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The following letter, addressed to Rabbi Norman Lamm, is typical of the expressions of thanks we have received from Russian-Jewish immigrants who have been welcomed & helped by the Jewish Centers splendid committee.

~~Russian Jewish immigrants~~

November 29, 1973

Dear Sir:

It has been two months since we first stepped foot on American soil. It has been two months since we first saw with our own two eyes that which we have been systematically during the course of our lives taught to hate — DEMOCRACY. There is no need to describe our impressions of the various aspects of life in the U.S. during our yet short time spent here. We would like only to point out one aspect of life that has affected us more than any other. Namely, the religious, social and cultural life of the Jewish Community connected with the synagogue at W. 86th street which we had the good fortune to visit during the first days in America -- this is truly an example of American Democracy.

We were deeply moved and delighted with the reception, attention and help accorded us by members of your community and you personally. Without exageration I can safely say that that with the majority of people with whom we have had contact represent an example of the kind of people with high moral character as taught to us by God and our Prophets.

The support of the American people, a small part of which your community represents, we felt while still in Russia. Thanks to this support, we were able to emigrate.

We would like to utilize this moment to sincerely thank you and the members of your community for everything. We would like to especially thank: Mrs. Stromer, Mr. Schwartz- child, Mr. & Mrs. Leibler, Mr. & Mrs. Swergold and Mr. Her- ring. Accept our sincere gratitude and assurance that every- thing that has been done for us by you will remain in our hearts all our lives.

Rabbi

Very sincerely yours,

Valentin Vanetik   Irina Vanetik
Lev Pozina, Elizabeth Pozina
Henry E Elinson, Ludmila Elinson.

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