



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**A Finding Aid to the
George B. Lieberman Papers**

Manuscript Collection No. 280



Collection Summary

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Title | George B. Lieberman Papers |
| Dates | 1929-1980 |
| Collection Number | MS-280 |
| Repository | The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives |
| Creator | Lieberman, George B. |
| Extent | 4.4 linear feet (11 Hollinger boxes) |
| Language of the Material | English |

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch

Born in Wysoke-Litovsk, Poland in 1910, George B. Lieberman immigrated to the United States in the 1920s and settled with his family in Cleveland, Ohio. Lieberman attended Western Reserve University in Cleveland, graduating in 1930. He then attended Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati and was ordained in 1936. In addition to his rabbinical studies, Lieberman was awarded a Doctor of Literature degree from West Virginia Wesleyan College in 1941.

Lieberman worked at Eoff Street Temple in Wheeling, West Virginia from 1936 until starting as rabbi at Temple Israel in Canton, Ohio in 1945. In 1947, during his tenure at Temple Israel, Lieberman was severely injured in a train wreck. When the Pennsylvania Railroad Red Arrow train that he was traveling on derailed near Altoona, Pennsylvania, Lieberman and other passengers were trapped in the crash. Lieberman led fellow passengers of various religions in prayer as they waited to be rescued, and his heroic actions during this incident garnered national attention. After recovering from spinal cord and leg injuries sustained in the train wreck, Lieberman was able to resume his work at Temple Israel in 1950 and continued to serve as rabbi there through 1953.

Following his time at Temple Israel, Lieberman became the leader of Central Synagogue of Nassau County in Rockville Centre, New York. He led the congregation from 1954 until 1979 and then remained involved as rabbi emeritus. Lieberman served on the National War Labor Board and was also a member of the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the North American Board of the World Union of Progressive Judaism. In 1965, he was elected president of the Association of Reform Rabbis of New York.

Lieberman's scholarly expertise was in Russian and Eastern European literature and comparative religion. He taught in these fields as a professor at St. Anthony's College at Oxford University, Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR), and Molloy College. In 1975, HUC-JIR created a chair named in his honor.

Lieberman was also a leader in efforts to aid Soviet Jews and was the inaugural chairman of the Central Conference of American Rabbis Committee on Soviet Jewry. Lieberman traveled to the Soviet Union with seven other American rabbis in 1956 in order to learn about Jewish life there. Lieberman returned to the Soviet Union on another visit in 1966.

Lieberman was married to Sylvia Klein Lieberman and had three children, Lynn Ritvo, Deborah Cornblath, and David Lieberman. George Lieberman died on July 23, 1984 in Southampton, New York at the age of 74.

Scope and Content

Correspondence, sermons, writings, prayers, and other materials relating to Lieberman's rabbinical career.

Terms of Access

The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

Terms of Reproduction and Use

This collection has been placed in the permanent care, custody, and control of the American Jewish Archives (AJA) by the donors of the collection. Questions concerning rights to use or publish materials from the collection should be addressed to the Executive Director of the AJA. For more information, see the American Jewish Archives copyright information webpage.

Preferred Citation

Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the George B. Lieberman Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-280. George B. Lieberman Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance

Received from Sylvia Lieberman, South Hampton, N.Y., 1985.

Index Terms

Subjects Rabbis
Personal Names Lieberman, George B.
Media Prayers / Sermons

Series A. General, 1929-1980

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. Sermons and writings, Ab-Am.
Box 1. Folder 2. Sermons and writings, An-At.
Box 1. Folder 3. Sermons and writings, Ba-Be.
Box 1. Folder 4. Sermons and writings, Bi-Bu.
Box 1. Folder 5. Sermons and writings, Ca-Ch.
Box 2. Folder 1. Sermons and writings, Ci-Conf.
Box 2. Folder 2. Sermons and writings, Cont-Cu.
Box 2. Folder 3. Sermons and writings, D.
Box 2. Folder 4. Sermons and writings, Ea-Ed.
Box 2. Folder 5. Sermons and writings, Ex.
Box 3. Folder 1. Sermons and writings, Fa-Fi.
Box 3. Folder 2. Sermons and writings, Fo-Fre.
Box 3. Folder 3. Sermons and writings, Fri-Fu.
Box 3. Folder 4. Sermons and writings, Ga-Go.
Box 3. Folder 5. Sermons and writings, Gr-Gu.
Box 3. Folder 6. Sermons and writings, Ha-Hi.
Box 3. Folder 7. Sermons and writings, Ho-Hu.
Box 4. Folder 1. Sermons and writings, I-If.
Box 4. Folder 2. Sermons and writings, Im-In.
Box 4. Folder 3. Sermons and writings, Is-It.
Box 4. Folder 4. Sermons and writings, Ja-Jer.
Box 4. Folder 5. Sermons and writings, Jewish A-Jewish P.
Box 4. Folder 6. Sermons and writings, Jewish S-Jews.
Box 4. Folder 7. Sermons and writings, K.
Box 4. Folder 8. Sermons and writings, La-Le.
Box 5. Folder 1. Sermons and writings, Li.
Box 5. Folder 2. Sermons and writings, Lo.
Box 5. Folder 3. Sermons and writings, Ma.
Box 5. Folder 4. Sermons and writings, Me-Mi.
Box 5. Folder 5. Sermons and writings, Mo.
Box 5. Folder 6. Sermons and writings, My.
Box 5. Folder 7. Sermons and writings, N.

Box 6. Folder 1. Sermons and writings, O.

Box 6. Folder 2. Sermons and writings, Pa-Pe.

Box 6. Folder 3. Sermons and writings, Po-Pr.

Box 6. Folder 4. Sermons and writings, Ps-Q.

Box 6. Folder 5. Sermons and writings, Ra.

Box 6. Folder 6. Sermons and writings, Reb-Ref.

Box 6. Folder 7. Sermons and writings, Reg-Rel.

Box 7. Folder 1. Sermons and writings, Ren-Ru.

Box 7. Folder 2. Sermons and writings, Sa-Se.

Box 7. Folder 3. Sermons and writings, Sh-Si.

Box 7. Folder 4. Sermons and writings, Sk-Son.

Box 7. Folder 5. Sermons and writings, Sou-Sp.

Box 7. Folder 6. Sermons and writings, St-Sz.

Box 7. Folder 7. Sermons and writings, Ta-Te.

Box 8. Folder 1. Sermons and writings, Tha-The.

Box 8. Folder 2. Sermons and writings, Thi-Ti.

Box 8. Folder 3. Sermons and writings, To.

Box 8. Folder 4. Sermons and writings, Tr-V.

Box 8. Folder 5. Sermons and writings Wa.

Box 8. Folder 6. Sermons and writings, We.

Box 8. Folder 7. Sermons and writings, What A-What I.

Box 9. Folder 1. Sermons and writings, What Is-What O.

Box 9. Folder 2. Sermons and writings, What T-What Y.

Box 9. Folder 3. Sermons and writings, Whe.

Box 9. Folder 4. Sermons and writings, Who.

Box 9. Folder 5. Sermons and writings, Why.

Box 9. Folder 6. Sermons and writings, Wi-Wo.

Box 9. Folder 7. Sermons and writings, Y-Z.

Box 10. Folder 1. Untitled sermons, 1936-1975, undated

Box 10. Folder 2. Untitled sermons, undated

Box 10. Folder 3. Rabbinic thesis, "The History of the Revolutionary Movements Among the Jews in Russia.", 1936

Box 10. Folder 4. "Sectarian Factors in Contentions Over Communism, Pacifism, and Similar Controversial Issues.", 1936
May

Box 10. Folder 5. Prayers.

Box 10. Folder 6. Prayers.

Box 11. Folder 1. Class outlines and syllabi.

Box 11. Folder 2. General correspondence.

Box 11. Folder 3. Central Conference of American Rabbis [Soviet Jewry], 1958-1974, undated

Box 11. Folder 4. Frank, Alice Lieberman, 1945-1947

Box 11. Folder 5. Hebrew Union College regarding student pulpit assignments, 1929-1935

Box 11. Folder 6. Synagogue Council of America [Soviet Jewry], 1975-1976

Box 11. Folder 7. Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Committee on Ceremonies, 1952-1953

Box 11. Folder 8. Clippings.

Box 11. Folder 9. Miscellaneous, 1941-1974