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Israel, general, including confidential minutes of September 23,
1953 meeting between Abba Eban and John Foster Dulles, 1953-
1954.

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL
WASHINGTON, D.C.

שגרירות ישראל
ושינגטון

EH/1362

September 4, 1953

Dear Rabbi Silver:

In the absence of the Ambassador, I would like to acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 1 and the enclosed correspondence.

I am sure that Mr. Eban will be in touch with you on his return.

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Sincerely yours,

Esther Herlitz

Esther Herlitz
First Secretary

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

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL
WASHINGTON, D. C.

שגרירות ישראל
ושינגטון

September 29, 1953

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I have just returned from Israel where I spent three weeks in intensive consultations with the Government. Apart from the main political problems of the country, one of the major topics of consideration was the economic condition of the country which has improved beyond measure in the past year. The Prime Minister and his colleagues reviewed with me the various aspects of this development and outlined the plans which have been drawn up for further consolidation.

Mr. Ben-Gurion expressed a special desire for an opportunity to report on these matters to the leaders of important Jewish communities, and especially of the American Jewish Community which has done so much to make the developments in Israel possible.

Mr. Ben-Gurion is accordingly considering issuing invitations to a select group of people, mainly from the United States, but also some from South America, Great Britain, Canada, South Africa and Western Europe, to a Conference which would meet in Jerusalem at the end of October 1953. The Conference sessions, which would last four or five days, would be designed to give participants a full and frank review of the political, security and economic situation of the country. Similarly, a detailed account of the planning of the Government and the Jewish Agency for the years ahead would be presented for discussion and comment. Participants, of course, would also be given the opportunity to see the country for themselves.

It is not intended that the Conference would consider or adopt resolutions or involve itself in a review of the organizational aspects of fundraising. It would, however, provide an appropriate, responsible forum for a report by the Government of Israel to those who have cooperated in the years immediately behind us with the Government of Israel in the gigantic task

of expanding the economy of Israel for the absorption of over 700,000 immigrants.

At present I am engaged in drawing up a list of persons from the United States to be invited to this Conference. Knowing of the outstanding part you have played in the work for Israel, I would like to include your name in the list which I shall forward to the Prime Minister.

I would be grateful if you could let me know at your very earliest convenience whether you would be available to attend the Conference. The tentative plan is that the Conference will open in Jerusalem on Sunday, October 25 and be concluded on Friday, October 30.

I avail myself of this opportunity to extend to you and your family my very best wishes for the New Year.



Sincerely yours,

Abba Eban

Abba Eban

N. B. Please address your reply to the Embassy of Israel, 1621 Twenty-second Street, Washington 8, D. C.

Rabbi Aba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL
WASHINGTON, D. C.

שגרירות ישראל
ושינגטון

October 2, 1953

Dear Rabbi Silver:

In your mail you will be receiving a letter signed by the Ambassador with reference to a conference Mr. Ben Gurion is calling in Jerusalem. As you will undoubtedly know this is a letter which has gone to a number of people and the purpose of this additional note is to tell you that Ambassador Eban will call you on the phone on Sunday in order to talk to you personally and discuss the matter with you further.



With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Esther Herlitz".

Esther Herlitz
First Secretary

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio.

October 14, 1953

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

This is the report as promised.
The report on the second meeting will
follow as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Gf

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SECRET

Minutes of a Meeting with the Secretary of State
Mr. John Foster Dulles - Sept. 23, 1953
at the State Department.

I called on Secretary Dulles on September 25 at 3.15 p.m. accompanied by Mr. Reuven Shiloah, whom I formally introduced in his new capacity.

In preparation for the meeting I had submitted a short aid-memoire indicating that I wished to survey the whole field of American-Israel relations, having brought from Jerusalem a clear impression of governmental and public anxiety at the trend of recent actions and statements by the United States Government. I listed the main episodes which had contributed to this anxiety.

A few days before the September 25 meeting the Secretary had approached me at a reception given by the Australian Delegation in honour of Foreign Minister Casey. Mr. Dulles had said that he had noted that I was fundamentally worried about aspects of American-Israel relations. He would therefore like our meeting to take place soon, but would prefer it to be in Washington so that the State Department could record it and give the meeting its proper official status. I agreed to this course and the talk was arranged for the first day after the Secretary's return to Washington.

In the meantime the press had published General Benneke's request for a stoppage of work in the demilitarised zone and Israel's rejection of that request. I had also had a telephone conversation with Mr. Byroade, who had made it plain that the operation of the grant-in-aid programme was being delayed until our compliance with the General's request. It was obvious therefore that this issue would inevitably cut across the line of my general criticism of recent State Department policy. Accordingly I preferred to begin with this point rather than respond to Mr. Dulles' anticipated initiative.

I said that I had planned to discuss the wider aspects of our relationship but would first like to say a few words on the Jordan project.

I described this project in some detail and summarised the content of Mr. Sharett's reply to Gen. Benneke. The position was that a request had been made to interrupt work on a project vital for Israel's economic future. This work had begun with the full knowledge of United Nations authorities, and its fulfilment was in complete accordance with policies and principles which the Security Council had laid down two and a half years ago. Gen. Benneke had based his request for an interruption on some four or five grounds, all of which could convincingly prove to be wrong in fact, and some of which conflicted with established United Nations principles and commitments. We therefore had an unassailable right to ask Gen. Benneke to reconsider his decision in the light of Mr. Sharett's reply - a reply based upon our intimate knowledge of the scene, and containing assurances which should dispel his disquiet. If, to our surprise, he maintained his position in the light of our reasoned appeal, we then had a right to turn to the Security Council. I pointed out that in 1951 we had been told that the drainage of the Huleh swamps would have fearful consequences to the prejudice of other interests; that we had made ourselves somewhat unpopular for a brief period by tenaciously holding our ground against that assumption; but that in the course of time our position had been proved entirely justified, and ways were found of continuing the project to the full satisfaction of legitimate local interests. Similarly, for over two years we had persistently upheld our viewpoint of the Suez Canal issue, and here again we had been proved right, although Egypt was still ignoring the Security Council Resolution. Nobody, however, had attempted to dissuade Egypt from maintaining its position while utilising all avenues of appeal up to the Security Council itself. In the light of this experience we had learnt that we might sacrifice legitimate interests by yielding prematurely to unsound positions; and also that we had a way of proving the justice of our case if only we were able to argue it with perseverance and freedom. I therefore now had two requests from the Department of State.

The first request was not to impede us in our efforts to utilise all the available procedures of argument, reconsideration and appeal. We should not, and indeed, would not, be deterred from the use of peaceful remedies by giving any heed to Syrian sabre rattling. It was painful,

however, to record that this was not the only external influence which was hampering our effort to seek reconsideration by every legitimate means. Quite irrelevantly, and I thought most unwisely, the execution of the Foreign Aid Programme in Israel was being held up by the United States with the avowed intention of influencing our action in a matter now under negotiation between Israel and the United Nations. This was a very grave matter indeed. It could only be described as using our financial difficulties as a means of preventing us from maintaining our national and international rights by peaceful discussion. Let us assume that it would take us several weeks or months to win our cause in the United Nations on this issue, as we had won similar causes in the past. The effect of the United States action was to deny us this capacity by imposing an urgent economic pressure to impede our deliberate pursuit of legal remedy. The Mutual Security Programme had been one of the most constructive expressions of American foreign policy in the world as a whole and in Israel in particular. It was a matter for grief to see any comfort being offered to ill-disposed critics who had asserted that this beneficent programme was an instrument of political influence. Had all the consequences of this irrelevant connection between the Jordan dispute and the Mutual Security Programme been considered from the viewpoint of American-Israel relations and of the larger international objectives which had given the programme its moral stature in the eyes of free countries which benefitted from it? We were in financial difficulties, but national pride would prevail against economic pressure. My first request, then, was that the United States should not impede us in our pursuit of reconsideration; and should, above all, re-establish the complete separation between the mutual security programme and political differences such as were bound to arise from time to time between free governments which cherished their liberty of conviction and judgment.

My second request was that if and when we pursued our appeal in the Security Council itself, the United States would then remain faithful to the policies which it had publicly enunciated in 1951, both in its own

statement, and in statements by other Western representatives in the name of the group of countries sponsoring the Security Council's Resolution of May 18, 1951. The United States had been categorically committed to the view that normal economic work should proceed in the demilitarised zone unobstructed by the United Nations, so long as the progress of such work would not prejudice the private interests - or more specifically the land rights - of Arab inhabitants. If the Western Powers remained true to this commitment, any case for the stoppage of work in the Jordan could easily be refuted if proper time and consideration were given.

I then subsided in order to give the Secretary a chance to reply before proceeding to my major theme.

Mr. Dulles reacted as follows: He was of course interested to hear my account of the project and of its many topographical and other aspects. He had not mastered these details. He presumed that I would not expect him to go into them. It was not a matter directly affecting the United States. There was a United Nations authority involved and this authority had given a ruling. He hoped that we would comply with that ruling. "In general," he said, "your Government makes things difficult for its friends and for the United Nations by creating de facto situations and then asserting that these situations can never be changed except by war. They don't take enough care of the legalities of their position." Of course once a fact was created in the area it was difficult to disrupt it; but we seemed to make it a general policy to create these facts in advance and then to defy anybody to change them. This seemed to be a general feature of our position and policy, and it was bound to create difficulties. As he understood the position we had simply decided to ignore Gen. Benneke's recommendation and to go ahead as if nothing had happened.

I said that I would like to reply both to his general description of our policy and to his more specific allusion. If he meant that Israel's position was founded on nothing but a fait accompli which we refused to modify, then this was an unacceptable definition. Our territorial position and our relations with our neighbours rested upon valid international treaties. We had our rights under those treaties and had no obligation to

change them to our disadvantage. We neither exercised nor claimed any rights beyond them so long as they remain in force; so long as Israel maintained its rights under the armistice treaties, its position was under no legitimate criticism at all. If our neighbours wanted any change let them enter into negotiations and put forward their proposals. We would then do the same.

Mr. Dulles replied that what I had said was unassailable but it seemed to contain a valuable new element. I had intimated that the Arab States could make proposals for a change in the peace negotiations. Mr. Sharett, on the other hand, had given him the impression that we were not prepared for any single concession in respect of the status quo. The Foreign Minister had said that nothing except war would enable the Arabs to get anything from us which they did not possess or enjoy under the armistice agreements. What I had now said about possibilities of revision of a peace negotiation sounded different and valuable, but was I quite sure that that was my Government's current position?

I replied that if he studied Mr. Sharett's views as a whole he would see nothing new in what I had said. Our position had been and was that we legally and justly held certain positions under the existing armistice treaties. If the Arab States wanted to change anything, the very discussion could only arise in the course of a negotiation aimed at replacing the armistice treaties by peace treaties. In such a discussion we were ready to consider mutual adjustments. It was just as legitimate for us to seek improvements of the existing situation to our advantage as it was for the Arabs to do so. While they could make any proposal for adjustment, we were quite free to agree or not to agree to accept it. We were also free to suggest adjustments in our favour. Thus, in the formal sense, all parties were on a sound basis in maintaining their full rights under the armistice, just as they would be on a sound basis in urging mutual adjustments in a new negotiation. As a matter of political fact, however, the present positions have crystallised into the national life of the State over a period of five years, and it was obvious that whatever changes occurred in a peace negotiation could not be such as to change the present balance of territorial or

other rights in our disfavour. Everything I had just said was substantively a repetition of what Mr. Sharett had told him in Jerusalem. My only object now was to reject the suggestion that anything in Israel's present political or territorial position could fairly be described as a unilateral fait accompli. I distinctly remember that Mr. Dulles himself in 1948 had proposed the United Nations resolution out of which the present position arose. He had proposed that Israel and the Arab States should reach their own arrangements for boundaries and other matters by negotiating in two stages: first by negotiating armistice agreements, and then by extending their scope to peace negotiations of which the armistice agreement would be the starting point. That is exactly our policy. We had accomplished stage one, and were prepared for stage two when the other side declared its readiness.

Mr. Dulles said that he did not mean to question the legality of our position or rights under the armistice agreements, but would like to return to the matter at issue which is that we had taken a position contrary to the United Nations in the North. This had followed the disquiet caused by the move of our Foreign Office to Jerusalem, on which subject he had received representations from members of Congress, asking him why he did not do anything about it. It was this charge that we disregarded the United Nations whenever it suited us that made things difficult for the United States which had to give a clear impression of even-handed policy in its relations to Middle Eastern States. Since that was its desire the only course open to the United States was to support the verdicts of impartial United Nations organs, no matter in whose favour or against whom those verdicts were given.

(Here I would digress by saying that Mr. Dulles' statement about our creating accomplished facts and then refusing to change them may not have been intended to refer generally to the territorial position, but rather more specifically to the accumulation of incidents under the armistice, together with our Foreign Office move. On the other hand, once I ascribed his remark to our total position he entered the argument with

forensic persistence, abandoning it only when allusion was made to his own part in establishing the present situation. This clearly gratified him, as does any reference ad personam. Whether I misunderstood his vague sweeping charge or not, I do not feel that anything was lost by giving him a detailed and accurate account of our position under the armistice treaties, as they affect the problem of territorial revision. I would only add that the State Department itself has recently reaffirmed and supported our boundaries position in a letter sent to Congressman Kelly. We shall, of course, remind the Secretary of this if, as I do not anticipate, he returns to the fray).

When he returned to the immediate matter at issue Mr. Dulles began by saying that the Syrian position could not be completely frivolous if Gen. Benneke had supported it. He did not even know the nationality of the General (Was it not Swedish?) but he was surely an impartial person. The Secretary went on to say that he would not for a moment suggest that we should be prevented from asking for reconsideration, either from the General himself or from the Security Council. This was our perfect right. However, we would win sympathy and good will in many quarters if we were to comply first, out of respect to the United Nations, and then go on to challenge and appeal as strongly as we liked.

I said that I would certainly convey his views fully to my Government. The fact was, however, that the status quo was the continuation of the work and not its suspension. It would thus be logical for the present situation to be maintained until the move for stoppage had been carried through every avenue of appeal. Otherwise the stoppage itself might well prejudice our position. He asked whether it would not be a fact that by continuing the work we would create such a *fait accompli* that those who adjudicated it would not even be able to consider whether it should proceed or not.

Mr. Shiloah interposed to say that this was not the case. Until some of the Jordan waters were actually diverted - and this would not be for some years - no change of topography or the level of the Jordan was involved.

The Secretary appeared to be interested in this aspect and turning to Mr. Gardiner said "We might ask the General whether he would say that any irrevocable fact would be created if the work went on while the argument and appeal continued." We seized upon this and definitely encouraged him to pursue this line. (I doubt, however, whether he meant this to cancel the State Department's real desire, which is that irrespective of merits some act of tribute to United Nations authority should take place now that Gen. Benneke has suggested a stoppage).

Concluding this part of the interview Mr. Dulles said that financial aid under the mutual security programme was "discretionary" and the United States was entitled to a judgment as to when and in what circumstances it can be most appropriately applied. He concluded: "The aid programme should wait a few more days, by which time I hope you will have helped us clear up this other situation." He was careful to avoid the indelicate language of *quid pro quo* which Byroade used.

All this had occupied us for about 25 minutes. I now told the Secretary that I could have wished that the previous matter had not dominated this conversation which I had sought for a completely different reason. I thought it appropriate that we should now consider the basic problems of American-Israel relations. I had come back from Israel with a clear impression that a cloud had fallen over this relationship and that its traditional atmosphere no longer prevailed. I had discussed this problem at home in governmental and parliamentary circles, and also as far as possible in large public gatherings. The avid interest which the problem evoked proved - as the Secretary himself must have felt during his visit - that for the people of Israel the American relationship is the central problem of their international thinking. It is for this reason that every symptom of improvement or decline is followed with the closest scrutiny. A position had been reached in which it was impossible by explaining away a series of events, however rationally, to eradicate from Israel public opinion and from other public opinion concerned with Israel's future (at this phrase the Secretary looked up sharply and smiled) that there had been no departure from a tradition which had endured many years with the approval of all major political parties in both countries. Whether or not

the Secretary believed that this attitude of public opinion was justified, its existence was nevertheless a political fact.

I went on to cite the list of events which had built up this impression. First, there seemed to be a deliberate reluctance by leaders of the American Government to affirm and assert the American-Israel friendship. It was all very well to say that words were of no practical value and that their absence constituted no cause for concern. Both our countries are governed by their public opinion; it is important not only that friendly relations should exist but also that friendly relations should seem to exist. This American silence on the positive aspects of relations with Israel contrasted with a marked readiness to let the world know quickly and early about any differences of opinion. It coincided also with a tendency to emphasise the interests of the United States in maintaining its friendship with the Arab world. I believed I was right in saying that concern for the American-Israel friendship had never been expressed since the Administration came to power, except as a qualifying parenthesis to what was, in the main, an expression of desire for Arab friendship. Here I hinted obliquely at the absence of administrative appearances or utterances at occasions dedicated to American-Israel cooperation; and more specifically to the impression created in Israel by the President's avoidance, in a recent message, of a traditional opportunity at a ZOA Convention to express this element of American policy which had been handed down for the past three decades.

Second, wherever differences of judgment existed between us, as they must exist between free Governments, the United States appeared concerned to emphasise rather than understate them. There had seemed to be a special concern to let the Arab world know of America's unwillingness to help us in a certain sector of our financial problem. I said that I was not quarrelling with the decision itself, to which the United States was fully entitled, although we still hoped to change its mind. I was concerned by what seemed a positive desire to demonstrate to the Arab world every dissociation of the United States from Israel's hopes or requests. A similar position existed in the Jerusalem question. I was referring not

so much to the statements on which there had been much correspondence; but rather to the extraordinary practice of rigidity prescribed for the American Mission in Israel with the effect that this effective instrument for American-Israel friendship was now seriously blunted. There was a large measure of agreement between the United States and Israel on the Jerusalem problem as such, for at most stages during the past six years we had had similar ideas at identical times on the way that this problem should be solved. That was still the case. I knew of the Secretary's recent soundings in this matter, and I myself was pessimistic about any parliamentary possibilities of achieving a reasonable settlement at this time for the establishment of a United Nations authority for the Holy Places in Jerusalem. The point is however that the United States and Israel were, in general, against the same proposal and for the same proposal. (He nodded in assent). We differed only on a marginal aspect of the problem, namely: whether we had chosen an appropriate time to move the Foreign Office to Jerusalem. That Jerusalem was politically a part of Israel was not doubted on either side. But whereas the aspect of the Jerusalem problem on which there were differences between the United States and Israel had been given wide public reverberation, the United States has shown no such concern to publicise its basic agreement with Israel on the problem as a whole. This, of course, made the conflict about the Foreign Office even sharper. Here then was a problem in which Israel and the United States were really allies and partners, opposed by the Arab world and by other interests; and yet precisely here the atmosphere of conflict was most acute and was being manifested with greatest frequency to the prejudice of our diplomatic relations. Other countries, including Catholic countries, had been far less sharp in their reaction and were now willing to be far less rigid in their diplomatic practice. Even if we assumed that the basic positions of Israel and the United States on the location of the Foreign Office and the Diplomatic Missions had to remain as they were at present, it was still quite possible, within the framework of these positions, to work out more

harmonious arrangements which would enable the diplomatic relations of the two countries to be as little affected as possible by the present anomaly. I pointed out that a recent letter by Catholic authority in America gave the clear impression that the writer believed Mr. Dulles to be in favour of territorial internationalisation. I understood this to be completely untrue. (The Secretary nodded his head in agreement).

My conclusion was that the present policy of the United States on Jerusalem, including its judgment on our Foreign Office move, did not compel the continuation of the irritation and anomaly inherent in the present practice of the American Mission. If there was a will, then there were several ways, even within our present political positions, of excluding the Jerusalem question from the list of conflicts between Israel and the United States.

I then turned to the question of arms. In Washington, the issue, viewed at a distance, might be contemplated against a global strategic background. In Israel and the Arab States, however, this matter was always considered predominantly in its regional context - that is, in direct relationship to the Arab-Israel tension. The Secretary might have seen what kind of a country Israel was. There was not a single populated area more than a few miles from a hostile frontier. Nearly all of these frontiers were the scene of intermittent violence, of which the basic cause was the Arab refusal either to make peace with Israel or even to let Israel alone. In these circumstances when a citizen of Israel hears that the United States, Israel's best friend and zealous custodian for peace in the area, even contemplates the possibility of giving arms to bellicose dictators or other Arab Governments, without any substantial modification of their relations with Israel, he is struck by a complete and stunned incomprehension.

The unwisdom of pouring oil on such troubled waters appears so simple that it was inconceivable that there should be any difficulty in bringing the United States to share our point of view. We were not consoled by assurances on the modest quantity of arms. The United States and Israel had a vastly different scale of thinking: they inevitably differed in their

judgment of this matter. When Mr. Byroade told me that neither Syria nor Egypt would receive more than a certain quantity of military aid apiece, his sincere intention was to allay my concern; actually he merely reinforced it. Those quantities, small in American eyes, could substantially affect the balance of Israel's military security which rested on very slender margins. Moreover, there was a question of principle. These arms would be stamped with the American eagle; they would convey to the Arab mind a clear message that for the United States the refusal of the Arab States to live at peace with Israel was not a barrier to Arab military and moral reinforcement by the United States. We were at a loss to understand why the United States found it difficult to accept our view in this matter. The whole tradition of American history, in so far as I could understand it, was one of abstinence and restraint in the matter of arming any country which deliberately maintained belligerency against another country in friendly relations with the United States. While all the other problems which I had mentioned were of substantive importance, this one was especially crucial. It would be impossible to explain to our people that a friendly power, concerned for Israel's interests, could give the military zeal of the surrounding Arab States the powerful moral reinforcement of direct military aid without this signifying a lack of regard for that which in the Israeli mind predominated over everything else, namely: the sharp fear for physical security. All that I had so far been able to tell my Government and public was that the issue was not yet settled. The United States Government had received an authorisation but not a definite mandate to give any arms to the Arab States. (Again Mr. Dulles expressed assent). Thus the issue was still open and we were still entitled to hope that our view would prevail. But the apprehension still existed. I had heard nothing which entitled my Government to believe that the danger had passed. Indeed, my last talk with Mr. Byroade showed that it still tangibly existed.

I said that all the misunderstandings and differences which I had enumerated had occurred within a brief space of time and seemed to constitute a trend of policy. The effect can only be understood if we thought of the

cumulative influence of these events. Perhaps each one by itself could be explained in terms of a tactical posture which the United States thought suitable in order to increase its influence in the Arab world. All of them together, however, could not be thus explained; and our public opinion in the wide sense in which I had described it, was so disturbed that the only way to allay it was by some tangible token that the American-Israel friendship was firm. I had felt in Israel that saturation point had been reached beyond which any further mishap would swing the balance towards a widespread and profound impression of injured relationships. Now we had the gravest matter of all. The United States by its action on the Jordan dispute and the Mutual Security grant had shown a definite lack of trust in Israel's ability and willingness to solve this matter by the legitimate exercise of its political rights as a member of the United Nations. Instead of standing by sympathetically while Israel made the effort to solve the question through appropriate channels, the United States was exerting the strongest possible pressure in favour of Israel's precipitate surrender of what it thought to be right and just.

Towards the end of this latter point the Secretary had been handed a note to say that his next appointment awaited. Secretary Wilson, Secretary Humphrey, Mr. Stassen, Mr. MacArthur and a group of unidentified Generals awaited him outside. The Secretary said: "You have raised matters of fundamental importance. I did not quite realise that we were going to have such an important talk. I must now interrupt it but it is vital that we should resume soon. It is not a matter that we can consider in haste. I will therefore give you only one quick reaction to illustrate my general thinking. When I was in New York at the United Nations meetings I met high ranking representatives of all the Arab States. They told me that they were disappointed in the new Administration. They had expected it to depart from the policy of its predecessors. They had especially hoped that the Eisenhower Administration would abandon the pro-Israel policy. They were now disillusioned. They said that we were following the same line and were still close to the Israel position on every point of substance. I wonder whether that does not reassure you, but we must talk about this some more."

As we rose to go I said to the Secretary that what he had just told me proved a completely different point. It proved that the steps which the United States had taken and which had had such a disquieting effect on Israeli and Jewish opinion had had no compensating advantage on the Arab side. The question therefore was whether there was any point in diluting or concealing the American-Israel friendship in the hope of making an impression on the Arabs.

This ended this important and revealing conversation. I should add that Mr. Dulles listened to the second half of my expose with a tense and anxious interest far beyond that which he showed in dealing with the specific issues on which he had been briefed. It seems clear to me, especially when we compare this talk with that recently held between the Secretary and Mr. Javitz, that the Eisenhower Administration, despite its purposeful pursuit of Arab favour, does not view without deep alarm the prospect of being described as having initiated a major and adverse change in American-Israel relations. They had hoped, and perhaps still hope, that they can combine appeasement of the Arabs with an Israeli policy which, despite all vagaries, will still enable them to make a case for undiminished friendship for Israel. There is at least a possibility, which will presumably grow as 1954 comes round, of getting them to do something aimed deliberately at redressing the balance in our favour. In my cables I have pointed out frankly that the intrusion of the crisis of the Jordan River has considerably weakened the effect of our approach; but the effect is still there. It is significant that within 24 hours the Secretary had fixed the date for the resumption of this talk. The State Department officials down to a fairly modest level are aware that we have raised the basic issue of the American attitude towards Israel and that the Secretary is taking this very seriously. They themselves are feverishly at work to prove that any worsening in the position is due to our own recent acts. Whether we see any substantive progress upon the resumption of the talk will depend very largely on whether the weakening and diversionary influence of the Jordan crisis has been relieved by at least the first step towards an agreed settlement. Otherwise - and not for the first time - we may have allowed an issue of local and marginal importance to cast a shadow larger than itself over the most important sectors of our international relations.

Abba Eban

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL
WASHINGTON, D. C.

שגרירות ישראל
ושינגטון

RS/49

October 27, 1953

Dear Dr. Silver:

Ambassador Eban, who will be writing to you separately, has asked me to send you a short summary of recent developments on the issues between Israel, the U.N. Security Council and the Government of the United States.

I have confined myself in the enclosed document to the two issues presently before the Security Council: the tension on the Israel-Jordan border and the controversy over the hydro-electric plant near Geshar Bnot Yaakov. I hope you will find the summary of some value.

I am also enclosing for your personal information a Hebrew report of several conversations held last week.

When I had the privilege of calling on you some time ago, you very graciously gave me a glimpse at your inspiring collection of traditional Jewish religious and historical articles and works of art. I remarked at the time that an ancient map of the Holy Land would fit into this collection and volunteered to get you one. While browsing through the shelves of a second-hand bookstore in New Orleans a few days ago by a stroke of luck I came across the enclosed map which I hope you will permit me to add to your beautiful collection. To the best of my knowledge this map is an original page taken from the Artelius Atlas published in 1584.

I look forward to meeting you again very soon.

With best wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

R. Shiloah

Reuven Shiloah
Minister Plenipotentiary

Dr. Abba H. Silver
19810 Shaker Blvd.
Shaker Heights
Cleveland, Ohio.

November 6, 1953

Embassy of Israel
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Shiloah

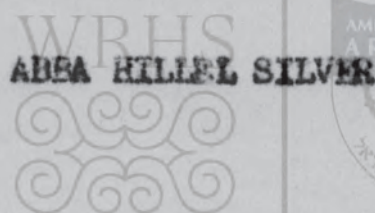
Dear Mr. Shiloah:

I wish to thank you for the beautiful map of the Holy Land which you sent me. It was very thoughtful of you to have gone to the trouble to find it and to send it to me.

I trust that you are well, and with all good wishes, I remain

Most Cordially yours,

AHS:dk



BY AIRMAIL



CONSULATE GENERAL OF ISRAEL

11 East 70th Street
New York 21, New York

TRafalgar 9-7600

24 November 1953.

קונסוליה כללית
של ישראל

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
East 105 St. at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

/ I am sending you by enclosure texts of recent speeches
/ by Ambassador Eban at the Security Council and a copy of the formal note
addressed by him yesterday to the Secretary General of the United Nations.

Yours sincerely,

WRHS



Avraham Harman
Avraham Harman

encls.

AH. 5070/53

DELEGATION OF ISRAEL TO THE UNITED NATIONS
11 East 70th Street
New York 21, New York

GA 8-47

23 November 1953

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Here is the full text of the letter submitted today by Ambassador Abba Eban, Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations, to the Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjold, invoking Article XII of the Israel-Jordan General Armistice Agreement:-

23 November
1953

Excellency,

The present situation of the Israel-Jordan General Armistice Agreement has aroused my Government's deepest concern. Some of the most essential provisions of that agreement have been persistently denied fulfilment. To avoid further peril to a precarious security situation it is urgently necessary to review the Israel-Jordan agreement in order to attain the implementation of all its provisions and objectives.

2. At the 637th meeting of the Security Council on 12 November 1953 I proposed, on my Government's behalf, that senior political and military representatives of Israel and Jordan meet immediately at United Nations Headquarters in order to discuss armistice problems. At the 638th meeting of the Security Council on 16 November 1953 the Representative of Jordan indicated his non-acceptance of this proposal.

3. In view of the acute tension on the Israel-Jordan frontier it is necessary to act swiftly to prevent the further impairment of peace and security in the area affected by this Agreement. Nothing short of direct and immediate negotiation can avail to that end. Since our efforts to bring about a voluntary meeting between the parties by mutual consent have not been successful, my Government has now decided to invoke the provisions of the Armistice Agreement to this end.

4. I desire to draw Your Excellency's attention to Article XII of the Israel-Jordan General Armistice Agreement. Under that Article either of the parties, after the Agreement has been in operation for one year, may call upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations to convoke a conference of representatives of the two parties for purposes stated in that Article. Article XII(3) goes on to say: "Participation in such conference shall be obligatory upon the parties."

5. Accordingly, I hereby formally invoke Article XII of the Israel-Jordan General Armistice Agreement and submit to Your Excellency the following requests:

- (a) On behalf of the Government of Israel I have the honour, in accordance with Article XII of the Israel-Jordan General Armistice Agreement, to call upon Your Excellency, urgently to convoke a conference of representatives of the two parties, namely the Governments of Israel and Jordan, for the purpose of reviewing the Agreement as envisaged in Para.(3) of the aforesaid article. I am empowered to discuss with Your Excellency the time and place for the forthcoming conference of Israel and Jordan representatives.
- (b) I have the honour to request that this letter be communicated to the President and Members of the Security Council. It will be noted that Article XII(2) states that the Armistice Agreement was negotiated and concluded in pursuance of the resolution of the Security Council of 16 November 1948, calling for the establishment of an armistice in order to eliminate the threat to the peace and to facilitate the transition to permanent peace.

My Government is confident that all Governments will refrain from any action which might affect your convocation of the conference, and that everything will be done to create an atmosphere conducive to the success of the conference.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Abba Eban
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of Israel to the United Nations

His Excellency,
The Secretary-General,
United Nations,
New York.

DELEGATION OF ISRAEL TO THE UNITED NATIONS
11 East 70th Street
New York 21, New York

GA 8-47

23 November 1953

Herewith is the full text of Article XII of the Israel-Jordan General Armistice Agreement which has been invoked today by Israel:-

1. The present Agreement is not subject to ratification and shall come into force immediately upon being signed.
 2. This Agreement, having been negotiated and concluded in pursuance of the resolution of the Security Council of 16 November 1948 calling for the establishment of an armistice in order to eliminate the threat to the peace in Palestine and to facilitate the transition from the present truce to permanent peace in Palestine, shall remain in force until a peaceful settlement between the Parties is achieved, except as provided in paragraph 3 of this Article.
 3. The Parties to this Agreement, may, by mutual consent, revise this Agreement or any of its provisions, or may suspend its application, other than Articles I and III, at any time. In the absence of mutual agreement and after this Agreement has been in effect for one year from the date of its signing, either of the Parties may call upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations to convoke a conference of representatives of the two Parties for the purpose of reviewing, revising, or suspending any of the provisions of this Agreement other than Articles I and III. Participation in such conference shall be obligatory upon the Parties.
 4. If the conference provided for in paragraph 3 of this Article does not result in an agreed solution of a point in dispute, either Party may bring the matter before the Security Council of the United Nations for the relief sought on the grounds that this Agreement has been concluded in pursuance of Security Council action toward the end of achieving peace in Palestine.
-

Cable to Mrs. Monnett Davis
Tel Aviv, Israel

December 30, 1953

PLEASE ACCEPT MY PROFOUNDTEST SYMPATHIES ON THE PASSING OF
YOUR BELOVED HUSBAND, AMBASSADOR DAVIS, DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE OF AMERICA'S DIPLOMATIC SERVICE, FRIEND OF ISRAEL
AND OF ALL MEN AND PEOPLES OF GOOD WILL. WE SHARE IN YOUR
LOSS AND DEEPLY MOURN HIS PASSING.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER





CONSULATE OF ISRAEL
936 N. Michigan Ave.
Chicago 11, Illinois

קונסוליה של ישראל

December 31, 1953

Ref: 10/2/1/7143

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I arrived in Chicago a few days ago to take up my duties as Consul of Israel in this city in succession to Mr. Y.R. Yaron.

I recall with great pleasure our meeting in Cleveland, in 1946, when we discussed the distribution of the "Palestine Tribune" in the United States, which was then published by my late father-in-law, Mr. Rokach.

I hope to have the privilege of meeting with you again in the coming year, when I shall be visiting in Cleveland. If you are planning a visit to Chicago, I shall be very happy to welcome you here.

11A 032

Respectfully yours,

S. Pratt
Consul of Israel

rf

BNOT YA'AKOV CANAL PROJECT

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Metres 1000 500 0 1 2 3 Kilometres

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- CANAL
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ES SEIYARA

ISRAEL

SYRIA

Al Buteiha

LAKE TIBERIAS



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Davis

American Embassy,
Tel Aviv, Israel,
January 11, 1954.

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Before leaving the country Mrs. Davis asked me to express her appreciation of the very kind telegram she received from you.

May I also thank you personally for the warm sympathy you have shown on the occasion of the death of our cherished friend and Chief.

Sincerely yours,



Francis H. Russell
Charge d'Affaires a.i.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
19810 Shaker Boulevard,
Cleveland, Ohio.

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL
WASHINGTON, D. C.

שגרירות ישראל
ושינגטון

AE/1488

January 27, 1954

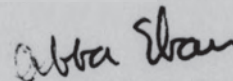
Dear Dr. Silver:

I read the report of your speech with gratitude and profound agreement. I am stunned at the very idea that serious people could regard this as an opportune moment for arming any Arab State.

You may be interested in the enclosed.

I am sorry that I could not be with you at Annapolis but an acute attack of Soviet mischief took me suddenly to the United Nations. I am calling on Governor McKeldin on Thursday to thank him for his initiative and that of his group.

Yours very sincerely,



Abba Eban

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

February 12, 1954

His Excellency Prime Minister Moshe Sharett
Government Building
Jerusalem, Israel

My dear Friend:

I have just returned from a short holiday which I took down in Florida, and I am taking the first opportunity at my desk to send you this word of felicitations and good wishes on the occasion of your assumption of the high office of Prime Minister in the government of the state of Israel. I am confident that under your wise and seasoned leadership the state of Israel will move from strength to strength and that the many problems which confront it will receive or approximate satisfactory solutions. I am happy that you succeeded in establishing anew the coalition government. This fact has contributed to an increased confidence among our people here.

I know that your duties of Prime Minister added to that of Foreign Minister will be a heavy burden, and I hope that you will find the strength as I know you have the competence and devotion fully to discharge them.

With warmest regards, I remain

Most cordially yours,

TELEGRAPH SERVICE IS A NECESSITY
NOT A LUXURY

YET TELEGRAPH USERS PAY A
15% FEDERAL EXCISE TAX

THIS TAX ON AN ESSENTIAL PUBLIC
SERVICE SHOULD BE REPEALED

WESTERN UNION

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

I=Int'l Letter Telegram

VLT=Int'l Victory Ltr.

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

GO. CLA 144 DL PD=CLEVELAND OHIO 19 203PME=

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:RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER, THE TEMPLE=

ANSEL RD EAST 105=

URGENT INTERNATIONAL PLANNING CONFERENCE ECONOMIC AID TO
ISRAEL BE WELL ATTENDED. ABBA EBAN, DOV JOSEPH REPRESENTING
ISRAEL. SENATORS HERBERT LEHMAN, HOMER FERGUSON LEADING
AMERICAN SPEAKERS. GREATEST UNANIMITY JEWISH COMMUNAL
HISTORY, UNITED JEWISH APPEAL'S DR. JOSEPH SCHWARTZ
SPEAKING. LEADERS 26 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED. PLEASE URGE
MAXIMUM ATTENDANCE THIS INTERNATIONAL LAUNCHING \$75,000,000
ISRAEL DEVELOPMENT BOND ISSUE=

:MAX J GREENWALD CHAIRMAN STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS=

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Cleveland



Committee

BONDS OF ISRAEL GOVERNMENT

\$350,000,000 DEVELOPMENT ISSUE

318 Citizens Building, Cleveland 14, Ohio — Cherry 1-0185

Albert A. Levin
General Chairman

May 3, 1954

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105 St. & Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

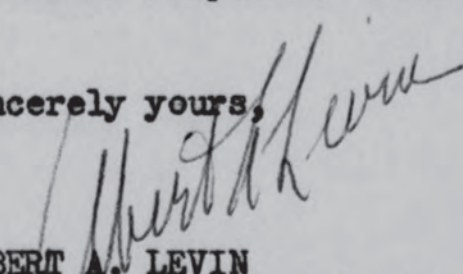
Dear Rabbi:

I hesitate to impose on our friendly relationship to discuss a subject which you have asked me to ignore in the past. However, I have been asked to again assume the Chairmanship of the Cleveland Committee of Bonds for Israel and have been promised the support of many of our community leaders. The new Development Issue brings about a "new look" in the selling of the State of Israel Bonds. Israel's economic problems will not be solved by any one or two or three year programs and we must plan for permanent economic aid through bond investment as well as the many other means of private investment.

Knowing your devotion to Israel and your tremendous service in the past and present, I cannot help but write to you again hoping and asking for your participation in some way in the local program. We are planning a dinner meeting on June 16th in the Hotel Cleveland ballroom to inaugurate our Cleveland campaign. The local community has been given power and authority to conduct this campaign in such a manner as it sees fit and proper. I knew that you could be extremely helpful in this program. I also know that you are a very busy man but, never-the-less, would be grateful if you could find it possible to take an hour or so time to discuss with me our local problem in this regard.

I hope you will forgive my perseverance but being aware of the Middle Eastern situation and all of the problems that face this little country, for which you have done so much and whose future concerns us both so greatly, I am hoping that I may receive a favorable response. Looking forward to hearing from you, I am,

Sincerely yours,


ALBERT A. LEVIN
General Chairman, Cleveland Committee
State of Israel Bonds

EHS

Cleveland



Committee

BONDS OF ISRAEL GOVERNMENT

\$350,000,000 DEVELOPMENT ISSUE

318 Citizens Building, Cleveland 14, Ohio — Cherry 1-0185

Albert A. Levin
General Chairman

May 21, 1954

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105 St. & Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi:

I wrote you recently concerning the opening of the new Development Issue, State of Israel Bonds.

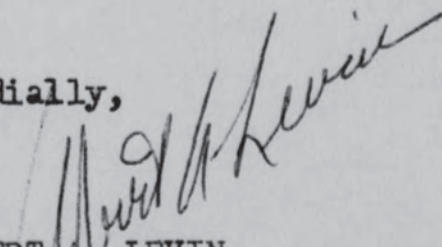
You will recall that shortly after the first Independence Bond Issue was launched May 15th, 1951 you purchased a \$5,000.00 Bond June 8th of that year and it did much to create an atmosphere of acceptance of Israel Bonds in Cleveland.

Now, with the opening of the Development Issue which is very vital to Israel, as you know better than anyone else in Cleveland, we need the help of the three Cleveland Zionist organizations. Ed Braverman and I solicit your leadership by your appointment of a Bond Chairman to coordinate the General Zionist effort demonstrating the support of the Zionist Organizations. The effort is for Guardians and Trustees of Israel, \$1,000 and \$10,000 purchasers.

I know with your help we can display real strength and participation on the part of the General Zionists of Cleveland.

I would appreciate an early reply.

Cordially,


ALBERT A. LEVIN
General Chairman, Cleveland Committee
State of Israel Bonds

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, D. C.

RSH/282

June 28th, 1954.

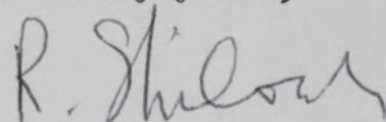
Dear Rabbi Silver,

Enclosed is an invitation to a formal dinner Ambassador Eban is giving in honor of General Dayan, who is coming to the United States as the guest of the Pentagon.

We have invited high ranking officials of the Armed Services, the Departments of Defense and State to the dinner and hope very much that you and Mrs. Silver will be able to come. Would you let me know whether you will.

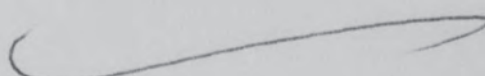
With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,



Reuven Shiloah.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland,
Ohio.



July 2, 1954

His Excellency
Mr. Reuven Shiloah, Minister Plenipotentiary
Embassy of Israel
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Minister:

Thank you for your kind note of June twenty-eighth. I hope to be able to attend the dinner which will be given by the Ambassador of Israel and Mrs. Eban in honor of Major General Dayan on Wednesday evening, July fourteenth. I do not believe that Mrs. Silver will be able to accompany me.

I shall be happy to hear from you prior to the fourteenth in connection with one or two of the matters which we discussed at our last meeting.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILIEL SILVER

WRHS



In honor of Major General M. Dayan, Chief of Staff
Israel Defense Forces

The Ambassador of Israel and Mrs. Etan

request the pleasure of the company of

Rebbi and Mrs. Silver
at Dinner

on Wednesday, July fourteenth

eight o'clock
Mayflower Hotel
East Room

R.s.v.p.

1621-22nd Street

Black Tie or Uniform

קרן קימת לישראל בע"מ KEREN KAYEMETH LEISRAEL LTD.

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21st July, 1954.

Dear Friend,

On the fiftieth anniversary of the death of the founder of the Zionist Movement, Theodor Herzl, we convey to you our greetings from Zion.

In a solemn ceremony, the Zionist General Council has proclaimed the commencement of Shnat Herzl - Herzl Year. At the same time, it called on all Zionists to make the Herzl Forest in Israel worthy of the great name which it bears. In ancient Maccabean country, this forest near Ben Shemen will be extended down to Mod'in and the tombs of Matatyahu and his five sons, for the immortal words of Theodor Herzl have indeed come true: "The Maccabees shall rise again".

On this occasion, we have pleasure in presenting you with the "First Day Cover" of the new Israel Postal Stamp. We also attach the new JNF stamp which includes a picture of the Herzl Stamp published by the JNF in 1908.

Yours sincerely,

S. Lowy
Dr. S. Lowy



מרכז רפואי ובית-חולים ע"ש פאול אהרליך בע"מ רמת-גן
PAUL EHRLICH HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTRE LTD. RAMAT-GAN

תל-אביב - רחוב מקוה ישראל 8 - ת.ד. 983 - טלפון 5860
8, MIKVEH ISRAEL ST. - P.O.Box 983 - PHONE 5860 TEL-AVIV - ISRAEL

July 22nd, 1954

Rabbi A.H. Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We have spoken with Rabbi Miller shortly before he left for Israel, and we would be anxious to see you at your convenience in the near future.

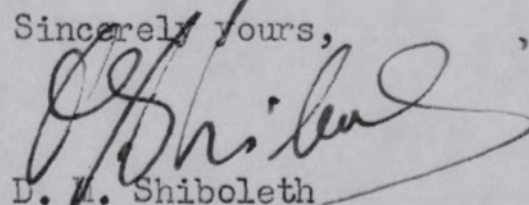
I am here with Dr. E. Shronek from Israel in connection with the building of a private medical center and hospital in the name of Dr. Paul Ehrlich, which will be located in Ramat-Gan. The laying of the cornerstone of that medical center took place on April 27th, 1954, and we are here over three weeks to set up an organization to contact private investors among doctors and other people, in addition to the Israeli investors, for this enterprise.

I am enclosing herewith a brochure which will give you an idea of the project itself and tell you of the ceremonies at the laying of the cornerstone. We fervently hope that you, as an honorary citizen of Ramat-Gan and as a prominent Jewish leader here, will offer us your support.

// We are eager to come to Cleveland with the view toward giving you more details and discussing this project, and we would appreciate receiving your reply at your earliest convenience in this respect. Please address your letter to me personally in care of the Park Chambers Hotel, 68 West 58th Street, New York.

Looking forward to hearing from you, I remain

Sincerely yours,


D. W. Shibolet

DMS:cs
Enc.

ISRAEL NEWS SERVICE

Vol. III. No. 45.

Tel-Aviv

July 1954 - תש"ד - ח' סיון

Special Convention Issue

Published by the
World Zionist Affairs Department
of the General Zionists Organization
in Israel. - Secretary, I. A. Mutalon.
The contents are not copyrighted,
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Editorial office: 33, Hashmal Street
P. O. B. 1778, Tel-Aviv. Phone
67496. Cables: GENZION, Tel-Aviv.

Bernstein: Great Tasks Ahead "A Political Party In Its Purest Form"

"I can say in all sincerity that we have remained faithful to the supreme principle of the Party: to place the interest of the community above all, also above what may at times seem to be the interest of the Party. Forthcoming elections will demand a heavy effort and impose a heavy responsibility — greater than that which the Party had to face in previous elections. The results achieved so far confirm our conviction that the Party fulfills a decisive part in the structure of the country. This conviction will sustain us in the forthcoming trial of strength."

With these words Mr. P. Bernstein, Chairman of the General Zionists Organization in Israel and Minister of Trade and Industry, concluded his opening address to the twentieth Convention of the Party.

In his survey of the state of the Party and the country, which touched upon all major problems facing Israel and the General Zionists, Mr. Bernstein stressed the community of faith which embraced the Jewish people in Israel as well as in the Diaspora. There was urgent need for a revolution of the mind and soul, which alone could make the integration of immigrants from all parts of the world into one single nation possible. Meanwhile, the Party as a matter of cause condemned any discrimination whatsoever against the oriental communities.

The determination of economic processes by Government order could not but lead to failure. Long-term economic planning had not stood the test of reality. Freedom of decision and initiative was a most valuable economic asset and should not be restrained beyond an inevitable minimum. Stabilization of prices and abolition of currency control were essential condition for the rehabilitation of the country's economy. While liberation of currency movements was no solution to all problems, it was one of the principal means for increasing exports and foreign

investments and for stimulating the developments of already existing enterprises. It would prepare the country for the assumption of a central function in international trade, in which the Jews had always played a prominent part.

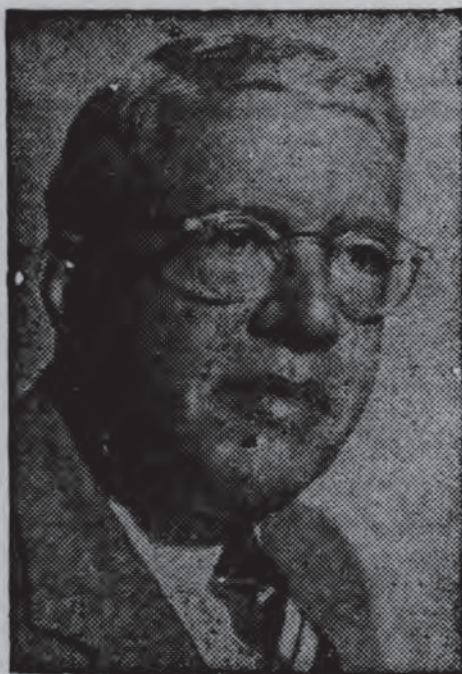
For private as well as for cooperative enterprises more efficient production was to be preferred to lowering of wages as a means of lowering production costs and achieving competitive prices on the home and foreign market.

That the growth of the Party had not been due to dissatisfaction, but to positive agreement with its principles, was proved by the fact that membership had almost doubled during the time since the Party had joined the Coalition. Fears that participation in the Government would weaken the Party had been amply disproved by the facts.

Membership in the Party was not the result of economic dependence on its institutions. "All those who have joined the Party or vote for it, do so out of their free will, and only because they regard its way and principles as right. Thus the General Zionist Party is a political party in its purest form: An association of free citizens who have nothing in common except their opinions and conditions regarding the right way to conduct the affairs of the State."

General Zionists Hail M. May President ZOA

With loud applause delegates at the Convention received the news that the Steering Committee of the National ZOA



M. May

Convention, which took place concurrently, had unanimously adopted the slate headed by Mr. Mortimer May as candidate for the presidency of the ZOA. It was generally felt that this choice implied a promise of yet closer relations between the General Zionists parties here and in the USA.

GREETINGS FROM HOME AND ABROAD

Greetings to the Convention were received from the following organizations and personalities (in order of arrival) — The Suriman Zionist Organization, the United General Zionists of South Africa, Rabbi Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, the General Zionist Federation of Brazil, the Zionist Organization of Denmark, the Zionist Organization of America, the Zionist Organization of Canada, the Zionist Organization of El Salvador, the World Confederation of General Zionists, the General Zionists Federation of Switzerland, the General Zionists Organization of Belgium, the United Zionists of Trinidad, the General Zionists Organization of Peru, the Organizing Committee of General Zionists in Britain and Ireland, the Zionist Organization of Chile, the Zionist Organization of France, the Zionist Organization of Australia, Dr. Nahum Goldman, Commander Ashe Lincoln, Rabbi I. Miller, President of the Z. O. A., Dr. I. Schwarzbart, Mr. K. Tuchler, Mr. D. Ben-Gurion, the Zionist Federation of Ar-

Continued on page 3. col. 6.

Thousands Attend Opening Of 20th General Zionist Convention

Six thousand thronged the spacious garden of the ZOA House as the General Zionists Organization in Israel, strictly on schedule, opened its twentieth National Convention at 20.30 hours on Tuesday, June 22nd, 1954.

All seats had already been occupied half an hour ago. Some of the places at the press table had been commandeered for old people who could not be expected to stand throughout the ceremony, which was expected to last for two and half hours. Ten minutes before the opening only delegates and especially invited guests could gain admission, and an estimated additional two thousand people collected outside the fence.

The huge stage, built for philharmonic concerts, had been decorated with a large Herzl portrait, national flags and greenery and seated guests of honour, General Zionist Cabinet and Knesset Members, Members of the Party's Executive Committee and of its Executive Council. Guests of honour at the opening of the Convention were the Prime Minister, Mr. M. Sharett, the Chief Rabbi of Israel, Dr. I. Herzog, the Chairman of the Israel Executive of the Jewish Agency, Mr. B. Locker and the Speaker of the Knesset, Mr. I. Sprinzak.

After the singing of Hatikvah and the reading of a chapter from Herzl's works, Mr. P. Bernstein, outgoing President of the Party and Minister of Trade and Industry, greeted by stormy applause, read the opening address, followed by Mr. I. Rokach, Minister of the Interior, who outlined the developments which had led to the present Coalition and the situation within the Government (The speeches of Mr. Bernstein and Mr. Rokach are reported elsewhere in this issue.)

"The General Zionists are an important and essential element in the Coalition", said the Prime Minister, Mr. M. Sharett, whose discourse, which lasted for about half an hour, was devoted to the need for

safeguarding the country's independence and to a review of the international situation. The Prime Minister concluded with an appeal to all parties to be aware of their responsibilities for the welfare of the country and with the wish that the Convention of the General Zionists should promote throughout the nation an awareness of the need for unity and for creative efforts.

Mr. B. Locker stressed the importance of the General Zionists in the World Zionists Organization and appealed to them to contribute to the educational tasks which were to be the main duty of the Zionist Movement in the Diaspora. Before the conclusion of the opening session, greetings received from organizations and personalities abroad and in Israel were read.



Mr. P. Bernstein opens 20th General Zionist convention. At his side: Mr. J. Sprinzak, Speaker of the Knesset, Mr. J. Saphir, Minister of Communications; Mr. B. Locker, Chairman of the J. A. Executive; Mr. H. Ariav, M. K.; Mr. A. Krinitz, Mayor of Ramat Gan; Mr. B. Sasson, M. K.

Rokach: Coalition Means Cooperation Regrets No Municipal Coalitions

"Any partnership in the Government coalition which does not take into account the historic need of pulling together in order to ward off all evil and to achieve the exalted purposes imposed on our generation by the creation of the State is doomed to failure. No coalition can possibly exist on mere social and economic consideration and dry figures of proportional strength without recognizing the principle of collective responsibility", said Mr. I. Rokach, Minister of the Interior, in his major address before the Convention, recalling the circumstances which brought about the participation of the General Zionists in the Coalition.

Mr. Rokach regretted that Mapai had not implemented the coalition agreement on local councils and municipalities.

He listed a number of achievements of General Zionist participation in the coalition: The Unified State Education Act, the Hymn and Flag incident, the removal of most controls, the attempts to stabilize the currency and the increased export drive. He mentioned the part played by the General Zionists in granting social relief to the aged, expectant mothers and work casualties, as well as in the revision of the "Tenants Protection Law of 1940". Dwelling on the public impatience for reform, Mr. Rokach said that though the General Zionist party was the most

consolidated group, it was unable to implement its full programme with its numerical strength being as it was.

Mr. Rokach deplored the existence of party labour exchanges and said that it was the elementary right of every citizen of the State to obtain work, irrelevant of his political creed or religious tendencies. With 80% of the maintenance fund for the labour exchanges being provided by the state and the remainder by the local councils or the workers themselves, Mr. Rokach thought it was right and proper for the Government to have a decisive say in labour problems and the distribution of work. He thought that the Histadrut should cease to serve party purposes and concern itself only with Trade union affairs.

The land settlement policy of the Jewish Agency, the Jewish National Fund and the



J. Rokach,
Minister of the Interior

authorities was the butt of Mr. Rokach's address. He severely attacked the need for an applicant for land settlement to define himself politically before being allowed to follow a farming career. He called on the Government to give State

assistance to the founding of villages free of all party colour or allegiance. He also demanded that all provident funds should be State-controlled in order to defend the savings from the machinations of the Histadrut or the employer. The nationalization of such funds would be of greater public utility than the nationalization of the Palestine Electric Corporation, the Potash works or others.

Mr. Rokach demanded a national health insurance scheme and the transfer of all hospitals of the Histadrut, which were closed to non-Histadrut members but which were receiving substantial subsidies from the State, to the municipalities and local councils.

A non-party spirit, he stressed, will have to be maintained in the armed forces, and promotion must be on merit alone.

Dwelling on the economic situation, Mr. Rokach said, that all efforts will be made to free the economy from the remaining controls, while continuing the struggle against any attempt to create monopolies or cartels.

20th National Convention of The General Zionists

Serlin: Zionist Crisis Largely Artificial

Immigration Depends On Israel's Power Of Attraction

While the crisis which befell the Zionist Movement after the establishment of the State derived to some extent from the fact, that an aim striven for during fifty years had been partially — and, many thought at the time, even completely — achieved, most of the difficulties had been created artificially, said Mr. J. Serlin, Minister of Health, in his speech on "Israel and the Diaspora".

It had become customary in Israel to speak slightly of Zionism and the Zionists, a custom encouraged by certain circles for their own political means. For a strange situation had arisen: the party which ruled the country was in the minority in the World Move-

the larger percentage of immigrants. Now this factor has, luckily, lost much of its force. That part of the Diaspora which can immigrate, lives in material and spiritual comfort. Thus we can only stimulate immigration by increasing the attractive force of Israel, and that in turn can only be done by creating conditions in which the three elements of the Ingathering of the Exiles: the Jewish people, Jewish capital and Jewish talents, find an unhampered field of activities.

Meanwhile, much remains to be done by the Zionist Movement. I do not agree that education is to be its only task, but it certainly is important. Assimilation is making such inroads amongst the younger generation, that in 10—15 years we may no longer have a common language with Diaspora youth. Hebrew education in the Diaspora has always been an important element in the preparation of potential immigrants.

In addition, however, there is another, even more important function. We look to the Zionist movement to create that extremely valuable body of organized Jewish public opinion on which we can call for the support of our cause. Only a strong Zionist Organization can produce the so necessary and only too rare type of Jew who, whether he ultimately lands in Israel or not, centres his activity on Zion and who continues to support the Zionist cause under all circumstances, even if he is insulted by the leaders in Israel. Let me quote another definition of a Zionist: "One who comes three or four times a year to Israel in order to have the government spit in his face." Only a movement composed of this type of people can continue to form the backbone of Jewry all over the world.

Mr. Serlin concluded by hoping that the merger between the General Zionist and the Progressive Parties, so often offered by the General Zionists, would finally come to pass.

Grossman: Israel And The Zionist Movement. Jewish Problem Not Yet Solved

As long as the majority of the Jewish people has not been concentrated within Israel, the Zionist aim has not been achieved; the purpose of the Zionist movement remains as valid as ever, said Mr. Grossman, General Zionist member of the Israel Executive of the Jewish Agency, speaking before the 20th General Zionist National Convention on "Israel and the Zionist Movement".

Every Zionist party in Israel is faced by a twofold duty: towards the State and towards World Jewry. The first is exercised in and through the instruments of democratic government in Israel; the second must find its expression through the Zionist Organiza-

tion, which represents Jewry in all matters pertaining to Israel.

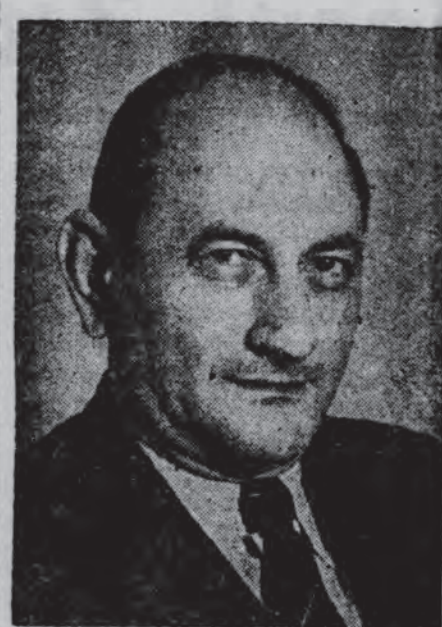
Though Israel is an independent and sovereign nation, the Jewish State is not the exclusive heritage of those who were in the country when the State was proclaimed. Is-

Saphir: Less Public Spending, More Initiative Needed

A policy aiming at Israel's economic rehabilitation within the shortest time possible was formulated by Mr. J. Saphir, Minister of Communications, in his address to the Convention. Its basic principles are:

a) reintroduction of free competition; increased efficiency, encouragement of in-

dividual initiative and the lifting of unnecessary and harmful controls;



J. Saphir, Minister of Communications

b) Stabilization of prices as the prerequisite for recovery; encouragement of savings and local and foreign investments;

c) Cuts in government and public budgets; curtailment of investments by government and their replacement by other sources of capital;

d) Strengthening of existing enterprise by encouraging increased productivity and capacity for competing on the world market;

e) a tax system encouraging the working effort of the individual, savings and investments; concurrent improvement of public morality affected by present taxation methods.

f) Unemployment to be combated by productive integration in all branches of the economy rather than by

relief schemes or works financed by investments which do not promise early profits.

The first step towards the realization of this programme should be the abolition of foreign currency control, without which no stability can be achieved. Stability of prices, wages and currency again is only possible through balancing public expenditure against a reasonable revenue, through increasing productivity and decreasing production costs. Government and public expenditure is unjustifiably high and makes every attempt at rational budgeting impossible.

While there are in Israel about a quarter million persons incapable of maintaining themselves, the revenue from abroad in the form of gifts from Diaspora Jewry, reparations and grants-in-aid far exceeds the amount needed for their maintenance. The remainder of the Jewish population would be capable of existing on its own earnings, if public expenditure and low productivity did not swallow most of the income.

Loans obtained from abroad are small compared with the amounts needed for rehabilitation. More, and more rational investments are necessary. Development needs vision, but must not become visionary. We cannot afford economic adventures which in

the best case will only bear profits after many years.

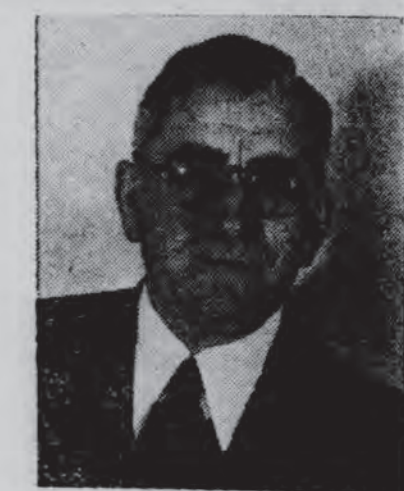
Investment objects must be selected with a view to the climatological and geographical conditions of the country, to the available manpower and possibilities of organization and commerce. We do not believe in a closed economy suitable only for emergencies. Such an economy needs subsidies which we cannot afford on the long run.

Essentially this was the General Zionist programme before the Party joined the coalition. The experience of a year and a half as partners in the government has only confirmed our conviction, that it is the only one suited to the needs of the country.



A section of the multitude listening attentively to the addresses made at the opening session of the General Zionist Convention by Mr. P. Bernstein, Minister of Trade and Industry; Mr. I. Rokach, Minister of the Interior; Rabbi I. Halevi Herzog, Chief Rabbi of Israel; Mr. Berl Locker, Chairman of the Israel Executive of the Jewish Agency and Mr. M. Sharett, Prime Minister.

rael had been given to the whole Jewish people, and the international factors which had a hand in the establishment of its independence did



M. Grossman

so, at least in part, in order to provide a solution of the Jewish problem; the problem of a dispersed people without a homeland of its own. To provide such a homeland is and has always been the aim of Zionism, and this aim remains in force until at least the larger part of the Jewish

people has been repatriated.

The Jews of Israel and the Jews of the Diaspora are not two separate peoples. Between the two there exists an objective community of fate. Even as the Diaspora is not viable without Israel, so Israel cannot exist except in a community of fate, aim and purpose with the Diaspora.

The actual sovereign of the territory called Israel is the Jewish Nation. The Israel people only hold it in trust. No more than 12% of the Jews live in Israel and as long as this situation is not changed, there is still an important task for the Zionist movement, which no other body or institution can fulfil. The awareness of a common fate enables the Zionists of the Diaspora to associate themselves with Israel's political struggle. Many of them feel that they have played a decisive role in the creation of the State, which gives them the right and the duty of caring for it, influencing its structure and preserving it from all ill.

It is however, just that the Zionist Movement should formulate

its policy independently, without being in all matters bound to the decisions of the State.

That the relations between the State and the Zionist Movement have not yet been laid down, notwithstanding protracted negotiations, is a grievous shortcoming. Israel's diplomatic representatives should not address themselves directly to the Jews of the Diaspora, but by means of the Zionist

Organization. The present custom is profitable for neither and gives needless urgency to the largely fictitious "double allegiance" problem.

The General Zionist Party, the only one which still stands for the Zionist idea in all its fullness, should do everything to effect the establishment of regulated relations between the State the Zionist Movement and the Jewish Diaspora.

Remains Of Jabotinsky To Be Interred In Israel

In reply to a question by Mrs. H. Levin, delegate from Rishon LeZion to the Convention, Mr. Rokach announced that he had submitted a draft resolution to the Cabinet, as the result of which the remains of the late Zionist leader, Z. Jabotinsky, would be transferred to Israel for final burial.

One of the reasons for the delay had been the unclear formulation of Jabotinsky's testament. It now appears that Jabotinsky wished his remains to be brought to Israel only following a decision to that effect by the government of the Jewish State. Steps to fulfil this condition had now been initiated.

הציונים הכלליים בישראל - מפלגת המרכז

The General Debate

Well over a hundred delegates took part in the general debate which opened on the morning of Wednesday, June 23, and, alternated only by the speeches of Ministers Saphir and Serlin, of Knesset Member Dr. Rimalt and of Meir Grossman of the Jewish Agency Executive, lasted until the evening session of the next day. As usual in general debates, most of the speeches were critical in tone; it must, however, be noted that the criticism was throughout constructive in spirit and that there was a general awareness of the Party's noteworthy achievements since its previous convention, as well as of the crucial tasks lying ahead in a year in which three elections — general, countrywide local government, and Zionist Congress — are due to take place.

On Wednesday and Thursday morning the debate followed rather closely the lines set by

them to secure party allegiance by keeping their members in economic dependence. Thus not only labour exchanges, but also social insurance funds were being administrated through party channels; in agricultural settlement work this system had led to a situation, where many a settlement was open only to members of one party or even of a section within one party.

On the other hand, demands were raised that the Party should extend its range of constructive aid to members, even if this militated against its ultimate aims; only in this way, it was claimed, large-scale expansion would be able to continue.

A considerable number of speakers asked for the continuation of the Party's effort to bring about a revision of the tax system, notably of income tax and of municipal rates which duplicated state taxes. Unless the overall tax

negligible number had been founded in the Sharon and the Negev, and the rehabilitation of older settlements which had stagnated as a result of undercapitalization (small private farmers' villages which, unlike the cooperative settlements, had enjoyed only little support from the national institutions), by introduction of new groups of smallholders and capitalization of essential services such as water and power supply (instances are being reported by INES from time to time). Plans were ready, added Mr. Ariav, for continued activities in this field at an accelerated rate.

// In a spellbinding speech, which, long after midnight, held the close attention of the Convention for two and a half hours, Mr. Bernstein, outgoing President of the Party, summed up the debate. The effects, he said, of the General Zionists' participation in the

them with. From his contact with the public and the shopkeepers (and he always was at pains to maintain close direct contact) he could however conclude that on the whole the present situation was vastly preferred.

One field in which the Coalition had brought little change was discrimination in favour of the cooperative sector. One often could not help feeling that decisions were taken elsewhere and only reached the Government at a stage when there was only little to be changed. The Reparations Corporation, though one of its vice-presidents and some high officials were General Zionists, was virtually a subsidiary of Solel Boneh.

The main difficulties, however, did not arise from disagreement within the Coalition, but from the situation which it had inherited from preceding governments. The "New Economic Policy", attempting to effect the stabilization which the General Zionists had even then demanded, had made the fatal mistake of inducing inflation by doubling prices. The results were still being felt and expressed themselves, amongst others, in excessively high budgets. Nevertheless, we had now reached a stage where stability might well be around the corner.

The main task of the Zionist movement, claimed Mr. Bernstein, was and remained the creating of the awareness that the Jews outside Israel lived indeed in the Diaspora. This had never been a popular opinion and the Zionists had always been a minority in Diaspora Jewry. Nevertheless the awareness was essential, not even so much for the sake of Israel as for that of Diaspora Jewry itself.

Finally, Mr. Bernstein once again reviewed the growth of the Party, which was not the result of any seasonal constellation, but of the penetration of its ideas. Throughout the world something of a revolt against the only recently so universally praised system of total planning was going on. Not only Israel began to realize that man is more than a machine or pawn to be used at will by the planners. It is man's initiative, his desire to better himself and the world, which in free interplay of forces creates values and causes progress.

We regret the report "General Zionists in Gt. Britain Organize" which appeared in our issue Vol. III 32 of January, 1954, as reported by our London correspondent, was misleading in so far as the persons of Mr. L. Bakstansky and Dr. F. S. Fox are concerned.

Friends in London have informed us that our information concerning the part allegedly played by Mr. Bakstansky in sending people to cause disturbances at meetings addressed by Mr. J. Rivlin, a leading member of the General Zionist Party, in London was unfounded and that such incidents, if they ever occur-

red, were prompted by irresponsible elements having no connection with Mr. Bakstansky.

They further stated that the statement attributed to Mr. Bakstansky that Dr. F. S. Fox could not expect to succeed to the chairmanship of the EZF if he did not come out openly against the General Zionist of Israel also had no foundation in fact.

INES is glad to take the opportunity of correcting an unfortunate error and regrets any convenience that may have been caused to the two gentlemen as a result of the report in question.

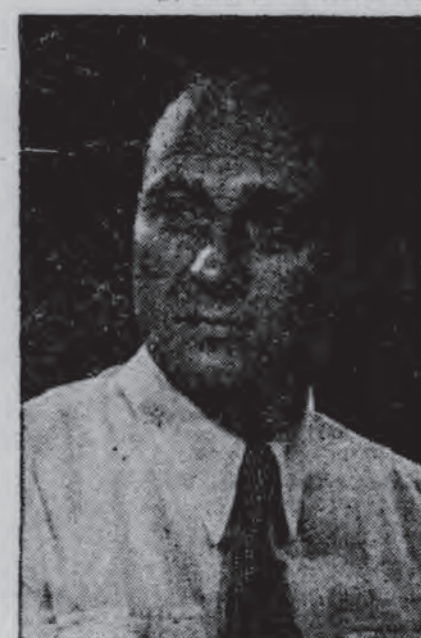
Rimalt: "Social Justice, Not Socialism" Demands Nationalization Of Labour Exchanges

That Histadrut and Mapai leaders wanted to retain the labour exchanges as a closed shop and refused any representation to the General Zionist Workers' Association was revealed by Dr. E. Rimalt, M. K., Chairman of the General Zionist Workers' Association, in his major address before the Convention on the negotiations with responsible quarters in the Histadrut for the recognition of the Association.

Dwelling on the Government's labour policy, Dr. Rimalt stressed the importance of creating Government la-

bour exchanges which would distribute work fairly without lowering the standard of living. The labour exchanges should be headed by a committee of three, representing the Government, the workers and the employers, and work would be distributed without discrimination. He severely criticized the unfair procedure of certain parties to raise in the Knesset the question of unemployment in order to make political capital out of it. Dr. Rimalt favoured the creation of a workers' conciliation committee which would arbitrate according to law in order to forestall strikes in industrial enterprises.

The Government will have to take under its control all medical services, hospitaliza-



Dr. E. Rimalt, M. K.

bour exchanges which would distribute work fairly without lowering the standard of living. The labour exchanges should be headed by a committee of three, representing the Government, the workers and the employers, and work would be distributed without discrimination. He severely criticized the unfair procedure of certain parties to raise in the Knesset the question of unemployment in order to make political capital out of it. Dr. Rimalt favoured the creation of a workers' conciliation committee which would arbitrate according to law in order to forestall strikes in industrial enterprises.

The Government, continued Dr. Rimalt, would be expected to fix rates of pay for skilled and unskilled work, which would stimulate youth to continue their secondary and university studies. He mentioned with regret that under the present circumstances the rising generation were receiving no encouragement to further their studies. He further insisted that the best man be retained at his job in case of dismissals and not, as at present, the last man to be engaged.

The General Zionists aim

voured treatment", which was reflecting unfavourably on the country's economy and discouraging the establishment of new enterprises.

We believe in a just social, not socialistic, order, concluded Dr. Rimalt.

GREETINGS FROM HOME AND ABROAD

Continued from page 1, col. 2. gentina, the Zionist Organization of Mexico, the President of Israel, Mr. H. Teichman, Mr. J. Lutzky, Dr. Yagubsky, the General Zionist group of Rhodesia, the Zionist Organization of Ecuador, the General Zionist Organization of the Netherlands, Betar in Israel and the Progressive Party, Mr. G. Flesch, M. K.

Messages of greeting were also received from the J. N. F., K. H., and many local institutions and leading personalities in Israel.

Bernstein Acclaimed President Of General Zionist Party

Under stormy applause, which lasted for minutes on end, the Convention, upon nomination by the Steering Committee, by acclamation reelected Mr. P. Bernstein, outgoing President and Minister of Trade and Industry, as President of the General Zionists Organization in Israel.

The Convention unanimously elected a National Council of 310 and an Executive Council of 155 members.

The Executive Committee, which is to consist of the General Zionist Cabinet Ministers and Members of the J. A. Executive, the Chairmen of the National and Executive Councils, the Secretary General and 26 members, will be elected by the Executive Council.

General Zionist Members of the Knesset are by virtue of their office members of the Executive Council.



A general view of the General Zionist Convention platform. The Prime Minister, Mr. M. Sharett, brings the greetings of the Government of Israel to the General Zionist Convention

the principal speeches; on Thursday afternoon and evening most of the time was devoted to the specific issues of local ranches and of different groups within the Party.

While it was generally conceded that General Zionist participation in the Coalition had sulted in an all-over change for the better, some delegates demanded that the General Zionist Ministers take a firmer and against attempts by their Mapai colleagues to outvote and disregard them. A number of fields, it was claimed, were ill treated as a reservation which the coalition partnership did not apply, in particular the Foreign Office and defense matters: the Army, the speaker warned, was being turned into a Mapai party instrument. A number of delegates claimed that the Party as far had specialized too much in economic affairs and given insufficient attention to foreign policy.

A demand generally raised was that a number of functions properly belonging to the State were being exercised by political parties, which used

burden could be reduced, it was claimed, the middle classes would founder under the load. If appeals were made for merchants and artisans to pay their taxes regularly and fairly, it should not be forgotten that the law itself granted special privileges to certain sections of the population. Thus a feeling of being treated unfairly existed from the beginning and blunted moral resistance to tax shirking.

While the need for educational work in the Diaspora was generally stressed, as otherwise little immigration from the Western world could be expected, most delegates agreed with Mr. Serlin that this should by no means be the only task of the Zionist movement.

// In the course of the debate Mr. H. Ariav, M. K., who heads the joint colonization department of the General Zionist Party and the Farmers' Federation, reviewed General Zionist settlement activities. These fell under two heads: establishment of new settlements, of which a by no means

הועידה הארצית העשרים של הסתדרות

DOCCUMENT. DAWAGGED

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Convention —

-ASSERTS that the existence of a free democracy based on the pattern of the West is the safeguard for the existence and future of Israel and affirms Israel's affinity with this international framework.

AFFIRMS that the continued existence of friendly relations and understanding between Israel and the United States constitutes the basis of Israel's foreign policy; and

VIEWS with concern the intention of the United States Government to supply arms and afford military training to Arab States whose declared policy is the destruction of the State of Israel — a policy which does not appear to be in consonance with the traditional friendship and is liable to jeopardise not only the existence of Israel but the peace of the whole of the Middle East.

Executive to speed the immigration of Jews from North Africa and from the Eastern countries and to further their economic and cultural integration in the Israel community.

EXPRESSES its concern at the increase of assimilation amongst Jewish Youth in the Diaspora, and

DEMANDS that the Zionist Organization devote particular attention to the struggle against assimilation through the development of Jewish and Zionist educational activities, allocating the means necessary thereto.

NOTES with alarm that the states of Eastern Europe continue to take oppressive measures against Zionism, prohibit immigration to Israel and

industry, Commerce and Public Services, through the effective exploitation of its natural resources and above all of the individual talents of its inhabitants;

THAT economic independence can only be attained through the creation of economic and social conditions allowing full flight to the initiative of the individual for the rational application of his capacities, goods and possessions; and

THAT in order to attain these ends, it is incumbent upon the State to encourage investments from sources at home and abroad;

CHARGES its representatives in the Knesset to initiate such changes in the Encouragement of Investments Law as will convert it into an in-

strument suitable for the purpose for which it was created, and to further the establishment of a regime favourable to productive investments.

CHARGES its representatives in the Government to initiate legislative changes which will encourage building for renting purposes out of local savings and foreign investment.

HOLDING that the abolition of foreign currency control is one of the main conditions for the encouragement of economic development and prosperity, and that the funding of short term debts and other recent occurrences have rendered this step possible, and

CHARGES its representatives in the Government and the Knesset to take immediate and vigorous action with a view to the complete abolition of currency controls at the earliest possible moment.

VIEWS with concern the concentration of the population within the cities and the coastal plain;

CALLS upon the Government to grant far-reaching tax relief and take other steps to attract investments in industry, building, agriculture and commerce in remote districts; and

CALLS upon citizens of Israel and investors from abroad to do everything within their

power for the development of sparsely populated areas.

VIEWS with satisfaction the abolition of economic controls effected by the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

VIEWS with satisfaction the improvement of transport conditions in Israel.

REGARDS a strong middle class as essential for the firm establishment of Israel's economy;

EXPRESSES its concern at the pauperization of that class through restrictions and taxes and

URGES its representatives in the Government to give every encouragement and assistance to the middle class.

INTEGRATION OF DIASPORA ELEMENTS

A series of resolutions provides for the establishment of a committee charged with furthering the integration of elements and groups originating from different parts of the Diaspora within the cultural and economic life of the country; of a special committee for Sephardic and Yemenite affairs; for the publication of newspapers in the languages current amongst the oriental communities; and for support of the World Sephardic Federation.

ORGANIZATION

A number of resolutions deals with the need for establishing a system of districts, each embracing a number of local branches, and for the establishment of sub-branches in the large cities. The Party National Council is empowered to amend the Party Constitution.

LABOUR AFFAIRS

The Convention **EXPRESSES** its satisfaction at the growth and development of the Association of General Zionist Workers, the Party's organ amongst the Workers, and charges all Party institutions to render their full support to the Association.

CHARGES its representatives in the Government and the Knesset to press for the establishment of a Government Labour Exchange, so as to warrant the just allocation of employment to all who demand it.

ENCOURAGES the Association in its efforts to establish a General Zionist Fraction within the General Federation of Jewish Workers (Histadrut).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Convention **VIEWS** with satisfaction the activities of the Ministry of the Interior resulting in the improvement of the financial state of the municipal authorities, in particular by transferring the responsibility for teacher's salaries to the central authorities and by unceasing supervision of local rate policies.

VIEWS with satisfaction the activities of the Party's representatives in local government institutions, which have resulted in balanced budgets and the cessation of rate increases.

Further resolutions deal with the funding of municipal debts, loans for development works, contributions to unemployment relief, the abolition of the Business Tax, and the coordination of local rates and national taxes.

EDUCATION

The Convention **HAILS** the introduction of the UNIFORM GOVERNMENT EDUCATION LAW as an achievement of supreme historic importance, and

CHARGES the whole of the Party to strive unceasingly for its full and sincere implementation.

Further resolutions provide

for the establishment of an education department and the organization of General Zionist teachers.

YOUTH WORK

The Convention **VIEWS** with satisfaction the work of its youth movement "Israel Hatzzeira", which during its short existence has already been able to establish itself amongst Israel's youth.

REGARDS "Israel Hatzzeira" as the organizational framework for the younger age-groups within the Party.

RECOMMENDS the establishment of courses for youth instructors and clubhouses, and appeals to all its members and sympathisers to assist in raising the necessary means.

DEMANDS an immediate effort to solve the problems facing the agricultural settlement group which has formed within "Israel Hatzzeira".

DEMANDS recognition of "Israel Hatzzeira" by the Youth Department of the Jewish Agency.

SENDS its greetings to Maccabi and Young Maccabi and to the Zevulun Seafarers Association.

ELECTION SYSTEM

The Convention **CONSIDERING** that the exaggerated increase of the number of political parties leads to disunity, hampers the working of a democratic system and prevents the establishment of a stable and effective government,

HOLDS that the electoral system should be changed by the introduction of a minimum vote clause and by all other lawful means capable of reducing the number of splinter parties.

SETTLEMENT AND CONSTRUCTIVE ACTIVITIES

The Convention **HAILS** the achievements of private and cooperative agriculture and its contribution to the nation's economy, to immigration and integration of immigrants.

DEMANDS of the State's settlement authorities to see to the expansion and consolidation of the nation's agricultural settlements, without regard to the political allegiance of the settlers.

EXPRESSES its satisfaction at the progress made by the General Zionist Sick Fund, at the establishment of its Medical Centre in Tel Aviv and its network of dispensaries throughout the country and **CHARGES** the executive bodies of the Party to further the affairs of the Fund in all possible ways.

CHARGES all institutions of the Party to aid in the expansion of General Zionist settlement work, particularly to the benefit of members without means, and

CALLS upon its younger members to settle on the land, and especially in the frontier districts.

VOTES OF THANKS

The following votes of thanks were passed: To the Party's representatives in the Government and the Knesset; to the outgoing Party Executive Council and other institutions; to the Secretary-General, Heads of Departments and staff of the Party.

INES WILL NOT APPEAR IN MID-JULY. THE NEXT ISSUE OF INES APPEARS ON AUGUST 1.

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Hatikva. (From Left to right: Mr. A. Krinitzi, Mayor of Ramat Gan; Mr. H. Ariav, M. K.; Mr. J. Saphir, Minister of Communications; Mr. J. Sprinzak, Speaker of the Knesset; Mr. P. Bernstein, Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr. M. Sharett, Prime Minister; Rabbi I. Halevi Herzog, Chief Rabbi of Israel; Mr. J. Serlin, Minister of Health, Mr. H. Levanon, Mayor of Tel-Aviv and Mr. M. Grossman, Head of the Economic Department of the J.A.)

stage trials against leaders and adherents of the Zionist Movement;

DECLARES that the Zionist Movement has from its inception been directed towards the liberation and renaissance of the Jewish People;

DEMANDS that the countries concerned open their frontiers for immigration to Israel; and

SENDS greetings to our brethren in Rumania who languish in prison or have been condemned for Zion's sake, for their proud attitude during their trial, and demands that they be allowed to immigrate to Israel.

RECOMMENDS that the World Zionist Organization proclaim the Twentieth day of the month Tammuz throughout the world as Zionist Movement Day.

VIEWS with pleasure the prospect of the unification of General Zionism in Israel and in the Diaspora and all efforts undertaken and to be undertaken to that effect.

SENDS its greetings to the adherents of General Zionism in Great Britain and Ireland and encourages them in their efforts to make the General Zionist idea better known amongst the Zionists of their country.

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

The Convention, CONVINCED

THAT the firm establishment of the State of Israel depends first and foremost on the country's ability to achieve economic independence through the development of Agriculture, In-

strument suitable for the purpose for which it was created, and to further the establishment of a regime favourable to productive investments.

CHARGES, in view of the need to establish stability of currency, prices and wages if further economic development is to be rendered possible, its representatives to plan the Budget and the Tax System in a form which

a) provides for the revenue needed for Defense and essential Public services, while encouraging savings and investments by the population and attracting investment capital from abroad;

b) restricts Government expenditure through the reorganization of Government departments and the abolition of duplication in other public institutions; and

c) effects by such restriction of Government expenditure a reduction of the tax load.

CHARGES, in view of the tax system now prevailing which fails to impose an equal load upon all citizens and which, moreover, is unduly complicated, its representatives in the Government and the Knesset to take immediate action with a view to the abolition of all special privileges for specific groups of citizens and to the introduction of a simple and generally understood system of taxation.

HOLDING that the present Income Tax laws and the tax rates and brackets laid down therein lead to lowering of the public's moral standards, fail to serve the needs of the economy and cause a dwindling

ween the Israel Government and the Jewish Agency to an early conclusion;

REGARDS the World Zionist Organization as embodying, from its inception and unto the present day, the spirit of revival of the Jewish People throughout the world and as the most important factor in the establishment, growth and development of the State of Israel, in the struggle against assimilation and in the education of Jewish Youth towards pioneerism and fulfilment;

Denounces all tendencies to liquidate the World Zionist Organization; and

CALLS upon all its members in Israel and abroad for an effort in strengthening the Movement and in rendering unto it its appropriate importance within the State and Nation of Israel.

EXPRESSES its gratification at the election of Mr. Meir Grossman as a member of the Jewish Agency Executive, and

DEMANDS adequate representation on all central institutions of the World Zionist Movement, encouragement of private agricultural settlement, assistance for craftsmen, the appointment of General Zionists as emissaries abroad and of General Zionist representatives in all institutions and undertakings established or participated in by the Jewish Agency.

NOTES with gratification the increasingly cordial relations with Zionist Organizations abroad in general and with the Zionist Organization of America in particular and expresses the hope that these relations will develop even more closely in the future.

CALLS upon General Zionist representatives in the Cabinet and the Jewish Agency

DOCCUMENT. DAWAGGED



הכנסת השניה

ירושלים, 10.8.54

לכבוד
הד"ר אבא הלל סילבר,
קליבלנד, אוהיו,
ארצות-הברית

ד"ר סילבר הנכבד,

קבלתי מידי הד"ר הריס לוין את אגרת המלווה בסך
- 5000 דולר שנרכשה על-ידי כב' ושכב' הואיל להגיש כשי-תרומה
להקמת הכפר הנושא את שמו הנערץ.

בהתאם להטכס שהגעתי עם האוצר תומך האגרת ללירות
ישראליות לפי השער הגבוה ביותר, דהיינו שלושה-רבעים מערכה
לפי לירה ושמונים, ורבע אחד לפי לירה ושלשים.

הנני תקווה כי בימים הקרובים יקבל הכפר מהאוצר את
התמורה בלירות ישראליות.

הנני להביע לכב' את תודתנו עבור התרומה היפה, ומי
יתן וכב' יוכל להנות כמונו כאן כעדי-ראייה מההתקדמות היפה
של הכפר הנושא את שמו הדגול.

בהזדמנות זו הנני לבשר לכב' כי בימים הקרובים
נהיה עדים לעליית קבוצת נוער מ"ישראל הצעירה" להכשרה ראשונה
לחיי חקלאות על אדמות הכפר.

והנני בהערצה,

ח. אריאב

It. Aricw

Hakmesset
Jerusalem
ISRAEL

מרכז רפואי ובית-חולים ע"ש פאול אהרליך בע"מ רמת-גן
PAUL EHRLICH HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTRE LTD. RAMAT-GAN

תל-אביב - רחוב סקוה ישראל 8. - ת.ד. 983 - טלפון 5860
8, MIKVEH ISRAEL ST. - P.O.Box 983 - PHONE 5860 TEL-AVIV - ISRAEL

New York City
August 3, 1954

Rabbi A. H. Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

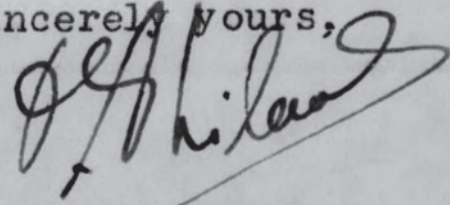
Dear Rabbi Silver:

I refer to my letter dated 22nd July 1954, and regret not having received a reply.

As mentioned in my previous correspondence, we are eager to have a meeting with you with a view to having your advice in connection with finding the best way of utilizing our prospect here in the U.S.A. Furthermore, we would be very happy to have you on the American board of directors of the Paul Ehrlich Medical Center and Hospital in Israel, amongst other prominent leaders and medical authorities.

Hoping that you will find the time to set an appointment for us, either in Cleveland or in New York if by any chance you intend to be here, I remain

Sincerely yours,


D. M. Shibolet

P.S.

My present address is: St. Moritz Hotel
50 Central Park South
Room 2130
New York, New York