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MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated.

Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

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107

American Zionist Emergency Council, "R", 1943-1944.

Western Reserve Historical Society

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September 14, 1943

JUDGE BERNARD ROSENBLATT
PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND
41 E. 42nd St.
New York, N.Y.

WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD HAVE NEW ARRANGEMENTS
FOR OFFICE SPACE CONCLUDED BY THE TIME EMERGENCY COMMITTEE MEETS
NEXT MONDAY. KINDEST REGARDS

WRHS
A H SILVER



Copy
Dr. Silver

October 7, 1943

Mr. Abraham Goodman
200 Varick Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Goodman:

The American Zionist Emergency Council has just undergone a re-organization for the purpose of enabling us to meet more effectively the grave political problems now facing Jewish Palestine. I have been named the Chairman of the Finance and Personnel Committee of the Emergency Council, whose function it will be to examine and approve the budgets of the various committees of the Emergency Council, and to determine the framework of our operations on a far larger scale than has ever before been undertaken. The contemplated expansion of the Emergency Council to meet our serious situation will have to be reflected in adequate consideration by the Finance Committee of all the problems involved.

It is my earnest hope -- and this is an invitation -- that you will accept membership on that committee. It will consist of a small group of men and women who will meet as the occasion arises. Naturally, the burden of our work will be in the first period, when we will have to examine the proposals submitted by the various other committees. May I add that I am sustained in this invitation to you by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, the new Chairman of the Emergency Council's Executive Committee, under whose guidance the reorganization program for effective action is taking place.

The White Paper is scheduled to go into effect in May 1944. We will have to act quickly. I believe that the members of the Finance and Personnel Committee of the Emergency Council can perform a very vital function in connection with the political action to be taken.

The first meeting of this important committee will be held on Monday, October 18th, at 10:30 A.M., at the office of the Emergency Council, 41 East 42nd Street, New York City. I trust that you can accept membership. I am also hoping that you will attend the first meeting, but in the event that you cannot attend the first meeting because of a schedule already made, I should appreciate knowing that we can count upon you as a member for subsequent services.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Charles J. Rosenbloom, Chairman
Finance and Personnel Committee

CJR/MNW

MEMBERS OF THE FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Charles J. Rosenbloom, Chairman

Albert K. Epstein, Chicago

Abraham Goodman, N.Y.

Joseph E. Grosberg, Schenectady, N.Y.

Rabbi I.M. Kowalsky, N.Y.

Abraham L. Liebovitz, N.Y.

Albert Schiff, Columbus, Ohio

Archibald Silverman, Providence, R.I.

Jacob Sincoff, N. Y.

Dewey D. Stone, Brockton, Mass.

Mark Sugarman, Coatesville, Pa.

William H. Sylk, Philadelphia, Pa.



Private Mailing Card



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
INDUSTRY-AGRICULTURE



STATION

FOR OFFENSE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Dr. Abba H. Silver
The Temple
Clearland
Ohio

Three-Ten West One Hundred and Sixth Street, New York 25, N. Y.

Dear Doctor Silver

10/17/43

I assume you are taking immediate steps to answer in most vigorous and authoritative manner the terrible article in today's N.Y. Herald Tribune by Major Chafic Haddad, Military Attache, to Iraqi Legation, Washington. It's possible that this vicious and fraudulent stuff as been syndicated all used by a string of newspapers across the country. There should in any case be also many private letters in answer. West wishes
Sincerely, Bernard G. Richards

Madison Avenue Temple
Scranton, Pa.

Office of the Rabbi

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio

October 18
1943

My dear Silver:

I appeal to you to use what influence you possess to wipe out the infamy which is represented in Morgenstern's recent statement which, according to the AP dispatch released to our local evening paper, the SCRANTON TIMES, described the nationalist aspects of a restored Palestine State (Zionist) as 'sad and tragic,' and which did not scruple to denounce what he called 'extreme Jewish nationalism as 'nearly identical with Nazis and fascist theory.'

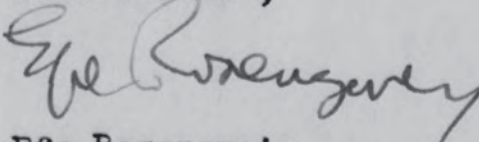
I am deeply disturbed, and bitterly ashamed. What right has Morgenstern to more than his private thoughts? He does not represent the majority of the Reform Rabbis..does not speak for any save that treacherous little band of Jewish America Firsters. How long can we afford to seat in power of this sort a man who by such statements is doing such damage to the cause of Reform Judaism in America? He has lived too long with his textbook bedouins; he has become one of them: their spokesman in our land.

How dare he speak of even 'extreme nationalists' (what does that mean) in the same breath with Nazis and Fascists? Sometimes I believe that there is a fetid decadence running through our Reform Judaism..the triumph of the suicidal will not-to-live. This is what the 'mission of Israel' has sunk to in the mouth of its institutional protagonist: To hold up the hands of Israel's enemies rather than sacrifice any part of a precious copybook universalism.

Morgenstern's days are over. Let this be his last official statement. It is time to clear away the debris of superannuation.

If you wish to quote this letter, or otherwise use it, you are free to do so, but please do not mention my name.

With thanks ,


Efe Rosenzweig

October 22, 1943

Mr. Bernard G. Richards
310 West 106th St.
New York 25, N.Y.

My dear Friend:

Thank you for your card and for your letter. I am forwarding your suggestions to our office in New York and I am sure that they will find many of them very helpful.

A reply to the Military Attache to the Iraq Legation will appear in the Herald Tribune.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 28, 1943

Dear Mrs. Goldstein:

I am not well up on this White Paper but I know that immigration to all lands must be restricted by how many peoples the land can support and that will have to be the determining factor in Palestine.

The Jewish people can live in other places and the future will be open to them as to all others, I am sure.

Very Sincerely yours,

(signed) Eleanor Roosevelt

November 1, 1943

Rabbi Efe Rosenzweig
Madison Avenue Temple
Scranton, Pa.

My dear Rabbi Rosenzweig:

Thank you for your kind note. Dr. Mo genstern's address has aroused a great deal of sharp resentment all over the country. I understand that many alumni of the College have signed a telegram of protest, and you have probably seen the reaction to his address in the Jewish press. I, personally, had occasion to denounce Dr. Morgenstern's address at the Executive meeting of the Central Conference of American Rabbis which was held in Cincinnati, last Tuesday.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

SIMILAR LETTER SENT TO: LEON GELLMAN, MIZRACHI
DAVID WERTHEIM, POALE ZION

November 1, 1943

Mrs. Moses P. Epstein
Hadassah
1819 Broadway
New York City

Dear Mrs. Epstein:

The operations of the American Zionist Emergency Council depend on the availability of funds. On Monday, November 1st, the Finance and Personnel Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council met in New York to consider the revision of the budget of the Council from \$604,000 to \$509,382, as had been voted by the Executive Committee of the Council on October 18th.

Inasmuch as representatives of Hadassah are to be found on the Boards of the Keren Hayesod and Keren Kayemeth, I am sending you herewith for their guidance a copy of the letter which, on behalf of the Finance and Personnel Committee of the Council, I have sent to Dr. Israel Goldstein, President of the Jewish National Fund, and Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, President of the Keren Hayesod.

It would be greatly appreciated by Dr. Silver and by the Finance and Personnel Committee if you would call this communication to the attention of your representatives on the Keren Hayesod and Keren Kayemeth so that they may act accordingly when decisions are to be reached in the respective Boards.

With kindest regards, I am

Cordially yours,

CJR:MFE

Charles J. Rosenbloom
Chairman of Finance and Personnel Committee

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND

(*Keren Hayesod*) Inc. - כֶּרֶן הַיֶּסֶד FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

41 EAST 42nd STREET
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MORRIS WEINBERG
DAVID WERTHEIM
and officers

November 3, 1943

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

It is with great pleasure that I write to inform you that at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Palestine Foundation Fund (Keren Hayesod), Inc. following our Annual Meeting, on October 28th, you were unanimously re-elected a Vice-Chairman of the Keren Hayesod.

The forthcoming year promises to be of great importance in the work of the Keren Hayesod, both here and abroad, and we look forward to the benefit of your active participation and cooperation with us in the work that lies ahead.

With kind greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

Bernard A. Rosenblatt

Bernard A. Rosenblatt
President

bar.sb

November 8th, 1943

REVISIONIST ELECTIONS IN PALESTINE

On the 24th October, elections were held in Palestine to the "Morshon" (governing body) of the Palestine section of the "New Zionist Organisation". To such an extent has Revisionist influence in Palestine decreased in recent times that the elections aroused very little public interest. Indeed, they would undoubtedly have passed without any public comment had it not been for the fact that for the first time since the secession of the Revisionists from the Zionist Organisation one of the Revisionists factions appeals to the Revisionist electorate to support a policy calling for the return of the Revisionists to the Zionist Organisation and of the Revisionist workers to the General Federation of Jewish Labour. This faction, which calls itself "Hitna'aruth" (renewal) is headed by Dr. Lubotski, who has recently been conducting considerable propaganda in the press and on public platforms for these ideas. The other Revisionist faction which participated in the elections, though divided among themselves, were united in their opposition to the Hitna'aruth list and urged that the complete independence of the Revisionist Movement be retained.

It is election address, the Hitnaaruth faction stated that "we, i.e. the Revisionist Movement) will be able to fulfill our mission in the Yishuv only if we recognize the institutions of the Yishuv. As long as we neglect the 250,000 souls who are connected with and dependent on the Histadruth, the Revisionist movement will never be able to convert itself from a mere faction into a mass movement. The first step towards peace with the masses of the Yishuv must come from us. We must stop our artificial isolation. In the first place, all our working members must join the Histadruth and constitute inside it a mass dynamic political body. All our other members must serve the same national cause in the respective social organisations appropriate to them (the industrialists, the middle class, etc.). The revolutionary step on our part towards breaking through the artificial barriers separating Jews from Jews will release young activist forces who will join us. Thus, a new national leadership will come about in the form of a young activist coalition. In order to establish such a coalition, our movement should also be prepared to join the Zionist Organisation.

The elections proceeded in complete calm. The Hitna'aruth list received fifteen percent of the seats on the Revisionist "Morshon". Although the distribution of seats among the various Revisionist factions on the new "Morshon" was published, the number of electors was not.

HAARETZ of the 26th October wrote that the Revisionist elections had not aroused any public interest, and that they had not been felt outside the actual polling stations. The paper also mentioned the fact that when its correspondent had asked one of the Revisionist leaders how many voters had participated in the elections he had received the answer that this was an internal matter. Haaretz also stated that though the faction which urged the cessation of Revisionist isolation was still weak, "its supporters are increasing in numbers."

HAZMAN of the 26th October published an article by its staff correspondent, Regav, which stated that the Revisionists were faced by the following alternative: "Either they return to the Zionist Organisation, like the left Poale Zion, or they will go under, like the "Z.S. PARTY". These are the only alternatives, and there is no getting away from the fact."

C O P Y O F W I R E

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC

NOVEMBER 17, 1943

DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER
41 EAST 42 ST
NEW YORK CITY

REGRET VERY MUCH UNABLE TO SEE YOU ON FRIDAY

SAMUEL I. ROSENMAN



To: Miss Cohen
From: Judge Rothenberg

[1943?]

11/24

Please have Mr. Montor arrange an appointment with Dr. Silver and Dr. Velikovsky as soon as possible concerning a very important matter in regard to our cause. His telephone number is Monument 2-2225. Dr. Velikovsky resides at 526 W. 113th St.

FUNCTIONS RESERVATION CARD

United Palestine Appeal
41 East 42nd Street
New York City

Gentlemen:

I {will
will not} attend the Oneg Shabbat at the
National Conference for Palestine in Philadel-
phia, Saturday, May 1, 1943, at 2:00 P.M.

I {will
will not} attend the luncheon* on Sunday,
May 2, 1943, at 1:00 P.M. Please reserve
..... places.

* Luncheon reservation, \$2.00 per person.

I {will
will not} attend the concluding banquet † of
the Conference on Sunday evening, May 2, 1943.
Please reserve places.

† Banquet reservation, \$3.50 per person.

Check for dollars is enclosed.

Name

Address

City

NOTE: OPA regulations make it imperative that reserva-
tions be made immediately in order to assure your
accommodations.

January 19, 1944

Mr. Maurice Rosenberg,
Administrative Secretary,
Jewish Peoples Committee
22 East 17th Street,
New York 3, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Rosenberg:

Thank you for your kind letter of January 17th informing me of the resolutions which were passed at your meetings demanding the abrogation of the White Paper and that these resolutions had been forwarded to the British Ambassador.

I need not tell you that we deeply appreciate the assistance which you are rendering in this struggle against the iniquitous policy to liquidate the Jewish National Home in Palestine.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:NEK

The Temple,
Ansel Road at E. 105th,
Cleveland, Ohio

BERNARD G. RICHARDS

103 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK

January 21, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I suppose you saw the article of Dr. Kallen in the Contemporary Jewish Record, and the one by Jesse Lurie in the Nation; I assume that both of these fine presentations, especially the essay of Dr. Kallen, are being used to advantage.

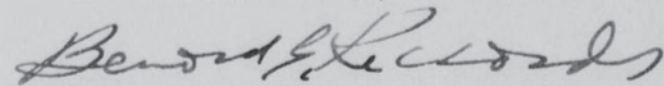
I have not heard from the Emergency Council about any of my suggestions from the point of view of being of service in some capacity.

I wonder if any further thought has been given to the Dr. Norman Maclean book. I have been thinking of issueing it as one of my own publications and would be inclined to take early action in the matter if the Emergency Council would order about two thousand copies of the book, bound or in paper covers, at practically the cost of publication.

I shall in any event be pleased to hear how all the plans are progressing.

With best wishes, I am,

Yours sincerely,



Bernard G. Richards

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND

(Keren Hayesod) Inc. - קרן ה'סוד FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

41 EAST 42nd STREET
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DAVID WERTHEIM
and officers

Joseph Brody, Esq.
Empire Building
Des Moines, Iowa

Dear Mr. Brody:

I am enclosing herewith for your consideration the items that you desire in connection with your talk with Senator Wilson:

1. Text of the Balfour Declaration
2. The League Mandate of Palestine
3. The British White Paper of 1922
4. The unanimous resolution of the Senate and the House in 1922, which was signed by President Harding.

I need not tell you how appreciative we all are of the efforts that you will make toward our common cause. Now is the crucial time for action which may keep Palestine open as a major field for Jewish immigration in the rescue of the refugees.

It was a pleasure to meet you personally, and I am conveying to Dr. Silver, Chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council, word of your willingness to help in our cause.

With kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours

Bernard A. Rosenblatt
President

bar.sb

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND

(Keren Hayesod), Inc. - קרן היסוד

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

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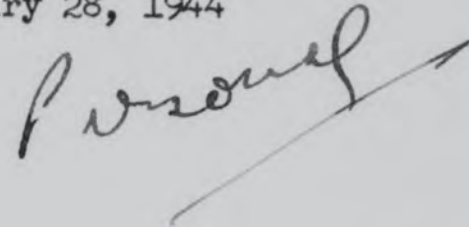
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Sigmund Thau
Morris Weinberg
and officers

January 28, 1944



Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Enclosed herewith is a copy of a letter that I have written to Mr. Joseph Brody of Des Moines, a prominent attorney who is on intimate terms with Senator Wilson, and who has promised to help us with the resolution.

While I was in Des Moines last week, I had a most revealing conversation with Gardiner Cowles, Jr., the well-known newspaper proprietor and editor of the Des Moines Register and Tribune. As you probably recall, he was the right-hand man of Wendell Willkie on his trip round the world, and he told me of an incident in Government House in Jerusalem, when Willkie urged upon the High Commissioner the importance and the duty of admitting large Jewish immigration into Palestine. MacMichael countered with the objection that even the United States was not admitting Jewish immigration up to the quota limit, and that it ill behooved Americans to criticize the British Government for failing to do its share.

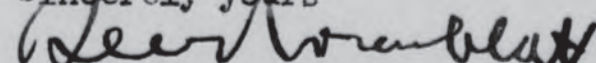
Of course, I pointed out to Cowles that the situation was not at all analagous; that we were not asking something out of pity or mercy, but something to which we were entitled from Great Britain as a matter of right, under the Mandate. Cowles admitted this, but said that he could not understand why the Jews of this country were not up in arms against the State Department, which refuses to permit entry of refugees even within the limits of the quota system. I told him that this was not the time to raise an issue with our State Department, especially so because he mentioned the fact that "95% of the Jews were in favor of Roosevelt" for I did not want to make it appear as a political issue.

In any event, I think it is important for you to know that the action of our State Department in restricting immigration is causing us trouble not only for the refugees here, but for the possibility of rescue abroad.

I thought you ought to know about this.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours



Bernard A. Rosenblatt
President

Sharon-Farrell Zionist Organization

Sharon, Pennsylvania

AARON J. ROBBINS,
President

WILLIAM FEINBERG,
Vice President

February 3, 1944

A. FREYMAN,
Financial Secretary and Treasurer

RABBI SIDNEY RIBACK,
Recording Secretary

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Pursuant to your request of February 3, 1944, I am herewith enclosing a copy of the telegram sent by our local Emergency Committee.

I am also forwarding same to our neighboring city of Farrell, Pa., which also has a local Emergency Committee.

Hoping that this meets with your approval, and with one day closer to Zionist Victory, we remain,

Very truly yours,

SHARON EMERGENCY COMMITTEE


Aaron J. Robbins

February 3, 1944

Telegram NL

Congressman Sol Bloom
Washington, D. C.

Our local Emergency Committee representing every Jewish Organization in Sharon, Pa. that is interested in Palestine as a future home for Jews, endorses and strongly urges favorable consideration of House Resolutions 418 and 419 by House Foreign Affairs Committee. We will be forever grateful to you for your efforts in behalf of these resolutions which seek to rescue survivors of Nazi persecutions and guarantee a home for the well being of Jewish people in distress.

Sharon Jewish Emergency Committee
Aaron J. Robbins, Chairman.



Yonkers, March 8, 1944

My dear Dr. Silver, -

I mentionned once to You the idea of a "Palestine Yearbook" that shall become the standard source of current information on Palestine and Zionism. I was not able to work further on that idea because I was then fully absorbed in preparing, at a request from London, an up-to-date edition of "Jews in Palestine".

The present situation of our movement in America increases, in my opinion, the value and the chances of this proposal. I hope that You will find time to read the enclosed little memorandum, and to reach a decision on it. To issue such a Yearbook for 5705, the work on it must be started *immediately* without delay.

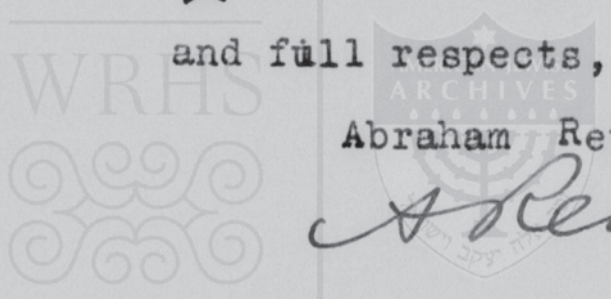
Your's with ~~Z~~ion's greetings

and full respects,

Abraham Revusky

Abraham Revusky,
84 Sanford Street,
Yonkers, N.Y.

A. Revusky



Thirty-sixth Annual Order Day Dinner

in honor of

JUDGE MORRIS ROTHENBERG

UPON HIS ELECTION AS PRESIDENT OF THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF AMERICA

Sponsored by

March 14, 1944

ORDER SONS OF ZION

220 Fifth Ave., New York 1, N. Y.

Murray Hill 3-7950

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JUDGE LOUIS E. LEVINthal
LOUIS LIPSKY
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ROBERT SZOLD
DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER
DR. STEPHEN S. WISE
JACOB SINCOFF

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
Ansel Road at East 106th St.,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Doctor:

CHAIRMAN

DR. HARRIS J. LEVINE

The Order Sons of Zion, the fraternal Zionist Organization of America, will observe its 36th Anniversary at a Dinner on April 2nd, at Hotel Commodore, with an attendance of over 1500 representatives from Jewish Communities throughout the country.

VICE-CHAIRMEN

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SAMUEL BERSON
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ABRAHAM GOODMAN
HARRY GRAYER
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JUDGE BERNARD ROSENBLATT
SIMON SHETZER
MRS. ARCHIBALD SILVERMAN
HERMAN L. WEISMAN

This event is dedicated to the Jewish National Fund which redeems, through the voluntary contributions of the Jewish people, the soil of Palestine for the permanent and productive settlement of refugees from Nazi-occupied lands. The land so redeemed remains in perpetuity the possession of the entire Jewish people.

Judge Morris Rothenberg, who was recently unanimously elected President of the Jewish National Fund will, in recognition of his magnificent leadership to the Cause of our people and to the ideals of Democracy, be the guest of honor. For many years, as the President of the Zionist Organization of America, and as co-Chairman of the American Council of the Jewish Agency, representing Zionists and non-Zionists, he has been our courageous leader and has given of his talents and gifts to the service of Jewry and humanity.

Secretary

HERMAN Z. QUITTMAN

Honorary Secretary

BORIS MARGOLIN

Treasurer

JACOB ISH KISHOR

May I take this opportunity of respectfully inviting you to send a brief message which is to be published in the special edition of our monthly journal. Your message will greatly hearten our members throughout the country who are devoting their time and efforts to this noble work. It will also give recognition to Judge Rothenberg, whose lifetime of service to our country is well known to you.

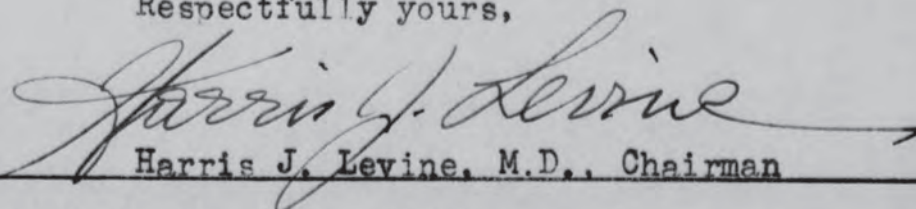
ORDER DAY COMMITTEE FOR CAMPS

JOSEPH KLEIMAN
Chairman

Since we are going to press on March 24th, it would be very much appreciated if you would kindly forward your greeting on or before that date.

SAMUEL FISHMAN
MORRIS ELLIS
IRVING SLOAN
Co-Chairmen

Respectfully yours,


Harris J. Levine, M.D., Chairman

Sunday evening, April 2nd, 1944 - Hotel Commodore

March 14, 1944

Mr. Abraham Revusky,
84 Sanford Street,
Yonkers, New York.

My dear Mr. Revusky:

Thank you for your kindness in sending me a memorandum on the Palestine Year Book which you propose. I read it with a great deal of interest and I see much value in your proposal. I believe that it would be a welcome contribution to Zionist educational material.

I am afraid, however, that the Zionist Emergency Council is not the body to undertake its publication. It should be referred to the Zionist Organization of America. The Emergency Council is, after all, as the name signifies, an ad hoc organization to carry on a special political activity for the duration, and is not charged with the responsibility of the entire field of Zionist education and propaganda.

I would suggest that you have a talk with Dr. Goldstein when he returns from England. Some satisfactory solution may be found.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:NEK

Abba Hillel Silver

LAW OFFICES
B. A. ROSENBLATT

40 EXCHANGE PLACE
NEW YORK CITY 80 Broad

TELEPHONE HANOVER 2-0590
CABLE "ROENS" NEW YORK

April 5, 1940

Dear Emanuel,

The enclosed of the Conference on the Palestine Com. will show you what I mean. After inviting me to a meeting of the Palestine Com. (which I could not attend because of illness, as Mrs. Behrman personally explained to Mr. Silver), and then, after he had explained to Robt Selverman that I would be "co-opted", I never received a word of explanation until I saw this item that I was so unceremoniously dropped, evidently to make place for others to whom Palestine had to be explained. At least the courtesy of the Chairman might have dictated a word of explanation, even tho I no longer regard the Com. of any importance.

Sincerely yours,

B. A. Rosenblatt

A Long Silence is Broken *(Continued from Page 2)*

when America is in the midst of building oil reservoirs in the Middle East, it would be the greatest folly to give Hitler effective means of propaganda to set the Arab world against the U.S.A." He counted up 300,000,000 antagonistic Moslems (an astronomical figure which must include the Moslems of China, Malaya, the East Indies and Africa) and asked whether the American people "would want their sons to die to maintain order among the Arabs." This, it was suggested, might even lead to anti-Semitism in the United States.

Emanuel Neumann, of New York, replying to the Arabs, pointed out that the Arabs were perhaps the greatest beneficiaries of Allied victory in the first World War, that the Arab world had achieved perhaps 99 per cent of its goal, and that Arab lands are vast and under populated.

"What have we done to or against the Arabs? I have seen a revolution, not of rioting, but of economic development," said Dr. Wise. "The coming of the Jews not only raised the standards but the Arabs today are free people."

* * *

Representatives of the American Council for Judaism persisted in the attempt to lead Congress into believing that Jews, both here and in Europe, were seriously divided.

Rabbi Morris S. Lazaron of Baltimore was certain that Europe's Jews would not want to go to Palestine. He felt that "a new spirit is abroad in Europe" and that "evacuees will refuse to be saved when machinery will be set up to take them out."

The question of a Jewish Commonwealth was an intra-Jewish matter and "no business of Congress," he insisted. This brought a rebuke from Congressman Will Rogers, Jr. of California, who said: "This IS a matter for Congress. The fact that the Jews are divided does not enter into the matter. This is a political matter for this country and a matter of importance for the future of democracy. That it is an intra-Jewish feud is of no importance."

Rabbi William H. Fineshriber of Philadelphia asked: "Does the resolution mean that all Palestine citizens have to be Jews and Jews outside Palestine cease to be Jews or does it mean a mixed pattern?"

* * *

The American Jewish Committee submitted a memorandum urging abrogation of the British White Paper and free Jewish immigration under an international trustee-

ship responsible to the United Nations, deferring final determination of the "controversial" question of a Jewish Commonwealth.

* * *

Last witness was Louis Lipsky, chairman of the administrative committee of the CONFERENCE, who straightened out the record, once and for all, as to where American Jewry stood on the issue. He described the representative character of the CONFERENCE and the democratic procedures which brought it into being.

"At the end of the proceedings," he said, "every Jew in the United States was convinced that this represented the opinion of the Jews of this country. Now, how are you going to avoid the impression that there are some who do not agree? Mr. Rosenwald testified here that he represented, after an effort, after an expenditure of quite a good deal of money, the achievements of 2,500 Jews who had registered with the American Council for Judaism—2,500 as against the 2,500,000 Jews who were in the AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE.

"If that is dissension, then the United States is a seething maelstrom of dissension. If that is dissension England today, in the midst of the war, is a turbulent revolutionary country. If that is dissension, where a very insignificant minority refuses to abide by a majority rule, then of course we have dissension. In any well-ordered democracy that would be regarded as disorderliness, not dissension, and that is the refusal on the part of eccentric persons to abide by the majority rule."

* * *

The situation today reflects a sharp advance over that of last summer. Up until that time, there had been a steady deterioration in the battle for Jewish rights to Palestine. The adoption of the Palestine resolution by the AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE with its demand for a Jewish Commonwealth was a turning point. It marked the end of the retreat. The introduction of the Congressional resolution followed. The resolutions have precipitated public controversy; but on all sides there is evidence that the majority of Americans are joining as advocates of the Jewish cause. President Roosevelt's declaration is government recognition of the strengthening of the Jewish position. There is little doubt that the problems of post-war Jewry are now high on the agenda of public interest and discussion. A year ago, these problems were engulfed in a deep and indifferent silence.

COMMISSION ON PALESTINE OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE

+ / Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman; *Jacob Alson, *Gedaliah Bublick, *Rabbi A. Simon Federbusch, *Rabbi Solomon B. Freehof, Rabbi Wolf Gold, *Dr. Robert Gordis, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, *Isaac Hamlin, *Rabbi James G. Heller, *Sidney Hollander, *H. P. Koppleman, *Max A. Kopstein, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, Louis Lipsky, Judge Samuel Mellitz, *Judge

Morris Rothenberg, Isidor Sack, Max J. Schneider, Mrs. Albert P. Schoolman, Carl Sherman, *Herman Shulman, *Dr. Benjamin Shwadron, *William I. Siegel, *Mrs. Simon Sobeloff, *Robert Szold, *David M. Watchmaker, David Wertheim.

*Coopted

In and About the Conference

Adolph Rosenberg, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, has accepted cooption as a member of the Interim Committee of the American Jewish Conference.

* * *

In Chicago, more than 1,500 American Jewish Conference electors met on March 1st to hear a progress report on the Conference from Dr. Abba Hillel Silver. The meeting adopted a resolution endorsing the Palestine resolution pending in Congress. Judge Harry M. Fisher presided.

* * *

The post-war resolution of the Conference was submitted to UNRRA when it was first organized. The Commission on Post-War Reconstruction is now preparing a memorandum to be presented to UNRRA, embodying recommendations from constituent organizations.

* * *

The Student Association of Hebrew Union College has come out with a statement demanding abrogation of the Palestine White Paper and the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth, expressing support for and criticizing

secession from the Conference, and urging that at future meetings, "no organization shall be excluded which represents any segment of American Jewish life."

* * *

By vote of 31 to 6 the Board of Jewish Ministers of Philadelphia has endorsed the American Jewish Conference. "We voice our deep satisfaction at the desire for unity manifested by American Jewry in the creation of the American Jewish Conference in this time of Israel's great emergency, and endorse the objectives of the Conference" they said. "It is our hope that the American Jewish Conference will remain the united voice of American Jewry and to that end we earnestly appeal that ways and means be found for the reaffiliation of the American Jewish Committee, even as other groups within the Conference although dissenting from one item or another in the resolutions have found the way to remain within the Conference for the sake of unity in Israel."

* * *

More than 50 members of the House and Senate have written to the Conference declaring their support for the Palestine resolutions. The text of the Conference resolution was sent to all members of Congress.

COMMISSION ON POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE

Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath and Hayim Greenberg, co-chairmen, *Samuel Bisgyer, *Rabbi Samuel Brod, *Meyer Brown, Rabbi Samuel M. Cohen, *Prof. H. J. Ettlinger, Miss Jane Evans, *Israel Feinberg, *Benjamin Gebiner, *Samuel Goldstein, Prof. Mordecai M. Kaplan, Jacob Marrus, *Mrs. Albert J. May, Abraham Miller, *Herman Muller, Dr. Joachim Prinz, *Dr. Jacob Robinson, Samuel

Rothstein, Louis Segal, *Charles B. Sherman, Mrs. Herman Shulman, *Mrs. Archibald Silverman, Dr. Joseph Tenenbaum, *Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg, Mrs. Joseph M. Welt, Rabbi David Wice, *Leo Wolfson.

A number of experts is being coopted by the Commission.

*Coopted

AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE
521 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

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Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt
80 Broad St.
New York City

memberships card attached

AMERICAN LEAGUE FOR A FREE PALESTINE

11 WEST FORTY-SECOND STREET

NEW YORK 18, N. Y.



April 17, 1944

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Congressman Will Rogers, Jr.
Congressman Andrew L. Somers
Congressman Harry R. Sheppard
Konrad Bercovici
Louis Bromfield
Ben Hecht
George W. Matheson
Dean, St. John University
The Right Rev. Edward Thomas Demby
Bishop, Ohio
George L. Brown
Dean, South Dakota State College
Rabbi Philip Bookstaber
Dr. Bernard Drachman
Nathan George Horwitt
May Lewis
Isidor Lipschutz
Lawrence Lipton
Reverend James M. Martin
Herbert Moore
President, Transradio Press
Rabbi Baruch E. Rabinowitz
Curt Reis
D. B. Robertson
Irving Taitel
Alex Wilf

Dear Mr. Sack:

The war against Germany is approaching its climax. The onslaught from the West is imminent. In this terrible war the Hebrew people of Europe - more than any other - is paying with torrents of blood, suffering, torture and death. Their casualties, numbering more than two million dead, surpass those of all the European United Nations combined, with the exception of Russia. Yet, this people, is denied representation both in any Council of the United Nations and on the field of battle.

Worse than that, they are not even being given a fair chance to survive. The Nazis have already moved into Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria. While the shadow of death reaches out to find Europe's Jews in their last precarious asylum, the doors of Palestine are being hermetically sealed to the two millions trapped there.

In view of the situation, we, a group of Americans, responding to an appeal by the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation, decided to launch a vigorous campaign with the following three fold purpose:

- (a) To open the doors of Palestine to the escaping Hebrews of Europe.
- (b) To bring about the formation of a Hebrew Palestine Army to participate in the invasion of Europe and the occupation of Germany.
- (c) To secure recognition of the Hebrew people of Europe and Palestine as a nation with rights of representation in the councils of the United Nations and at the peace table.

This program is in line with the principles of the Proclamation on the Moral Rights of Stateless and Palestinian Jews, an historic document that

- 2 -

we have decided to implement by the organization of an American League for a Free Palestine.

Knowing of your deep appreciation of the inhuman disaster which confronts the Hebrew people of Europe today, we feel confident of your active support for this new freedom movement. We trust that we may count you among the members of the Sponsoring Committee of the American League for a Free Palestine. Enclosed you will find a draft of the aims and objectives of the American League as they will be submitted to the Inaugural Congress of the League, to be held in June, 1944. We would appreciate your filling out the enclosed card and returning it to us.

Cordially yours,



Will Rogers, Jr., M.C.



41 EAST 42nd STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: VANDERBILT 6-3780

אמרתי להם היקד והחזיר צ"כ אצא הכל סיפור יורם האל!
 שום דבר לא; נשאר אצלי. זה בבר כליותי לפרט
 אצל לא כליותי לפרט אצל כח אצלי האקדק לפרט
 אצלי. סוף בימים האחרונים הייתי אצל אצלי פדאום
 עברתי הוואצום לפרט אצל, פסח הייתי נוכח לפרט חלכות
 הצרות של "הכלה" ואמר "חציוסון גרצון" ציוספה נבתי, יואו
 יבתי יואת לפרטאק ואמר אצלי ונחל לוי.

מיום הכרתך בזה מצוי האשף, כי השתתף ואלה הדברים
עשה אתם הס' 2210 אומר ואומר. חוקיך בפעולה יושבות
א/הם וצאצאיהם כולם תחזו אינם צריכים להיחזק
אחרי כדור. לפי אשף, על היסודות שלמה וחקם של
עצמם. כעת חוק נאם את סבלה, בזמן השל
אנו חזק. "אזהבה" כמו אומר. האשף השתתף
אצד חוק לפי ואם יש אינו מפורסם לידם בזמנא
הצדקת ה' צדק לפי חוקי. תעשה אתה עבד נא את
זכורי העבודה (ואם תהא זכור הצדקת ה' צדק) של
הה' תהא תחזק את כחה אשף וכו' בוחק וזמנא
יהיה ונשן ונשן ונשן ונשן.

2022/3/31 11:11

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April 24, 1944

Mr. Mordecai Rudensky
Jewish National Fund, Inc.
41 East 42nd St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Rudensky:

I hope that you will forgive the long delay in acknowledging your kind note. I have been away from the city a great deal of the time and my correspondence has unfortunately lagged.

I need not tell you how profoundly I appreciated your thoughtfulness in writing to me and in saying the things which you said and the manner in which you said them. I found much strengthening and encouragement in your kind words. These days and months and years have been severely trying for all of us, and especially for those who are charged with a certain measure of the responsibility of leadership, which among all people, but more especially among our people, has always been a crown of thorns. From time to time one receives a message such as yours which is like a candle kindled in the dark.

Much struggle lies ahead, and many disappointments. But I am confident that at the end of the road something fine and new awaits our people in the land of its imperishable dreams.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BX

May 25, 1944

Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt
80 Broad Street
New York, New York

My dear Judge Rosenblatt:

I had hoped to talk to you in Washington but the opportunity did not present itself. You may recall that at the last meeting of the Emergency Council we voted to appoint a small committee of prominent lawyers to assist us in our work which involves legal consultation and opinion. It was suggested at the meeting that Judge Frankin be requested to undertake the organization of this small committee. Would you please speak to Judge Frankin about it and let me know his thought and his suggestions.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

AHS:abr

(dictated but not signed)

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND

(Keren Hayesod), Inc. - קרן היסוד

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

41 EAST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK
MURRAY HILL 2-4448

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and officers

May 31, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have your letter and I had already spoken to Judge Simon Rifkind in connection with the proposed Legal Committee.

Judge Rifkind is very desirous of helping, but feels that he ought not, as a Judge, be an official chairman of such a committee. He has promised me that he would ^{now} officially work and meet with the Committee at any and all times. Accordingly, I have taken it upon myself to invite a few people to meet with Judge Rifkind in the near future and see if we can constitute a good group to serve as counsel to the Emergency Council.

You will hear from me in the next few days.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours

Bernard A. Rosenblatt

Bernard A. Rosenblatt
President

bar.sb

June 2, 1944

Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, President
Palestine Foundation Fund
41 East 42nd St.
New York N.Y.

My dear Judge Rosenblatt:

Thank you for your kind letter of May 31.

I am glad to note from your letter that Judge Rifkind will assist unofficially in the work of the committee. I would appreciate it if you would let me have the names of the people whom you have invited to meet with Judge Rifkind. I may wish to add some additional names. I will probably see you at the meeting on Monday.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

June 12, 1944

The Honorable Judge Morris Rothenberg
Hotel Esplanade
308 West End Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Judge Rothenberg:

In connection with our project to have a Palestine plank introduced in the Democratic Platform, the name of Mr. Mark Eisner has been mentioned as one who could be very helpful. I do not know Mr. Eisner. Would he be the right person to entrust with the responsibility of seeing some of those who need to be seen in this connection?

I would appreciate an early reply as the time is short.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

June 13, 1944

Dear Dr. Silver:

Replying to yours
of June 12th. Mr. Eisner has
been active in Democratic politics
for many years and I believe he
enjoys considerable standing. I
am sure he could be helpful
if he were willing to give the
time for the task you suggest.
I assume you do not mean that
he should be the sole person
to undertake ~~it~~ seeing people.

Sincerely,

Samuel Hollander

Dr. A. H. Silver
Cleveland,
Ohio.

MEMORANDUM

To Emergency Committee Chairmen

Date July 26, 1944

From Rabbi Irving Miller, Chairman, Community Contacts Committee

The American Zionist Emergency Council has within the past few weeks achieved victories of the greatest political significance. On June 27 the Republican National Convention included in its platform a plank which declared:

"In order to give refuge to millions of distressed Jewish men, women and children driven from their homes by tyranny, we call for the opening of Palestine to their unrestricted immigration and land ownership, so that in accordance with the full intent and purpose of the Balfour Declaration of 1917 and the Resolution of a Republican Congress in 1922, Palestine may be constituted as a free and democratic Commonwealth..."

Three weeks later, on July 20, the Democratic National Convention went on record as follows:

"We favor 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."

For the first time in American history both major political parties have issued clear-cut, vigorous endorsements of Zionist aims. These planks serve to emphasize what we in the Emergency Council have known for some time -- that an overwhelming majority of Americans are with us. They also indicate the tremendous progress made in our program of education and public relations -- for the adoption of these planks may not have been possible without the intensive activity carried on over a period of many months in Washington and elsewhere by the Emergency Council and by all of the local Emergency Committees.

It should be noted that the securing of these resolutions was a most difficult task. During the Republican National Convention in Chicago, the chairman of the executive committee, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, and his associates put in a week of feverish, nerve-racking work before a Palestine plank emerged from the GOP Resolutions Committee. The co-chairman of the Council, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, and his associates experienced an equally arduous eight days during the Democratic National Convention. The greatest degree of tenacity, courage and political wisdom was required in both cases. Let us be thankful that our leaders possessed these qualities in abundance.

The Palestine planks, however tremendous their significance, should be regarded as two more milestones on our road to complete victory. However, they should reinforce our conviction that the day when Palestine will be established as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth is not too far distant. I urge you to strengthen your Committee so that it is able to cope with the problems which will arise during the next three or four months, the most critical period in the history of our movement. The final battle lies ahead and will require our undiminished effort.

I would appreciate having your reaction or the reaction of some of the leaders of your community to the subject of this communication, as well as any suggestions which you may have for our future activity.

IM:EG

COPY OF LETTER FROM THE
WAR DEPARTMENT TO SENATOR TAFT

WAR DEPARTMENT
Washington

10 October 1944

Honorable Robert A. Taft
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

I refer to your letter of September 12, 1944, regarding S.R. 247, introduced by Senator Wagner and yourself on the subject of opening the doors of Palestine to the free entry of Jews into that country.

At the time your resolution was being considered by the Foreign Relations Committee the endorsement of such a proposal by the Congress had grave implications which would seriously have interfered with the progress of the war. In response to your inquiry I have reviewed the considerations which applied at that time. I find that there is still strong feeling on the part of many officers in my department that the passage of such a resolution would interfere with our military effort. However, I do feel that the military considerations which led to my previous action in opposing the passage of this resolution are not as strong a factor now as they were then.

In my judgment, political considerations now outweigh the military, and the issue should be determined upon the political rather than the military basis.

Sincerely,

(signed)

Henry L. Stimson

Secretary of War

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Ever since the military requested postponement of action on the Palestine Resolutions which were introduced in Congress, the American Zionist Emergency Council has been energetically working to have these objections removed. The Council made numerous representations to the War Department, and both Senator Robert F. Wagner and Senator Robert A. Taft, co-sponsors of the Resolution, exerted their efforts to this end.

Senator Taft wrote to Secretary of War Stimson a month ago urgently soliciting a reply as to whether the War Department's objections still prevailed in view of the changed military situation.

Senator Taft has authorized Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Executive Committee Chairman of the Council, to make public the following reply which Senator Taft received from the Secretary of War:

WAR DEPARTMENT
Washington

10 October 1944

Honorable Robert A. Taft
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

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In my judgment, political considerations now outweigh the military, and the issue should be determined upon the political rather than the military basis.

Sincerely,

(signed)

Henry L. Stimson

Secretary of War

A Memorandum on the
Palestine Yearbook

Confidential

To the Zionist Emergency Council
By Abraham Revusky, Yonkers, N.Y.

Gentlemen,-

For the fourth consecutive year I am writing the Palestine review in the "Jewish Yearbook". And although I tried to squeeze in- in the limited space at my disposal- as many facts and figures as possible, the result, for myself, was a disappointment. While other people praised the quality and impartiality of my review, I became ever more conscious that THE IMPORTANCE OF PALESTINE IN CURRENT JEWISH LIFE AND THE VARIETY OF ITS ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROBLEMS REQUIRE CURRENT INFORMATION ON A MUCH LARGER SCALE.

Such an information cannot be derived from books. Although offering the basic facts even the best of them are unable to cope with frequent changes. Articles and news items, however useful, have a limited scope.

What is urgently needed is a "Palestine Yearbook" which shall become indispensable on the desk of every Zionist who may have to talk on Palestine in Public, and even answer questions of his friends.

- - - - -

The size of the proposed yearbook shall be limited to about 150 pages. It shall contain:

1) Three or four articles on special subjects reflecting important changes in Palestine's life during the year in review. For instance, in the next yearbook for 5705 I would like to see articles on the post-war prospects of Palestine's industry, on possible public works in connection with a mass immigration, on the War and the Arab economy of Palestine, etc. Such articles, as a rule shall be assigned by the editor of the Yearbook to leading experts in Palestine. An article on an outstanding personality which may exceed the usual frame of "chronology" may be likewise included, as an exception, in this part.

2) A chronology of the year divided into several major categories like

- a) economic facts;
- b) political facts;
- c) culture and health activities;
- d) labor movement;
- e) facts on Arab life; etc.

3) Important statistics, from Government, Agency, Histadrut sources, on

- a) figures on population (incl. vital statistics);
- b) foreign and domestic trade ; communications;
- c) immigration and emigration; tourist traffic.
- d) prices and cost of living; incomes and wages.
- e) agricultural developments, crops, settlement.
- f) industrial progress, credit and banking;
- g) Education and health activities, etc.

4) Names and description of new settlements established during the year; important additions in the industrial fields.

- 5) Description of cultural progress. Higher educational work. Press, book publishing, theater, music, arts. List of publications.
- 6) Developments in the religious field. Religious education (Yeshiboth).
- 7) Important developments and activities in neighboring countries.
- 8) News on Zionist funds, budgets and activities, in Palestine and abroad, with special emphasis on Zionist and pro-Palestine activities in America.
- 9) Necrology (Important deaths in Palestine, and the Zionist world).

This program is tentative. In the course of editorial work other subjects may be included.

The need for a Palestine Yearbook exists since years. It was not, however, a practical project as long as it would have to be undertaken by a single Zionist institution, or fraction. The consolidation of the Emergency Council as a united agency of the whole Zionist movement in the United States makes this idea, for the first time, a practical possibility.

Should the Emergency Council consider the publication of the Palestine Yearbook, it should be guided by the following principles:

A. The yearbook shall with time become self supporting. It shall be therefore printed and sold by a publisher selected for this task by the Emergency Council. No free distribution shall take place, unless for review purposes. If any Zionist Organization, including even the Emergency Council would like to present a number of copies to its selected friends, it will pay for them on a wholesale basis. *Formal credit for the book shall be given to the Em Council.*

B. The initial investment of the Emergency Council shall consist in covering the editorial expenses involved, and offering technical facilities for the editorial work.

To issue a worth-while yearbook much editorial work during the whole year would be required. After the pattern for the book will be established a competent editor, well acquainted ~~xxx~~ with Palestine may do it on a part time basis. In such a case the editorial expenses, including honorarium for articles ordered in Palestine, could be limited to 2000-2500 dollars ~~per~~ per year.

C. The further participation of the Emergency Council and the affiliated organizations may be limited to an obligation to sell a minimum number of copies to their members. On the basis of own experience I am convinced that this shall not involve any financial sacrifice. The book shall sell for about one dollar.

D. After the publisher covered his expenses he shall share his profits with the Emergency Council. In the first year, or two, this provision may have an academic value but with time this will cover the editorial expenses and may even bring some profit. The main condition for success is a trusted editorship, acceptable to all parts of the movement.

E. The Yearbook shall ^{be} begun in English. But after a year, or two there is a definite possibility of issuing, with very little additional expense, an edition in Yiddish. I have reasons to believe that the sales of the Yiddish edition will hardly affect the circulation of the yearbook in English.

Should this proposal be accepted, I would ask for a quick decision. It is late in the year, and unless the work begins at once, it would be impossible to issue the first yearbook for 1944-45 (5705). Just now such a book would be of very great value.

With Zion's greetings

Revusky

[undated]

In this most tragic hour for the Jewish people of Europe, of whom millions of innocent men, women and children have been brutally massacred by the Nazis, we favor the taking of immediate and effective measures to rescue those who still survive, and in accordance with the traditional American policy we call for the opening of the doors of Palestine to the free entry of Jews into that country and for the granting to them of full opportunity for colonization and settlement so that Palestine may be reconstituted as a free and democratic Jewish commonwealth, in which all its inhabitants shall enjoy religious, cultural and civic equality, and in which the holy places, a heritage sacred to mankind, will be fully safeguarded.



Rep. plank - to T. A. F.
6 - 44

~~AMZ~~ [undated]
HPM

RESOLVED that the Mizrahi Organization of America, in convention assembled, expresses its deep appreciation and approval for the program of political action carried forward by the American Zionist Emergency Council during the past year under the magnificent direction of its Executive Committee Chairman, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver. The Council's great achievements have fully vindicated the high expectations which were aroused by its effective reorganization a year ago.

The convention heartily endorses the policies put into effect by Dr. Silver and records its profound satisfaction with his vigorous, forthright and courageous leadership. Recognizing the supreme and overwhelming importance of American Zionist political action at this period in our people's history, the convention pledges the continued co-operation of the Mizrahi Organization of America in fullest measure to the end that the work so magnificently begun and so vigorously prosecuted by the American Zionist Emergency Council shall be continued during the coming year with undiminished scope and effectiveness. The Mizrahi Organization of America will spare no effort, and every call made upon us by the Council will be met with the enthusiastic response of our entire organization.

We pray that God will give continued strength *and vision* to the leadership of the Council, and that Dr. Silver will continue to bear the historic responsibilities he has shouldered, so that, working and acting together, all Zionist groups represented in the Council may go forward during the coming year to achieve the complete triumph of our just cause -- the re-establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

I heartily endorse the Palestine plank in the
Republican Party platform. I have fearlessly stated
to the great leaders of American Zionism, the Abba
Harris, that I am for the resurrection of
Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish
commonwealth. The American people have time
and again declared themselves in favor of
the Jewish people. The Republican Party has been the leader of the movement.
I will use every best office
to have our government, working together
with Great Britain, achieve this great objective
for a people that has suffered so much
and deserves so much at the hands
of mankind.

COPY OF LETTER FROM THE
WAR DEPARTMENT TO SENATOR TAFT

WAR DEPARTMENT
Washington

10 October 1944

Honorable Robert A. Taft
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

I refer to your letter of September 12, 1944, regarding S.R. 247, introduced by Senator Wagner and yourself on the subject of opening the doors of Palestine to the free entry of Jews into that country.

At the time your resolution was being considered by the Foreign Relations Committee the endorsement of such a proposal by the Congress had grave implications which would seriously have interfered with the progress of the war. In response to your inquiry I have reviewed the considerations which applied at that time. I find that there is still strong feeling on the part of many officers in my department that the passage of such a resolution would interfere with our military effort. However, I do feel that the military considerations which led to my previous action in opposing the passage of this resolution are not as strong a factor now as they were then.

In my judgment, political considerations now outweigh the military, and the issue should be determined upon the political rather than the military basis.

Sincerely,

(signed)

Henry L. Stimson

Secretary of War

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Ever since the military requested postponement of action on the Palestine Resolutions which were introduced in Congress, the American Zionist Emergency Council has been energetically working to have those objections removed. The Council made numerous representations to the War Department, and both Senator Robert F. Wagner and Senator Robert A. Taft, co-sponsors of the Resolution, exerted their efforts to this end.

Senator Taft wrote to Secretary of War Stimson a month ago urgently soliciting a reply as to whether the War Department's objections still prevailed in view of the changed military situation.

Senator Taft has authorized Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Executive Committee Chairman of the Council, to make public the following reply which Senator Taft received from the Secretary of War:

WAR DEPARTMENT
Washington

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Henry L. Stimson

Secretary of War