



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and  
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

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

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

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

---

Reel  
13

Box  
5

Folder  
294

American Zionist Emergency Council, "M," "N," "O," and "P",  
1949-1951.

AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

July 25, 1949

A meeting of the American Zionist Council was held on Monday, July 25, 1949, at 4:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Benjamin G. Browdy (presiding), Aryeh Ben Hillel, Pinchas Cruso, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Dr. Berl Frymer, Mrs. Elliot F. Glassberg, Mrs. Lionel Golub, I.M. Gottlib, Mrs. David B. Greenberg, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Louis Lipsky, Dr. Samuel Margoshes, Louis Segal, Mrs. Abraham Tulin.

Dr. Benjamin Akzin, Eliahu Ben-Horin, Miss Beatrice Cohen, William Kaufman, Mrs. Blanche Shepard, Abe Tuvim.

REPORTS

Mrs. Glassberg, substituting for Mrs. Epstein as a member of the Praesidium, reported that the major problem discussed at the first four meetings of the Praesidium was the absence of an Executive Director of the Council. The problem was brought to a meeting of the Inner Committee on July 4, and a proposal by Rabbi Lookstein was accepted, as follows: Dr. Akzin is to be the liaison between the Praesidium and the office and in charge of the work of the office; Mr. Tuvim is to continue his outside political contacts in consultation with Dr. Akzin; Dr. Akzin and Mr. Tuvim are to maintain contact with each other; neither Dr. Akzin nor Mr. Tuvim is to do anything without the consent of the Praesidium. At two subsequent meetings of the Praesidium action was taken to cut the budget of the Council by approximately \$20,000, principally through reductions in staff and in rent.

Dr. Akzin reported that after minute examination of the expenses, it was found that further savings amounting to \$2,000 a year were possible without impairing the efficiency of the Council. Every effort is being made to contract our fixed commitments, so that in case of need there will be more cash available to finance public relations activities.

Dr. Akzin drew attention to the important education work of the ACPC and of the Speakers' Bureau, and suggested that both matters receive special and careful attention.

Commenting on the Study Tour of Israel conducted by the ACPC, Dr. Akzin said that a great deal of good has already been accomplished by the tour of eleven Christian leaders. Many newspaper articles by participants



in the tour have already appeared in various parts of the country, and more are being written. These people who are well known in their communities are insistently asked by clubs and forums to give first-hand reports from Israel. This shows how important it would be to continue such Study Tours in the future, if possible with a larger number of participants, and of course selecting the most representative people possible.

Dr. Akzin reported on the political situation on the basis of his conversation with Mr. Eban.

Mr. Ben-Horin recommended that the Council take advantage of the breathing spell during this period of diminished activity to consider its work from the long-range point of view, and suggested that he prepare a comprehensive report and plan for the work of his department for the next meeting of the Council or the Inner Committee.

#### DISCUSSION

Mrs. Greenberg asked what was the situation in the light of the appointment of Mr. Porter to the Conciliation Commission. Dr. Akzin gave a brief reply.

In answer to a question by Mrs. Greenberg, Dr. Akzin explained the nature of the cooperation between the ACPG and the Council.

In reply to a question by Mr. Cruso, Mr. Ben-Horin explained the part played by Catholic circles in the present stage of the Palestine question.

Mr. Browdy, discussing the question of rent for the Council offices, said he thought it would be possible to find space in a building on Fourth Avenue at \$1.75 per square foot, which would be a considerable saving from the present rental, and asked whether the Council wished him to explore the possibilities.

After some discussion, it was agreed that no commitments with regard to moving the offices would be made until after the election of a Chairman. Steps should be continued, however, to reduce the space occupied in the present offices.

Mr. Tuvim reported briefly on recent developments on the local political scene.

Mr. Tuvim urged upon all the groups in the Council to give wide circulation to the material issued by the national Council, because only in this way would all the elements in the communities be reached. There has been a natural let-down in interest on the part of the local Councils throughout the country, and unless their interest is kept alive, the excellent machinery which the Council has built up in the form of local Councils may lose its efficiency.

Mr. Segal thought we would not succeed in mobilizing the local Councils until they were given specific tasks. He suggested, therefore,



a careful study of the work of the Council and of the specific activities which should be assigned to the communities.

Mrs. Epstein said that a good part of the work of the Council was going to be of a less sensational character than in the past. The Council must work out directives of an educational character for the local Councils, to inform them so that they may keep the community informed.

Mr. Ben-Horin said that the Council had always engaged in two kinds of activity -- discreet and public. Although it was likely that the Council would have much less public and mass activity than in the past, Zionists now had inspiration from Israel to keep their interest alive.

Mrs. Greenberg asked whether any of the local Councils had disbanded. Mr. Tuvim replied that as far as he knew no Councils had been dissolved. The Council in Boston had disbanded but had reorganized and was functioning.

Mr. Lipsky said there need be no anxiety about the future of the local Councils as long as the structure of the national Council remained intact. The content of the work of the Council has changed and a different approach is required. In view of the prevalence of underground anti-Zionist propaganda, informative and educational material had to be given to the local Councils. This will require a different technique than the Council has used in the past, when the purpose was to bring about mass protest.

Rabbi Kirshblum said that the fact that the Council has a temporary Praesidium necessarily affects its work. He approved of Mr. Ben-Horin's proposal and suggested that the other executive staff members of the Council also report from time to time on their activities.

Dr. Akzin agreed with Mr. Lipsky that as long as there is a Council in the center, one can always revitalize the local Councils. We expect that for the time being there will be no need for mass demonstrations, which means that we will not have political assignments for large numbers of people. But there is one assignment which ought to be given to the local heads of the different groups, and that is that they engage increasingly in public relations with the non-Jewish local community, just as we do nationally. That should become the principal task of our local Councils.

Mrs. Greenberg urged all member organizations to keep their membership informed of what is going on, as Hadassah is doing.

Mr. Cruso said that the changed character of the work of the Council might necessitate changes in the personnel of the local Emergency Councils. But that cannot be done until the national Council has clarified its program. For that reason, he urged that the Praesidium accelerate the process of reorganization in consultation with the leaders of the various groups and agree on a single Chairman for the Council.

Meeting adjourned 5:45 P.M.

B.A.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

September 8, 1949

A meeting of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, September 8, 1949 at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Benjamin G. Browdy (presiding), Pinchas Cruso, Beinish Epstein, Daniel Frisch, Mrs. Elliot F. Glassberg, Dr. H. Raphael Gold, Paul Goldman, Mrs. Samuel Goldstein, Mrs. Benjamin Gottesman, I. M. Gottlieb, Mrs. David B. Greenberg, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Mrs. S. Kramarsky, Dr. Harry Levi, Louis Lipsky, Dr. S. Margoshes, Louis Segal, Avraham Schenker, Marie Syrkin, Harry Torczyner, Mrs. A. Tulin, B. Zuckerman.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Martin Rosenbluth, Rabbi Jerome Unger.

Eliahu Ben-Horin, Beatrice Cohen, Arnold K. Isreeli, Blanche J. Shepard, Harry Steinberg.

Mr. Browdy opened the meeting by paying tribute to the members of the Praesidium who had been working with him during the past three months; he expressed his gratefulness to them for their efforts and accomplishments during this period. He thereupon called upon Rabbi Max Kirshblum to read the report of the Praesidium. (Report of Praesidium is on file.)

Following this report, Mr. Torczyner moved the adoption of the slate of officers recommended by the Praesidium, as follows: Chairman, Louis Lipsky; Vice-chairman, Mrs. Judith Epstein; Secretary, Rabbi Max Kirshblum; Treasurer, Pinchas Cruso; and Executive Director, Rabbi Jerome Unger.

Mr. Epstein, of the Revisionist Party, called the attention of the Council to a letter, sent by the Revisionists to all Zionist parties comprising the Council, in which it was suggested that Dr. Silver be drafted for the chairmanship of the Council. He made a motion which called on every group in the Council to recall Dr. Silver to active leadership of the Council.

Mrs. Greenberg pointed out that Mr. Epstein's motion was out of order inasmuch as a motion was already on the floor. The Chairman upheld Mrs. Greenberg's position.

Mr. Frisch seconded the motion made by Mr. Torczyner, and paid tribute to Mr. Lipsky.

Dr. Levi, on behalf of the Revisionists, declared that the Revisionists would abstain from voting inasmuch as the slate presented by the Praesidium was

(more)



one upon which they had not been consulted and were, therefore, not prepared to vote. He stated that the slate represented a distribution of functions among the representatives of the major parties who must, therefore, bear the entire responsibility for the future activities of the Council.

Mr. Goldman, of the Achdut Avodah, appealed to the Chair to separate the vote for Chairman from that of the rest of the slate inasmuch as his party wished to vote for Mr. Lipsky as Chairman, but would refrain from voting for the other candidates, in protest against his party's not having been consulted.

Mr. Torczyner thereupon revised his previous motion so that two separate votes could be taken: first, for Mr. Lipsky as Chairman; and, second, for the remaining candidates for the posts of Vice-chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Director.

The Chair then called for a vote and Mr. Lipsky was unanimously elected Chairman of the Council. The Revisionists abstained.

Mrs. Judith Epstein, Rabbi Kirshblum, Mr. Cruso and Rabbi Unger were thereupon elected to the posts of Vice-chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Director respectively, the Revisionists and Achdut Avodah abstaining.

Mrs. Greenberg requested clarification of Dr. Levi's remarks that the major parties would have to assume responsibility for the actions of the Council. She inquired whether this meant that the Revisionists would refuse to accept the discipline of the Council and continue to issue statements to the press criticizing it. Dr. Levi replied that the Revisionists would continue to remain a disciplined member, in accordance with the by-laws of the Council. On the question of whether such discipline permitted a Zionist party to make its views known to the press, Dr. Levi stated that his party never considered such action as constituting a breach of discipline.

Mr. Cruso inquired whether Dr. Levi's statement meant that an individual party claimed the prerogative of undertaking independent political action. Dr. Levi replied that the Council was the instrumentality for political action, and that as long as the Council fulfilled its task there would be no need for any party to undertake such action. He declared, however, that should the Council fail in this task, each party must decide within its own conscience as to what steps should be taken. Mr. Browdy at this point turned the Chair over to the newly-elected Chairman, Mr. Louis Lipsky.

Mr. Lipsky assumed the Chair and stated that the business before the Council at the moment was the report submitted by the Praesidium. There were no comments on the report and Mr. Lipsky ruled the report accepted as read.

Mr. Lipsky, acknowledging the honor bestowed upon him in having been elected to an important post of service in the Zionist movement, paid tribute to Dr. Silver for his great accomplishments on behalf of the Zionist movement. He stated that the Council must now re-evaluate its purpose and program in the light of the new situation created by the establishment of the State of Israel. He pointed out that both the Israeli Embassy and Consulates, and the Jewish Agency were operating in the United States and had certain legal and constitutional functions to perform. The Council must take cognizance of their presence and, therefore, Mr. Lipsky felt that a committee should be appointed to reconsider the scope and nature of the Council program.

(more)



Mr. Zuckerman made a motion that a committee consisting of the officers, plus one member of each party -- to be known as the Executive Committee -- be set up and instructed to: 1) elect from itself a smaller committee to study the long-range program in the light of Mr. Lipsky's remarks, and 2) study the political activities which must be entered into immediately. Mr. Lipsky added to this motion that this Executive Committee be instructed to bring in its report within ten days to two weeks. Rabbi Kirshblum suggested that Mr. Lipsky meet with the members of the American Section of the Jewish Agency to ascertain the spheres of activities of the Council and the extent of leeway given to the Council by the Agency. Mr. Lipsky felt, however, that it was the task of the Council to formulate its own plans first before approaching the Agency.

Mr. Segal suggested that a statement should at once be issued to the Jewish press in order to revive the confidence of the Jewish public in the Council.

Mr. Lipsky indicated that he was not terribly concerned about rushing to the press, but that steps would be taken to revive the confidence of the public in the Council. He felt that it was urgent, however, to communicate with our local committees throughout the country and inform them of what is happening in the Council. It was thereupon moved and unanimously adopted that the question of the scope and nature of the work of the Council be referred to the Executive Committee (also referred to as the Committee of Eleven) with the directive that a report be brought in within two weeks.

At the request of Mr. Lipsky, Dr. Nahum Goldmann then gave a report on the current political situation affecting Israel. He concluded his report with the suggestion that the Council undertake at once a comprehensive program of education and public relations throughout the nation prior to any mass action which may have to be initiated. He felt that the time for mass action has not yet come. Dr. Goldmann suggested that the Council take under consideration the advisability of calling a meeting of several hundred Zionist leaders in a key city at the end of October.

Mr. Lipsky announced that the Executive Committee would meet on Monday, September 12 at 3:00 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Q.S.



## AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

September 12, 1949

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Monday, September 12, 1949 at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), B. G. Browdy, Pinchas Cruso, Beinish Epstein, Mrs. Judith Epstein, Mrs. Marian Greenberg, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Yehuda Tubin, Yehuda Tyberg, Baruch Zuckerman.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - -

Mr. Lipsky expressed the opinion that it was not conducive to good administration to have members of the executive staff present at meetings. Following a brief discussion, it was unanimously decided that senior staff executives are to be invited to plenary sessions of the Council, but not to Executive Committee meetings. The Executive Director and Recorder are to be present at Executive Committee meetings.

The Chairman outlined the following proposed plan of action which indicated how the reorganization of the Council should take place. He pointed out that the basic purpose of the Council had become more educational and interpretative than before, and less demonstrative. The educational relations of the Council must be built up so that we will have a constituency on a variety of fronts who will act for us when a situation arises. This will involve the creation of a labor and a liberal front, as well as the church front, which is now represented by the American Christian Palestine Committee. Included in this group of cooperating organizations might be the American Jewish Committee and the B'nai B'rith. There should be a background of opinion on matters such as Jerusalem, boundaries, etc. for these matters now are to be decided in the forum of public opinion. The Council now does not exist only for an agitational purpose. Our people have to undertake a tremendous job of education, and the personnel of our committees must be changed accordingly. Up until now those with political connections were the leaders. Now we need people who have influence with churches, newspapers, labor groups and liberal organizations.

Mr. Lipsky was of the feeling that perhaps the American Christian Palestine Committee should be made into an autonomous body. After a discussion of the merits of such a move, it was decided to refer to The Officers the matter of strengthening the American Christian Palestine Committee and making it a more effective and representative Christian organization.

Hitherto, Mr. Lipsky pointed out, this Executive Committee has not functioned as a regular body. He would like to have it set up as a regular Committee, with

(more)



effective authority in all matters of the Council except where the Plenum may contradict it, and with subcommittees, such as a Finance Subcommittee. It should be a functioning body with responsibilities.

A discussion of this matter resulted in the decision that this body be called the Executive Committee and be the policy-making body of the Council, meeting every Monday at 3:00 P.M. It was further decided that the four Officers see to it that the decisions made by the Executive Committee are carried out. The Officers, it was emphasized, would not create policy, but simply watch over the day-by-day implementation of policy.

The Chairman was authorized to appoint a special Subcommittee on Finances, which would be responsible for the finances of the organization, together with the Treasurer. The question of finding new quarters for the Council was also delegated to the Finance Committee.

It was also decided that the present payroll be continued until further action is taken. Meanwhile, The Officers are requested to look into the matter of the Staff, consider all the problems of the program, and bring in a report at the next meeting, with recommendations.

Mr. Lipsky reported that, relative to our relations with the Jewish Agency, the whole question of jurisdiction was being considered with them, and he expressed confidence that the two organizations would be able to work harmoniously.

The Chairman suggested the formation of a political committee of three to five people in New York, with Consultants all over the United States. Politically prominent people should be named as Consultants to the Council, and the Committee of three or five in New York would act as a liaison with the Consultants. It was decided that such a committee should be called the "Advisory Committee."

Mrs. Greenberg was requested to continue serving as liaison with the American Association for the United Nations.

It was decided to call a meeting of about 150 community leaders in October, as soon after the holidays as possible, in New York, in order to hear reports on the current political situation, and be oriented to the new purpose and methods of the Council.

A discussion of our relation to the forthcoming New York State elections in November took place.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

L.L.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

September 19, 1949

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Monday, September 19, 1949 at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Pinchas Cruso, Beinish Epstein, Mrs. Judith Epstein, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Louis Segal, Harry Torczyner, Yehuda Tubin, Yehuda Tyberg.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

Mr. Beinish Epstein raised a question concerning the brevity of the minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting. It was decided that the minutes should continue to be recorded in the same manner, and that greater detail should be reported only if some nuances be involved that might have future repercussions or significance. Thereupon, the minutes of the last meeting stood as approved.

It was agreed to change the date of Executive Committee meetings from Monday to Thursday at 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Lipsky stated that, at the previous meeting, Mrs. Greenberg had been designated to act as a liaison with the American Association for the United Nations, and Mrs. Epstein with the American Christian Palestine Committee.

The Chairman's appointments to the Finance Committee were announced, as follows: Benjamin Browdy, Chairman; Secretary of the Council (Rabbi Max Kirshblum); Treasurer of the Council (Pinchas Cruso); Mrs. Elliot F. Glassberg; and Paul Goldman.

Mr. Harry Torczyner, it was stated, had undertaken the responsibility of acting as a liaison with the group of Consultants to be set up throughout the country. However, before taking any action, Mr. Torczyner would consult with the Executive Committee.

Mr. Cruso was of the opinion that the person to act as a liaison with the labor movement of this country should be a member of the Executive Committee. Action on this matter was deferred until the next meeting.

(more)



The Chairman rendered a report on the action taken since the last meeting. A letter to the Local Committees was already in preparation before the report of the Conciliation Commission on Jerusalem was made public, and was dispatched immediately upon the public announcement of the plan. It was believed that the most effective approach on the matter of Jerusalem would be through the rabbinate and congregations because of the approaching High Holidays, and accordingly, communications were sent out to both of these groups requesting their cooperation in the campaign for Jerusalem. Releases were sent to the Anglo-Jewish and Yiddish presses, as well as the American, and an excellent editorial from the New York Herald Tribune on Jerusalem was reprinted and distributed. From the reports that have been coming into the office, there seems to be a lively interest on this matter.

With regard to mass action to be requested from organizations unaffiliated with the Council, it was agreed that such action should be kept in reserve until after the High Holidays.

Mr. Epstein suggested that a statement on Jerusalem, signed by a number of prominent Christians, be inserted as an advertisement in the New York press.

A discussion on the question of just what our "line" should be regarding Jerusalem resulted in agreement that our references to Jerusalem should not differentiate between the Old City and the New City, just as the Government of Israel makes no such distinction. In addition, international supervision of the Holy Places should be welcomed.

In the belief that a religious approach might appeal to the President, Mr. Lipsky suggested that a delegation of about five orthodox rabbis call on President Truman personally before Yom Kippur. Rabbi Kirshblum undertook to communicate with the Union of Orthodox Rabbis about the composition of such a group, and a spokesman. Rabbi Kirshblum reported before the meeting adjourned that he had already spoken with Rabbi Rosenberg of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis, who assured him that a delegation of a desirable type would be constituted, with one of their group acting as spokesman.

In accordance with the concept that the type of pressure to be applied at this time should be sentimental rather than political, Mr. Epstein suggested that a very large gathering of schoolchildren -- perhaps 20,000 -- hold a demonstration on behalf of Jerusalem. However, it was believed that such a demonstration would be ineffective at this time.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the manner in which the Senatorial contest between former Governor Herbert Lehman and John Foster Dulles could best be employed to our advantage. Since no agreement could be reached,, it was decided to discuss the matter further at another meeting, if no agreement could be reached by telephone before the next meeting takes place.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

L. L.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

September 29, 1949

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, September 29, 1949 at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Benjamin G. Browdy, Pinchas Cruso, Beinish Epstein, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Mrs. David Greenberg, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Louis Segal, Yehuda Tubin, Yehuda Tyberg.

Paul Goldman, Harry Torczyner.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

Mr. Torczyner suggested that the officials of the American Christian Palestine Committee be apprised of decisions made by the Executive Committee of the Council with regard to policy in order that their views be coordinated with those of the Council at all times. It was decided that Mrs. Epstein, as liaison with the American Christian Palestine Committee, together with Rabbi Unger, go over all statements emanating from the ACPG and make any necessary adjustments.

Mr. Lipsky reported on Dr. Daniel A. Poling's recent visit with President Truman.

Mrs. Epstein reported on her meeting with Mrs. Shepard, Dr. Voss and Mr. Baehr of the American Christian Palestine Committee, who expressed a desire for a reorganization of their work and requested a change in their administrative make-up involving a budgetary increase. Mr. Baehr stated his need for an administrative assistant to assist in editing their paper -- a paper which would be solely a house organ. They would like to have placed under consideration a Christian pilgrimage to Bethlehem around Christmas time; also, a one-day seminar in New York City, as well as a couple of seminars on the West Coast.

In connection with the suggested seminar in New York City, Rabbi Unger pointed out that the National Executive of the American Christian Palestine Committee was going to meet on October 31st in its offices, but that Dr. Nahum Goldmann had suggested that the date for this meeting be moved up to October 17th; that instead of confining it to the Executive Committee, it be enlarged so that 30 or 40 could be invited; that it be held in a midtown hotel instead

(more)



of at the offices; and that Mr. Aubrey Eban address the meeting. Mrs. Greenberg proposed that Mr. Clark Eichelberger, of the American Association for the United Nations, be invited to attend the meeting.

A discussion on the proposed Christmas pilgrimage to Bethlehem resulted in a decision to refer the matter back to the American Christian Palestine Committee for reconsideration. It was believed that such a venture might not be beneficial to Jewish interests.

Mr. Lipsky stated that he had discussed the matter of budget with Dr. Goldmann, who agreed to continue the present budget until the first of next year, instead of revising it as of its expiration date of September 30, 1949, in order to take care of the emergency situation that we are undergoing at present. The Council should receive \$30,000 per month for October, November and December. By January 1, 1950 the emergency will most likely be past and the next budget can then be planned on a more normal basis.

Mr. Browdy reported that the Finance Committee met on Tuesday, September 27th, and would meet again on October 6th, following which it would make its recommendations to the Executive Committee.

Rabbi Unger remarked that the Young Zionist Actions Committee had not been paid its monthly allotment of \$150.00 for the months of July, August and September, and as a result, its activities have been severely circumscribed. It was agreed that the Council continue the \$150 per month subsidy to the Young Zionist Actions Committee, subject to revision before the end of the year, and ask for a report on its activities.

It was noted that the Finance Committee had been considering the question of the Council's yearly subsidy of \$5,000 to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. It was decided to continue to grant an allotment to the JTA, the amount to be determined by the Finance Committee.

The Chairman reported on the activities of the Council since the last meeting of the Executive Committee, following which a lengthy discussion took place regarding a program of action for the Council, and particularly, whether mass action should be embarked upon at this time. It was finally decided that the Government of Israel and the Jewish Agency be consulted as to whether a number of large meetings throughout the country should be held before November 1st with an educational or public relations purpose in mind, rather than a political demonstration.

Mr. Segal suggested that the Chairman consult with the Government of Israel and the Jewish Agency with regard to the promotion of a Congressional debate on Israel.

It was announced that the Plenum of the Council would meet next Thursday at 3:00 P.M., instead of the Executive Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

L. L.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

October 6, 1949

A meeting of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, October 6, 1949 at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Pinchas Cruso, Beinish Epstein, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Mrs. Elliot F. Glassberg, Paul Goldman, Mrs. Bert Goldstein, Mrs. Samuel Goldstein, Mrs. Benjamin Gottesman, Mrs. David B. Greenberg, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Rabbi Joseph Lookstein, Dr. S. Margoshes, Adrian Paskowitz, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Abraham Redelheim, Avraham Schenker, Louis Segal, Harry Torczyner, Yehuda Tubin, Yehuda Tyberg, Baruch Zuckerman.

Beatrice Cohen, Blanche Shepard, Harry Steinberg, Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - -

A motion was made, seconded and carried that the minutes of the Council meeting of September 8th be accepted.

Mr. Lipsky pointed out that it had been necessary to delay consideration of long-term problems of the Council in view of the emergency situation that had been created as a result of the placing of the Jerusalem question on the agenda of the United Nations. All of our efforts have been directed towards action on the part of our communities on Jerusalem.

Rabbi Unger rendered a report on activities since the last meeting of the full Council.

1) Re-organization. The Executive Committee is a working committee that meets weekly for the purpose of planning and execution of our program. The Finance Committee has been meeting frequently with a view to efficiency in our business operations. Special assignments have been made, and are in active operation, as follows: Mrs. Epstein, as liaison with the American Christian Palestine Committee; Mrs. Greenberg, to represent the Council on the American Association for the United Nations; and Mr. Torczyner, as liaison with an Advisory Committee of Political Consultants. In addition, the press as well as our local committees were immediately informed of our re-organization and plans for the future. Our 500 local committees were directed to re-organize immediately and set up various working committees. In this connection, reports have already come in from a number of communities in compliance with this request.

2) Jerusalem. Several releases have been issued. We have been in touch with the entire rabbinate in America urging them to bring this matter to the attention of their congregations in order that messages be relayed to the White

(more



House from these groups. In addition to a large response from congregations, many additional organizations have acted in the same direction. There are being planned a rabbinical delegation to visit the President and an advertisement in the press on Jerusalem.

3) American Christian Palestine Committee. A re-activation and re-organization of that body has begun. The publication, "Palestine" will be issued as a publication of the ACPC instead of the American Zionist Council after the next issue. It will be a Christian document intended for Christians. The visit of Dr. Daniel A. Poling to President Truman was reported, as well as the resignation of Rep. Christian Herter from HELP. The ACPC is about to release a statement on Jerusalem signed by a large number of Christian leaders throughout the country. Seminars in Fall River, Mass. and Worcester, Mass. are being held, and plans made for a one-day seminar in New York City and several on the West Coast. Club Program Service is busily at work arranging for and providing excellent Christian speakers throughout the country.

There was a discussion of the report made by Paul Goldman that the National Community Relations Advisory Council was about to make a public statement denouncing the American Council for Judaism.

Mr. Lipsky enlarged upon the report of Rabbi Unger by stating that there would be a meeting of the Executive Council of the American Christian Palestine Committee on October 17 addressed by Aubrey S. Eban. A letter to our local committees would be sent explaining that mass meetings should be held from October 30 to November 6 in order to present our case and make known our feelings on the matter of Jerusalem. We are suggesting that resolutions be adopted at these meetings, to be submitted to local Congressmen and Senators. We are also planning to insert in the papers before October 30 an advertisement signed by a number of Jewish organizations, which will contain a statement of our case with regard to Jerusalem. In addition, it has been suggested that a conference of Zionist leaders from throughout the country be held on November 13, by which time the situation in the UN should be clearer, for the purpose of informing them about the current political situation, following which they may find it advisable to prepare for local meetings at the end of November.

A lengthy discussion arose concerning the desirability of using the date of November 29 for meetings. A difference of opinion was evinced, with Mr. Zuckerman, Mrs. Pool and Mrs. Bert Goldstein speaking in behalf of meetings on that date, and Mr. Segal and Mr. Epstein against them, whereupon it was decided to refer the matter back to the Executive Committee for further consideration. There was also discussion of the respective merits of a Christian-signed versus a Jewish-signed advertisement, as well as a question by Mrs. Greenberg regarding the projection of the Jerusalem issue alone in an advertisement, instead of the whole package of three issues -- Jerusalem, Arab refugees, and the Negev.

Mr. Torczyner rendered a report on the deliberations and activities of the Advisory Committee on Political Consultants consisting of Bernard Katzen, Republican, and Carl Sherman, Democrat. This Committee acts in an advisory capacity to a group of consultants throughout the country who are available whenever we need political contacts. Their present efforts are being directed

(more)



towards employing the Senatorial contest between John Foster Dulles and Herbert Lehman to our best advantage.

Mr. Segal said that it should be clearly understood that if any party wishes to endorse a political candidate, it has the right to do so. Mrs. Greenberg asked for a clarification of the Council's policy with regard to political endorsements on the part of individual parties, and it was pointed out by Mr. Goldman that individual Zionist parties have participated in local political activities for many years. The Chairman said that Zionist parties based on political programs in the Diaspora have a right to act in accordance with their party principles, but that the Council has no right to endorse any candidates or parties.

Regarding finances, Mr. Lipsky reported that the Council, including the American Christian Palestine Committee, is now operating on a budget of \$30,000 per month for the rest of the year, by agreement with the Jewish Agency, and with the understanding that any special undertaking over and above this budget will be taken up with the Agency. At the end of the year the budgetary question will be reconsidered on the basis of changed conditions.

Mrs. Epstein made a report on the American Christian Palestine Committee. Last summer's study tour in Israel had brought excellent results. Dr. Voss' suggestion of a Christmas pilgrimage to Bethlehem had met with little enthusiasm on the part of the Executive Committee.

Mrs. Shepard amplified Mrs. Epstein's report by explaining that the pilgrimage was really a study tour in the guise of a pilgrimage, and would be very helpful to the ACPC by bringing in important ministers and educators. The American Express Company was willing to throw the weight of its organization behind it without its name appearing, thereby minimizing the expense of the trip to the communities sponsoring the participants.

Mrs. Epstein doubted that the American Express Company's role in the venture could be hidden, and pointed out that its contribution would be small, placing the major portion of the expense on us. It was decided to refer the matter back to the Executive Committee in the light of Mrs. Shepard's additional information.

The necessity for a one-day seminar in New York City was cited by Mrs. Epstein, as well as regional conferences on the West Coast which would provide a wonderful opportunity to fight the American Council for Judaism at the source of its strength.

Mr. Lipsky reported on Hapoel Hamizrachi's request for membership in the Council. It was decided to refer the matter to the Executive Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

L.L.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 13, 1949

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, October 13, 1949 at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Benjamin G. Browdy, Pinchas Cruso, Beinish Epstein, Mrs. Judith Epstein, Paul Goldman, Mrs. Marian Greenberg, Louis Segal, Yehuda Tubin.

Harry Torczyner, Yehuda Tyberg.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

Mrs. Epstein stated that a suggestion had been made to establish a Jewish Institute under the auspices of the Asia Institute, for the purpose of conducting research on intellectual problems of Jews in the Asiatic countries. It was decided to consult with Mr. Elath on the advisability of the Council's supporting this venture.

The request of Hapoel Hamizrachi for membership in the Council was discussed, and it was agreed to postpone decision on this matter 1) because the Mizrachi representatives on the Council Executive were absent from the meeting; and 2) pending advices from the Jewish Agency.

Rabbi Unger reported on activities since the last meeting of the Executive. Instructions had gone out to our local committees to hold public mass meetings from October 30 to November 6. Our reorganization is proceeding apace. We are informed that the White House has received over 1,000 communications from rabbis, congregations and affiliated groups on the Jerusalem matter. Literature on Jerusalem is being printed and distributed by the Council.

The American Christian Palestine Committee Executive will hold a luncheon meeting with Aubrey S. Eban or Dr. Nahum Goldmann as speaker on October 17. Thirty signatures to the letter to the President have been obtained to date, and many more are expected as a result of the October 17 meeting. The ACPC is opposed to using this statement as an advertisement, but intends to send it to the Christian press and the general press as a news item. Mr. Epstein suggested that it also be sent to ministers to be read from the pulpit. The next issue of Palestine will be the last to appear under the auspices of the American Zionist Council. After that, it will be an organ of the ACPC.



Community meetings are being held throughout the country beginning next week. With regard to a meeting in New York City, it was decided to hold it on November 2 in Manhattan Center. Mr. Lipsky was trying to arrange for the General who had defended Jerusalem to be present on this occasion. In addition, the Chairman suggested the following speakers: Aubrey S. Eban, Dr. Nahum Goldmann and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver. It was decided to add to this list Dr. J. B. Soloveichik of Boston, a Yiddish speaker; Mrs. Rose Halprin, a woman; and Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, a Christian. Arrangements for the meeting were left in the hands of a committee of the four officers.

A prolonged discussion of the Lehman-Dulles contest for Senator was held. It was suggested that if the Council were to receive a request for a statement of Dulles' record of activities on behalf of Israel, it would be proper and fitting for the Council to reply and, at the same time, state Lehman's record as well. Several parties withheld their consent to this plan, pending advice from their co-representatives on the Council. Mr. Tyberg stated his opposition to any statement on behalf of Mr. Dulles.

In response to a query by Mr. Segal regarding the suggested debate in Congress, the Chairman replied that the Israeli Delegation to the United Nations had advised against holding such a debate at this time.

It was decided to postpone until the next meeting of the Executive Committee consideration of plans for a conference of Zionist leaders and a program of action for the November 29 meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 P.M.

L.L.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 27, 1949

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, October 27, 1949 at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Benjamin G. Browdy, Pinchas Cruso, Beinish Enstein, Mrs. Judith Epstein, Paul Goldman, Rabbi Max Kirshblum.

Harry Torczyner, Yehuda Tubin.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - - -

The Chairman called upon Mr. Hyman Schulson, who had requested a hearing before the Executive Committee in connection with the severance of his services from the Washington office, to state his case.

A full discussion followed Mr. Schulson's presentation, whereupon it was unanimously decided that, although the Executive believes that the procedure adopted with regard to Mr. Schulson's severance should have taken into account the importance of having a personal conversation with him prior to sending him the letter of notice of severance, nevertheless the Executive Committee approves the action of the officers, with the recommendation that the period of notice be extended two weeks to November 11, 1949, and that, should the reorganization of the Council make it possible, the use of Mr. Schulson's services would be considered without prejudice.

Mr. Lipsky raised a question with regard to unilateral action by the Zionist Organization of America in running district-sponsored meetings on Jerusalem throughout the country in communities where we have local committees, thereby frustrating the attempts of our own committees to hold mass meetings on Jerusalem. It was decided to send a letter to the ZOA requesting the cooperation of the national office with the American Zionist Council in running these meetings.

A discussion was held on the matter of unilateral political action by a Zionist party, arising out of the statement by the president of the ZOA in connection with the New York Senatorial campaign.

Rabbi Unger reported on plans for the November 2nd meeting at Manhattan Center. In addition to the speakers announced at last week's meeting, we now have Berl Locker. Cantor Kusevitsky will be our soloist. Arrangements are being made for an outdoor overflow. Radio time has been procured over WMCA.

In connection with the proposed advertisement on the Jerusalem issue to be inserted in the press over the signature of the Council, it was decided to send copies of the text to the members of the Executive for their approval.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

L.L.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

November 10, 1949

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, November 10, 1949 at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Benjamin G. Browdy, Pinchas Cruso, Paul Goldman, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Louis Segal, Yehuda Tubin.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - - -

Rabbi Unger reported on the activities of the Council: the November 2nd meeting at Manhattan Center, from all reports, was very successful; 70 meetings have been scheduled in 46 communities throughout the United States, outside the metropolitan area; 67 communities have reorganized their local councils, all of which are increasingly active and alert; a considerable amount of literature has been distributed, including Palestine which goes to a mailing list of 30,000; material on the Arab refugee question is in work now and will be ready for publication as soon as the timing and distribution is determined by a newly-organized planning board; and a delegation has visited the State Department with reference to the Iraqi problem.

Rabbi Kirshblum and Mr. Segal complimented the personnel of the Council for having staged a fine meeting.

Mr. Segal suggested: 1) that better cooperation be sought between the Public Relations Department of the Council and those of other Jewish organizations so that publicity releases would not interfere with each other; and 2) that some activity be initiated vis-a-vis the American Delegation to the United Nations as well as the State Department, with regard to the approaching UN debate on Jerusalem. Perhaps radio commentators could be enlisted to make favorable comment on our behalf.

Mr. Cruso called attention to reports from several communities that the local chapters of the Zionist Organization of America were not cooperating with our local Councils on the Jerusalem meetings. Rabbi Unger pointed out that the controversies in most of these communities had already been satisfactorily settled.

Mr. Lipsky noted that the letter on Jerusalem published by The Nation magazine and signed by fifteen leading American personalities, had made a deep impression in United Nations circles.

Mr. Goldman's suggestion that Mr. Sharett be invited to a meeting of the Plenum of the Council during his forthcoming visit to this country, was unanimously adopted.

(more)



With regard to the American Christian Palestine Committee, Rabbi Unger reported: 1) that with its next issue, the publication Palestine will no longer bear our imprimatur, but that of the ACPC; 2) that plans for the Easter Study Tour envisage an Easter broadcast to America from Bethlehem or Nazareth by either of its potential leaders, Dr. Daniel A. Poling or Dr. Ralph Sockman; 3) that an event in connection with the Christian-signed statement on Jerusalem is going to be staged at the United Nations by Dr. Voss and Mr. Baehr next week; and 4) that a series of West Coast seminars would cost approximately \$5,000. It was unanimously decided to approve plans for seminars in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle in January 1950.

An informal discussion on the proposals of Mr. Baruch Zuckerman with regard to the organization of a territorial union took place. It was agreed that the plan should be the special order of business at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 P.M.

L.L.





AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

December 8, 1949

A meeting of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, December 8, 1949 at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Benjamin G. Browdy, Beinish Epstein, Mrs. Elliot F. Glassberg, Dr. H. Raphael Gold, Paul Goldman, Mrs. Israel Goldstein, Mrs. Samuel Goldstein, Mrs. Benjamin Gottesman, Mrs. David B. Greenberg, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Dr. S. Margoshes, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Abraham A. Redelheim, Avraham Schenker, Marie Syrkin, Harry Torczyner, Yehuda Tubin, Yehuda Tyberg, Baruch Zuckerman.

Chaim Brand, Dr. Pinchas Churgin, H. Ehrenreich, Shmuel Haber, Mordechai Katz, Jeannette Leibel, Mrs. Rae Levitt, Dr. Sidney Marks, Mrs. Nathan D. Perlman, Amram Rubin, Dr. David Shecket, Milton Silberman, Jacques Torczyner, Mrs. Abraham Tulin, Shaul Weinberg, Mrs. Albert L. Wigor.

Beatrice Cohen, Arnold K. Isreeli, William D. Kaufman, Mrs. Blanche J. Shepard, Harry Steinberg, Rabbi Jerome Unger.

REPORT BY RABBI UNGER ON RECENT ACTIVITIES

Internal Organization. The Executive and Finance Committees have been holding regular meetings. The three chief subcommittees -- liaison with the American Christian Palestine Committee, headed by Mrs. Epstein; liaison with the American Association for the United Nations, headed by Mrs. Greenberg; and the subcommittee on finance for union matters -- have all been functioning effectively in their respective fields. Certain economies have been introduced, primarily in matters of rent, and in clerical and other staff retrenchments.

Community Organization. Thus far, 80 communities have reorganized their local councils, and appointed officers and subcommittees, all of which have been helpful in the present emergency on Jerusalem. In all, we have 392 active local committees. Personal visits have been made by Mr. Lipsky, Beinish Epstein, Sulamith Schwartz, Arnold Isreeli, Morris Margulies and Rabbi Unger to several communities in order to assist them in reorganizing, stimulate their activities, and guide their development.

Under the direction of Mr. Isreeli and Rabbi Unger, we are developing the local councils in the New York metropolitan area, bringing them into closer relationship with our own office, and extending to them aids in servicing and in general functioning.

External Organization. Excellent contacts have been made with a number of national Jewish organizations, in addition to The Nation Associates and the

(more)



American Association for the United Nations, and we have been cooperating with them on various matters. There has been recently organized, under Rabbi Unger's chairmanship, a Planning Committee for the exchange of information and the coordination of efforts among several organizations operating in the field of public relations on behalf of Israel. There has been fine cooperation from the seven constituent organizations of this Council. A trade union council for Israel is still in the process of study and organization by Arnold Isreeli. Good press and radio contacts are continuing to be made by William Kaufman.

Jerusalem. The Council cooperates with the Israeli Government so that there is a unified position at all times. However, it has been difficult to keep our communities from instituting mass pressure when our instructions called on them to refrain from taking such steps. Our campaign began during the High Holy Days with the mobilization of rabbinical and synagogue support. The Union of American Hebrew Congregations passed a resolution on Jerusalem through our efforts. The Jewish chaplains serving the northeastern area, in conference in New York, sent individual messages to the State Department. The New York Board of Rabbis has been continuing its efforts on this question. Letters and telegrams have also gone out from the National Women's League of United Synagogues and the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods.

An extensive network of political contacts was called upon to use its influence with the State Department and the President on three separate occasions. We have also been in contact with some of the most important liberal and progressive labor groups in the country.

There has been widespread distribution of the best material on Jerusalem, including the Jewish Frontier's issue on the subject, our last issue of Palestine, numerous reprints of editorials and other articles. The ACPC statement on Jerusalem has now appeared in innumerable newspapers as a letter to the editor. At the United Nations it was circulated to all the delegates. The American Association for the United Nations, through the activity of Mrs. Greenberg, is in the process of issuing a statement on this subject.

In New York City on November 2nd we held a mass meeting at Manhattan Center which received a good response. In addition to this meeting there were several others in the metropolitan area, including that of the Young Zionist Actions Committee on December 6th at Congregation B'nai Jeshurun. All together, 87 meetings on Jerusalem have been held throughout the country, all of which passed resolutions which were forwarded to the President and the State Department, and then taken in person to Congressional representatives who were in their home districts at the time.

On December 2nd a mass campaign was initiated. The report this morning from all over the country is that from half a million to 600,000 letters, wires and cards have gone out from Jews and Christians to the United States Delegation to the UN, the State Department and the President.

Miscellaneous. On the subject of Arab refugees, there is a good deal of material in preparation, but its distribution has been deferred because of the Planning Committee's judgment that there is no need for it at present. A number of national Jewish organizations are meeting on the Iraqi problem. Eliahu Ben-Horin has obtained some interesting and valuable reports from eye-witnesses in

(more)



Iraq, which have been forwarded to interested parties in our Government. An exchange of correspondence between the Middle East Journal and Mr. Ben-Horin concerning a damaging article printed therein by Musa Alami has been given widespread circulation. Because of the American Council for Judaism's increased activities, we are planning to send the contrasting statements of Dorothy Thompson -- one made in our behalf in 1943 and her recent address before the American Council for Judaism -- to the entire membership of that organization.

American Christian Palestine Committee. Under the supervision of Harry Steinberg, the reorganization and extension of the ACPC activities have continued apace. Its participation in the Jerusalem campaign has been active and most valuable. There have been many articles and letters to the editors printed throughout the country, as well as some fine radio broadcasts, particularly the regular Sunday programs carried by Station WLIB and produced by the ACPC, with Dr. Carl Hermann Voss as moderator. Through the efforts of Mrs. Blanche Shepard's Club Program Service, Dr. Voss and two other active ACPC members effectively presented our point of view on a televised program, "Should Jerusalem Be Internationalized?". The magazine Palestine will from now on be published under the auspices of the American Christian Palestine Committee, instead of the Council, and will be renamed. Three seminars -- in Worcester, Fall River and Elmira -- have been held, reporting on last spring's Study Tour to Israel. There will be several more seminars in the Eastern states and on the West Coast during the next few months. A pamphlet containing a full report on last year's Study Tour is almost ready for distribution. The forthcoming Easter Study Tour under the leadership of Dr. Daniel Poling is in preparation. In January an important meeting will be held between some of the leaders of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ and the ACPC to interest key Christians in our work.

#### REPORT BY MR. BROWDY ON FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Browdy stated that the Finance Committee had been discussing labor negotiations and additional retrenchment among other matters, but had not reached any definite conclusions. Therefore, a fuller report would be made at a later date. In the meantime, another meeting of the Committee will be held next week and consultations with the Agency, the source of our funds, will continue.

Mr. Goldman called attention to the dilemma with which the Committee was faced -- that of making economies without knowing what the Council's pattern of operation would be.

In this connection, Rabbi Kirshblum stated that the problem before us is whether to first decide on a modus operandi and then ask for the money necessary to carry it out, or to determine our budget and then set our pattern accordingly.

#### DISCUSSION

Mr. Lipsky set the stage for a discussion of Mr. Zuckerman's proposals for widening the base of the Council by reviewing the steps which led to the preparation of Mr. Zuckerman's memorandum. At its last meeting, the Chairman stated, the Executive Committee engaged in a discussion of the subject, during which it became apparent that there are certain areas of agreement as to the

(more)



unification of activities of the Zionist organizations in the United States. Thereupon, the Chairman was requested by a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee to present at this meeting of the Plenum a statement or resolution setting forth the positive aspects of the plan, on which there seemed to be promise of agreement.

Inextricably intertwined with this subject of a future program is the question of budget, of course. Mr. Lipsky suggested that action first be taken with regard to an extended program. After agreement in principle is reached on that, then the matter of funds may be discussed.

In accordance with the aforementioned request by the Executive Committee, the following resolution was being proposed:

It is desirable that the base of the Council's work be expanded to include, in addition to its political and public relations activities, other fields of Zionist endeavor, the exact nature of which is to be determined. Among the fields to be included, it is suggested, might be the combatting of anti-Israel and anti-Zionist sentiment in the United States; the organization and unification of the American Jewish community; Chalutzith; Zionist education; and such other activities as may be regarded as vital to the welfare and growth of the Zionist movement in the United States.

The Plenary Session of the Council requests all Zionist parties affiliated with it to consider the question of the Council's expanded activities at a meeting of their separate organizations not later than sixty days from this date. When the consent of these participating organizations is secured to this proposal, the matter of the Council's new activities and duties will be referred to the Executive Committee of the Council for implementation, it being understood that the budget of the Council for its expanded program will have to be met in part by the Jewish Agency and in part by the participating Zionist organizations.

After a lengthy discussion, during which Mr. Lipsky explained that an affirmative vote for this resolution was not an endorsement of the particular items proposed, but merely a vote to refer the entire program to the constituent organizations for approval, Mr. Zuckerman moved that the resolution which Mr. Lipsky had presented be referred to the national organizations for their consideration within sixty days. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Mrs. Halprin remarked that as a member of the Finance Committee of the Jewish Agency, she would warn against first accepting a plan of action and then asking for the money with which to implement it. Referring to a suggestion by Dr. Gold that money be raised locally, Mrs. Halprin stated that for the past year a fight has been waged against multiplicity of campaigns, and therefore, she would consider it grossly impractical for the Council to solicit funds from the communities. Instead, she concurred with Mr. Lipsky's proposal that part of the money should come from the Agency and part from the constituent organizations of the Council.

Mr. Lipsky agreed that the Agency should endeavor to the best of its abilities to reduce unnecessary expenses which would involve the reduction

(more)



of the budget of the Council. He emphasized, however, that if the general rule of economy is to be applied, the Council should not be singled out for an austerity program when the other organizations helped by the Agency are left alone.

Mr. Tyberg suggested that a resolution on Jerusalem be adopted and it was thereupon agreed that a resolution should be drafted commending the U. S. Delegation to the United Nations on its stand on the Australian proposal to internationalize Jerusalem, and urging it to use its influence to the end that the UN might adopt a plan acceptable to the State of Israel.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

L.L.





AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

December 15, 1949

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, December 15, 1949 at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Benjamin G. Browdy, Beinish Epstein, Dr. Berl Frymer, Mrs. David B. Greenberg, Louis Segal, Yehuda Tubin, Yehuda Tyberg.

Harry Torczyner.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - - -

Rabbi Unger reported on activities: A telegram was sent to Warren Austin commending the United States Delegation to the United Nations for its stand on the Australian resolution, and urging it to use its influence to the end that the UN might adopt a plan acceptable to Israel; a cable to David Ben-Gurion expressed the solidarity of the American Zionist movement with the people of Israel on the incorporation of Jerusalem into their State; copies of both messages were sent to the local chairmen, as well as Max Lerner's column, "The Shame of Jerusalem", an editorial from the Herald-Tribune, Ben-Gurion's address to the Knesseth, and a reprint of Lillie Shultz' article in The Nation entitled "The Jerusalem Story"; the Planning Committee met yesterday and heard an analysis of the political situation by Aubrey Eban; a handbook on Jerusalem, including editorial comment favorable to our position and excerpts from speeches by Moshe Sharett, Aubrey Eban and Carl Hermann Voss, is in preparation; Miss Shultz' article is being translated for the Yiddish press. Other items planned are: a memorandum containing a political analysis of the Jerusalem situation; letters to the New York Times and Herald-Tribune, signed by groups of individuals; the placing of articles in national magazines for their spring issues, at which time the subject of Jerusalem is expected to again arise.

Mr. Epstein raised the question of the relationship between the Jewish Agency and the Council, which precipitated a lengthy discussion on the matter, during which Mr. Lipsky explained the position of the Council vis-a-vis the Agency. While we are acting in accordance with suggestions made by the established authorities, they, in turn, seem reluctant to accept any suggestions from us because they are subject to advices from the home territory. He further noted that while the Council is supposed to be operating in the territory of the United States, its jurisdiction is in fact being violated by all authorities. In addition, there are the budgetary difficulties. It is proposed to reduce our budget from \$30,000 to \$23,000 per month.



Mr. Segal suggested a joint meeting of the Agency and the Council executive bodies for a frank discussion of these problems. Accordingly it was decided that, in view of the unsatisfactory relationship between the Council, the Agency and the Government of Israel with regard to public relations on the American scene, a meeting with the Agency Executive be requested in order to establish in definite terms the program of both organizations on the American scene.

With regard to our activities in the immediate future, Mr. Segal suggested that we keep the Jerusalem issue alive during the next few months in some dramatic fashion. Mr. Lipsky stressed that our activity from now on should be directed at strengthening the hand of Ben-Gurion in his decision to move the seat of the Government to Jerusalem. In this connection, Mr. Segal proposed that we stage a public meeting in New York on the day that the Knesseth is scheduled to reconvene in Jerusalem to express our solidarity with the Government of Israel on its action. Mrs. Greenberg pointed out that on December 19 Israel would celebrate the in-gathering of the exiles and the arrival of the one-millionth Jew, and suggested instead that that theme -- the rededication of Jerusalem -- be employed for our proposed demonstration. Mr. Tyberg joined Mrs. Greenberg in opposition to a celebration of the opening of the Knesseth in Jerusalem, since, he stated, the Government of Israel itself is presenting this act to the world as a matter of routine, rather than as a political celebration.

Mr. Segal put his suggestion in the form of a motion, and it was thereupon decided by a vote of 5 in favor, 2 opposed and 1 abstaining, that a meeting in New York be held on the day the Knesseth convenes in Jerusalem.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 P.M.

L.L.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

December 29, 1949

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, December 29, 1949 at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Benjamin G. Browdy, Pinchas Cruso, Beinish Epstein (arrived at very end of meeting), Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Paul Goldman, Mrs. David B. Greenberg, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Yehuda Tubin.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - - -

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Rabbi Unger reported the financial arrangement completed with the American Section of the Jewish Agency on December 20, 1949, whereby the Council is to receive a monthly allocation which comes from shekel receipts from the various American Zionist parties. The American Section of the Jewish Agency is the recipient and transfer agent of such shekel funds which are earmarked for this purpose by the various parties.

The Finance Committee reported that at its meeting on December 22, 1949, it had adopted the following resolution (Cruso, Browdy, Glassberg - for; none opposed; Kirshblum abstaining; Goldman abstaining on Eliahu Ben-Horin, approving rest) and is hereby submitting it to the Executive Committee for approval:

In order to accomplish the new purposes of the proposed expanded and revised activities of the American Zionist Council, and in view of the reduced budget, definite staff reorganization requires:

1. The severance of Mr. Eliahu Ben-Horin, adviser on Middle East Affairs. His knowledge, abilities, contacts, and resources are invaluable but these same services are already available to the American Zionist Council at no cost through the American Section of the Jewish Agency which has assumed responsibility for these activities and whose present staff of research men, writers, and publicists are engaged in and available to us for these purposes.

2. Maximum efficiency and economy in our Press and Information Department through a) the severance of Mr. William Kaufman, its present director; and b) the appointment of Mr. Arnold K. Isreeli, whose present duties as Yiddish Press Director will be thus expanded and will also include the newly established service of direct contacts with local councils in the metropolitan area of New York; and c) the hiring of a qualified secretary-assistant to Mr. Isreeli.



3. Stringent economy in office management. Whereas it was highly useful for a larger staff, the position of office manager or co-ordinator is no longer necessary and can be replaced by an assistant to the executive director. Therefore, either a) Miss Beatrice Cohen will remain in this new status at a reduced salary; or b) Miss Cohen will be severed and the position filled by Mr. Harry Steinberg in addition to his present duties as American Christian Palestine Committee liaison and director of special events.

4. This reorganization will result in savings bringing our monthly budget down to approximately the allocation figure.

Mr. Browdy moved approval and Mr. Cruso seconded the motion. There ensued a lengthy discussion. (Details and figures on foregoing are on file.)

Rabbi Kirshblum explained his abstention on the vote in the Finance Committee by stating that this is no way of solving our problems; "we should first find out what we are going to do before voting any cuts or economies. We may by our action solve the Agency's problems, but not ours." He added that it is especially a mistake to dispense with the director of English publicity.

Mrs. Epstein stated that Rabbi Kirshblum's idea of first setting a complete plan is unrealistic. In the light of the present situation, she added, there is no longer a need for Mr. Ben-Horin's services; on the question of Miss Cohen, we are certainly justified; in Mr. Kaufman's case there may be some doubt.

Mr. Goldman explained his vote in the Finance Committee, where he abstained on Mr. Ben-Horin but voted for the other economies, by stating that, in general, he agreed with Rabbi Kirshblum.

Mr. Lipsky said: "We are not cutting out departments, but 1) recognizing the situation whereby we receive the same services without cost by utilizing the facilities of the Agency, which we would be duplicating by retaining Mr. Ben-Horin; 2) reorganizing other departments on a more efficient and economical basis."

Mr. Cruso favored the plan and added that even if the Agency did not ask for these economies, we should do this ourselves and cut away all unnecessary expenses.

Vote: For plan - Messrs. Lipsky, Browdy and Cruso, Mesdames Epstein and Greenberg. Abstaining - Rabbi Kirshblum. Abstaining on Ben-Horin but approving the rest - Mr. Goldman. Abstaining on all but Ben-Horin, but approving the Ben-Horin measure - Mr. Tubin. Arrived after vote - B. Epstein.

The Finance Committee reported that at its meeting on December 22, 1949 it adopted the following resolutions, and is hereby submitting them to the Executive Committee for approval.

1. Because of the reduced allocation and budget, the American Zionist Council is in no position to grant any wage increases as sought by the Union.



Recognizing the desirability, however, of social benefits, it agrees to the payment of unemployment insurance, hospitalization, and social security (when, as and if the last benefit becomes a statute). Unanimously adopted.

2. In the matter of Dr. Voss' request for an additional monthly retainer because of greatly increased activities requiring two-thirds of his time, a decision was reached. (Details are on file.)

3. In the matter of Mr. Baehr's income adjustment because of the question of a taxable item, a decision was reached. (Details are on file.)

All the foregoing resolutions of the Finance Committee were unanimously approved by the Executive Committee.

Mrs. Epstein raised the question of American Christian Palestine Committee activities in connection with the forthcoming West Coast seminars. All decisions were left to Mrs. Epstein and Rabbi Unger.

Mrs. Epstein recommended the production of literature on the Arab question especially referring to their alleged displacement. It was planned to confer with the Israeli officials toward the issuing of a bulletin or article on this subject. She also said we should stress in our releases that the United Nations resolution would fall of its own weight even if Israel and Jordan cooperated.

There was a long discussion on relations between the Council and the Agency. Mr. Lipsky said that we do not challenge the Agency but that cordial relationships exist. The whole issue of autonomy will come before the next Congress. Mrs. Greenberg said that there is no need to wait for the Congress to discuss this. We should stick to the idea of expanding our field of activities rather than forming a territorial union because the latter involves the whole question of membership and possibly financial contributions of the parties. Mr. Cruso said that there is no need now to negotiate with the Agency on this issue because the Congress will decide. We should fight for the Council program at the Congress. We can do many things much better than the Agency. Mr. Lipsky described our effort to expand our present 392 community contacts and discussed our cooperative activities with the American Christian Palestine Committee and The Nation Associates. He pointed to the need to publish a Zionist organ here, merging the present Agency publications in Jerusalem such as Zion, Zionist News Letter, Agency Digest.

Rabbi Kirshblum suggested that we address a letter to Dr. Goldmann in Jerusalem in time for the Agency meeting on January 12, stating our acceptance of a cut in a spirit of general cooperation, but expressing great resistance to the Agency's strait-jacket approach to the American Zionist Council. Mrs. Epstein said we should tell Dr. Goldmann rather that we view with concern the future on a hand-to-mouth basis. Rabbi Kirshblum agreed with Mrs. Epstein. Mr. Goldman agreed with Mrs. Epstein also. He felt that Mr. Lipsky should go to Jerusalem for the meeting and in behalf of American Zionists, should invite the Actions Committee to meet in the United States.

Mr. Tubin labelled the whole discussion as unrealistic.

Mr. Lipsky said he would tell Dr. Goldmann that it is his business to see to it that the Council should have more than just public relations functions; its program should be expanded.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

J. U.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

January 5, 1950

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, January 5, 1950 at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Benjamin G. Browdy, Beinish Epstein, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Paul Goldman, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Louis Segal, Yehuda Tubin.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - - -

Mr. Lipsky announced that Land Reborn would be the name of the American Christian Palestine Committee publication, formerly entitled Palestine, and it would be designed to more effectively fulfil the needs of that Committee.

With regard to the activities of the American Christian Palestine Committee, Rabbi Unger reported that at present there are six prominent Christians in Jerusalem on a special fact-finding mission, as holders of travel fellowships of the ACPC: Dr. Samuel Guy Inman, Dr. Charles J. Turck, Mrs. M. E. Tilley, Dr. John W. Bradbury, Dr. Victor Oberhaus and Dr. Ralph W. Riley, a Negro whose participation was affording an opportunity to enter a field hitherto untouched by us. Their mission will be utilized upon their return by a press conference timed to coincide with the meeting of the Trusteeship Council in Geneva.

Several West Coast seminars are in the process of organization, as well as seminars in Dayton, Columbus, Philadelphia and possibly Harrisburg, in addition to the one scheduled in New York later this season.

Regarding activities of the Council, the Planning Committee requested some time ago the production of a pamphlet to furnish American political leaders, institutions, liberals, commentators, churchmen, editors, ACPC leaders, lecturers, Zionist chairmen, members of Congress, libraries, universities, UN delegations, etc. with a Handbook on Jerusalem to which they can readily refer whenever the Jerusalem issue comes before them. Such a pamphlet -- entitled Jerusalem Before The United Nations -- is now in production and will cover all phases of the Jerusalem issue. About 30,000 copies will be required, the cost of which the Agency will be requested to meet.

Through the cooperation of Hadassah and the Zionist Organization of America there have been located 253 communities to which our organization can be extended. These, plus the 392 already-existent activized local committees, will make a total of 645 geographical points throughout the country where our local committees will be operating.



Mr. Lipsky stated that the Jerusalem question had elicited a greater reaction from small points in the country with which we were never in contact than any other issue.

Rabbi Kirshblum extolled the performance by Carl Hermann Voss on the January 1st broadcast and telecast of "American Forum of the Air", during which he made a magnificent defense of our position in the Jerusalem matter.

Mr. Lipsky remarked that he would be able to report fully at the next meeting of the Executive on his negotiations to obtain the services of someone who would handle the work of our Washington office on a retainer basis.

A discussion arose as to the task confronting the Council in the immediate days ahead. Mr. Segal suggested that before taking any steps which would lead to the reopening of the Jerusalem question at the United Nations, much educational work remained to be done. There was agreement that our educational program must be expanded and intensified.

A discussion took place very much in the same vein as recorded in the minutes of the previous meeting with regard to the relationship between the Council and the Jewish Agency. Mr. Lipsky suggested sending a letter to Mr. Locker proposing that all English-language publications of the Agency be published in this country under the auspices of the Council and with the assistance of the Agency, instead of being published in Jerusalem and then distributed in this country.

Rabbi Kirshblum stated that if and when the parties agree to a territorial union of some kind, then a publication which will speak for all American Zionist parties may be required. Perhaps consideration of the matter should be delayed until that time.

Mr. Segal also felt that the organizational structure of the Council should first be definitely determined before embarking in new directions.

Mr. Lipsky stated that the only way to achieve order in this situation as between the Council and the Agency is by recognizing authority where it exists and contesting it with the proper authorities only if it violates order.

It was agreed to postpone action in this regard.

Reconsideration of the present \$25,000 monthly budget (with about one-half for the American Christian Palestine Committee), it was felt, must wait upon the parties' consideration of and action upon the plan for widening the activities of the Council.

It was decided to cancel the Executive Committee meeting for next Thursday because Mr. Lipsky would be in Boston for the New England Zionist Council conference on that day, and for other reasons.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

L. L.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

January 19, 1950

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, January 19, 1950 at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Benjamin G. Browdy, Beinish Epstein, Mrs. David Greenberg, Yehuda Tubin.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - - -

Mr. Epstein announced approval by his party, the Zionists-Revisionists of America, of the plan for widening the activities of the American Zionist Council. (Previous approval by the Mizrahi Organization of America and the Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion makes a total of three parties which have approved the plan.) Mrs. Greenberg stated that the National Board of Hadassah would consider the plan at its next meeting, February 14-16, on Mrs. Halprin's return from Israel. By general consent, the date for consideration set for sixty days from December 8th was extended to include the aforementioned Hadassah meeting.

Mr. Lipsky reported on his effort to obtain the services of Colonel Bernard Bernstein for our Washington office, and the failure to obtain the consent of B'nai B'rith whom he now represents. Some discussion ensued about using a Congressional committee or a Congressman for contacts.

Rabbi Unger reported the recommendations of the Finance Committee adopted at its meeting on January 16, 1950:

1) With reference to Miss Cohen, it was recommended that a compromise salary be reached, if possible. This was unanimously adopted by the Executive Committee. (Details on file).

2) With regard to Mr. Kaufman's request for additional severance compensation based on the computation of his service from January 1 preceding the December 15, 1945 date of his employment by the Council because of Army service, the Finance Committee recommended that the Council could compute severance only from the date of employment. Unanimously adopted.

3) With regard to Mr. Ben-Horin, it was recommended that three months' notice be granted in addition to severance, and that he be relieved of his duties immediately. Four in favor and one abstention. (Details on file.)

4) With regard to union negotiations, the Finance Committee could not recommend acceptance of the 9.2% increase request (including wage increases and

(more)



social benefits) but offered 4.6% as a wage increase or social benefits, with management retaining the right of decision on apportionment of wage increases. Minimum wage standards are still under study. The Executive Committee unanimously approved the position of the Finance Committee and the recommendations of the Executive Director.

Rabbi Unger reported on the meeting of the Planning Committee held on January 18, 1950 which discussed the questions of Jerusalem, Arab refugees, and Arab re-armament, and reported their recommendations to the Executive Committee for action by the American Zionist Council. A discussion resulted in the decision to carry out several steps in each case.

Rabbi Unger's report on American Christian Palestine Committee activities included the West Coast seminars, Land Reborn, and the Fact-Finding Mission.

Mrs. Greenberg reported various activities of the American Council for Judaism. It was agreed that action against them is one of the proposals in the plan for widening the base of the Council program, and must await party acceptance. In the meanwhile, some educational work to counteract their effect could be done.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 P.M.





AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

February 2, 1950

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, February 2, 1950 at 3:00 P.M. at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Benjamin G. Browdy, Beinesh Epstein, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Paul Goldman, Rabbi Henry P. Rubins, Yehuda Tubin.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - -

Rabbi Unger reported on the activities of the Council and of the American Christian Palestine Committee: a memorandum to the local chairmen was sent out, asking for specific actions to be taken on the Arab rearmament question, as well as a reprint of Christian opinion on the Jerusalem matter; three successful ACPC seminars on the West Coast were held recently, each of which had an attendance of approximately 100 Christians prominent in their respective communities; the first edition of "Land Reborn" elicited interesting and favorable comment, particularly from the West Coast; in response to numerous queries from communities where Dorothy Thompson's article viciously attacking the ACPC-sponsored Fact Finding Mission has appeared, we sent to our chairmen an analysis of her column, which will serve as background material for letters and editorials; the Negotiating Committee of the clerical staff met with the Finance Committee, and after a lengthy discussion decided to meet again after the members of the American Section of the Jewish Agency return from their Jerusalem meeting, so that there might be a more realistic basis for continued negotiations. In the meantime, the situation will remain in suspension.

Rabbi Unger's remarks concerning Dorothy Thompson's article provoked a discussion of the Council's role vis-a-vis the activities of the American Council for Judaism. Mrs. Epstein disclaimed the notion that attacking the American Council for Judaism was outside the jurisdiction of the American Zionist Council until approval should be granted by the constituent organizations, and demanded that there be a ruling on the matter. Thereupon, she made the motion that all matters concerning the American Council for Judaism be incorporated into the activities of the American Zionist Council. The motion was unanimously accepted.

With regard to the Arab rearmament question, Mr. Lipsky stated that it was our intention to submit to Secretary of State Acheson a memorandum carefully documenting the manner in which the Arab states are being rearmed. However, the method by which the memorandum should be presented remained to be decided. Mr. Goldman suggested that it be presented to the Secretary in person by the representatives of the Council. In addition, he proposed, a meeting of representatives from all national Jewish organizations should be convened to discuss the problem.



Mr. Epstein felt that the above-mentioned steps should be part of an over-all campaign, rather than separate steps. A press conference might be held after a meeting with Secretary Acheson, not only for the purpose of reporting on the meeting, but to initiate a campaign. Congressmen and Senators should be urged to speak out on the floors of the House and Senate.

Further discussion on the procedure to be followed resulted in agreement to request an interview with Secretary Acheson and hold a press conference. If these steps produce a negative reaction, the aforementioned conference of national Jewish organizations should be convoked.

With regard to Jerusalem, Mr. Lipsky stated that a letter would be sent to the local chairmen, suggesting that they urge President Truman to take action immediately; that the longer a Jerusalem solution is delayed, the more complicated the problem will become.

With reference to a celebration of the second anniversary of the State of Israel, previously agreed by the Council to be held on the Hebrew date, Rabbi Unger reported on his survey of available meeting places. It was suggested that a supper meeting, with a radio show emanating from our meeting place, might take the place of the usual mass meeting. Thereupon, it was agreed that plans should proceed for a buffet supper at the Astor Hotel on Sunday night, April 23.

Rabbi Unger reported that the Israeli Consulate had called his attention to the celebration at Madison Square Garden scheduled for May 13th by a group calling itself the Committee for the Celebration of the Second Anniversary of the State of Israel, and had noted that this group falsely claims to have official sponsorship. The Israel Government was taking steps to have the Israeli seal removed from their stationery, and suggested that the Council issue a statement denouncing the venture and exposing the forces behind it. After a discussion, it was decided that a letter should be sent to our local chairmen, clarifying the subject.

Mrs. Epstein suggested, on behalf of Mrs. Greenberg, that Dean Harry Carman and Clark Eichelberger be given favorable consideration when the ACPC Easter Study Tour to Israel will be organized.

Rabbi Unger reminded the Executive that only three parties had thus far approved the plan for widening the base of activities of the Council, and that the final date for consideration had been extended to February 16th in order to permit its consideration by Hadassah's executive body.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 P.M.

L.L.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

February 9, 1950

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, February 9, 1950 at 3:00 P.M. at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Benjamin G. Browdy, Beinesh Epstein, Mrs. Benjamin Gottesman, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Louis Segal, Yehuda Tyberg.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - - -

Mr. Lipsky reported on the two-pronged operation currently engaged in by the Council concerning Jerusalem and Arab rearmament. With regard to the latter, a memorandum containing a complaint and a suggestion of action by the United States Government has been prepared with the assistance of the Israeli Consulate. It had been decided at the last meeting of the Executive Committee that a meeting of the officers of the Council with Secretary of State Acheson be requested to discuss the matter of Arab rearmament, followed by a press conference. Copies of the proposed memorandum to the State Department were distributed by the Chairman and its text approved.

The next step in our campaign against the rearmament by Great Britain of the Arab states, Mr. Lipsky indicated, will be a discussion on the floor of Congress.

With regard to the Jerusalem problem, the communities have been urged to communicate with their Congressmen, as well as to make known to the White House and Secretary of State directly their position in favor of a guardianship over the Holy Places, rather than the internationalization of the Holy City. Rabbi Unger added that a large number of key individuals had been contacted in the last few days and many of them, including important Christians, had personally contacted the White House with a view towards achieving favorable consideration of a guardianship plan by the United States delegation at Geneva.

Mr. Lipsky stated that negotiations to retain Philip Levy in our Washington office would be completed probably the next day.

Rabbi Unger called attention to the slow progress being made with regard to the resolution before the parties on widening the base of the Council's activities. Only Mizrachi, Poale Zion and the Revisionists have thus far approved the resolution. Hadassah has it on its agenda next week and the ZOA intends to postpone its consideration until Mr. Frisch recovers from his illness. Achdut Avodah and Hashomer Hatzair have not responded at all. Thereupon, Mr. Tyberg



stated that his party, Achdut Avodah, would discuss the resolution at a meeting next week.

Rabbi Unger remarked that reports about the three West Coast seminars have been extraordinarily good, and stressed the importance of such activities in combatting Arab propaganda.

After a lengthy discussion of plans for the celebration of the Second Anniversary of the State of Israel, it was decided to dispense with the supper that had been voted at the last meeting because of the expense that would be involved and other difficulties that arise when food is served. It was further agreed that the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the United States be invited to address the gathering, as well as a representative of the Israeli Government. In addition, a radio hour over a Yiddish station would be arranged on the same day as our celebration, but at a different hour, at which time the representatives of each party would have an opportunity to speak.

Rabbi Unger stated that there had been called to his attention by the Consulate the formation by Peter Bergson of an American counterpart to the Israeli organization, the Israel-American Friendship League. This American group is engaged in fund-raising unauthorized by the Israeli organization. The Consulate had requested the Council to issue a statement exposing these illegal activities. It was decided, however, that since this matter involves fund-raising and, therefore, belongs within the province of the Jewish Agency, the Council should refrain from taking the suggested action.

Rabbi Unger noted that an invitation had been extended to the Council by the One World Award Committee to participate in its forthcoming conference in Paris. It was agreed that an expression of sympathy with its aims should be transmitted to the One World Award Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

L.L.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

February 23, 1950

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, February 23, 1950 at 3:00 P.M. at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Benjamin G. Browdy, Beinesh Epstein, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Paul Goldman, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Louis Segal.

Harry Torczyner.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - - -

The Chairman announced that Miss Cohen, who was about to leave her position as office coordinator because of a reduction in salary necessitated by a reduced budget, had decided to remain at a compromise salary in view of our need for her services. With regard to the Washington office, it is hoped that within a couple of weeks arrangements for a staff to direct its operations will have been completed.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding current union negotiations. Rabbi Unger explained that in the midst of negotiations with the staff committee, the UOPWA which represents them was expelled from the CIO because of its consistent adherence to the Communist line. As a result, the Finance Committee was reluctant to continue its negotiations lest we be implicated in dealing with a Communist union. Apart from this, on the wage aspect alone, there have been consultations with other Zionist organizations with a view towards presenting a united front on union demands. It was agreed that the Finance Committee should have full power to continue negotiations, taking into consideration all the factors now operating in the situation. (Details on file.)

Mr. Lipsky reported on the Council's visit to the State Department concerning the Arab rearmament issue. Plans to extend this campaign to the floors of the House of Representatives and Senate have been held in abeyance as a result of information that the Israel Government itself had requested arms from the State Department. Until a reply is received it has been suggested that we suspend action. Mr. Lipsky stated that at his forthcoming meeting with Mr. Elath he would press for a plan of future action. A discussion of possible further steps by the Council provoked a suggestion by Mrs. Epstein that representatives of the Council meet regularly with a subcommittee of the Agency for clearance purposes.

(more)



Mr. Goldman and Mr. Epstein voiced their objections to the fact that, in reporting the Council's mission to the State Department, the Yiddish press had given the impression that the Council consisted of the four major parties only. Rabbi Unger thereupon produced the release in question and demonstrated that pains were taken in its composition to avoid any such misinterpretation, and that the fault lay with the Yiddish press.

With regard to our celebration of the 2nd anniversary of the State of Israel, Mr. Lipsky announced that the Astor Hotel had been engaged for the evening of April 23rd, the official date of the celebration, as confirmed by cable from Israel. Program plans include efforts to obtain as speakers representatives of the American and Israeli governments, as well as of the United Nations. Arrangements are also being made with the Israeli government to have a recording of a speech by Dr. Weizmann directed to the meeting. In addition, there will be an appropriate musical program.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 P.M.

L. L.





WESTERN UNION  
THE WRITTEN RECORD  
NEVER FORGETS

TELEGRAPH *and be sure*

# WESTERN UNION

1201

(46)

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

1950 FEB 24 AM 10 48

TS-CL049 INTL FR=CD PARIS VIA RCA 17 24 1040A=

=RABBI WILVER THE TEMPLE

=HAD GOOD CONVERSATION DAVID OTHERS RETURNING MARCH

FIRST REGARDS=

IRVING MILLER



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

March 30, 1950

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, March 30, 1950 at 3:30 P.M. at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Pinchas Cruso, Beinesh Epstein, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Paul Goldman, Mrs. David Greenberg, Louis Segal.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - -

Rabbi Unger reported on the greatly increased activity in Washington on the question of Arab rearmament. Thirty-six Senators and ninety-three Congressmen have already taken action of one kind or another, such as making speeches of protest on the floors of the House and Senate, visiting the State Department and the President, and writing letters to them. A bi-partisan delegation of thirty-two Congressmen (six others were unable to attend but gave their support) visited Secretary Acheson on March 28. In addition, some of the local councils have sent their own delegations to meet with their Congressional representatives. All of the efforts have resulted in similar answers from the State Department: that it sees no danger in the present situation; that if any trouble should arise, it is prepared to deal with such eventualities; and that, furthermore, arms are now being made available to Israel as well as to the Arab states.

Mr. Lipsky called attention to the fine work being done by Mr. Elihu Stone in Washington in connection with our Congressional campaign. Mr. Goldman noted, however, that an article by Mr. Stone attacking a political party in Israel had appeared in the Yiddish press. He suggested that Mr. Stone's attention be directed towards the indiscretion of engaging in internal Zionist political activity while acting in the capacity of a political representative of the American Zionist Council.

Mrs. Greenberg requested a clarification of policy with regard to our attitude towards the State Department. Mr. Lipsky replied that in accordance with a suggestion proffered by Mr. Elath, Secretary Acheson, because he is under attack from so many other quarters, should not now be attacked by us, but subjected to firm criticism only. Mr. Epstein and Mrs. Greenberg were of the opinion, however, that because the Secretary is now under attack, he would be more vulnerable to our pressure than under ordinary circumstances.

With regard to the American Council for Judaism, our first major step in combatting it, the Chairman announced, is support of an effort in Cincinnati to deflect attention from its annual conference which is scheduled to take place on the anniversary of the celebration of the State of Israel. A series of meetings



addressed by outstanding Christian and Jewish leaders has been arranged to coincide with the aforementioned conference, as part of a city-wide observance of Israel Independence Day, culminating in a city-wide meeting on April 23.

Mrs. Greenberg called attention to a headline of the second issue of the Bulletin, "Counteracting the American Council for Judaism", and expressed her belief that our activity in this connection should be reported in a positive manner in printed material such as the Bulletin, rather than via the abovementioned negative approach, thus effectively concealing our strategy from the public.

Mrs. Epstein felt that because the Bulletin is printed rather than mimeographed its function automatically becomes restricted since printed material, she contended, becomes public property.

Mr. Lipsky traced the background of events which led to the origin of the Bulletin which represents an attempt to evolve an effective method of interesting the local chairmen.

Mr. Lipsky reported that suggestions had been made to convene a national conference of local chairmen in May for the purpose of exchanging information and ideas, etc. A difference of opinion arose as to whether such a meeting should be held in Washington or some other city. It was decided to hold the meeting on Sunday and Monday, May 21 and 22 in Washington unless something should occur to make it advisable to change this.

With regard to the April 23 celebration, Mr. Epstein suggested that the Yiddish papers be permitted to handle the sale of tickets. The whole question of the ticket sale will be expedited.

After a discussion of the fine work engaged in by the American Association for the United Nations, it was decided that we make a gift of \$500 to them.

A discussion of the relation between the Council and the Jewish Agency, and their respective functions took place. (Details on file.)

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

J.U.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

April 17, 1950

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Monday, April 17, 1950 at 3:00 P.M. at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Pinchas Cruso, Dr. Harry Levi, Dr. Sidney Marks, Mrs. Nathan D. Perlman, Avraham Schenker.

Jerome Unger.

- - - - -

Mr. Lipsky stated that the constituent parties, with the exception of the Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion, had not assumed their proper responsibility for the sale of tickets to the Council's Second Anniversary Celebration of the State of Israel, and suggested that the Zionist Organization of America and Hadassah each take 200 tickets.

Mrs. Perlman assured the Chairman that she would carefully follow up on Mrs. Epstein's activities in connection with the sale of tickets by Hadassah.

Dr. Marks, on behalf of the Zionist Organization of America, stated that he had sent out two memoranda on the Council's celebration to his districts.

Mr. Schenker, of Hashomer Hatzair, noted that he had just taken a number of tickets.

The Revisionists, Dr. Levi pointed out, were attempting to avoid hurting the Council's celebration by not publicizing their own affair until after the Council's will have taken place. In addition to selling a few tickets themselves, they have asked their constituents and sympathizers connected with the Yiddish press to make an appeal for attendance at the Council affair.

Mr. Cruso took the Council to task for having permitted the constituent bodies to have arranged individual party celebrations, thereby damaging the prestige of the Council as well as detracting from the historic effect of the occasion, and suggested that in the future our plans be laid well enough in advance to avoid a recurrence of manifold celebrations.

Mr. Cruso moved that if no objections are raised, an open-air mass demonstration be arranged in Madison Square Park within the next two weeks to protest Arab rearmament. The Chairman stated that he would consult with the Israeli Government on this matter.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 P.M.

J.U.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

April 27, 1950

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, April 27, 1950 at 3:00 P.M. at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Pinchas Cruso, Beinesh Epstein, Paul Goldman, Mrs. Benjamin Gottesman, Dr. Sidney Marks, Jacob Marrus, Mrs. Robert Szold.

Elihu D. Stone, Jerome Unger.

- - - - -

A discussion and analysis of the celebration of the second anniversary of the State of Israel took place. The general feeling was that the entire affair could have made a warmer impression.

Rabbi Unger pointed out that invaluable assistance had been received from Bernard Katzen, president of the National Republican Club, in securing a proclamation of Israel Independence Day from Governor Thomas E. Dewey. A similar service was rendered by the Hon. Nathaniel Kaplan who was instrumental in obtaining a proclamation from Mayor William O'Dwyer.

Mr. Lipsky paid tribute to the services of Harry Steinberg in making the celebration a success from the viewpoint of technical arrangements.

Rabbi Unger reported that similar celebrations were held throughout the country in widespread communities. A major effort took place in Cincinnati under our own direction because of the concurrence between Israel Independence Day and the American Council for Judaism annual conference.

Mr. Lipsky stated that the time had arrived for the Council to begin a program of public action in connection with the arming of the Arab states and the refusal of the United States Government to make arms available to Israel. Up until now we had refrained from embarking upon such a program at the suggestion of people in the Israel Government, but now a public demonstration of protest would be considered very helpful. United States public opinion must be called upon to express its disagreement with the aforementioned policy of the State Department.

Unanimous agreement was expressed that such a program is imperative. A lengthy discussion arose with regard to its details. Mr. Lipsky suggested that the ZOA and the Revisionists transform their scheduled celebrations on May 11 and May 13 respectively, at Madison Square Garden, into protest meetings. Mr. Cruso suggested that a mass meeting and parade by the Jewish War Veterans take



place on Sunday, May 14. It was decided to stage such a meeting in Madison Square Park if the Jewish War Veterans agree to participate; otherwise, the meeting would be held on Monday, May 15. It was further decided to call a national assembly of the American Zionist Council in Washington on June 4 and 5, at which time an opportunity would be afforded the delegates from all parts of the country to visit their elected representatives and personally protest the policy of the State Department which approves the arming by Great Britain of the Arab states, and at the same time refuses to arm Israel for its defense.

Mr. Epstein suggested that an advertisement be placed in the press, stating our position in this matter. In addition, rabbis might be asked to preach on the subject during Shevuoth, and request their congregants to dispatch wires to their Congressmen in protest.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 P.M.

J.U.





AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

May 4, 1950

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, May 4, 1950 at 3:00 P.M. at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Pinchas Cruso, Beinesh Epstein, Mrs. Elliot F. Glassberg, Mrs. Benjamin Gottesman, Dr. Sidney Marks, Jacob Marrus, Avraham Schenker, Yehuda Tyberg.

Jerome Unger.

- - - - -

Mr. Lipsky outlined the plans in connection with our intensified program of action on the rearmament of the Arab states by Great Britain and the refusal of the U. S. State Department to make defense arms available to Israel.

With regard to the proposed open-air meeting and veterans' march at Madison Square Park, it was pointed out that the Jewish War Veterans are reluctant to participate in this undertaking due to the fact that they are in the midst of preparations for their own protest meeting on another subject. Mr. Lipsky questioned the advisability of holding our meeting on May 15th (in accordance with a decision of the Executive Committee at its meeting on April 27th) which date follows so closely the mass meetings at Madison Square Garden of the ZOA and the Revisionists on May 11th and 13th respectively. Therefore, it was decided to change the date of the Madison Square Park demonstration from May 15th to May 24th. It was suggested that popular figures, such as movie stars or stage actors, be invited to participate.

Our country-wide campaign on the arms question is moving at top speed. Plans are being made to secure an effective advertisement; radio broadcasts will be arranged wherever possible.

With reference to the Washington conference on Sunday and Monday, June 4th and 5th, the Chairman stated that the program will tentatively include a session on Sunday afternoon for a survey of the Council's activities; a mass meeting on Sunday night, to which the Jewish community of Washington will be invited; meetings on Monday morning of working committees and also conferences of the delegates with their Congressmen; reports of these meetings and conferences will be given at a final session on Monday afternoon. A number of names of prominent Christian Americans were suggested to address the Sunday night rally. It was also decided to invite Dr. Silver to address the Washington conference.

Mr. Epstein suggested the formation of a social relations committee in Washington under the direction of the Council. Mr. Lipsky further suggested that the Council give a dinner at the end of June for all of its Congressional friends.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

J. U.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

May 18, 1950

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Thursday, May 18, 1950 at 3:00 P.M. at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Pinchas Cruso, Beinesh Epstein, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Rabbi Israel Friedman, Paul Goldman, Mrs. David B. Greenberg, Abraham A. Redelheim.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - - -

Mrs. Epstein stated that a United Nations Seminar would take place in Mount Holyoke this summer and added that her informal presence at a similar meeting two years ago had convinced her of its usefulness. She inquired whether the Council should participate and whether it should attempt to be placed on the speaking rostrum. The Executive Director will take up the matter through the American Christian Palestine Committee.

With regard to the proposed open-air meeting in Madison Square Park on Wednesday, May 24th, Rabbi Unger announced the tentative program. Mrs. Epstein would act as chairman of the meeting. In addition to representatives of each party, speakers will include Harold L. Ickes, Bartley C. Crum, Rep. Anthony F. Tauriello, Rep. Jacob K. Javits, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Abraham Miller of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, and Samuel Klausner of American Veterans of Israel, representing youth. Cantor David Kusevitsky will sing two numbers. A brief musical program will precede the meeting.

Several of the parties are actively cooperating in stimulating attendance at this meeting. In this connection, Mr. Cruso reported that a committee of the Poale Zion had been meeting daily towards this end. Notices of the meeting are being mailed to their entire membership, as well as to contributors to the Histruth campaign; a sound truck under the auspices of the American Jewish Trade Union Council for Israel will tour the labor market on Tuesday; speakers will be supplied at various open-air meetings in the Bronx, Manhattan and Brooklyn; an ad will be inserted in the press in the name of the four organizations of the labor Zionist movement; a work stoppage will be arranged by the Trade Union Council for Israel to permit the workers to attend the meeting.

Rabbi Unger stated that sound trucks would be stationed in the above-mentioned boroughs to arouse interest in the meeting, and, in Brooklyn, a cavalcade of trucks, organized by the Brooklyn Zionist Council, would tour the Jewish sections as well. In this regard, Rabbi Friedman suggested that the trucks begin at 8:30 on Saturday and Tuesday (Shevuoth) nights.

(more)



Mr. Lipsky read the text of a proposed advertisement by Pierre van Paassen in the form of an open letter to President Truman. A number of revisions and modifications were suggested. Mr. Lipsky stated that unless the text could be revised to everyone's satisfaction, it would not warrant the expenditure of the large sum of money required to have it placed in the metropolitan press.

With regard to the proposed national conference in Washington on June 4th and 5th, Mr. Lipsky stated that there would be an executive session on Sunday afternoon, June 4th, at which time a report on Council activities would be rendered; Dr. Nahum Goldmann would discuss the general political situation; Aubrey S. Eban has been invited to discuss specific issues confronting Israel in the United Nations. This would be followed by discussion by the delegates. On Sunday night a mass meeting, to which the entire Jewish community of Washington has been invited, will take place. On Monday morning a briefing of delegates will be followed by visits to their Congressmen, and on Monday afternoon the conference will be closed with an address by Dr. Silver.

Mrs. Greenberg emphasized the importance of the public relations approach involved in briefing the delegates. Rabbi Unger stated that many of the delegations were being organized in their communities, in advance of the meeting.

Mr. Goldman suggested that the members of the American Section of the Jewish Agency be invited, to see the Council in action.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 P.M.





AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

May 26, 1950

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Friday, May 26, 1950 at 2:00 P.M. at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Beinesh Epstein, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Rabbi Mordechai Kirshblum, Abraham A. Redelheim, Avraham Schenker, Yehuda Tyberg.

Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - - -

Mr. Lipsky stated that, in view of the release of the Three Power Declaration on Middle East arms yesterday, we are faced with the question of whether we should hold the Washington conference. Although we are not completely satisfied with the statement, the Chairman remarked, nevertheless it seems to indicate a first step towards peace in the Middle East and, therefore, we could not protest to our Congressmen, as planned. In addition, it was reported that there would be a legislative recess for the House of Representatives until June 12th.

A lengthy discussion followed, during which Messrs. Epstein, Schenker and Tyberg expressed their belief that the conference should be held. Although it would no longer serve as a protest meeting, other problems of an internal and organizational nature could be discussed. In addition, our position of "watchful waiting" could better be explained at a conference than through a written statement.

Mrs. Epstein, Rabbi Kirshblum and Messrs. Lipsky and Redelheim disagreed with the above view. They felt that in view of the suggestion by the Israel Government and the Jewish Agency that a conference would no longer serve a useful purpose, an announcement should be made that the conference was being temporarily postponed, pending further developments.

After continued discussion, Rabbi Kirshblum moved that the conference in Washington scheduled for June 4-5 be temporarily postponed, and that a statement containing our position on the Three Power Declaration be released immediately to the press and to the local chairmen. Mrs. Epstein seconded the motion. Rabbi Unger read a message from Mr. Louis Segal, who had telephoned earlier in the day to state his inability to attend the meeting because of the Poale Zion convention in Boston, and recommending a postponement of the Washington conference until at least the end of June in order to have time for a complete evaluation of the changing situation.

Vote -- For postponement: Mrs. Epstein, Rabbi Kirshblum and Messrs. Lipsky, Redelheim and Segal. Against postponement: Messrs. Epstein, Schenker and Tyberg.

Mr. Epstein made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Epstein, and unanimously passed, that the office staff be commended for its work in connection with the Arab rearmament, and that the Senators and Congressmen be thanked for their assistance, as well as warned of our concern about the implementation of the Three Power Declaration.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 P.M.

J.U.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

March 6, 1951

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Tuesday, March 6, 1951 at 3:00 P.M. at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Pinchas Cruso, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Mrs. Benjamin Gottesman, Avraham Schenker, Louis Segal.

Mordechay Katz, Yehuda Tyberg.

Jerome Unger.

- - -

Mr. Lipsky read a report on the grant-in-aid campaign submitted by Mr. Kenen who was in Washington at the time. (Complete report on file). This was supplemented by additional information from Rabbi Unger, with particular emphasis on local committee participation in the campaign. It was unanimously accepted as an interesting and very satisfactory report.

The Chairman cautioned against premature publicity regarding the Bill to be introduced in Congress.

A lengthy discussion ensued with regard to various sections of the Bill and their implications.

Mr. Lipsky called attention to the appointment of Col. Harold B. Hoskins (a notorious pro-Arab) as Consultant to the Near Eastern Affairs Division of the State Department, and noted the absence of any neutral point of view vis-a-vis Israel in that Department. In this connection, Mr. Lipsky proposed that the establishment of an "Israel Desk" in the State Department be suggested for their consideration.

Rabbi Unger reported that Hapoel Hamizrachi had requested representation on the Executive Committee. It was decided, on the motion of Mrs. Gottesman, to defer consideration of their request until after the World Zionist Congress. (Vote: Mr. Cruso abstained, remaining in favor.)

In accordance with a decision made at the last meeting of the Executive Committee to continue the discussion begun at the February 6th meeting on "The Structure of the World Zionist Organization", it was agreed to convene another meeting of the Plenum on Thursday evening, March 29, 1951.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

J.U.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

March 19, 1951

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Monday, March 19, 1951 at 6:00 P.M. at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Pinchas Cruso, Beinesh Epstein, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Paul L. Goldman, Mrs. Benjamin Gottesman, Dr. Zvi Neuman, Abraham A. Redelheim, Avraham Schenker.

Rabbi Israel Friedman, I. M. Gottlib, Mordechai Katz, Jacob Katzman.

Rita Grossman, Ruth Hershman, Adolph Hubbard, Arnold K. Isreeli, I. L. Kenen, Ruth Ludwin, Mrs. Blanche J. Shepard, Harry Steinberg, Elihu D. Stone, Jerome Unger.

- - - -

The Chairman called upon Mr. Kenen to report on current activities in Washington in connection with the grant-in-aid program.

Mr. Kenen stated that the total number of sponsors of the Taft-Douglas Bill had reached thirty-three -- seventeen Democrats and sixteen Republicans. Five of the thirteen members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee were serving as sponsors and it was hoped to attain a majority on that Committee even before introduction of the Bill. Majority Leader John W. McCormack and Minority Leader Joseph W. Martin, Jr. would sponsor the House Bill. After the Easter recess it is intended to file a statement in support of the House Bill, signed by about 125 Representatives.

Mr. Kenen outlined the timetable for activity and suggested the following steps for community action within the next ten days: personal letters and telegrams should be sent to the sponsors, congratulating and thanking them for their support; legislators who have not indicated support should be contacted by the most influential person in the community, regardless of whether that individual is the local Council chairman; approaches to newspapers should be arranged; influential Christian leaders should be persuaded to take the initiative in advocacy of the Bill. Mr. Kenen suggested that steps be taken to activate more of the local Councils.

In addition, Mr. Kenen reported on non-Zionist activity in the campaign. Earlier that day he had met with a number of representatives of non-Zionist groups who pledged to notify their constituent groups of the necessity to cooperate closely with the local Zionist Councils in order to achieve the best kind of community effort throughout the country.

Finally, Mr. Kenen emphasized the importance of withholding publicity until after introduction of the Bill.



Rabbi Unger reported that one-third of the seven hundred local Councils throughout the country are active in the grant-in-aid campaign. Their initial confusion due to the introduction of the non-Zionist element into the campaign was dispelled by the assurances of Rabbi Unger, Mr. Stone and Mr. Lipsky about the necessity for non-Zionist participation in this activity.

In addition to contact with the communities by telephone, wire and letter, two dozen local committees have convened meetings of their top leadership with a member of the Executive Committee or of the Council staff for guidance with regard to the campaign. Moreover, the Bulletin is almost entirely devoted to the grant-in-aid effort.

Rabbi Unger added that some of the communities have had to be restrained from taking action of a public nature prematurely.

Mr. Stone stressed that the chief factor in whatever progress has been made in Washington in connection with the proposed Bill has been the organized Zionist Movement, as represented by the American Zionist Council. Without minimizing the assistance given by the non-Zionists, he cautioned against underestimating the prime role of the Zionist Movement, which represents a tremendous lobby. Mr. Stone further cautioned against over-optimism and traced the steps through which a Bill must go before it is passed. Even after passage, he warned, the hostility of the State Department must be hurdled.

Mr. Stone expressed the opinion that immediate mass action is necessary even vis-a-vis Congressmen who have already indicated support or sponsorship of the Bill. In this connection he stated that the psychology of a Congressman becoming a "champion" to his constituents was too important to be overlooked; therefore, the influence of the masses, not merely of a handful of influential individuals in each community, should make itself felt.

Finally, Mr. Stone felt that much depended upon the State Department. He suggested, therefore, the organization of a committee to see the President in order that he might use his good offices with the State Department. (Full details of all three reports on file.)

Mrs. Epstein requested clarification as to the method of implementing the program suggested by Mr. Kenen, and was informed that immediately upon introduction of the Bill, a letter containing specific instructions would be sent by Mr. Lipsky to the local communities.

Mr. Kenen called attention to the fact that the President was not being neglected in the approaches being made in Washington, and therefore, he did not favor the idea of a delegation to see the President.

Mr. Epstein voiced his fear of attack from the economy-minded groups in this country and suggested that we seek allies in such quarters as the National Association of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce.

(Details of full discussion on file.)

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

J.U.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

342 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

**To** Local Committees of the  
AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

**Date** March 23, 1951

**From** Louis Lipsky  
CHAIRMAN

NO. 82

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

This is the text of the note which Ambassador Eban delivered to Secretary of State Acheson in Washington on March 22, 1951, in presenting Israel's request for the grant-in-aid of \$150,000,000.

LL:SR



Washington, D. C.

IN/5/38/17

The Ambassador of Israel presents his compliments to the Honorable the Secretary of State and has the honor to submit herewith a request by the Government of Israel for financial assistance by grant-in-aid from the United States of America, to the extent of \$150,000,000 for the period July 1, 1951, to June 30, 1952.

2. After estimating its potential sources of foreign exchange for that period, and notwithstanding the remarkable efforts and sacrifices which the people of Israel are making towards the attainment of economic stability, the Government of Israel still faces the prospect of a considerable dollar deficiency. If this shortage cannot be made good, it will become impossible to maintain living standards even at their present reduced level, while Israel's industrial and agricultural development is liable to become impeded, or even paralyzed, through lack of continuous supplies of raw materials and capital goods. On the other hand, the availability of adequate dollar exchange would enable Israel to advance rapidly towards increased productivity and economic equilibrium during the coming few years of heavy immigration.

3. The Government of Israel has observed the historic role of the United States aid programs in enabling many other friendly countries, in similar emergencies, to achieve rapid economic recovery. It also recalls with gratitude the many acts testifying to the special ties of friendship between the peoples of the United States and Israel. In that spirit the Government of Israel now calls attention to its economic problems, many of which go far beyond the normal scope of national responsibility.

4. Immediately upon the proclamation of its independence, and while still struggling against heavy odds for sheer physical survival, Israel set itself to discharge the primary mission for which it was established. Waves of immigration have converged upon Israel from all parts of the world, especially from Central, Southern, and Eastern Europe, and from Islamic countries in West Asia and North Africa. The Jews remaining in Central and Eastern Europe are but the pathetic remnants of once prosperous communities whose manpower and institutions were ruthlessly consumed by murderous persecution unparalleled in the annals of history. Their desire to abandon the scene of their people's agony and martyrdom is overpowering. It is reinforced by their inborn preference for a life of democratic freedom in a society which upholds as the chief focus of national pride the very Jewish traditions and associations which had been the target of such brutal persecution in Europe. On the other hand, in many parts of the Moslem world Jewish minorities have lived for centuries under an intermittent and precarious tolerance, punctuated by periods of disorder and oppression. In recent generations the rise of a strong national consciousness throughout this area has imparted to Jewish minorities a sharpened sense of separateness and insecurity. At the same time, the echoes of Israel's achievement have awakened a messianic urge for redemption, which makes Jewish minorities in Arab countries increasingly unwilling to sustain a lot so stoically borne by their ancestors for centuries past, as long as it seemed inexorable. An independent state which makes the absorption and rehabilitation of Jewish immigrants the central purpose of its life has become a compelling magnet to all Jews who lack freedom and dignity in their present abodes. This is one of the spontaneous and irresistible movements of mass migration which have revolutionized the history of peoples. In recent



months the threat of world conflict has added a fresh incentive to Jewish immigration--a desperate urge to find shelter before the storm breaks, and while liberty of movement still remains.

5. While the rate and scale of immigration to Israel are largely determined by conditions in Europe and the Moslem world, Israel's resolve to accept immigrants without restriction is animated by a sense of inescapable responsibility. The people of Israel are themselves, for the most part, immigrants--survivors of pogroms and persecution; they know well that to refuse entry to their kinsmen now may mean the renunciation of that crucial opportunity forever. Indeed, some countries have actually established official deadlines before which all prospective emigrants must leave. It is inconceivable that Israel can incur the moral responsibility for whatever might befall Jews who seek admission to Israel and are denied it. Jewish communities throughout the world, and especially in the United States, have spent much effort and sacrifice on Israel's behalf, in the clear expectation that they were thus establishing a permanent haven for all oppressed and insecure Jews in need of a home. It is noteworthy that President Truman's recommendation in 1946 for the transfer of Jewish displaced persons from Europe to Palestine marked the beginning of the United States' specific interest in the search for a solution of this problem. Thus, every circumstance of humanitarian concern and moral principle compels Israel, with the fervent approval of its own public and of Jewish opinion everywhere, to uphold and maintain freedom of immigration. Moreover, from the viewpoint of Israel's own interest, even if heavy immigration is accounted an economic liability in the short term, it must certainly in the long run be regarded as an asset, since it will enhance Israel's self-reliance, its economic strength, and its creative capacity.

6. The conditions which govern the scale of immigration to Israel can well be illustrated by reference to the Jews of Iraq. When the Government of Iraq allowed Iraqi Jews to register for emigration, it was thought by many observers that no more than 30,000 would exercise that option. In fact, about 105,000 out of a total 130,000 Jews registered for emigration and made plans to leave for Israel. On receiving permission to leave the country, an Iraqi Jew loses his citizenship, whereupon it becomes urgent to effect his emigration without delay. In recent months, the Government of Israel has been exhorted by the Governments of the United States and by the United Kingdom to make every effort to speed up the evacuation of Iraqi Jews. The Government of Israel, in pursuance of its own policy, has increased the monthly rate threefold in full knowledge of the resulting aggravation of its financial problems.

7. As a result of this immigration, the dominant feature in the life of Israel is the spectacular increase of its population. On May 14, 1948, the Jewish population of Palestine was 650,000. Between that date and the end of 1950, 511,000 immigrants have entered the country, representing a 78 per cent increase in the overall population total. About half a million new immigrants are expected to arrive within the next three or four years. By the end of 1954, Israel will have trebled its population mainly by immigration. This rate of population increase has no precedent; manifestly it calls for a financial effort on an unusual scale.

8. In receiving these immigrants Israel has solved problems which would otherwise fall on international agencies and on other governments. For example, the admission to Israel of nearly all Jews from displaced persons camps in the American Zone of Germany has directly liberated the United States Treasury from a considerable and continuous expenditure. For many years the European refugee problem had baffled the resources and capacity



of the refugee organizations established under the auspices of the League of Nations and the United Nations. Israel has absorbed large numbers of refugees who were the objects of this international concern, without even having received any reparation from Germany for the wholesale spoliation and destruction of Jewish property in Europe. Moreover, by absorbing Jewish communities which were living in conditions of insecurity or discrimination, Israel has eliminated potential points of friction and instability in more than one area of the world.

9. The difficulty of financing the absorption of this enormous population increase has been aggravated still further by Israel's defense burdens. At its very inception, Israel was forced to mobilize all its resources in fighting, alone and unaided, its battle of survival against overwhelming odds. The aggressive onslaught of the Arab states was successfully repelled; yet their persistent refusal to conclude a final peace settlement continues to strain the resources of Israel by necessitating heavy defense expenditure, on which also the mounting international tension has an inevitable bearing.

10. In addition to the burdens imposed by immigration and defense, the Government of Israel has undertaken to make its due contribution towards the solution of the Arab refugee problem in the Near East. It has declared its willingness to support the Reintegration Fund to be established by the United Nations by paying into it funds accruing from compensation for abandoned Arab lands, on the understanding that such funds will be used for the permanent resettlement of Arab refugees in conditions which would conform with their own welfare and with the ultimate stability of the Near East. Under this arrangement, which has been publicly announced in the United Nations, Israel is probably assuming a heavier financial commitment in the Arab refugee problem than any other single member Government, notwithstanding the fact that the problem itself was actually created in the course of a deliberate attempt to destroy Israel's existence, as a result of which Israel sustained heavy and widespread material damage.

11. A country which increases its population by 80 per cent in two and one-half years, while simultaneously sustaining a heavy burden for its defense and preparing to make a substantial financial contribution towards the solution of the Arab refugee problem, cannot obviously develop its productive resources to the extent required by these vast burdens without massive outside assistance. Israel, however, has itself made a maximal effort to solve the economic problems with which it has been confronted. This effort has been made in two directions. On the one hand the standard of living of the population has been drastically reduced. On the other hand, every possible means has been adopted to increase production in both agriculture and industry, with impressive results. Whereas the population increased by 80 per cent in two and one-half years, agricultural production rose during the same period by 70-80 per cent and industrial production by 40-50 per cent. It is clear, therefore, that Israel is seeking supplementary external aid only after having imposed upon itself heavy sacrifice and considerable self-denial.

12. The magnitude of the effort which Israel has put forth for its own economic development is illustrated by the achievement of net new investment of approximately the equivalent of \$190,000,000 in the calendar year 1949, and of approximately \$275,000,000 in 1950. This new investment was equivalent to more than 25 per cent of Israel's total national income in 1949, and to more than 30 per cent of the national income in 1950. Yet, Israel now proposes further to raise its annual investment target to the equivalent of approximately \$500,000,000. There is no choice: no lesser target would be compatible with the full productive employment of Israel's people. But it is obvious that the gap in the balance of payments, which is the most striking expression of Israel's economic difficulties, cannot be closed by its own exertions in the immediate future.



13. Since heavy immigration seems certain to continue for the next three or four years, the consequent dislocation of Israel's economy is bound to persist for that period. The very measures which Israel is adopting to add to its productive capacity are liable, in the short run, to increase the disturbance in the balance of payments. The required diversion of Israel's own resources from production for current consumption to investment work will create inflationary pressure on scarce supplies of consumption goods. Israel is grateful for the great contribution to her long-term productive facilities which is being made through the credits of \$135,000,000 received from the United States Export-Import Bank. Israel also places great reliance for her economic development on the resources for productive purposes which will be sought through the sale of bonds to the public in the United States of America. These imports for specific investment purposes, however, need to be supplemented by a diversion of Israel's own productive capacity from consumption needs to the production of capital goods. The grant-in-aid from the Government of the United States, for which the Government of Israel is herewith applying, would bridge this gap in the availability of consumption goods until the increased production of Israel, which will be the consequence of the capital imports, can catch up with the needs of the population and assure economic stability. This American aid, extended over a brief period of time, can lead to the achievement of Israel's economic equilibrium, in full conformity with the concept of economic recovery which has inspired the aid programs of the United States since their inception.

14. Most prominent among the purposes for which grant-in-aid assistance is requested is one most directly connected with immigration: If the immigrants are to be employed productively, they must have houses near their places of work. The house to be provided is of the simplest character, having an average total cost of approximately IL 750, the equivalent of \$2100. At the present time, many tens of thousands of immigrants are in huts and tents. The average housing rate of the population of Israel is three persons per room, while a large part of the population lives at the standard of five persons per room. To alleviate this shortage, it is proposed to build approximately 70,000 housing units in the year July 1, 1951 - June 30, 1952, to accommodate roughly 250,000 persons. The total cost would be approximately \$150,000,000 - and Israel is reconciled to the need for meeting by far the larger part of this total cost from its own resources. A grant-in-aid of approximately \$30,000,000 is needed to meet foreign exchange costs of materials, imported fixtures, and construction machinery. Israel's own investment in the program would be four times as great as the requested grant-in-aid.

15. Grant-in-aid assistance in the form of supplies needed specifically to restrain the stress of the inflationary pressures is requested in the amount of \$105,000,000. As mentioned above, in the year July 1, 1951 - June 30, 1952, Israel will be attempting to raise her total investment towards the target of an annual rate of approximately \$500,000,000. Even under a system of austerity, Israel will require, in the year July 1, 1951 - June 30, 1952, at the price levels which prevail today, about \$225,000,000 of imports apart from imports for specific investment purposes.

16. An additional grant-in-aid of approximately \$15,000,000 is requested for the insurance and shipping costs connected with the delivery of the above commodities in Israel. This amount has been estimated on the assumption that the affected commodities would be purchased not only in the United States but also in other friendly countries, from which shipping costs might in some cases be lower than from the United States.



17. The specific uses of the requested grant-in-aid might then be outlined as in the following table:

Approximate List of Purchases to be Financed with Requested Grant-in-Aid

A. Materials, fixtures, and equipment required to be imported for the construction of 70,000 housing units .....		\$ 30,000,000
B. Supplies required to restrain the inflationary pressure of the investment and defense programs		
(a) Wheat .....	\$25,000,000	
(b) Fodders .....	15,000,000	
(c) Oilseeds .....	10,000,000	
(d) Fertilizers and seeds .....	10,000,000	
(e) Cotton, other fibers, and textile materials .....	10,000,000	
(f) Leather, hides, chemicals, and minor materials .....	10,000,000	
(g) Petroleum .....	<u>25,000,000</u>	105,000,000
C. Shipping and insurance services .....		<u>15,000,000</u>
TOTAL .....		<u>\$150,000,000</u>

18. The close link between economic stability and political freedom is becoming increasingly understood in all parts of the world. The future of Israel's social and political system is an issue of direct consequence to the cause of world democracy. Israel has established a parliamentary democracy in an area where democratic ideals and principles have not yet struck deep roots. While many countries have recently achieved institutional freedom, not all have simultaneously fought with any marked effect against the traditional social and economic inertia which condemns countless multitudes to a life of squalor and misery. Unless democracy proves its capacity both to ensure political freedom and to realize a vision of society based on expanding horizons of material welfare and cultural progress, it will find itself hard-pressed in its struggle to compete against feudal traditionalism on the one hand and modern negations of political democracy on the other. The success of Israel's efforts to combine political freedom with economic progress will certainly affect the prestige of democracy in the crucial area of which Israel is a part. Israel's experience and achievement in soil conservation, land development, irrigation, technological research, industrial progress, as well as in cooperative organization and social freedom, are intimately relevant to the most acute problems which afflict such wide areas of the Near East with conditions of backwardness and dearth. Thus, any strengthening of Israel's efforts to achieve a high degree of development must be regarded as a contribution to the progress and stability of the entire Near East. For, despite the transient political conflicts which now divide it, the Near East cannot in the long run fail to be affected by progressive examples. In this respect, too, aid to Israel would fully conform with the principles which have determined the United States' aid programs.

19. On June 20, 1922, the Congress of the United States of America unanimously recorded its sympathy for the "aspirations of the Jewish people to rebuild their ancient home-land." On December 19, 1945, the Congress, in a concurrent resolution, advocated the establishment of a democratic commonwealth in Palestine "to the end that the country should be opened



for free entry of Jews." In a resolution of greeting on the anniversary of Israel's independence in May, 1950, the United States Senate paid tribute to the emergence of Israel as an objective in which the American people had indicated their sympathetic interest for many years. In the last three decades successive presidents of the United States have associated the American people, by close bonds of sympathy and support, with the rebirth of Israel as a modern embodiment of an ancient tradition which bequeathed to the world some of the basic moral ideals on which Western civilization is founded. At every decisive stage in Israel's recent development, the efforts and sacrifices of Israel's people, and of Jewish communities working for Israel's welfare, have received notable support from the President, the Government, and the Congress of the United States of America. American representatives in the United Nations have carried this policy into the highest international forum. Israel will always feel the most profound gratitude for the memorable steps taken by President Truman and the Government of the United States in favor of the reestablishment of an independent Israel, its official recognition, and its formal admission to the world community. In seeking the support of the United States for its arduous task of economic development and consolidation, and for its unprecedented efforts in providing homes for so many within so short a time, the Government of Israel is advocating the maintenance and extension of a traditional relationship firmly established in the hearts of both peoples.





AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee

May 22, 1951

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Council was held on Tuesday, May 22, 1951 at 3:00 P.M. at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT:

Louis Lipsky (presiding), Benjamin G. Browdy, Pinchas Cruso, Beinesh Epstein, Dr. Zvi Neuman, Abraham A. Redelheim, Avraham Schenker, Louis Segal.

Yehuda Tyberg.

I. L. Kenen, Rabbi Jerome Unger.

- - - -

Mr. Lipsky read a statement regarding the Security Council resolution on the Syrian-Israeli dispute over the Huleh drainage project, that had been prepared for release to the press upon approval of the Executive Committee. There was unanimous approval.

Rabbi Unger reported on activities of the Council in connection with the Huleh controversy. On April 23 a telegram was dispatched to Secretary of State Acheson protesting Assistant Secretary of State McGhee's rebuke to Israel, and released to the press. Telephone calls and wires went to chairmen in 50 key cities throughout the country. Twenty-three immediately responded by reinforcing our wire with their own. On Wednesday evening, May 16 the Council received its first notification of the resolution that would be introduced on May 18 in the Security Council on the Huleh issue. That evening and the next morning the following steps were taken: Mr. Lipsky sent a wire to President Truman, protesting the action, copies of which were sent to Secretary Acheson and Ambassador Warren Austin; this was released to the press; chairmen in 60 important cities were urged by telegram and telephone to send similar wires; a memorandum based on Mr. Lipsky's telegram to the President was sent to the local chairmen; the eight constituent organizations were requested to take similar steps. The American Christian Palestine Committee called and wired 40 of their most important contacts and themselves sent a wire; in addition, a number of special contacts were made, including contacts to many members of the Democratic National Committee. Rabbi Unger estimated that 100,000 to 150,000 wires and letters have already gone out.

Mr. Kenen observed that the Huleh incident is rendering more difficult our endeavors for grant-in-aid, as did the bombing of Syria and the grain-for-India issue.

A discussion took place regarding methods to pursue in achieving our aims. Mr. Epstein felt that pressure on one political party was insufficient -- that a political issue should be made of it, and that this could be accomplished only if pressure were applied to both parties simultaneously.



Mr. Segal agreed with Mr. Epstein that the techniques proven successful in previous political campaigns should once again be employed.

Mr. Schenker deplored the public's ignorance of the fact that the disputed Huleh region is part of Israel territory, and suggested that a clear statement of the circumstances in the situation be issued.

Mr. Lipsky cautioned against creating confusion by embarking on an intensive, all-out campaign on the Huleh issue simultaneously with the grant-in-aid campaign, the bond drive, etc. He expressed the belief that the procedure in use at present -- pressure on the President to intervene with General Riley on our behalf -- was adequate for the time being, and that the line contained in the statement being issued today should be followed by the local chairmen.

There was a brief discussion concerning the management of our Washington office. (Details on file).

Mr. Kenen reported on the activities in Washington in connection with grant-in-aid. 133 members of the House of Representatives have signed the House declaration in support of the bill. It is expected that 150-175 names will be on it before it is published. Particularly significant is the fact that 14 members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee have signed the declaration. Rep. Emanuel Celler and Rep. Jacob K. Javits, who did a magnificent job in getting many of the names on the declaration, were assisted to a large degree by the local activity of Zionist Councils throughout the country. Mr. Kenen also commented on the importance of the work of the local Councils in connection with the favorable editorial opinion appearing throughout the country. Prime Minister Ben-Gurion's visit to this country was also being utilized for grant-in-aid. Mr. Kenen stated that Senators Douglas and Taft have taken the position that they will settle for the omnibus bill recommended by the State Department. The separate bill for a grant to Israel, however, provided a useful vehicle around which political support for a higher figure could be mobilized. Arrangements are being made for people to testify on behalf of the bill, most important of whom will be Herbert Gaston, chairman of the Export-Import Bank. It is expected that the major debate will revolve on the question of whether to continue foreign aid in such proportions.

Rabbi Unger reported that in the grant-in-aid campaign, the American Zionist Council had been moving with effectiveness in a wide-spread area. Editorials had appeared through its stimulation in three dozen communities. Telephone, telegram and letter contacts were maintained with more than fifty key communities. Special visits were made to trouble spots. Local Councils in thirty communities had held special meetings. Members of the Executive Committee had been helpful with their special contacts. Editorials for party organs had been written. A large portfolio of speeches, broadcasts, editorial material, and letters to the editors have been prepared.

The American Christian Palestine Committee has been most helpful, Rabbi Unger reported, both on the Huleh issue and the grant-in-aid campaign. Many letters to the editors have appeared in the press as a result of its activity. Land Reborn, its periodical, continues to receive wide acclaim. Its second Tour to Israel, scheduled for June, has 12 members with promise of 19 or 20 before the books are closed. A seminar will be held in Cleveland on May 29.

Rabbi Unger also reported that the organization of a Manhattan Zionist Council is in progress. Counteracting American Council for Judaism activities has also been occupying our attention. In addition, speeches for Israel's third



anniversary celebration in a number of cities were prepared by the American Zionist Council for various individuals. Similarly, the Council gave its support to IZFA's third Israel anniversary celebration on 20 campuses in different parts of the country.

Rabbi Unger reported that the Council of Middle Eastern Affairs, Inc. had asked the American Zionist Council for a subvention. (It issues a monthly periodical, widely circulated). After a brief discussion this proposal was approved. (Details on file).

A similar request was transmitted on behalf of the Hebrew Cultural Foundation, and was unanimously approved.

Mr. Lipsky stated that the Council was a party to the discussions being conducted under the auspices of the Jewish Agency and the Government of Israel among a number of Jewish organizations with reference to Israel's claim of German reparations.

Rabbi Unger reminded the Committee that the fourth anniversary of Israel's Independence would occur on Wednesday, April 30, 1952. It was decided to take an option on Carnegie Hall for Tuesday night, April 29, 1952, for the purpose of a uniform Zionist celebration of this occasion. It was further decided that the eight constituent organizations be officially informed of this action.

Rabbi Unger stated that the Council, through Miss Sulamith Schwartz, had played a significant role in the recent Lebanese elections, which had favorable results for Israel. (Attached is a special strictly confidential memorandum for your information only). In this connection, Mr. Lipsky noted that he had written to Dr. Goldmann, requesting the strengthening of this department of the Council.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 P.M.

J.U.