A Finding Aid to the
Jewish Welfare Board New York Branch
Records

Manuscript Collection No. 316
Collection Summary

Title        Jewish Welfare Board (New York Branch) Records
Dates        1918-1919
Collection Number MS-316
Repository    The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator      National Jewish Welfare Board. New York Branch
Extent       0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)
Language of the Material English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch The New York Branch of the Jewish Welfare Board was formed shortly after the United States entered World War I to promote the social and religious welfare of transient Jewish soldiers, sailors and marines. Early in the summer of 1918, Leon L. Watters was elected chairman of the reorganization committee. By the end of 1918 the organization had established 5 canteens and 3 dormitories and were sponsoring dances and other activities for the servicemen. After the Armistice was signed but prior to the return of soldiers from Europe, Mortimer Schiff traveled to France in December, 1918, to deliver cards of the New York Board with addresses of all the canteens and dormitories to be distributed on homecoming troop transports. All of the canteens and dormitories operated by the New York Branch of the Jewish Welfare Board were closed by the fall of 1919.

Scope and Content Correspondence, diaries of daily activities of administration, address cards given to servicemen, programs and informational literature.

Terms of Access The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

Preferred Citation Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Jewish Welfare Board Records and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-316. Jewish Welfare Board Records. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance Received from Leon L. Watters, New York, N.Y.

Index Terms

Subjects Jewish soldiers / War relief / World War, 1914-1918
Personal Names Watters, Leon Laizer, 1877-1967
Corporate Names National Jewish Welfare Board. New York Branch
Media Diaries

Series A. General, 1918-1919

Box and Folder Listing

Folder 1. Correspondence.
Folder 2. Diary.
Folder Diary, 1919 February-March
Folder 4. Diary.
Folder Diary, 1919 June-August
Box 1. Folder Miscellaneous.