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23rd Nisan 5726

13th March 1966

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

CONFIDENTIAL

My dear Rabbi La mm,

I was very glad to receive your letter of March 20th. I wanted to give you some news before I wrote to you and for that reason I delayed a little with my reply.

I really do not know who told Rabbi Itamar of the plans in Jews' College. I am however glad that you were quite frank with him. I do not know what plans his son-in-law had which would be affected by your coming. I would have thought that any new spirit which could be introduced into the College would be of benefit to the College and in consequence, to his son-in-law. In strict confidence, the feeling among the leaders of the College is growing that in any case, Dr. Ross (Rabbi Itamar's son-in-law) does not seem to be very keen to stay in the

College / ...

Rabbi N. Lamm.

13th April, 1966.

College. I will tell you all about it when I see you in New York. In the meantime, our plans for the College are slowly taking shape. The whole movement is slow, but I hope it will succeed. The main problem is finance but it now seems that the Wolfson's may be able to do something concrete if a blue-print is presented to them.

Your coming here has already been discussed and it is part of a larger plan. Again, I hope to have some more definite news when I come to New York.

You do not need, in any way, to disturb yourself about the fact that you spoke to Rabbi Itamar, I am never afraid of the truth and if I kept the whole thing confidential, it was only to safeguard you more than to safeguard the College. As, as far as Jews' College is concerned, it would only be to their credit if you were to come here, even for a short time, to lecture to the students.

Now I want to write concerning the Eruv in Manhattan. This week I received a letter from the President, of Shearith Israel, in which he informed me that they have now withdrawn the offer to pay \$5000 as they originally thought they would do. The reason for this was the letter which was sent to the Congregation. Even our religious people like Robert Salomon and Charlie Bendheim, were apparently very upset by the tone of this letter. It was all too confusing for the Congregation in general, to understand it. I told you myself, that I did not think it would be a good suggestion to read anything from the pulpit. Either the Committee, with the courage of their convictions, should write to different Congregations, stating / ...

Rabbi N. Lamm.

13th April, 1966.

stating clearly that they have some members who oppose this Eruv, or the whole scheme should be dropped.

As far as Shearith Israel is concerned, there is apparently great confusion. The President, however, tells me that they have not made any definite decision as they do not want to embarrass me, but that they are awaiting my return so that I can explain the whole procedure to them. I have written to thank him for his consideration and I hope I shall be able to do something on my return but I shall have to have a long talk with you and perhaps other members of the Committee. I have to admit that the letter concerning the Eruv in Manhattan was, by its very tone, bound to bring some confusion among the people.

I am now taking this opportunity to say that I hope you had a very happy Pesah, and I hope that you and your family are keeping well. I am hoping to be in New York sometime toward the beginning of May - I shall look forward to seeing you.

Please convey my respects to Rabbi Yung.

With best wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

