National Women's League of the United Synagogue of America
Organization Committee Meeting – January 21, 1918
First Executive Council Meeting – January 29, 1918

THE ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE MEETING.

The Organization Committee to bring into being a National Women's Organization in support of Traditional Judaism met at the call of the United Synagogue on January 21st, 1918, in the Assembly Hall of the Jewish Theological Seminary. More than 100 women were present, representing Sisterhoods, Congregational Auxiliaries and similar bodies throughout the country.

The meeting was opened with an address of welcome delivered by Professor Louis Ginzberg, Acting President of the United Synagogue of America. Doctor Cyrus Adler, Chairman of the Propaganda Committee of the United Synagogue, was elected temporary Chairman and Mrs. Israel Davidson, Secretary.

MORNING SESSION.

The morning session was occupied with addresses delivered by Mrs. Solomon Schechter, Doctor Cyrus Adler, Rabbi Samuel M. Cohen, Professor Israel Friedlaender and Rabbi Charles I. Hoffman. These discussed the purpose which prompted the calling of this meeting and suggested the scope of the work which might be undertaken by a Women's Organization of the character proposed. A recess was then had for luncheon which served to the delegates and invited guests.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Afternoon Session took the following steps toward permanent organization.

AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE ORGANIZATION

It was resolved that the aims and purposes of the Organization be in accord with those of the United Synagogue of America.

RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE

It was voted that the Organization be part of the United Synagogue and that the Executive Council, to be elected later in the day, work out in conjunction with the Executive Council of the United Synagogue of America a definite plan, showing the status of the two organizations in regard to each other.

CONSTITUENCY AND DUES.

It was voted that the Executive Council to be elected should decide the questions of the constituency and the dues of the Organization.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS.

It was voted that an Executive Council of 15 be elected which should determine the matters referred to it in the proceedings recorded above and which should furthermore appoint a Committee on Constitution and By-Laws and such other committees as it deemed necessary. The Executive Council is also to arrange for a general Convention to be held in the arly summer to which the proposed Constitution will be submitted and which will elect permanent officers. The Chairman appointed the following on the Nominating Committee: Mesdames Jacob Kohn (Chairman) Max. L. Margolis, C. E. Hillel Kauvar, I. Levingston, Charles I. Hoffman, Israel Goldfarb and Elias L. Solomon.

The Nominating Committee reported as follows:

PRESIDENT	
Mrs. Solomon Schechter	New York City
SECRETARY	
Mrs. Israel Davidson	Palisade, N. J.
DIRECTORS	
Mrs. Cyrus Adler	Philadelphia, Pa.
Miss Sarah Kussy	Newark, N. J.
Mrs. Samuel C. Lamport	New York City
Mrs. Harry Friedenwald	Baltimore, Md.
Mrs. Elias L. Solomon	New York City
Mrs. Jacob Kohn	New York City
Mrs. Michael Salit	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Mrs. Arthur Lamport	New York City
Mrs. Samuel I. Hyman	New York City
Mrs. J. Birnbach	Boston, Mass.
Mrs. Max L. Margolis	Philadelphia, Pa.
Mrs. Charles I. Hoffman	Newark, N. J.
Mrs. Pereira Mendes	New York City

Mrs. Israel Davidson declined the nomination for Secretary and Mrs. Jacob S. Minkin was nominated in her stead. The nominees were unanimously elected.

It was voted that the 15 members of the Executive Council be empowered to add as many more to their number as they deemed necessary for the successful transaction of business. The following names have been added to the list:

Mrs. C. E. Hillel Kauvar	Denver, Col.
Mrs. Herman H. Rubenovitz	Boston, Mass.
Mrs. Edwin Romberg	Chicago, Ill.
Mrs. Cecil B. Ruskay	Far Rockway, N. Y.
Mrs. Abraham M. Hershman	Detroit, Mich.
Mrs. M. B. Freedman	Cleveland, Ohio
Mrs. Benjamin Koenigsberg	New York City
Miss Elinor Solis-Cohen	Philadelphia, Pa.

The meeting adjourned at 6 P.M.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

New York City
Tuesday, January 29, 1918

The first meeting of the Executive Council, convening in two sessions, took place at the home of Mrs. Jacob Kohn, 235 West 110th St. on Tuesday afternoon, January the 29th, and on Thursday afternoon, February the 7th, at the home of Mrs. Solomon Schecter, 268 West 94th Street.

NAME:
It was voted that the name suggested by Mrs. H. P. Mendes, "The Women's Religious Union of the United Synagogue", be accepted tentatively.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Solomon Schecter	New York City

VICE PRESIDENTS

Mrs. Cyrus Adler	Philadelphia, Pa.
Mrs. Charles I. Hoffman	Newark, N. J.
Mrs. Jacob Kohn	New York City
Mrs. H. Pereira Mendes	New York City
Mrs. Herman H. Rubenovits	Boston, Mass.

TREASURER

Mrs. Israel Unterberg	New York City
Mrs. Samuel I. Hyman	New York City

RECORDING SECRETARY

Mrs. Jacob S. Minkin	New York City

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Mrs. L. D. Abrams	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Mrs. J. Birnbach	Boston, Mass.
Mrs. Max Drob	Buffalo, New York
Mrs. Edward Epstein	New York City
Mrs. B. Freedman	Cleveland, O.
Mrs. Harry Friedenwald	Baltimore, Md.
Mrs. Abraham Hershman	Detroit, Mich.
Mrs. C. E. Hillel Kauvar	Denver, Col.
Mrs. Benjamin Koenigsberg	New York City
Miss Sarah Kussy	Newark, N. J.
Mrs. Arthur Lamport	New York City
Mrs. Max L. Margolis	Philadelphia, Pa.
Mrs. Edwin Romberg	Chicago, Ill.
Mrs. Cecil B. Ruskay	Far Rockaway, N. Y.
Mrs. Michael Salit	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Mrs. Samuel Schimmel	Philadelphia, Pa.
Mrs. J. Silberfeld	Newark, N. J.
Mrs. Elias L. Solomon	New York City

CORRESPONDENCE:

A communication was read from Prof. Louis Ginzberg, Acting President of the United Synagogue, inviting the ladies to send a committee to a meeting of the Executive Council of the United Synagogue, in order to arrive at an agreement concerning the status of the two organizations in respect to one another. It was voted that the chairman appoint a committee.

CONSTITUENCY:

It was voted that the constituency of the organization consist of societies and members-at-large.

DUES:

It was voted that the annual dues of societies be ten cents per capita, and that the dues of the members-at-large be $3.00.

PROPAGANDA:

It was voted that 1000 copies of Mrs. Solomon Schecter's address be printed and circulated for propaganda and Membership Committee, Press and Correspondence Committee, Religious Observance Committee and Committee on Education.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Jacob S. Minkin,
Secretary

Executive Council meeting April 17, 1918

The Education Committee has the first paper ready for distribution among the constituent societies of the League. The paper is on Shabuoth and was prepared by Dr. Elias L. Solomon and Rabbi Charles I. Hoffman. Rabbi Fredman will prepare a paper on Tisha B'ab.

The Propaganda and Membership Committee reported that the Sisterhood of the Central Jewish Institute of New York City had formally joined the Women's League. Rabbi J. Bosniack of Congregation Shaarith Israel, Dallas, Texas has assured the affiliation of his Sisterhood in the near future.

The 23rd of June, formerly considered the date for the convention of the United Synagogue and the Women's League has been found inadvisable as that is the date for the Zionist Convention. It was moved by Mrs. Jacob Kohn and seconded by Mrs. S. Kugel that Mrs. Solomon Schecter be empowered to confer with the United Synagogue Convention Committee and set a definite date for as early in June as possible.

PROGRAM FOR JOINT CONVENTION

Sunday Morning

10:30 -Convention opened with a short prayer; report by Prof. I. Ginzberg; report by Mrs. S. Schecter; report of Committees.

1-2 P.M. - Recess for luncheon

Sunday Afternoon

2-5 p.m. -Discussion on Finance and Education Committee reports; Miss Emily Solis-Cohen to discuss Study Circle; Miss Jessie Sampter to read a paper.

Sunday Evening

Social function; paper by Mrs. Solomon Schecter; Music; refreshments.

Monday morning

Five minute reports from out-of-town delegates, e. g., from Mrs. Max L. Margolis, of Philadelphia,
Mrs. E. Romberg, of Chicago, and Mrs. C. Hillel Kauvar of Denver.

Address by Miss Henrietta Szold

Election of Officers

Completion of unfinished business

Outing for out-of-town delegates.