

1/17/74

Rabbi & Mrs. Norman Lamm
The Jewish Center
131 West 86th Street
New York, N. Y. 10024

Dear Norman and Mrs. Lamm,

Thank you very much for your really prompt reply and even more for all the interesting information you enclosed. After going our own ways since 1946 or thereabouts, I cannot forget how much you helped me when I was at Albert Einstein Hospital in 1966 and now you are as interested in my welfare and condition as some of my relatives. How Freud must gloat over his theories of childhood, ~~companionship~~ companionship, et al!!!!

At first when I came here, it was difficult to adjust because I was on the floor with the more severe cases [they include , , your former classmate's mother and , , also a former classmate's father] until a private room became available on the floor with the healthier patients. Now I am in a private room and take my meals with people to whom I can talk - in fact, one of my tablemates remembers me and my family from the good old days in Williamsburgh. I ...
Come back to this later.

your letter about occupational therapy, but the mention of Williamsburgh leads me to the comparative study of Modern Law and Halacha. I did not keep a copy of my first letter but I suppose I told you how the idea came to me when I attended law school and noted how all the texts say it took civilization millions of years to develop until man was given this right [discussing some of our American constitutional rights] when anyone who has a bit of a Torah education knows that these are all ancient from the days of Sinai and Horeb. What I did not mention was my purpose or one of my reasons for writing such a work and that is something I would prefer to discuss in person, if your schedule and the gasoline situation allow for your visiting; or if you intend to visit your aunt and cousins in the foreseeable future and can drop off here for awhile we can talk about it then. In your reply let me know about this; otherwise I'll include it in my next letter.

The news you send about what happened to the project leaves me furious because I had loads of notes from my work on the subject when I started law school in 1956 and now I don't even know what I have available. I did not take all my books, ~~clothing~~ clothing, records, etc. up here with me because we are still maintaining our last apartment at Dahill Road until [redacted] can return from Germany where he is now stationed to settle the estate. In general, I kept all my papers, especially on something that interested me like that, but when we moved from the six-room apartment on St. [redacted]

Street to the three rooms we had at Bahill Road, my mother did all the packing and she may have thrown out what she thought was useless. I must return to the city as soon as possible to bring up the rest of my things and at that time, I'll see what I have to offer on the subject. The items you sent were certainly interesting and barely begin to scratch the subject because it is so vast.

The guests here have an organization with officers who work with the owners for the benefit of all. One of my Talmatis, a [REDACTED] who claims she knew us in Williamsburgh, was recently elevated to the presidency when the former president returned to his home. She asked me to assume the post of vice president and I was elected today. I told the owner and some staff members that I have loads of books, records, magazines and \$100 at home which I can bring out here so that everybody will have the benefit of them. Also movies of my trip through The West, The Canadian Rockies and Mexico in 1954 and Israel in 1968. They asked me to bring it all out here and we will start a program in music appreciation, literature, movies, etc. That should prove ~~interesting~~ interesting. I might as well ask you what is the Halacha if I conduct the music program may I listen to music before the year of mourning is up? That will give me something to do and make occupational therapy unnecessary.

As to that subject - I tried that in N.Y. after the operation but without success and that is why I am

on our good Uncle's payroll, collecting disability.
Actually, I look upon this as a continuation of my father's
work at Torah Vodaath where he was Vice President for
many years, as the פסוק in the Torah reads וְהָיָה אֲנִי
וְהָיָה בְנִי בְּקִין וְהָיָה אֲנִי בְּקִין וְהָיָה אֲנִי בְּקִין וְהָיָה אֲנִי בְּקִין.

How is your family? I am sorry for the way
I address your wife in the salutation but I do not
recall her name. Regards to all.

Sincerely,

