

A meeting of the Mid-Manhattan Rabbi's Group was held at the Zichron Ephraim Congregation on February 16, 1965 at 3 p.m.

Those present were Rabbis Gettinger, Jakobovits, Lamm, Langer, Schneier (presiding).

Regarding the Eruv, Rabbi Lamm read a letter from Rabbi Kasher urging the group to decide on generous terms of payment to the three Mashgichim and suggesting the sum of \$1,600. per annum as a minimum commitment to be undertaken. It was decided to reconfirm our earlier decision to disburse \$2000. to the three Mashgichim for the current year, \$1200. to two Mashgichim for the following year and to review the matter thereafter. Rabbi Gettinger urged that we use the present situation for a quiet campaign to enlist the personal support of other local Rabbis with a view to eventually establishing the Eruv publicly on a proper communal basis, and it was suggested to ask one of the Mashgichim to devote himself to this task.

Rabbi Lamm reported on a series of irregularities that had recently occurred at the Riverside Memorial Chapel, and it was decided to ask one or more directors to meet with the Group at its next meeting for the purpose of securing adequate arrangements to safeguard all Halachic requirements in the future. On the suggestion of Rabbi Lamm, Rabbi Schneier undertook to draft a "check list" for our use in making funeral arrangements and advising mourners on the requisite preparations.

In a brief discussion on the Mikvah project, Rabbi Schneier stated that he had committed himself to a contribution of \$5000. and that he would make every effort to remit at least part of this pledge in the near future.

A report on a recent meeting of the R.C.A. Kashruth Committee regarding Grossinger's was given by Rabbi Lamm. The arrangements were satisfactory at the moment, and plans to change them had been tabled pending new recommendations to be made by the R.C.A. officers within the next few months.

Regarding the sad and sudden passing of our colleague, Rabbi Robert Serebrenik, Rabbi Schenier proposed to take some steps as a tangible token in his memory. It was decided, in the first instance, to make some discreet approaches to Mrs. Serebrenik in case our good offices were required to help her, and Rabbi Langer undertook this on our behalf. Finally, Rabbi Jakobovits reported that he had been approached

by the Margaretener Rav with a request to place his Sh'chitah under the egis of the Fifth Avenue Synagogue in order to give it a proper congregational basis, and Rabbi Jakobovits suggested that this might be of interest to the Mid-Manhattan Rabbinate as a whole as part of a proper community structure. Arrising from this suggestion, there was a ~~g~~eneral discussion on the communal organization of Kashruth in the area, and the matter was left for future consideration.

During the meeting, Rabbi Shalom Coleman of Australia paid a brief visit and discussed some items of mutual interest with the Group.

The next meeting was fixed for March 16 at the Fifth Avenue Synagogue.