

RABBI NORMAN LAMM  
THE JEWISH CENTER  
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NEW YORK, N. Y. 10024  
SCHUYLER 4-3511

April 1, 1971

Rabbi Shubert Spero  
Young Israel of Cleveland  
14141 Cedar Road  
South Euclid, Ohio 44121

Dear Shubert:

Thank you for your letter of March 30 concerning my forthcoming lecture at your synagogue on Tuesday, April 20th on the subject "Spotlight on Religion in Israel."

While I do not know if I can cover all the questions you mentioned in your letter, I hope to discuss most of them and perhaps add a few other elements to it.

Let me now go on to some other matter. During my stay in Israel, there occurred the notorious Ashkelon races. As a result, I developed a Rosh Hodesh Plan which was introduced to the Knesset by Zevulun Hammer and others. I wrote up the Plan for the Jerusalem Post, and I hope that the next issue of National Jewish Monthly will carry an article by me on the subject. I enclose a copy of the Jerusalem Post article.

My people in Israel have informed me that the only way to get action from the Mapai majority on the bill, which will be brought up in committee shortly after Passover, is to get as many signatures of prominent people as I can to be added to the telegram to Golda Meir, a copy of which I enclose. So far, some of those who have consented are: Kelman and Siegel of the Conservatives, Borowitz of the Reform, Lellyveld of the American Jewish Congress, Hershel Schacter of the American Conference on Soviet Jewry, Solomon Sharfman of the Synagogue Council of America, and industrialists such as Max Stern and Jakob Michael.

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What I very, very much need now are several more signatures of prominent people throughout the country. If you can talk to two or three people whose names will be known in Israel and secure their consent, you will be contributing very strongly to the project.

I am sorry to burden you before Passover, but I know that you know that the cause of Shabbat in Israel is an important one.

My very best regards to your wife, and warmest wishes to both of you for a *חג שמח*.

Cordially yours,

NL/hh

RABBI NORMAN LAMM

Enclosures