

February 20, 1974

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]:

I read with interest your letter to Mr. E.I. Farber.

I do not believe anything at all will be gained by your talking to Mr. Schwartzchild personally, if what you have in mind is mollifying him because NYANA did not choose to employ him. Quite frankly, it was my idea and initiative to begin with, and Mr. Schwartzchild was most reluctant even to allow me to proceed, let alone to agree in advance to such employment. Understandably, he could not conceivably enter into such a relationship at the present time.

I wish to reiterate what I said to you during our lengthy telephone conversation. NYANA has failed and is failing to make sufficient use of volunteers. I recognize full well the problems inherent in professional-volunteer relationship, and yet I cannot believe either on moral or professional grounds, that volunteers should be discouraged or that professional workers are beyond criticism.

I trust, [REDACTED], that you take these words, as well as the telephone conversation I previously alluded to, in the spirit in which I intend it. The Russian emigration represents the first major influx of Jewish immigrants to this country in a long time, and it is in their interest alone that I have encouraged volunteers and begun these discussions with you.

Cordially,

RABBI NORMAN LAMM

NL:cw

cc-Marty S.