

May 2020

Folder 28 -- Burstein, Bella -- 1927 - 1933

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The National Council of Jewish Women

CABLE ADDRESS
COUNJEW, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRANT AID

FLORINA LASKER, CHAIRMAN

799 BROADWAY



TELEPHONE
STUYVESANT 9398

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

CECILIA RAZOVSKY
SECRETARY

February 21, 1928.

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San Francisco, Calif.

MRS. WILLIAM D. SPORBERG
Port Chester, N. Y.

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas

Re: Burstein Case

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

Since the receipt of your letter of November 2. We have made every effort to locate Mrs. Goldberg, Mrs. Burstein's aunt. We are sorry but we have no information of her whereabouts. We will close our file unless there is something you want us to do on this case.

Sincerely yours,

Leah London
Leah London
Social Service Secretary

LL:HM

2242

1928

File
5/18/28

Oct 9, 1928

Miss Cecelia Razovsky

799 Broadway, N. Y,

Re Burnstein Case.

Several weeks ago I addressed a letter to ^merl Henoch with ref. to a
above case but received no reply. Please look into this matter
and give us information we require namely: thro what port of entry
was Mr. Frank Burnstein admitted, under what stat, a preferred
quota or nonquota and as a citizen of what country. We would like to
secure from Mr. Burnstein the passports that belong to the family and
which he has in his possession

Wishing you a very happy New Year, Yours truly

President
MRS. JOSEPH E. FRIEND
New Orleans, La.

First Vice-President
MRS. ALVIN L. BAUMAN
St. Louis, Mo.

Second Vice-President
MRS. ALEXANDER WOLF
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FLORINA LASKER, CHAIRMAN

799 BROADWAY



TELEPHONE
STUYVESANT 9398

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

CECILIA RAZOVSKY
SECRETARY

October 10, 1927

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New York City

MRS. M. C. SLOSS
San Francisco, Calif.

MRS. WILLIAM D. SPORBOG
Port Chester, N. Y.

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

Re: Barstein Case

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

Your letter of October 5th with reference to this case has been received. I have discussed it with both our case supervisors in order that I might have the benefit of their counsel and I have given the matter a good deal of thought.

As I see it there is no objection whatsoever in the Council taking an interest in the five children if they are paroled. However, once they are paroled I firmly believe the case is no longer one for the Council only but might well be deemed a relief case. I do not see how the Council of Jewish Women of El Paso can pledge itself to support and educate five small children unless it were possible to place them in some institution. On the other hand, because of the Council's previous interest in the case and the Committee's knowledge of all the facts in the case, it seems to me that the Relief Society should welcome the cooperation of the Council in making plans for the future care of the children. I would therefore recommend if it is possible, that in turning over the case to the Relief Committee the Council offer its services in an advisory capacity to the relief organization so that the children may receive the benefit of the personal service of those Council members who have already interested themselves in the children and in their needs and problems.

Trusting that this suggestion will help clarify the situation and assuring you that we believe that some organization ^{interested} itself in the children regardless of the misdemeanors of the parents, I am

Sincerely yours,

Cecilia Razovsky
Cecilia Razovsky
Secretary

8/26/29

Augusta Mayerson

B Burstein children

Cecilia Razovsky, Headquarters

We located Abraham Burstein at his place of employment, and since it was difficult to interview him there, he called on us this morning, at which time we got the following story:

Mr. Burstein is 61 years of age, and seems very much broken down in health. His eyes are in bad condition. He refers to some sort of lung trouble, and next week is undergoing an operation for tonsils.

Mr. Burstein left his home in Poland about 13 years ago. His wife and three sons remained in Poland while he went on to China. He did this in order to avoid military service. He lived in Harbin China for nine years. During his residence there, he met Mrs. Burstein who is the wife of a distant cousin of his. Her husband had died some years ago, and she was living in Harbin with four children. Mr. Burstein naturally became interested in her children. Mrs. Burstein was making her living by peddling brandy.

Mr. Burstein went on to Australia, where he lived for two years, then came back to China, and from there went on to Mexico City, where he lived for 2½ years. He met Mrs. Burstein again in Mexico City about a year ago. Shortly after he met her, he heard that she deserted her children and went back to China. Because of his interest in the children, he made inquiry through the Jewish Society, and learned that through a state agency, these children were placed in the homes of non-Jewish people who were making preparations to convert the children to their faith.

Mr. Burstein then appealed to Jewish Societies and a local synagogue, and made every effort to save the children. He was advised by a lawyer to say that he is the father of these children, so that the State would release them to his care. He told the children to corroborate his story, and to call him "father". In the meantime, the oldest boy who is 20, and who peddles in Mexico City, when questioned, said that this man was not the children's father. Shortly after, the mother returned to Mexico City, and claimed her children, so any further trouble was obviated in that way.

At this time, Mr. Burstein's son had made arrangements for his admission into America, and he came on. Mr. Burstein has been living in America for the past 8 months. At present he is working as a waiter and general helper in the home of the Daughters of Jacob. He earns \$50 a month with maintenance. His son Isaac is married, and lives at 1277 Morris Avenue. He is an upholsterer by occupation, and has all he can do to support his wife and two children. His earnings, we believe, is \$33 a week.

Mr. Burstein's wife and two sons, who are at the present time in Australia, are coming to America shortly, he believes. Mr. Burstein cannot under the circumstances assume responsibility for these minor children who are now in Juarez. These children are 8, 12 and 14 years of age. There might be a fourth younger child. While he is very much interested in these children, (he thinks they are clever and pretty) and would do all he could to help them, he is unable at this time to make any provisions for their admission into America, or to assume responsibility for their care after they get here.

The telegram indicates that this woman in Juarez is conducting a "nice, small business". Don't you think it is best for the children to remain with their mother? Mr. Burstein at this time refuses to make affidavits.

In the course of his story, Mr. Burstein tells us that Mrs. Burstein lived with a man in China to whom she was not married, and seems to be rather promiscuous in her relations with men.

AM/BO

MANAGER
J. L. WEINBERGER

B'NAI B'RITH BUREAU
FOR WORK IN MEXICO

5A. CALLE DE MINA 95

POST OFFICE BOX
666

MEXICO, D. F.

April 19, 192

Mrs. Frank Zlobovsky,
1016 Olive St.
El Paso, Texas,

Dear Mrs. Zlobovsky:-

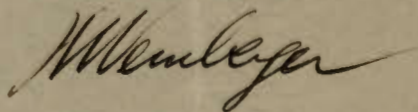
Referring to your letter of April 3, I have to inform you, that Abram Burstein is not dead, and is now in this city, receiving treatment at our clinic

According to Burstein's own statement, he was born in Kovel, Poland; two children were born in Harbin and three in Shanghai. Of the latter, two were born at home, and one in a hospital, possibly, the missionary house. He has a son by a former wife, Jeshua Boorstein, who is living either at 3200 17th St. San Francisco, Cal. or 1502 Nortena Park, Bronx, N. Y.

The mother only used the children for the purpose of schnorrng, and when she could no longer derive this benefit from them, she abandoned them. She had a fair amount of money with her, and was offered more here, but insisted on getting passage for the whole family, threatening to leave the children, if she did not get same.

Burstein cannot take care of the children. Please advise me if I can be of further service in this matter.

Sincerely yours,



President
MRS. JOSEPH E. FRIEND
New Orleans, La.

First Vice-President
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St. Louis, Mo.

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New York City

The National Council of Jewish Women

CABLE ADDRESS
COUNJEW, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRANT AID

MRS. MAURICE L. GOLDMAN, CHAIRMAN

799 BROADWAY



TELEPHONE
STUYVESANT 9398

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

CECILIA RAZOVSKY
SECRETARY

August 27, 1929

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New York City

MRS. M. C. SLOSS
San Francisco, Calif.

MRS. WILLIAM D. SPORBERG
Port Chester, N. Y.

Mrs. Aimee L. Mayer
801 Cincinnati St.
El Paso, Texas

Re: Burstein children

Dear Mrs. Mayer:

We are enclosing a very full and comprehensive report from our local section, regarding the above. Our telegram reading as follows you no doubt have received:

ABRAHAM BURSTEIN CANNOT SEND AFFIDAVITS FOR CHILDREN LETTER
FOLLOWS

This is an extremely difficult case and if what Mr. Burstein says is correct he of course has no right to assume responsibility for these children. It is all and possibly more than he can do to take care of his own family when they get here.

Sincerely yours,

Merle Henoch
Bureau of International Case Work

MH:G
Encl.

September 7, 1929

Miss. Merel Henoch
799 Broadway,
New York, New York

Re. Burstein Case

Dear Miss. Henoch,

Your letter of August 27 to Mrs. Amie Mayer with reference to the above mentioned case is before me. Mr. Abraham Burstein's statement came as a complete surprise since we are in a position to know that his accusations against the Mrs. Burstein living in Juarez, Mexico are false. We are writing to Shanghai, China to establish this woman's legal rights, but in the meantime will give you what information I have.

You will find in our report of 1927 that Mrs. Burstein and her five children were apprehended and jailed for illegal entry into this country. At that time Mr. Burstein lived in Juarez, Mexico. He was called before the U.S. Immigration Department for the purpose of establishing their nationality. He was traveling with a Holland passport and she had papers showing an established residence in Shanghai, China. Looking over the records at the immigration headquarters, we find Mr. Burstein's sworn statement that he was married at Ohel Moishe Synagogue, Shanghai, China in June, 1920 to the Mrs. Burstein who was held in detention in El Paso, Texas; that her two older children, Kate, 12, and Moishe 10, were hers by a former marriage, and that he was the father of the three younger children. Mrs. Burstein was not deported from this country. The Department of Immigration granted her permission to appeal to Mexico to permit her to reenter their country as she only crossed the border to seek employment. The Mexican Council issued passports for their return. She joined her husband in Mexico.

Will you get for us the following information: Through what port did Mr. Burstein enter the United States, and under what status?

Since Mrs. Burstein's return to our border, we have rehabilitated her by bringing old clothes which she cleans, fixes and sells. She has a small store and is making a respectable living. The two older children, Kate, now 14, and Moishe, 12, have been granted border passports and are attending the public schools in El Paso. Since our school system demands a fee of \$6.00 per capita from non-residents, the mother finances one half of their tuition and the rest is contributed by two of our good members of the Council.

Further information with reference to this case will be forwarded upon receipt.

Yours very truly,

1216 Los Angeles Street,
September 12, 1929.

Mr. Whitgob,
84 Dubbing Road,
Shanghai, China.

Re: Abraham Burstein.

Dear Mr. Whitgob:

I am appealing to you for information we must have to establish the legal status of a certain Mrs. Bella Burstein, formerly a resident of your City, but now living with her several young children at Juarez, Mexico.

Abraham Burstein, her husband, whom we have located as living in New York City, refuses to support her and the children, claiming that he is merely a brother-in-law to her, no more - that he has taken a fatherly interest in her and her children and has previously supported them merely as a matter of human sympathy.

Mrs. Burstein gives us the following the information and refers us to you for verification of her story: She claims that you are the President of the Shanghai Ohel Moisha Synagogue wherein she was married to said Abraham Burstein during June - 1920. She was a widow at the time, her name being Biale Romea. Said Abraham Burstein that she married was a divorced man - an ex-convict from Brisbane, Australia, where he had served time for some crime. The Rabbis who performed the ceremony for the wedding were Feldman and Goffman.

Mrs. Burstein has no record of her wedding as her Kesuba has been stolen and destroyed by the husband.

Kindly acquaint us with the true facts in the case; also whether Mr. Burstein presented a divorce at the time of his marriage to her. If possible, we would like a duplicate of her Kesuba, and any other information that would help us establish the true situation. A sworn statement of the facts before the American Consul at Shanghai would greatly help us. Any cost in connection with same, I am ready to pay.

The future of a family consisting of several young children is involved. They are absolutely destitute. I would appreciate you advising us at once.

With kind Rosh Hashonah Greetings, and the hope that you will be inscribed for a Happy New Year, I am,

Sincerely yours,

JOSEPH M. ROTH, Rabbi.

JMR:MKR

1216 Los Angeles Street,
September 12, 1929.

Mr. Whitgeb,
84 Dubbing Road,
Shanghai, China.

Re: Abraham Burstein.

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With kind Rosh Hashonah Greetings, and the hope that you will be inscribed for a Happy New Year, I am,

Sincerely yours,

JOSEPH M. ROTH, Rabbi.

JMR:MKR

CONGREGATION B'NAI ZION

MESA AVENUE AND CLIFF STREET

P. O. BOX 957

EL PASO, TEXAS

OFFICE OF THE RABBI

1216 Los Angeles Street,
September 12, 1929.

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

Re: Abraham Burstein.

Dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

I am enclosing herewith two copies of the letter sent to Mr. Witgob of Shanghai, China, with reference to the Abraham Burstein case you discussed with me yesterday.

As soon as I will receive a reply, I shall be glad to acquaint you further.

With kind regards to you and your dear family,
I am,

Faithfully yours,

Joseph M. Roth
JOSEPH M. ROTH, Rabbi.

JMR:MKR
(Enclosures)

DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRANT AID
The National Council of Jewish Women
799 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

FROM Merle Henoch

DATE October 16, 1949

TO Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
El Paso, Texas

SUBJECT Bella Burstein

I am extremely sorry that your last letter on the above case was not answered, but it was due to the fact that we were waiting for the local section to interview Mr. Burstein. We will write them again immediately and hope soon to have an answer. *Mif.*

MH:ER

DE
The N

Zucker/BO

Augusta Mayerson

10/30/29

Marie Menach, Headquarters

Burstein children

We were unable to answer your question on this
point, as we could not see Mr. Burstein who was away from the
office at the beginning of March. We saw him
at the end of the month, and he told us the same thing as before.

We finally refused to make any further
contact with the children, as we felt that they were
not in a position to give us any more information.

DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRANT AID
The National Council of Jewish Women
799 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

FROM Merle Henoeh
TO Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
El Paso

DATE December 10, 1929
SUBJECT Burstein children

We are enclosing our local section's report on the above case. I do not think there is anything to be hoped for from this end.

MH:G
Encl.

12/5/29

Augusta Mayerson

Burstein Children

Haris Henoch, Headquarters

We have spoken to Mrs. Burstein, the daughter-in-law of the man. Mrs. Burstein tells us that as far as she and her husband know, Mr. Burstein was not married.

In 1920 when the child was supposed to have been born, Mr. Burstein was not married. He was living with a woman who was not his wife. He was living with a woman who was not his wife. He was living with a woman who was not his wife.

Would it be possible to get anything authentic from Shanghai, the place of the alleged marriage.

Zucker/BO

בית הכנסת "אהל משה"

Oheil Moïsbe Synagogue

ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED
TO THE HON. SECRETARY

58 WARD ROAD
TEL. 50213

Shanghai, 5 th March 1930.

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
Chairman Immigrant Aid Council
of Jewish Women
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas.

Dear Madam ,

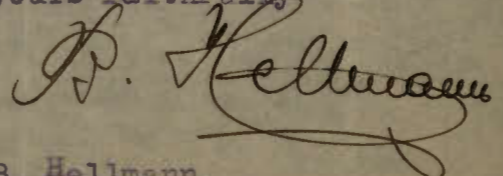
Your letter dated 25 th January a.c. , adressed to Mr. N.E.B. Ezra was handed to me for investigation , and I herwith beg to inform you as follow :

1. Abraham Burstein has been in Shanghai and as much as we could find out has been married to Beilla Burstein, but a Kesuba has not been made out , as they have not married through our Community . Feldman and Goffman , the men which are supposed to have given the CHIPPE KHEDISCHE are not Rabbis , and on asking Goffman re this case he declares : Abrahma Burstein has performed himself the marriage ceremony (~~MEHARERMEKADESCH DE KALIE~~ before witnesses . This is a ceremony which is defacto not recognised by any Authorities either by the Rabbis , but such persons in the case they decide not to leave togehter , or intend to marry again , need absolutly a divorce.

Beilla Burstein is a very hard case , with which we had enough trouble here and as for the children it can bedoubteid if the children belong to Abraham Burstein ; one of her children , the youngest having been sold here to a very rich person , which has given to Beilla the necessary passage money .

Trusting that this information will meet your demand
I beg to remain ,

yours faithfully



B. Hellmann
Secretary



March 19, 1930.

Miss Cecelia Razovsky
Dept. of Immigrant Aid
799 Broadway
New York N.Y.

Re: Bella Burstein

Dear Miss Razovsky:

Enclosed you will please find passport and pictures of Mrs. Bella Burstein and we want you to please have this passport renewed. She is of Polish birth and will you please see that the Polish Consul returns the enclosed passport, too.

Thanking you for past favors,

Respectfully,
Beg to remain,

(Mrs. Frank Elabovsky)
Chairman Of Immigrant Aid
Council of Jewish Women
1016 Olive Street
El Paso Texas.

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n

Re: Bella Burstein

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ly that we

th
e Work

April, 3, 1930.

Miss Cecelia Razovsky,
Dept. of Immigrant Aid
799 Broadway
New York New York.

Re; Bella Burstein

Dear Miss Razovsky;

The enclosure speaks for itself and we ask that you please revive this case and despite the information that we have with reference to the "Kesubu" a record of such document was shown at our United States Immigration department when Mr. Burstein's manifestations were taken.

My appeal to you is to get this "Kesubu" from him, also, the passport on which appears the name of Mrs. Burstein's eldest son. This son is at present in Juarez, Mexico and because he has no passport he cannot return to the interior where we feel moral conditions are better for such youths.

Should Mr. Burstein refuse to give up the kesuba I would suggest that you bring pressure to bear that he give this woman a "ghet"(divorce). But we must have the passport.

Further more this man is the father of four children by this woman and he should contribute something to their support. These people are in distressing circumstances and El Paso's community is inadequate to cope with the financial situation.

Yours truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
Chairman Immigrant Aid
Council of Jewish Women
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas.

April 3, 1930.

Mr. J.L.Weinberger
5A. Calle de Mina #95
Mexico City Mexico.

Re; Bella Burstein.

Dear Mr. Weinberger;

Enclosed you will please find a passport and pictures of Mrs. Bella Burstein. Would you please see if you can secure a Polish passport for Mrs. Burstein as she claims she is a Polish subject. At all events we want the enclosed passport returned to us.

Mr. Weinberger we would appreciate it very much if you would send us all the data you have concerning this case. Do you know if this woman has a "Kosuba"?

Respectfully yours,

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

P.S. Might we ask that you also send some data on the case of Pola Gerschbein.

B'NAI B'RITH BUREAU

MANAGER
J. E. WEINBERGER

FOR WORK IN MEXICO

POST OFFICE BOX
666

5A. CALLE DE MINA 95

MEXICO, D. F.

April 11, 1930.

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

Dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:-

Your letter with passport belonging to Mrs. Bella Burstein received. The Polish Consul will not give this party, a Polish passport, unless proof of citizenship can be furnished. I also went to Foreign Relations Department, and here was informed that a Mexican passport could be given her, on the strength of her Russian passport, which states that she is a Russian citizen, as there is now no Russian Consul in this country. But she would have to come for it, personally.

I know the husband of this woman, Abraham Burstein, who is now in the States. He entered as a relative preference. I cannot say positively, that they have a "Kesuba", but it was my understanding that they are married, because, at one time, when there was a serious misunderstanding between them, he spoke of divorcing her. If I remember correctly, this was when she followed him from C. Juarez, and demanded that he return with her.

There is much to say about this woman, but of course, environment may have had much to do with her actions and mode of living. The children have always been an excellent excuse for "schnorring". She did not find Mexico City a profitable field, so left for N. Laredo, shortly after arrival in this country the first time. The good people of Laredo, Texas, believing her sincere in her desire to work etc. furnished her a home, but she suddenly left for C. Juarez. She returned from C. Juarez with her children and demanded from Societies here, passage to China. Not receiving same, she left with the youngest child, leaving the other children here. As you know, she returned and again went to C. Juarez.

About Pola Gershbein, I can only say, that she is a good girl, who always worked for a living. She went to C. Juarez to marry a young man, with whom she had been corresponding. She has a sister in the States.

Mrs. Burstein.

I herewith enclose passport belonging

Sincerely,
[Signature]

April 22, 1930.

Mrs. Estelle Sternberger,
799 Broadway
New York N.Y.

Dear Mrs. Sternberger:

Have inquired of several of our members if you by chance left with them my folio on the Bella Burstein case and all have answered in the negative. May I ask that if you have this folio you will please return it to me at once as I have some data filed there that I would like to have.

Trusting that your trip was a pleasant one and assuring you that it was indeed a privilege to have met you, I am,

Yours very truly,

Chairman Immigrant Aid
Council of Jewish Women
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas
Mrs. Errol B. Lapowski, Sec.

Wormburgers

Meet Katherine Overstreet on
train which reaches Mexico City
6 P.M. Friday. Give her every
protection either place her in
the home of a good Jewish family
or give some good school our letter
with full explanation follows

April 26, 1930.

Mr. J. L. Weinberger,
5A Calle de Mina #95
Mexico City, Mexico.

Re: Katherine Burstein

Dear Sir:

As per our telegram of the 23rd. in which I told you that a letter would follow. It was inevitable that in order to save this child, Katie Burstein, from delinquency she should be sent away from the border and from the undesirable influences here. Also, from a domineering and nagging Mother.

Mr. Weinberger, there is good in this child and we are ready to do anything in our power to have her grow up into a good and honorable woman. We are appealing to you to assist us in our endeavor. Place her in any school that you see fit or if you think it more advisable that she be placed in the home of some good Jewish family who have a sympathetic understanding for this unfortunate child.

She is willing to work and what she needs most of all is kindness. If our assistance is necessary to finance this case we will gladly do our part.

Thanking you for past favors and knowing we shall have your hearty cooperation in this case, Beg to remain,

Yours truly,

(Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky)
Chairman Immigrant Aid
Council of Jewish Women
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas.

PATRONS ARE REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1201-S

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

DL = Day Letter

NM = Night Message

NL = Night Letter

LCO = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

WLT = Week-End Letter

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at 104 South Florence Street

1930 APR 26 PM 11:51

PS88 18/16 DL=GY MEXICOCITY MEX 26 120P

MRS FRANK ZLABOVSKY=

1016 OLIVE ST ELPASO TEX=

YOURS TWENTYTHIRD ON TRAIN ARRIVED FRIDAY SEVEN EVENING

MISS KATHERINE BURSTEIN DIDNOT APPEAR WIRE WHAT HAPPENED=

BRAIBRITH-

THE QUICKEST, SUP

WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGR

CABLE

Inolvidable Señora:
Con
el cariño y respeto de una
hija le escribo lo siguiente
desearo especialmente
su salud.

Llegue a Mexico pero
el Señor Limberger
no estaba porque quien
sabe a donde se cambio.

Pense y fui a la
escuela me recibieron
muy bien pero no
esta la directora y
no se que fin tendre

Porque sufro entre
mi mucho al recordar
y quisiera trabajar y al
mismo tiempo acabar
si quiera lo que se me
hace que lleno escrito
en mi cara todo.

Necesito muchas cosas
y no tengo de donde
tenerlas si no le
digo a mi directora que
ya no estoy con mi
mamá.

No puedo escribirles
a todos ahora porque
no tengo el dinero me
robaron en el Tren
y tambien tuve que
pagar dos taxis por
no encontrar a Mr.
Vinnerger.

Saludelas a todos
por favor y dale mi
direccion a Jorge.

Su humilde
hija

C. B.

Answer

Señora

F. S. Labovfsky

1016 Aline St.

El Paso, Tex.



MANAGER
W. L. WEINBERGER

B'NAI B'RITH BUREAU
FOR WORK IN MEXICO

POST OFFICE BOX
666

MEXICO, D. F. May 2 , 1930

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

Dear Mrs Zlabovsky:

We have finally located Miss Katherine Burstei n at
the following address:

Escuela Industrial,
calle Haiti # 1,
Colonia Anahuac, D.F.

She is in perfect health and answered our questions
about her willingness to stay here to the effect that she
is perfectly satisfied and will remain. She needs no money
but wants dresses. We ordered some for her and asked the
bill to be presented to us for payment.-

We have also offered Miss Burstei n to refer to us
in case of need and would be glad ^{to} same services to you
whenever you will want us.-

Sincerely yours,

Bnai Brith in Mexico.

by A. Deutsch

May 16, 1930.

Mr. A. Deutsch
B'nai B'rith Bureau in Mexico
Mexico City, Mexico.

Re; Katherine Burstein

Dear Mr. Deutsch; Yours in regard to Katherine Burstein received and in reply wish to say that we ask that you give your protection and every consideration to this child. She is a deserving little thing and needs a little kindness to make her way a little easier.

We ask that you place her in a school, or to live with a good family where she will be well treated, or even as a servant in a good home where the work would not be too hard for she is just a child. Anything but to keep her away from this border. Under no consideration allow her to return to this border.

We would gladly assist with financing her in a school or in anything that you might suggest if you are not able to finance her keeping with out our help. Thanking you for past favors and trusting to hear from you soon concerning this child, Beg to remain, Yours truly,

Chairman Immigrant Aid
(Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky)
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas.

B'NAI B'RITH BUREAU

MANAGER

WEINBERGER

FOR WORK IN MEXICO

POST OFFICE BOX

666

~~SAN CARLOS DE MINAS~~

MEXICO, D. F.

May 25, 1930.

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,
National Council of Jewish Women,
El Paso, Texas,

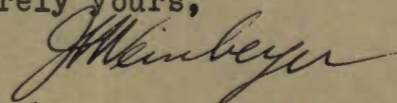
Dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:-

On my return to this city, I found the correspondence relating to the Burstein girl. You probably know that she left the school and is now living with Mrs. Libnic. However, this is temporarily. The girl had no shoes or clothes and Mrs. Libnic purchased a few very necessary things amounting to \$30.00 (Pesos) which we have agreed shall be repaid her. *Please send check at your convenience.*

Mrs. Libnic, who by the way, is the President of the women's aid society and a very practical woman suggests that the solution of this girl's problem will require about a year, providing that she be taken as an apprentice into some trade or profession where pains will be taken to really teach her. In a year's time, she will earn enough to maintain herself nicely. Mrs. Libnic suggests that the girl learn either photography or dressmaking. The expense of maintenance would be \$75.00 pesos about \$35.00 per month. In my opinion, this could be reduced within six months, if the girl shows the necessary progress. Mrs. Libnic will take a personal interest in the case, but cannot give any financial help, as neither she nor the society are well off financially.

Our Bureau has been discontinued and the work has been taken over by a new organization. Mrs. Libnic is also on the Board of the new society. I understand that she will also write you on this case. You may if you wish write me in answer to this letter, and then we will arrange that the future correspondence shall be with the new society. I will act in an advisory capacity with the new society, for a few months.

Sincerely yours,



The name of the new society is

Centro Beneficencia Israelita de Mexico,
Address: Calle Meave #11A
Mexico, D. F.

DEPARTMENT OF SERVICE FOR FOREIGN BORN

The National Council of Jewish Women

INCORPORATED

799 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

FROM

Merle Henoch

DATE

June 6, 1930

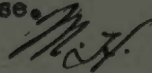
TO

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

SUBJECT

Bella Burstein

Enclosed you will find a self-explanatory letter from our local
section on the above case.



MH:ER

Enc.

May 28th, 1930

From Augusta Mayerson, New York Section

To Merle Honoch, Headquarters

Subject .. Burstein Children

We do not seem to be getting anywhere on this case. We called to see Mr. Burstein after we received your last letter and found that he is no longer working at the Home of the Daughters of Jacob.

We interviewed him at the home of his son and daughter-in-law at 1277 Morris Avenue. As before, Mr. B. denied his marriage and claims that he does not know Mr. Goffman nor does he understand how Mr. Goffman could have made such a statement. As before, he insisted on Visitor's showing him written proof of the marriage.

We then asked him for his passport and he told us that the passport was deposited with an insurance company pending an action that he has taken against the Home of the Daughters of Jacob whom he is suing for compensation. He would not give us any particulars about this action nor exactly what his claim is. He also refused to allow us to see his passport.

We will call at the Home of the Daughters of Jacob and will then inform you.

Glaser/KP

June 20th, 1930.

From.... ..Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky, El Paso Section
To Merle Henoch
Subject.....Bella Burstein

This is in reply to yours of June 6th. We have in our files a letter from Shanghai, China verifying the legal marriage between the above and Mr. Burstein in New York City. Mrs. Burstein's request is that this man should give her a "get", a legal divorce. She is destitute, forced to work for the support of five children and in her desperation would if she could get this divorce marry a man who is now in Mexico and willing to help shoulder the responsibility of raising this family. I scarcely seem able to cope with this case. It is taxing us mentally and financially to capacity.

The oldest girl Katherine a child of fourteen was mislead before we could see her. However we did the best we could. We removed her from a house of prostitution and sent her to a school in Mexico City. She was a child worth saving. She knew nothing of the horrors of what might befall her in future years. One of the outstanding horrors of this child's life is a statement made by her that this

Burstein her stepfather who was permitted to enter the United States broke into her room when she was a child of ten and they were living in China. We will save this child if it is possible to do so. We ask your co-operation. Had this man come to El Paso his terrible record would have prevented his admission to this country. A Jewish divorce may assist us in solving the problems of this family.

Yours sincerely,

June 20th 1930

Centro Beneficencia Israelita de Mexico,
Calle Nueva #11a
Mexico, D. F.

My Dear Mrs. Libnic:

I am in receipt of your letter in reference to Katherine Burstein. I also have a letter with reference to the same case from Mr. Weinberger. In order that you understand why we sent the girl to Mexico City we want you to know that we were trying to save an unfortunate child from a life worse than death. We are appealing to you as a Mother to make this child happy. Such a thing has never been known to her before. Her life has been one of strife and privation. We have written to the Hooker School to take and educate her. If they should take her it would be without a cent of cost to us. Is it possible that our Jewish brothers and sisters in Mexico can not do as much?

We have taken care of numerous cases sent to us from Mexico City among them as you may recall the Blattman and Guttdiener case. Both of these cases cost us large sums of money for which we were never reimbursed. We now want you to return us the same courtesy as our treasury here is sadly depleted.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Frank Elabevsky
Department of Service for Foreign Bo

July 23, 1930.

Cecelia Razovsky,
625 Madison Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss Razovsky:-

Re-Burstein Case.

I don't know why I cannot get better service on this case. I have requested that some force should be brought to bear to get the Passport from the husband, also to try and force him to send some little assistance towards the maintenance of his children.

We are having no end of trouble with this family, and I feel that it will take a master mind to cope with the present situation. The eldest child, Katherine, of whom we had written you, that we had sent to Mexico City, to remove her from an immoral existence, has been returned to us because the Bnai' Brith has ceased to function in Mexico City, and we have no one to appeal to at that end of the line. It is most deplorable that there should be no International affiliation with Mexico City, and it is about time that either the Council or some other Organization of International importance serve our unfortunate co-religionists in that City. We hear tales of horror, of suffering and privation, and there have been several suicides reported due to starvation. I cannot understand the Bnai' Brith's attitude, and would like you to interest yourself in the cause of suffering humanity in our neighboring country. We are doing the best we can at this Border, but it is impossible for us to reach further. Please help me solve this bursting problem.

Yours very truly,

Chairman, Service for Foreign Born:

FZ:LG

JEWISH SOCIAL SERVICE BUREAU

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PRESIDENT

EVELYN R. MAGNIN
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SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

PHILIP STEIN
TREASURER

OF LOS ANGELES

(Formerly Jewish Aid Society)

407 Lincoln Building 742 South Hill Street

Telephone TRinity 4681

Los Angeles, California

EMMA SHENCUP
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

July 24th, 1931

Mr. Jesse Rosoff, Secretary,
El Paso Jewish Relief Society,
El Paso, Texas

Dear Mr. Rosoff:-

Re: Kathryn, Mike and Joe Rones

We have received your letter dated July 10th and noted the contents carefully.

The situation is indeed a serious and a complicated one and one which our Bureau considers merits the serious consideration of all agencies who have been in contact with this family since their arrival in Mexico. It occurs to us that some responsibility must be assumed for the care of these children and that some plan must be worked out which will look towards solving their problems.

Throughout your letter, Mr. Rosoff, you indicate over and over again that neither your agency nor the Council of Jewish Women are willing to assume any responsibility for these children yet you go on to tell us of the deplorable conditions under which the family is living in Juarez. You have also indicated that the children will be stranded if they return since the mother, who is apparently psychopathic, is to be transported to the interior of Mexico.

We are writing to ask that you send us at the very earliest moment a complete report of this family situation including a resume' of the contact the Council of Jewish Women have had on the case. We understand from Kathryn that she lived for sometime in the home of Mrs. Slabovsky and that she has been in close contact with the family since their arrival in Mexico. We would like to have details regarding the marriage of Kathryn and her divorce and the incidents which place her in the position of being barred from entry to this country under Section 4 referring to prostitutes. Has the mother been declared psychopathic and is she being sent to some institution in the interior of Mexico? We are interested also in having exact information covering the entry of the family to Mexico and in knowing how Mrs. Rones managed to leave Mexico before the birth of her last child and then return again.

Our purpose in asking for this information is to get correct information on the status of these children. Since they have found their way here, we feel that this matter should be cleared, for certainly the matter will be coming to the attention of agencies again and again until such time as definite action is taken. The children appear to be normal, intelligent youngsters in need of protection and supervision.

We have heard nothing from the immigration authorities as yet but, of course, will turn the children over to them as soon as they call upon us for their

delivery. In the meantime, we have placed them in a supervised home where they are receiving adequate care.

Just how long the children will remain here, we do not know. Kathryn told us yesterday that they might all hike back over the week end and Mike has been anxious to return home for several days. Therefore, we are anxious to hear from you at the earliest possible moment before taking any further steps.

We shall certainly comply with any instructions received from the immigration authorities but would appreciate having you give us this complete information so that we will be fully informed on all phases of the situation.

Thanking you in advance for your courtesy in this connection, and assuring you that our Bureau is always ready and willing to cooperate with you, we remain,

Very truly yours,

JEWISH SOCIAL SERVICE BUREAU

Freda Mohr
Case Supervisor

FM/M

El Paso Jewish Relief Society

ORGANIZED 1887, INCORPORATED 1903

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United Charities of El Paso Jewish Community

SEND ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE SECRETARY, P. O. BOX 740

EL PASO, TEXAS

DIRECTORS

RABBI MARTIN ZIELONKA
RABBI JOS. M. ROTH
HAROLD POTASH
ELIAS STERNGLANZ
BEN FARBER
I. ERLICH
REUBEN WEINSTEIN

July 30, 1931.

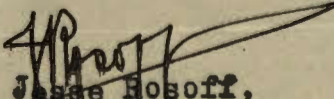
Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,
1016 Olive Street,
El Paso, Texas.

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

I am enclosing herewith, letter received from the Jewish Social Service Bureau of Los Angeles, regarding certain details concerning Kathryn, Mike and Joe Ronas. Inasmuch as you are familiar with this case, I am referring same for your attention, and would appreciate your giving the information, requested, direct to the Los Angeles organization.

Thanking you for your cooperation, I am

Sincerely yours,


Jesse Rosoff,
Secretary.

encl.

JR/am

Copy

July
30th
1931

Jewish Social Service Bureau
407 Lincoln Building,
742 Hill Street,
Los Angeles, California:

RE: LATHRYN, MIKE & JOE
ROMES

Att: Freda Mohr.


My dear Miss Mohr:

I am referring your letter dated July 24th bearing postmark of July 27th, to Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky for her attention, inasmuch as she is the one most familiar with the case.

I gather, from one of the paragraphs of your letter, that you fail to realize that Juarez is a foreign city in a foreign country, and that our membership in the Community Chest organization is as an El Paso, Texas Relief organization, and not one for work in Mexico. Regardless of the merit of cases elsewhere, we find ourselves limited to charity for local cases only.

Trusting that Mrs. Zlabovsky will give immediate attention to your inquiry, I am

Very truly yours,


Jesse Rosoff,
Secretary.

JR/am

Katie Burnstein 14 years.

Child attending school under supervision of Council
Mother nagging that she should find work to support
self + help support mother + sister -

Mother opened small store for her

While attending to her little place of business some
Mexicans came into the store and told her that
she could make money much easier by joining
their band of smugglers -

These people were smuggling liquor into the
U.S.

Her Mother who is a confirmed nag brought such
pressure to bear that the child left her
and went to live with her older brother who
is also unable to stay with his mother.

The brother in turn placed her in the home of a
respectable Mexican family - The Mother not
being satisfied with what harm she had already
done one day she grabbed a hold of this very
fortunate child, she beat her unmercifully, tore
her clothes from her body and accused her of
being a prostitute -

The child became very resentful
We tried to persuade her to come back to the El Paso
schools but other influences were brought to bear
and the child was finally induced to enter a
cabaret.

The Mother finding out that she entered this cabaret
had the child arrested -

She was taken to the Liberty Hospital in Juarez
the Council's Committee called on her there and the
child with tears in her eyes told a most horrifying
tale - "Her Story"

Her story takes us back four years when she
was but a child of ten living in Shanghai, China
where her Mother derived a living by keeping a

cabaret. She tells us that one night her step father came into her room and committed a terrible wrong - She did not know at that time what it was all about but her fear of that man was so great that she followed her mother around in this cabaret and begged her mother never to leave her alone.

When she came to Mexico City and while in a Methodist school a Mexican girl explained to her the sex problem and for the first time it dawned upon her what a terrible atrocity was committed against her. When her mother called her the terrible name she did the child became so desperate that she decided to go the way of least resistance. ~~She was raped while at this cabaret and going down~~ ^{She was raped while at this cabaret and going down} ~~went through the same experience~~ ^{went through the same experience} We are glad to have saved the child from a life of shame by sending her away from this border and to a school in Mexico City.

What is outstanding in our minds and considered unjust is that this step father is today receiving the protection of this United States having been admitted about a year ago on a preference quota due to ~~his~~ having a naturalized son from a former marriage -

DEPARTMENT OF SERVICE FOR FOREIGN BORN

The National Council of Jewish Women

INCORPORATED

~~-700-BROADWAY-~~

NEW YORK

625 Madison Avenue

FROM Cecilia Razovsky

DATE July 23, 1930

TO Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
El Paso Section

SUBJECT Mrs. Bella Burstein

We enclose copy of report from our NY Section. Is it at all possible to get birth certificates for the children? These might contain the name of the father.

Naturally, as Mr. Burstein continued to deny that he was ever married to this woman, and since we cannot force him to go before a rabbi to arrange about the ghet, I really do not see what we can do in this case.

Our NY Section is interested and wants to help, but we must have more documents to frighten Mr. Burstein in taking action.

CR

CR:MK

7/18/50

Augusta Mayers

Daystein, Baile

Merle Henoch, Haddon, Iowa

Merle Henoch is the Superintendent of the
House of Daughters of Zion, located in the town of Daystein,
Iowa. He is also the owner of the Daystein Hotel, which is
located in the town of Daystein, Iowa. He is also the owner of
the Daystein Hotel, which is located in the town of Daystein,
Iowa. He is also the owner of the Daystein Hotel, which is
located in the town of Daystein, Iowa.

At the time of the investigation, Merle Henoch was
employed as a hotel clerk at the Daystein Hotel.

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New York City

The National Council of Jewish Women

(INCORPORATED)

CABLE ADDRESS
COUNJEW, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF SERVICE FOR FOREIGN BORN

MRS. MAURICE L. GOLDMAN, CHAIRMAN

~~125 BROADWAY~~



TELEPHONE
STUYVESANT 9398

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

CECILIA RAZOVSKY
SECRETARY

July 28, 1930

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Port Chester, N. Y.

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
Council of Jewish Women
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas

Re: Bella Burstein

Dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

You are presenting two problems both very important in your letter of July 23rd. Your first letter is with reference to the Burstein case. You understand there is very little we can do to force Mr. Burstein. We have no proof; no marriage certificate; no birth certificate; no papers to back up our statements, if we should take this man into Court, What we can do is threaten. Our New York section will continue its efforts but you must know that it is not a question of our failure to wish to cooperate.

I notice in your letter of June 20th, you say that you have in your files a letter from Shanghai verifying the legal marriage between your client and Mr. Burstein. We seem to have a copy of that letter you refer to in our files signed by the Secretary of a Synagogue. I doubt very much whether this paper would hold water before a Court. The statements made by the two men who claim they were present at the "Shtillah Chupa" are not even backed up by affidavits. We will continue our efforts to try to get the passport.

I will discuss with you the second point raised in your letter on another sheet.

Sincerely yours,

Cecilia Razovsky
Executive Director

CR:G

August 19th, 1930.

Cecelia Rasovsky,
625 Madison Ave.,
New York City, N. Y.

My dear Miss Rasovsky:-

Re- Bella Burstein.

I am enclosing herewith three Jewish letters, which are self explanatory.

It is difficult to know just how to handle this case. Katherine has taken the road of least resistance, and we are unable to save her. If you can find a solution to this problem, please advise me, and I will be glad to abide by your instructions.

Thanking you, I am

Yours very truly,

Chairman, Service for Foreign Born.

1016 Olive St.,
El Paso, Texas.

FZ:LG
(ENCS)

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New York City

The National Council of Jewish Women

(INCORPORATED)

CABLE ADDRESS
COUNJEW, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF SERVICE FOR FOREIGN BORN

MRS. MAURICE L. GOLDMAN, CHAIRMAN

625 MADISON AVENUE



TELEPHONE
ELDORADO 1035

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

CECILIA RAZOVSKY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

December 26, 1930

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Pittsburgh, Pa.

MRS. HUGO ROSENBERG
New York City

MRS. JACOB H. SCHIFF
New York City

MRS. M. C. SLOSS
San Francisco, Calif.

MRS. WILLIAM D. SPORBO
Port Chester, N. Y.

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
Council of Jewish Women
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas

Re: Bella Burstein

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

We did not answer your last letter regarding the above case, as there was just nothing to say. The case is tragic beyond words, but how the problem is ever going to be solved is more than we can say. Our local section has been making every effort to locate Mr. Burstein, but thus far without success.

Sincerely yours,

Merle Henoch
Merle Henoch

Bureau of International Case Work

MH:ER

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

October 29, 1931.

Rabbi Joseph M. Roth
Congregation B'nai Zion
El Paso, Texas

Re. Burstein, F. 1478

My dear Rabbi Roth:

Your letter of September 29th regarding Abram and Bella Burstein has been turned over to our organization by the National Desertion Bureau.

This case has been handled through our New York office for a long time, in fact, since 1927. We have seen the husband time and again. He tells us that the four children are not his children. However, if he were making any money, we would insist that he send some money to the wife and children. In 1929, he was working and earning fifty dollars a month. At that time he said he could not send any money to the children in whom he said he was interested because they are clever. However, in the last year he has moved and we have been unable to find him. We will try again to locate him and we will write you and Mrs. Zlabovsky and let you know if we have any success.

Sincerely yours,

Cecilia Rasovsky
Executive Director

CR/EN

THE BROOKLYN SOCIETY
FOR THE
PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN
INCORPORATED 1880

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PRESIDENT
H. U. SILLECK
SECRETARY
RICHARD S. MAYNARD
TREASURER

OFFICE AND TEMPORARY SHELTER FOR CHILDREN
105 SCHERMERHORN STREET
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

CHARLES H. WARNER
SUPT. AND ATTORNEY
—
TELEPHONE TRIANGLE 5-7600

REFER TO CASE NO. 87500
Re: Ronas

August 19, 1932.

Jewish Relief Society,
P.O. Box 740,
El Paso, Texas.

Attention Jesse Rusoff.

Dear Sirs:

Michael Ronas, aged 15, claiming that he lives at 303 Callejon "A", Juarez, Mexico, was brought to our Shelter at 10 P.M., August 18, 1932 by Patrolman James Rooney of the 67th Precinct. Officer Rooney found this boy at the corner of Church Avenue and E. 34th Street, this City at or about 7 P.M. The boy told the story that he had come from Juarez, Mexico to visit an aunt, Mrs. L. Langer, whom he stated resides at 136 E. 34th Street, this City, but when he called at that address he found that the family was alleged to have moved.

Patrolman James Rooney appeared before the Children's Court of this County this morning and alleged that this child was a neglected child and the child was remanded to our Society for investigation.

When the child was interviewed in our Shelter he stated that his father, Meyer Ronas, is dead and that sometime later his mother married Abraham Bernstein at Shanghai, China; that from the first marriage there were four children, namely Louis 20, who is supposed to be somewhere in Brooklyn, New York, but the address is unknown to Michael; George 18, who is supposed to be in Shanghai, China; Catherine 17, who is supposed to be with the mother at Juarez and of course Michael, who is in this City with us. From the marriage with Mr. Bernstein there were four children, Pearl 9, Joseph 8, both of whom are with the mother in Juarez, Mexico; Rivoli 6, who is supposed to be in Shanghai and Elka 5, with the mother in Juarez.

Michael stated that his mother operates a second hand store at the address given in Juarez and that they have been living there for about five years. Michael stated that he left his home in Juarez on August 5th and stated that he was going to visit his aunt in Brooklyn, for the purpose of seeking aid; he having alleged that his stepfather disappeared and at the time of his disappearance took \$20,000. from his mother. Michael stated that his mother gave him \$2.00 and could not give him more because of her financial condition, gave him a picture of herself, the address of his aunt and the address of his brother Louis. Michael stated that the mother gave him

8/19/32

her picture so that his aunt, whom he never saw, would recognize his mother as being her sister.

Michael stated that he hitch-hiked all the way and arrived August 18th. He attempted to locate his brother Louis at 610 Bay Street, Brooklyn, N. Y., but without success. He then stated that he went to 136 E. 34th Street to locate Mrs. Langer, but he found that the people who reside at 136 E. 34th Street were on vacation.

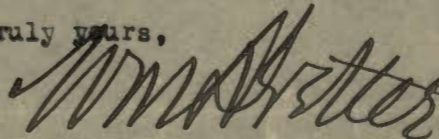
Michael does not know where he was born nor does he know his birthday, but states he is 15 years of age. He further states that his mother applied to some Social Service Organization at 1016 Olive Street, El Paso, Texas and that a woman by the name of Lobovska connected with that organization was interested in the mother, but we were unable to find any trace of any Social Service Organization in the current directories at that address.

The Missing Persons Bureau of the New York Police Department were notified that the boy was in our Shelter and they are following up this case through police channels.

The Children's Court of this County has remanded this boy to our Shelter until August 26th and in view of this fact we would ask that you send one of your workers to the home address as given by this boy, investigate the home conditions under which this child lives and try to make some arrangements with his family for the return of Michael to his home.

Appreciating an early reply and assuring you of our cooperation at all times,

Very truly yours,



William L. Vetter,
Assistant Supt.

EGS/OZ

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EL PASO JEWISH RELIEF SOCIETY

(ORGANIZED 1887, INCORPORATED 1903)

UNITED CHARITIES OF EL PASO JEWISH COMMUNITY

1203 BASSETT TOWER

EL PASO, TEXAS

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Aug.
25th
1932

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

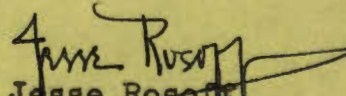
My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

I am enclosing herewith a letter from the Brooklyn Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children concerning Michael Rones.


Inasmuch as you have handled the Rones case and are familiar with the history, I am referring same for your attention, and would appreciate your giving the information requested direct to the Brooklyn organization.

Thanking you for your cooperation, I am

Sincerely,


Jesse Rosoff
Secretary.

JR;H

encl. 

Aug.
25th
1932

Mr. William L. Vetter,
Ass't Superintendant,
Brooklyn Soc. Prev. Cruelty to Children,
105 Schermerhorn Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

RE: MICHAEL RONES
Case No. 87500

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above case, wish to advise
that I have referred your letter to Mrs. F. Zlabovsky,
1016 Olive Street, El Paso, Texas, for attention.

This organization to which Michael had reference to
is the Council of Jewish Women, of which Mrs. Zlabowsky
is the Social Service head. She will doubtlessly give
you the information for which you ask.

Yours very truly,

Jesse Rosoff,
Secretary.

JR:H

encl.

National Council of Jewish Women

625 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

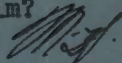
FROM: Merle Henoch

DATE: April 12, 1933

TO: Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
El Paso

SUBJECT: Bella Burstein

I believe we have told you that we simply cannot locate Abraham Burstein. Any action the immigration authorities wish to take will have to be done with Mr. Burstein out of the picture. Not only we cannot locate him but he denies relationship, he is a worthless sort of a character and has no money. What could we ever do with him if we got him?



MH:G

E

April 17, 1933.

Miss Merle Henoch
625 Madison Ave.
New York N.Y.

Re; Abram Burstein;

Dear Miss Henoch;

Just for your information if it were possible that the Immigration Dept. could reach Abraham Burstein they would the gather the entire family together and deport to Poland because Mr. Burstein entered the U.S. on a Polish Passport.

Yours truly,

P.S. As matters stand the family who are now held in detention will be turned loose and if Mr. Burstein is bad I can assure you that the rest of the family is worse so you will know with what we shall have to contend.

National Council of Jewish Women

625 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

FROM DEPARTMENT OR OFFICE OF: Cecilia Razovsky

DATE: May 2, 1933

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

SUBJECT: Burstein, Bella

What has happened to Bella Burstein? Was she admitted and where is she now? Do you suppose it will be possible for us to send Michael to her? As you know, he is now in New York under the care of the New York Section which has temporarily placed him in the Homeless Men's Department of the Jewish Social Service Association. We feel Michael should be with his mother. What do you suggest?

CR

P.S. I saw your charming daughter the other evening and we had a very nice time together. I hope she will visit me again very soon.

Sent to
Cecilia Razon
also
Hirschfeld

May 10, 1933

Re: Bella Burstein

I do not know where to begin with this most distressing case I had the misfortune to contact. Mrs. Burstein and her three children ages, 10, 6, 3, are held in detention here in El Paso, and have been given leave of voluntary departure. The Dept. tried to get her back to Mexico and Mexico absolutely refuses to accept her. They are being housed and fed by the Immigration Dept. and they want to get rid of them.

Mr. Millican the Immigration Inspector has made this proposition that they will give the woman transportation to San Francisco if we will pay her passage to Shanghai China. As you know she has two boys in New York Mike and George and her daughter Katie is living a life of prostitution in Juarez Mexico. Her husband is some where in New York.

When this woman and her brood were in detention in El Paso four yeras ago she cost this Jewish Community ~~\$200.00~~ \$200.00. We got her back to Juarez and then she went to Mexico City. She left three children in Mexico City and with the two younger ones went back to China. After giving birth to another child she sold the older child to a French family and with her baby in arms and the two year old she returned to Mexico City and to Juarez.

Mr. Millican is trying to rid the Department of this burden and I cannot see where we would be justified in spending the large sum of

money it would take for passage to China when we do not know that China would accept them.

There is only one thing left for the Dept. and that is to parole her as the Dept; in New York did Mike and George and I am quite sure that her next move will be New York.

With reference to Mike I would strongly advise that you turn him loose and let him shift for himself. He has been to Cal. twice since his parole and this is his second trip to New York. For your information the Dept. in New York gave him a mental test and found him psychopathic. As to his coming to his Mother they do not want each other and the only time we shall be free of this most undesirable family is if we can send them to some South Sea Isle where they could never come back.

If you can advise me what to do in a case such as this I shall be glad to follow your instructions.

Yours truly,

Mrs. Frank Klabovsky, Field Executive.

Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society of America

Office of the
WASHINGTON BUREAU

Isidore Hershfield, Counsel
1115 Connecticut Ave., N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Headquarters:
Hias Building
425-437 Lafayette St.
New York

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Local and Long Distance Phone ~~4084-4082~~ National 6120

May 13, 1933.

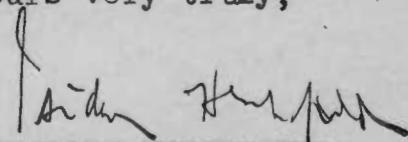
Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas

Dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

Your letter of the 10th instant in re Mrs. Bella Burstein and children, D. L. 55833/75, received today. We immediately examined the file at the Department and found that they are all in this country illegally and their deportation is compulsory. Deportation was ordered to Mexico but Mexico would not readmit them. Poland also refused to grant a passport and they, accordingly, have recently been ordered deported to China at Government expense. They all came recently from China to Mexico and then entered the United States. There is, therefore, nothing further that we could do except to reassure you that your local charities need not pay their transportation to San Francisco or to China as all of this will be defrayed by the Government.

We realize, of course, that there is considerable hardship in sending these people to China, but the woman has been living in China, evidently has friends or relatives there, and her present young children were born in China.

Yours very truly,


ISIDORE HERSHFIELD
Counsel

IH: BK

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MEMORANDUM ON BURSTEIN FAMILY

BEILA BURSTEIN, age 45, and children KATIE, age 13, MICHAEL, age 11, Pauline, age 6, JOSEPH age 4 and RIVA, age 2, first entered the United States on or about September 29, 1927 near San Elizario or Fabens, Texas. Mrs. Burstein born in Vilna, Russia, now Poland, had lived in China for about fifteen years just prior to her entry into Mexico about March, 1927. Claimed that all six children were born in China but subsequent evidence shows that only the four youngest were born in China.

Through efforts of the Council of Jewish Women permission was secured for the departure of all aliens voluntarily on October 27, 1927. They returned to Juarez, Mexico.

Mike has been running back and forth across the line for many years, made one trip to Los Angeles and was returned to El Paso by Jewish charitable organizations, then made one trip to New York and was taken into custody by the New York authorities. He is under deportation proceedings at the present time; was released on his own recognizance and returned to El Paso some two months ago; is now again in New York and has been certified by Government physicians as being mentally deficient or psychopathic.

It is understood that Beila Burstein and her children went to China subsequent to her arrest and returned to Mexico, remained there only a short time then came to the United States again. The oldest girl Katie is now a prostitute in Juarez. Beila Burstein accompanied by the children, Pauline, Jose and Elke again entered the United States near San Elizario, Texas on February 21, 1933. Owing to inability to secure evidence of nationality, Polish officials have refused to issue passports for her return to Poland and unless some arrangement is made to assist this woman in leaving the United States, it will be necessary to turn her and her three children loose upon private charity. It is unknown whether the mother is mentally deficient herself or just plain mean and ugly but probably both.

The woman had in her possession the following documents which are in the possession of the Immigration Service and which will be transmitted to the Commissioner of Immigration at San Francisco, California for the purpose of securing permission from the Chinese authorities for her return to China: Chinese passport #2682 issued at Shanghai China October 25, 1928, which was of course issued after her return to China from Mexico, which passport apparently covers Mike and Moses or Moishe. It is understood that the last named was either sold or given away before she left China for Mexico the second time. The passport is limited to six months and is therefore not valid at the present time for her return to China. And also the following documents: Jewish Synagogue birth certificates showing the birth of Perl or Pauline, February 3, 1921; Joseph, March 8, 1923; Moses or Moishe, January 13, 1926 and Elke, April 29, 1928, all apparently born in Shanghai. These documents are to be forwarded to the Commissioner of Immigration, San Francisco,

California, immediately by the El Paso office and such cooperation is requested as can be afforded by interested organizations in dealing with the Chinese authorities for the return of these aliens to China. Beila Burstein has a married son and other relatives living in China, whom she desires to join. Apparently the child, RIVA, who accompanied her on her first entry at El Paso is the child Elke born in 1928.

This woman will undoubtedly be a charge on charity with all of her children as long as she remains in the United States and she will remain in the United States unless authority can be secured for her departure to China.

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1933 MAY 13 AM 11 50

WB WASHINGTON DC 13 120P

MRS FRANK ZLABOVSKY

146

1016 OLIVE ST ELPASO TEX

BURSTEIN FAMILY ORDERED DEPORTED CHINA AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE

STOP LOCAL JEWISH CHARITIES NEED NOT CONTRIBUTE ANYTHING STOP

WILL BE MOVED WITH DEPORTATION PARTY ON FIFTEENTH STOP LETTER

FOLLOWS

ISIDORE HERSHFIELD.

Mr. S. Lazar
Ward Road 48
Shanghai, China.

Copy Rabbi Roth's letter to
Mr. Whitgab. No reply -
Give us information we want -

Bella - Burstein -

Dr. N. E. B. Ezra

52 - Avenue Road
Shanghai
China

> Same