A Finding Aid to the
Alexander S. Kohanski Papers

Manuscript Collection No. 343
Collection Summary

Title
Alexander S. Kohanski Papers

Dates
1923-1983

Collection Number
MS-343

Repository
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

Creator
Kohanski, Alexander S., 1902-1987

Extent
1.6 linear feet (4 Hollinger boxes)

Language of the Material
English, Hebrew, and Yiddish

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch
Alexander S. Kohanski was born in Vilkavishkis, Lithuania on 4 July 1902 to Samuel and Hannah (Kolekandt) Kohanski. He moved to the United States in 1923 and received his B.A. from Southeastern University in 1927. By 1928, Kohanski had earned his M.A. and in 1936 received a Ph.D. in philosophy from Vanderbilt University.

In 1933, Kohanski earned a certificate in social work which he put to use as an executive director of the YMHA in White Plains, New York and later Washington Heights, New York and New Jersey.

Kohanski served for most of his career as an instructor at the Graduate School for Jewish Social work but had a variety of other activities and interests. He was a contributor to the Universal Jewish Encyclopedia and the Philately and Princeton Seminary Bulletin. Kohanski was also the managing editor of the Jewish Social Services Quarterly. Additionally, he served on the Maine Jewish Council, the Religious Education Association, the American Jewish Conference and League for Labor Palestine.

Kohanski married Dorothy Deller on 9 March 1949. They had two sons, Daniel and Ronald.

Scope and Content
Correspondence, manuscripts of writings, notes, newspaper clippings, and other items relating to Chaim Nachman Bialik, Martin Buber, Theodor Herzl, Jewish education, and the Yiddish theater in New York City; together with materials of a Jewish writers project concerning rituals and procedures at New York City synagogues.

Arrangement
The papers are divided into two (2) series: A. Correspondence; B. Writings and Research.

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

Preferred Citation
Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Alexander S. Kohanski Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-343. Alexander S. Kohanski Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance

Processing Information

Index Terms

Subjects
Education / Jewish authors / Jews -- New Jersey -- Cedar Grove / Jews -- New York (State) -- New York / Judaism / Theater, Yiddish

Personal Names

Series A. Correspondence, 1923-1983

Extent
0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note
The series is grouped into organizational and personal correspondence. It includes material
on the League for Labor Palestine and the educational and synagogue activities of Alexander Kohanski.

**Box and Folder Listing**

Box 1. Folder 1. General correspondence. A-C.
Box 1. Folder 2. Cleveland, Ohio- Cleveland Jewish Center, 1941-1942
Box 1. Folder 3. General correspondence. D-J.
Box 1. Folder 5. League for Labor Palestine, 1939-1941
Box 1. Folder 7. Maine Jewish Council, 1943-1945
Box 1. Folder 8. Memphis, Tenn.- Memphis Yiddish School, 1926-1931
Box 1. Folder 9. New Jersey Regional Philosophical Association, 1978
Box 2. Folder 1. General correspondence. P-Z.
Box 2. Folder 4. Family correspondence, 1923-1935, undated
Box 2. Folder 5. Unidentified correspondence, 1926-1974, undated
Box 2. Folder 6. Personal miscellaneous, 1933-1983, undated

**Series B. Writings and Research, 1926-1987**

**Extent** 1 linear foot (2.5 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note** The series is grouped into general and specific topics. At the end of the series are the Jewish Social Service Quarterly issues during the period that Alexander Kohanski served as managing editor.

**Arrangement** The specific topics such as Martin Buber are arranged in alphabetical order.

**Box and Folder Listing**

Box 2. Folder 7. Miscellaneous writings. A-E.
Box 2. Folder 8. Miscellaneous writings. F-L.
Box 2. Folder 10. Ahad Ha'am. Notes.
Box 3. Folder 1. Book reviews.
Box 3. Folder 4. "Martin Buber's Philosophy of Communication."
Box 3. Folder 5. "Ecumenism- Dialogue or Dialectic?".
Box 4. Folder 5. Upon My Words, 1987
Box 4. Folder 7. Miscellaneous notes.
Box 4. Folder 8. NRA Jewish Writers Project, 1941