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American Zionist Emergency Council, "D" and "E", 1943-1944.

Western Reserve Historical Society

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September 14, 1943

Mrs. Judith Epstein
Hadassah
1819 Broadway
New York, N.Y.

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Form 16 L

H.NB54 LONG LC97N (NINE) 114 NL=PXXHFG NEWYORK NY 17=
:DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER THE TEMPLE=
EAST 105TH AND ANSEL ROAD (CLEVELAND OHIO)=

1943 SEP 18 AM 4 17
PLEASE FORGIVE DELAYED ANSWER. ONLY UPON RETURN TODAY
LEARNED OF YOUR TELEGRAM WHICH MISSED ME ENROUTE SPEAKING
TOUR. WOULD LIKE TO SEE WORK EMERGENCY COMMITTEE DIVIDED
AMONG THREE DEPARTMENTS HEADED BY VOLUNTEER CHAIRMEN AND
STAFFED BY EXPERTS. ONE PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE ALREADY
ESTABLISHED UNDER WHICH THE AMERICAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE
CHURCHMENS GROUP ETCETERA NOW FUNCTIONING. TWO ECONOMIC
RESEARCH AND PLANNING. THREE POLITICAL RESEARCH AND PLANNING.
FUNCTION OF LAST MENTIONED COMMITTEE TO DIRECT WORK OF
PROFESSIONAL STAFF FOR RESEARCH AND PREPARATION OF MATERIAL
NECESSARY FOR PURSUIT OUR POLITICAL OBJECTIVES. RESEARCH STAFF
COULD SERVE BOTH ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL COMMITTEES.
POLITICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH POLITICAL
COMMITTEE WHICH MAKES POLICY. WILL ELABORATE AT MEETING=
JUDITH G EPSTEIN. =:

=(56) TO DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER THE TEMPLE

(DRAFT)

September 29, 1943

Hon. Samuel Dickstein
House of Representatives
Committee on Immigration and Naturalization
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Dickstein:

I appreciate having your letter of September 24th with which you enclosed a copy of Joint Resolution 154 which is being acted on by the Immigration and Naturalization Committee.

As you suggest, I am deeply interested in provisions that might be made to offer refuge in this country to those who can be saved from extermination by Hitler. It is a source of satisfaction that, as a Member of Congress, you have taken a continuous interest in the subject and have not hesitated to bring the issue squarely before the attention of the American public. It is essential that the American people implement the sympathy that they have expressed on frequent occasions for those who have been the first and the most tragic victims of Hitler's brutality.

I shall be in Washington on October 11th and 12th and would be glad to see you at that time.

With very best wishes to you and yours for the New Year,
I am

Very cordially yours,

Abba Hillel Silver

THE MINNEAPOLIS FEDERATION FOR JEWISH SERVICE

October 29, 1943

Mr. Joseph M. Proskauer, President
American Jewish Committee
11 Broadway
New York City 4, New York

Dear Mr. Proskauer:

At the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Minneapolis Federation for Jewish Service, held last evening consideration was given to the action of the Executive Committee of the American Jewish Committee in severing its connections with the American Jewish Conference.

I am directed to inform you that our Board is deeply resentful of this action on the part of the American Jewish Committee and wishes to record its protest of this disruptive action, which appears to sabotage the united front in American Jewry.

The leadership of your organization will have to bear heavy responsibility for willful and ill advised action in this tragic hour in the life of our people.

Our Board furthermore, voted to withdraw our two community representatives on the American Jewish Committee, Messrs. Arthur Brin and I. S. Joseph.

I wish to assure you that it is with deep regret that our Board found itself impelled to take this action.

Very truly yours,

Rabbi Albert I. Gordon
President

AIG:mt

THE MINNEAPOLIS FEDERATION FOR JEWISH SERVICE

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November 1, 1943

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The enclosed is a copy of a letter to
the American Jewish Committee which is self ex-
planatory.

Sincerely,

Charles I. Cooper,
Executive Secretary

CIC:mt

November 3, 1943

Mr. Charles I. Cooper, Executive Secretary
The Minneapolis Federation for Jewish Service
607 Andrus Building
Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Mr. Cooper:

Thank you for your kind letter of November 1 and for the copy of the letter which you sent to the American Jewish Committee conveying the information that your Federation has withdrawn its representatives from the American Jewish Committee because of the latter's withdrawal from the American Jewish Conference. May I applaud you for this statesmanlike action in condemning the American Jewish Committee for its utterly undemocratic and irresponsible action in attempting to disrupt the unity of American Jewry in these critical times. I hope that other communities will follow your fine leadership.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

November 3, 1943

Mrs. Judith Epstein
Hadassah
1819 Broadway
New York City

Dear Mrs. Epstein:

Attached hereto is a copy of a release issued by the National Council of Jewish Women. You will note that discussion of and action on the American Jewish Conference will be held on Tuesday evening, November 9th.

I will be in touch with you by telephone on this matter.

Cordially yours,

Henry Montor
Executive Director

HM:FE
Enc.

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O
P
Y

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
41 East 42nd Street
New York City #17

M E M O R A N D U M

November 10, 1943

To : Mr. Montor

From: Kinereth Dushkin

Approximately 70 people - half of them Gentiles - were present at the organizational meeting of the American League For a Free Palestine. The meeting was held in the Continental Ballroom of the St. Moritz Hotel at 8:30 P.M. on Tuesday, November 9, 1943. Speakers were: Mr. Potter, chairman, Lisa Sergio, radio commentator, and Dr. Johan Smertenko, former professor at Grinnell College, now director of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe.

The meeting was opened by Mr. Potter. "We are gathered in a very solemn and dark hour as far as the Jewish people are concerned", he said. "From reports from our emissaries - like Will Rogers - we can tell you that the situation is just as serious and heartbreaking as it has been before." Mr. Potter turned from the present suffering of the Jews in Europe to Arab activities in the Near East. Concerning Nuri Pasha's recent invitation of Arab representatives to Cairo, he stated that the object of that invitation is the discussion of the formation of an Arab Federation, based on the program outlined in a new book by the Prime Minister of Iraq. "The thesis of that book is that Great Britain owes the Arabs a debt because of Arab services rendered in the last war", he said. To combat such activity, Americans of all creeds must band together in an American League For a Free Palestine for the Jewish people.

Mr. Potter listed recent activities which were to the organization's credit: (1) Roosevelt's letter of rebuke to Argentina concerning the suspension of Jewish newspapers; (2) the establishment of a governmental refugee agency; (3) the Carnegie Hall "Salute to Denmark and Sweden"; (4) the "solemn pilgrimage of 500 rabbis to Washington"; (5) the week of compassion declared in 6,000 churches throughout the country.

The most forceful speaker of the evening was Lisa Sergio. Discussing the relationship of the Jewish problem to world peace, Miss Sergio declared that Hitler's persecution of the Jews, "the first match which ignited the powder which blew up the world", need never have come to pass were it not for the element of fear. In order to rid the world of anti-Semitism we must first get rid of that element of fear. Public opinion is the powerful channel through which we can disprove "Hitler's fundamental psychological lie" about the Jews. Public opinion was written into the Moscow Pact which has brought "the people and their free will" to the fore. American public opinion is the freest in the world; it must be made to see that the solution of the Jewish problem lies in Palestine, and that the bilateral treaty between England and the United States concerning Palestine gives us a moral responsibility. "The Senate has just voted itself in on international affairs", she said. "The White Paper is its test case. We shall lose our clear record if on this matter of Palestine we fall down."

The final speaker was Professor Smertenko. "Although there has been a Jewish problem for 2,000 years", he said, "there has never before been a Jewish freedom movement." The American League For a Free Palestine - alias the Emergency Committee to Save the Jews of Europe, alias the Committee For a Jewish Army, alias the American Friends of Palestine - was created to meet a specific need. Its existence is justified as a non-sectarian organization not engaged - as is the Zionist movement - in any of the

factional controversy which is the bane of Jewish life. "Basic to saving the Jews of Europe is Palestine; it alone can take in 600,000 refugees - now", he said. Despite the early whittling down of the Balfour Declaration - "Transjordan became 'Judenrein' long before Hitler appeared on the scene" - we must act now, as the nations of other countries are acting, to attain for the Jews of Europe a Jewish State on both sides of the Jordan. We must learn from the programs of Indian and Korean nationals who say "we are a nation; we have a land which we propose to occupy; we turn to American public opinion for support." That must be the program of action of the American League. Otherwise, whereas at the Peace Conference the small Duchy of Luxembourg will be represented, the millions of stateless and homeless Jews will not.

Smertenko's final appeal:

- (1) "Stand up and be counted." Add your name to a list of names to be sent to Congressmen by the American League.
- (2) Appeal for membership.





EPSTEIN REYNOLDS & HARRIS
CONSULTING CHEMISTS and ENGINEERS
5 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago

December 7, 1943

Dr. Nahum Goldmann
 The Jewish Agency for Palestine
 #708, 41 East 42nd Street
 New York, 17, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Goldmann:

You are undoubtedly familiar with the fact that at the last meeting of the Zionist Organization of America Executive I presented again the problem of calling a conference for the post-war rehabilitation of Palestine. The major object of this conference should be to dispel the legends and myths which are being circulated among official Washington and non-Zionists that Palestine has no potential capacity for large scale Jewish immigration. If such a conference is held sometime in the latter part of February 1944, or the first part of March, it will be of political significance in our fight against the White Paper. In addition, such conference will help to clarify certain important economic issues and its results may be used as a directive in future planning for Palestine.

At the ZOA Executive meeting Dr. Silver and the other members of the Executive were much impressed with this idea and they have pledged their support. Last Sunday I made a special trip to visit Dr. Silver in Cleveland so that we could elaborate on the nature of the conference and its implications. Dr. Silver stated that the Zionist Emergency Council should call such a conference and asked me to communicate with Mr. Blinks as representative of the American Palestine Institute in Washington and Mr. Neumann as acting chairman of the Palestine Surveys Commission and chairman of the newly created Planning Committee of the Emergency Council.

Broadly speaking, I should like to make the following suggestions:

1. The conference should be called under the auspices of the Jewish Agency and the Zionist Emergency Council of America.
2. A small Arrangements Committee should be immediately organized which should include:
 - a. A representative of the Jewish Agency. (I may suggest Mr. Weisgal).
 - b. A representative should be designated by the Emergency Council. (In this case if you have no objection, may I suggest Albert K. Epstein.)

COPY

- c. A representative of the Palestine Survey Commission, which, of course, is understood to be Mr. Neumann.
- d. A representative of the American Palestine Institute. (I suggest Mr. Blinken.)
- e. A representative of the Palestine Economic Corporation and the Palestine Economic Committee, whichever you deem advisable. Perhaps Mr. Weisgal and a secretary lent by the Emergency Council can take charge of the technicalities of the preparation.

This group should be the committee on arrangements and should be responsible for preparing the details of the conference. I am suggesting an Arrangements Committee of this sort in order to avoid any possible misunderstanding between existing groups in this field and friction between personalities. I believe that a Committee so constituted will at least solve this problem.

- 3. The Conference should be limited in size and should be by invitation only. The maximum we can expect is between 50 and 100 people. The papers read at the discussion should be recorded and become official documents to the various agencies of the Zionist movement and to governmental bodies to whom this matter may be of interest. A tentative suggestion of the subject matter of the papers to be read is as follows:
 - a. Economic geography of Palestine and the surrounding countries.
 - b. Present Palestine economy such as the total population and percentage of population in trade, industry, agriculture, commerce, etc.
 - c. Fuel (hydroelectric power, petroleum, oil shale.)
 - d. Scientific agriculture:
 - (1) Present status.
 - (2) Potential expansion based on irrigation, canalization, reservoirs, flood control, etc.
 - (3) New crops.
 - e. Industry.
 - (1) Present status.
 - (2) Possibilities of expansion: chemical, metallurgical, mechanical and textile industry.
 - f. Housing and building.
 - g. Maritime transportation.
 - h. Transportation.

i. Nutrition and health.

j. Finance.

4. Participants in the Conference:

Prof. Lowdermilk

Prof. Morgan

Dr. Revutsky

Prof. Waksman

The Washington group.

Technical experts of the Palestine Surveys.

Mr. Robert Nathan

Prof. Lilienthal

Mr. Abraham Dickenstein

Prof. Lepkovsky

It is suggested that an economic expert from Palestine be invited, for example Mr. Horowitz, and Mr. Laski from Great Britain.

As guests the following may be invited:

Official representatives of the U. S. Government, e.g. from the Office of Economic Warfare, Near East Department.

Representatives of the British Embassy and the British Supply Council in the United States.

Members of the Near East Institute which met in Chicago a year ago. These gentlemen are primarily academic, connected with various universities in this country in the departments of Political Science and related subjects.

Vice-President Wallace and other governmental officials in whom we may be interested, senators, congressmen.

Representatives of foreign governments interested in the Jewish problems (Poland, Czechoslovakia, Russia).

It is problematic whether it is advisable to discuss the financial aspect of rehabilitation of Palestine. Dr. Silver believes that if at the present time it were mentioned, that the project will cost one billion dollars and that we will have to get this money from the United Nations, it may have an adverse political effect. On the other hand, this question will pop up during the discussions. We cannot avoid it. Therefore I believe it would be advisable for someone to discuss the problem of financing this rehabilitation project. I wonder whether a man like André Meyer from France could handle this subject in a general way, or whether perhaps Robert Nathan could do justice to it.

It is also suggested that the Conference should last two days, with morning and afternoon sessions. No paper should be over thirty minutes and not more than four papers should be read per session in order to allow time for discussion. It is advisable to assign certain people to the discussion of each paper ahead of time so that the discussions can be carried on in an intelligent manner.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

-4-

December 9, 1943

In addition to the problem to be idscussed, I want to add that someone should read a paper on the scientific and technical re-searchs of Palestine with the object of proving that Palestine is the only country in the Middle East which has the necessary personnel required for an expanded agriculture and industry based upon scientific principle.

The above are merely working suggestions. When the Arrangements Committee will be called together, changes may be made in the program, and perhaps the other members of the committee can suggest additional experts to handle certain phases of the conference.

I am sending a cooy of this letter to Mr. Neumann, Mr. Blinken, and Dr. Silver. It is important that this work should start immediately as it will take at least two months to arrange the conference.

Sincerely yours,

Albert K. Epstein

ea

cc: Dr. Silver ✓
Mr. Neumann
Mr. Blinken

דער טאג

THE DAY

THE NATIONAL JEWISH DAILY

183 EAST BROADWAY, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE ORCHARD 4-3300

December 20,
1943.

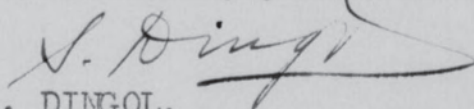
Rabbi Abba Hiller Silver
% The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Your criticism of the Jewish Press and its attitude toward the Emergency Committee of Rescue to European Jews, was only partly justified. Even in the papers where they get occasionally a "good press", we are, nevertheless, on guard that Jewish public opinion should not be misled by their stunts and cheap showmanship, as you will notice from the enclosed.

I take this opportunity to thank you for that dinner discussion of last Tuesday night. It was really delightful and extremely informative.

Very sincerely yours,


S. DINGOL,
Managing Editor.

sd;rc



EPSTEIN REYNOLDS & HARRIS
CONSULTING CHEMISTS *and* ENGINEERS
5 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 3

December 29, 1943

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Enclosed please find copy of my reply to Mr. Blinken.

It seems to me that Mr. Blinken is ~~all~~ confused in connection with the problems which are confronting us. I do not know the Washington group, but I have a feeling from the nature of the letter that they suspect that the conference will be in competition with their project. I am endeavoring to establish a policy of cooperation and not of getting credit for work.

Mr. Neumann has informed me that he is calling a meeting for Monday, January 3, to discuss this conference. It would be advisable to mobilize all our forces for this project. I shall be very glad to keep you advised of any further developments.

With best regards, I remain

Cordially yours,

Albert K. Epstein

ea
enc.





EPSTEIN REYNOLDS & HARRIS
CONSULTING CHEMISTS *and* ENGINEERS
5 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago

3

December 29, 1943

Mr. M. H. Blinken, President
American Palestine Institute, Inc.
165 Broadway
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Blinken:

I regret very much that I could not avail myself of your kind invitation to attend the Washington meeting. It was impossible for me to obtain reservations on short notice.

I have received the very interesting memoranda prepared by the members of your Institute, and also Mr. Nathan's splendid outline, which I understand is to serve as a guide for the preparation of a documented memorandum covering various phases of Palestine economics. I shall be thankful to you if you will keep me in touch with the future proceedings of the Institute.

In analyzing your letter of December 13, as well as my correspondence to you of December 7, it is apparent that there is really no great difference between my approach to the problem and the one that you outlined in your letter. In addition, there is really no conflict between the proposed conference on the Economic Rehabilitation of Palestine and the memorandum which Mr. Nathan and his staff are preparing to present to Messrs. Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill; in fact, they complement and supplement each other. Perhaps we are using a different vocabulary to denote the same ideas, and hence I shall endeavor to clarify some of the issues involved.

You ask the question: "What do you want to achieve?" The members of your Institute, as well as we, recognize that there is opposition from official quarters to a large Jewish immigration to Palestine. Whether the hostility of the experts and the officials is due to "predilection", as you choose to call it, or to created "myths and legends" that the absorptive capacity is limited, as I designated, does not alter the situation. Both you and we desire to disspell this "predilection" or "myth" by presenting objective, scientific economic data with the object, as you state in your letter, to "persuade and influence the leaders" who will ultimately determine the basic political question. It is evident from the memorandum of December 7 that the proposed conference will not be of a political nature, we will not pass political resolutions, we will simply endeavor to present economic evidence that Palestine has a large potential absorptive capacity. Although you state in your letter, Page 2, Par. 3, "We do not consider the target of disspelling the legends and myths as being worthy of the effort of the organization," nevertheless you are striving to accomplish the same purpose.

If you reduce the problem to its simplest form, it amounts to the following: We must prove by objective, scientific evidence that Palestine can support an additional one million Jews, and it is hoped that the sincere leaders of the democracies will examine this evidence and will be convinced of the justification of our claims and that they will give us the political power to implement this program in practice.

Another important question is raised: "Where shall we take the objective facts to present to the proposed economic conference since the data in proper scientific form has not yet been assembled." This point requires some clarification. A large amount of fundamental research work on the economic problems of Palestine has been carried on for a long period of time by the Palestine Government and published in a number of official bulletins, gazettes, etc., by the Economic Research Institute of the Jewish Agency for Palestine (Jerusalem), published periodically in bulletins, Palestine and the Near East, and in the publications of the Chevroth Ovdin (Histadruth Cooperatives). Compilations of this scientific data have been published also in the yearly reviews of the "Economic Annuals of Palestine", and in the excellent compilation of Horowitz and Hinden, Rupin, Gurawitch, and others.

Fortunately, we have this scientific data on hand, but what we have failed to do is to bring this data to the attention of Jews and non-Jews. Our entire Zionist literature in this country for the past years has been political in character. We have failed to familiarize the statesmen and the experts with the created economic realities of the Yishuv and with its future potentialities.

The value of your Institute lies in the fact that its staff is endeavoring to compile and abstract the already existing literature on the subject and reinterpret same in terms of the pressing problem of the day. This is an excellent piece of work. As a matter of fact, the five excellent papers already prepared by the members of the Institute, if presented at the conference, would constitute approximately 50% of the program as outlined in the memorandum of December 7. These papers cover various economic problems of the past.

We also have material on hand in connection with the expansion of agriculture and industry since 1939. There is no doubt that Dr. Lowdermilk and the engineers of the Commission on Palestine Survey could make an excellent contribution by reading papers on expansion of irrigation and electrification of Palestine, and point out the potential possibilities for large immigration, as well as the effect of such a program on the Near East. Dr. Bergmann could write a very fine paper on the potentialities of the chemical industry. A short paper perhaps could be prepared by the writer on some phase of the problem which has a bearing upon the future of Palestine. Undoubtedly other members of your Institute, such as the very capable Mr. Nathan, could read a preliminary paper on some phases of the problem, which is outlined under Heading 3 and 4 of his memorandum.

Mr. Abraham Dickenstein, Credit Manager of the Workers Bank in Palestine, is a specialist in Palestine banking and in the cooperative movement,

and could contribute a paper on the Palestine Development Bank or an American Palestine Banking institution, which would be the economic instrumentality to implement the financial program. As a matter of fact, this project has been discussed for a number of months.

Another important question is, "When should this conference be held?" I agree with you, Dr. Ginsberg, and Mr. Nathan that it would have been an ideal situation if such an economic conference could be held after Mr. Nathan and his staff have prepared the documents and presented them to the heads of the governments. Unfortunately, we are working against time.

I was informed by Dr. Josef Cohn that Mr. Nathan's research will not be completed until nine or ten months from now. In the meantime decisions are being made at the conference in Cairo, Teheran, Baghdad, London and Moscow, and there is no doubt that our destiny is being discussed at some of these conferences. In addition, we must keep in mind that we are confronting the "White Paper" which is coming into effect in the latter part of March, 1944. We cannot allow our position to become frozen. It is for this reason that it was suggested that this economic conference should convene sometime in March.

Abstracts of the papers may be presented to the press, to the members of governments, and to the members of Congress. It is my understanding that sometime in March it is proposed to present a resolution in Congress of a character similar to the Lodge-Fish Resolution of 1922. (I believe this date is correct.) Some of the Congressmen are suffering from "predilections" regarding the absorptive capacity of the country. Such a conference may help to dispell such myths.

In view of the above, I do not see any reason why members of the Institute cannot participate in the conference. It would be of great value to the cause. I want to make clear that this conference has nothing to do with the work which has been undertaken by Mr. Nathan and his staff. I personally believe that he is pursuing the right course and will undoubtedly prepare a valuable document, which will be looked upon as authoritative. If, however, Mr. Nathan personally, in view of his official position, cannot participate in the conference, perhaps another member of the Institute may not be in the same position.

In view of the fact that I endeavored to clarify some issues, I am asking you, as well as the other members of your Institute, to go into this matter again. I appreciate there are certain difficulties involved, but we do not differ in principle. I personally would like to be helpful to the Institute.

Cordially yours,

Albert K. Epstein

cc: Dr. E. Bergmann
Dr. Josef Cohn
Dr. A. H. Silver
Dr. Nachum Goldmann
Mr. Neumann
Mr. Weisgal

December 29, 1943

Mr. S. Dingol, Managing Editor
The Day
183 East Broadway
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Dingol:

Thank you so much for your kind letter, and
for the article which you sent me. I read it with
keenest interest.

I was delighted to have had the opportunity
to meet with you and the other members of the Jewish
Press at the informal press conference. It was good
to know that in these critical times there are men
occupying responsible positions in the forming of
public opinion who are not swayed by hysteria,
sensationalism, and stunts of showmanship. More
power to you!

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

GROSS & BLUMBERG

COUNSELLORS AT LAW

Joel Gross

744 Broad Street
Newark, N. J.

Leo Blumberg

C
O
P
Y

Zone #2

Milton H. Goldberger

Market 3-1072

January 12th, 1944.

Mr. Elihu Stone
American Zionist Emergency Council
1720 16th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Stone:

I wired you today as follows:

"Judge William Newcorn and committee will meet you
your office Friday. Arrange Eaton appointment
Friday afternoon."

Judge Newcorn is a very distinguished citizen of
Congressman Eaton's District. He has known the Congress-
man for many, many years and I have good reason to be-
lieve that the Congressman will be most anxious to per-
form in accordance with the Judge's request. Newcorn will
be accompanied by two or three very active members of the
Young Republican organization, to whom Eaton looks for
political sponsorship. This delegation should be able
to impress forcefully upon Eaton the desirability of his
sponsoring wholeheartedly the resolution in question.

Newcorn became active in this connection because
of his interest in the White Paper fight. I am sure he
would never have been involved if from the first we had
insisted upon the Commonwealth concept. Although I have
no doubt in my own mind that if the labels were not used
he would not object to taking the medicine. As time has
passed and he has been brought more closely in touch with
Zionist thought I think he resents the labels less and
less. He is a member of the American Jewish Committee.
It would be politic for those of you who accompany Judge
Newcorn and the delegation to present the matter particu-
larly from the point of view of American interest in the ques-
tion. You should in advance of the meeting indicate to
Newcorn exactly what you wish him to do and how you wish
him to do it. I am confident that he will follow your
every suggestion.

Please let me know how the meeting turns out.

I have asked Judge Newcorn to wire you, after he
has made reservations on the train, when you may expect him
at your office.

Very sincerely yours,

JG/lr

Joel Gross

THE WOMEN'S

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, INC.

HADASSAH

1819 BROADWAY • NEW YORK 23, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: COLUMBUS 5-6585

March 17th, 1944.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Chairman of the Executive Committee
American Zionist Emergency Council
East 105th Street at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver,

I shall be glad to serve on a Committee to consider
the present status of the Political Bureau of the Jewish Agency.

Thanking you for asking me,

Sincerely yours,

Judith S. Epstein
Mrs. Moses P. Epstein
National President.

jge:bj

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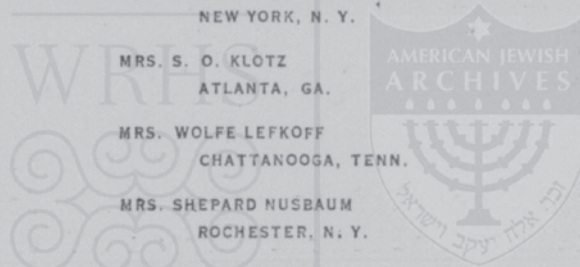
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OBJECT IN AMERICA: Fostering Zionist ideals through Jewish education. Participation in American Defense program.

ACTIVITIES IN PALESTINE: 1. War Emergency Program; 2. Promotion of public health through development of preventive and curative medical institutions and services in cities and rural districts, culminating in the Rothschild-Hadassah-University Hospital and Medical School; 3. Land redemption and afforestation through the Jewish National Fund; 4. Immigration and colonization through Youth Aliyah.

JUNIOR HADASSAH ACTIVITIES IN PALESTINE: Maintenance of Meier Shfeyah Children's Village and Pardess Anna Training Farm.

JOINT ACTIVITY WITH SENIOR HADASSAH: Maintenance of Henrietta Szold School of Nursing; Junior Agency Youth Aliyah.

835 Clarkson Ave.

Bklyn 3 ny

March 20, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Chairman, Executive Committee

American Zionist Emergency Council

Washington, D.C.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am an enrolled member in the ranks of the Zionist Organization of America. Recently I was sent the enclosed material. I do not know whether or not to support the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe. I've heard that they are a "front" organization for the Revisionists. Is that true?

If so, then naturally we can't support them. But isn't this a fine piece of work? Why can't we do likewise? Why must we take a back seat and let them bloom important on the troubled Jewish horizon. Surely, we want to do all we possibly can to help.

Sincerely,

Henry F. Stein

Save Human Lives



We ask you to use the hundred stamps in this booklet, to help the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, by affixing them on your own personal and business stationery and packages and in any other ways that may suggest themselves to you.

By using these Poster Stamps you are creating public interest in the humanitarian live-saving effort of the Emergency Committee.

Write for additional Poster Stamps to the

**EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO SAVE THE
JEWISH PEOPLE OF EUROPE**

One East 44th Street, New York 17, N. Y.

Our Program of Action!

Read what this Committee has already accomplished, what its further plans are.

At the Emergency Conference held in New York, on July 20-26, 1943, experts from all parts of the United States formulated a program of effective action that can and must be taken now to save the Jewish people of Europe. They urged the governments of the United States and the United Nations to adopt a plan embracing the following outstanding measures:

- *1. To create a Governmental agency specifically charged with the task of saving the Jewish people of Europe.
2. To seek guarantees from the Axis-satellite countries, through the International Red Cross, neutral countries, or the Vatican, to insure Jews the same treatment given to other nationals.
3. To relieve the starvation and disease which are decimating the Jewish people in Axis-held territory.
4. To insist that the Axis-satellite countries, which now want to gain the goodwill of the victorious Allies, withhold their Jews from Hitler's slaughter-houses and permit them to leave their borders.
5. To urge neutral countries—Sweden, Ireland, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, and Turkey—to grant the Jewish people temporary asylum.
6. To request neutral countries to grant transit facilities to all Jewish people passing from Axis-controlled lands to any United Nations territory, regardless of whether the persons involved be refugees, immigrants, or repatriates.
7. To obtain from the Governments of the United Nations temporary asylum, with the understanding that after the war these refugees will be removed from their territories if they are not wanted.
8. To insist that Great Britain, pending this tragic emergency, open the doors of Palestine, where 600,000 Jews have expressed their desire to share their homes and food with their suffering brothers, thus putting an end to the discriminatory immigration laws that exclude only Jews from their own country.

***OUR FIRST MEASURE IS ACCOMPLISHED!**

On January 22, 1944, President Roosevelt appointed such a Government Agency.



A LIMITED EDITION OF PRINTS SUITABLE FOR FRAMING. You will want these thrilling, inspiring 8 x 10 reproductions of Arthur Szyk Poster Stamp subjects. Read how you can acquire them.

YOU WILL HELP — WON'T YOU!

We operate solely through voluntary contributions. By your support will be determined the speed, scope and effectiveness of our fight to save the Jewish people of Europe.

EMERGENCY COMMITTEE
TO SAVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE OF EUROPE
1 EAST 44TH STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.



Every contributor of \$5.00 or more will receive 4 large 8 x 10 reproductions of the subjects used for these Poster Stamps. These are suitable for framing and are reproduced with a facsimile of Arthur Szyk's signature. No other printed matter appears.

I enclose my contribution for the Poster Stamps sent me, to enable the Emergency Committee to carry on the tremendous task of securing action to save human lives, in the sum of \$.....

- ☐ Please send me additional Poster Stamp books which I will distribute — (Books of 100 for \$1.00).
- ☐ Please send me the large reproductions.

NAME

ADDRESS

(By a ruling of the Treasury Department, contributions to this Committee are tax exempt)
Please make checks payable to Mrs. JOHN GUNTHER, Treasurer
(over)

SAVE HUMAN LIVES



EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO SAVE
THE JEWISH PEOPLE OF EUROPE
1 E. 44TH ST., NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

SAVE HUMAN LIVES



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EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO SAVE
THE JEWISH PEOPLE OF EUROPE
1 E. 44TH ST., NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

THEY SHALL NOT DIE

The

4,000,000

who still live.

The Emergency Committee welcomes this opportunity to reproduce the inspiring creations of the virile pen and the creative heart of Arthur Szyk, in the form of Poster Stamps.

The Committee hopes that generous support in contributions for and distributions of these Poster Stamps, will be forthcoming from the American people, to enable it to carry on its emergency mission for the rescue of some four million martyred humans.

Let it not be said that the two million who have been exterminated have died in vain.

The grim stories of Nazi atrocities are true and they cannot be dismissed like a bad dream. Such crimes are a challenge to all civilized persons.

You can help us continue our emergency task in the race against daily premeditated, planned murder and premeditated extermination.

Whatever you do, whatever you give, to aid in distributing these Poster Stamps is evidence of your conviction that human lives are worth saving.

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SAVE HUMAN LIVES

Gentlemen:

I believe that my friends listed below will be interested in joining with me in this worthwhile humanitarian effort to *Save Human Lives.*

NAME

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CITY

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NAME

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CITY

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NAME

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CITY

★

NAME

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CITY

Yes ☐

You may use my name

No ☐

(over)



EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO SAVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE OF EUROPE

INITIATED BY THE EMERGENCY CONFERENCE HELD IN NEW YORK—JULY 20-26, 1943

1 EAST 44th STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MURRAY Hill 2-7237

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February 1944
The Victory Year

Dear Friend:

Because of your deep interest in the future of humanity, you must be deeply concerned with the tragedy of the Jewish people in Europe. The four million Jews remaining in Europe can be saved from the fate which two million of their brothers and sisters have already experienced.

You can help us in our work. Send a contribution — a dollar or a hundred or as much more as you can — to the Emergency Committee, so that we may continue to intensify our important work. It is our duty to focus public opinion directly behind President Roosevelt's new Government Agency so that its important task of saving human lives may be strengthened and speeded.

It is an announced policy of the Nazi government to exterminate every Jew in Europe. To aid the surviving Jews, we are instituting an extensive campaign to arouse public opinion in support of this governmental action.

Arthur Szyk has designed and donated the inspired drawings from which we have made the Poster Stamps enclosed with this letter. Begin NOW to use these Poster Stamps on your personal and business letters and packages, to show all people that Americans will NOT tolerate this planned murder.

This is a race against death and every minute counts. Remember that promptness in sending your contribution NOW will be a double blessing for those who need your help.

I know that we can count on you.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. John Gunther, Treasurer.

P.S. We have prepared a limited number of large 8X10 prints of the four Arthur Szyk drawings suitable for framing. These will be sent to contributors of \$5.00 or more.

Other Committee Offices:

2317 15TH STREET, N.W.
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716 WALNUT STREET
Philadelphia, Pa.

139 NORTH CLARK STREET
Chicago, Ill.

5371 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
Los Angeles, Cal.

333 WASHINGTON STREET
Boston, Mass.

85 NEW CAVENDISH STREET
London, W1, England

This Committee Was Created to Speed the Rescue of the Jews of Europe . . . *Let's Look at the Record!*

Our first achievement is the fact that we have proven to the world that the Jewish people in occupied Europe can be saved. It was for this purpose that the Emergency Conference of experts in diplomatic, military, economic and transportation fields was called. The participants, the most distinguished representatives and experts of all shades of American thought, reached the unanimous conclusion that the Jewish people of Europe could be saved.

This conviction was later confirmed when the epic story of how the Danish-Jewish population was saved came to the open. The majority of the Danish Jews were rescued by the noble and humanitarian action of Sweden, who declared her shores open to the Jews escaping from nearby Denmark. What small Sweden did, certainly the great and mighty democracies could do on a hundred times larger scale.

We brought the problem of the Jewish disaster to the masses of American people by nation-wide advertising in the leading newspapers in this country, and through national radio-broadcasts, books, periodicals and leaflets.

We organized mass expressions of public opinion demanding immediate action, through a mass petition movement, mass rallies and dramatic pageants.

We organized the pilgrimage of five hundred Rabbis to Washington.

We obtained the cooperation of all faiths. A Week of Compassion and Prayer by the six thousand Christian Churches was organized.

We initiated the movement to pay tribute to Sweden and Denmark.

We organized the protest against the omission of the Jewish disasters from the Moscow statement on atrocities.

Now, we are able to state with satisfaction that the President, at his press conference on November 6th, of last year, and Secretary Hull, in his last historic appearance before the joint session of Congress, specifically mentioned their concern with the Jewish tragedy: The ring of silence around the catastrophe of the Jewish people was broken.

Our offices and representatives in Washington and in London, in Palestine and in Turkey, are urging the respec-

tive governments to undertake large-scale action to save the four million Jews in Europe's death trap.

More than that: in all our activities, we put forward as the first and most immediate demand, the creation of a specific Governmental Agency with the task of effectuating the rescue of the millions of Jewish people still alive in Europe.

A bi-partisan resolution recommending such an agency was passed in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. This resolution was introduced by leaders of both parties: in the Senate by Senator Guy M. Gillette and eleven of his colleagues; in the House by Congressmen Will Rogers, Jr., (D) of California, and Joseph Clark Baldwin (R) of New York.

Prominent men from all walks of American life testified before hearings of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House urging this resolution's passage.

The nation's press was unanimous in demanding the immediate passage of the resolution. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee unanimously approved it.

Now, the great news breaks in Washington that the President has appointed a special War Board to deal with, we quote, "this difficult but important task." The Secretaries of State, War and Treasury, were appointed on it. This composition of the Board emphasizes the extreme importance that the President attaches to it. A special full time Administrator will be appointed for this most important job. This job is defined by the President in unequivocal terms:

"It was urgent that action be taken at once to forestall the plan of the Nazis to exterminate all the Jews and other persecuted minorities in Europe."

Thus a great moral victory has been scored by the United States. This time it is not upon the field of battle but on a front even more bloody—where a godless enemy is engaged in the total massacre of the Jewish people of Europe. The President is to be congratulated for his timeliness and for his great humanity.

It is our duty to organize public opinion directly behind this new body so that its important humanitarian work may be strengthened and speeded.

קרן היסוד

THE EREZ ISRAEL (PALESTINE) FOUNDATION FUND

K E R E N H A Y E S O D L T D .

INCORPORATED IN ENGLAND 1921

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הלשכה הראשית
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April 25, 1944

ADDRESS REPLY TO
ROOM 1121
41 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

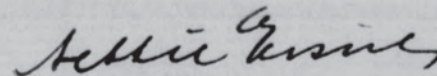
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
342 Madison Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Silver:

At the request of Dr. Michael Traub, I am sending you
enclosed a copy of a confidential report which Dr. Traub sent to
Dr. Chaim Weizmann on March 3, 1944.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,



Nettie Eisner

ne:hr

Enc.

JOSHUA S. EPSTEIN COMPANY
ADVERTISING

415 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

Murray Hill 2-1342

June 22, 1944

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Ansel Road and E. 105th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Dr. Israel Goldstein has appointed me chairman of the newly constituted National Radio Committee of the Zionist Organization of America. The Executive Committee considers the radio project among the most important ventures ever undertaken by American Zionists.

We are producing a series of 15-minute radio programs to run at the same time each week on the same station right through the year, right through the country, beginning October first. The series, "Palestine Speaks," will dramatize true stories of the tremendous accomplishments of our people in Palestine, so told as to highlight important aspects of our ideology and program.

It's a professional job, of which any network could be proud. We have already produced and recorded six programs, featuring such stars as Joseph Schildkraut, Gene Kelley, Victor Jory, Anne Seymour, J. Edward Bromberg, and Judith Evelyn. We have commitments for future productions from Spencer Tracy, Edward G. Robinson, Eddie Cantor, Jane Cowl, Eva Le Galliene, Cornelia Otis Skinner and many others. Ben Grauer of "Information Please" is the announcer on all the programs.

All of which must indicate to you that Zionism is due to be presented to the public with the best means of mass education at our command. Furthermore, we have worked out the details of a plan for each city to use the programs for membership, propaganda and education. Of course you realize the importance of such activity at this time.

Because this work is so vital, I am taking time off from my business to travel around the country to explain the project and to let Zionist leaders hear the programs, themselves. (We have recordings of them.)

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

Page..2

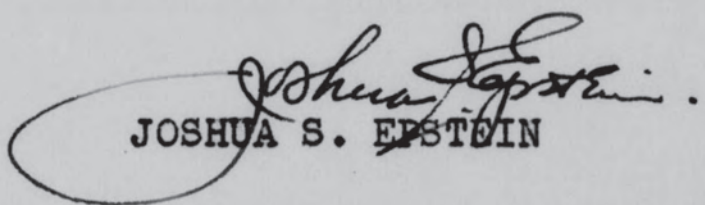
June 22, 1944

I plan to be in Cleveland on July 11th. I would appreciate it if you would arrange to have forty or fifty of your top-flight Zionists meet at lunch to hear the programs and to discuss their use.

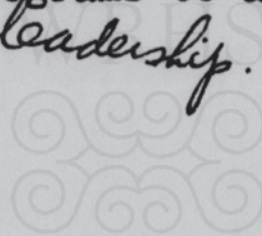
May I request a reply as soon as possible so that I may lay the plans for the trip? I look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely yours,

JSE:hez


JOSHUA S. EPSTEIN

P. S. A similiar letter has been sent to the Presidents of the two other Zionist districts in Cleveland. I hope that you gentlemen will be able to combine your efforts so that we can present the radio programs to a cross section of Cleveland Zionist membership.



JSE

June 29, 1944

Mr. Joshua S. Epstein
415 Lexington Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Epstein:

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter. I am very much interested in the radio project which the ZOA has launched and I hope that it will be successful.

As you probably know, the Emergency Council, of which the ZOA is a member, has also initiated a national broadcasting program covering a period of thirteen weeks, beginning in August, to carry the message of Palestine to the American people during three critical months during which time our resolutions in Congress are likely to come up for action and vital decisions affecting our Movement are likely to be announced. The Emergency Council does not propose to continue its radio program beyond those thirteen weeks. I do not think that the ZOA program should be initiated before the expiration of the Emergency Council national broadcasting series. It would be unwise duplication.

I furthermore believe that your committee ought to delay its appeal for special funds in the communities until the Emergency Council will have completed its solicitation. Communities which have already been approached both by the Emergency Council and the ZOA are greatly confused. It appears as if there are two competitive agencies at work. I would therefore strongly urge that you delay your trip for a little while until the Emergency Council radio broadcasting program gets under way. I am sure that if its program is successful the Zionists of America will wish to continue it indefinitely after the expiration of the Emergency Council's limited broadcasting period.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

DR. SILVER HAILS PALESTINE PLANK IN DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman of the Executive of the American Zionist Emergency Council, hailed with deep satisfaction the inclusion in the Democratic Party Platform of a plank on Palestine.

"The whole-hearted endorsement by the Democratic Party at its convention in Chicago of the rights of the Jewish people to unrestricted immigration and land acquisition in Palestine — rights which have been denied by the current White Paper policy of the mandatory and the recognition of the historic aspirations of our people to build in Palestine a free and democratic Jewish commonwealth, is an act of greatest political significance and statesmanship. It will be warmly welcomed by all sections of the American people which have always manifested profound sympathy for the efforts of the Jewish people to rebuild their national life in their ancient home. It will be especially welcomed by the Jews of America who will be greatly heartened by this magnificent expression of friendship and helpfulness at a time of deep crisis and tragedy for Israel."

"The Democratic Party, under the leadership of Franklin D. Roosevelt, now reaffirms its loyal support of the Zionist Movement, which more than a quarter of a century ago, was so eloquently championed by another great Democratic President, Woodrow Wilson."

"The action of the Democratic Party, following the similar notable action of the Republican Party at its convention in Chicago last month, now puts both major parties squarely behind the ideal of a Jewish Palestine. It is now the declared purpose not of one political party or another, but of the entire American people, which has come to regard this constructive solution of the basic Jewish problem in the world today as one of the important objectives of a just world peace which is to follow this war."

PRESS RELEASE from

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Associated Organizations:

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion
342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DR. SILVER HAILS PALESTINE PLANK IN DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- - - - -

Cleveland -- Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council, today hailed the Palestine plank included in the platform of the Democratic National Convention which favors "the opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization, and such a policy as to result in the establishment there of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth" and declared that "it will be specially welcomed by the Jews of America who will be greatly heartened by this magnificent expression of friendship and helpfulness at a time of deep crisis and tragedy for Israel."

In a statement issued here, Dr. Silver expressed his gratification that "the Democratic Party, under the leadership of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, now reaffirms its loyal support of the Zionist movement which more than a quarter of a century ago was so eloquently championed by another great Democratic President, Woodrow Wilson."

Pointing to the similar action taken by the Republicans at their convention last month, Dr. Silver asserted that "it is now the declared purpose not of one political party or another but of the entire American people which has come to regard this constructive solution of the basic Jewish problem in the world today as one of the important objectives of a just world peace which is to follow this War."

The text of Dr. Silver's statement follows:

"The whole-hearted endorsement by the Democratic Party at its convention in Chicago of the rights of the Jewish people to unrestricted immigration and land

(more)

acquisition in Palestine -- rights which have been denied by the current White Paper policy of the Mandatory -- and the recognition of the historic aspiration of our people to build in Palestine a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, is an act of greatest political significance and statesmanship. It will be warmly welcomed by all sections of the American people which have always manifested profound sympathy for the efforts of the Jewish people to re-build their national life in their ancient home. It will be especially welcomed by the Jews of America who will be greatly heartened by this magnificent expression of friendship and helpfulness at a time of deep crisis and tragedy for Israel.

"The Democratic Party, under the leadership of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, now reaffirms its loyal support of the Zionist movement which more than a quarter of a century ago was so eloquently championed by another great Democratic President, Woodrow Wilson.

"The action of the Democratic Party following the similar notable action of the Republican Party at its convention in Chicago last month, now puts both major parties squarely behind the ideal of a Jewish Palestine. It is now the declared purpose not of one political party or another but of the entire American people which has come to regard this constructive solution of the basic Jewish problem in the world today as one of the important objectives of a just world peace which is to follow this War."

PRESS RELEASE from

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Associated Organizations:

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrachi • Poale-Zion
342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DR. SILVER HAILS PALESTINE PLANK IN DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

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Cleveland -- Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council, today hailed the Palestine plank included in the platform of the Democratic National Convention which favors "the opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization, and such a policy as to result in the establishment there of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth" and declared that "it will be specially welcomed by the Jews of America who will be greatly heartened by this magnificent expression of friendship and helpfulness at a time of deep crisis and tragedy for Israel."

In a statement issued here, Dr. Silver expressed his gratification that "the Democratic Party, under the leadership of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, now reaffirms its loyal support of the Zionist movement which more than a quarter of a century ago was so eloquently championed by another great Democratic President, Woodrow Wilson."

Pointing to the similar action taken by the Republicans at their convention last month, Dr. Silver asserted that "it is now the declared purpose not of one political party or another but of the entire American people which has come to regard this constructive solution of the basic Jewish problem in the world today as one of the important objectives of a just world peace which is to follow this War."

The text of Dr. Silver's statement follows:

"The whole-hearted endorsement by the Democratic Party at its convention in Chicago of the rights of the Jewish people to unrestricted immigration and land

(more)

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