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Town Meeting



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BULLETIN OF AMERICA'S TOWN MEETING OF THE AIR

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Should Immigration to Israel Be Restricted?

Moderator, **GEORGE V. DENNY, Jr.**

Speakers

ISRAEL ROKACH
CARL HERMAN VOSS

DAVID HOROWITZ
KENNETH BILBY

(See also page 12)

COMING


— August 30, 1949 —

Does the Arab World Need a Marshall Plan?

— September 6, 1949 —

How Can We Advance Democracy in Asia?

Published by **THE TOWN HALL, Inc.**, New York 18, N. Y.

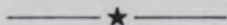
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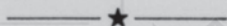
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THE BROADCAST OF AUGUST 23:

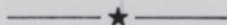
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THE BROADCAST OF AUGUST 30:

"Does the Arab World Need a Marshall Plan?"



THE BROADCAST OF SEPTEMBER 6:

"How Can We Advance Democracy in Asia?"



The Broadcast of August 23, 1949, over the American Broadcasting Company network from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., EDT, was a rebroadcast of the program which originated in Tel Aviv, Israel, on August 1.



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Town Meeting



BULLETIN OF AMERICA'S TOWN MEETING OF THE AIR

GEORGE V. DENNY, JR., MODERATOR



AUGUST 23, 1949

VOL. 15, No. 17

Should Immigration to Israel Be Restricted?

Moderator Denny:

Good evening, neighbors. Tonight we invite you to join us in the newest national capital of one of the oldest countries in the world. Tel Aviv, like other national capitals, is not truly representative of the new state of Israel except in the pride, energy, and amazing vitality of its people.

Fortunately, our host committee, headed by the Town Clerk of Tel Aviv, had the foresight to take our Town Hall party on two extensive trips over the country the first two days we were here.

We visited Rehovoth, the center of the thriving citrus industry, which provides Israel with its most important export business. We were then taken through the famous Weizmann Research Institute, whose work is providing the foundation for present and future agricultural and industrial development.

In the north, we visited collective and coöperative farm communities which are progressing side by side with individual free enterprise. Of course, we visited Jerusalem, Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee, and went into the mouth of the Jordan River.

On each trip, we saw the immigrant camps overflowing with people who have known poverty and oppression in other lands and who have come to help build this new nation of unrestricted immigration.

Unrestricted immigration is a cornerstone on which this nation was built. But some of its warmest friends and supporters are now asking how long they can keep up this tremendous pace of a nation of 860,000 people trying to absorb upwards of 30,000 new people each month of all ages and stages of wealth and health—the oppressed and poor of every land. It has been hailed by many as the most courageous social experiment of this century, and so it

seems to those of us who have had the opportunity to see what these brave-hearted, generous people themselves are doing with the waves of immigrants who are landing daily on their shores.

Our speakers can give you only a glimpse of this picture in the time at our disposal, but there is no iron curtain here, and the drama that is being enacted every day in this land of promise richly deserves the world-wide attention it's receiving.

It should be understood by all that in questioning the present policy of unrestricted immigration in Israel, our speakers are doing so with the highest respect and appreciation for those who believe the present policy should be maintained come what may.

Our first speaker is a trained observer who has witnessed the birth of Israel and who believes that the policy of unrestricted immigration should be re-examined in the light of existing conditions. He is Mr. Kenneth Bilby, a representative here of the *New York Herald-Tribune*. He is a native of the state of Arizona and a student of political science both at the University of Arizona and Columbia, who rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the late war. I take pleasure in presenting Mr. Kenneth Bilby. Mr. Bilby. (*Applause*)

Mr. Bilby:

In 15 months of statehood, Israel increased its population by nearly one third. The ingathering of a quarter million immigrants from every continent on earth fulfilled the dreams of the most ardent Zionist. At last, a home had been found for the survivors of Hitler's brutality.

But now the time has come to evaluate the impact of this great immigrant wave upon the youngest state in the world. Has it impeded or stimulated Israel's growth?

Has it aided the country's industrial and its agricultural development, or has it been a drain on a previously inflated economy?

The answer, I feel, can be found in even the most cursory examination of living conditions and employment opportunities of the immigrants. More than a quarter of them are still in reception camps at Port Hassanah, at Sarafand, and at Haifa. They live in tents with primitive sanitary facilities, or they bake in wooden barracks, sometimes 40 to a room. Their average stay is six months. By no stretch of the imagination can these camps be called an improvement on the old DP camps of Europe or Cyprus.

When they finally are assigned a home, it is often a vacated Arab mud hut. Running water or even electricity are luxuries.

As for employment, a once-skilled European factory worker

often winds up tending a depleted orange grove. My friend Mr. Horowitz pointed with pride last week to the fact that 175,000 immigrants had found employment and were, therefore, assimilated. I challenge his figures. Vast numbers of these have two or three days of piece work per week at jobs entirely alien to their training and background.

For several months, hundreds of unemployed have staged daily demonstrations in Israel's large cities. There have been fights with the police. The gates of Parliament were stormed just last week. The clashes have produced injuries.

An enormous volume of bitterness has developed among new citizens. The most serious effect has been psychological. Through years of confinement these people dreamed of the promised land—the land of milk and honey. What they find are more camps, more privations.

Some of my Israeli friends tell me they have written off the present generation of immigrants as potential contributors to the upbuilding of the state.

The great influx following statehood was understandable and laudable. It showed the world that the promise of a Jewish homeland was being fulfilled. But now the time has come to face reality. This unchecked immigrant flow must be restricted, although not halted.

The national housing program is years behind the present demand. The physical resources of the country cannot be developed commensurately with job needs if the economy is crushed under succeeding waves of immigration.

Israel still lives in a hostile Moslem world. It desperately needs internal stability. It needs an enthusiastic and united populace to stimulate its infant industries, to pioneer its southern desert, to bring life back to its vast citrus tracts. It will not find this spirit if its new citizen reservoir is subjected to further months or years of poverty and disillusionment.

Last week, in Jaffa, I visited a Polish immigrant girl, six months in Israel. The numbers of Auschwitz concentration camp were branded on her arm. Her parents, brothers, and sisters died in gas chambers. For years she dreamed of a new life here. Today she is jammed in a small room with five other girls. She earns \$60 monthly as a house servant. Her wardrobe consists of a few ragged dresses. She is engaged, but cannot marry because not even a room, much less a home, can be found. In her own words, she is miserable and unhappy.

It is an unfortunate fact that she will continue to be so unless

the government moves to restrict immigration. Only then will it be able to concentrate on its most vital task of salvaging the human resources now at hand. (*Applause*)

Moderator Denny:

Thank you, Mr. Kenneth Bilby. Our next speaker has lived in Palestine for more than 29 years. He is Director General of the Finance Ministry of the State of Israel, has represented the Jewish case at Lake Success, and now head of Israeli delegation on current financial talks with Great Britain. I am pleased to present to this audience, Mr. David Horowitz. Mr. Horowitz. (*Applause*)

Mr. Horowitz:

You, Mr. Bilby, have discussed most eloquently the conditions in transit camps in Israel. I have my own personal experience of life in tents and huts of the kind described by you for seven years in these countries. I have never regretted these experiences, although I don't belittle the hardship and suffering involved in such life.

But Mr. Bilby, don't forget that the people of this country sacrificed blood and treasure, food and life for immigration. It is for them the national ideal of salvation and the human ideal of rescue. Immigration is the purpose and sense of their national life; an inspiration of their personal lives.

Restriction of immigration would be a mockery of their struggle for the last 30 years. Restriction would have to be enforced by the state and lead to a clash with Jews trying to reach the shores of this country with or without visa. This is unthinkable.

Economically, there is hardly a case for restriction. If immigration had been restricted in every instance of economic difficulty in the past, we wouldn't be here and there would have been no state of Israel. The difficulty is not insolvable.

There may be some 90,000 immigrants in camps and unemployed. These have not yet been absorbed. But some 160,000 have been more or less integrated in the life of this country.

We always knew that the resettlement wouldn't be smooth and easy, but full of hardship and suffering. But wouldn't these people have suffered more in the DP camps of Berchtesgaden or in the slums of Morocco?

I met an old woman in a camp in Israel. I asked her how things are. She answered, "Was it better in Germany? Here, instead of suffering and grief, there are compensations of freedom and human dignity."

Immigration is self-regulating. If life becomes intolerable, thousands of letters are flying to all corners of the world and the would-be immigrants know the state of affairs and wait until conditions improve.

Immigration was self-regulating in this way in America for a century, and thus a glorious civilization of a whole continent was saved.

The people of this country, faced with the choice to lower their standards of life or to restrict immigration, would choose to reduce their standards.

Anyhow, immigration itself is a driving, creative economic force. It expands the market for goods and services, and that stimulates production and construction, attracts capital and skills.

History shows that the Puritans and Huguenots, Jewish and other refugees established new thriving industries all over the world. In the sixteenth century, Sir Walter Raleigh brought to what is United States of America several hundred men. They spent there two years and returned to England. The few hundred could not support themselves in what is today the richest nation of the world. Should immigration have been restricted then?

Production and construction in Israel are expanding. New investments of capital create employment. It is true there is still a lack of economic development behind the flow of immigration and it causes much misery and suffering. But new construction is catching up with the increase in population. The absorption of new immigrants is mainly a function of economic, political, and human factors, and these can be conditioned.

This country, its economy and achievements, are the gifts of immigration. Immigration to Israel cannot be restricted. (*Applause*)

Moderator Denny:

Thank you, Mr. Horowitz. Our next speaker, who is chairman of the Executive Council of the American-Christian Palestine Committee, has shown by his works his friendship for the people of Israel, but finds himself today questioning this policy of unrestricted immigration. Dr. Carl Herman Voss is a Congregational minister who's traveled widely in the United States and abroad, and is a member of the faculty of the New School for Social Research in New York City. He's here this summer in charge of a group of New York University students studying conditions here in Israel. I take pleasure in presenting Dr. Carl Herman Voss. Dr. Voss. (*Applause*)

Dr. Voss:

Israel licked the British; Israel licked the Arabs; and Israel will lick the problems of immigration. Of that, I am convinced. (Applause)

Mr. Bilby, you are more doubtful and, Mr. Horowitz, you have your own brand of certainty. My views differ from those of both of you in this respect: I have no doubt about Israel's ability to handle vast numbers of immigrants, but immigration to Israel must certainly and inevitably be curtailed unless the following problems are solved.

First, the standard of living will have to be measurably lowered, far beyond the present not insignificant restrictions. Mr. Horowitz says he has no objections and assures us that the people of Israel stand ready to tighten their belts.

I would remind Mr. Horowitz, however, that you Israelis have not laid down a real austerity program. You have not applied authentic restrictions on luxuries and comfort. You have not yet imposed stringent rationing so that *all* may share and *none* may want.

Are you willing to have austerity, more austerity, and still more austerity?

If so, there need be little worry about immigration; but if not, then immigration will, it seems to me, have to be limited to some extent.

Secondly, you have the problem of nonselection of immigrants. You have been more than kind and considerate in accepting all who thronged to your shores. No Jew is barred—not even the lame and the halt and the blind. But how can your nation expect to build soundly and to produce abundantly when burdened with such staggering problems of physical and mental health? Believe me, Hadassah's medical organization will have its hands full. Incurables, for example, could receive better care at less expense for the time being in the countries where they still reside and where economic hardships are not as taxing as here.

Immigrants who are not carefully selected, who are physically and mentally ill, and who have not had any education for life in Israel would impair your industrial productivity and your agricultural efficiency. Such immigration can be a liability rather than an asset.

Thirdly, you Israelis must secure sufficient financial aid to handle this stupendous flow of immigration. You will need, I understand, about two billion dollars in loans, investments, and gifts to meet your economic demands as a growing country. Unless

you secure such a sum, you will have to apply brakes to your immigration.

Thus far, you have received only 100 million dollars as a loan and 60 million dollars during the first half of 1949 as investments. Perhaps you have not as yet made investment possibilities secure and attractive enough. As for gifts, generous though they have been, they are not enough.

You must tell this story of immigration to your friends, both Jewish and Christian. I agree with Mr. Bilby that the world knows far too little about the crisis of immigration in your national life. Do your fellow Jews throughout the world know about it? I doubt it! The world at large certainly fails to realize that this is not a Jewish problem alone.

The world must learn that it is in reality an international problem in which all nations share responsibility. The major task ahead of you, it seems to me, is that of dramatizing the plight of your tens of thousands of immigrants who languish jobless and bitter and despondent month after month in those crowded, unsanitary reception centers.

If you can obtain the necessary financial assistance in terms of loans, investments, and gifts, then I would gladly withdraw this particular objection to unrestricted immigration. I say all this as one who has been for many years, as you know, an avowed Christian friend of Zionism and as one who covets for Israel a unique position in the Middle East as a cultural and economic influence for democracy and against totalitarianism whether of left or right.

I, therefore, urge the curtailing — not the stoppage, but the curtailing — and careful control in regulation of your immigration. In any case, problems or not, curtailed immigration or otherwise, I, as an American and as a non-Jew, have only admiration for the zeal and the determination that you manifest in your new State of Israel — this newest republic in the world — the only genuine democracy in the entire Middle East. (*Applause*)

Moderator Denny:

Thank you, Mr. Voss. The Mayor of Tel Aviv, Israel Rokach, hails from one of the oldest Jewish families in this country. His father founded the thriving citrus industry, and although Mayor Rokach himself was trained as an electrical engineer, he has been Mayor of the city since 1936 and has been actively interested in its growth and development for 26 years. He's a member of the Parliament, and is one of the most respected figures in all Israel.

Just before we went on the air, I had the pleasure of presenting

to Mayor Rokach on behalf of our Town Hall listeners our Town Hall Scroll with the names and addresses of thousands of American citizens who made our world tour possible. Now it gives me very great pleasure to present the Mayor of this city, Mayor Israel Rokach of Tel Aviv. (*Applause*)

Mayor Rokach:

Restriction, dear Mr. Bilby, has been for centuries a word of ill fame for the Jewish people. It started from the Ghetto with all the dark shades of human life, including restrictions of residence, restrictions in business, in studies, and so on. Restrictions, friends, by force is an anathema for us.

With the Jewish renaissance in Palestine, restrictions were given many explanations and excuses. Under the Turkish regime, because of their foreign passports, Jews were not allowed to land in Jaffa harbor, and were forbidden from buying land and building houses in their own names, and even from erecting school buildings.

Then came the Balfour Declaration with international recognition of the right of the Jewish people to build its own national home in their ancient homeland. But very soon after the first outbreak of disturbances and connivance with the British authorities, restrictions again appeared, making the establishment of the Jewish national home dependent on the economic absorptive capacity of the country.

Then by political considerations, through further restrictions of the already small area of Palestine, the infamous White Paper left only one-fifth of the country open to free colonization, and it reduced the numerous clauses of the number to be allowed into the country. The idea of partitioning the country cropped up, too.

Against all these conceptions of restrictions, the Jewish people within Palestine and throughout the world fought constantly and courageously. They even agreed to become "thieves in the night" when starting the settlement in a prohibited area and when landing refugees on moonless nights on the shores of Tel Aviv. Palestinian Jewry fought on this score with the police, with the army, and suffered endless days of curfew which paralyzed economic life, disrupted communications, and its leaders spent weeks and months behind barbed wire in the concentration camps of Latrun, Athlit, and elsewhere.

Now, at last, when the Jewish state has become a reality and a many-generation-long dream has become a fact, who would dare to affix to our colors the stigma of the so-much-hated restriction

of immigration, of holding back the surge of people straining to leave the country and the camp and soil of hated Germany and take their part in the rebuilding of our country, its state, and its language?

The danger is no longer in the centuries-long restriction on entry into Palestine, for the gates of Zion shall remain widely open to every Jew who wishes to live freely in Israel. The danger today is the restriction of Jews leaving the different countries, of the dispersion for these shores.

Russia, since its revolution, prohibited its citizens from leaving that country and thus restricted immigration of Jews from there. The same policy is being followed by all states under Soviet influence. In these countries, the great masters of the remnants of European Jewry are hopelessly imprisoned.

In other countries, where this is not so, Jews are prevented from taking with them their capital, their worldly goods, their industrial equipment. Paradoxically, the Jew, who in the past was a pariah to be hounded out, is now forbidden from leaving the countries of provisional states and from making his way to the now wide-open gates of Zion.

The struggle of world Jewry now is to bring about the relaxation of these restrictions and to open the way to Israel for those Jews who see their physical and spiritual salvation within the framework of this state. This, friend Bilby, should be the motto and aim of all peace-minded and progressive people independent even of the conditions our co-worker, Dr. Voss, thinks necessary under existing circumstances. (*Applause*)

Moderator Denny:

Thank you, Mayor Rokach. Now before we take the questions from our audience, we'd like to have some questions from two members of our Town Hall Seminar who are acting as special interrogators for this meeting, Mr. George Wilson representing the American Farm Bureau Federation, and Mr. Robert Hanson representing the Fraternal Order of Eagles. We're going to start with a question from our friend Mr. Wilson who hails from the great state of California, so much like the new state of Israel.

Mr. Wilson: Thank you, Mr. Denny. Mr. Horowitz, it's in a spirit of great admiration that I ask how is Israel going to continue unrestricted immigration and still meet its high living and production costs, to attract new capital, and to prevent the necessity of nationalistic barriers which will encourage counter measures from neighbor states, thus hampering the desired peace and the elevating influence of Israel in the Near East?

THE SPEAKERS' COLUMN

CARL HERMAN VOSS — Dr. Voss, a Congregational minister, is a member of the faculty of the New School for Social Research in New York City. This summer he is in charge of a group of students who are studying conditions in Israel. Because of his friendship for the people of Israel, he is a member of the Executive Council of the American-Christian Palestine Committee.

ISRAEL ROKACH — Mayor of Tel Aviv since 1936, Israel Rokach is a member of one of the oldest Jewish families in the community. His father founded the citrus industry. Mayor Rokach, himself, was trained as an electrical engineer, but has been actively interested in the growth and development of his city for 26 years. He is a member

of the Parliament and one of the most respected figures of all Israel.

KENNETH BILBY — Mr. Bilby, a native of Arizona, was a student of political science at the University of Arizona and at Columbia. During the war he rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He is now in Palestine as a representative of the *New York Herald Tribune*.

DAVID HOROWITZ — Mr. Horowitz, who has lived in Palestine for more than 29 years, is Director General of the Finance Ministry of the State of Israel. He has represented the Jewish case at the United Nations, and is now head of the Israeli delegation on current financial talks with Great Britain.

Mr. Denny: Thank you, Mr. Wilson. Mr. Horowitz?

Mr. Horowitz: The way is to increase productivity. Cost of production doesn't depend upon the standard of life. Countries with a higher standard of life compete in a world market if they increase productivity. We are going the same way. (*Applause*)

Mr. Denny: Thank you, Mr. Horowitz. Now, Mr. Robert Hansen of Milwaukee.

Mr. Hansen: I should like to ask either Dr. Voss or Ken Bilby whether, if all of the nations of the West share the responsibility for meeting the problems of the immigrants who come to Israel, in view of the difficulties here, would it not be better for the western nations to share a little more with Israel the moral leadership and actual responsibility for meeting the problems of Jewish and other refugees in countries that still have lots of land and job opportunities?

Mr. Bilby: I think I can perhaps best answer that by a personal illustration. A recently returned Jewish agency leader from Germany reported to me last week that the visa situation to the United States for Jews in the camps of Germany is considerably eased. But he said the very unique thing was that the great bulk of them still wanted to come to Israel, even though the opportunity to go to the United States from Germany existed.

Mr. Denny: Thank you. I believe Mr. Voss has a comment on that. Mr. Voss?

Mr. Voss: It should be added, Mr. Denny, that of the million displaced persons in Europe after the war, only 23 per cent were Jews, and of those, 95 per cent wanted to go to Israel with a singular unanimity. The other Jews who have been wanting to come here are not, strictly speaking, displaced persons, but simply

Jews who want to come from a deep-seated and ancient religious and cultural longing. Of the necessity of granting land to them, there is no question, because Israel has ample room for those immigrants. (*Applause*)

Mr. Denny: All right. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Voss. George Wilson has a question.

Mr. Wilson: I would like to ask either Mr. Horowitz or the Mayor, how can Israel maintain maximum incentives to production on communal farms, placing no dependence on the profit motive?

Mr. Denny: Ah, there you are, Mr. Horowitz, Finance Minister.

Mr. Horowitz: There are two kinds of incentives—the individual incentive of making progress and becoming wealthy as far as possible, and the feeling of collective responsibility. In the collective settlements, we are trying to substitute the incentive of individual gain by the incentive of collective responsibility. It is an experiment which has very well succeeded. (*Applause*)

Mr. Denny: Thank you, Mr. Horowitz. Now, Bob Hansen again.

Mr. Hansen: A question for the Mayor. As a part of providing a stable and secure environment for its people, does the Israeli government plan an old-age and social security program, and will it be possible to integrate the present labor-union-sponsored workers' sick, assistance, and unemployment funds with such a state public and social security program?

Mr. Denny: Mr. Mayor, are you thinking that far ahead?

Mayor Rokach: As soon as we have passed the transitional period of rebuilding the peace, I am certain that the first thing in the program of the government will be to bring into this country social security against unemployment and against sickness, and for all other social purposes. (*Applause*)

Mr. Denny: Thank you, Mayor Rokach. Now, before we take the questions from the members of our audience, let's pause briefly for an announcement.

Mr. Emeny: This is Brooks Emeny, president of the Foreign Policy Association and member of the Town Hall World Seminar. If there is one impression which this flying world tour of ours has emphasized, it is the overwhelming importance of America's role in world affairs—not that this was not already self-evident, but somehow the actual daily witnessing of the effects of our policies abroad has a very sobering lesson to bring.

Every aspect of our policies, whether domestic or foreign, has world-wide repercussions. It is the awareness of this fact on the part of other peoples which gives them constant concern as to

what Americans think and may decide to do. It also underlines the supreme importance of the education of American citizens in the problems of other countries and the relation of our power and wealth to their solution.

The very success of our foreign policy depends upon an enlightened public opinion. There are many means of contributing, of course, to this end. But, fundamentally, it is the task of the leadership of each community to organize the means whereby every school child and every voter can better understand the essential elements involved in our international decisions.

The Foreign Policy Association is, of course, dedicated to this very purpose of helping communities. We not only show how such educational programs can be organized, but we provide publications dealing with all phases of world affairs. Every citizen needs what the Association can give. Every citizen is welcome to participate in our work.

Now for the question period, we return you to Mr. Denny.

QUESTIONS, PLEASE!

Mr. Denny: Now, we're going to have the opportunity of hearing questions from the people of this new state of Israel who have come here from all parts of the world. They may come in Hebrew as well as English, and they'll be translated immediately. We start with the young man in uniform right there in the aisle.

Man: I'd like to ask Mr. Bilby. It is difficult enough to absorb thousands of Jewish immigrants who support our state. Should we also be expected to accept Arab emigres who fought against us?

Mr. Denny: Mr. Bilby?

Mr. Bilby: I think that's a rather broad question that goes into a political discussion which is now on the agenda at Lausanne. I don't think it's quite pertinent to the question of what has got to be done with immigration as far as the Jews themselves are concerned.

Mr. Denny: Perhaps that question ought to go to one or two of the other speakers. Do either one of you want to handle that question? No, they shake their heads. All right. You didn't have to. Next question from the other side.

Man: Mr. Horowitz. Here's a question which I think is very pertinent to having to absorb the immigrants. How can the government encourage the investment of private capital, when

at the same time some of its ministers* talk about the establishment of a socialist state in Israel?

Mr. Horowitz: We are living in a democratic state, and everybody has the right to express his opinions and his views about the future of this country. But what is important for capital which wants to be invested in this country is, of course, what are the real and practical legislative measures that you are going to adopt, and what is administrative practice with regard to investment of private capital. This is directed completely to facilitating and fostering investment of new capital through various facilities, such as in the field of taxation, customs tariff, and transmission in foreign currency of profit and dividends gained in this country.

Mr. Denny: Thank you. Now, the question from over here.

Man: Mr. Voss. What do you think of the prospects for Jewish immigration to Israel from the United States?

Mr. Voss: At the present time, Jewish immigration from the United States to Israel is lamentably weak. There should be, I believe, an immigration from the United States of several thousands, perhaps several tens of thousands, who would make stalwart young American pioneers in Israel to provide, I think, the kind of brawn and brains of which Israel has need. So many immigrants have been coming here physically and mentally deficient, that I think that America owes it to the new state of Israel to provide a strong bulwark to help these new immigrants who come from Europe. (Applause)

Mr. Denny: Thank you. Next question.

Man: Mr. Horowitz. How will the understaffed, underpaid, underequipped, and undertrained Israel police force, and the social welfare agencies be able to cope properly with the social welfare dilemmas of unselected immigration?

Mr. Horowitz: Of course, I explained in my initial statement that we didn't expect the process of absorption and transplantation of population in this country to be a very easy task. We'll have difficulties—not only of economics, but also of another character. We'll have to deal with them as we dealt with much more difficult tasks in the year of 1948, and we have overcome them against all expectations. I believe that whatever difficulties are inherent in these tasks, they are not much more difficult than those which we successfully handled in 1948, and in the first month of the year 1949. (Applause)

Mr. Denny: Thank you. There's a question from another member of our Seminar, Mrs. Buck.

*The questioner has written us saying that, by his use of the term "ministers," he meant members of the Kneset (Parliament).

Mrs. Buck: I'd like to ask Mayor Rokach this question. As the country of Israeli, which of course is not large, becomes completely inhabited through unrestricted immigration, won't Israeli become a serious threat to its neighbors in its need for expansion?

Mr. Denny: Mr. Rokach? *(Pause)* The Mayor's thinking this one over, apparently.

Mayor Rokach: Well, it is a very curious question. First of all, we have plenty of room yet for millions of people to come here, and, I think, the more numerous we are, the better it will be for the neighbors. Of the country, there is no need of thinking of any threat to others. We want to build up peacefully this country. *(Applause)*

Mr. Denny: Thank you. The gentleman back there.

Man: Mr. Bilby. How does Mr. Bilby envisage the cultivation of the Negeb without an ever-increasing stream of immigrants?

Mr. Bilby: Well, in the first place, I don't anticipate that this stream is going to be cut off. I'm sure, at the present time, that if I were to say I would like to see immigration restricted to 5,000 per month, instead of the 30,000 it was a short time before, that Mr. Horowitz would agree with me—if I used the word "regulated," instead of the word "restricted."

As Mr. Rokach, the Mayor, pointed out in his speech, this word "restricted" is the thing that is causing the big debate. It's a distasteful word to you people, because of the long historical tragedies which are associated with it. But by restricting, by cutting down, does not for a second mean that you're going to chop off your development programs in the Negeb. You're going to get on your feet when you have a little breathing spell. When you've got these people properly oriented and assimilated, then I'm sure your development program will go far faster than it could otherwise. *(Applause)*

Mr. Denny: Thank you. The young lady in the blue dress there.

Lady: *(Question in Hebrew)*

Mr. Denny: Thank you. Now we're going to have to call on our interpreter.

Interpreter: I'm afraid that I'm going to save Mr. Bilby a reply. He has not been asked a question. The lady declared openly in her name and that of her colleagues that "just as we reached the present stage without recourse to arms, really, so with the help of God Almighty, we shall keep the gates of this country open." *(Applause)*

Mr. Denny: Thank you. Thank the young lady. Yes, this gentleman.

Man: Perhaps Mr. Horowitz and Mayor Rokach would like to confer in answer to this question. How long do you think it will require to integrate the present camp population and find proper homes for them?

Mr. Denny: How long will it take to integrate the present camp population?

Mr. Horowitz: I wouldn't take it on myself to predict. If I would be a prophet, I wouldn't be a director of the Finance Ministry. *(Laughter)*

Mr. Denny: Mayor Rokach. Would you comment?

Mayor Rokach: Well, I remember that 22 years ago when we had 4,000 unemployed in the population of about 250,000 Jews in Palestine, we thought how long will it take to get rid of the 4,000. Now that we are about 900,000 and have about 60,000 in the camps, anybody who knows about arithmetic can make the calculation.

Mr. Denny: All right. Thank you, very much. There is a lady on the aisle here.

Lady: I'm Mrs. Izler Solomon from Columbus, Ohio. What is your suggestion, Mr. Voss, to the Jewish and Christian Zionists in the United States in helping the immigration problem in Israel?

Mr. Voss: I think the first thing that has to be done is to tell both Jews and Christians of this immigration crisis in the national life of Israel. I think certainly there is a great need for even larger gifts than have come before. If those two things—understanding and generosity—are forthcoming, they are a tremendous contribution to be made to alleviate this problem.

Mr. Denny: Thank you. Let's take this gentleman right here.

Man: This question is addressed to Mr. Bilby. As a matter of fairness and justice, isn't absorption of some admitted 500,000 Arabs, who are entitled to return, an essential problem to be met at the same time as Jewish immigration?

Mr. Bilby: No, I don't think by any means it is necessarily connected. In the first place, you're presupposing that 500,000 Arabs are coming back. But I think most of the audience would argue with you a bit on that. Certainly, any Arabs that do come back will come as part of a peace treaty. When that peace treaty will come, no one knows at the present time. In the meantime, the job of assimilating this Jewish immigration which is still coming is an imminent one and has to go forward unrelated to any possible Arab return to Israel. *(Applause)*

Mr. Denny: Thank you. The gentleman over there.

Man: I'd like to ask Mr. Rokach how many Jews, and from what countries and why, have left Israel for the countries from which they came during this last year.

Mr. Denny: Well, Mayor, do you have those statistics in your pocket?

Mayor Rokach: I am very weak in statistics, and secondly I don't believe in statistics. Thirdly, I think there are only few who have left for commercial reasons, or for diplomatic purposes. The others, I think, are so few that it is not worth while to keep an employee to take down their number in figures. (*Applause*)

Mr. Denny: Thank you. This gentleman who has been following the Seminar regularly has some information to add.

Man: This question was asked yesterday morning at the Seminar, and one of the replies given by the immigration experts at the Jewish Agency was that the majority of the people who have left during this last period are people who came here from Shanghai—people for whom Israel was only a transit camp. If we helped them in any way on their way onwards, God be with them!

Mr. Denny: Thank you. Now on the other side of the hall.

Lady: Mr. Voss mentioned that immigrants without specified trades or incurables would be better off in their countries of origin. What about the reviving talk of Germany, Poland, or certain other countries?

Mr. Voss: I take it for granted that these immigrants who are incurable or too hopelessly diseased to be of any help to the State of Israel will be well taken care of not only by a group such as the American Distribution Committee, but also under the care of the other nations. If we haven't learned that much after these years of horror, then I'm afraid the whole thing is hopeless. I am convinced though that it is not hopeless.

Mr. Denny: Thank you. Now, Dr. Briggs, president of Lion's International.

Dr. Briggs: Absorptive capacity has been variously interpreted to us. Please tell us, Mayor, just what is your capacity?

Mayor Rokach: Well, the capacity is the number of Jews who are waiting to enter Palestine. I think it is about the number of Jews who are now in Eastern Europe and Western Europe and, as we were told before, a part of the Jews from the United States who are waiting to come into this country.

Mr. Denny: Mr. Mayor, is that in terms of numbers—one million, two million, three million—how many? Five million?

Mayor Rokach: I told you that I was weak in figures and statistics, but I think Israel could contain about four million inhabitants. (*Applause*)

Mr. Denny: Thank you. Now we have a figure there. Now the gentleman over here on the balcony.

Man: Mr. Bilby, what do you propose should be done for those impoverished in Europe who wish to come to Israel but who would be excluded by this regulation of immigration?

Mr. Bilby: Well, first, the important thing to realize is that the great bulk of the most desperate cases have now reached Israel. Dr. Goldstein, the secretary of the Jewish Agency, just returned from Germany, says that in September—by next month—all of the camps in Germany will be cleared out. Now, in the immigration that is planned for the next six months and a little further ahead of that, the immigration is not coming from Europe. That problem is basically pretty much licked with the exception of the Iron Curtain countries, such as in Rumania, where they are immured and where you can't get them out.

Your immigration now is coming from Asia, a great percentage of it, and this question of Europe is not so vital as it once was.

Mr. Denny: Thank you. Now the gentleman back in the aisle.

Man: Mr. Horowitz. How can Israel compare with colonial America in the light of the natural wealth of the country and in the conditions and the attitudes of the immigrants that are coming toward work?

Mr. Horowitz: I did not compare at all the natural resources of America and the natural resources of Israel. What I compare is the pessimistic view of absorptive capacity which appears even grotesque if you compare it with that period of time. The point was that this richest region of the world found in these few hundred immigrants of that time pessimists who didn't believe they could be absorbed. They believed that the absorptive capacity of America wasn't sufficient for a few hundred and they returned to England.

The idea was in this comparison to show how erroneous can be all estimates of absorptive capacity made in advance. Absorptive capacity is a function not only of natural resources but just as much of human material and its quality; the function of skill, capital, zeal, and grim determination to make good.

Mr. Denny: Thank you. Mr. Voss has a comment.

Mr. Voss: I think it should be pointed out that in this country you have the greatest treasure in the world—mainly that of brains. That's why we're asking for this regulation—not exclusion but regulation—of immigration. You have the brains ranging from the pioneers who have settled in the Negeb and in the Negebese border all the way to the scientists of the Weizmann Institute. Those brains, I think, Mr. Horowitz, will be the best resource you have, especially in helping raise the standard of

living, not only in the Israel, but in the Arab countries as well.
(Applause)

Mr. Denny: Thank you. Mr. Walter White has a question.

Mr. White: About Dr. Voss' estimate that two billions of dollars is necessary, I would like to ask Mr. Horowitz where Israel hopes to get the two billions.

Mr. Denny: Mr. Horowitz, as Minister of Finance, that's a fair question for you.

Mr. Horowitz: The estimate, of course, is an estimate for a long period of time, and is based on absorption of something like a million immigrants. If we don't fix the time, it's very difficult to predict from what sources, in what exact proportion the two billion dollars will come into the country.

My idea is that it will come mainly from three sources. The one is gifts from the nations of all Jewry which have to shoulder part of the responsibility for absorption of these immigrants. They are a Jewish responsibility, and not only Israel's responsibility. Second, through international loans and other commercial loans such as that obtained from the Export-Import Bank and others which will follow; and, third, through investment of private capital flowing in an increasing stream into this country and being invested here in order to provide asylum and an avenue for the future for the many Jews who have unused capital and want to settle in Israel.

Mr. Denny: Thank you, Mr. Horowitz. Well, I see here in the audience a very distinguished gentleman who has participated in these programs many times in the United States. I don't know how he's kept silent while all this was going on. He's a distinguished American Ambassador to the State of Israel, Mr. James G. McDonald. Mr. McDonald, a comment or a question will be welcomed. (Applause)

Mr. McDonald: Well, it would be improper, I think, for me to ask a question. What I should like to do would be to express our thanks for the Town Hall coming here, and to express, on my behalf, and I think on behalf of my government, our appreciation of the wonderful coöperation which everyone in Israel has given, and particularly to the Mayor and to his assistant, here in Tel Aviv. (Applause)

Mr. Denny: Thank you, Mr. McDonald, and may I return the compliment. Now, while our speakers prepare their summaries of tonight's discussion, here's a special message of interest to you.

Mr. Hansen: This is Bob Hansen, again, speaking for the World Town Hall Seminar group that came to Tel Aviv to discuss with people here the problems and progress of this newest land. We've

talked with scientists and farmers and engineers and city workers. We've found them just like folk the world around, wanting only work and freedom, some measure of security and opportunity, peace not war.

One of their problems we have been discussing this evening, but listening will not be enough. America's world leadership must rest on the foundation of year-around interest and average-man understanding. So we hope that the folk back home will give increasing attention to discussion, debates, and programs that will further the people-to-people understanding.

If the problems seem many and the solutions difficult, we recommend the Israeli motto, "If you will it, it need not remain a dream."

Now we return you to Mr. Denny for the summaries.

Mr. Denny: We'll take our first summary from Dr. Voss.

Dr. Voss: If the United Nations Security Council thwarts Arab aggression and rebukes the British for their imperialist machinations in this area, Israel might then be able to keep immigration flowing and not have to divert strength and resources to war. Then the United Nations could provide, in the event of peace in the Middle East, financial help for Israel from the International Bank and Fund, offer medical assistance in the World Health Organization, and make this issue really a world problem—not just a Jewish problem. If prospects for peace fade, because the UN is weak and such help is denied, then I'm afraid Israel faces the almost certain prospect of having to limit its immigration.

Mr. Denny: Thank you, Dr. Voss. Now, Mayor Rokach, may we have your summary please?

Mayor Rokach: As a member of a family who has been here 109 years, I've seen the development of the country and heard from my forefathers of what it was at the beginning. So that I was only relatively impressed by the doubts expressed by my colleagues here that there is need of regulation of immigration. I'm certain that my children and grandchildren will see around them millions of Jews in this country and be proud, as we are, of the development of the State of Israel. (*Applause*)

Mr. Denny: Thank you, Mayor Rokach. Now, Mr. Kenneth Bilby.

Mr. Bilby: The great pressing immigration problem during the first stage of Israel's existence was to clear the camps of Europe. Substantially, that task has now been accomplished. Now, in the second phase, the great job is to fit these people into a new life with homes, employment, educational opportunities, and proper

institutional care. That can be done only if the great immigration wave is curtailed for the present.

Mr. Denny: Thank you, Mr. Bilby. Now, Mr. Horowitz, your last words, please.

Mr. Horowitz: Restriction of immigration by law would be repugnant to the people of Israel against the background of their struggle for immigration for so many years. Immigration is self-regulating, and adapts itself naturally to economic conditions. Immigration as a driving creative force can be relied upon to stimulate the expansion of the country. The suffering of people here has more purpose and sense and isn't greater than in the countries of their origin.

Every effort will be made to condition economic and political factors to improve their position. This is a better solution of the problem than the restriction of immigration. (*Applause*)

Mr. Denny: Thank you, Mr. Horowitz, Kenneth Bilby, Dr. Carl Herman Voss, and Mayor Israel Rokach. Thanks, too, to our interrogators, Mr. Hansen and Mr. Wilson, and to our audience for asking those very useful questions that helped our understanding of this question.

Our warm thanks go, too, to our host committee, and to Mr. Richard Tetley, the strong right arm of the American Ambassador here for his excellent help.

As usual, copies of tonight's discussion may be obtained by sending 10 cents to Town Hall, New York 18, New York, asking for a copy of the program from Tel Aviv. By special arrangements we've been able to make with our publishers, we're going to bind all 12 of these Round-the-World Town Meetings from world capitals into one volume for one dollar, so if you'd like to have the entire series, including this one, enclose one dollar and send to the same address, Town Hall, New York 18, New York.

Now next week, we cross the Mediterranean to Northern Africa to the land of Egypt and the City of Cairo, to consider the question "Does the Arab World Need a Marshall Plan?" Our speakers will be Saba Habashy Pacha, former Minister of Commerce and Industry; Hussein Kamel Selim Bey, dean of the faculty of Commerce at Fuad University; Dr. John S. Badeau, president of the American University of Cairo; and Dr. Clarence Decker, president of the University of Kansas City, and member of our Town Hall World Seminar. So plan now to be with us next week and every week at the sound of the crier's bell. (*Applause*)



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JUST RETURNED from EUROPE and ISRAEL

DR. CARL HERMANN VOSS has just returned from a trip to Europe and to Israel. In Israel, he served as a consultant to the Summer Workshop of the School of Education of New York University. He is available for a

limited number of lectures this fall, winter, and spring on the subjects listed below. His observations on this recent trip to Europe and the Holy Land will be courageous, eloquent and forthright, as have been his lectures on Europe, the Middle East and South Africa, where he traveled two years ago.

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An Eye Witness Report of the New Israel

An American Christian Appraises the Impact of Israel on Jewry, Judaism, and Zionism

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Is There Any Possibility for Permanent Peace with Russia?

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The Dilemma of the American Liberal

CARL HERMANN VOSS:

Chairman of the Executive Council of the American Christian Palestine Committee

Member of the faculty of the New School for Social Research

Congregational and Unitarian minister
Author of "Answers on the Palestine Question"

Formerly member of the executive staff of the Church Peace Union and the World Alliance for International Friendship Through the Churches

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(See other side for comments)

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September 5 - 49

Dr F. M. Falkman.

Dear doctor Falkman.

Again I am forwarding to you, two letters - copy - of two letters I wrote to the Jewish daily Forward, and to the The Jewish day. as a Zionist who belongs to Rabai Silvers Society, and yours.

I cannot help myself of being discouraged with the present - do nothing - Zion representation for Israel: in America I hope something will be done, at once - to return our great Rabai Silver, to the leadership for Israel. Myself and my familie. cannot think and consider ourselves as Zionists, without our great Rabai Silvers leadership.

The last time I wrote to you from Miami Beach, Florida, now we

We are back home. but our new
adresse now. is 3641 Summings Rd
Cleveland Heights Ohio. our former
adresse in Cleveland was 10208 Pulund
very respectfully

yours

William Friedberg
3641 Summings Rd
Cleveland Heights Ohio

YE 3978



The Day

September 5 - 49

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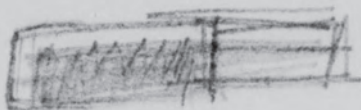
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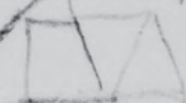


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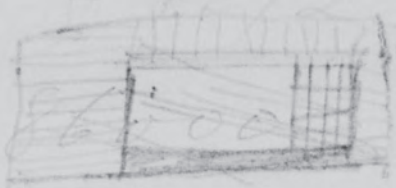
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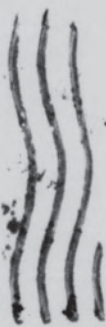
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September 27, 1949

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Friend:

In reviewing our records on the occasion of the New Year, I find that the annual scholarship received from the Cleveland Zionist Society in the amount of \$500 has not been sent to the University for 1949. In the past this scholarship was received in December of each year to be used for the following year. The last payment was made on December 26, 1947 for the year 1948.

I earnestly hope the Cleveland Zionist Society will renew its annual scholarship and that I may hear from you shortly and I will communicate the good news to the University.

With cordial personal regards and best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely yours,

High Salpeter
Executive Vice-President

HS:ch

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September 29, 1949

Mr. High Salpeter
American Friends of the Hebrew University
9 East 89th Street
New York 28, New York

My dear Friend:

Replying to your kind letter of September 27th, the Cleveland Zionist Society this year decided to bestow its annual scholarship in the amount of \$500 to one of its own young men who is this year attending the Hebrew University. His name is Richard G. Hirsch.

It is the hope of the Cleveland Zionist Society to continue its scholarship to the University in the future as in the past.

With all good wishes to you and yours for a very Happy New Year, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

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October 5, 1949

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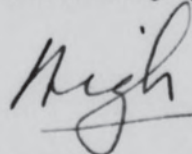
My dear Friend:

Thank you very much for your cordial and prompt letter of September 29th in regard to the annual scholarship of the Cleveland Zionist Society.

We are delighted that it is the hope of the Cleveland Zionist Society to continue its annual scholarship at the Hebrew University in the future as in the past.

As always, my warmest personal regards.

Cordially yours,



High Salpeter
Executive Vice-President

HS:ch

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P. O. BOX 1859
CLEVELAND 6, O.

DR. F. M. FALKMAN
SECRETARY

November 18, 1949

Dear Friend:

As we approach the Thanksgiving and Chanukah season, we again call upon our good friends for contributions to the Hebrew University Scholarship and Cultural Fund of this Society. We have maintained a Scholarship Fund at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem for the past fourteen years to assist deserving students. Last year one of our own members was awarded this scholarship and is now a student there. The university is now, more than ever, the center of Hebrew culture and scientific learning.

The Cultural Fund provides the financial support for the interesting meetings held throughout the year by this Society, where speakers of national reputation appear to address our community. We have sponsored some of the outstanding personalities in the Zionist and Jewish world, who have brought to Cleveland messages of hope and inspiration to our people and our cause.

This Scholarship Fund and all of our cultural activities during the year are made possible through your contributions, as the amount that we retain from our dues is not sufficient to finance all of our activities. We must continue these activities now, more than ever, as we are called upon to give strength to the Israel government before the United Nations.

This year we will again hold our Chanukah Banquet which is one of the outstanding social events of the year. The names of our contributors to this Scholarship and Cultural Fund will be listed as patrons and published in a special program to be distributed at the banquet to be held at Tudor Arms, December 20, 1949.

We will greatly appreciate your contribution in such amount as you can afford to give to this worthy cause. Please make your check payable to the Cleveland Zionist Society, and mail in the enclosed envelope.

Sincerely yours,

Abba Hillel Silver
President

Albert B. Lepton
Co-Chairman, Scholarship & Cultural Fund

Israel and the Holy Places

By Carl Hermann Voss

1. Were holy places, sacred shrines and religious institutions desecrated by the Israelis?
2. Have the Israelis failed to make restitution for damages suffered by churches and religious institutions during the fighting of the last year?
3. Have the Israelis refused to evacuate churches, schools, hospitals and other religious buildings occupied by their troops?
4. Have the Israelis indulged in religious persecution?

THESE QUESTIONS have been discussed with more heat than light in recent months by prelates, both Protestant and Roman Catholic. The answer to 2, 3 and 4 is No, to 1 a qualified Yes. Even with regard to Question 1 the accusations are not borne out by the facts. Incidents of desecration did undoubtedly occur during the period of actual fighting. This was inevitable. But the total damage was comparatively small, especially when compared with the devastation caused by bombs and shells to Arab and Jewish property alike. It is, in fact, surprising that such incidents did not take place in greater number.

Special Care Given Shrines

Even during the hostilities special care was given to churches and the property of religious groups. When Nazareth was occupied by the Israeli army, extraordinary measures were taken to preserve all holy places in their original condition and not to interfere with the predominantly Christian character of the town. The Israeli army posted the following warning in three languages (Arabic, Hebrew and French) in Nazareth and in all areas of Israel where there were sites of sacred association:

STATE OF ISRAEL

MINISTRIES OF SECURITY AND RELIGION

HOLY SITE: ENTRANCE STRICTLY FORBIDDEN!
SEVERE ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST OFFENDERS

When the clergy fled, as happened in many cases, damage and looting did at times take place. Father Joachim el Antony, an Arab, who is the Copt priest of Jaffa, told me: "If priests had not fled from the battle scenes there would have been no damage. I did not flee. I stayed and my church's property was not damaged. False stories were circulated in the Old City of Jerusalem [under Transjordan Arab Legion control] that I had been killed and my church destroyed. When Bishop Weston Stewart of St. George's Cathedral came across from the Old City to visit churches in Israel, he was astonished to see me alive and my church undamaged. Bishop Stewart said to me that less damage and fewer losses would have been suffered by the churches if the clergy had stayed on as I did."

Tribute from Franciscan

Most clergy agree with the Rev. Robert Lindsay, minister of the Jerusalem Baptist congregation, who says that Israel has done as good a job of protecting religious interests as others could have done, "if not better." Father Terrence Kuehn, vicar general for the southern area of

Israel and a member of the Franciscan order in Jerusalem, has often stated that in his opinion "the intentions of those in charge are sincere."

During the fighting last year it was sometimes necessary to extend searches to ecclesiastical buildings. The military always gave search parties strict orders to respect the sanctity of such places. After the capture of the village of Mudjeidal, the Israeli army found it necessary to search the convent and the church for arms. Msgr. Antonio Vergani, Roman Catholic vicar for Galilee and representative of the Vatican for all Palestine, was invited to be present, and the search was delayed until he arrived on the scene.

Mosques Left Untouched

Cases of unauthorized interference with and violation of church property did occur in the areas of actual warfare, mostly where abandoned buildings changed hands twice and sometimes three times a day. But on the whole the damage and desecration were small, certainly not as much as has been done in other countries during wartime or during agitated periods of social stress.

Even in the heat of war the Israelis spared the churches of their enemies whenever possible. When I walked through the battle areas of Jaffa, I was surprised to find the Moslem mosque intact; it was situated directly in the center of the destroyed area where Israeli troops had been engaged in house-to-house fighting with dynamite. For weeks on end this mosque tower had been a snipers' nest from which Arab sharpshooters had sent bullets down into near-by Tel Aviv and killed scores of Jews walking along Allenby road, the main thoroughfare. But the Israelis did not raze the mosque in Jaffa.

Another example is Bir Asluj, a former Arab village, which is south of Beersheba and near Revivim in the Negeb; here is a completely undamaged mosque. The same is true of the mosque in Ness-Zion and of that in Ramleh. An unharmed Moslem house of worship stands amid the utter ruin of what had been Samakh, an Arab village near the southern end of Lake Tiberias. Syrian troops had used the town as a garrison for attacks on the adjacent settlements of Daganian and Kinnereth. Yet here, too, the Israelis spared and even guarded the Moslem mosque, although the restraining order may have meant further loss of Israeli lives.

Jews Denied Access to Wailing Wall

The Jews of Israel could file a complaint of their own. The Wailing Wall, historic site of Israel's lamentation after the destruction of the temple by Titus in 70 A.D., is inaccessible to Jews in spite of repeated international guarantees that it would be made accessible to them and rendered inviolate. I asked Msgr. Vergani whether he did not consider the Wailing Wall a holy place, too. The idea was quickly dismissed. "Not to us Christians," he answered, and passed immediately to another subject of conversation.

Thirty-nine synagogues in the Old City, some among the most venerable in Judaism and all equipped with priceless ancient Israelitic scrolls, were destroyed by the Arab Legion, which is officered, financed and armed by the British. The desecration of these holy places, the failure of either Arabs or British to make restitution or reparation, the continued presence of Arab troops in the Old City of Jerusalem, and the ever recurring persecution of Jews and their debarment from their own holy places, have called forth few, if any, protests from the Christian world.

Restitution and Reparation

The second question, which concerns restitution and reparation, is answered by an examination of what has been the consistent policy of the Israeli government, even when the damage was not inflicted by its own troops.

The Israelis have investigated all complaints. Alleged perpetrators were court-martialed and the stolen goods returned to the legal owners. Such was the case with the Greek Catholic church in Jaffa, the convent of Deir Rafat, and the Anglican church of Haifa. In Jerusalem many religious objects were restored after they had been discovered and identified by the police.

The Israeli government enacted a large program of repairs for church buildings and other ecclesiastical property damaged during the war. It assumed these burdensome responsibilities in spite of the fact that the war with the surrounding Arab states had been neither of Israel's choice nor cause. Repairs have been carried out by the department of public works. Funds have been supplied by the ministry of religions. Major repairs have been effected in five large churches in Jerusalem, whose roofs had been badly damaged by indiscriminate shelling on the part of the Arab Legion. After the fighting had come to a close, seven churches in the Musrara district of Jerusalem were cleaned, holes in the walls were filled and the doors repaired. Similar repairs of lesser importance were carried out on many other sites, such as the Terra Sancta in Haifa.

Of special importance is the agreement recently concluded between the Israeli authorities and the Roman Catholic Church to rebuild the Franciscan convent of the Coenaculum and the Dormition abbey on Mount Zion. Both sanctuaries underwent a terrific pounding. The Israelis will pay the cost of the necessary repairs and return the monasteries to the respective religious orders.

Evacuation of Sacred Places

The third question, that of evacuation by the troops, is answered by the list of buildings recently returned to their rightful owners. The Salesian school in the Musrara quarter of Jerusalem is open again. The clergy evacuated it at the beginning of the fighting. The Italian hospital, in the same quarter, has been returned to the Franciscan nuns.

St. Paul's Church, the greater part of Notre Dame convent, the English mission property and various Greek Orthodox convents have been evacuated by the Israeli army and returned to their owners. In addition, troops have been withdrawn from the convents of Abu Gosh, Beit Jemal and Deir Rafat, and from the farms of Beit Dajan and Tabcha, and the facilities restored to their original purpose. In other instances, where troops still occupy buildings for security purposes, the Israeli authori-

ties have signed contracts of lease and are paying rent for the use of these buildings to the religious organizations which own them. Terra Sancta in Jerusalem is now rented by the Hebrew University.

Apparently the Israeli government had at no time any intention of expropriating church property. Difficulties usually arose when priests and nuns, as well as administrators of church property, fled the country, whereupon the property concerned came within the scope of the Administration of Deserted Properties. An interministerial commission appointed by the government is now handling all questions in dispute. As titles are examined and legal problems untangled, the buildings are released.

No Religious Persecution

The fourth accusation, that of religious persecution, has no basis in fact. On the contrary, the Israelis have been uniquely mindful of all faiths represented in Israel. The clergy has been treated at all times with respect by the Israeli soldiers, even under the most trying circumstances. Father Yussaf Charb, Greek Orthodox priest in Jaffa, told me that the Israeli soldiers had constantly given him food and protection during the war. During the siege the Abyssinian Catholics of Jerusalem daily received rations and medical supplies from the army and the Hadassah medical organization.

Special attention was paid to the status of nuns living in isolation. Nobody was ever allowed to enter convents for the purpose of search and census. Food was supplied to convents and other religious institutions, whether isolated or situated in areas occupied by the military. Transport for the food was placed at the disposal of the ministry of religions by the Israeli army. During the siege of Jerusalem, provisions were constantly sent to ecclesiastical institutions; food and medical supplies were brought regularly to the convents of Beit Jemal and Deir Rafat.

The Israeli government assumes a liberal attitude in granting complete exemption from customs duties for all goods coming into the country on behalf of the churches and church societies. In this respect, they continue the practices of the British mandatory administration from 1922 to 1948.

Christian institutions and clergymen have received, and are still receiving, financial help from the Israeli government. Christian Arab communities received a total of 6,600 Israeli pounds in the first half of 1949. The German hospice has been allocated a monthly subsidy of 50 pounds. The nuns at St. Vincent and St. Paul received a total of 1,800 Israeli pounds from January to June of this year. Smaller allocations were made to some Greek Orthodox priests, to the nuns of Ain Karem and of St. Anna in Haifa, to the priest of Safed and to many others.

Freedom of Movement Restored

During the first months under Israeli rule, when many of the ecclesiastical centers were located in military zones, the clergy was constantly complaining that freedom of movement was restricted. Upon intervention by the ministry of religions, restrictions were gradually lifted and the clergy granted the same freedom of movement enjoyed by the normal Israeli citizen. The clergy is actually privileged, for arrangements have been made to enable priests and

ministers to enter the Old City of Jerusalem and to return at will into Israeli territory. Every day the military authorities issue special permits to this effect. Every month scores of individual priests and many religious groups cross into the Old City with permission to return.

Christian Churchmen Satisfied

Special care has been taken to assist the Christian communities in the celebration of their holidays. Throughout the country special food rations were distributed among the Christians on Christmas and Easter. The clergy was enabled to buy special additional provisions to feed the poor. Curfews and blackouts were lifted for the duration of the holidays wherever the military regime had been installed. On Christmas, Easter and other special occasions, traditional prayers and ceremonies were broadcast by "Kol Israel," the Voice of Israel, the government-owned and only official radio station in the new Jewish state. Last March an Egyptian national, Archbishop Jacobus of the Old City of Jerusalem, visited Israel and was allowed to broadcast an entire service and sermon over Kol Israel.

I talked with many Christian churchmen and found them uniformly satisfied with their treatment at the hands of the Israelis; they were at one in saying that there is no religious persecution. George Hakim, archbishop of the Greek Catholic Church for Haifa, Jaffa and Acre (affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church), said to me: "As for myself, I have no complaint. I am treated by the Israelis with consideration and kindness." This statement is all the more remarkable because it is made by a longtime friend and former supporter of Haj Amin el Husseini, the notorious ex-mufti of Jerusalem.

Archbishop Hakim did object, however, that this treatment did not apply to his people. When I pressed him on that point, I learned that his objection was not based on religious grounds, but rather arose from the fact that less than 100 of his 20,000 absent Arab constituents had returned to Haifa to join the 15,000 who had not fled. But of religious persecution *per se* against his people, the archbishop had no complaint.

A number of leading clergymen, both Protestant and Roman Catholic, who were questioned recently by the *Palestine Post*, leading English newspaper in the Middle East, answered that the Israeli government was not guilty of persecutions, restrictions and denials of religious rights.

Vatican Has No Case

In view of all this evidence that Israel is guarding holy places and granting religious freedom to all faiths, it is incongruous for the Roman Catholic Church to ask for the internationalization of Jerusalem as a safeguard to religious institutions and sacred shrines. In the light of the facts that restitution and repairs have been made, that agreements have been faithfully kept and that no persecution has been allowed, the Vatican has no solid case when it insists on complete internationalization of the entire area.

The Vatican repeatedly asks for the internationalization of Jerusalem and control by a "Christian commission." Roman Catholics, accustomed to such an enclave in the case of Vatican City in Rome, put on an ever increasing pressure for "internationalization," but they leave a convenient loophole should they fail in this campaign. Msgr.

Vergani makes it quite clear that internationalization seems to the pope to be the most constructive, hopeful solution, but "if the United Nations should not adopt such a scheme, then the Holy Father would welcome a solution suitable to and agreed upon by the interested parties, Jews and Arabs."

When Msgr. Vergani's attention is directed to statements of the Vatican radio and the *Osservatore Romano*, in which Israel is accused of religious persecution and desecration of holy places, he tells his inquirer to ignore those broadcasts and editorials, for they are unofficial. "Only the pope's statements are official," he insists, and the suggestion of internationalization is made solely "to insure safety for the holy places." But an alternative solution, says Vergani, is also acceptable for consideration should one be found by Israelis and Arabs.

Russian Factor Ignored

The problem of Russian participation in a possible U.N. commission for Jerusalem seems in no way to concern or disturb Vergani, despite the Russian church's not inconsiderable properties in the area. He appears unmoved by the fact that the Israelis are adamant against relinquishing the New City of Jerusalem to international control, especially after the United Nations failed in early 1948 to assure the peace of Jerusalem and the Jews were compelled, at great loss of life and treasure, to keep Jerusalem from falling into sheer chaos.

The question reduces itself to one simple matter—free access to holy places. International surveillance can follow as a matter of course. Secular functions should be left to the governments which control the respective areas of the Old and New Cities in Jerusalem, as well as Bethlehem. For any church or church body to accuse the Israeli government of harming holy places, of not making reparation or restitution, of not evacuating troops from religious institutions and of indulging in religious persecution is both irresponsible and harmful. For any religious group or church representatives to ask for the internationalization of Jerusalem by the United Nations—if necessary, at the point of a gun—is an injustice to the Israelis, who have protected at least their own part of the City of Peace. If the United Nations can restrain the Arab states, backed by Great Britain, from aggressive warfare, then peace in the Middle East will be assured and, as a sure consequence, the holy places will be really safeguarded.

I Only Need to Pray

I DO NOT need to climb a hill
To hear Thy whisper, "Heart be still."

I do not need to sail the sea
To feel Thy presence close to me.

I do not need a deep, green wood
To know Thy gifts are very good.

I only need to pray to Thee
To share Thy perfect charity.

WINIFRED VIRGINIA JACKSON.

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41 EAST 42nd STREET
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December 2, 1949

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

It is a pleasure to confirm the acceptance of Dr. Carl Hermann Voss as speaker at the Chanukah dinner of The Temple on Tuesday evening, December 20th at 7 P. M. Enclosed I send you three photomats, three glossies and six lecture fliers for publicity purposes. I also enclose "quote" material,--Dr. Voss' recent broadcast out of Israel on the Town Meeting of the Air program, and his article in The Christian Century of November 23rd, "Israel and the Holy Places". You know that I shall be happy to send you anything additional which you may require.

It is Dr. Voss' plan to leave New York by plane on Tuesday, December 20th aboard the 3:55 P. M. United Airlines non-stop flight, arriving at the Cleveland Airport at 6:05. In order that Dr. Voss may arrive in good time for the 7 o'clock dinner meeting, would it be possible to have him called for when he reaches Cleveland?

In accordance with our usual procedure, may I trouble you, please, to have the enclosed speaker's information forms returned in duplicate for the guidance of Dr. Voss and for our own files.

I was very sorry to have missed you when you visited the office yesterday and do hope that you will find it possible to come in soon again, and often.

With kindest regards to Mrs. Silver and yourself, I am

Cordially yours,

Blanche J. Shepard
Blanche J. Shepard
Director

BJS:XR
Enc.

P. S. I have noted this engagement as a \$100 honorarium, plus expenses.

December 5, 1949

Miss Blanche J. Shepard, Director
Club Program Service
41 East 42nd Street
New York 17, New York

My dear Miss Shepard:

I am deeply grateful for your kind letter of December 2nd and for the material which you sent me concerning Dr. Voss. I am wondering, however, whether it would be possible for Dr. Voss to come to Cleveland to address the Cleveland Zionist Society on Tuesday, January 31st, or Wednesday, February 1st, instead of the December 20th date.

The program of the Chanukah affair on December 20th includes a dinner dance, and I, therefore, do not feel that adequate time could be given Dr. Voss for the presentation of a full-bodied address.

I shall appreciate your getting in touch with Dr. Voss at once and letting me know at your earliest convenience.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

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Rev. Karl Baehr

December 20, 1949

Miss Elizabeth Rice
Secretary to Dr. Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Miss Rice:

Would you be so kind as to return to me the enclosed speaker's information forms in duplicate, filling in the details on the meeting which Dr. Carl Hermann Voss is to address on February 1st, 1950? We are anxious to have this data for Dr. Voss' guidance.

With thanks and all good wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

Blanche J. Shepard
Blanche J. Shepard
Director

BJS:EXR
Enc.



Fenmay Hall

EUCLID AVENUE AT UNIVERSITY CIRCLE

CLEVELAND 6. OHIO


Dec. 30, 1949

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple, Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Please accept our expression of greatfulness
for your kind and ready assistance that has
contributed so much to the success of our
Chanukah dinner and dance party.

Sincerely yours,



David Katz

Chairman Arrangements Committee

J. M. Falkman

Co-Chairman Arrangements Committee

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. F. M. Falkman

DATE: January 12, 1950

FROM: Abraham A. Redelheim

SUBJECT:

Enclosed herewith are the Membership Statistics as of December 30th for all the districts in Cleveland and the summary of regions.

This brings to an end our activities for the first three months of the current year, and it is quite obvious that something must be done to bolster up the situation as the figures are not very encouraging. All districts in Cleveland are somewhat behind in their membership effort as compared to last year at the same time.

I shall make every effort to speak to you on the phone within the next few days, however, I want to give you an opportunity to study these figures so that when I call you, you may have the statistics in front of you and we can discuss the matter intelligently.

Kindest personal regards.

Dear Rabbi Silver: -

*I am sending you the
membership list as of January 1, 1950*
Dr. Falkman

AAK

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

SUMMARY OF COMPARATIVE MEMBERSHIP REPORTS BY REGIONS

1 9 4 9 - 5 0

REGIONS	SEPT. 30 1948-49	DEC 30 1948	DEC 30 NEW	DEC 30 REN	DEC 30 PAID TOTAL	GAIN OR LOSS	DEC 30 UNPAID TOTAL
Bronx	10203	6179	398	4399	4797	L	5697
Brooklyn	18439	10531	659	7662	8321	L	10537
Long Island	13925	8560	834	6264	7098	L	7507
Manhattan	9849	6440	229	4700	4929	L	4888
Westchester	3774	2559	180	1931	2111	L	1779
Central States	3956	1333	23	1206	1229	L	2782
Chicago, Ill.	8257	3824	32	2849	2881	L	5237
Cleveland (All Dists)	4184	2747	112	2106	2218	L	2052
Connecticut	6648	3449	34	2413	2447	L	4180
Eastern Pennsylvania	5108	2330	153	1857	2010	L	3191
Empire State	4682	2794	52	1290	1342	L	3386
Michigan	3738	1531	32	1360	1392	L	2415
Mid-West	2523	1171	51	852	903	L	1631
New England	12280	5013	162	3979	4141	L	8196
New Jersey	9913	5736	129	3151	3280	L	6650
Northern Pacific	2187	1299	22	810	832	L	1324
Northwest	1811	662	44	440	484	L	1365
Ohio Valley	4315	1919	14	1328	1342	L	2910
Philadelphia, Penna.	7329	5505	229	2933	3162	L	4239
Rhode Island	1839	760	-	530	530	L	1289
Rocky Mountain	620	360	12	130	142	L	482
Seaboard	9093	5230	188	3811	3999	L	5163
Southeastern	8766	4533	214	2920	3134	L	5171
Southern Pacific	4148	2684	193	1876	2069	L	2172
Southwestern	5971	2350	398	2989	3387	G	3331
Tri-State	7790	3946	88	2789	2877	L	3927
Western New York	3991	1806	31	764	795	L	3179
Hawaii	67	55	-	1	1	L	62
Foreign	4	1	-	1	1	-	3
Total	175410	95307	4513	67341	71854	L	104745

LIFE MEMBERSHIP AS OF NOVEMBER 3806
 DECEMBER 3829

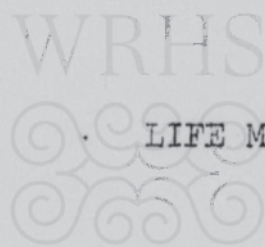
NEW DISTRICTS 2

UNAFFILIATED OHIO ZIONIST REGION

COMPARATIVE MEMBERSHIP REPORT

1 9 4 9 - 5 0

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>SEPT 30</u> <u>1948-49</u>	<u>DEC 30</u> <u>1948</u>	<u>DEC 30</u> <u>NEW</u>	<u>DEC 30</u> <u>REN</u>	<u>DEC 30</u> <u>PAID</u> <u>TOTAL</u>	<u>GAIN</u> <u>OR</u> <u>LOSS</u>	<u>DEC 30</u> <u>UNPAID</u> <u>TOTAL</u>
<u>CLEVELAND</u>							
Zionist Society	2314	1790	106	1467	1573	L	833
Zionist District	702	404	--	265	265	L	431
Heights Temple	1093	553	6	374	380	L	715
Keren Hayesod	50	--	--	--	--	--	49
Migdol Society	25	--	--	--	--	--	24
Total	4184	2747	112	2106	2218	L	2052



LIFE MEMBERSHIP AS OF NOVEMBER 29
 DECEMBER 29

January 23, 1950

Mr. Eliezer Liebenstein
The Sulgrave
Park Ave. at 67th Street
New York 21, New York

My dear Mr. Liebenstein:

I am very pleased that you will be able to address the Cleveland Zionist Society on March 2nd. I think that it would perhaps be helpful for publicity purposes if you would send us the subject of your address; likewise, if you have a photograph of yourself, I would appreciate if you would send it to me.

With all good wishes and looking forward with pleasure to welcoming you to Cleveland, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

Cleveland Zionist ~~Emergency~~ Council

DIVISION OF

American Zionist ~~Emergency~~ Council

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CLEVELAND ZIONIST SOCIETY
CLEVELAND ZIONIST DISTRICT
HEIGHTS TEMPLE
ZIONIST DISTRICT
ZIONIST YOUTH COUNCIL

January 25, 1950

Dear President;

At the recent meeting of the Cleveland Zionist Council, the requests of the National Zionist Council were discussed. In the light of recent events our national leaders have felt the necessity of bringing the truth about Israel to the non-Jewish world. One way to do this is through a seminar held in this city and sponsored by the Palestine Christian Committee. Another even more important way is to establish contacts with Non-Jewish groups so that they include on their forums sympathetic speakers on Israel.

The delegates at the meeting realized from past experience that such a job can be done effectively only by a paid professional worker.

This takes money. The Cleveland Zionist Council has been paralyzed by lack of funds. The annual dues agreed upon by the constituent groups are not being paid promptly. Please mail your dues of...~~\$1.00~~..... to Mr. Morris Terkel, treasurer, 2165 Chatfield Drive.

The dues however, are inadequate to carry on the work outlined above. If every group will agree to pay annually the amount of money it had paid each year in special assessments for special projects such as paid ads in the newspapers etc., we will have enough money not only to pay a regular part-time employee but also to provide for such necessary items as stationery, postage and other incidental expenses.

Please discuss this important matter at your next meeting so that your Zionist Council may map its future program.

Sincerely Yours,

Janet Merline
Secretary (Mrs. J.)

February 1, 1950

My dear Dr. Voss:

I regret very much that I have been called to New York and am unable to be with you this evening. I had looked forward to seeing you. I am sure that you will receive a very warm welcome from the members of the Cleveland Zionist Society who will turn out to hear you.

I trust that you are well and I am looking forward to the pleasure of seeing you in the very near future, perhaps in New York.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er



Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Pres.
Cleveland Zionist Society
The Temple
Ansel Road at E. 105 Street
Cleveland 6, Ohio



THE JEWISH WELFARE FEDERATION OF CLEVELAND

Room 320, Chester-Twelfth Building

Telephone: CHerry 8176

February 7, 1950

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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
President, Cleveland Zionist Society
Ansel Road & East 105th Street
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We are making every effort in the 1950 Jewish Welfare Fund Campaign to organize the community as widely as possible so as to reach a maximum result in the Campaign. We are presenting the Welfare Fund picture to beneficiary agencies and to organizations throughout the community, for the purpose of bringing about a maximum understanding of the Campaign and in order to recruit personnel.

Could you arrange for a representative of the Welfare Fund Campaign to address briefly the next meeting of the Cleveland Zionist Society? We would hope that the meeting would be properly followed up in the Society, so that good workers may be added to the Campaign roster.

Please let me know whether you approve of this plan, and whether we can participate in the next meeting of the Society.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Cordially,

Max Freedman

Max Freedman, General Chairman
1950 Jewish Welfare Fund Campaign

February 8, 1950

Mr. Max Freedman
Jewish Welfare Fund
Chester-Twelfth Building
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Mr. Freedman:

The Cleveland Zionist Society will be very pleased to have a representative of the Jewish Welfare Fund address its next meeting which will be held on Thursday evening, March 2nd, in Mahler Hall of The Temple at 8:30 p.m. Inasmuch as there is an out-of-town speaker on the program as well as a Purim musical program, it is suggested that the representative of the Fund speak no more than ten minutes.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER
President, Cleveland Zionist Society

AHS:er

February 9, 1950

Mr. Eliezer Liebenstein
The Sulgrave
Park Ave. at 67th Street
New York 21, New York

Dear Mr. Liebenstein:

Would you be good enough to send us by return mail a photograph of yourself as well as the subject of your address before the Cleveland Zionist Society on March 2nd. We are anxious to proceed with publicity at once.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. Silver

March 16, 1950

Mr. Eliezer Liebenstein
Empire Hotel
New York, New York

My dear Mr. Liebenstein:

This is the first opportunity that I have had to write to you and to thank you for the magnificent address which you delivered before the Cleveland Zionist Society on Purim Eve. As you know, I left the same evening for Chicago and from there I went to Florida, and from Florida to Canada to open a U.J.A. Campaign, and I returned to Cleveland last evening.

You were very gracious in coming to us and in permitting us to share with you your thinking about the present problems which confront Israel and world Jewry in relation to Israel. It was an enlightening and stimulating message which you brought. My one regret was that I had so little time to spend with you due to the fact that you arrived late and that I had to leave the city right after the meeting. I trust that we shall have an opportunity for a quiet hour of conversation before you depart for Israel.

With all good wishes and again thanking you for coming to us, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

March 28, 1950

Dear Rabbi Silver:

In compliance with your request, following the Founder's Day Service at the Hebrew Union College, I wish to formally apply for the scholarship grant to the Hebrew University for the forthcoming year.

I am a resident of Cleveland, Ohio and I have served actively in Zionist activities for the past fifteen years. Three years ago, I served as a counselor at Herzl Camp, which is sponsored by the Zionist Organization of America.

Thank you for your very kind assistance and consideration. My wife joins me in wishing you and the family a very happy Pesach.

Sincerely,

Norman Kahanowitch

April 19, 1950

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We thought that you would be interested in knowing that we have obtained passage on the American - Israeli Line for Israel.

The date of our departure is scheduled after June 20th. This week we received a letter from Richard Hirsch, containing some very helpful information.

We were wondering if any action has been taken as yet by the Cleveland Zionist Society in regard to my scholarship request. Since our budget is, of necessity, limited it would be helpful if this scholarship were granted.

Thank you for your very kind assistance. We know that you are extremely busy and we fully appreciate your interest on our behalf.

Sincerely,

Norman Kahanovitch

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April 19, 1950

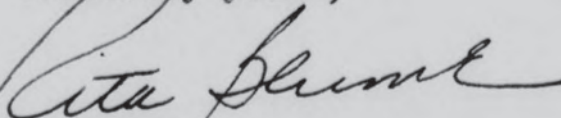
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street & Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The Cleveland Zionist Society has contributed an annual scholarship grant to the Hebrew University for many years. Last year (1949), the award was made directly to an American student, Richard G. Hirsch, who attended the Hebrew University.

I would be most grateful if you would advise me whether the Cleveland Zionist Society has reached a decision with respect to its 1950 award. Will it be made to an American student or will it be remitted to the American Friends for the use of a student in Israel?

Sincerely yours,



Rita Blume

Ass't to Exec. Vice President

RB:nm

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April 21, 1950

Miss Rita Blume
American Friends of the Hebrew University
9 East 89th Street
New York 28, New York

My dear Miss Blume:

Thank you for your letter of April 19th. The Cleveland Zionist Society wishes to award its scholarship this year to Norman Kahanowitch, who is sailing for Israel in June to continue his studies at the Hebrew University. Kahanowitch is a Cleveland young man who is at present studying at the Hebrew Union College.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

N. Kahanowitch
2640 Burnet Ave. #1
Cincinnati 19, Ohio



WRHS
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple.



Ansel Road and E. 105th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

April 21, 1950

Mr. Norman Kahanowitch
Hebrew Union College
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

My dear Norman:

The Cleveland Zionist Society is pleased to grant you a scholarship of \$500 to enable you to carry on your studies at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Upon your arrival there and your admission to the University, please get in touch with me, and the Society will forward you the scholarship.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

April 21, 1950

Dr. F. M. Falkman
14128 Superior Road
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Falkman:

You will recall that we granted the scholarship of the Cleveland Zionist Society to Richard Hirsch last year to carry on his studies at the Hebrew University. This year it is my suggestion that the Cleveland Zionist Society grant that scholarship to Norman Kahanowitch, a Cleveland young man who is going in June to study at the Hebrew University. He is at present a student at the Hebrew Union College. I met him. He is a splendid young man and the Society would be rendering a fine service in helping him along in his professional education.

With all good wishes and hoping that you are rapidly recovering from your operation, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

April 25. 1950

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, President
Cleveland Zionist Society.

Dear Dr. Silver:-

I am sending you the
Hebrew University Scholarship check for
the worthy student Norman Kahanovitch.

Sincerely yours
D. A. M. Falkman



April 28, 1950

Mr. Norman Kahanowitch
Hebrew Union College
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

My dear Norman:

Since writing to you on April 21st, I have received the enclosed check from the Treasurer of the Cleveland Zionist Society for the scholarship which it is granting you to carry on your studies at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. The Society is very happy to assist you in your studies and it hopes that you will have a profitable year there.

Please acknowledge the receipt of this check to Dr. F. M. Falkman, Secretary of the Cleveland Zionist Society, 14128 Superior Road, Cleveland, Ohio.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er
Enc.

May 1, 1950

Dear Rabbi Silver:

My wife and I were pleasantly surprised to receive your very gracious letter and the enclosed check from the Cleveland Zionist Society. This generous assistance will help us a great deal toward the realization of our life-long dream of visiting Israel. I am sure that the year of study at the Hebrew University will make me a better rabbi in my ministry in the days that lie ahead.

We deeply appreciate your efforts in our behalf. If there is any way we can reciprocate in the near future, we hope that you will call upon us. We have already arranged passage and we have completed our passport arrangements.

We are looking forward to this trip, and we will be sure to inform you and the Cleveland Zionist Society as to our activities while in Israel.

With very best wishes, I am

Sincerely,
Norman Jakobowitz

DAY LETTER

MAY 16, 1950

DR. EMANUEL NEUMANN
521 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

THE CLEVELAND ZIONIST SOCIETY IS VERY EAGER TO HAVE YOU
ADDRESS THE COMMUNITY ON YOUR RECENT VISIT TO ISRAEL. WOULD
IT BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO COME ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 31st OR
~~TH~~
THURSDAY, JUNE FIRST. WE CAN USE THE OCCASION FOR A PERSONAL
DISCUSSION OF THE SITUATION. WARMEST REGARDS.

ABBA



GIVE HIM A THRILL



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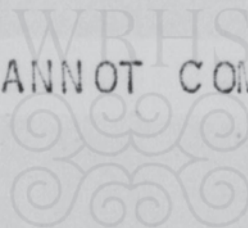
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:GLAD COME JUNE FIRST WARMEST FELICITATIONS ON TEMPLE
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150 MAY 18 PM 6 08



[1950?]

The Sulgrave

Park Avenue at 67th Street, New York 21, N.Y.

21 בינארי

א' אבא האל סילגר

טלאס = 2

קלוג אג מכתיבין. אנט מוכה לך אל הכתבת, אהולוג
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א.א. זלשטיי

