

HISTORIC RESPONSES

Listed below are the corresponding editorial responses originally printed in the *Jewish Daily Forward* for each letter.

Education

Letter 1

The advice to the girl is that she should obey her parents and further her education, because in that way she will be able to give them greater satisfaction than if she went out to work.

Letter 2

Since this man is intelligent and an adherent of the women's emancipation movement, he is scolded severely in the answer for wanting to keep his wife so enslaved. Also, the opinion is expressed that the wife absolutely has the right to go to school two evenings a week.

Letter 3

The answer to this letter is directed to the boy's mother, whose daughter was one of the shopworkers who perished in the Triangle fire. The unfortunate woman is comforted in the answer, and she is told that she must not hinder her son's nighttime studies but must help him reach his goal. And an appeal is made to good people who are in a position to do something for the boy to come forward and help him further his education.

Love

Letter 1

The writer would make a grave mistake if she were to separate from her bridegroom now. She must not lose her common sense and be influenced by the foolish opinions of her friends who divided the world into "greenhorns" and real Americans.

We can assure the writer that her bridegroom will learn English quickly. He will know American history and literature as well as her friends do, and be a better American than they. She should be proud of his laugh and laugh at those who call him "greenhorn."



Letter 2

Love conquers all. Many such couples live happily, and it is better for the man to be taller and the woman shorter, not the opposite. People are accustomed to seeing the man more developed than the woman. People stare? Let them stare! Also the fact that the girl is religious and the man is not can be overcome if he has enough influence on her.

Labor

Letter 1

Such a scoundrel should be taught a lesson that could be an example to others. The girl is advised to bring it pit into the open, the whole story about the foreman because there in the small shop town it shouldn't be difficult to have him thrown out of the shop and for her to get her job back.

Letter 2

Neither the operator nor the union is guilty. During the strike thousands upon thousands of workers complained that they were in need, but at the beginning of the strike there really was no money. It is now the duty of the union to investigate the case, and if it is shown that circumstances were as the operator describes, they will certainly forgive and he can become a good union man.

Identity

Letter 1

Let your boys play baseball and even become outstanding players as long as it doesn't interfere with their studies and doesn't make them keep in the company of bad influences. This issue arises for nearly half the families of the Jewish quarter. And this is the writer's advice to all of them. Think this issue over carefully...Baseball is a good way to develop the body. It's better than gymnastics. First of all it's out in the fresh air. Secondly it develops the hand and feet and the reflex responses of the limbs and eyes. Why shouldn't the children play this these days? Football, the "aristocratic" sport of the colleges ... now there is a wild game. You fight with each other like Indians and often one is left with a broken foot or hand or gets wounded. But there is no danger in baseball.

Letter 2

We see absolutely no crime in the parents' speaking Yiddish to their sons. The Yiddish language is dear to them and they want to speak a language to their children and all who understand it. It may also be that they are ashamed to speak their imperfect English among strangers so they prefer to use the mother tongue.

From the letter we get the impression that the parents are not fanatics, and with their speaking Yiddish they are not out to spite the children. But it would certainly not be wrong if the parents were to speak English too, to the children. People should and must learn the language of our country.