

April 3, 1973

Mr. L. Jesselson
299 Park Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10017

Dear Mr. Jesselson:

I hope you will not take it amiss if I take the liberty of replying to your letter to Prof. Fisch. This year we are together responsible for the financing of the Summer Institute. We have, of course, been counting on the confirmation of your support and the withdrawal of such a significant donation at this stage will make it hard for us to meet our obligations for which we carry the responsibility.

But your letter has been, most of all, a moral blow. The experience of the last few years shows that we are on the right road. Let me cite just one fact to back this up: this year Prof. Ephraim Katchalsky and Rabbi Adin Steinsalz have joined our group of founding members, and Elie Wiesel will address the opening session of our Summer Institute. One could hardly find three personalities more different in background and outlook. Still, they have found with us a meeting-ground in their common concern for Jewish values and in their conviction that through serious confrontation with modern thought Judaism can be made a living instrument, not only for its own sake but also for the good of mankind as a whole.

I cannot believe that you of all people will wish to disassociate yourself from our work, and I do hope you will kindly reconsider the matter. This would mean a great deal to all of us.

I take this opportunity of sending to you and Mrs. Jesselson, as well as to your family, my warmest wishes for the coming Pessah Holidays.

With best regards,

Yours very sincerely,

YS/ves

Prof. Y. Schächter.

cc: Prof. H. Fisch.