



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**A Finding Aid to the
Louis I. Newman Papers**

Manuscript Collection No. 109



Collection Summary

Title	Louis I. Newman Papers
Dates	1897-1975
Collection Number	MS-109
Repository	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator	Newman, Louis I., 1893-1972
Extent	5.6 linear feet (14 Hollinger boxes)
Language of the Material	English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch

Louis Israel Newman was born in Providence, Rhode Island in 1893. He received a B.A. degree from Brown University in 1913, an M.A. from the University of California in 1917, and went on to earn a Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1924. Brown University later presented him with an honorary degree in 1942. Newman became an assistant to Rabbi Stephen S. Wise at the Free Synagogue in New York City in 1917. In 1918, Wise and Rabbi Martin Meyer of Temple Emanu-El of San Francisco ordained Newman. Newman subsequently served pulpits at the Bronx Free Synagogue (1917-1921) and Temple Israel in New York City (1921-1924).

Newman was affiliated with the faculty of the Jewish Institute of Religion in New York City from its 1922 inception. He served as a professor of apologetics intermittently until 1933. During this period, Newman was also the president of the Intercollegiate Menorah Association. In 1924 he left New York City to serve as rabbi at Temple Emanu-El in San Francisco. Newman returned to New York City in 1930 to become the rabbi at Temple Rodef Shalom, where he remained until retirement.

During the 1930s, Newman became identified with the Zionist revisionist movement. He believed that Zionism was primarily a political movement and that the creation of a Jewish state in Palestine was essential. Newman was both the honorary chairman of the Revisionist Tel Hai fund and the chairman of the Palestine Mandate Defense Fund. Additionally, he was an honorary chairman of the American Friends of a Jewish Palestine and served on the American advisory committee for Hebrew University. In the 1920s, he was a vice-president of the American Jewish Congress.

His books include *Jewish Influence on Christian Reform Movements* (1924); *Jewish People, Faith and Life* (1935), and a translation/compilation entitled *Hasidic Anthology* (1934). His 1922 work, *A Jewish University in America?*, influenced the founding of Brandeis University. Newman was also a poet and a playwright, creating numerous plays and cantatas. His "The Woman at the Wall" became the libretto for the opera *Tamar and Judah*.

Newman married Lucile Helene Uhry on 14 June 1923. They had three children: Jeremy Uhry Newman, Jonathan Uhry Newman, and Daniel Uhry Newman. Louis I. Newman died in 1972 in New York City.

Scope and Content

Consists of the papers of Louis I. Newman, a rabbi and scholar who was ordained by Stephen S. Wise and became a leader of the Zionist revisionists in the United States. Contained is an expansive amount of Newman's writings including unpublished works and sermons as well as plays and poetry. Five boxes of correspondence include correspondence with Stephen S. Wise; correspondence and manuscripts concerning the (Adolph) Sutro Library in San Francisco, California; correspondence concerning the founding of the Jewish Institute of Religion, and family correspondence. The Personal series features material related to his college career, newsclippings and miscellaneous items.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in three (3) series: A. Writings, 1901-1970; B. Correspondence, 1897-1975; C. Personal, 1905-1972.

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Index Terms

Subjects	Rabbis / Zionism
Personal Names	Adler, Cyrus, 1863-1940 / Glueck, Nelson, 1900-1971 / Gottschalk, Alfred / Newman, Louis I. (Louis Israel), 1893-1972 / Wise, Stephen S. (Stephen Samuel), 1874-1949
Corporate Names	Academy for Liberal Judaism / American Friends of a Jewish Palestine / Jewish Institute of Religion (New York, N.Y.) / Sutro Library
Media	Sermons

Series A. Writings, 1901-1970

Extent 3.2 linear feet (8 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of various sermons, writings, and creative works of Newman. Many of these writings are undated. Four boxes contain an unpublished manuscript and notes on "Alexander Hamilton and the Reynolds Affair," a monograph he never published. Material concerning New England also appears and may be related to his Roger Williams and John Cotton: Bible Utopias and Religious Liberty in Colonial America. Several bound volumes of sermons, compiled by Newman, appear along with several plays. The final box in this series contains miscellaneous sermons and essays on a variety of topics such as serenity, healing, youth, relationships with religion, and trust. Often the title provides context to the time in which the undated pieces were written, such as "Religion in the Age of Aquarius." It should be noted that some of these writings may not have been written by Newman and were items he referenced or had interest in.

Arrangement Arranged with unpublished materials appearing first, followed by poetry and plays, sermon and address volumes, and finally miscellaneous writings.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1-7. "Alexander Hamilton, The Reynolds Affair and James Monroe.", undated

Box 2. Folder 1-9. "Alexander Hamilton, The Reynolds Affair and James Monroe.", undated

Box 3. Folder 1-9. "Alexander Hamilton, The Reynolds Affair and James Monroe.", undated

Box 4. Folder 1-7. "Alexander Hamilton, The Reynolds Affair and James Monroe.", undated

Box 4. Folder 8. Sketches of the History of America. Ch. V. "Remarks on Mr. Alexander Hamilton's Explanation of His Correspondence with James Reynolds.", undated

Box 5. Folder 1. Hebraic Aspects of Early New Haven Legalism, undated

Box 5. Folder 2. Judaizing, undated

Box 5. Folder 3. Legalism versus Revolutionary Doctrine in New England by Richard B. Morris, 1931

Box 5. Folder 4. Puritans. Resource material, 1901-1926

Box 5. Folder 5-6. Poetry and plays, 1929-1970, undated

Box 5. Folder 7-8. Sermons and addresses, 1924-1970

Box 6. Folder 1-4. Sermons and addresses. Volume II-Volume VI, 1934-1949

Box 7. Folder 1-4. Sermons and addresses. Volume VII-Volume VIII, miscellaneous, 1929-1954

Box 7. Folder 5-6. Nearprint, 1923-1969

Box 8. Folder 1-4. Miscellaneous, undated

Box 8. Folder 5. Miscellaneous. Outlines and beginnings of documents, undated

Box 8. Folder 6. Miscellaneous. Including outlines, undated

Box 8. Folder 7-10. Miscellaneous, undated

Series B. Correspondence, 1897-1975

Extent 2 linear feet (5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Newman had a long and close relationship with Stephen S. Wise, who appointed him to the faculty of the fledgling Jewish Institute of Religion as a professor of apologetics. Newman also shared Wise's enthusiasm for Zionist causes and was an honorary vice-president of the American Jewish Congress. Their correspondence reflects these and mundane topics such as fellow rabbis and the activities of Newman in his pulpits and writing endeavors, including his poetry. Other correspondents and topics include John Haynes Holmes and the Adolf Sutro Library in San Francisco, California. Newman researched at the library and was a strong supporter of the institution. There are also several decades of family correspondence relating to visits, trips and daily activities. Many letters to Newman's wife, Lucile Uhry can also be found in this series.

Arrangement Arranged alphabetically by correspondent and topic.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 9. Folder 1. A-W, General, unidentified, 1909-1972

Box 9. Folder 2. American Jewish Historical Society (re: Jewish Institute of Religion), 1969

Box 9. Folder 3-5. Family correspondence (Newman), 1912-1918

Box 9. Folder 6-7. Family correspondence (Newman, Lucile Uhry), 1922

Box 9. Folder 8-9. Family correspondence (Uhry), 1924-1929

Box 9. Folder 10. Family correspondence (Newman), 1929

Box 10. Folder 1. Family correspondence (Uhry), 1930-1939

Box 10. Folder 2. Family correspondence (Newman's sons), 1937

Box 10. Folder 3-13. Family correspondence, 1942-1975

Box 11. Folder 1. Family correspondence, undated

Box 11. Folder 2. Family correspondence (Uhry), undated

Box 11. Folder 3. Holmes, John Haynes, 1923-1955

Box 11. Folder 4. Miscellaneous, 1913-1951, undated

Box 11. Folder 5. Puritan material, 1936-1942

Box 11. Folder 6. Sachar, Abram L. (Brandeis University), 1948

Box 11. Folder 7-8. Congregation Rodef Shalom (New York, N.Y.), 1932-1955, 1964-1974, undated

Box 11. Folder 9-13. Sutro (Adolph) Library (San Francisco, California). Catalogs of Hebrew/Arabic manuscripts [includes catalogs of Hebrew/Arabic manuscripts, notes, and other manuscripts], 1897, 1925-1933, 1950-1966, undated.

Box 12. Folder 1. Wessel, Morris J., 1912-1916, undated

Box 12. Folder 2-10. Wise, Stephen S., 1916-1927

Box 13. Folder 1-10. Wise, Stephen S., 1928-1942, undated

Series C. Personal, 1905-1972

Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Contains material related to Louis I. Newman's personal life. This series includes several college papers written by Newman, together with clippings, a few unidentified photographs and other miscellaneous items such as his Felix M. Warburg Award. Also included are signed photographs of Stephen S. Wise and Hubert Humphrey. The original Humphrey photograph is located in the AJA's rare documents file.

Arrangement Arranged alphabetically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 14. Folder 1. Clippings, 1909-1942, undated

Box 14. Folder 2. Clippings (by Newman), 1921-1942

Box 14. Folder 3. Clippings (death of), 1972

Box 14. Folder 4. Clippings (miscellaneous), 1930-1947

Box 14. Folder 5. College, 1911-1913

Box 14. Folder 6. College papers and exams, 1911-1915, undated

Box 14. Folder 7. Event announcements, 1909-1958

Box 14. Folder 8. First Hebrew Congregation of Berkeley. Grand Ball Dance Card, 1914

Box 14. Folder 9. Grammar school, 1905

Box 14. Folder 10. Jewish Institute of Religion, undated

Box 14. Folder 11. Memorial registers, undated

Box 14. Folder 12. Marriage. Poem, 1923

Box 14. Folder 13. Miscellaneous, 1931-1939, undated

Box 14. Folder 14. Miscellaneous, 1955-1970, undated

Box 14. Folder 15. Photograph. Humphrey, Hubert. Signed, undated

Box 14. Folder 16. Photograph. Stephen S. Wise. Signed, undated

Box 14. Folder 17. Photographs, undated

Box 14. Folder 18. School for Jewish Studies, 1925

Box 14. Folder 19. Warburg, Felix M. Memorial Award, undated

Box 14. Folder 20. Wedding announcement, 1923

Box 14. Folder 21-22. Zionism, 1930, undated