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5

National Conference of the United Jewish Appeal [Atlantic City,
N.J.]. 1947.

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HENRY MORGENTHAU, Jr.

GENERAL CHAIRMAN, UNITED JEWISH APPEAL, 165 WEST 46TH STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

December 23, 1947

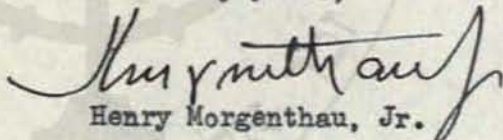
Rabbi Herbert Friedman
Temple Emanuel
1595 Pearl Street
Denver, Colorado

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

I am writing to express my very deep thanks to you for your effective participation in the National Conference of the United Jewish Appeal at Atlantic City.

The decision we took imposes a tremendous responsibility upon all of us but I am sure that together we will find it possible to accomplish what we have set out to do.

Sincerely yours,



Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

HM:PBB

REPORT ON UJA NATIONAL CONFERENCE HELD IN ATLANTIC CITY
DECEMBER 12-15, 1947

The 1947 meeting of the National Conference of the United Jewish Appeal, assembled in Atlantic City to listen to reports of what had occurred during '47 and to lay plans and to set the budget for 1948, was one of the most historic conferences ever held in America. Everyone who attended, and there were some 1200 delegates from all over America, was impressed with the urgency which history had given to this meeting, due to the decision made by the United Nations in regard to Palestine some two weeks earlier.

The delegates assembled in a tremendous feeling of enthusiasm and exhilaration, with the distinct impression that something new had been added to the 1948 picture by the UN decision. No one, whether he was Zionist or non-Zionist, could escape the sense of destiny which now rests upon the American Jewish community to fulfill that political decision made in the General Assembly at Lake Success. And it was in this mood of responding to a historic challenge that the delegates gathered and overflowed the rooms and corridors of the hotels set aside for the convention.

Mr. Henry Morgenthau, Jr., General Chairman of the 1947 campaign, gave a summary report of the achievements of the United Jewish Appeal through its constituent agencies during 1947. His report, summarized, is as follows:

Total spent in 1947 - - - - -	\$158,032,729
JDC - - - - -	\$ 75,092,000
UPA - - - - -	73,817,132
USNA - - - - -	<u>9,123,597</u>
	158,032,729

These were monies actually expended in the process of work of relief and rehabilitation and absorption of refugees performed by the three beneficiary agencies of the UJA.

Mr. Isadore Coons, Executive Vice-chairman of the UJA, announced that more than 125,000,000 were raised so far in 1947, and that the total figure might reach 132,000,000 before the end of this year.

It is obvious therefore that even if the most optimistic figure be used, namely, 132,000,000, and that 158,000,000 had already been spent, that there was therefore a total deficit of at least 26 and possibly 30 millions of dollars. This total deficit was raised by bank loans in the State of New York primarily, to which the signatures of the leaders of the UJA campaign are affixed. Men whose names appear on loan made by banks are Edward M. M. Warburg, former Governor Herbert Lehman, William Rosenwald, and many other comparable figures.

A preparatory sub-committee was appointed to listen to the recital of the 1948 budgets by the three constituent beneficiaries, and to make recommendations to the convention as a whole about

possible quotas for 1948. It is interesting to note that this preparatory sub-committee was composed of 132 persons, selected on the basis of the following schedule, in order to show conclusively that there was no railroading by top officials of the UJA in New York. In other words, the deliberations of the sub-committee represented as wide a cross-section of thought in America as could possibly be convened. The preparatory sub-committee was created as follows:

10	- - - - -	from New York
2 each	- - -	from the next eleven cities, of 40,000 Jews or over
1 each	- - -	from the next fourteen cities, of populations between 15 and 40 thousand.
1 each	- - -	from the next thirty-eight cities, of populations between 5 and 15 thousand.
2 each	- - -	from the eight regions of the Council of Federations and Welfare Funds to represent cities under 5,000.
7	- - - - -	Officers of UJA.
<u>25</u>	- - - - -	Members at large.
Total	-	132

The estimated 1948 budgets of the three constituent agencies were presented to the preparatory sub-committee by the following persons: for the JDC, Mr. Moses A. Levitt, Executive Vice-chairman; for the UPA, Mr. Eleazar Kaplan, Treasurer Jewish Agency for Palestine; and for the USNA, Mr. Joseph E. Beck, Executive Director. The estimated 1948 budgets were presented as follows:

UPA	- - - - -	\$283,156,0000
JDC	- - - - -	98,547,000
USNA	- - - - -	<u>13,664,000</u>
Total		395,367,000

Thus the total budgets presented by the three agencies were almost 400 million dollars. The breakdown of each one of the items on the above schedule is as follows:

UPA Breakdown	
Immigration, relief and housing of 75,000 refugees	- - - - - \$95,434,000
Agricultural settlement	- - - - - 27,500,000
Urban settlement	- - - - - 25,000,000
Resettlement of ex-service men	- - - - - 3,524,000
Security	- - - - - 28,000,000
Education and culture	- - - - - 5,000,000
Acquisition of new land areas	- - - - - 57,800,000
Maintenance of land	- - - - - <u>5,619,000</u>
Total	247,877,000

The difference between this item of 247 million and the

total UPA requirements of 283 million is to be found in the amounts necessary to be allocated to the Jewish National Fund and the Jewish Foundation Fund.*****

JDC Breakdown

Direct relief - - - - -	\$45,728,000
Child care work - - - - -	8,528,000
Reconstructive activity - - - -	12,815,000
Medical care- - - - -	6,666,000
Care of Aged- - - - -	3,055,000
Emigration- - - - -	5,700,000
Religious, cultural and educational- - - - -	3,801,000
Unforeseen contingencies- - - -	4,000,000
Cooperating agencies- - - - -	4,204,000
Operating and service costs, and interest on loans- - - - -	4,050,000
Total	98,547,000

USNA Breakdown

Family service - - - - -	\$ 5,466,732
Restoration of relief to minimum subsistence level -	1,163,000
Religious functionaries - - - -	1,763,127
New York resettlement unit - - -	367,059
San Francisco project - - - - -	1,210,650
Port and dock service - - - - -	75,934
Special vocational training project - - - - -	325,500
European Jewish childrens aid - -	620,388
Services other than relief- - - -	1,378,638
Central administrative services -	358,998
Subventions - - - - -	499,315
Total	13,664,973

It is to be noted that no provision for transportation was made in the Palestine budget. Mr. Kaplan explained that the United States government and the IRO would be asked to supply the ships needed to transport 75,000 refugees from Europe and Cyprus to the Jewish homeland in 1948. He was confident that on the basis of pledges made by American government representatives prior to the UN decision, transportation facilities would be provided by the United States.

After these total budgets of over 395 million had been presented, the preparatory sub-committee began to discuss the possibilities of raising all or any of that amount through the United Jewish Appeal. There were suggestions by many delegates that the UJA attempt to undertake the entire 395 million quota. Others, equally enthusiastic about the needs, but professing a greater realism, indicated that such a figure was beyond the capabilities of the American Jewish community, and suggested

some lower figure which would represent a compromise. In the course of the debate on what type of lower figure should be decided upon, questions were asked regarding the ability of Mr. Kaplan to procure large scale international loans. On the question of financial needs, Mr. Kaplan said that the State Department, The Import and Export Bank, and the International Bank, would all be approached for loans to make up the needs that are not provided for in the total UJA 1948 quota. He stressed the fact that the quota which would be accepted by the United Jewish Appeal would serve as an important aid in obtaining loans and grants from governmental sources. In other words, if the UJA Conference would accept as high a quota as it felt it could reasonably be responsible for, this sense of dedication would be very valuable in assisting Mr. Kaplan in applying for international and governmental loans. Thus, for example, if the UJA felt that it could accept a quota of 250 million, then Mr. Kaplan and the other agencies involved would have to seek loans totaling approximately 150 million. He indicated his willingness to make such an effort, and indicated unofficially that he thought he might be successful to some degree.

The preparatory sub-committee also concerned itself with the question of the breakdown of funds raised during 1948 as between the three constituent agencies. For the purpose of this discussion, we shall eliminate the USNA whose total figure is comparatively small in relation to the attempted quota. Therefore, roughly speaking, the following schedule was arrived at:

Of the first 50 million to be raised, the JDC was to receive 55% and the UPA to receive 45%. Of the next 75 million to be raised, the proportion would be reversed, and the UPA would receive 55%, while the JDC would receive 45%. Everything above 125 million, was to be allocated on still a third formula. This formula was that the JDC would receive 25% and the UPA 75%. Everything to be raised above 250 million was to be allocated 100% to the UPA.

Following an entire day of these deliberations, the preparatory sub-committee proceeded to vote on its recommendations. Mr. Edwin Goldwasser, National Treasurer of the UJA, made a motion that the goal be set at 250 million for 1948. This motion was seconded by ex-Governor Lehman. Of the 132 members of the preparatory sub-committee, there was practically unanimous approval of this resolution. There were perhaps 5 or 6 dissenting votes. The preparatory sub-committee also drafted a report that Mr. Henry Morgenthau be urged to assume the chairmanship again for 1948.

The following day Mr. Lehman presented the report of the preparatory sub-committee to the convention at large. His address of presentation contained several statements which are historic in content and worthy of preservation. I should like to quote parts of his remarks:

"Ladies and gentlemen, you have just listened to an historic announcement--the report of your preparatory sub-committee on the fund-raising effort which it considers to be the responsibility of American Jewry during the critical year of 1948.

"If this figure--the largest goal ever projected by private welfare organizations--surprises a few of you by its magnitude, it should at the same time inspire every one of you.

"The hopes and the yearning of 2,000 years are at last possible of fulfillment. It remains for those assembled in this hall--representatives of the solid force of the American Jewish community--to end the homelessness of the Jewish people abroad who have suffered so greatly from persecution, brutality and endless fear. Your history making decision of the next few hours and your action in the months to come can transform possibility into reality, and reality into shining certainty.

"Coming in any other year, the contemplation of 250 million as the annual goal of the United Jewish Appeal might have been fantastic. But for Jews all over the world, the year 1948 is far from an ordinary one. It is the year in which we confidently expect to see, on a vastly accelerated scale, the rebuilding of a Jewish national commonwealth. We expect to witness resettlement of at least 75,000 Jewish refugees in Palestine, as the beginning of a four year mass immigration plan which will constructively liquidate the larger part of the Jewish DP and refugee problem.

"The UN decision on Palestine has been a moral victory but the economic phase of our task has just begun. We must now provide substantially increased funds to finance large scale movements of European refugees and to upbuild and defend the new Jewish state. (When Mr. Lehman made the remark about defending the new Jewish state, there was tremendous burst of applause from every corner of the hall. This appeal seemed to capture the imagination of all of the delegates.) You have heard outlined the major financial needs of Jewish Palestine on the threshold of nationhood. Loans to the new Jewish state and perhaps even direct governmental grants of certain types should be available. In the meantime we must keep the pump primed with every possible dollar of our voluntary contributions. For a long time we Jews have talked of Jewish statehood. Men have dreamed of it for nearly 2,000 years. Now we've got it. In plain language, this is it. Every Jew, whether Zionist or not, is vitally concerned."

Mr. Lehman concluded by saying "The efforts of the people in Palestine will be of no avail, unless we, their friends, hold out a helping hand." When he finished, there was tremendous applause which lasted quite some seconds, and after the applause had quieted down, the chairman of the meeting called upon Mr. Charles Brown, the head of the Los Angeles delegation, to second Governor Lehman's resolution that the report of the preparatory sub-committee calling for 250 million dollars be adopted.

Mr. Brown of Los Angeles rose and stated that due to the world-shaking event which had been decided by the United Nations on November 29, 1947, the whole attitude of the Los Angeles delegation had changed. Los Angeles had sent 23 delegates to Atlantic City, and they came, he said, all the way across the country, not to enjoy the ride, or to play gin rummy on the Pullman train, but because they were literally fired by enthusiasm. In rising to second the motion of Governor Lehman, Mr. Brown said that Los Angeles realized it would have to bear its share of the goal. In 1947, he said Los Angeles had taken a 4 million dollar quota. In 1948, he said Los Angeles would take a 7½ million dollar goal, with more chance of raising it than the chance of raising their '47 quota. He said that he and the other 22 delegates would recommend this to the community at large. He spoke with warmth of emotion, and when he finished his speech of seconding the resolution, he was greeted with enthusiastic applause.

Following the speech seconding the resolution, the chairman called for a discussion from the floor, and several individuals rose to speak. Mr. A. I. Lack of Houston rose to say that he was one of the few dissenters in the deliberations of the previous day of the preparatory sub-committee, and that he had dissented because he wanted the goal set realistically. He was rising today to say that he wished to change the vote of the Houston delegation, and announce its support of the 250 million quota, so that the vote could be made unanimous.

Mr. Samuel Goldhammer, Executive Director of the Cleveland Welfare Fund, rose in the discussion to make a suggestion that we do not have quotas set by communities for the sake of self-inspiration. He then proceeded to speak vigorously against New York. He said that New York failed to do its share and that the 1947 goal was not being realized due to the default of New York. He suggested that pressure should be applied to businessmen in New York, as it is applied to them in smaller communities, so that they could not hide behind the cloak of anonymity. He suggested further that customers around the country should be informed of what New York businessmen do not do. He requested that the names of large givers in New York be distributed around the country to all individuals in allied trades and industries, so that the people in the grass roots, who do their share, would be able to bring pressure on the New Yorkers who do not. His remarks were *heated* heeded and immediately evoked a widespread buzz of comment across the convention floor.

Mr. Monroe Goldwater, one of the chairmen of the New York drive, rose immediately to answer what he called an unfair challenge. He said that New York has long enough been the whipping ~~board~~ *by* for the rest of the country. He said that New York leadership has been as faithful as any. He asked several questions, shouting "Whom do you criticize, Ed Warburg, Governor Lehman, Bill Rosenwald?" He said he could not leave this convention without stating #1 that New York supported the 250 million dollar quota, but #2 New York had no great confidence that it could double the amount it raised this year. He concluded by saying that he defied anyone to show us newer techniques, greater earnestness or zeal.

Mr. E. N. Grueskin of Sioux City, Iowa, rose to say that after listening to the other delegates, he had become convinced that 250 million was feasible. He believed that larger communities, naming specifically New York, Chicago and Philadelphia, do not bear their full share. He said that he realized that the drives in those cities could not get full coverage of all of the Jews, but he could not admit in his own mind that they were doing everything possible to arrive at a maximum goal. He said he was satisfied that smaller towns such as the one he came from would continue to carry and even go over their share in 1948.

Mr. David Stein of Waterbury, Conn. rose to suggest that if communities felt weak, in regard to their ability to make the '48 quotas, they should forego all other internal work, such as the building of community centers or synagogues or hospitals or other local projects. He felt that it was an absolute must that the UJA should get priority.

Mr. Isadore Fein of New York, rose again to the defense of his city. He said that he came from New York and he was proud to be criticized. He said that New York is doing more for humanity than all the rest of the towns of America put together (this remark, incidentally, was greeted by a loud boo from the entire convention). He suggested that young men and women should not go to race tracks in 1948. He suggested that older men and women should stay two weeks less in Miami during the winter.

Rabbi Lehrman, of Miami, rose to say that his community would be the first one to conduct its campaign, as it always does and that it would be the first to reach its goal.

A gentleman from Buffalo rose to support the quota, to indicate that he thought it was possible of attainment, and to make the suggestion that the preparatory sub-committee, which had listened to the budgets and recommended a figure of 250 million should be made a permanent sub-committee, to sit in session through the entire year of 1948, to act as a watch-dog and to guard the progress of the drive.

Several other various speakers from various communities around the country rose to speak on the resolution and at 4:30 in the afternoon of Sunday, the 14th of December, question was called. When the question was called, there was a unanimous vote, from the entire floor, with a huge burst of enthusiasm, that the resolution be adopted unanimously. Immediately upon this adoption, Mr. Kaplan rose to say "The basis for the Jewish state was laid in Atlantic City on 14 December, 1947."

During the course of the Conference, there was one large brilliant dinner arranged for Saturday evening. I have rarely seen such an assemblage of personalities gathered at any one table. The dais literally sparkled with names which appear in headlines of newspapers and are world famous. Mr. Morgenthau, having accepted the chairmanship of the 1948 campaign, was general chairman of the evening's proceedings. He introduced the various speakers with a brilliance and a wit which rarely characterizes his public

appearances. Each speaker made significant and important comments and it was the feeling of those who were privileged to be able to attend that dinner, some 800 of the delegates, that they had witnessed a rare and moving event.

General Joseph McNarney, former Commander of the European Occupation Zone, who stated that he had had experience with literally thousands of Jewish DP's made a very sympathetic speech. He began by saying that he did not know what he ought to say "It is difficult for anyone not of the Jewish faith to understand fully what is in your hearts in this hour when all you have dreamed of, all you have fought for, and all you have sacrificed for, is on the verge of being consummated. One would have to be born into the Jewish fold to have an awareness of what it means to be a member of a people that has been considered homeless suddenly finds itself once again on the verge of having a homeland." He went on to say "I firmly believe this decision of the United Nations is in the best interests of the world." He remarked that the United Nations would have to enforce the peace, and that someday the Jewish state which would have membership in the United Nations, would also do its share toward enforcing the peace in other troubled areas in the world. He said that the Jews would be expected to conduct their state with tolerance and with a regard for the rights of others. And he concluded by saying "You will have to provide dollars without which Jewish efforts in Palestine and Jewish efforts to rescue DP's may very well be fruitless." He believed that 1948 was the crucial year. The year in which the efforts of the United Jewish Appeal may well measure the difference between success ~~and~~ or failure. He concluded by saying "You Jews of America have done much for your people. The splendid record marked up by you who are here tonight will attest to that. But much remains to be done. You cannot falter now."

Dr. Joseph Schwartz, European Director of the JDC, spoke briefly and described the reactions in Paris when the news of the UN decision reached Europe. He said that his telephone rang with messages from every corner of the continent, reporting wild celebration and jubilation. Dr. Schwartz declared that the reaction was so exuberant because "the UN decision is the most single important factor in the lives of all of the Jews in every corner of Europe." He described the situation as being somewhat better in Poland, and as growing progressively worse in Roumania. He offered as the reason for this the fact that all Jews, who had heretofore been in small trade, as middlemen, were now being squeezed out of the economy of those countries which were undergoing a process of collectivization. Thus Jews are leaving Roumania and Hungary, aspiring to reach the DP' camps of Germany, which they regard as a stepping stone to Palestine. He brought out the fact that while the Jews of Europe need a Jewish state in Palestine, that Jewish state will need even more the Jews of Europe to build it for the future. He said "We are engaged in a vast partnership between the Yishuv of Palestine and the Displaced Jews of Europe. This is a time when we must join the parties in that partnership, because we have an opportunity to give a home to those who need it and to give workers for the building of the home. The problem is not hopeless. The solution has been given

us by the United Nations, but we must implement it with cash."

Mr. Morgenthau, in introducing the next speaker, told a story, which caused all of the delegates to smile in appreciation at its subtlety. It was truly a delicious story, which aroused the emotions of all the hearers. He began by saying that if Mr. Kaplan and Mr. Shertok, the two ranking Palestinians on the dais at the moment, did not care to hear this story, because they would not be interested in it, he would permit them to leave the platform. He told about a meeting in his office in the fall of 1940, when England was on her knees, after the defeat of Dunkirk, and while America was still neutral in the war. General Marshall, General Hildring, Attorney General Biddle, and several others were in Mr. Morgenthau's office discussing the question of how they could get arms to England and yet do it legally, since we were still a neutral power. He repeated that if Mr. Shertok and Mr. Kaplan were not interested or were bored at this story, they could leave. He went on to say that it was a question of 75,000 rifles, which they could not give or sell to the British government, and which Mr. Edward Stetennius, then chairman of the Board of U. S. Steel, desired to buy for the steel corporation for use as scrap. The meeting was continued the following day in the office of Secretary of War Woodring and it was decided that the only solution, no matter how desperately they wished to help England with these arms, was to allow U. S. Steel to purchase them. Therefore, they were all highly amazed when these rifles appeared in England some several weeks later, and no one could figure out how it had happened. A big grin broke over the face of Shertok and Kaplan, and then communicated itself to the hundreds and hundreds of delegates, as they realized the significance of the story which Mr. Morgenthau had just told. Morgenthau then went on to introduce one of the men who was present in his office at that conference many years ago. That man was General John Hildring, the American Advisor to the delegation at Lake Success on the Palestine problem. General Hildring was greeted with a vast amount of applause, which was apparently an appreciation of everything he had done to help the American delegation arrive at its decision.

General Hildring made a masterful address. He said "You must make appropriate plans to convert a simple decision into an economically sound country in 9 short months." He indicated that he was proud that his country had not barred the European refugees from their only haven of refuge. He said that he had found in his experience in the army in the Army that there were not many places in the world which were willing to offer Jews security and peace. "Therefore, it is a privilege on my part to have participated in the Palestine decisions." He kept repeating and repeating the theme of the new state -- as a matter of fact mentioning it 8 times in his speech, each time being greeted by furious applause. He said "Personally I have confidence the violence will not last for long. I am convinced that more violence would have occurred had there been no decision. I have every reason to be optimistic about the future of the Jewish state." He then went on, of course, to remark that we have so far only a decision to create a state. Now it must be created. So many things are necessary that the job will be even greater than it was last year. He called this

the greatest challenge in the history of the UJA. He referred to the fact that each of the three constituent agencies would need more than they have ever needed before--the UPA because of its absorption of large numbers; the JDC, because the Jews waiting in Europe must not be abandoned now; and the USNA because in his opinion they would even more since he said "I am now quite confident that the Congress will pass the Stratton legislation at its next session."

He made one observation which was very important politically, and I should like to quote one paragraph from his speech, as follows: "The U. S. government took the position that every member of the United Nations, large or small, interested or disinterested, was entitled to its own independent judgment on the merits of the problem. Certainly we tried as best we could to persuade other countries of the logic and justice of our position. I am glad that we succeeded. We succeeded not because of threats, intimidation or pressure indulged in by any member of the U. S. delegation or by any official of your government. I am sure that the cause of the new Jewish state is immeasurably more secure and that the hearts and minds of all Americans, Jews and non-Jews alike, will be comforted and reassured by the knowledge that its officials did not resort to sordid tactics in the Palestine dealings."

As you can see, this was a very important statement of policy. He continued "I am glad and proud to be able to say that in my judgment, the overwhelming vote in the General Assembly of the United Nations was a voluntary and heartening recognition by the nations of the world that the Jews of Palestine and the homeless Jews of Europe must be given an opportunity to live their lives in a country they can call their own."

Mr. Moshe Shertok, head of the political department of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, spoke next, as one who was intimately familiar with the entire proceedings, since he had been present at all of the negotiations and had been the authoritative official speaking for the Jewish agency before the United Nations General Assembly. Mr. Shertok said many valuable things, and I wish to quote a few important observations. He said "Your contributions of the last few years have been decisive in showing the royal road of rescue." But beneath the feeling of joy and celebration there should be a stern determination to break through to final victory. The vindication of the faith in the Jewish state, as shown by the United Nations, and as stated by General Hildring, is the collective responsibility of the whole Jewish people. The discharge of that responsibility will undoubtedly be difficult. The danger of a Jewish default is stronger than the danger of an Arab war or of British noncooperation. There must be national mobilization of Jewish wealth.

The crowning point of the dinner, of course, was the appearance of Dr. Chaim Weissman and the remarks which he made. Dr. Weissman was greeted by tumultuous applause, and as he rose to speak, he quieted the huge audience with a quivering wave of his hand. He expressed his thanks to President Truman and said

that the Jewish people will remember him in gratitude for many centuries to come. He thanked Morgenthau for having taken on the burden for another year. He thanked General McNarney, whom he said he was meeting tonight for the first time, for all he had done for the oppressed and submerged Jews of Europe. He said that there should be no boasting and no glee over the victory in Palestine. He reminded us that we must achieve the good will of English and Arabs both. We must not waste our good will. If we waste that, we cannot restore it by collections of the UJA.

Whatever has been the policy of Great Britain since 1939, and it has not been good, we must now begin to write a new chapter in our relations with Great Britain. Also, we have always held our hand out to the Arabs. We have often been repulsed, but the Arabs had a glorious culture in which we participated with them and which we must seek to do again.

He then went on, in a rather joking vein, to talk about raising one quarter of a billion dollars. He said "Who am I to teach you how to get this money? I do not know how to get money. I am always on the receiving end." He reminisced about how he used to come with hat in hand to America for dimes and Quarters. He remarked that in his day, 40 years ago, a gift of three figures was considered large. Today, there are individuals in America who make gifts in six figures. He paid tribute to Baron Edmund de Rothchild, reminded the audience that Baron Edmund used to call him, Weissman, a red, whenever Weissman came soliciting funds, and that he had answered the Baron that he too was a red as far as someone was concerned. Everyone is a red to someone said Weissman.

His remarks were of such high and statesmanlike nature that everyone in the audience had the feeling that he was standing in the presence of the new president of the State of Judea. Weissman told one story which will undoubtedly be repeated across the entire globe, and I repeat it here because it is worthy of the dignity of the man.

He thought back to the time in 1917 when he was sent on an expedition by General Allenby to contact certain Arab troops to persuade them that further resistance against the British was futile. His transportation broke down and he could not reach his rendezvous with the Arab leaders, and so they encamped for the night high on the cliffs overlooking the Jordan, across from which were the hills of Moab where the Arab campfires were twinkling. He stood out on a lonely promontory, away from the encampment, and visibly influenced by the circumstances of his mission, the night and the stars, and an overwhelming sense of history rushed over him as he stood on that desolate spot.

He had the feeling that he was standing where no Jew had stood for many thousands of years, and he became inflamed with a sense of destiny which, he felt, would some day cause him to lead his people back over that spot to inherit the land which was once theirs. As he stood in these musings and reverie, he was interrupted by the voice of a British Tommy who had noticed that he had strolled away from the campfire and was standing

alone on the edge of the cliff. The tommy burst into his mystical speculations with these words "Sir, you are out of bounds."

Weissman then went on to say that now, thirty years after that incident, he no longer felt that he was out of bounds, because now he saw the realization of his dreams of leading his people back over that spot.

When he finished telling the story, which was powerful in its majestic impact on the audience, there was no applause, but rather a hushed silence, appreciative of the drama of those past few words.

He concluded by saying that he was no prophet and could not foretell what would be the future of the Jews in Palestine, but "All we can do is try to make the Jewish state a kingdom of priests and a sacred people," by which he meant that he hoped that the Jews of Palestine would dedicate themselves to the highest ideals of democracy and mankind in general, so that they would become a credit to the family of nations in which they would now take part. Weissman's address was undoubtedly the highpoint, in terms of sheer inspiration and poetic imagination of the entire four day conference.

There were many other speakers and speeches. I should like to refer very briefly to some of the others. Mr. William Tuck, executive secretary of the International Refugee Organization, could not come to Atlantic City in person, but sent a message from his headquarters in Geneva. He indicated the difficulties facing the IRO, and indicated further the limitations of the type of service which they could offer the DP's. It was quite clear the IRO has nowhere near the capacity which UNRRA used to have.

Mr. Tuck said, and I quote, "As you have seen, the funds available to the IRO are insufficient to furnish even the minimum basic care on adequate standards, and at the same time to furnish transport for the many thousands for whom resettlement or repatriation opportunities are now open. Yet it is essential to accomplish this second objective if we are ever to break the vicious circle in which the same dollar is needed to feed the refugee where he now is, and to buy him passage to another country.

"It is for this reason that a supreme effort by the voluntary agencies of the UJA is necessary this coming year. Their supplementary help and their combined resources may just tip the balance and help reduce the problem to proportions which can be dealt with more justly and humanely. We need their help in all welfare and training programs, in supplementary relief, in emergency assistance, and in resettlement and repatriation."

A speech was made by Hon. James G. Fulton, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs special sub-committee on the IRO. Congressman Fulton made an extensive survey throughout the areas of Europe, during this past summer, where there are heavy concentrations of DP's. He spoke very warmly and very sympathetically of the problem of the Jewish DP. He even brought to the rostrum

three DP's, who have recently come to this country, to have them express the general sentiment of opinion of all of the DP's which he encountered in Germany. He said that he believed that every effort would be made to insure the passage of the Stratton bill at the coming session of Congress. He said further that Congress and the United Nations were both waiting to see what the UJA would do in the way of assuming some of the financial burden of resettling Jews, in the one case in America and in the other case in Palestine. He expressed the feeling that both Congress and the United Nations would be more inclined to exert themselves to the utmost, if they saw that the Jewish community of America were willing to continue its extreme fund-raising efforts.

The last address from which I would like to quote was made by Dr. Samuel Gringaus, who, prior to his arrival in the States two months ago, was chairman of the central committee of Liberated Jews, which was the DP autonomous government. Dr. Gringaus was asked to speak in the name of all European refugees. Among other things he indicated that since coming to America he had heard many observations and comments from American Jews that the so-called emergency of the European Jews was no longer an emergency, but was growing to be a chronic state of affairs. He chose to answer such comments by remarking that the "Emergency" of European Jews had also become chronic and that it had lasted for six years. Furthermore, it had been an emergency of life, not merely of money.

He asked two rhetorical questions "How often do we lose six million? How often do we get Jewish states?" He felt that these things, which occurred only once every two thousand years, should be of sufficient historical magnitude to arouse the imagination, and consequently the giving, of American Jews to untold heights. He closed his remarks by saying that no one of our brethren will ever get a home through the United Nations vote alone." Dr. Gringaus spoke with terrific integrity and sincerity and made a most moving and touching appearance on the platform. He did not attempt to stir the emotions of his audience, but rather spoke quietly and almost scientifically ~~and~~ as he analyzed reason after reason why the American Jews should be asked to do what we are asking in 1948.

The debate on the floor extended over at least two full days. It is almost impossible to recapitulate in these notes of mine all of the questions and all of the answers which emerged from the floor. I should simply like to comment on one fact, which aroused a great deal of enthusiasm and interest, and for which there is as yet no clear cut answer. I am referring to the matter of the defense, from a military point of view of the future Jewish state. Speaker after speaker either asked a question about or offered information concerning the activities of the Haganah.

If you will recall, I stated earlier that Mr. Kaplan had included in his budget for 1948 an item of 28 million dollars, earmarked for security. Many delegates then asked the question whether that 28 million dollars was to be considered sufficient or whether the Haganah would continue to have separate fund-raising

apparatus during the coming year. The question was finally referred to Mr. Henry Montor, executive director of the UJA for definitive answer. I am afraid that I must report that his answer was still not very clear. He said the following:

"Out of the 1947 campaign money, the sum of \$3,000,000 will be given to the UPA for security purposes. After 1 January, '48, all funds that might be obtained by Haganah will be credited against the UPA account for 1948. Thirdly, in 1948 no organization of American Jews is entitled to conduct any activity for Haganah without the knowledge, consent and approval of the UJA."

It can be seen from the careful wording of this answer that there has been as yet no policy decision reached between UJA and Haganah as such. In other words, Mr. Montor said no organization of American Jews was to be entitled to conduct any activity, but he did not refer to an organization of Palestinian Jews. Therefore, it is possible that Haganah fund-raising might be conducted separately by Palestinian Jews in America. At any rate, I visited the Haganah offices, with whose leading personalities I am familiar, in an effort to ascertain whether they had any clear cut answer, and I must report that they also were in a state of flux.

It is not clear whether monies contributed to the UJA, which eventually will filter down for defense purposes, can be considered charity contributions. For example, if the total UJA quota is 250 million and 28 million is to be allocated for defense, that is something more than 10% of the total budget. Mr. Robert Nathan and Mr. Oscar Gass, of Washington, were somewhat hesitant about whether the United States government would consider that 28 million dollars to be deductible for income tax purposes. They were not certain that it would be disallowed, but neither were they certain that it would be permissible. They are attempting to obtain with great delicacy and tact, an answer to that question. If contributions which will eventually be used for non-charitable purposes (and Haganah can hardly be considered such charity) ~~are not~~ to be deductible, then it might be necessary for the separate Haganah organization to make its own separate appeal. Not only because of the tax question but also because of the strategic necessity of having money available for emergency use without too strict an accountability, it might be considered preferable to have a separate Haganah effort. At any rate, all that I am qualified to do at the moment is indicate the various problems with the conclusion, as far as we are concerned, that we must await further word from New York to clarify this issue. May I assure you that it is disturbing communities all over the country, since there is much to be said on both sides. Many speakers indicated that if Haganah could be included in the UJA drive, that would make a tremendously significant argument of appeal to American Jews for greater contributions to the UJA. American Jews are in the mood now of being receptive toward some special effort to help Palestine, and the thing which fires

imagination most would be the opportunity of sharing in the strategic defense of the land. Some amount of attention was given at one of the sessions, which was presided over by Mr. Herman Gilman of Boston, to the question of methods and organization of 1948 fund-raising techniques.

Mr. Gilman was selected to lead this discussion because of his unique and incomparable experience in Boston, where they raised over \$9,000,000 from a community of approximately several hundred thousand Jews. Mr. Gilman's approach to fund-raising is perhaps different from others. But he believes in the strongest possible methods of using pressure, using business boycott threats, using repeated personal visits in groups of 3 and 4 to overwhelm individual donors, etc. Mr. Gilman said that this approach does not make him personally very popular, but that it produces results, and that was all he was interested in. He explained that of his 67 team captains, no one was allowed to go out on the fund-raising effort without himself first pledging what the other 66 agreed was his reasonable share. In other words, the very first pressure of all in the campaign was exerted upon the team captains themselves. After the team captains had contributed their amounts, which were both pace-making as individual gifts, and also morale boosting, as an indication that the leaders of the drive were firmly behind it, they then proceeded to their trade and industry dinners which were followed up by an incalculable number of personal calls on individual businessmen.

Following Mr. Gilman's exposition of his successful techniques in Boston, various other cities were heard from. The delegate from Baltimore said that in his town, which has a fairly sizable chapter of the American Council for Judaism, their approach for fund-raising is on the basis of unity. They attempt to neutralize the objections of the American Council crowd, and to urge them to participate in this super-human effort. They attempt to arrive at this unity by sincere and deliberate consultation with the American Council, urging them to transcend their ideological conflicts in the face of the greater problem abroad. He reported some good measure of success with this planned program for unity between all groups in Baltimore.

The delegate from Butler, Pennsylvania which has 500 Jewish ~~famili~~ souls, and raises \$90,000, offered as his recipe for the approach to fund-raising, the formular of hard work. He said that he took one entire month from his business and that he personally together with several other men called upon every single individual Jewish person of Butler. He said that hard work is the best answer and that no other substitutes could be found. No amount of preliminary meetings, no degree of rating individuals, no extensive series of planning committees, could take the place of good hard leg work, going from office to office.

A fourth recipe was offered by the delegate from Joliet, Illinois, who said that they had found that the best approach to successful fund-raising was to raise specific individuals in the community, and not to allow the leading families either to beg off or to buy cheap horses. He explained that they put a

great deal of effort into analyzing specific individual cases, and that they then exerted total community pressure on the specific individuals to do what the Welfare Fund Committee had decided was their proper share. He said that too often the lower brackets bear their share and even more, while the upper brackets or at least some individuals on that level, attempt to duck out from under their responsibility.

Mr. Gilman told a story of what happened in Boston during the past year. He said that they had raised 8 and 3/4 million and needed another 1/4 to make their quota. In the last 48 hours of the campaign, he called 20 men together in his house and they made a list of the individuals in Boston who might be expected to make extra contributions above and beyond what they had already pledged, in order to raise that last 250,000. Having made their list of some 25 men, from each of whom they planned an additional \$1,000, this committee of men started telephoning. Extra phones were installed, and each one went to work on his assigned list of prospects. Gilman reported that the situation was tense, they were fighting against the closing hours of the campaign, and everyone was operating under terrific pressure. A comical incident occurred when one man, speaking to his prospect over the phone, listened carefully to all of the arguments offered by the other person. He said "I know you gave 25,000 this year. I know that last year you only gave 10. I know you are doing the best you can. But we need \$1,000 more from you in order to make our drive a success. You must give us the other thousand. It is very vital. It is very important." and so he continued. Apparently he had success, because he hung up the phone and he shrieked to Herman Gilman across the room, "I got it! I got it!" Gilman, who was checking the lists said "Who did you get it from." "MY God," said the other man "I don't remember who I was talking to." This story brought a great laugh from the delegates listening and concluded that session in fund-raising with a good mood and good spirit.

If I may interject something of the personal in this report, I should like to relate the fact that Mr. Morgenthau invited me to a private supper in his room in the Ritz Carlton Hotel. I had expected to see at least a few other persons, but we were entirely alone. He asked me what I thought about an idea which he had evolved for greater fund-raising efforts during this coming year's campaign. He reminded me that he had sold billions of dollars of war bonds during the war on the basis of the cavalcade idea. He had hired airplanes, great movie stars, impressive war heroes and speakers, and had sent this cavalcade from city to city holding great rallies, and selling huge numbers of liberty bonds. He wondered whether this idea could be useful in the 1948 campaign. It was his thought that perhaps those cities which hold their drives in the spring could concentrate on the month of April, those cities of the fall could concentrate on the month of September, and in those two months he would attempt to send these well organized and powerfully impressive cavalcades touring the country with a huge amount of publicity. They would make one-night stands in each city where

there were sizable numbers of Jews and would attempt in the course of that short period of two months to raise the 1948 quota. We discussed the idea pro and con and I told him that I thought it was a good one. I thought that each community would have to do a great deal of preparatory spade work, but that the appearance in a given city of the cavalcade could be the concluding effort of the local drive. I do not know whether Morgenthau's cavalcade idea will be adopted by the UJA executive committee, but I do know that they are discussing and weighing the pros and cons of this proposal.

In conclusion, may I state that there was an unusual mood of exhilaration and sense of historic destiny in this conference. Men who were tired after having worked hard in the 1947 campaign were somehow rejuvenated as this conference proceeded. Men who had faint hearts have become recharged. Many of the speakers spoke harshly, others spoke softly and persuasively. But all seemed to have been impressed with the seriousness of what they were doing. A certain sense of steely responsibility seems to have flowed over all of the delegates. The whole tenor of the session was that "something new has been added" to the campaign for 1948, and that that something new, namely the Jewish state, would give the extra push and impetus to the drive for one quarter billion dollars. People responded emotionally to the challenge which leader after leader laid down. People had the feeling that in this coming year they would see two things--first of all, they would see the death of the DP camps, which would shrivel as the people were gradually removed from them--and number two, at the same time, they expected to see the birth of the new Jewish state. I stated these conclusions in an invocation at the final luncheon and said that these two-fold expectations, the death of that which was hateful to us and the birth of that which will give us all new life, could be the two themes on which we would base the 1948 campaign. I was simply putting into words, I am sure, what was the mood and the attitude of the great majority of the delegates assembled. The quota was not railroaded over their objections; the amounts arrived at were perfectly acceptable because they were analyzed thoroughly and in detail; and the practical feasibility of obtaining such a figure seemed to be realistic to most of the men assembled.

I can only say that I have the feeling that the Jews of America will attempt in 1948 to do what is asked of them, and they will attempt this not because they will suddenly will have become any more generous or any more charitable, but they will attempt it because they will see at last a glimmer of light in the distance which will mean the liquidation of the necessity of such large sums of money being necessary year after year. The end finally seems to be in sight and that has stirred the imagination of the delegates.

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL
NATIONAL CONFERENCE
CHELSEA HOTEL
ATLANTIC CITY

FOR RELEASE, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1947

20-30

Meyer F. Steinglass
Director of Publicity

\$395,367,000 TOTAL NEEDED IN 1948 FOR PALESTINE STATE, OVERSEAS RELIEF AND REFUGEE AID

Mass Immigration, Upbuilding and Defense of Jewish State Call for Fund of \$283,156,000

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL CONFERENCE TO DETERMINE SHARE U.S. JEWS WILL PROVIDE NEXT YEAR

Treasurer of Jewish Agency for Palestine Expresses Hope Government Loans Will Aid in
Immigration and Reception of 75,000 Jews in Palestine in '48

\$98,547,000 Required for Relief Overseas and Rehabilitation of DP's and Others

\$13,664,000 Is Needed for Aid to Refugees Who Will Enter U.S. in Coming Year

RESETTLEMENT SOLE PERMANENT SOLUTION OF REFUGEE PROBLEM, GENERAL WOOD DECLARES

ATLANTIC CITY, DECEMBER 12 --- Facing the problem of providing vastly increased funds for the building of the Jewish state and the settlement of at least 75,000 Jewish refugees in Palestine in 1948, as well as for relief overseas and refugee assistance in the U. S., the National Conference of the United Jewish Appeal, meeting at the Chelsea Hotel here, was confronted today with budgetary estimates for the coming year amounting to \$395,367,000.

The record figure, it was explained by the speakers, did not represent the amount that would be asked of American Jews in the form of the United Jewish Appeal quota next year, but the conference found itself coming to grips with the task of determining the extent to which the needs for Palestine upbuilding, overseas relief and rehabilitation and refugee aid in the United States would be met by the contributions made to the drive of the United Jewish Appeal.

On the subject of Palestine, it was pointed out by Eliezer Kaplan, of Jerusalem, Treasurer of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, that \$283,156,000 would be required for immigration, settlement and defense of the new Jewish state next year. In the light of this unprecedented need it was expected that the conference would vote a

1948 goal for the United Jewish Appeal substantially in excess of the \$170,000,000 target for 1947. The decision on the goal will be made at the Sunday session of the 1300 delegates assembled here for the five-day conference that opened here yesterday.

In addition to the large fund needed for Palestine, the sum of \$98,547,000 would be required next year for the work of overseas relief and rehabilitation and \$13,664,000 for the work of adjustment and integration of newcomers to the United States.

Isidor Coons, Executive Vice-Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, announced that more than \$125,000,000 was raised so far this year and that the figure might reach \$132,000,000 before the end of 1947. This total surpassed the amount contributed last year by a minimum of \$23,000,000. More than 5,000 communities participated in the 1947 campaign, Mr. Coons said.

The presentation of the needs of the agencies of the United Jewish Appeal was made by Mr. Kaplan, for the United Palestine Appeal; Moses A. Leavitt, Executive Vice-Chairman for the Joint Distribution Committee, and Joseph E. Beck, Executive Director for the United Service for New Americans.

The first blueprint of financing the Jewish state to be made public since the decision of the United Nations on Palestine was placed before the delegates of the United Jewish Appeal conference by Mr. Kaplan, who occupies a position tantamount to Secretary of the Treasury for the Jewish homeland.

He outlined the major needs of Palestine on the eve of nationhood as follows: immigration, relief and housing of refugees, 75,000 of whom are expected to reach Palestine next year will cost \$95,434,000; agricultural settlement, \$27,500,000; urban settlement, \$25,000,000; resettlement of ex-servicemen, \$3,524,000; national organization and security, including the increase of the permanent Jewish militia by 5000 and the Hagana home guard by "tens of thousands", \$28,000,000; education and culture, \$5,000,000; acquisition of new land areas for settlement, \$57,800,000 and maintenance and amelioration of land, \$5,619,000.

As the pattern of financial needs for Jews in distress took form today it was emphasized that 1948 will see a major shift from relief to resettlement on a large scale with the spearhead of mass emigration directed at Palestine.

Underscoring the effect of the Palestine action of the United Nations in uplifting the morale of the displaced persons in Europe, Mr. Leavitt said:

"We are no longer afraid of the winter in the DP camps of Europe. The news of the Palestine decision has created a glorious revival of spirits and hope among 250,000 Jews who were sinking deeper and deeper into apathy and despair."

Discussing the security situation in Palestine, Mr. Kaplan said that he would ask the United States government for surplus arms to defend the Jewish State. He added that a "small token international force stationed in Palestine would make the Arab states think twice before attacking the new state."

On the question of financial needs Mr. Kaplan said that the State Department, the Import and Export Bank and the International Bank would be approached for loans to make up the needs that are not provided for in the total UJA quota for 1948.

He revealed for the first time that a four-year plan has been evolved for the development of the Jewish state to provide for the immigration and absorption of no less than 400,000 Jews during that period. "This would liquidate the problem of the Jewish refugees in Palestine," Mr. Kaplan said.

No provision for transportation has been made in the Palestine budget, Mr. Kaplan explained, because the United States government and the International Refugee Organization would be asked to supply the ships needed to transport 75,000 refugees from Europe and Cyprus to the Jewish homeland in 1948. He was confident that on the basis of pledges made by American government representatives prior to the UN decision, transportation facilities would be provided by the United States. In the 75,000 figure for 1948, 24,000 orphans and 51,000 adults will be brought to Palestine.

In the midst of the present unrest in Palestine, he reported "many prominent Arab villages recently approached the Jews in an effort to establish a truce and promote good neighbor relations."

He stressed the fact that the action taken at the United Jewish Appeal conference to make available the overwhelming bulk of the \$283,000,000 needed for Palestine, would serve as an important aid in obtaining loans and grants from governmental sources.

J.D.C. WILL REQUIRE \$98,547,000 IN 1948 FOR OVERSEAS RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION

The Joint Distribution Committee will require a minimum of \$98,547,000 in 1948 to carry on its three-fold program of relief, resettlement and reconstruction in behalf of the 1,500,000 Jews left in Europe, Moses A. Leavitt, Executive Vice-Chairman of the J.D.C. reported today.

Mr. Leavitt pointed out that "the task of retraining and preparing the Jewish DP's and other Jews of Europe for resettlement in the Jewish State where they can rebuild their shattered lives will place new and heavy responsibilities on the Joint Distribution Committee in 1948."

At the same time, he added, both relief and reconstructive work on a vast scale must be continued throughout the Continent, particularly in Eastern Europe, where more than half of the 830,000 surviving Jews are dependent on the J.D.C. for the basic necessities of life.

Of the \$98,547,000 required by the J.D.C. in 1948, he said, almost half - or \$45,728,000 - will be needed for direct relief purposes, including the maintenance of more than 400 canteens and feeding kitchens in 17 European countries. Also included in the relief figure is the cost of a huge supplementary feeding program for the 250,000 Jewish DP's in Germany, Austria and other areas. Mr. Leavitt said that in 1948 the J.D.C. must raise the present "below-subsistence level" of the daily DP diet to a minimum of 2,500 calories.

Stressing that the 180,000 Jewish children remaining in Europe are "the wards of the entire American Jewish community," Mr. Leavitt said that "the aid afforded them must be improved and brought nearer to the level of that which we are accustomed to extend to children and orphans in our own country." He added that J.D.C. estimates that nearly nine percent of its budget or \$8,528,000 will be required for its child care work next year, including care for 30,000 orphans or part orphans in 326 J.D.C.-supported institutions.

In 1948 increased emphasis must be placed on reconstructive activity which will enable additional tens of thousands to help themselves and leave relief rolls, he said. For this work J.D.C. estimates it will need a minimum of \$12,815,000, or 13 percent of its budget, in 1948. He reported that in 1947 J.D.C. assistance enabled 103,000 family heads and their dependents to become substantially or completely self-supporting.

For a broad program of medical care and rehabilitation, he continued, J.D.C. hopes to utilize \$6,666,000 or 6.8 percent of its 1948 budget. A major objective of the medical rehabilitation program is to serve Jewish DP's in Germany, Austria and Italy, who have partially or completely recovered from acute or chronic illness.

Other major items included in the estimated J.D.C. budget for 1948 included \$3,055,000 for care for the aged; \$5,700,000 for emigration;

\$3,801,000 for religious, cultural and educational activities; \$4,000,000 for unforeseen contingencies; \$4,204,000 for cooperating agencies, and \$4,050,000 for operating and service costs and interest on bank loans.

BECK CALLS UPON U.S. GOVERNMENT TO ABSORB 'ITS SHARE' OF EUROPE'S HOMELESS JEWS

Joseph E. Beck, Executive Director of the United Service for New Americans, today stressed the need for the United States to do "its share," along with the new Jewish State in Palestine and other countries, in providing resettlement opportunities for Europe's homeless and displaced Jews.

Mr. Beck estimated the number of European Jews "whose insecurity and distress can only be remedied by emigration" at 500,000, including nearly a quarter million "who are classified as displaced persons and who must have a place to live."

Pointing out that while the Jewish State will absorb the largest number of these homeless Jews, Mr. Beck stressed that "other countries will also have to contribute towards solving the problem by accepting substantial numbers of Jewish immigrants."

"Fortunately," he said, "it has become increasingly evident that Congress will pass a bill which will admit a larger number of displaced persons including a substantial number of Jews beyond present quota immigration."

He reported that in the eighteen months that have elapsed since May, 1946, when the first ship carrying refugees and displaced persons reached American shores, more than 37,000 Jews entered and found sanctuary in the United States. With funds made available by the United Jewish Appeal, he added, the United Service for New Americans provided for the reception, initial care and resettlement of the newcomers with the result that none has ever become a public charge.

He predicted that a minimum of 25,000 Jewish immigrants would enter the United States in 1948, emphasizing that this estimate does not include additional numbers of displaced Jews from Germany, Austria and Italy who may be permitted to enter the country if Congress adopts favorable immigration legislation at its next session. To provide for the needs of the 25,000 newcomers expected in 1948, he said, the U.S.N.A. will require a minimum of \$13,665,000.

Reuben E. Resnik, Director of Community Relations of the United Service for New Americans, reported that recent studies made by the Department of Immigration and Naturalization and by the Department of Justice underscored the fact that "recent newcomers to the United States have made invaluable contributions to the economic and social life of the nation both in war and peace."

RESETTLEMENT SOLE PERMANENT SOLUTION OF REFUGEE PROBLEM, GENERAL WOOD DECLARES

Declaring that resettlement represents the sole permanent solution of the refugee problem in Europe, Major General Walter A. Wood, Jr., Washington Chief of the International Refugee Organization, called upon the United Jewish Appeal to expand and speed up its program for the resettlement of homeless European Jews.

General Wood reported that homeless refugees are still on the move throughout Europe and that the influx to the displaced persons camps continues to keep pace with efforts to provide for their resettlement. He cited as an example the fact that while 56,000 refugees had been repatriated or resettled by IRO in September, 1947, the total number of refugees receiving care and maintenance during this period was reduced by only 8,569.

The undiminished influx of refugees into the DP camps makes it imperative that voluntary welfare agencies such as the United Jewish Appeal collaborate with intergovernmental agencies to accelerate the present schedule of resettlement of these homeless men, women and children, he said.

Pointing out that IRO lacks sufficient funds "to furnish even the minimum basic care on adequate standards to eligible refugees who need such care," Gen. Wood urged the American Jewish leaders to make adequate funds available through the United Jewish Appeal in 1948 to insure the lasting and permanent recovery of Europe's Jewish survivors.

Among the other speakers at the sessions today (Friday) were Henry Morgenthau, Jr., General Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal; Charles Brown, President of the Jewish Community Council of Los Angeles, who presided at the morning session; Henry Montor, Executive Vice-Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal and Julian H. Krolik, President of the Allied Jewish Federation of Detroit, who presided at the afternoon session.

Jacob Sincoff and I. Elwin Goldwasser, both of New York, National Co-Treasurers of the United Jewish Appeal, presented reports on the results of the 1947 campaign.

PROMINENT FIGURES TO SPEAK TOMORROW

Tomorrow evening (Saturday) the guest speakers will include Major General John H. Hilldring, former Assistant Secretary of State and United States representative to the United Nations; General Joseph T. McNarney, former United States Commander in Europe; Moshe Shertok, of Palestine, Head of the Political Department of the Jewish Agency for Palestine; Dr. Joseph T. Schwartz, Chairman of the European Executive Council of the Joint Distribution Committee; Congressman James G. Fulton, of Pennsylvania, Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs special sub-committee on the International Refugee Organization; and Dr. Chaim Weizmann, former President of the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

first 50

JDC - 55 UPA - 45

next 75

UPA - 55 JDC - 45

all above 125

JDC - 25 UPA - 75

above 250

UPA - 100

Haganah drive to be stylized

75M - 18.

3 other countries
5 reparations

98 - JDC (8 outside)
283 - UPA (28 Haganah)

381 accepted these budgets
1340
5 raised

4

Lehman read resolution
proposing 250 million

Then spoke for it.

(5)

Coming in any other year,
250 mil. would have been staggering.

But in 1948, we see beginning
of constructive liquidation of DP problem.
75,000 will move in first of
four-year plan. 1948 is historic year.

"Jews in Palestine must
be given means of protection."

(Tremendous applause)

"Efforts of people in Palestine will be
of no avail, unless we their friends
hold out helping hand." (applause)

[all comments upon necessity of supporting
Palestine, met with terrific reception.]

(2.)
"Every Jew, whether Zionist or
not, is vitally concerned and
must help now."

In budget of JDC, nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ is
to be devoted to care of DPs.

Army & UNRRA used to spend
75-100 mill for Jewish DPs alone. Now
they are out, and we are suggesting
a substitute of only 30 mill.

Good



FOR RELEASE, MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1947

STATEMENT OF HERBERT H. LEHMAN, FORMER GOVERNOR
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, IN PRESENTING TO THE
CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL AT ATLANTIC
CITY THE REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY SUB-COMMITTEE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1947

You have listened to an historic announcement -- the report of your Preparatory Sub-Committee on the fund-raising effort which it considers to be the responsibility of American Jewry during the critical year of 1948.

If this figure -- the largest goal ever projected by a private welfare organization -- surprises a few of you by its magnitude, it should at the same time inspire every one of you. I know that it inspired me and I know that tomorrow morning it will equally inspire millions of Americans of the Jewish faith who will read it in their newspapers.

The hopes and the yearning of two thousand years are at last possible of fulfillment. It remains for those assembled in this hall -- representatives of the solid force of the American Jewish community -- to end the homelessness of the Jewish people abroad who have suffered so greatly from persecution. Brutality and endless fear. Your history making decision of the next few hours and your action in the months to come can transform possibility into reality -- and reality into shining certainty.

Coming in any other year the contemplation of \$250,000,000, as the annual goal of the United Jewish Appeal might have been fantastic. But for Jews all over the world the year 1948 is far from an ordinary one. It is the year in which we confidently expect to see on a vastly accelerated scale the rebuilding of a Jewish national commonwealth. We expect to witness resettlement of at least 75,000 Jewish refugees in Palestine as the beginning of a four-year mass immigration plan which will constructively liquidate the larger part of the Jewish DP and refugee problem.

At the same time relief demands in Europe continue unabated. The 250,000 Jews in DP camps receive relief assistance which in America we would consider tragically sub-standard. But they are buoyed up in this, their third winter, by the hope of ultimate resettlement in Palestine or elsewhere. We who give and serve are privileged to participate in an unprecedented humanitarian effort only because there still remains an unprecedented humanitarian need.

As the various specialists who have preceded me on this platform have explained so fully, every dollar which we can raise in 1948 is already earmarked for deeds of historic importance. We must not lose sight of the fact that the goal which has been recommended, however large, is still seriously short of the demonstrated needs of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal, and United Service for New Americans, the three agencies whose programs we must finance through the United Jewish Appeal.

The record sum which you are about to be asked to approve is the absolute minimum required to carry on the life-saving and vitally necessary programs of these agencies. We can therefore admit of no possibility of the 1948 goal not being accepted. We in America, indescribably better off than our co-religionists in other countries, cannot fail in this momentous year. The eyes of the whole world are upon us. We must not break faith with that tragic remnant of the people whom we have aided so magnificently so far.

The UN decision on Palestine has been a moral victory but the economic phase of our task has just begun. We must now provide substantially increased funds to finance large-scale movements of European refugees and to upbuild and defend the new Jewish State. You have heard outlined the major financial needs of Jewish Palestine on the threshold of nationhood. Loans to the new Jewish State and perhaps even direct governmental grants of certain types should be available. In the meantime we must keep the pump primed with every possible dollar of our voluntary contributions because we must be in the vanguard. For a long time we Jews have talked of Jewish statehood -- men have dreamed of it for nearly two thousand years. Now we've got it. In plain language, this is it. Every Jew, whether Zionist or not, is vitally concerned.

Europe's situation in this third winter since V-E Day has not improved -- in many areas it has greatly deteriorated. You have heard how in Western Europe the Jewish population has been fairly successful in reintegrating itself into a war-shattered economy. But in Hungary, Roumania, Poland and Bulgaria, as well as in Germany, Austria and Italy -- the plight of the homeless and of the uprooted is almost as bad as on the day of their liberation.

The situation of the Jews of Eastern Europe is desperate. More than two-thirds of the 800,000 Jews in this section of Europe, particularly those in Roumania and Hungary, are dependent on the generosity of the American Jewish community. To say that a great amount of work remains yet to be done to insure even in slight degree the economic recovery of these people is to make an understatement. Many of these people want to go to Palestine and as the DP camps are emptied it may become possible to help them reach their goal.

Meanwhile, strenuous efforts must be made in the coming year to rebuild their destroyed religious and cultural life. Their synagogues have been razed. Their trade and agricultural resources have been wiped out utterly. Hunted human beings who have survived the extermination and slave-labor camps do not retain the means whereby to earn a living. The new generation has had only one kind of training -- that of survival. The trades and crafts by which the older generation once earned their livelihood can no longer be practiced under changed conditions or else have fallen into disuse. By its own reports IRO is without adequate funds for either maintenance or resettlement. Therefore we, the Jews in America, must help these stricken people to their feet. We are their one and only hope. We must continue our overseas relief and reconstructive effort so long as they hold out their hands to us for bare necessities. Without us they are doomed.

Of the half million Jews in Europe whose problem can only be solved by resettlement, a certain percentage look towards the United States as their eventual home. Already we have given haven to some 37,000 quota immigrants, most of whom are well on their way towards full American citizenship and responsibility. The likelihood of Congressional action to admit a greater number of refugees and displaced persons is an additional challenge. These immigrants must be helped initially upon their arrival, and they must be helped to establish themselves in self-sufficient and productive roles in American social and economic life.

You have heard of the three-part task which your dollars must accomplish in overseas relief -- in the upbuilding of Palestine -- and in refugee aid in this country. If we are to enjoy in good conscience the blessings of our own priceless freedom we must wholeheartedly determine to implement the program which will bring some of those blessings to our suffering co-religionists abroad.