

June 2020

## Folder 29 -- Rom, Mary & Family -- 1931 - 1938

Follow this and additional works at: [https://scholarworks.utep.edu/box\\_4](https://scholarworks.utep.edu/box_4)

Comments:

Contains handwritten letters in English.

See also [Robinowitz -- Rosenthal](#). The file for *Rom* is located in "Additional Files" at the bottom of the page.

---

### Recommended Citation

"Folder 29 -- Rom, Mary & Family -- 1931 - 1938" (2020). *MS 508, Box 4, Moguel-Sandberg*. 23.  
[https://scholarworks.utep.edu/box\\_4/23](https://scholarworks.utep.edu/box_4/23)

This Case File is brought to you for free and open access by the Fannie Zlabovsky: National Council of Jewish Women Case Files at ScholarWorks@UTEP. It has been accepted for inclusion in MS 508, Box 4, Moguel-Sandberg by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@UTEP. For more information, please contact [lweber@utep.edu](mailto:lweber@utep.edu).

March 21, 1931

Mrs. Sidney M. Cone  
Maple Lawn Pikesville Md.

Baltimore Section  
National Council of Jewish Women  
Baltimore, Md.

Re; Mrs. Mary Rom and children

; The above case was sent to us from Chihuahua, Mexico. Her husband died following a surgical operation leaving her and her three children destitute. She appealed to us stating that her family in Baltimore are very desirous of taking the two older children to care for and educate.

Will you kindly interview Julius Shargel, 1120 South Charles Street and see if he is willing to take these children. If so, kindly have him furnish an affidavit bringing out the facts that he is willing to care for these children and protect them against becoming public charges. Also, we will have to have a similar affidavit from some other member of the family. Then we shall try to get visas from the Consul for them.

In addition to the affidavits it will be necessary to post a cash bond of \$1000. to have the money for transportation for the two children and round trip transportation for a matron to see them to their destination for they are too young to travel such a distance alone.

Kindly give this matter your attention as we are awaiting an early reply.

Yours very truly,

---

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky  
Chairman Service to the Foreign Born  
1016 Olive Street  
El Paso, Texas.



# Baltimore Section Council of Jewish Women

(INCORPORATED)

DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRANT AID



BALTIMORE, MD., March 31 1921

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,  
Chairman Service to the Foreign Born,  
1016 Olive street,  
El Paso, Texas

re- Mary Rom and children.

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky-

Mrs. Sydney Cone referred to me your letter of March 21, and the matter of transportation for the children was taken up immediately with our worker.

It happens that the Shargel family has been known to our organization since February 3, 1929, when they came to the United States from Mexico. They have made a good adjustment socially and educationally, but owing to the present business depression, there has been little or no employment for a number of months.

Our worker conferred with Mr. Shargel in reference to transportation for the children to Baltimore. The family is absolutely unable to furnish the necessary \$1000.00 bond and subsequent funds. They feel that the best thing for all concerned would be to have them return to Lithuania, where the parents of Mrs. Rom are living. Mrs. Rom also has a sister in Africa, and Mr. Shargel thought that with concerted action on the part of the Baltimore relatives, those living in Lithuania, and the sister in Africa, sufficient funds might be raised to return Mrs. Rom and her children to the home of her parents.

The Shargel family are very much interested and concerned about their Mexican relatives, and are deeply appreciative of what the Council in El Paso has done for them.

Sincerely yours,

*Ray Hess Blumenthal*  
(Mrs. Sidney C. Blumenthal)

Chairman  
2305 Ken Oak Road



# Baltimore Section Council of Jewish Women

(INCORPORATED)

DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRANT AID



BALTIMORE, MD. April 6, 1931 192

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,  
Chairman, Service to the Foreign Born,  
1016 Olive street,  
El Paso, Texas.

re- Rom children.

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky,

Since my letter to you of March 31, things have taken a definite turn. Mr. Joseph Shargel, grandfather of the Rom children, called at the office of our worker, and requested that affidavits be prepared, and sent to the American Consul for visas. The family, through conferences with each other during the holidays, have reversed their former plans, and are determined to bring Natalia Rom, born September 25, 1923, and Elias Rom, born September 29, 1924, to America.

Tentative arrangements have been made through a reliable Bonding Company to furnish the required \$1000.00 bond; the tickets for transportation will be made direct with a railroad company (probably the Baltimore and Ohio) which obligates itself to put the children in charge of a conductor, thus obviating the extra expense of an attendant.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Sidney C)

*Ray Hess Bumenthal*  
Chairman  
2305 KenOak Road



El Paso, Texas,  
April 17th, 1931.

Mrs. Sidney C. Blumenthal,  
2305 Ken Oak Road,  
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Mrs. Blumenthal:-

Re: Mary Rom and Children.

In reply to your letter of March 31st, I took<sup>up</sup> the matter of the possible entry of Mary Rom's two children. Many obstacles have beset our path. The following note written by the American Vice Counsel to the Immigration Inspector at our Port of Entry is self explanatory:-

"The children of Elias Rom and Natalia Rom, born in Mexico of Lithuanian parents desire visa to enter this U.S. to live with their Grandparents.

It seems that the mother, a widow, cannot at present secure an immigration visa. However, if the Grandparents should prove their ability to properly raise these children to your satisfaction, and if they should formally adopt these children, this office sees no present reason why visa should not be granted them."

It is necessary therefore, that the Grandparents send us papers of legal adoption; in addition to those papers, we must have affidavits not in the regular printed forms, but written affidavits, setting out the following facts:

" The financial standing of the Grandparents, and also the financial standing of other relatives. Proof that they are able to maintain these children and give them the advantages of an education at least until they are 16 years of age."

Satisfactory affidavits setting out in minute detail the above requests will perhaps enable us to get these children admitted. Kindly send all documents to me at your earliest convenience.

Thanking you for your prompt attention, I am

Sincerely yours,

Chairman.

1016 Olive St.,  
El Paso, Texas.



# Baltimore Section Council of Jewish Women

(INCORPORATED)

DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRANT AID



2305 Ken Oak Road

BALTIMORE, MD., April 23 1942

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky, Chairman,

1016 Olive street,

El Paso, Texas.

re- Mary Rom and children

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky-

Upon receipt of your letter of April 18, which was referred to our worker, the Shargel family was called into conference for the purpose of drawing up the necessary affidavits, and explaining to them their obligation and responsibility to the Government, until the children will have reached the age of sixteen years.

After deliberating the matter very carefully, -pro and con- Mr. Josef Shargel, the grandfather, and Julius Shargel uncle of the children, have now definitely decided that the best thing for all parties concerned would be, that Mary Rom and her three children return to Birshė, in Lithuania, where Mrs. Rom has a father two brothers, and two sisters. The father has expressed his desire to have the family return to Lithuania.

Both grandparents of the Rom children are failing in health; while not so old in years, life has been a series of storm and stress, and now at the age of sixty-two or sixty-three, they are tired and worn-out as a result of former hardships. It is for this reason, more than any other, that they fear to assume the great responsibility of taking care of their two grandchildren. Mr. Shargel expressed his willingness to send a certain amount each month to his daughter-in-law for her and the children's care should they return to Lithuania.

It seems that Mary Rom has written to her brother-in-law, Julius Shargel, asking for his advice what to do that would be best for her and the children and that he answered that in his opinion, she would be happier not to separate from them and live among her own people.

It is the opinion of the relatives here, that Mrs. Rom's father would contribute towards the cost of transportation to Europe, and the family in Baltimore would do its share as far as possible.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Sidney C)

*Ray Hess Blumenthal*  
\*\*\* CHAIRMAN \*\*\*



July 8, 1931.

Mrs. Sidney M. Cone  
Maple Lawn  
Pikesville, Md.

Re; Mrs. Mary Rom

Dear Mrs. Cone;

We have been informed that the Rabbi or Rabbis of Baltimore have appealed to El Paso to help this case. If you will refer to our last correspondence you will see that we have been taking care of this family and appealed to you to present the case to her people in your city.

Mrs. Rom wrote to her father and he in turn replied that it would be impossible to have the family returned to Lithuania. We have therefore started her in a small business and have given her financial aid far beyond the capacity of this organization.

We allowed her the sum of \$5.00 per week and her groceries for the past six weeks and as stated above we started her in this business. It would seem only fair to this El Paso Section that we receive a little help from her people in Baltimore, at least her rent which is \$15.00 per month, and our request is that this money be sent to the Council and given to her through us when needed.

Awaiting an early reply,

Beg to remain,

---

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky  
Service to the Foreign Born  
1016 Olive Street  
El Paso, Texas.



July 8, 1931.

Mrs. Max Mayer  
801 Cincinnati Street  
El Paso, Texas

Dear Mrs. Mayer;

While in Juarez this morning I visited the Rom family. Mrs. Rom appealed to the Council to pay her rent which is 30 pesos monthly. She claims that she is unable to sell the furniture and the clothes bring her a small income.

I feel incapable of dealing further with this case and would ask you to advise with the committee as to what further action they wish to take. I have to-day written to the Baltimore Section asking help from her family in that city.

I also, visited the Burstein children and took them food. Katie appealed to us to assist her in getting the two children admitted in the school in Chihuahua. I cannot see where this would help matters because Mrs. Burstein, upon her release from jail, would immediately go to Chihuahua and get them.

Mike has returned from California claiming that he came to take Katie with him.

Cordially yours,

---

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,  
Service to the Foreign Born  
1016 Olive Street  
El Paso, Texas.



# Baltimore Section Council of Jewish Women

(INCORPORATED)

DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRANT AID



BALTIMORE, MD., July 23, 1931. 192

Re: Mrs. Rosa Rom.

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

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky,

In reference to the above case, I wish to report that I called on Mr. Shargel, Mrs. Rom's father-in-law, who lives at 611 Aisquith Street, where he serves in the capacity of Rabbi.

Mr. Shargel is familiar with all the circumstances of the case, but as he is only earning \$10.00 per week, it is impossible for him to aid Mrs. Rom at the present time, although, he is truly willing to help whenever he feels able, and when his two children, unemployed now, should find work.

Mr. Shargel suggested that your Branch question Mrs. Rom as to the whereabouts of relatives residing in New York, with the idea of determining whether or not they may be able to help her.

Yours sincerely,

*Martha Reizenstein*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*per. L. G. L.*



Oct. 16, 1931.

Miss Martha Reizenstein  
Baltimore Section Nat'l. Council of Jewish Women  
1216 East Baltimore Street  
Baltimore Md.

Re; Rom Family

Dear Miss Reizenstein;

We have appealed to the family of the above for some slight assistance but have received no response.

Would you please call upon them and see if it is possible for them to send Mrs. Rom about \$10.00 monthly to help this woman feed her children and pay her rent.

We are doing everything possible to rehabilitate this family and she is now running a small second hand shop.

Yours truly,

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



# Baltimore Section Council of Jewish Women

(INCORPORATED)

DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRANT AID



BALTIMORE, MD., October 22, 1931-192x

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,

1016 Olive street,

El Paso, Texas.

Re- Rom Family

Dear Mrs. <sup>Z</sup>labovsky-

Immediately upon receipt of your letter of October 16, I called to see Mr. Joseph Shargel, fatherinlaw of Mrs. Rom, in reference to sending relief to his relatives. Mr. Shargel, who is a shames in a very small synagogue (earning only \$10.00 a week) requested me to say that he is doing all he possibly can to be of financial assistance to Mrs. Rom. Unfortunately Mr. Shargel's children are out of work at the present time. He sent Mrs. Rom several packages of clothing, and \$10 for the last holidays. He assured me, that he will make another effort in the near future. He is very appreciative of what the C.J.W. has been, and is, doing for his family.

Mr. Shargel is a very fine person, and regrets that he can be off such little assistance to his relatives.

Sincerely yours,  
*Martha Reizenstein*  
Executive Director.



January 22, 1933.

Baltimore Section Nat'l. Council of Jewish Women  
Miss Martha Reizenstein-Executive Director  
1316 East Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, Md.

Re: Rom Family

Dear Miss Reizenstein:

We should be very appreciative should you contact Mrs. Rom's family in Baltimore and write me to what extent her (Mrs. Rom's family in Baltimore) has helped Mrs. Rom in the past year.

We will write you further on the subject after we receive the above information.

This information is most important to us, and would greatly appreciate a very prompt answer.

Awaiting an early reply,  
Believe me to remain,

Mrs. Frank Klabovsky  
Service to the Foreign Born  
1016 Olive Street  
El Paso, Texas

IV:Z



February 9, 1934

Baltimore Section Council of Jewish Women  
1316 East Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, Maryland:

Re: Rom Family

Referring to your letter of January 26, 1934 with reference to the above case would you kindly inform us how often and when last Mr. Joseph Shargel sent the \$10.00 and package of old clothes.

Frankly speaking I do not think the old folks should sacrifice themselves, because Mrs. Rom is making a comfortable livelihood in Juarez, Mexico.

She is able to engage a maid to do her housework altho she lives in one room and the store.

We have ~~withheld this case~~ carefully, and are fully convinced that she is the type who always demands.

We have helped her financially and have tried to give her moral support, as well as medical aid in time of illness, but she is never satisfied.

As to the children coming into the United States there are 35,000 inhabitants in our adjoining town of Juarez, Mexico who are managing very nicely. Why not advise the family in Baltimore to let Mrs. Rom shoulder the full burden of her responsibilities for a change, in that way we may succeed in establishing a higher moral in this case.

Thanking you, we beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky  
1016 Olive  
El Paso, Texas.

LV:Z



OFFICERS

Baltimore Section  
Council of Jewish Women

(INCORPORATED)

~~1216 E. BALTIMORE STREET~~

1216 east Baltimore street



January 26, 1934

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,

Service to the Foreign Born,

1016 Olive street

El Paso, Texas

re Rom Family

Dear Mrs. Zlabovsky-

Immediately upon receipt of your letter, I called to see Mr. Joseph Shargel, father-in-law of Mrs. Rom. He told me that he was only able to send her \$10.00 and several packages of worn clothing for her and the children.

Both he and his wife are willing to take the children to live with them; they were very frank however, about stating that they could not give the required Government bonds.

Mrs. Rom, they stated, had relatives in New York who were quite in good circumstances. Their addresses will be brought to our office within the next few days and I will send them to you.

Sincerely yours,

*Mark Feigenberg*





# The National Council of Jewish Women

CHICAGO SECTION

DEPARTMENT OF SERVICE FOR FOREIGN BORN

824 SOUTH HALSTED STREET  
PHONE HAYMARKET 4593

Honorary President  
Mrs. Hannah G. Solomon  
President  
Mrs. Harry J. Myerson  
1020 Ardmore Avenue  
Treasurer  
Mrs. Samuel Herman  
Co-Chairmen  
Mrs. Herman Lebeson  
1205 Tower Road,  
Winnetka, Illinois  
Mrs. Max Krauss  
424 Melrose Avenue

Field Secretary  
Mrs. Elsa M. Weinshenk

July 29, 1935

Mrs. Frank Zlabobsky  
1016 Olive Street  
El Paso, Texas

Re: Sule Gehteryte  
and Mere Romiene.

Dear Mrs. Zlabobsky:

Enclosed you will find the passports for the foregoing, which have been brought up to date by the Lithuanian Consul.

Many thanks for your letter of July the 23rd, and we will see to it that the excellent work being done by your department will come to the attention of Mrs. Goldman and Mrs. Brin.

Miss Kirscheimer is working as Consular at a girls' camp for the summer. When she returns, your message will be given her.

All of your friends in Chicago are well and wish to be remembered.

Sincerely yours,

Elsa M. Weinshenk  
Field Secretary

EMW:BW

*kindest personal regards*



March 6, 1936.

Mr. M. N. Sundelowitz,  
25 Central Avenue,  
Spring Valley, N. Y.

Dear Sir:-

Your cousin, Mrs. Mary Rom, Calle La Paz,  
706C, Juarez, Mexico, has acquainted me with your  
letter to her.

Mrs. Rom is a widow with three children,  
Natalie, 14, Elias, 12, and the youngest is 7 years  
of age. Our organization has given what assistance  
it was possible during the past eight years, and at  
the present time, we are giving the two older children  
an English and Hebrew education in El Paso, Texas.  
They are permitted to come to the American side daily  
for their instructions. This undertaking alone costs  
the organization an average of \$18.00 per month, and  
from time to time, we assist Mrs. Rom with groceries,  
old clothes and her rent. She has a small store at  
the above address, which enables her to partly main-  
tain herself and children.

If you and your family are in a position  
to better her living conditions, it would indeed be  
an act of charity, because she suffers both hardships  
and degradation in being forced to raise her family  
under the present existing environments. If there is  
anything we can do to advise you, do not hesitate to  
appeal to us for such information.

Yours very truly,

(Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky.)  
Field Executive.



25 Central Avenue  
Spring Valley, N. Y.  
April 27, 1936

My Dear Mrs. Ziebrovsky,

I wish to apologize for not answering your letter. The reason is not that I did not appreciate the good that you have done and are doing for poor Mrs. Rom, but because I was waiting until I could give you some definite plan of action.

I know that we must have a cash fund to show the government authorities that the Rom family would not become a public charge. With this idea, we



her and the children. Armed with this letter from you, we expect to get enough money from the rest of the relatives and friends to help her. I am positive that such a letter will assist us tremendously in that direction.

I, my wife, and children, wish to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for what you have done. God shall bless you and the rest of your noble organization. May you all be healthy and prosperous for many years to come. I cannot fully express my thanks and appreciation of your generous work on paper, but believe me, I feel

are trying to raise a fund to do so. We hope to be able to establish Mrs. Rom in a house, so that she can support the children.

Now, my dear Mrs. Z. I order to accomplish this plan I need your cooperation. What to do is to send me a strong sentimental letter, stating that you get Mrs. Rom out of Mexico something very serious might



it deeply in my heart.

In addition to the letter mentioned,  
please write to me as to just what  
proceedure is necessary to get Mrs Lom  
and her family out of Mexico and into the  
United States as soon as possible.

In waiting your letters, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Morris W Sundelawitz



May 26, 1936.

Miss Merle Henoeh,  
625 Madison Ave.,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss Henoeh:

ages: 14-12-8

Res Mrs. Mary Rom and three children.

We have the following addresses relatives of the above:

Mrs. D. Sundell,  
845 Riverside Drive,  
New York City, N. Y.

Mr. Iessie Sundell,  
1913 80th Street,  
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mrs. E. Filler,  
822 45th Street,  
Boro Park,  
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Please contact these people, and ask them to assist Mrs. Rom and her three children to enter the United States. The children are growing up under the most unfavorable environments, and we are anxious to save our youth. I think Miss Razovsky, as well as Mrs. Goldman stressed that to us when they were here and saw the conditions under which our Jewish people are compelled to live in our neighbor town.

I think you have a resume of this case in your files.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,  
Field Executive.

FZ:LG



May 26, 1936.

Mr. Morris W. Sundelowitz,  
25 Central Avenue,  
Spring Valley, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Sundelowitz:-

Replying to yours of April 27th, I wish to inform you that Mrs. Rom and her three children are in dire distress in our neighboring city, Juarez, Mexico.

We have tried to furnish them with their physical requirements, and what little moral support it is within our power to give the two or three hours a week that we call on them. It would be impossible to describe the unfavorable conditions in which our Jewish people are forced to live and eke out a livelihood in Juarez.

Your plan for helping Mrs. Rom and her children is scarcely feasible, because the Labor Department will tell you that there are enough boarding houses in the United States, and that Mrs. Rom and her three children would be classified as public charges. We realize the necessity of getting Mrs. Rom away from her present environments, because the children will suffer from lack of proper training, but the only plan that could benefit her would be the one that she wrote to you about, and that could not be accomplished in El Paso. Mrs. Rom is still young and fairly attractive, and you should have no difficulty in assisting her as she asks. In the mean-time if you and her other relatives can give her financial aid, it will be appreciated, but we would advise that you send it thru our office, so that we may be kept informed.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,  
Field Executive.



# National Council of Jewish Women

221 WEST 57TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY

FROM: Merle Henoch

DATE November 19, 1936

TO: Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky  
El Paso

SUBJECT: Mary Rom & Family

I am going to enclose reports received from New York  
and Brooklyn on this case which naturally speak for themselves.  
The result of this family conclave you will get at another time.

*M.H.*

MH:G  
Enc.



Augusta Mayerson

October 28, 1936

Merle Henoch

Mrs. Mary Rom and family

Mrs. D. Sundell has not responded to our invitation to come in to discuss the Rom family. We are following her up.

In the meantime, however, it seems to us that we are scarcely well informed enough on the problems and composition of the Rom family to discuss the situation intelligently with the New York relatives. It seems to us that the El Paso Section should send as complete a report as possible.

S. SHAFTER:RE



Sara Dukore

Miss Henoch - National Office

November 16, 1936

ROM family

In June 1936 we reported to you that we had communicated with Mr. Issie Sundell, then residing at 1913 - 80th Street, who was out of town at the time, but that we had been informed that there was a relative in Spring Valley, New York, who might be of assistance. At that time, it was suggested that the New York Section contact the Spring Valley relative.

We have now followed up the Brooklyn relatives and we learned that Issie Sundell lives in St. Louis, Missouri and that his financial circumstances are very bad.

We communicated with the other Brooklyn relative, Mrs. B. Filler, 822 - 45th Street and urged her cooperation. Mrs. Filler advises that the relatives did send the client clothes and some financial assistance this past summer. They cannot, however, consider bringing Mrs. Rom to this country. Mrs. Filler promised, however, to take up again the matter of financial assistance for Mrs. Rom with the Sundell family circle and she will probably transmit some money to the client within a few weeks. We will continue to follow her up.

We learned, incidentally, that there is a relative in Mexico, who might be of assistance to the client. He is also a cousin of the client and maintains a large department store. His name is Mr. I. Zundeleovich and his department store is known as La Universal Morelos, #1. Tel. Mexico 429, San Luis Potosi, Mexico. His post office address is Sucursal, Morelos, 16, Apartado numero 76, San Luis, Potosi, Mexico. Tel: Mexico 5-15.

Mrs. Filler, who is his sister, advises us that he is well to do and would probably help the client or her children with work, etc. Mrs. Filler suggests that client communicate with him direct.

A.S.Petluck:IG



## NEW YORK SECTION

Received: Nov. 19 1936

OF THE

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

SERVICE FOR FOREIGN BORN

FROM.....Miss Mayerson

DATE.....November 17, 1936

TO.....Miss Henoch

SUBJECT.....Mary Rom and family

After repeated attempts to see Mrs. Dora Sundell of 845 Riverside Drive, we were successful in interviewing her. She had been to Europe during the summer. Mrs. Sundell advised us that her second husband Barnett Sundell is a second cousin to Mrs. Rom. According to her description he is an old man "who lost all his money in real estate". We nevertheless felt that Mrs. Sundell who was literally blazed with diamonds might be of assistance. She negated our hopes by informing us, that, if any assistance was sent it was sent to closer relatives of her husband in Europe.

She informed us that Mr. Issie Sundell had moved out of New York altogether and she does not know his present whereabouts.

Mrs. Morris Sundelowitz of Spring Valley has a small house and a small grocery store and barely manages to earn a living. She, however, has expressed an interest in the oldest Rom girl, a girl of 14 (who looks like 18) and who apparently has been accosted by unpleasant elements in Mexico. She would be willing to keep the girl in her home, but Mrs. Sundelowitz does not know how strong her affidavits would be.

We were given the name of a Mrs. Joseph Ginsberg of 75 Orchard Street, New York City, an aunt of Mrs. Rom, who is the closest relative. Mrs. Ginsberg has four married children, all of whom are self-supporting.

Mrs. Sundell made it very clear that because of her distant relationship to our clients, of the age of her husband and because of the fact that they are assisting closer relatives she would not be the person to motivate the Sundell Family Society in taking action in this situation.

We were advised to see Mrs. Ginsberg and also to communicate WITH Mr. Morris Berk of 1378 East 18th Street, Brooklyn, who is the President of the Sundell Circle and also a cousin of Mrs. Rom. Mrs. Sundell requested that we should not tell these individuals that she has given us their addresses. She is sending us the date of the next Sundell family circle meeting.

It seems that Mrs. Sundell will not assume the role of motivator in this matter. We are therefore going to see Mrs. Ginsberg and are also writing Brooklyn to approach Mr. Berk.

S.Shaffer:t



Sara Dukore

December 16, 1936

Miss Henoch - National Office

Rom family

Miss Mayerson - New York Section

After following up the Brooklyn relative, we wish to advise, at this time, that at the recent meeting of the Sundell family circle, \$20. was collected and was sent to the client in Mexico. In addition, several bundles of clothing are being sent to her.

We are advised that the client, Mrs. Rom, is able to sell some of this clothing sent to her and this affords an additional source of income for her.

The relatives in the United States have many obligations and, therefore, are dubious about being able to send regular support to the client. However, they appeared to be sincerely interested and promised to make every effort to send assistance from time to time. We will, of course, follow them up.

A.S.Petluck:IG



# National Council of Jewish Women

221 WEST 57TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY

FROM: Merle Henoch

DATE Dec. 22, 1936.

TO: Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky  
El Paso, Texas.

SUBJECT: RE: The Rom family

I am enclosing a copy of the letter from our Brooklyn Section as to the decision made by the Rom relatives. I hope the money and the clothing have been received.

*M.H.*

MH:DG  
Encl.



*President*  
MRS. ARTHUR BRIN  
2566 Lake of Isles Bldg.  
Minneapolis, Minn.

*Honorary President*  
MRS. HANNAH G. SOLOMON  
951 Hyde Park Blvd.  
Chicago, Ill.

*First Vice-President*  
MRS. MAURICE L. GOLDMAN  
1155 Park Avenue  
New York City

*Second Vice-President*  
MRS. JOSEPH M. WELT  
631 W. Boston Blvd.  
Detroit, Mich.

*Third Vice-President*  
MRS. ALEXANDER WOLF  
Hotel Shoreham  
Washington, D. C.

*Treasurer*  
MRS. BENJAMIN MARVIN  
9011 - 195th Street  
Hollis, L. I.

*Financial Secretary*  
MRS. HERMAN B. LEVINE  
283 Churchill Road  
West Englewood, N. J.

*Recording Secretary*  
MRS. GERSON B. LEVI  
919 Hyde Park Blvd.  
Chicago, Ill.

*Chairman, Executive Committee*  
MRS. MAURICE L. GOLDMAN

MANAGING COMMITTEES

MRS. ABRAHAM H. ARONS  
*Program Research*

MRS. JULES HART  
*Section Service*

MRS. JACOB LOEB LANGSDORF  
*Membership*

*Executive Director*  
MRS. MARION M. MILLER

*Associate Director*  
CECILIA RAZOVSKY

# National Council of Jewish Women

INCORPORATED  
221 WEST 57TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY

CABLE ADDRESS: COUNJEW, NEW YORK



February 19, 1937.

FROM .....Merle Henoch

TO.....Mrs. Frank Zlabosky  
El Paso.

Re: MARY HOM & FAMILY

Supplementing our letter of December 22nd, I am sending you  
herewith report from the Brooklyn Section re the above case.

*M.H.*

MH:AS

Enc.



Brooklyn Section

February 16, 1937

Miss Henoch - National Office

Rom Family

Miss Mayerson - New York Section

We have been following up the Brooklyn relative, Mrs. Barnet Filler of 822 - 45th Street and we wish to advise that at the February meeting of the Sundell family circle it was decided that at least \$10.00 would be sent to the client in Mexico for the Passover holidays.

This money will probably be sent direct to the client next week.

ASPetluck:IG



**National Council of Jewish Women**

221 WEST 57TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY

**FROM:** Merle Henoch

**DATE** March 24, 1937

**TO:** Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky  
El Paso, Texas.

**SUBJECT:** RE: Mary Rom and family

I am sending on the report received from New York Section on the case of Mary Rom and family. It is pathetic that people as poor as these will try to make an effort to send assistance to others.

*M.H.*

MH:DG  
Encl.

*Carl Lehman*

*Box 388. 413 Sullivan St.  
Miami Ariz.*



AUGUSTA MAYERSON

3/10/37.

MERLE HENOCK

Mary Rom & family

We interviewed Mrs. Joseph Ginsberg, 175 Orchard St. She and her husband occupy a poorly furnished apartment in a very poor section of the city.

The Ginsbergs have been in the United States for 42 years. Mrs. Ginsberg is a citizen and receives old age pension of \$24.00 per month. Mr. Ginsberg is a peddler, and the family has a very hard struggle to make ends meet. Mrs. Ginsberg has four children, but they are living in very poor circumstances and it is impossible for them to assist their relatives. However, she will try to collect some old clothes and possibly a few dollars for the Rom family.

Since there is nothing further that we can do, we are closing the case.

B.E.GOLDBERG:LT



May 6, 1937.

Mrs. Elsa Weinshenk,  
824 S. Halstead,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mrs. Weinshenk:-

Re: Mrs. Mary Rom.

Will you please have the above Passport  
extended at the least possible expense.

It would be much better for the applicant  
if she could get an official refusal because the  
American Consul recognizes that instead of a Passport  
for Border crossing applications.

Thanking you, I am

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,  
Field Executive.

FZ:LG

(ENC)





# The National Council of Jewish Women

CHICAGO SECTION

DEPARTMENT OF SERVICE FOR FOREIGN BORN

824 SOUTH HALSTED STREET  
HAYMARKET 4593

Field Secretary  
Mrs. Elsa M. Weinshenk

Honorary President  
Mrs. Hannah G. Solomon

President  
Mrs. Harry J. Myerson  
1020 Ardmore Avenue

Chairman  
Mrs. Herman Lebeson  
1205 Tower Road,  
Winnetka, Illinois

May 12, 1937

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky  
Field Executive  
National Council Jewish Women  
1016 Olive Street  
El Paso. Texas

Re: Mrs. Mary Rom.

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

We made a special call at the office of the Lithuanian Consulate and discussed the possibility of having him give us an official refusal or renewal of this passport. However after carefully examining the passport, he stated that there was really no reason why he should refuse to extend it.

As you will note, it has been extended and the fee of \$6.00 has been paid. We would greatly appreciate it if you could reimburse us at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

*Elsa M. Weinshenk*

Elsa M. Weinshenk  
Field Secretary

EMW:CS  
ENC.  
REGISTERED.





**LIETUVOS KONSULATAS CHICAGOJE**  
**CONSULATE OF LITHUANIA**  
100 EAST BELLEVUE PLACE  
**CHICAGO, ILL.**  
**U. S. A.**

Received from Mrs. Elsa Weinshenk the sum of Six  
(\$6.00) Dollars for extension of Passport belonging to  
Mrs. Mere Romiene.

Chicago, Illinois. May 11, 1937.

A. Bernotas  
A. Bernotas  
Secretary Lithuanian Consulate



May 17, 1937.

Mrs. Elsa Weinshenk,  
824 S. Halstead St.,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mrs. Weinshenk:-

Re: Mrs. Mary Rom.

Inclosed you will please find  
check for \$6.00 to cover the passport  
extension, and wish to thank you for your  
trouble.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,  
Field Executive.

FZ:LG  
(ENC)



May 5, 1938.

Mr. M. Dennis,  
Brenham, Texas.

Dear Mr. Dennis:-

Your wife's application was filed with the American Consul yesterday. The Consul is not satisfied with the evidence presented and demands an affidavit in which you will have to state your financial status and your monthly income. This must be accompanied by documentary evidence. It is necessary that you show letters from your bank and also from the merchants with whom you deal. He also demands the divorce papers.

If you can get these papers to us without unnecessary delay, we will try to present the case in a better light.

Awaiting your prompt reply, I am

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,  
Field Executive.

FZ:LG



May 16, 1938.

Mr. M. Dennis,  
Brenham, Texas.

Dear Mr. Dennis:-

It is necessary that you make a special affidavit showing your willingness to assume full responsibility in the support of your wife's three children. You must also send letters under affidavit showing that you do not have any other dependents; that you are not supporting your ex-wife and children by a prior marriage. In addition to the above mentioned documents, I strongly advise that you get affidavits of support from Mrs. Dennis's friends, and a couple of character letters about yourself. The papers that you sent seemed to be questioned.

Please take care of this matter immediately.

Yours very truly,

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

FZ:LG



SAM TOUBIN  
PRESIDENT

HASKELL TOUBIN  
SECY.-TREAS.

# TOUBIN BROS. INC.

BRENNHAM, TEXAS

OWNERS OF NEW YORK STORES AT  
BRENNHAM, NAVASOTA, LA GRANGE, EL CAMPO

May 20, 1938

Mrs. F. Zlaborsky  
~~Mrs.~~ B. Katotkin  
212 E. Cypress St.  
San Antonio, Texas

Dear Mrs. Zlaborsky:

This letter is with reference to a Mrs. Rom of Juarez Mexico, who married a Mr. Dennis of this city.

He is trying to bring her and her family over here to make their home with him. As regards Mrs. Dennis or Rom, I know her personally from Europe.

She comes from a very fine family and would make an excellent citizen of U.S. As regards Mr. Dennis, he is a hard working man and is in the fruit and vegetable business in this city.

Please let me know just how she stands in a position to come over here, and please answer at once. I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Toubin Bros. Inc.

By S. L. Lane



Mr. Marcus Dennis,  
Brenham, Texas.

Dear Sir:-

Inclosed you will please find Petition of Issuance of Immigration Visa, and will ask that you kindly fill in the unanswered questions, especially pertaining to your former marriage and divorce. Also, go before a Notary Public and swear to the questions asked on the back of this document. It will be necessary that this petition be typewritten and signed in duplicate.

When all of this is completed, please mail these duplicates to the Secretary of Labor, Washington, D. C.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Sol Goldfarb,  
Corresponding Sec'y.

LG:S  
(ENC)



PETITION FOR ISSUANCE OF IMMIGRATION VISA

THIS FORM TO BE USED  
BY U. S. CITIZENS ONLY

NOTE.—This petition should be typewritten and submitted in duplicate. Strike out words or parts not applicable.

To the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, Washington, D. C.:

I, Farouk Rom, (Full name, including maiden name if married woman) (Street and number) Brennan,  
respectfully state that I am a citizen of the United States by ☐ birth; ☐ my naturalization;  
☐ naturalization of father; ☐ naturalization of mother; ☐ marriage to husband. (See paragraph 12 of instructions.)  
(Place a check mark in the square preceding the method by which you acquired citizenship)  
I was born on August (Month) 1930 (Day) at Koveo (City) Koveo (State) Russia (Country)  
The person through whom I derived citizenship was born on \_\_\_\_\_ (Month) \_\_\_\_\_ (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Year)  
at \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Country)  
Certificate of citizenship numbered 653866 was issued to ☐ me; ☐ my father; ☐ my mother;  
☐ my husband by the Federal (Court) at AKRON (City) Summit (County)  
Ohio (State) on May (Month) 11th (Day) 1936 (Year)  
I first entered the United States when 18 years of age on the \_\_\_\_\_ (Steamship)  
at New York (Port) on December (Month) 16th (Day) 1938 (Year)  
I married my citizen husband on March (Month) 16th (Day) 1938 (Year), and ☐ have ☐ have not been previously married.  
My former marriage(s) occurred on \_\_\_\_\_ (Month) \_\_\_\_\_ (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Year), and terminated on \_\_\_\_\_ (Month) \_\_\_\_\_ (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Year), by ☐ divorce. (See paragraphs 12 and 13 of instructions.)  
My father is a citizen of Russia (Country), having become such on \_\_\_\_\_ (Month) \_\_\_\_\_ (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Year)  
My mother is a citizen of \_\_\_\_\_ (Country), having become such on \_\_\_\_\_ (Month) \_\_\_\_\_ (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Year)  
Subsequent to naturalization or American birth I ☐ have ☐ have not been outside the United States; ☐ have ☐ have not taken an oath  
of allegiance to a foreign government; ☐ have ☐ have not served in the armed forces of a foreign country; ☐ have ☐ have not renounced  
United States citizenship; ☐ have ☐ have not been naturalized in any foreign state. The person through whom I derived citizen-  
ship ☐ has ☐ has not been outside the United States. (If either you or the latter (or both) has been outside the United States  
give below the places and periods of time of such absences.) (See paragraphs 6, 11, and 12 of instructions.)  
nil  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Person) \_\_\_\_\_ (Country) from \_\_\_\_\_ (Person) \_\_\_\_\_ (Country) to \_\_\_\_\_ (Person) \_\_\_\_\_ (Country)  
After an absence of over 2 years ☐ (s)he returned on nil (Steamship) at \_\_\_\_\_ (Port)  
on \_\_\_\_\_ (Month) \_\_\_\_\_ (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Year)  
My husband is, and for the past two years ☐ have ☐ have not been employed by self  
at 2500.00 (Street and number) Brennan (City) Texas (State), and that ☐ my ☐ his net worth is  
\_\_\_\_\_ dollars, and that ☐ my ☐ his net annual income is \_\_\_\_\_ dollars.

The names of the prospective immigrants for whom I petition follow:

Name of prospective immigrant	Relationship to me	Place of birth (City or town, province, country)	Date of birth
<u>Mary Rom</u>	<u>wife</u>	<u>Lithuania</u>	<u>12/20 - 1899</u>
<u>Natalie Rom (wife's daughter)</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>Mexico (Juarez)</u>	<u>Sept. 25, 1923</u>
<u>Elias Rom (wife's son)</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>Mexico (Juarez)</u>	<u>Aug. 9, 1924</u>
<u>Solomon Rom (wife's son)</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>Mexico (Juarez)</u>	<u>Feb. 24, 1928</u>
<u>5.</u>			

Exact foreign address \_\_\_\_\_

The prospective immigrant Mary Rom (Petition, if approved, will be sent to the American consul nearest above address)  
is my ☐ wife; (s)he is of the Polish race; we were duly married on 16th (Month) 1938 (Year)  
by Abbi J. M. Roth and such marriage has not been dissolved.

The above-named prospective immigrant(s) ☐ has ☐ has not at any time been in the United States. (If ever in the United States give the following information regarding such stay(s):)

Name of prospective immigrant	Place of stay	Time of stay
<u>nil</u>		

I am able to and will support the above-named immigrant(s) for whom I petition, if necessary to prevent such immigrant(s) from becoming a public charge.



June 6, 1938

Miss Cecilia Razovsky  
1819 Broadway  
New York, N. Y.

Re: Mrs. Mary Rom and  
three children  
Juarez, Mexico

Dear Miss Razovsky:-

I am pleased to inform you that after fifteen years of trials and tribulations with this family we have succeeded in getting four non quota visas and they are now legally in the United States. Despite the fact that Mrs. Rom married an American citizen in March of this year and Mr. Dennis, her husband filed application 633 and the Labor Department approved the petition, the American Vice Consul in Juarez put numerous obstacles in the way and in desperation I argued the case with Consul Shaw and finally succeeded.

You have quite a file of this case in your office which may be closed. This family will shortly move to Brenham, Texas where they will reside.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky



El Paso, Texas  
June 10th, 1938

National Council of Jewish Women  
El Paso, Texas

My Dear Mrs. Mayer:-

In an effort to show our appreciation to this organization for the many courtesies and assistance received during the fifteen years of our struggles and trials while living in Mexico were it not for the courage imbued in us through the untiring efforts of Mrs. Zlabovsky I don't think it would have been humanly possible for us to have stood the strain. And now we are so happy because again through the efforts of Mrs. Zlabovsky we have been admitted into the United States where we can enjoy the freedom for which this country stands.

The education given the three children in the public schools of El Paso makes an excellent start for them as well as for me in the new environments I am about to face. Natalie will have no difficulty in adjusting herself because she speaks a very good English besides having sufficient knowledge in other branches of education. Elias and Solomon will be able to continue their schooling and I hope that Elias' desire to become a lawyer will now be within his reach.

Please thank every member in your organization especially Mrs. Zlabovsky and her co-workers for all that has been done in the past and for that which they have contributed towards my future happiness in this country.

And to you, Mrs. Mayer, my most sincere thanks for your kind consideration to my children, as well as myself,

Respectfully yours,



Oct 16, 1938  
Baltimore Md.

Mrs. Glabobsky  
El Paso Texas.

Dear Mrs. Glabobsky

I hope you still remember us. It is not 4 months yet that we entered the U. S. A. with your help.

I never wrote to you before, but all I am asking now is a good advice.

My brothers are in school but I have been looking for a job since the first moment I got here, and I am still without it, and no hope to get it because there is so many people that need jobs, that they wouldn't pick up a foreigner.

I guess you think we live in Brenham like we were supposed to, but we changed the program, we live in Baltimore near our parents. All our parents as you



I hope you will help me with this, and please I want you to keep it a secret between you and me. Answer me as <sup>soon as</sup> possible as you can because we want to know what to do.

Please give regards to Mrs. Mayer, Mrs. Goodman and to all the Jewish Women Society that helped us.

And to you Mrs. Slabobsky my best regards and happiness true the following new year.

Yours truly  
Natalie Rom

S. P. My address is  
Natalie Rom  
210 N. Washington St.  
Baltimore Md.

Please send your envelope as plain as you can without names or letters but mine. I will appreciate that very much because I don't want nobody to know about this.



know are really poor people and every one makes a living for himself, so we can't expect no help from them.

Not being contented in this place I am asking you, because you are the only person I can come to, and as you know the laws I want you to tell me whether it is better to stay here without a job, or go back where we came from and work there again.

The only reason I am asking you for this advice is because my brother Elias and my mother can not get along here and I get a part of it too. You must know that he was always a bad child with a bad temper and with my mother's nerves he doesn't want to stay here and wants to go back.

As for myself I feel the same way because we can't stand it here. I have talked to him and explained what all this means but he does not want to listen ~~the~~ nobody.



El Paso, Texas,  
October 18, 1938.

Dear Natalie:-

Your letter amazed me, and now let me call your attention to a few facts. It would be a tragic situation for you and your brother to come back to this section of the Country, because from your letter I judge that your mother defrauded the Government and committed perjury in the manner in which she entered the United States. If you and your brother come to El Paso it will be generally found out that your mother is in Baltimore and not in Brenham, Texas. An investigation would start and you will all be deported. The man who married your mother would have a serious charge against him for bringing an alien into this Country through falsification. Conditions in El Paso and Juarez, Mexico have changed considerably since you left and you will find even greater difficulty in getting a job here than in a large city.

I would suggest that you and your brother enroll in a vocational school and the teachers usually place competent students, or would you rather try to get a position in some home as another's helper or maid until something better comes up. Let me assure you Natalie that any work is honorable and the maid of today is on an equal standard as a clerk and in many instances more profitable. If you think that doing such work in Baltimore is not to your liking why don't you go to Washington or New York. In either of those places you may appeal to the Jewish Society not for help but for their assistance in placing you in a proper home. Elias should adjust himself and continue his schooling. He has an excellent chance to develop into something worthwhile.

Let me hear from you, and if there is any way that I can help you (other than El Paso) I shall be glad to do so.

With kindest regards, I am



# Certificate

We ~~or~~ Smeier Lundelevičius and <sup>n</sup> H. Vainkūnas  
as citizens of Lithuania sign and certify  
that <sup>Lundelevičaitė</sup> ~~mere~~ D. Girsė Romienė Lundelevičaitė a  
citizen of Lithuania, was born in 1899  
January the 20th, in the city of Biržų county of  
Biržų

The Jewish birthcertification <sup>bureau</sup> ~~Bureau~~ acknowledges  
these signatures of <sup>Vainkūnas</sup> H. Vainkūnas and  
<sup>Smeier</sup> Smeier Lundelevičius

Biržai  
1923 July 6th  
N 279

L. Friedmanas  
~~Biržų~~  
Jewish birthcertification  
chief of the city  
of Biržų

E. Kaper  
Secretary.



I am sending you  
the address of Your Uncle Jessie  
Mr. Jessie Sundell  
1913 - 80<sup>th</sup> St.

Bklyn. N.Y.  
+ the address of Your Cousin  
Morris Sundeloch  
Mr. Morris Sundeloch  
25 Central Ave  
Spring Valley.  
N.Y.

From Anna Feldman  
2420 - 82<sup>nd</sup> St Bklyn N.Y.

910 01930 01512 10/10/11 or 11/11

Mrs. D. Sundell  
845 Riverside Drive  
N.Y. City

311 01345 10/11/11  
811/11/11 01111 11/11/11 11/11/11  
Mrs. B. Filler  
822, 45<sup>th</sup> St  
Boro. Park  
Brooklyn N.Y.

11/11/11 01111 11/11/11 11/11/11



אויף א שטעטל צו אים  
דער האט זיך אלס צוגעקומען  
צו שוויצער-האד און צו  
לעבער אלטן און צוגעקומען  
דערעם אלטן און צוגעקומען  
צו צוגעקומען און צוגעקומען

אויף א שטעטל צו אים  
דער האט זיך אלס צוגעקומען  
צו שוויצער-האד און צו  
לעבער אלטן און צוגעקומען  
דערעם אלטן און צוגעקומען  
צו צוגעקומען און צוגעקומען