

Mrs Pearson, 51, Brixham Gdns, Ilford ... 5/-  
Mrs Douglas, 3, Castle Mans, Gourock... £1. 0. 0.

# UNITED APPEAL FOR JEWS IN POLAND AND OTHER PARTS OF EASTERN EUROPE

FEDERATION OF JEWISH  
RELIEF ORGANISATIONS  
President  
THE CHIEF RABBI

KEREN HATORAH  
RELIEF FUND  
President  
DAYAN I. ABRAMSKI

FEDERATION OF  
POLISH JEWS  
President  
HAHAM Dr. M. GASTER

300

**Appeal Chairman:**  
Dr. D. JOCHELMAN  
**Appeal Treasurer:**  
MORRIS MYER, Esq.  
**General Secretary:**  
A. M. KAIZER, Esq.  
**Accountants:**  
Messrs. CRACKNELL & Co.  
F.L.A.A. & F.C.P.A.  
**Auditors:**  
Messrs. LEVER BROS. & Co.  
Chartered Accountants.  
**Bankers:**  
BARCLAYS BANK LTD.  
British Museum Branch.

**Central Offices:**  
33, SOHO SQUARE, LONDON, W.1  
Telephone: GERRARD 3455. Cables: RELIEFORG, LONDON.

3rd November 1938.

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.,  
39, Bow Road,  
E.3.

**ORGANISATIONS  
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**FEDERATION OF JEWISH  
RELIEF ORGANISATIONS:**

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Prof. Dr. S. BRODETSKY  
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RABBI Dr. S. SCHONFELD  
Rabbi Dr. E. MUNK

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POLISH JEWS**

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A. TARLO, Esq.

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L. JOSKOWICZ, Esq.

**Joint Hon. Treasurers:**  
CHAS. L. BLAND, Esq.  
JACK MOSCOWITZ, Esq.

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

I beg to confirm our telephonic conversation of this morning, when you were kind enough to accept the Chairmanship of the Polish Refugees Appeal Committee, under the auspices of the above.

I need hardly say how much the Members of the Council appreciate your kindness and readiness to assist in our cause. On behalf of the Committee I wish to thank you most sincerely.

I would much appreciate if it would be possible to get from you either a block or reprint of a recent photograph of yours. We would also require a facsimile of your signature for the purpose of circularising the Hon. Officers of all Jewish Institutions, Congregations etc.,

It would be very essential if a letter from you could be addressed to the Editor of the Jewish Chronicle explaining the urgency of the cause and the fact that you have accepted the Chairmanship of this Committee. I am fully aware that a letter from you in the press would bring the required results.

If you would be kind enough to forward this letter on to us at the above address, to reach us by Monday morning, we will send same on to the Editor.

As explained over the telephone, I am leaving for Manchester this evening and I will 'phone to-morrow (Friday) evening from there and have a word with you. With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

M. Kissenisky



M449

UNITED APPEAL

FOR VIEWS IN POLAND AND OTHER PARTS OF EASTERN EUROPE

THE CHIEFMAN  
UNITED APPEAL  
10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

THE CHIEFMAN  
UNITED APPEAL  
10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

HAROLD D. M. GAZLER  
UNITED APPEAL  
10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

27 SOHO SQUARE LONDON W.1  
Central Office

Tell him I cannot write  
the appeal + wish him to  
do so + lay down Chairman  
of Cttee

UNITED APPEAL

Sidney Silverman M.P. cheque for about £13  
 N. Rosin 93/95, New North Rd, N.1. £1. 0. 0.

(301)

39 Bow Road  
 London  
 E.3

[place with "United Appeal"  
 letter of 3 Nov. 1938]

TELEPHONE  
 Advance 3247

Polish Jew Fund.

	£.	s.	d.
E.J.Jacobs Little Acre, Peaslake, Surrey	3.	-	-
Florence Pinto 7, Chesterfield Gdns, N.W.3.	1	-	-
Mrs. Knight 33, Western Road, Mickleover, Derby		2.	6
Mrs Helen Coles Harrowden Vicarage, Wellingborough		2.	0
Dec 13 Kahal Chasydim Synagogue ...	3	-	-
Mr. M.J.Turner 14, Black Lion Yd, E.1.			
Mrs E.Spence Weiss Easedale, Woodway, Morrow Guildford .....		10	-
Lewis Emanuel 15, James Street, Covent Gdn Mkt, W.C.....	1.	1.	-
	<del>xxxx</del>	<del>xxxx</del>	<del>xxxx</del>
Mr. G.D.Plummer, Ashfield, Headland Grove, Paignton, Devon....	1.	-	-
Mr. H.C.Glover, Tullochard, Kingussie, Inverness-shire ....	1.	-	-
In Memoriam H.F.& A.B.		10.	-
Jean F. Long, Achill, Saltshouse Ad, Suttonon Hull, E.Yorks	1.	-	-
Per Mrs E.Saxon Holder, 29, Arran Rd., S.E.6.	1.	2s.	-
Mrs. A.H.Tissington, Upwey, Bow Green Road, Bowden, Cheshire		10s.	-
Miss G.M.Hughes 6, Herford Road, Liverpool 15	5.	-	-

Jan 1525

as  
 to R hand stone  
 for his Anne Henning Co  
 18. Harcourt Terrace  
 2nd 10

M449  
 100-0  
 BRITISH LIBRARY  
 OF  
 POLITICAL  
 AND  
 ECONOMIC SCIENCE

302

*C. Knauer*  
HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR NEW ZEALAND.



NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT OFFICES,  
415, STRAND,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

*[with letter 3 Nov. 1938  
from Hubert Butler  
p.c. 295 above]*

10th November, 1938.

Dear Madam,

I duly received your letter regarding Mr. Strunz, whose letter to Mr. Lansbury I return. He had already communicated with this office and had been advised the steps he should take in order to obtain a permit to enter New Zealand.

Mr. Lansbury may rest assured that any further advice which it is in our power to give will be readily forthcoming.

Yours faithfully,  
*C. Knauer*

Miss Postgate,  
Private Secretary,  
39, Bow Road,  
E. 3.



M449

(H. F. Kvergie)

London, Nov. 10th 1938.

303

George Lansbury, Esq., M.P.

House of Commons, London.

Dear Sir,

I have been asked by Herr Oskar Beck, of Vienna  
to forward the enclosed papers.

The papers were sent to me piece-meal as a pre-  
caution and it will be noticed that even the covering  
letter was sent in three pieces.

Yours faithfully

*H. F. Kvergie*

Dr HF Kvergie  
17, College Crescent  
London, N.W.3.



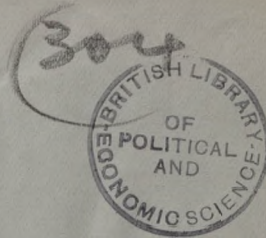
M449

Oskar Beck  
with letter to Nav. by Knergic

THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS  
RELIGIÖSE GESELLSCHAFT DER FREUNDE (QUÄKER)  
ZENTRALE WIEN

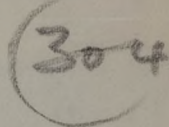
AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE (PHILADELPHIA)  
FRIENDS SERVICE COUNCIL (LONDON)

WIEN, I., SINGERSTRASSE 16/II.  
TELEFON: R 20-0-21

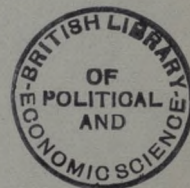


M449

Vienna, October 4th, 1938.



George Lansbury Esq.,  
London.



Dear Mr. Lansbury, Dear Comrade,

M449

Please find enclosed a copy of your letter of July 7, 1925. That was our last communication. When you were in Vienna, I sent you a letter to the Hotel Imperial and it seems that this letter did not reach you; so I waited for an answer for a long time.

Up to now I have been State official and due to the recent change of system in Government I have been dismissed, being Evangelic but Non-Aryan. As I have to leave Austria, I would like to go back to my old London town. May I ask you to be good enough, if somebody asks you for a reference regarding myself, to assist me in this way to get to London. I would only go to London if I have a situation there and earn so much as to keep my family going. If you know of something for me or if perhaps in the Labour Weekly you might find some job for me, I would be very thankful to you.

May I recall to your memory the time when the Daily Herald had his big fight and great troubles and when I worked up the scheme that every member of the Amalgamated Union of Hotel Workers had to take ten copies of the Daily Herald, so as to get a great number of copies of this paper amongst the workers and, on the other hand, keep the paper going. It was a very nice time then, because we worked and fought for ideas, for the same ideas I have to leave Austria now.

For your kind information I attach a kind of curriculum vitae. At present I am working, temporarily, with the Society of Friends in Vienna in the organizing of their office.

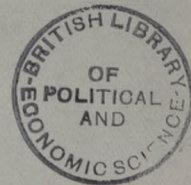
With kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

*O. Beck*

Oskar Beck

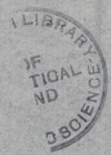
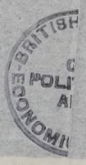
M449



Encl.

with letter Oct. 4/38  
and Karger 10 Nov 438

Oskar Beck,  
c/o Society of Friers  
Vienna, I.  
Singerstr. 16.



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Curriculum Vitae

I was born March 6th, 1878 in Budapest and am an Austrian citizen. I attended the elementary school, a commercial school, took a course in anatomy. I was an official at the Exchange for 9 years, founder and chairman of the "Arbeiter-Bildungsverein", then secretary of the central office of the hotel-, bar-, and coffeehouse employees. In 1908 I went to Paris and held lectures there and was called up to London where I became general treasurer of the Amalgamated Union of Catering Workers which I founded and later on I became secretary of the National Health Insurance (Alimentary Section) in London and worked together with W.A. Appleton, Ben Tillett and others. I was interned at the Isle of Man and was repatriated at the end of 1917. Back in Vienna I became secretary of the Day Home for War Children and Orphans and was the founder of the Council for Vocational Guidance. 1920 I was called up by the government to found according to my proposal a department for agricultural apprentices whose leader I was until 1925. At the same time I was office chief of the "Landes Landwirtschaftskammer". Then I was called by the government to take charge of the Agricultural Employment Agency at the "Industrielle Bezirkskommission". There I was up to July 31st 1938. As I am an all-round social worker, I was founding-member of the Criminal Political Society. I worked for released criminals and for 8 years I worked in the Juvenile Court to fight criminality of the youth with very good results. Up to March 1938 I was leader of the movement against Abuse of Alcohol.

I am a learned Heilpädagoge (diploma). I am one of the scholars of Prof. Dr. Alfred Adler. Since 1899 I was acting as unpaid employment agent in Austria, England and a part of Switzerland up to 1938. I was entrusted by the "Bundesministerium für soziale Verwaltung" from 1928 to 1932 with the advising of and providing employment for cripples and mentally deficient. At present I am working with the Society of Friends in Vienna.

P.S. I have been guardian (Generalvormund) for 156 children.



M449

COPY.

with Oskar Beck of 4 Oct, 1938  
and Klegic of 10 Nov, 1938

LANSBURY'S  
LABOUR WEEKLY

200 Palace Chambers  
Bridge Street, Westminster  
London, S.W.1

306

7.VII.25.

Dear Comrade:

It was very good of you to write  
such a nice letter to me and this is to say  
thank you a thousand times, and also for your  
very good wishes. Perhaps one of these days  
you will come back and we shall meet again.

Meantime, every good wish.

Yours fraternally,

(sgd) G.Lansbury

Mr. Oskar Beck,  
Grundsteingasse 38/43.  
Vienna XVI



M449



307

41 Lothbury E.C.2

Robert Walter Jones  
1890 —

12th November, 1938.

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.,  
39, Bow Road,  
E.3.

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

I am venturing to take advantage of your kind suggestion on the telephone last week that I should send you details of the Jewish refugee case in which I am interested. The details are as follows :-

Dr. Richard Rubner and his Wife, Frau Paula Rubner, of Vogelweidplatz 3/8, Vienna 15.

Dr. Rubner is a Jew but his Wife is an Aryan but, of course, Jewish by marriage.

He was an Exchange Banker in Vienna and since the end of June has been, firstly, in Dochau Concentration Camp and, latterly, in Weimar Camp.

When arrested he was recovering from a kidney operation and, as far as we know, still has a wound that requires dressing. Roundabout reports through the Society of Friends suggest that his condition of health may be desperate.

Visas for this man and his Wife were obtained last August, the proper undertakings for their maintenance etc. in this Country having been given to the Home Office. There is a deadlock apparently in Vienna regarding the issue of the visa by the British Passport Control Office. The Consul has been insisting that the visa can only be given in respect of a Passport which contains no prohibition against return to Germany.



M449

12 Nov. 1938

Representations were made last week to Mr. Otto Schiff, who, I understand, made a strong complaint to the Home Office forthwith and as a result has obtained the assurance of the Home Office that instructions have been given to the Control Office that where visas had been authorised by the Home Office, they were to be granted irrespective of whether the refugees' passports were good for return, stateless or anything else of that sort.

Yesterday, however, I received a long telegram from Frau Rubner, which was followed by a letter from which I gather that, very naturally, the Passport Control Office in Vienna is besieged with applicants and she is unable to get an interview or any attention to letters she writes.


Inasmuch as a visa was granted some three months ago and Dr. Rubner is in such a precarious state of health, I am writing in the hope that instructions might be sent from this end to the Passport Control Office in Vienna requesting them to give attention to this long overdue matter.

I may add that I have received a daughter of Dr. and Frau Rubner into my home and have made myself responsible for her future.

I expect you are being troubled with a good many of these distressful cases but I hope you will consider that this is one deserving of your kind support.

I am, dear Mr. Lansbury,  
Yours very truly,

R. W. Jones

P.S. I am sending a copy of this letter to breech Jones who will vouch for my bonâ fides? 

FROM THE  
CHANCELLOR OF THE  
DUCHY OF LANCASTER.



[with letter 12 Nov. 1938 from  
R.W. Jones]

309  
TREASURY CHAMBERS,  
WHITEHALL, S.W.1.

16th November 1938.

Dear Private Secretary,

I write to acknowledge the receipt of your  
letter of 15th November, enclosing a letter from  
Mr. R. W. Jones concerning the case of Dr. Richard  
Rubner, which I will place before Lord Winterton.

Yours faithfully,

H. E. Brooks

Private Secretary.

The Private Secretary to  
The Right Hon. George Lansbury, J.P., M.P.,  
39 Bow Road,  
E. 3.



M449

German Embassy

310

Der Deutsche Botschafter

London  
Carlton House Terrace

November 16th, 1938.

Sir Mr. Lansbury.

I am in receipt of your letter of 3rd November  
re Dr. Max Wachstein.

This Embassy has already been approached by  
other quarters about this case and has communicated  
with Berlin. Under these circumstances I do not  
consider it advisable to take any additional steps  
at the moment.

Yours truly  
Dirksen

Herbert von Dirksen

George Lansbury, Esq., M.P.,  
39, Bow Road,  
E.3.



M449

EMIL VON HOFMANNSTHAL.

MEMBER OF THE FORMER AUSTRIAN BAR.  
CONSULTANT IN CENTRAL EUROPEAN LAW.

16th November, 1938.

*We did write  
home you heard  
anything*

(311)  
COMMONWEALTH BANK CHAMBERS,  
10, OLD JEWRY,  
LONDON, E.C. 2.  
TEL.: METROPOLITAN 0252 (8 LINES).  
CORRESPONDENT IN PARIS:  
14 RUE LACRETELLE.

Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.  
39, Bow Road,  
London, E.3.

Dear Sir,

Captain Haro Jones was so kind as to submit you, to-  
wards the end of September, the case of the well-known publisher  
Marton Hertz of Bucharest.

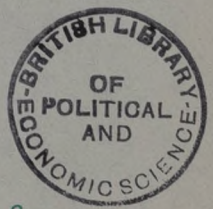
I only want to emphasise that, apparently because  
of antisemitic reasons, this man has been deprived of his business  
which was the leading publisher's firm in Roumania and was also very  
well known in other states. His firm represented a value of <sup>far over</sup> about  
100,000.-- L.

I address myself to you at this very moment, because  
the presence of H.M. the King of Roumania and the unanimous indigna-  
tion about those antisemitic expropriations might give you an oppor-  
tunity to direct H.M.'s attention to this case, and to suggest a re-  
paration of the damage done to ~~him~~ *H. Hertz*.

I beg you to understand that it is only this urgency  
which causes me to write to you directly, in this case.

I am, dear Sir, Your obedient servant

*Hofmannsthal*



M479

Ray I cannot  
do any more

312

DR. EMIL VON HOFMANNSTHAL.  
MEMBER OF THE FORMER AUSTRIAN BAR.  
CONSULTANT IN CENTRAL EUROPEAN LAW.

COMMONWEALTH BANK CHAMBERS,  
10, OLD JEWRY,  
LONDON, E.C. 2.  
TEL.: METROPOLITAN 0252 (8 LINES).

CORRESPONDENT IN PARIS:  
14 RUE LACRETELLE.

25th November, 1938

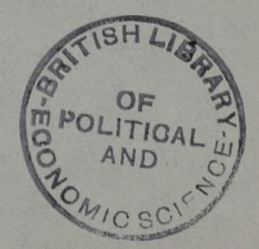
To  
Mr. Portgate, Private Secretary  
39, Bow Road  
London E.3

Dear Mr. Portgate,

I thank you very much for your kind letter of the  
24th inst. and I have told Mr. Marton Hertz that Mr. Lansbury has  
done everything he could.

Yours faithfully

*E. v. Hofmannsthal*



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Home Office

313

HOME OFFICE,  
WHITEHALL,  
S.W.1.

16th November, 1938.

Dear Private Secretary,

I have received your letter of the 15th November enclosing a letter which you have received from Mr. J. Reece Walker about the case of Leopold Heydermann.

I will make enquiries regarding Mr. Heydermann and write to you again as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

*K. Walker*

The Private Secretary Private Secretary.  
to The Rt. Hon. G. Lansbury,  
M.P.



M449



Viktor Pollak.

c/o Lord Russell

13 Moray Place

Edinburgh

Nov. 17th 1938

314

*Thanks to my wife  
study his plan & am not  
able to say more  
he can be used etc*

Mr. Lansbury M. P. Esq.  
London, House of Commons.

Dear Sir,

As I know that you are interested in the question of the Refugees I dare to send you the including letter. The same I reported to the Intergovernmental Committee on the 5th of November, to which I had been invited after I had written to Lord Winterton.

I am myself an Austrian Refugee waiting for a permit for Australia; in the meantime I am staying with Lord Russell whose friendship rescued my family and me.

I would be very much obliged to you if you would support my plan and please do let me know if I can be of any use. I am willing to submit myself to any work in this question.

Yours faithfully

*Viktor Pollak*



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FROM THE

CHANCELLOR OF THE  
DUCHY OF LANCASTER.



315

TREASURY CHAMBERS,  
WHITEHALL, S.W.1.

18th November 1938.

Dear Private Secretary,

With further reference to your letter of 15th November regarding Dr. Richard Rubner, Lord Winterton desires me to say that, as he is no longer assisting the Home Secretary to the same extent as formerly, he thinks it proper that the case should be referred to the Home Office. I am accordingly sending your letter to that Department, asking them to reply to you direct.

Yours faithfully,

H. E. Brooks

Private Secretary.

The Private Secretary to  
The Right Hon. George Lansbury,  
39 Bow Road,  
E. 3.



M449

Apply for visa - inform consul hospitality offered  
and private means.

Private.

36, Richmond Park Road,

Bournemouth, Hants.

Alice H. Joseph

November 21st 1938.

To:-

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury.

Dear Sir,

In the extremity of my distress I am appealing to you on behalf of our dear Jewish friend who has been expelled from Karlsbad where he owned and extensive Furrier's business, and who is now in Praha. I have written many letters but no notice has been taken, so I am imploring you to overlook the trouble I am giving you.

I have known the family for many years, and my mother before me, and I am 73 years of age. I have visited Karlsbad regularly until recently for the Cure, and having always been shown kindness and hospitality I am interested in this dear soul. He was with us here last May after being in London for a Furrier's Auction.

At the present moment we do know where our friend is to be found:-

Rudolph Grunbaum,

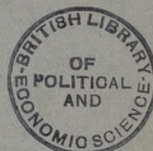
pr. Adr. B. Kohnova,

Praha - Strasnice,

Vilova. 389.

Czecho Slovakia.

I have had letters from him imploring me to try and get him



M449

*Elise H. Joseph*

(317)

21 Nov. 1938

a permit for England, and out of the inferno where he is in hourly terror of the terrible cruelty meted out to the poor defenceless people, whose untold suffering has been intensified these past few days, and according to the Press there is worse in store for them.

I am an old resident in Bournemouth having been here for over 40 years, and own this house I live in. My late husband's niece (who often visits me here) is sister-in-law to Sir Frank Pollitzer our future Lord Mayor of London.

Mr. Rudolph Grunbaum would not be a burden to the Country, as he has money in London and Paris Banks which he had put there for business purposes, and I have guaranteed him a home.

I think you will agree with me Sir, that this is an opportunity offered to so few, and I implore you from the depths of my heart for his sake to use your influence in obtaining a permit for England without undue delay as it is over five weeks since he first asked my help in this matter, and I heard of his distress.

Any references that may be required I can supply, either Banker's, Solicitor's or Doctor's.

With renewed apologies and once more imploring your almost immediate help

I remain, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Mrs)

*Elise H. Joseph*

G.H.

This letter is a bit difficult. How can we get at  
her friend. I don't think we can do anything  
until we know he has appeared for a time we  
will try our best often we hear he has done so.



Alice H Joseph

(319)

36, Richmond Park Road,  
Bournemouth, Hants.

November 24th 1938.

To the:-

Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.

Dear Sir,

Our heartfelt gratitude for the contents of your letter received this morning. Immediately upon hearing from you I sent a registered letter to Herr Rudolph Grunbaum asking if he had applied for a Visa. Upon hearing from him, I will with your permission, at once communicate with you.

Believe me Sir, when I tell you I have written many letters since October 19th when I received Rudolph Grunbaum's pleading and pitiful letter asking if I could help him obtain a permit to come here, and yours is the only one that has held out any comfort and hope.

Thanking you from the depths of my heart for the interest you have taken on behalf of one who is in continual terror and fear.

I remain, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Mrs) Alice H. Joseph



M449

Alice H Joseph

320

36, Richmond Park Road,  
Bournemouth. Hants.  
November 25th 1938.

Dear Sir,

I apologise for troubling you again regarding Mr. Rudolph Grunbaum, but we have to-day heard from him, which letter crossed our registered one enclosing yours re Visa, in which I think you should know that he says they are now allowed if they leave the Country to take with them £500.

I implore you to help us and him in this case, and when we receive his reply re Visa, I beseech you to let the Home Secretary know that he is bringing £500 with him, as well as having money in London and Paris, and a home and hospitality offered him here with us as long as it pleases the Almighty to spare him.

With heartfelt gratitude

I remain, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

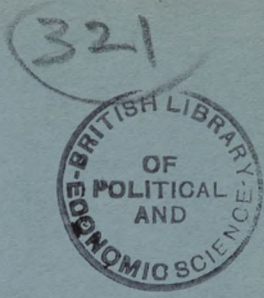
*(Wm) Alice H. Joseph*

To the:-  
Rt. Hon. George Lansbury,  
39, Bow Road,  
London, E.3.



M449

Mr. EARL BARNES  
NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT



to Mrs. Joseph Fels

11/28/38

28 Nov. 1938

M449

Dearest Mary -

You ask for more information about Almas' death. Ephem had six lectures in Town Hall - I mean recitals - on Bach, Beethoven and Brahms. I went down with Almas for each one of the three. They were on Monday night. In the afternoon Almas wanted me to go with her to a Russian film - "The diary of Papani" - She enjoyed it thoroughly and changed today, on the way back to her house she said "Almas, I should love to go to Moscow with you" "If the doctor says I may will you go with me in April. I have to die somewhere and I should love to die in Moscow". I said, "Surely I will go, Almas, so we will make that a date".

We had tea and I read her to sleep. At 7:45 I asked Ephem Jr. to call his mother which he did. She dressed for the recital in a beautiful red dress and wore a short mink coat. I never saw her look better. We were in a box and in the intermission she held court there everyone saying how well she looked and



Dr. Jolly came to me and said - "You are taking good care of Alma, I never saw her look better!" After the concert Egan had to hurry to catch a train for Philadelphia, Maria and Oden were tired and went home, Alma, Egan Jr. and I went to a restaurant for dinner - or rather for some refreshment. Alma took a cup of chocolate.

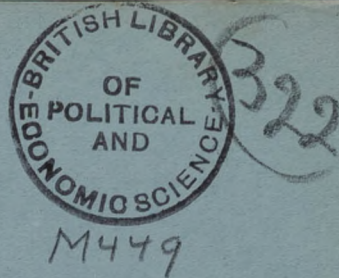
At eleven we were ready for bed. I slept in Egan's room on her floor and when I went in in the morning she said she had a slight hemorrhage.

She called Dr. Jolly and he made arrangements for her to go to the hospital at three. She asked me to come home and go back in three days so I could see her for she said no one could see her for three days. So I came home and early Wednesday morning I was telephoned for.

Few minutes after she was put to bed in the hospital she fell into a coma from which she never rallied. And she died early Thursday morning.

Maria and Oden came back three weeks before on account of the war scare but for all her last days here, I was the one who was with her. I slept there and ate my meals with

28 Nov. 1938



to Mrs Joseph  
Fels

Mr EARL BARNES  
NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

has but would come up here to work in the daytime. I read  
to her, in fact, devoted myself to her since the end of  
the summer.

Her funeral was private. Thousands of telegrams  
and letters came and we are still answering them.  
She was cremated and her ashes were buried in the  
Old Town Hill Cemetery here on Monday morning. On  
Tuesday I went with Eprem to vote and in the afternoon  
drove with him to New York. I stayed the night with  
Howard and went to spend a few days with Bernard.  
Eprem began his teaching and his lectures and on  
the 10<sup>th</sup> of December he gives his fourth recital  
in Town Hall. It was very much broken by Almas's  
death. We all knew she was very ill but did  
not know the end was so near. She died because  
her liver ceased to function.

Eprem means to live here. He hopes to sell the  
New York house, take a small apartment with

Epen Jr. in New York for use during his season. He has been playing in Ohio and Canada and I haven't seen any of them since the 8<sup>th</sup> of November.

Alma worried a great deal about Epen Jr. He is a very lovable boy but at 21, which he will be on the 30<sup>th</sup> of this month, he has no promise. He wants to be an actor. At present, he is a page in Radio Center. With Alma's ambition, Marcia's success, Marcia's successful marriage, <sup>as a background</sup> he is at a disadvantage. Epen is very patient with him and he may with his father's help win out.

I am alone on the hill. It is snowing hard and the wind howls. Thirteen years ago you and Joe left 2 Queen Square in a snow storm and before you got to Brickley, Howard was born. What a long, beautiful friendship we have had, dear Mary, and how precious every memory connected with you is to me. As I look back over the years you stand out as a vital force and I know I love you deeply. I am glad you like the chapter I wrote about Joe and are keeping it. Dear love to you, to Anna and your household my greetings - Anna

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INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION  
INTERNATIONALER VERSÖHNUNGSBUND — LA RÉCONCILIATION

Chairman of the Council:

J. Nevin-Sayre

Chairman of the Executive Committee:

F. Siegmund-Schultze

Treasurer:

Barrow Cadbury

Secretariat:

Percy W. Bartlett

Henri Roser

Muriel Lester

16, VICTORIA STREET,  
LONDON, S.W.1

Telephone: Whitehall 4089

Telegrams:

Reconciliation, Whitehall 4089, London

November <sup>30</sup> 28th 1938.

Rt. Hon. George Lansbury,  
Bow Road,  
London, E.

Guaranteed by  
Oskar Ewald (Miss Jane Smith, 71, Corringham Rd.  
at present in concentration camp. N.W.11  
Dear George Lansbury,

I enclose copy of letter received this morning from a friend of ours, Miss Esther Simpson, about the case of Oskar Ewald. You remember I wrote the other day, and you said that if an invitation could be obtained, you would be willing to help in expediting a grant of visa. I wonder if you feel that this action can now be taken. I know everybody concerned will be grateful if you can do anything.

Yours sincerely,

*Benjamin Ballin*

*Can you ring up*

*about this*

Wrote to Home Office  
5. xii. 38.

Enclosure



M449

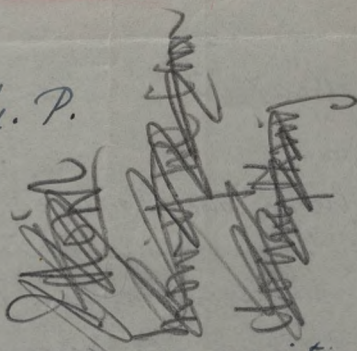
Erich Stern

324

Trieste, Italy,  
Ospicio Cristiano,  
Via Roma 28

3<sup>rd</sup> December 1938.

Sir.  
George Lansbury M.P.  
Bowstreet  
London E.C.



524468 ✓

Dear Sir,

Excuse me please for writing this letter to you. I do not know if you personally will get these lines, but if I shall have the good luck that it really will be so. I beg you so much to read the letter until the end. It is a great favour I now shall ask you, though you do not know me I beg you to help me.

Would you allow me to tell you something about myself and about why I took courage to write to you. My name is Erich Stern, aged 24, born in Vienna, German (formerly Austrian) citizen, Jewish race, Evangelical Lutheran religion. I studied at the University in Vienna at the medicinal faculty and took 1938 my degree as doctor. As second profession I learned after the revolution in Austria the electric-fitter's handicraft.

At 18<sup>th</sup> August 1938 a friend of mine in England, Mrs. O. P. Irving, Oaklands, South Godstone, Surrey had the kindness to make an application at the Home Office (via Wolburn House) to grant me an English visit-vizum to spend with her the time, until I shall get an answer from the Department of Internal Affairs, Canberra, Australia, where I send an application for

getting a permit to. Mrs. Irving secured guarantee for me by her bank-account and gave assurance that I really would not stay in the United Kingdom for long time and that I would not practise my profession as physician.

Yesterday I got the answer from the Home Office, where one regrets not being able to give me the permission to enter England until I would have got my Australian Permit.

At 24<sup>th</sup> of August I had to leave Germany and was forbidden to come back again. I now am living in Italy, but my stay-permission goes down at 20<sup>th</sup> december. The police-station told me that I would just back to Germany if I would not be able to leave Italy until the 20<sup>th</sup> december. There is no country I am allowed to enter, no place where I could wait for the Australian answer. And therefore, Sir, I beg you instantly to help me. I assure you once again, that I would leave England in the shortest time and if I would not be allowed to go to Australia I would leave for China. At the present moment I cannot go to China as all Italian ships are occupied till March.

I would be so thankful if you would put right my affair. If you really could help me, I beg you respectfully to answer to my sister Liselotte Stern, 285 North Road, Plymouth, Devon who there is teaching in St. Dunstan's Abbey. Please, Sir, do not be angry about this letter and please please help me. I thank you so much for your kindness.

Yours most respectfully

Erich Stern.



Mrs. Earl Barnes

(1)

to  
Mrs. Joseph Fels Lee Johns - New Hartford

December 8-1938

Dearest Mary,

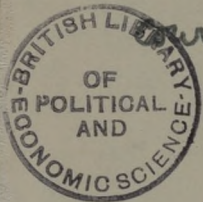
This may reach you  
before I can and carry to you loving  
wishes from me.

I am here alone, getting rested. I

was very much worn out after Almei's death - for I have been under an enormous strain for months - no one would understand better than you.

Spem was up for a few days as I think I wrote you. He goes on with his work and tomorrow will be difficult for he continues the

course interrupted by Almei's death.



Our heavy snow is about gone

M449 and now we have rain but it is not cold.

Give my love to Ana. Are you troubled about European affairs?

They seem terrible to us over here.

I like to think of you in the



quiet villa with the two admirable <sup>B</sup>  
people caring for you. My best  
greetings to them and pat the cat for  
me.

Devotedly -  
Aunt.

I have sent for another refugee -  
She will go as a governess to Adelaide Sand.  
Between Joe and me we have vouched  
for seven fine souls.

Home Office

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HOME OFFICE,  
WHITEHALL,  
S.W.1.

12th December, 1938.

Dear Private Secretary,

I have received your letter  
and enclosure of the 11th December  
about the case of Erich Stern, and  
will have this looked into at once.

Yours sincerely,

*S. R. L. L. L.*

Private Secretary.



The Private Secretary to

The Right Hon. G. Lansbury, M.P.

M449

D. H. KLAUSNER

ALSO  
*8, Wellington Road, E. 3.*

BANKERS: LLOYDS BANK LIMITED

TELEPHONE  
STEPNEY GREEN 4213 (2 LINES)  
ADVANCE 3952

TELEGRAMS  
KLAUSNERIM, EDO, LONDON

CODE: BENTLEY'S

327  
*422, Mile End Road,  
(Facing Peoples Palace)  
London, E. 1.*

13th December 1938.

REF. IK/FL

*Mr. D. Porgale*  
Mr. D. Porgale,  
45, Hendon Lane,  
Finchley,  
London, N. 3.

Dear Sir,

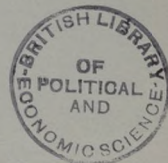
As you are aware, I have been trying to obtain visas for Hirsch Klausner and family of Frankfurt for quite some time.

I am glad to say I have been successful with regard to one person, Moses Engel, and I shall be trying during the course of the week to obtain the visas for the others. I would ofcourse be most obliged if you would send the further note promised in your letter of the 11th instant if my endeavours this week should prove unsuccessful.

I might mention that all information known about these people are in the hands of my solicitors, Messrs. Landman & Foy of 9, Basinghall Street, E.C.2., who would be most willing to furnish you with any details required. I shall ofcourse, instruct them to send you full particulars concerning this matter in the event of my failure to obtain these visas very soon.

Yours faithfully,

*D. H. Klausner*



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Home Office,  
Whitehall,  
S.W.1.

K.10506/2.

15th December, 1938.

Dear Private Secretary,

? p

You wrote to us on 22nd November about Mr. Soloman  
Kreitstein, a stateless foreigner of Polish origin who  
desires to come to the United Kingdom en route for the  
United States of America. We have had many similar  
applications made to us, and it has been found necessary  
to make it a rule that applications from persons who  
desire to come here for political, racial or religious  
reasons cannot, in the absence of evidence that permission  
to enter another country is assured, be treated as  
involving merely a visit. The Home Secretary is not  
therefore at present able to authorise facilities to  
enable Mr. Kreitstein to come to this country, but he  
would be prepared to consider the matter further if  
furnished with evidence of the kind I have mentioned, or  
if one of the voluntary organisations with whom the Home  
Office is working in close collaboration in dealing with  
proposals for the welfare and settlement of potential

? p



M449

Home Office

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15 Dec 1938

refugees, e.g. the German Jewish Aid Committee at Woburn House, were able to assume responsibility for the case and make acceptable plans for the future.

Yours sincerely,

*K.B. Paice*

Private Secretary.

The Private Secretary to  
The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, J.P., M.P.,  
39, Bow Road,  
E.3.



330

Home Office,  
Whitehall,  
S.W. I.

R.9352.

16th December, 1938.

Dear Private Secretary,

Your letter of the 12th November regarding Richard Rubner and his wife has been passed to me because, as you may know, Mr. Geoffrey Lloyd has taken over from Lord Winterton, among other things, the responsibility for dealing with Home Office business concerning aliens. I am glad to be able to tell you that a further communication has been sent to the Passport Control Officer in Vienna authorising him to grant these people visas to enable them to come to this country for six months. I imagine that the difficulty has been that the authority to grant visas which the Passport Control Officer was formerly given was for a visit to expire on the 26th December. As this authority was given in August last the Passport Control Officer might have felt (quite properly) that he could not, at this date, grant a visa for a visit for such a short period without further reference to the Home Office.



M449

SR.

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Home office

16 Dec. 1938

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I return the letter which you forwarded.

Yours faithfully,

*K.B. Paice*

Private Secretary.

The Private Secretary to  
The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, J.P., M.P.,  
39, Bow Road,  
E.3.

332

Robert Walter Jones  
(1890—

41 Lothbury E.C.2

19th December, 1938.

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.,  
House of Commons.

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

Please accept my very warm thanks for the trouble you have taken in respect of easing matters for Dr. Richard Rubner and his Wife in Vienna.

Your Secretary writes to say that visas have been granted to Dr. Rubner for himself and his Wife and I hope that as a consequence of your kind intervention their troubles will soon be over.

With kind personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

*R.W. Jones*





333



E 4066.

Home Office,  
Whitehall,  
S.W. 1.

20th December 1938.

Dear Private Secretary,

You sent to us on the 5th a copy of a letter which Mr. Lansbury had received from Mr. Bartlett of the Fellowship of Reconciliation about a visa for Dr. Ewald. Would you let Mr. Lansbury know that the visa had been authorised on November 30th?

Yours faithfully,

*K.B. Paice*

Private Secretary.

The Private Secretary to  
The Right Hon. George Lansbury, J.P., M.P.,  
39 Bow Road,  
E.3.



M449

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HOME OFFICE,  
WHITEHALL,  
S.W.1.

20th December, 1938.

Dear Sir,

I am desired by the Home Secretary to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th December enclosing a letter from Mr. A. Lewis concerning the case of Joseph David Hager, and to say that this case shall have attention.

Yours faithfully,

*S. R. Pinckney*

Private Secretary.

The Rt. Hon.  
G. Lansbury, M.P.



M449

Mrs. Joseph ~~Fels~~

335

Villa Mirka, Boulevard Frederiek Sperling  
Cimiez, Nice, S.M. — Dec. 28, 1938.

Dear George, —

I am glad, as always, to get your Christmas card. No other card is like yours. Each year I look forward to its coming as to no other. It is not only because it comes from you but because of the kind it is. The utterance you choose is so good and beautiful that I keep it close to me long after. Even for years I have it on the mantel, standing where I can see it. This year your choice has been such it made me think better of St. Paul. You see, I cannot forget Paul's persecution of the Christians and especially of his standing by, and even commending, the stoning of that sweet soul, Stephen. He was blind indeed, long before the three final days, until called to account by the spirit of Jesus.

You see, above, where I am. This is my  
third Winter on the Riviera. In fact  
I am here most of the year, and in  
Paris only the few summer months.  
I love my life in this simple little  
villa and all around it. It is on  
an edge of Cimiez hill and thus  
faces open country.

I wish, dear George, I were to see  
you either here or anywhere. In lieu  
of that, please write about your-  
self to

Yours lovingly,  
Mary.

Give my love to Annie, and tell  
me about her.

Eugen Gimbalist and I keep in  
close touch. Our relation deepens  
with the years. He was so glad to  
see you that time, not long ago,  
when he met you in London.



M449

1938

We the undersigned, are convinced  
that Great Britain is NOT justified  
in going to war.

336

~~J. H. Eves~~ 379 Yardley Green Road Bham

M. Maughan

William Hall. 49 Goodway Rd Great Barr. Bham.

D. M. Eves. 379 Yardley Green Rd Bham.

P. R. Allen 40 Rayston Rd Sticksford. 9.

E. Pettie. 50 Holly Rd. Cotteridge, Birmingham

Miss King 43 Underhill Rd Birmingham 8

Eric Price, 256, Cottentons Lane, Birmingham 8.

Kathleen Hall 120 Lakeshill Rd Bham 8

Tom Clark. 399, Coventry Road. Birmingham. 10.

E. Jones, 56, Kenwood Road, B. G. B., Birmingham. 9.

W. J. Wood 19 Sparrows Lane Yardley Bham. 26.

Philip M. Waterhouse, 33, Finmore Rd., Birmingham, 9.

John C. Harvey. 19 Heron Rd 4th. Yardley. Bham 26

J. McMan 198 Lobo Rd. Leicester

M. Sands. 32 Queenswood Rd Walsely

John Barry, 444, Belchers Lane, Birmingham, 9.

J. Woodend, 35, Birch Rd Warley. Birmingham 32.

Jan Taylor. 113. Warren Road. Washwood Hth. Bham. 8.

20 Mrs Hastings. 98. Anthony Rd. Alum Rock. 8.

W. J. Thomas. 160. Readings Lane Hall Green 11.

Dorothy Parry 444, Belchers Lane, Birmingham 9

Walter Durham, 54, Baldwell Rd B. G. B. Bham 9

John E. Price 43 Underhill Rd Birmingham 8.

Lucy M. Butler, 117 Fairholme Rd Dard End.

J. Kempson 29 Ryland Road Erdington Birmingham

Edel Smith 45 Underhill Rd Alum Rock

R. L. Laybi 94 Hawthorn Rd. Birmingham 23.

May Webb 38 Frederick Rd Speckard Bham

(end of 1938  
and vol. 16)