

COPY

January 21, 1946.

Honorable Robert Moses  
Commissioner of Parks  
80 Centre Street  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Commissioner Moses:

On the advice of the Honorable Stanley Isaacs we are writing to you on a matter of great significance to all who consider New York City a vital center of world culture and civic beauty, to which end you have contributed so much.

We wish to call to your attention that on May 13, 1946 the 30th Anniversary of the death of the internationally recognized Jewish writer, Sholem Aleichem, will be observed. This giant of Jewish literature was a resident of New York City in his later years. Today he is read more than ever by the Jewish people throughout the world, and is receiving recognition as one of the titans of world literature by an ever-growing circle of non-Jews.

The Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order of the International Workers Order, Inc. plans to observe the 30th Anniversary of Sholem Aleichem with an extensive publishing and popularization program of his works. Large commemoration meetings will be held. A number of his novels will be published in the English language. Some of his most successful plays will be produced on the Jewish stage.

We wish to suggest, Mr. Moses, that this greatest of all modern Jewish writers deserves an honored place among the commemorative symbols of culture and achievement in our city, which includes within its boundaries the largest single community of Jews in the world. We propose a monument of the proper form and spirit, one that will enhance the already rich tradition of the city in such prized possessions.

Our Order is prepared to start such a project with the contribution of a considerable sum. We are confident that every national and local Jewish organization will participate in such a project enthusiastically. Sholem Aleichem holds such a high place in the hearts of all Jews that the response will no doubt give assurance of a monument worthy of the writer's memory and the city's high aesthetic standards.

We are sending you a copy of "The World of Sholem Aleichem" by Maurice Samuel, an English language book of wide distribution which



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Page -2-

may give you a more intimate idea of the significance of Sholem Aleichem to all lovers of literature.

Before submitting our proposal to the City Council, we would be pleased to have your expression of approval of the project.

Sincerely yours,

JEWISH PEOPLES FRATERNAL ORDER, INC.

(Signed)

R. Saltzman, General Secretary

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