

Dear Raphael,

I am now in Śródborów to rest. I have been working for five weeks in Zbąszyń. [...] During these five weeks, we (originally Giterman, Ginzberg and I, and then after ten days me and Ginzberg) built up an entire municipality with supply departments, medical care, carpentry, tailoring, shoemaking, books, a legal department, a migration office and our own post office (with 53 employees), a welfare office, a court of arbitration, an organizing committee and a secret control service, a cleaning service and comprehensive sanitary facilities, etc. [...] The most important thing is that this is not a situation where some give and others receive. The refugees see us as their brothers who have come to help them in times of need and tragedy. Almost all responsible tasks are taken over by fugitives. [...] There is no mouldy spirit of philanthropy here that could have so easily crept into our work. [...] No one was humiliated. [...]

Please accept my warmest good wishes and kisses,

Emanuel

*Document 1-1: Letter from Emanuel Ringelblum, Śródborów, Poland, to Raphael Mahler, New York City, December 6, 1938, Moreshet Mordechai Anielewicz Memorial Archive D.1.4927 (original in Yiddish).*