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20, Young Avenue,
Houghton Estate,
Johannesburg
South Africa

10 January, 1964

Rabbi N. Lamm,
The Jewish Centre,
131 West 86th Street,
New York 24, New York

Dear Rabbi Lamm,

I am very sorry that I did not reply earlier to your letter but I was waiting until I had more definite information.

I have been trying very hard to arrange this group of Orthodox Jewish Scientists, and it is turning out even better than I anticipated. We should have about twenty-five people in all, and a couple of them are really top men in their field. One of them has an international reputation for his work in a particular field of Gynaecology. For the time being at least I have excluded Lawyers, Accountants and any teachers. I have made it a very strict rule that only those who observe the Shabbat strictly and eat only Kosher are eligible for membership. All these people are very interested.

I am meeting a representative of the Board of Education within the next two days to decide on a definite date for this meeting which will take place in my home and will give us an opportunity to launch this Society. After your arrival I hope I shall still have a chance of discussing one or two details with regard to procedure and to affiliation to the Body in the United States of America.

I wish you to know, dear Rabbi Lamm, that I am placing myself completely at your disposal during your visit, and my wife wishes you to know that our home is open to you at any time, and if there is anything you require we shall be only too pleased to do it for you. I have a fairly comprehensive private library and any Seforim which I have and that you might need are, of course, available to you at any time. If there is anything that I can do for you before your arrival please let me know.

We are all still very concerned about our Colleague, Rabbi Dr. M. Kossowsky, who has been so desperately ill. Prayers are being said for him not only here but also in Israel and I understand in Cleveland. The last few days there has been a very slight improvement for which we are most grateful.

Please do remember me to Rabbi Samson R. Weiss.

Kindest regards to you and also to the members of your family, in which my wife joins me,

Very sincerely yours, /s/ Rabbi A. H. Lapin