do whatever is necessary.

I have talked things over here with Mrs. Weinshenk and whoever might be able to help with advice. Now I want to get your advice on the Mexican situation since you probably know more about it being so close to it.

Should she go to Mexico directly from Italy, what probably could be manged, and wait down there? She has a place on the general waiting list as of September 6, and the consulate and other informed authorities have assured us that this registration would be transferred to any other

consulate. Thus she would arrive at the Mexican border not entirely as a new-comer but with some preference to later numbers. It would be perfectly possible for her to wait some months if necessary, the climate might be very suitable for her children after the stay in Italy, and one could motivate her desire for traveling down there. The only thing is that she would not be able to travel by the way of the US because application for a visitor's visa, as I understand, would make her loose her place on the immigration visa applicants waiting list.

Please write me by returning mail or wire collect whether you see a control har trying to go down there, to any port. If you happen to know that a port closer to Los Angeles might be more advisable, this would be good since I believe that my Santa Barbara friends who have met Dr. Weil through me in Germany in 1936 and think very highly of her, might be willing to go down and help her in whatever way possible.

I hope I made the case clear, and I am waiting very anxiously for your answer. Of course up here and in New York everybody gives me an official information but I know that things can be done in a different way.

Enclosed find a little 5 dollar-bill. I mean that for you personally. I cannot yet draw on my husband's bank account here, and our obligations with our large family on our hands and all the things like the above matter going on are very heavy. I had quite a few lectures here and am taking the first opportunity to send you this as a tiny token of gratitude. 8 Dollars for the organization will follow at the earliest possible date. If there are any expenses arising for Dr. Weil's case, do not hesitate to tell me because she is entirely willing to do whatever has to be done regardless of cost, although she has to think of her boys' future too, but the main point now is to get them here. Things are becoming so dangerous in Italy! Are we glad that we have helped Dr. Weil out of Germany in 1937! Since she has big assetts there-of course unusable now -she would have suffered more than I like to think of at the present moment.

Hoping that everything is well with you personally and your family, I am

with my most sincere regards

yours always gratefully

Margaret W. Kaiser

2.0. League of Motions Association 75 %. Wacker Drive, Chicago august 8, 1938 Dear Mirs. Glabovsky: My lecture tour has been very successful although not quite as prosperous as the bureau had hoped I enclose \$2 - for the little debt with Koper's Don't believe that I have forgotten about the promise I made to give some money to the orga-nization. It will some be sure. Keset week I said for a brief Trip to teurope, to use my ticket and bordcheck up which otherwise is by no means refund-

able and which sovers all the expens es of the journey, - and maybe to bring the rest of the family with Trances is fine and happy. " have been Rochaustingly busy and much worried. Hope the latter will be all over soon. How are you and how is the family 1. I have been waiting so auxiously for a word from you. Mail still will reach me at the aguitaria, seiling from hew fork Nedueselag August / 4 at noon. with Rivolest greetings yours effectionately Margaret A. Laiser

Mrs. Margaret H. Kaiser, % The Aquitania, New York Harbor, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Kaisers

I beg to acknowledge receipt of yours of August 8th, with enclosure, and assure you that the small indebtedness will be liquidated as soon as I go to Juarez.

While I realize that you have given considerable thought to your European trip, it surprises that you should take it at this time because as you may know the quota in Germany is exhausted for the next two and half months. However, you may find a way to get the family across the Pond, and if you need any assistance from v to not hestate to call on me.

Please forgive my seeming negligence. My only excuse is that I am so busy that I am or envering kxam mentally exhausted, and therefore neglect my correspondence.

Wishing you a delightful voyage, and hope you find your husband and children in good health. I am

Most sincerely,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky.

November 23, 1938.

Mrs. Margaret Kaiser, 5519 S. Blackstone Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mrs. Kaiser:

Welcome back to dear old U. S. A., and congratulations in getting your husband and the boys quota numbers.

I must find your method in psychology because there are so few who can accomplish what you have done in sh short a time.

Now with reference to the case of Mrs. (Dr.) Weil, my suggestion would be that she come to the United States on a Visitor's visaaand then let her comehere. I will have her enter Mexico at this Port. We will then ask the American Consul in Juarez to call for her registration number to be transferred to Juarez. Since she does not have to ask for her visitor's visa from the German Consulate, or rather I should say the American Consul in Germany, she will not lose her registration number. If she finds it difficult to get a visitor's visa to the United States, then let her get a visa to Mexico and a transit visa from the American Consul so that she may travel through the United States. Should she use this means of departure from Egrope, have her insist that the Mexican Consul give her permission to enter Mexico through the Juarez. Mexico Port of entry. With the money that she has in her own name, she should have no difficulty in getting into Mexico, and she will require no other affidavits to enter the United States. In suggesting the above to you, it is because of the section 17 law which would require that she stay in Mexico two years should she come to Mexico by water.

Thanks for the enclosure. Hope that everything will be well for you.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

# NATIONAL COUNCIL® JEWISH WOMEN.

DEPARTMENT OF SERVICE FOR FOREIGN BORN
824 S. HALSTED STREET
HAYMARKET 4593

MRS. ELSA M. WEINSHENK FIELD SECRETARY 185 N. WABASH AVENUE. DEARBORN 7434

> LEAH LEVINSON GENERAL SECRETARY

February 11, 1938

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky Re: National Council Jewish Women 1016 Olive Street El Paso, Texas

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

Re: Mrs. Margarete Harnisch omen Kaiser Visitor March 17, 1938 German Passport valid 10-23-1940

The foregoing arrived in the United States as a visitor in December of 1936 on the ss Laconia. Her permission to remain in the United States has been extended until March 17, 1938.

Mrs. Kaiser and her nine year old daughter, Frances, would like to change their status by going to Juarez, Mexico, and Mrs. Kaiser is planning to be in your city early Thursday morning, registering at the Hilton Hotel.

Mrs. Kaiser is a writer and lecturer of some note, and has been maintaining herself while in the United States by her lecturering. Because of her marriage to a man of non-Aryan origin, she has suffered considerably in Germany, and needless to say, it is impossible for her to return.

We have prepared all of the necessary documents, and while Mrs. Kaiser does not have very much money in a bank account, she has excellent credentials, and also a letter from the International Relations Speakers Bureau indicating that she will be able to earn about \$100.00 a month as a lecturer

We sincerely hope that Mrs. Kaiser's documents will be acceptable to the Consul, and we feel sure that you will give her your usual kind help.

Thanking you for any courtesy extended to Mrs. Kaiser, and with kindest personal regards, we are

Sincerely yours,

Elsa M. Weinshenk Field Secretary

824 S. Halsted St.

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