

June 2020

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REPORT FOR FEBRUARY, 1939.

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In addition to this about 50 letters were written for this Department.	

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Frank Elabovsky,

TRANSLATION.

Feb 9.39
Feb 23.39

ARON Grete

Berlin N.O.: Rombergstrasse 19.

N.C.C.

I beg to inquire whether you could help me to locate some relatives in the USA. They are sisters and brothers of my Mother and we do not know whether they are still among the living, we would like to correspond with them.

Miss Eva Scharff Mobile, Alabama

or " " " Bogaluse, Louisiana

Mr. Jak. Israel, Pensacola, Fla

Mr. Scharff, El Paso Texas, ~~Missouri 606~~ West Missury 606.

Many thanks in advance for your trouble.

EEW

NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
for Aid to REFUGEES and EMIGRANTS COMING from GERMANY
165 WEST 46th STREET
NEW YORK CITY

March 29, 1939

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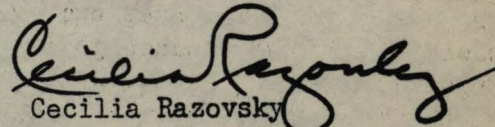
TO ALL COOPERATING AGENCIES:

Recently we have been receiving reports from the Central and South American countries with regard to the status of the refugees who have entered there for temporary residence. These people come with very limited funds, as a rule, and are obliged to accept relief from the local Committee there. Naturally, the local Committees are very limited in the amount of resources they possess, so that the relief given is generally quite inadequate. It is therefore extremely essential, in every possible instance where there are American relatives who can be asked to assist, that they should be induced to send as much as they can afford to give, in order to obviate any difficulties arising for the refugees in those countries.

From a report received from Panama recently, we have been advised that most of the refugees feel very insecure. First of all because of their enforced idleness, as they are not permitted to work, and secondly because of the fear of deportation, since the Government has only issued temporary visas to a great many of them. Although the Committee in Panama was assured, by responsible Government Officials, that visas would be reissued every month for temporary stays, nevertheless a number of refugees whose visas had expired, were jailed. This, of course, creates unfavorable public notice and, at the same time, adds to the insecurity of the refugees. For this reason, the moral and financial cooperation of relatives in the United States must be secured to relieve the problems of these unfortunate refugees.

We give this information to you so that you may spread it amongst the people who are interested in the plight of the refugees in other countries.

Sincerely yours,


Cecilia Razovsky
Executive Director

CR:MA

COOPERATING ORGANIZATIONS

American Committee for Christian-German Refugees
American Friends Service Committee
American Jewish Committee
American Jewish Congress
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
B'nai B'rith
Committee for Catholic Refugees from Germany
Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds
Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced Foreign Physicians
Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced German Scholars

Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America
German-Jewish Children's Aid, Inc.
Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society (Hias)
Hospites
International Migration Service
International Student Service
Jewish Agricultural Society
Musicians Emergency Fund, Inc.
National Council of Jewish Women
Zionist Organization of America

Jewish Social Service Federation of San Antonio

Fourth Floor, Bexar County Court House

Garfield 9731

San Antonio, Texas

SPECIAL DELIVERY AIR MAIL

Miss Hannah Hirshberg
Executive Director

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June 9, 1939

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Miss Rosa Wolf

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas

Dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

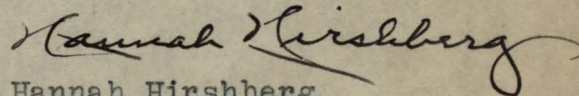
I am writing you again for some information regarding Gustavo Arce, Attorney at Mexico City, whose address you so kindly gave me. I have been in communication with Mr. Arce for one of our Board members. I wrote Mr. Arce that his fee of \$125.00 had been deposited with our office and that when the persons he was assisting us in getting entry into Mexico arrived, the fee would be sent him. This was done on the advice of a resident of Mexico, who told us not to send any money to any attorney in Mexico until the person's arrival in Mexico.

We have a communication from Mr. Arce, stating that he wishes 33% as a retainer's fee sent him at once "and the balance when permission obtained and never when the persons are in Mexico."

Will you kindly let me hear from you as soon as possible as to what your procedure has been with Mr. Arce in regard to payment of his fee?

Appreciating your cooperation and with kind personal greetings,

Very sincerely yours,



Hannah Hirshberg
Executive Director

HH/mr

June 13, 1939.

Miss Hannah Hirshberg,
Executive Director,
4th Floor, Bexar County Court House,
San Antonio, Texas.

Dear Miss Hirshberg:

Due to the absence of our Mrs. Zlabovsky from the City, your letter dated June 9th, has been handed me for reply.

Our office has only engaged Mr. Arce in two cases, and in both instances Mr. Arce demanded the retainer's fee of 33-1/3% immediately upon his retention, with the understanding that the balance was to be paid upon completion of his services, not when the persons entered Mexico. Our first client was successful in securing visas from Germany to Mexico, and are now making arrangements for their departure to Mexico. As soon as word was received from the attorney that cable had gone forward to the Mexican Consul abroad, our client sent him the balance due him. The other case is still pending.

Trusting this is the information desired, I am

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Sol Goldfarb,
Secretary.

LG:ws

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN
1819 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR
of
SERVICE TO FOREIGN BORN
of the
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN
to the

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

November 13-16, 1939

Emma S. Schreiber, Ph.D.

Madam President and National Board Members, I bring you greetings from our professional staff. I am glad of this opportunity to discuss our common problems, and in order that we may have as much time for discussion as possible, I have set down the report of the activities of the Service to Foreign Born Department since I became its Director in June of this year. There is so much ground to cover that in this report, I must, of necessity, touch only the high spots.

An important idea I should like you to carry away with you is that the National Council of Jewish Women in the field of social welfare, is a professional agency, which especially in the field of immigrant welfare, has made a contribution. Many persons even in the social work field, do not know this. We need, therefore, to publicize our work in the past, to continue improving our professional standards, and to acquaint the public with our progress.

In addition to acting as a Board for an important professional agency, the National Council of Jewish Women has an important contribution to make in the use of an active membership, which actually participates, under the direction of the professional, in such work as non-professionals can carry. These two important phases of our existence we must keep always before us, because the combination makes one of the chief reasons for our existence. You represent a powerful phase of public opinion and through your intimate contact with specialists and professionals in the field of social work, education, legislation, etc., you are put in the position of being able to interpret the community and the professionals to each other.

Historical
Position

In the field of the foreign born, we have worked along quietly for more than a quarter of a century, following in the main an isolationist's position. Since 1934, whether we like it or not, the professional field and the public in general have become insistent that we clarify our position, continue to make a special contribution or subside into our respective communities as other groups have done. Communities where immigrants were a continuing problem, kept in current touch with our National office and the field, and were, therefore, prepared for the present emergency when it arose. But in other inland communities, the National Council of Jewish

Women lost touch with the immigration field and became a part of the local private social service structure.

I understand that in the year 1932, the President had to use all her power of persuasion and the influence of her position to have the foreign born program continue as a part of the National Council of Jewish Women. Developments since 1934 prove how very right she, and those who supported her, were. Once again, the immigrant has become an important factor in our very intimate lives, because of the reaction of the whole community to him.

<u>National Refugee</u>	As was customary in the past, when the whole community became
<u>Service</u>	interested in a social welfare problem, it was taken out of
<u>Relationship</u>	the hands of the National Council of Jewish Women. With the
	establishment of the National Coordinating Committee, or the
	National Refugee Service, history began to repeat itself.

In this instance, a new, powerful agency was created, especially for the purpose of caring for refugees. I say 'refugees' advisedly, because I feel it important for the National Council of Jewish Women, as an organization, to evaluate this term properly. The National Refugee Service's definition of 'refugee' specifically provides that they are responsible for individuals coming from Central Europe or axis countries, and will accept individuals coming from countries of Southeastern Europe; but not immigrants coming from Palestine, England, France and Northern Europe. We, the National Council of Jewish Women, have always been interested in immigrants. We started with the immigrant at the invitation of the United States Government in 1902. So long as the United States has an immigration law, a naturalization law, and a policy for an increase of our population through immigration, the National Council of Jewish Women has a responsibility to Jewish immigrants who come to our shores. We are in no sense selective. We work along with the Government. If the Government accepts them, then they are our responsibility.

You have all received a copy of the final agreement which I consider a document of primary importance. It reaffirms that we continue to work in the field we have covered heretofore, only on an improved basis; because we shall be able to drop other functions, such as relief and case work which we should not do. It provides that we continue our Port and Dock work at Ellis Island, as well as other ports.

It provides that the National Council of Jewish Women shall continue Americanization and Naturalization, to help immigrants become naturalized citizens as early as possible. There is a tremendous drive against older alien residents who have not become citizens. We do not know just how many of our four million non-naturalized aliens are Jews, but the National Council of Jewish Women must include them in our Naturalization program. We must help some of our older alien residents over this difficult and embarrassing period.

Location of relatives continues to be the responsibility of the National Council of Jewish Women. The community demand for this service is increasing and interestingly, for the non-Jewish community also, as the War progresses. It is a service in which we hope to develop much more definitely the use of the volunteer, for whom we are preparing a manual of instructions.

The agreement provides that the National Council of Jewish Women will continue as in the past, to give assistance and advice in the preparation of affidavits of support. This involves the giving of all other technical immigration information, and opens the way in each community for the National Council of Jewish Women to take the leadership in centralizing all immigration service. If within a Federation there are agencies, such as the Hias, B'nai B'rith, or other groups interested in developing a service of immigration information and assistance, these can be centralized in the existing function of the National Council of Jewish Women. Where the volume of work is sufficiently large and important, the National Council of Jewish Women should engage a professional worker with the assistance of the Federation. Contact of such workers with our National office will provide a continuity of experience and guidance so that Federations and communities generally will know the services of the National Council of Jewish Women, not merely for the sake of prestige, but because through our knowledge, the community will be served better.

It provides that the National Refugee Service (and not the National Council of Jewish Women) is the agency responsible for service and funds for relief, transportation, international migration, and resettlement of aliens out of port cities into other communities.

The National Refugee Service will issue bulletins on policies of affidavits, immigration and international settlement. This, however, has no relation to any part of our legislative program. Each agency maintains contact with our Government in Washington, for cases falling under its jurisdiction; the National Refugee Service assisting 'refugees' and the National Council of Jewish Women immigrants from all other countries.

Statistics-
Consciousness

With this major problem out of the way, we can begin to develop our five point program. For purpose of orientation, I will name them again. In discussing each phase, I will give you statistics that we have been able to gather. Some feel that statistics ought to be used only by mathematical experts and actuaries. One of the things I hope to accomplish is to make every member of the National Council of Jewish Women, who works actively with us, statistic-conscious so that they will be able to ask critical questions, and instead of getting emotionally moved by particular cases, will ask "how many of such cases are there", or "how large is the problem". Thus by facts properly interpreted, we can know whether our organization has spent effort to a purpose. Our functions then, are: Port and Dock work, Americanization and Naturalization, International Service, Social Adjustment on a friendly neighbor basis, and Refugee Students Scholarship Loan Fund.

Port and Dock
Work

This division is the one you probably know more about than any other activity of the Council. You are familiar with it primarily as regards New York and Ellis Island, but increasingly, our work is growing in other port cities, such as Miami, El Paso, Los Angeles and San Francisco. In 1938, our workers in New York City met 472 steamers, 16,759 Jewish immigrants, and of these 2,027 received service at Ellis Island. In the first nine months of this year, we met 411 steamers and 11,939 persons. Everyone is under the impression that with the outbreak of the War, our work has dropped. What the future will bring, we can only wait and see. In the meantime, immigration has continued on the same level as last year, our workers receiving over 1000 people a month in New York alone, while in Miami and St

Francisco, El Paso, etc., the work has increased beyond last year. The number detained at Ellis Island is increasing due to greater Government restrictions, since the Island is now practically on a War basis.

We have been able to give closer and more critical attention to the work of our other ports. Each port is being set up like New York. During 1939 we made financial contribution to three port cities, and other cities will probably be added for 1940, if this burden continues. We are asking for regular methodical statistics, and Miss Kaufman, Head of this Service, reviews every case that presents any problem at all. Thus through this very close supervision, the National Council of Jewish Women can insure that the service at other ports is as adequate as it is in New York.

Question has been raised why the Port work should not be handled by the local Section where the port is situated. Our answer to this can only be that if the Federal Government should give to each state where they have ports the responsibility of handling immigrants, then we could be in a position to do the same thing. In building up the Port work at Miami, it was necessary to send down Miss Kaufman. It was not only because of her knowledge and experience, but because of her status as a semi-official representative of the Government at Ellis Island, and her connection with a National organization, that she was given the courtesy of the immigration officials in Miami. Today, when local agencies are combining nationally in order to seek strength, it would be a grave error to think of a decentralization of one of our most important functions to the local Sections.

I hope that in the year before us, it will be possible to get Miss Kaufman out on a field trip to other ports, to set their work up on a professional basis similar to New York. We will watch the development in these ports closely in order to be able to establish whether our contribution to these local Sections should be increased or cut down according to the volume of work.

Americanization In this field our position, particularly in the Jewish field,
and
Naturalization is outstanding. Our responsibilities will be far graver in
the future because the matter of Naturalization is of importance, not only to the recent immigrant, but to alien refugees in our midst for many years. With the drive towards alien registration, and with aliens barred from Social Security, from W.P.A., from relief assistance, from the practice of numerous trades and professions, it becomes increasingly imperative that we develop our machinery to help older alien residents to secure their Naturalization. One of the services we hope to institute in our National office is regular statistics sent in by every Section on the number of Jewish aliens in their community and the number of individuals whom the Council Sections have been able to aid in the securing of their first papers, second papers, and certificates of citizenship. Here again, I wish to emphasize my desire to have Council members 'statistic-conscious'. By sending in statistics to the National office, we will be able to say not only that we want to do work, that we are doing work, but just how much we really are accomplishing toward the absorption of foreigners, who would otherwise be embarrassing to their Jewish communities. We have been able to summarize a Questionnaire issued in May of this year, and though the returns can only be considered tentative and the statistics elementary, still, I believe they will give you a picture that the National Council of Jewish Women can well be pleased with. (The figures below are exclusive of the tremendous volume of these services carried by New York, Brooklyn and Chicago

Sections.) Of the Questionnaires sent out, 145 Sections had a Service to Foreign Born program, 46 did not, and 41 did not answer. The record shows that over 2,000 new arrivals were visited in their homes. There were 1,200 first visits, and a total of over 4,500 visits beyond the first. 3,746 were enrolled in English and citizenship classes. 2,942 were helped with first and second papers. At this point, I would pause to say that if our local Sections and our National office had done nothing else the whole year, it would justify their existence in this volume of service to so many immigrants. Helping to include these individuals in our National existence, and thus helping to reduce the spread of anti-Semitism, represents a major, concrete benefit to the whole community, both Jewish and non-Jewish.

We are planning to spread and intensify our work in Naturalization. It is particularly important for states like Pennsylvania, where the drive against the alien is becoming intensive and bitter. We are revising and bringing up to date our Naturalization Kit. We are planning to have definite Institutes for the training of volunteers to give this service, where professional people are not present. We have established contact with State Departments of Education, in order to find out their full program for adult immigrant education. We will put each local Council Section in touch with its State program, and through interpretation in our National office, help them build up their Americanization and Naturalization activities, either supplementing existing activities or starting them where none exist.

Our activities in the field of Americanization and Naturalization are recognized by the non-Jewish world, demands for materials coming from all parts of the country. Just to mention a few: St. Michael's Convent in Providence; Department of Public Assistance in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; New York Public Library; American National Red Cross; Americanization and Literacy Education, Los Angeles; State Procurement Office, San Francisco; American News Company, New York; International Migration Service; Daughters of the American Revolution; American Legion; Departments of Economics and Sociology at colleges; Social Work organizations and private individuals.

International Service

The next large division of our work was begun at the end of the last War, when families were separated and divided and it became necessary for some social agency to act as a connecting link between them. This work, starting first with a few hundred cases in 1920 and increasing steadily, grew to enormous proportions, since the coming of Hitler. It represents one of the major parts of the professional social work in the National office. It is the National office which acts as the connecting link between the local Section machinery which does the actual looking up of friends and relatives, and the people and agencies abroad. We hope to be able to analyze and interpret the statistics for this type of work a little more carefully next year. The general statistics which have been kept will, however, indicate the volume of this activity. During 1938, the National office handled 17,979 individual family requests. Over 12,500 of these were regular cases which we carried together with the local Sections. The remainder were requests for appeals which we referred to other agencies or which we could not meet, and so notified the inquirer. For nine months of 1939, we had a total of 11,362 individual requests. You will understand what I mean when I say that since the outbreak of the War, it was a relief to have a partial interruption of work pouring in, because it enabled us to get our bearings. Communication with Central Europe has been interrupted to a large extent. Local Committees have

been disbanded, and have been re-established on a temporary basis first in one city and then another, wherever communications can be sent out. The situation is even worse with regard to the agencies in Poland, where the machinery has been completely destroyed. However, every request which has come in for a service for someone in the Polish area, is being carefully recorded till such time when the machinery will be re-established, and then we will begin working on it. It is very important to understand that if not another case should come into this office for International service, our National office would have enough work following up what we now have, to keep us going for another year.

Mail and
Reception Room
Statistics

We have set up regular intake statistics for our Mail and Reception room. We have divided the mail according to the source from which it comes. Before September, the largest volume came from abroad, but since September, the majority of our requests come from our Sections. Since the War, we have received an average of 500 letters weekly. For the week of November 6th, we had a total of 614 requests; 263 from Sections, 56 from organizations and 103 from individuals in the United States, 13 from organizations and 176 from individuals outside of the United States. Thus, requests that come to our Sections are the real source for our greatest volume of work, i. e., our Sections serve their communities, and we serve our Sections. Whatever new organizations may be created, there remains a tremendous volume of work which our Sections receive and for which they look to us.

In giving you statistics on our Reception Room for advice and information, I wish to point out that we are a National office, and presumably get contacts only through individuals and Sections outside of New York City. With this in mind, you will be impressed by the fact that we handled almost eight thousand requests during the past nine months, over 5,800 personal visits, and the remainder telephone calls. Our Reception Room is manned by a trained receptionist who is completing her work at the New York School of Social Work. Some of the matters on which we gave information were: United States Immigration Laws, Naturalization, Citizenship, on affidavits, foreign immigration and transportation, on temporary refuge, on addresses of Consuls, local and foreign organizations, Council Sections, etc., on various types of governmental forms which have to be filled out, reports on cases which we are handling either in our own office or through our Sections, and on the location of relatives.

At this point, I should like to introduce the varying views upon the question of using volunteers for this service of location of relatives. Many professional case workers point out emphatically that no contact should be made with relatives or friends, unless professional case workers are used for this purpose. The same problem is receiving consideration in the non-Jewish field, where the community is making increasing request for this service.

Our National Professional Staff holds that until the community has resources or a better way is found, Council membership, or non-professional personnel, as we like to consider it, can well be developed to carry this service adequately. We do have a responsibility to the client abroad or the relative here who wish to establish connections with each other, and this type of generalized service in no way conflicts with the standards or developments in the professional field.

Social Adjustment
and Friendly
Neighbor Contact

Americanization has two phases, i. e., English classes to foreigners, and what is more important, what we term Social Adjustment. Thus, this part of our work flows out of our Port and Dock work and Naturalization and American-

ization program. In every community where a Council Section exists, the recent immigrants have benefited. Again referring to the Questionnaire, we find ninety Sections worked with local Coordinating Committees, others alone. Some of the services included the securing of employment, religious opportunity, reference to case work agencies or other social agencies, social and cultural opportunities of adjustment, friendly visiting, retraining projects, educational and cultural work, and above everything, recreational programs for individuals and for groups both large and small. I should like to introduce a word of caution at this point. The recent immigrant is important, but he is also a human being who may be injured by too much attention as by too little. The entertainment of individuals on a scale far beyond their means or their own resources is something which should make us pause.

We, in the National Office, have watched carefully the returns that have been coming in from the individual Sections, indicating that the Council membership has turned its hand to whatever need exists. It is of the greatest importance that the National Council of Jewish Women encourage as many groups as are interested to help in the social adjustment of the immigrant to his community. Because of our long experience with this phase of work with immigrants, our chief contribution must be in coordinating that which others are doing and add that which others have not thought of doing. The National office will shortly issue a guide to Social Adjustment covering the various activities, with special emphasis on the particular area which we ought to stimulate and encourage. I mean the field of inter-cultural relationship and the problems of second generation, on which non-Jewish agencies are concentrating. Toward this end, we hope to establish a working relationship with the National Young Women's Christian Association, the Conference of Christians and Jews, the Business and Professional Women's Clubs, etc. Dr. Clinchy, of the National Conference of ~~Christian and Jews~~, and I are to address the whole professional field staff of the Young Women's Christian Association, on December 7th. As a result of this meeting, we hope to work out a community program in which Jews and non-Jews can participate. Without going into details here, I see ahead, that it will be in terms of cutting down social distance by getting together inter-racial groups for recreation, discussion, festivals, etc. We shall try in a concrete way to acquaint one group with another, so that the Jews and non-Jews may like each other, and thus serve to minimize or perhaps even keep out anti-Semitism in those communities where the National Council of Jewish Women has a Section.

Refugee Scholarship
Loan Fund

The National Council of Jewish Women has been engaged in this activity since 1934. This material is being analyzed, and I hope shortly to prepare a report on these activities to date. The reports to date show that the National Council of Jewish Women has made a large contribution to the preservation of education and learning for the student in exile. Since 1934, we have a record of fifty individuals who have been assisted, men and women ranging in age from seventeen to thirty-eight years, coming mostly from Germany and Austria, with a few cases from Roumania and Poland. The majority have been here on permanent visas, with a few on student's visas. They have studied in outstanding universities and technical schools, including such places as Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard, Columbia, University of Pennsylvania, Michigan, Bryn Mawr, Cornell, New York

University, etc. They have done undergraduate and graduate work in the library field, dentistry, Schools of Social Work, music, engineering, agriculture, mathematics, pharmacy, etc. They have come largely from the National Refugee Service, the International Student Service, and our New York Section, but included also were students from Sections in Chicago, Waco-Texas, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Cleveland, Philadelphia. In all, you spent over \$7500. During 1939, you are helping thirteen students at a cost of \$2600.

We hope that you will continue to support this humane contribution to the stricken and exiled youth of Europe. We plan to establish a dateline each term by which all applications for refugee students will have to be in. These cases will be cleared with the International Student Service with whom we work together closely, the academic background of each person will be weighed against that of all applicants, the probability of their making a success of their training, the amount of resources at their disposal, etc. This may prove to be one of our most magnificent opportunities toward sharing in the future rebuilding of Europe.

Section
Relationship

I have reviewed briefly only the high spots of our five divisions of responsibility. There are other problems.

I see and our staff agrees that the most important function we have before us in the National office is to establish or re-evaluate the relation between the National office and the local Sections. Towards this end, almost immediately after I came to the organization, we reorganized our staff, so that each staff member would be responsible not only for individual cases, but for Council Sections within an area, and for the problems of those Sections. The process of redirecting the perspective of the staff, from the individual case to community organization, has been challenging, and with all its difficulties, gratifying. As the staff members are able to visualize the problems of the National Council in terms of local community organization and in terms of National needs, they will be better able to help the individual Section to interpret its responsibility on the same basis.

It seems to me that the National Office has the responsibility of developing local leadership, and of clarifying and interpreting the National program locally. After all, the greatest single factor of our strength is that we are a National force. I think our National staff must know community organization, and we must know the individual community, in order to make ourselves effective on a case work basis. When Sections question our entering a situation, they are skeptical of our ability to be of value to them. The only way to prove our usefulness is to try us. In order, therefore, to establish the proper contact with our Sections, it is necessary immediately to develop a field service so that we can more efficiently establish a mutual usefulness between National and Local. Because, do not forget, the National office has a National program which has to be interpreted locally.

Field Service

There are two types of field contacts which we hope to develop: Speaking engagements and Clinical field service. To my mind, the latter represents by far the most important activity. By clinical service, I mean a visit of the particular staff member responsible for an area to a Section, to review the problem, or the lack of problems in that area, and to advise together as to the next step in development. I hope that, increasingly, Sections will develop confidence in the National office so that in a critical situation, when they need a trained opinion, they will turn to us.

I feel that through our knowledge, we can help prevent complications. It seems to me that in some cases we should wait to be invited, but in others, we should seek an invitation. I hope we can demonstrate that when we ask to be invited, it is because we have reviewed the situation in National terms, and could be useful in the local situation. In a sense, every community is a part of a National picture, and we both have to be familiar with the part, i. e., the Section, and the whole, i. e., the National.

Women Field Secretaries

Increasingly, I can see the function of the National Council of Jewish Women to be an instrument, or rather an experiment, in adult education. Positions in the higher categories for professional women social workers are decreasing. Either they remain as individual case workers, or become completely absorbed in the public welfare agency. With the narrowing of the field of private social work, the number of opportunities for women to direct agencies or get experience on a larger scale than as an individual case worker, is becoming smaller. With social work viewed on a national scope, field service for communities and for regions, is being concentrated almost completely in the hands of men. Perhaps, some of you will not find this a matter of concern. However, for an organization of women, that was conceived with the purpose of making a contribution by women, I feel that it is something in which we all have a stake. In a major way, therefore, the National Council of Jewish Women is providing a training ground for Jewish women social workers in this country. As they get experience in community organization and field service with the National Council of Jewish Women, they will be able to offer that experience in connection with trained posts, for which various organizations, Jewish and non-Jewish, are seeking trained women. In the field of Civil Service, the possibility of qualifying for these jobs is based almost entirely on actual experience. If there will be no opportunity for providing this experience, it means that our Jewish trained women will not have an equal opportunity with other women, and certainly not with men, to qualify for such positions. Here again, we have a far-reaching and profound reason for the existence of the National Council of Jewish Women.

Jewish Juniors

I attended the Biennial Convention of the National Council of Jewish Juniors. In passing, I should like to say that I consider the relationship to the Juniors one of our most important responsibilities in the National office, because I feel that they are the reservoir for our future Senior Council Sections.

I used the occasion of the Biennial Conference to visit a number of other Sections, and I found the experience of inestimable value, both in the open meetings I addressed and in the clinical visits I made. I was impressed by the vigor, interest and ability of our Council leadership. In addition to these outside field visits, the New York Fair put us in touch with dozens of Sections throughout the country, including Miami, Texas, Indianapolis, Atlanta, Cleveland, Erie, Asheville, Tampa, Los Angeles, Louisville, Washington, Lancaster, Pittsburgh, Providence, Minneapolis, etc.

Professional Contact

We have continued our long-standing professional contacts with the Young Women's Christian Association, the Young Men's Christian Association, the American Red Cross, the Foreign Language Information Service, Conference on Immigration Policy, New York Naturalization Council, the Adult Education Association, the National Conference of Social Service, Boards of Education, etc.

Publications

I have written a statement for the Jewish Encyclopedia on our work in Naturalization, and one for the Adult Education Association bulletin. I wish particularly to bring to your notice the forthcoming Refugee Number of "Social Work Today", the trade journal which every social worker knows. This Refugee Number, which has a special Board of Review, including Mr. Harry L. Lurie, Mr. Eduard C. Lindeman and Mr. John P. Boland, includes my article on Naturalization and Americanization, and pictures of the activities of the National Council of Jewish Women. This number can be used as a basic text by our Sections for the study of the present immigration.

International
Agency Contacts

We have added communications with new agencies abroad, to the ones we have always had. Apparently, new organizations are springing up in China and in South America. They know the name of the National Council of Jewish Women, and have turned to us for advice and instructions on how we are proceeding, and for suggestions as to how they should operate. It would be an important contribution if we could establish connections with Jewish groups of women in South America to demonstrate our program of Americanization and Naturalization, because the need of absorbing the Jewish immigrants in their country is a grave one which concerns us all.

Place of Service to
Foreign Born in
whole Council
Program

In closing, I wish to make one more point. I have touched upon the position of the volunteer in social work. I have suggested to the magazine "Social Work Today", a special number dealing with non-professionals in the field of social welfare, including organizations working with volunteers, such as the Young Women's Christian Association, the Business and Professional Women's Clubs, the Junior League, the Masons, Knights of Columbus, etc.

To my mind, the Department of Service to Foreign Born is one of the most important activities of the National Council of Jewish Women, and not only because there is an acute immigration problem at present. I feel it should continue to remain one of the most important functions, so long as this Government has an immigration policy. Feeling as I do about the importance of our Service to Foreign Born work, I, nevertheless, consider this function only a means toward an end. That end is the use of Service to Foreign Born as a laboratory in Social Work to view the community as a whole. Such a training ground could make the National Council of Jewish Women a determining factor in the social service activities of our National Jewish community, and indeed our National non-Jewish community.

Toward that end, it seems to me essential to work for a central coordination of all our activities, with a proper use of both professional and volunteer staffs of the National Council of Jewish Women.

I have looked forward to meeting the National Board, and now that I have presented some of our problems, I am happy to turn them over to you for deliberation.

NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.

Report of the Executive Director

September - October, 1939

