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H. A. BACHRACH NOM. PTY. LTD.

1003 Sportsgirl Court 234 COLLINS STREET MELBOURNE, 3000 AUSTRALIA

23rd May, 1974.

HB:jp

Rabbi N. Lamm,
The Jewish Center,
131 West 86th Street,
NEW YORK. N.Y. 10024. U.S.A.

Dear Rabbi Lamm,

Please find enclosed copy of letter written today to Hillel Davis. I was pleased to hear from him on the 'phone that Dr. Stern is continuing his work, even though I do not know anything about the basis which he has adopted.

Regarding New Zealand, I enclose copies of correspondence exchanged which is self-explanatory. Arnold Roth is there personally at the moment, and unless something comes up from there, I guess I will have to add US\$150.00 spending money to each and every one (except the Frankles).

We are very excited here about the forthcoming arrival of our friends.

Hoping that you enjoyed a very good Jomtoff with the family, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

H.A. BACHRACH.

& He will geturn soon after Strize

Dear Rabbi Mandel,

It was a pleasure to talk to you last night and to advise you that following on Rabbi Lamm's visit we will be very lucky to have a group of 10-15 University Graduates and Smicha students and Rabbis from Yeshiva University visiting Australia to hold seminars and to give lectures.

An invitation is extended to the Jewish youth of New Zealand from 15 years up to and including University students to participate at these seminars in the months of July and August. On approximately the 14th or 15th August this group could arrive in Wellington or Auckland and in return for holding seminars or giving lectures, I would require that hospitality be extended to them and sightseeing be arranged for them. In particular I would like them to see the Waitoma Caves and Rotorua.

Undoubtedly, you will be very happy with this group, but I realise the difficulties with which you are faced to make the arrangements. On the other hand, since you have no transport costs to and from New Zealand and since you do not need to pay any honorariums, the offer made herewith should prove very attractive to you.

The Australian Jewish News will have a number of articles between now and the time of their arrival and will carry reports on activities here so that you get some publicity through that source, but undoubtedly you will have to spread the word so that the people will be free to listen to these students and teachers and to follow in the way of Rabbi Lamm.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

. Counterpoint 5734

CONTENTS

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INTRODUCTION ... WHAT'S JUDAISM ALL ABOUT? A session dealing with the fundamentals of beliefs, REACHING OUT TO G-D, attitudes to G-d, chosenness, of Israel, revelation, Messiah, man in the image of Reward for punishment, free will and personal responsibility for our own action, oral law.

ISRAEL: LAND OF OUR FATHERS, The special role Israel plays in our lives - historical

SANCTITY OF LIFE

HOW PRAYER WORKS ...

An analysis of the concept of prayer, Kavanah, the nature and meaning of prayer, the language of prayer.

CONCEPTS OF REPENTANCE...

LAND OF OUR CHILDREN ...

Introspection and self-appraisal.

perspectives and contemporary issues.

WHAT'S MORALITY !!

Describing G-d's ways, attitudes in social relationships.

JEWISH SOCIETY...

Man's relationship to his fellow man.

Jewish self-expression, concepts of time and space. SHABBAT AND THE CREATOR...

HOLOCAUST, A SECOND JEWISH BATTLEFRONT...

Attitude to Israel's Arab neighbours ... Soviet politics and propaganda.

PARENTS AND CHILDREN ...

Courtship, marriage and family.

KEEPING KOSHER, WHY?

Kashruth and Jewish identity. (No formal serion)

THE BOOKS WE LIVE BY ...

An introduction to outstanding Jewish writings; Bible Mishnah, Talmud, Midrash, Shulchan Aruch: their meaning to us and their impact on Jewish life.

Dear Rabbi Mandely

Hope you received my letter of 1st March. I would appreciate to have your reaction at a very early date.

With today's mail I have written to your colleague, Rabbi A. Rosenfeld, in Wellington and I wonder whether the two communities would like to co-operate in this respect.

For your information I enclose recommendations from the Direct Secondary Education for the State of Victoria as well as a statement from Early Dr. Laum.

Kind regards,

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HE:jp

20th March, 1974.

Rabbi A. Rosenfeld, Beth El Congregation, Flat IB, Merbert Gardens Terrace, WELLINGTON. 1. NEU ZEALAND.

Dear Rabbi Rosenfeld,

Possibly you have heard of the highly successful tour of Rabbi Dr. Lamm last year in Australia. Following on to this we are organising seminar for which purpose a number of Americans will visit this country. These people would be prepared to spend a few days in New Zealand from 14th or 15th August and the only recompense they ask is that their stay in New Zealand and their sightseeing be provided by the community. In return they are willing to spend time with your youth, they are willing to lecture and I'm sure that the high calibre of these people will have a great impact on your community.

For your information, I enclose copy of a letter addressed to Rabbi Fundel as well as some preliminary data on some of the group who are coming, as well as a statement by Rabbi Dr. Lamm, and I would be very pleased if you could try to let me know the reaction of your community within a week of so.

Yours sincerely,

Dear Mr. Kerry,

Many thanks for your letter of 16th April which I received yesterday. There seems to be a misunderstanding and I hope that the following remarks will clear it up.

Australia is paying the full return fare of the American contingent and Australian communities are further involved in additional costs of over \$15,000. In addition the communities will find over \$10,000 to subsidise, on hardship grounds, parents who cannot afford the seminar fees (total seminars in excess of \$40,000).

In addition to eight seminars, the American contingent will be giving over 50 lectures to various groups in Australia.

These figures will convince you that my letter did not request board and lodging for a handful of people for five days, but offered your community a chance to avail themselves of this visit. Then you can achieve what you have set out in the second paragraph of your letter.

Naturally, your job of renovating the synagogue and the good work you are doing for Israel are all worthwhile causes and must not suffer by the visit which I had proposed, but on the other hand you may wish to reconsider your attitude in view of the facts and figures quoted above.

For your further information, I enclose a leaflet which we have just printed, but I would like to add that the four day weekend seminars are envisaged to cost the participants between \$20 and \$25 each, which is a far more reasonable sum than that which is necessitated by the high grade facilities offered by the Shalom College in Sydney.

Yours sincerely,

P. O. Box 11-173, Manners Street, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND. 16 April, 1974.

Mr H. A. Bachrach, 1003 Howey Court, 234 Collins Street, MELBOURNE 3000.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 20 March written to Rabbi Rosenfeld has been discussed with him and he has asked me to reply.

We here are very much aware of the tremendous impact Rabbi Dr Lamm made on the Australian scene and we would have been very pleased if some of his dynamism had rubbed off on the New Zealand communities.

Though we would be happy to have the benefit of a visit from the graduates of the Yeshiva University, we are not in the financial position to organize a visit from the 10 to 15 you refer to. We have embarked on a major rebuilding scheme which will require that our very slender resources are strained to the limit for the next few years. We might be able to accommodate 2 graduates and arrange that they meet our youth, but I am afraid our budget would not extend to facilitating sight seeing trips for them. I might mention here that August is the worst part of the winter and not the best time to savour the delights of the New Zealand scenic attractions.

Yours sincerely,

H. KERRY. President.

WELLINGTON HEBREW CONGREGATION

P. O. Box 11-173, Manners Street, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND.

20 May, 1974.

Mr H. A. Bachrach, 1003 Howay Court, 234 Collins Street, MELBOURNE 3000.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of the 19 April which has been discussed at our recent Board meeting. The considered opinion was that as desirable as it would be to have a seminar here, it was not feasible to organise one.

We regret to have to decline the opportunity of utilizing the services of this group.

Yours sincerely,

H. KERRY. President.

Ar. L. D. Nathan,
The President,
United Synagogues of New Zealand.
1.0. Box 198.
AUCKLAND. N.Z.

Dear Mr. Nathan,

I am writing to you to advise you of our plans for a series of special seminars in Judaism which are being arranged for Jewish high school and university students during the months of July and August.

These seminars will take the form of intensive ten day sessions at a selected camp site under the direction of fifteen young American rabbis and educators from the Yeshivah University, New York. The project, to be known as "Counterpoint 5734", is one of the most ambitious educational programmes ever undertaken by an Australian Jewish community. It has been endorsed by the Board of Deputies but arose mainly as a result of the initiative and generosity of Mr. Hans Bachrach, a leading member of the Melbourne Jewish community.

In 1973 Mr. Bachrach arranged for a lecture tour of Australia by Rabbi Dr. Lamm, Professor of Philosophy at Yeshiva University. Rabbi Lamm's visit proved to be an outstanding success and had a remarkable impact on the communities of Melbourne and Sydney. As you will see from the enclosed, that impact led to the Counterpoint programme.

We hope that many hundreds of Jewish students from the last three years of high school and from the universities as well, will be participating in these intensive programmes which will cover the whole range of Jewish life. The young rabbis are geared to today's young people and the way they think. The problems to be discussed include the Jewish attitudes to the issues of today -- from abortion to euthanasia, from the meaning of the family to the problems of Israel. The aim is to provide the students with a moral view of the world grounded in a living approach to being Jewish.

The students do not have to have any special background. In fact, those students who lack Jewish education are the ones who benefit the most from these seminars, although students of traditional background find them just as rewarding.

In short, we recommend the project and hope that you might wish to consider sending some of your own youngsters.

It has been suggested that you might consider inviting the team of fifteen Americans to New Zealand. If the New Zealand Jewish community could cover their expenses in New Zealand, the Americans would be delighted to spend time with the youth, giving lectures and participating in discussions with adults as well.

To help you in your planning you may wish to have the following dates as a guide.

In Sydney - July 1 to July 10 (Form IV students)

July 11 to July 20 (Forms V and VI students)

In Melbourne - August 1 to August 5 (long weekend for university students)

August 8 to August 13 (long weekend for university students)

For further details of arrangements in Sydney you should please contact the principal of Moriah College, Mr. N. Nagley, 17 Vivian Street, Bellevue Hill, N.S.W. 2023.

For arrangements in Melbourne, please write to Professor Bert Mond - Chairman, Education, Victorian Jewish Board of Deputies, 12th Floor, 343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne 3000.

Yours sincerely,

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23rd May, 1974.

Mr. H. Davis, Yeshiva University, 500 West 186th Street, NEW YORK. N.Y. 10033. U.S.A.

Dear Hillel,

It was good talking to you and I'm very pleased that the operator gave me your private number. I assume that next time I do not have to make it personal as only you will answer that particular 'phone.

Regarding tickets, I'm prepared to pay up to US\$1,200.00 each, except for the Frankles where I received the indicated refund. If you do ticket over there, please make sure that your group arrives on Wednesday, 26th June and is not leaving Melbourne before Wednesday, 14th August. Otherwise I have no particular demands. If you arrange the Frankles ticketing, I fully understand that they wish to leave Australia early and I suggest you route them via Perth where they can do good work for a few days and where the community is very hospitable.

I'm very happy to hear that you had a very successful meeting and gave the topics to Dr. Stern, and I'm looking forward to receiving them from him.

Whilst fully realising that for 20 year olds it is frequently hard to find some interesting items which the newspaper could write up, I'm sure, for some of the more senior people, you can give us such information.

"Night and Fog" is available and I have written to the French Embassy to see that we have it in Sydney for both seminars.

All your American source books start with the article "Dear Seminarian" and we wonder whether you will authorise us to print your signature on a similar article which we have prepared, first draft of which is enclosed.

Mr. H. Davis

23rd May, 1974.

My next letter should contain most of the articles re-written or prepared by Australians.

Hope you enjoyed Jomtoff,

Sincerely yours,

H.A. BACHRACH.