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1007

Jewish National Fund, 1930-1931.

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ADDRESS BY
DR. JOHN HAYNES HOLMES
AT MEETING AT MECCA TEMPLE, OCT. 21, 1930.

I am profoundly grateful that I have been permitted to be present at this great meeting tonight, and thus to identify myself with the Jews of America and of the world in expressing my sense of outrage and of pity at the latest yoke of injustice and oppression laid upon their long-suffering shoulders by the latest empire among men. Two thousand years ago, your fathers were driven from their homeland by the military power of Rome; today, you and your children are forbidden to return to your homeland by the military power of Great Britain. In so far as it is possible for me to voice the sentiments of your Gentile brethren of this country, I want to say that just men everywhere will join with you in denunciation of Britain's pronouncement of policy in Palestine as an act which violates her plighted word, betrays her trusting friends, and visits treason upon the cause of brotherhood and peace throughout the world.

If I were an enemy of the Jews, an anti-Semite of the worst description - if I were an opponent of Zionism, who wished for nothing quite so much as the failure and disappearance of the great movement - if I were a fanatical Arab, who sought the extinction of the Jewish race from the Judaean deserts which I had been satisfied for thirteen hundred years to keep a desert, I think I know what I would do, or try to do, in Palestine.

First of all, I would by suggestion, innuendo, arrogant assertion or significant silence, deliberately create the impression that the Jews were intruders upon Palestine, that they were ruthlessly driving the native population to the wall, and that in the hideous massacres in August, 1929, in which their men, women and children poured their innocent blood upon a soil full of

watered with the blood of Israel, they were more than half to blame for all the miseries they suffered. In the second place, having created this atmosphere of ignorance and prejudice, I would then proceed to shut off the Jews from access to the soil. I would point out that the "Arab population...has by an excess of births over deaths increased rapidly;" I would say nothing about this increase being directly caused by the increase in wealth, the rise in the standards of living, the establishment of scientific medical services and the general diffusion of knowledge, all directly attributable to the Jewish settlements upon the land; and then I would use this increase of Arab population as a reason for denying to the Jews the further opportunity to live upon the land which they have blessed with their labor, their culture, and their brotherly good will. Then, in the third place, I would close the ports of immigration into Palestine. I would stop up the springs, so that no more water could flow into a dry and stubborn land. I would cut off the blood stream, so that no more life could pour into its arteries and veins. I would isolate the army of settlers from every base of supplies, so that no more reserves could be sent to a battlefield which may easily be lost for lack of supports.

These are the things that I would do if I were an enemy of Israel, an opponent of Zion, an Arab chauvinist and fanatic. And these are the very things - let there be no mistake, my friends! - that England has done to you! When Joab said to Amasa, "Is it well with thee, my Brother?" and took Amasa's beard in his right hand to kiss him, and then smote him with the sword in the body, so that his

"bowels were shed out on to the ground," this cruel and perfidious soldier struck no fouler blow than the Labor cabinet of Great Britain has this day struck at you!

It is well that this act of Britain should be denounced by Jews, and by all good men throughout the world, for what it is, a deed of dishonor and disgrace. If there were a Wailing Wall in New York, as there is in Jerusalem, I would ask to join you in beating with my fists and watering with my tears these sacred stones in protest of Britain's shame and Israel's despair. But it is well also, when denunciation is done, to think a bit, and ask in soberness and silence what this thing means. From this standpoint, what has happened is not wholly bad. There is a bright side even in this latest chapter in the unending story of your people's suffering and sorrow.

What you have here is this immeasurable gain. You have discovered at last the truth about Great Britain. For ten years - nay, for twelve years, and thirteen years - you have been living in a fool's paradise. You thought the British Empire meant what she said when she wrote and signed the Balfour Declaration. The British Empire like every other empire, never means anything she says when this stands in the way of imperial interest and advantage. Britain cared nothing about Zion when she published the solemn compact of the Declaration. This document which you have made sacred by your trust, but which England has profaned by her dishonor, was dictated not by any love for the Jews, in their great movement for a national homeland, but simply and solely by the exigencies of war. In the desperate struggle of 1917, Great Britain needed Palestine to hold the Empire together, and the Jews were useful.

Hence the Balfour Declaration! Today, Great Britain needs Palestine to hold the road to India, and the Arabs to hold the rule of India - and the Jews are in the way. Hence yesterday's declaration of policy by the MacDonald cabinet! England, as an imperial government, has never had any interest in serving you. On the contrary, she had had but the one interest of using you. You should have known this years ago. If you do not know it now, how can the world any longer have confidence either in your knowledge or your common sense! The time has come for you to discover the truth which was taught you ages ago by your own scriptures - "Put not your trust in princes!"

This is the great gain, therefore. You have found at last the truth about your partnership with Britain. What are you going to do about it? This brings me to my one point of agreement with the MacDonald policy. The Premier pleads that "the ideals of a Jewish national home can be realized ... only by the cooperation of the Jews and Arabs." I agree! But the Premier goes on to specify "cooperation of the Jews and Arabs with the government." Here I disagree. Cooperation - yes! But cooperation not with but against Great Britain! There is but one hope for Zion, and that is union with the Arabs in a common cause against an alien empire which misrules and exploits both peoples. Such union is difficult - particularly difficult so long as Britain is present with her proverbial imperial policy of "divide and rule." But from this moment on, if you are wise, it must be war against the British Crown - a war not of swords, nor even staves, but such a war as the great Mahatma Ghandhi of India is now waging against an enemy which he found out years ago. A war of peaceful protest, willing suffering, and determined non-cooperation!

This is a dark hour - but be not dismayed. Two things give me courage and hope for you at this moment of your grim despair.

First, Zion is planted too deep and sure in Palestine to be uprooted or destroyed. It is no longer a question as to whether you are going to be able to go to Palestine or not, to establish your homeland or not. You are there in Palestine now, and your homeland is already established! I have seen its houses, met its people, walked in its harvest fields, and worshipped in its synagogues, and I say to you that the hills of Palestine will crumble flat in the valleys before the settlements of Zion perish.

Secondly, you Jews, who have withstood so much, cannot fail or falter before this latest trial. You are not only the most tragic people of history, in that you have always been defeated; but also the most miraculous people of history in that you have never been defeated. You have met empire after empire, and been beaten to the ground. Then you have seen empire after empire pass, and you have risen up again. What Egypt could not do, what Assyria could not do, what Rome could not do, what Mecca could not do, what Turkey could not do, Great Britain cannot do. If you must suffer again and endure anew, it is because it is the mission of the Jew, as an heroic pioneer said to me in Beth Alpha, to suffer and endure, that the spirit may burn on. "The suffering servant of Yihwah!" Be not afraid, my beloved. The time is long, the road is hard, but God in his good time will reward not only according to his mercies but to your own deserts of patience, struggle, sacrifice and unquenchable because undying faith.

"And it shall come to pass that, as ye were a curse among the heathen, O house of Judah, and house of Israel, so will I save you, and ye shall be a blessing. Fear not, but let your hands be strong."

Zionist Organization of America
111 Fifth Avenue
New York City

(ADVANCE STORY)

Release: Wednesday, Oct. 22d

ZIONISTS ASSAIL GREAT BRITAIN FOR PALESTINE POLICY
Resolution At Huge Mass Meeting at Mecca Temple Declares Latest
British Pronouncement "A Travesty on Balfour Declaration";
John Haynes Holmes Calls on Jews to Unite With
Arabs Against British; Szold Says Zionists
"Accept Challenge Thrown Down by British"

In what was characterized as the most fervent meeting held by a Jewish audience since the World War, speakers representing all elements in the Zionist movement, and one speaker representing the non-Jewish world, bitterly assailed Great Britain for its most recent White Paper announcing its future policy in Palestine. The meeting, held last night at Mecca Temple, was jammed, and an overflow gathering was held on the outside.

A resolution that was adopted unanimously characterized the British pronouncement as "a travesty of the Balfour Declaration" and declared that the Jewish people will resist to the utmost "the attempt of the British Government to nullify the Palestine Mandate and to reduce the Balfour Declaration to a scrap of paper."

Dr. John Haynes Holmes, pastor of the Community Church, declared that at last Jews "have discovered the truth about Great Britain". He urged Jews to cooperate with the Arabs in Palestine to make "common cause against an alien empire which misrules and exploits both people".

The resolution adopted by the assembly read as follows:

"Thirteen years ago the British Government evoked solemn and enthusiastic expressions of gratitude and hope from the Jewish people throughout the world by issuing the Balfour Declaration which pledged Great Britain to facilitate the re-establishment of the Jewish National Home in Palestine. This Declaration was made with the approval of the other Allied Powers and was issued only after receiving the express endorsement of the President of the United States. This solemn pledge by the Allies and the United States was written into the law of nations when the Mandate for Palestine, which embodied it, was entrusted by the League of Nations to Great Britain.

Since the conclusion of the War, the Jews of the world, in reliance upon these international guarantees, have made notable progress in the economic, social and cultural development of Palestine. These Jewish achievements have at the same time brought unquestionable benefits to the Arabs. In

this work of development, as the League of Nations through its Mandates Commission has recently declared, the British Administration of Palestine has failed to furnish that measure of cooperation and assistance which the Mandate expressly required. In spite, however, of its disappointments with the Palestine Administration, the Jewish people continued to repose confidence in the British Government.

Now, contrary to the assurances given by the representative of the British Government to the League of Nations, a statement has been issued by that Government announcing a policy with respect to Palestine which is a breach of its trust and a defiance of its international obligations.

To this repudiation and violation, the Jewish people will never submit.

We denounce as utterly unfounded the suggestion that Jewish development in Palestine has been prejudicial to the welfare of the Arabs. The contrary is the truth. Improvement in Arab life, as the proceedings before the Mandates Commission have conclusively proven, steadily followed in the wake of Jewish effort.

We declare the professed adherence of the statement of the British Government to the Jewish National Home policy simultaneously with a denial of the right of immigration and land purchase by Jews as a travesty of that policy and as a violation of the Declaration by a previous Government in 1922, that the Jews are in Palestine "as of right and not on sufferance".

We point to the fact that the Palestine Mandate, which embodies the Balfour Declaration, is based upon the explicit recognition of "the historic connection of the Jewish people with Palestine". We declare this connection unbroken and unbreakable. This connection will subsist despite the present attempt of the British Government to nullify the Palestine Mandate and to reduce the Balfour Declaration to a scrap of paper.

In this hour of keen disappointment, we invoke the sense of justice of the British people and the enlightened sentiment of mankind in support of the violated rights of the Jewish people. We pledge our continued devotion to our brothers in Palestine and reaffirm our unalterable determination together with them to go forward with the historic task of re-establishing the Jewish National Home in Palestine."

ADDRESS BY MR. ROBERT SZOLD, CHAIRMAN OF ADMINISTRATION OF Z.O.A.
At meeting at Mecca Temple, October 21, 1930.

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It is under circumstances of deep pain and sorrow that we are gathered here this evening. Rarely in the history of the Jewish people has our patience and our courage been more severely tested. But we are here tonight for the purpose of demonstrating to the world that our confidence in our ideal has not been shaken, that, on the contrary, adversity, as it always has done in the history of our people, has strengthened our resolve to continue with the task of upbuilding Palestine as the Jewish National Home. We are here tonight to accept the challenge that has been thrown down to us by the British Government, and to arouse our people throughout the United States to an assumption of the greater responsibility which now devolves upon us toward realizing the Zionist ideal.

The meeting this evening had been intended as a reception for Mr. Harry Snell, of England, who has been true to the best traditions of Great Britain in insisting on Britain's duty under the Palestine Mandate. It had been our hope to meet with him and to discuss some of the vital problems that have been agitating Jewish public opinion. But due to circumstances beyond the control of Mr. Snell, he will not participate in this meeting. He sails for England tomorrow in order that he may take part in the debate on Palestine which will be held in the House of Commons. We wish him Godspeed in his purpose to recall his own Government to its obligations,
~~knowingxxxxxxxx~~

Yesterday afternoon the British Government made public the report of Sir John Simpson together with a White Paper stating its future policy in Palestine. The action of the Government cannot be characterized otherwise than as a repudiation of the purpose and spirit of the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate.

The aim of this meeting tonight is to offer a demonstration of Jewish solidarity in America, to provide a symbol of solidarity which we offer to every assault upon the foundations of the Jewish National Home. Other speakers this evening will describe the manner in which a sacred pledge solemnly made has been broken. They will voice the unanimous determination of American Jewry to oppose all measures which are in violation of the promise made to the Jewish people by the entire civilized world.

The meeting, however, is not to be construed as a mere protest against an unjust action. The purpose of this gathering is not merely to express

indignation and resentment, but a resolve to resist the efforts of the British Government to violate the trust imposed on her by the various nations.

After the receipt of the cable advices, Jews everywhere gathered together. Representatives of many organizations came to Zionist headquarters during this day. Not only were the various Zionist organizations represented, but also the Jewish Agency representatives. Mr. Warburg, Dr. Adler, Mr. Flexner and other representatives of the enlarged Jewish Agency, joined with us to take common counsel. I think I may say that Mr. Warburg told us this afternoon that Palestine will go on, that the Jews have gone through terrible days of misery and of outrages, that they will get over this also, that we have to help them more than before, that we must give them all the encouragement they can get, that the sympathy of the Jews all over the world will be stronger than ever for the Jews in Palestine.

This tremendous gathering of Jews, whose emotions have been so profoundly aroused, as have those of every other conscious Jew in this land and throughout the world, must serve two purposes. We are here, in the first place, to appeal to the reason of the British Government and to apprise her of the anguish she has caused our people. Prohibiting immigration and forbidding the purchase of land, the British Government attempts to camouflage its assault upon the bulwarks of the National Home by the use of plausible verbiage. We have, however, too long been lulled by phrases. If Great Britain's Government is intent upon following out the Passfield policy, regardless of its violation of past pledges and regardless of the protestations of co-operation which have been uttered from time to time by members of the Labor Government, it will find resistance from a united Jewish people.

There is another purpose to this meeting. We Jews say to our brethren throughout the world and particularly to our brethren on the front in Palestine that nothing can deter us from our resolution to rebuild the Jewish ~~Naz~~ Homeland. We shall provide more funds, tap new sources of encouragement to the pioneers who have so bravely stood their ground in Palestine.

In the long centuries of our Dispersion, we Jews have suffered many blows. We have recovered from each attack because of our steadfast faith in the idealism of our purpose. We have refused to succumb, knowing that we should ultimately be returned to our Homeland. In the face of such a tradition, in the face of the courage which Jews through all ages have

exhibit4d toward seemingly insurmountable difficulties, Great Britain may well pause before she embarks upon a policy which will invoke the enmity of an irresistible people.

As I said, this is not a prepared meeting. Originally, this gathering-place was engaged for an entirely different purpose. When, however, the announcement came over the cables yesterday and the blow was struck, as spontaneous and as inevitable as effect follows cause, the family of Jews has come together. As to what answer shall be given we shall not deliberate tonight. As to what action may be required we need not tonight consider. The speakers ~~xi~~ tonight will no doubt merely give voice to the solidarity of Jewish feeling aroused by this grievous blow.

- - -



ADDRESS BY DR. LOUIS I. NEWMAN
Rabbi of Rodeph Sholom
at meeting at Mecca Temple on October 22, 1930

"It is not a State paper but a splenetic, vengeful piece of propaganda, calculated to set the world against the Jewish people for their very achievements in Palestine.

"The British Labor Government has struck a blow at itself. Zionism may seem to be the chief sufferer, but British Labor and Great Britain will prove eventually the worst losers. England is trifling with destiny when it seeks to retard the progress of Jewish development in Palestine. Israel's right to be in the Holy Land outdates England's. Not Jews, but the British, are in Palestine on sufferance. When the British were primitive tribes on the hills of an Atlantic island, the Jews were kings and prophets in Judea. They had placed the stamp of their culture upon Palestine, and had evolved literary and religious documents which the nations of Europe adopted in their transformation from barbarians into civilized folk. England has risen to power as an Empire, but empires which have sought to place their heel upon Judea have fallen, whatever heights they have achieved. England will find there is a Nemesis in persecution of Jewry. England has no right at the bar of history to frustrate the hopes of Jewry for national restoration, as ageless as the people of Israel itself.

"Passfield seeks to make it appear that Zionists have harmed the Arabs, and that we are a group of exploiters in a foreign land. Before the coming of the Jew to Palestine, the Arab fellaheen were among the lowliest people of the earth. Passfield criticizes and seems to envy the fact that Jews have organization, capital and science. Their advent into the Holy Land has advanced its progress within a decade more than other countries have achieved in a century. Arabs have imitated Jewish initiative and skill, and are in the midst of a renaissance fostered by Jewish example. Passfield's statement instead of being balm upon the waters, troubles them more grievously. It sets Arabs against Jews, and makes the possibility of rapprochement even more remote.

"If Jews had failed in Palestine, Passfield would have rejoiced. Their very success angers him. He intends to do everything possible to thwart their further progress. Passfield seeks to throttle further discussion, and speaks in terms reminiscent of the language of a Roman Procurator. Eng-

"The last word has not been spoken, and it is not for England to speak it. The League of Nations only a few weeks ago gave ample evidence of its dissent from British condonation of its own ineptitude in the administration of the Mandate. The League of Nations will speak again, for England is not in Palestine as a predatory conquering power, but as a trustee for mankind under the jurisdiction of international law. The Jews are eager to cooperate with the Arabs, but England must say and do nothing that will prompt Arabs once more to dip their swords in Jewish blood. England must not ride on the backs of Jews and Arabs; England must not divide in order to rule. If there is to be a new era in Zionism, England is doing all in its power to prevent it from being one of peace, prosperity and progress".



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(Keren Kayemeth Le Israel, Inc.)

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October 29th, 1930

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You are probably aware that when the United Palestine Appeal was in existence, one of its constituent bodies was the Jewish National Fund, which gave up its right to run campaigns of its own and accepted instead an allotment from the sums raised by the United Palestine Appeal.

When the United Palestine Appeal was liquidated and the Jewish Agency for Palestine assumed responsibility for the Palestine budget, the Jewish National Fund was no longer included, and it became necessary for the Jewish National Fund to make plans to raise the sums needed by an independent campaign. However, in order not to embarrass the Allied Jewish Campaign, the Jewish National Fund postponed launching its own campaign until the Fall of 1930.

Whilst the Jewish population of Palestine represents 18% of the total population, the land in Jewish possession is little more than 5% of the whole, and it is therefore imperative for the Jewish National Fund to launch its campaign now. The action of the British Government makes it all the more necessary for us to raise as large a sum as possible, so that we may endorse the splendid spirit of our people in Palestine. A cable just received from Jerusalem informs us that they are replying to the Labor Government by launching a campaign in Palestine on November 2nd, for the purchase of additional land, and urging the Jews in the Diaspora to do likewise.

We are therefore looking to your community to hold a Jewish National Fund campaign, and to make every endeavor to see that it is successful. This is, of course, entirely separate and apart from the regular activities of the Jewish National Fund - such as Flag Day, Flower Day, boxes, bazaars, etc.

In this connection it has already been announced in the press that Mr. M. Ussishkin of Jerusalem, World President of the Jewish National Fund, is to visit this country this winter to assist us in raising the largest possible amount for its needs, and we know that Zionists throughout the country will lend him all necessary cooperation.

I have resigned as Associate National Secretary of the Allied Jewish Campaign to assume the position of National Field Director of the Jewish National Fund campaign. We are working out the details and plans

for our campaign and we are preparing the lists of quotas, so that we may know what we may count on from each community. I am therefore writing to you to ask you to get together with your colleagues, and set a date for an immediate meeting of the Zionist groups in your community, for the purpose of fixing a definite campaign date and quota for your city.

We should appreciate hearing from you what you will do in this matter since, as you can readily understand our earnest desire to get things under way as soon as possible, and to send word to Palestine that we are with our brothers in this difficult time.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Bernard Stone

National Field Director.

P. S. We are writing to the following people in your city, in addition to yourself, and hope that you will all get together and arrange the meeting for which we ask:

Messrs. Geo. J. Klein, Alfred A. Benesch, Max Simon, Isaac Carmel, Ezra Shapiro, Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner and Mrs. Arthur I. Fisher.

BS:SB

COLLECT

card

DAY LETTER

OCT. 29th, 1930

Mr. Emanuel Neumann,
Jewish National Fund,
111 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.



Regret extremely can not be with you on November second stop
Will be out of my pulpit on November ninth stop Can not
be away on two consecutive Sundays stop Not fair to my
congregation stop Wish your meeting every success.

A. H. Silver

קרן קימת לישראל

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF AMERICA

(Keren Kayemeth Le Israel, Inc.)

111 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

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Announcement has already been made of Mr. Ussishkin's departure from Palestine for the United States, where he is expected to arrive on December 2nd, with the result that we have had requests from a large number of communities to book him for speaking engagements.

Since he will have to leave America in January to attend the Zionist Congress, he will have only about five or six weeks to carry out his mission, i.e., the raising of a substantial sum for the needs of the Jewish National Fund.

In the circumstances Mr. Ussishkin will be obliged to restrict his visits to those communities from which large contributions for the Jewish National Fund will be forthcoming. Along these lines, arrangements have already been made for a special land campaign of the Jewish National Fund, quite apart from the regular activities of the Jewish National Fund such as Flag Day, Flower Day, etc. As an example, we have had word from the State of Connecticut that all the important centers in that state are preparing for early campaigns, which will be concluded before December 28th, so that when Mr. Ussishkin visits New Haven on that date, he will receive a check of about \$25,000.00, representing the campaign results of Connecticut.

We know that a visit by Mr. Ussishkin to your community would serve as an inspiration to the Zionists, and we would be happy to include it in the itinerary, if we could be assured of a substantial check from your and other neighboring communities.

May I ask that you please discuss this matter with your Zionist colleagues promptly and let us know whether you wish us to make provision in Mr. Ussishkin's itinerary for a visit to your city.

With kind greetings, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Bernard Stone
National Field Director.

BS.SB



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1930 NOV 28 PM 4 58

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RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE TEMPLE CLEVELAND OHIO

MANY THANKS YOUR ACCEPTANCE USSISHKIN MECCA TEMPLE RECEPTION MONDAY
DECEMBER EIGHTH NEUMANN WRITING YOU

I H RUBIN SECRETARY JEWISH NATIONAL FUND.

TELEPHONED

5537 MAIN OFFICE

5537
DK
Date *11-28-30*
By *DK*

OK card
WLB
reg

From New York

NOV 11/28/30

Rabbi Silver

Many thanks your acceptance Ussishkin
Mecca Temple Reception, Monday Dec. 8th
Neumann Writing to you

I. H. Rubin,
Sec'y. Jewish National Fund

accepted by AHS. personally on phone

קרן קימת לישראל

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OF AMERICA

(Keren Kayemeth Le Israel, Inc.)

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PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

November 28, 1930

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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
c/o The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Abba:

I am very happy that we were able to fix up the date. This will be your first speech in New York since the publication of the White Paper, and I am sure our people here will be eager to listen to you. Apart from the general consideration of the whole situation, we are planning the meeting, in a sense, as a demonstration for the Jewish National Fund which is one of the institutions that has been singled out for attack. I assume therefore that your address will make particular reference to the land problem and include a defense of the JNF as well as an appeal for its support. (The appeal is of course only moral. This is not a campaign meeting).

I have told you over the phone a little about the difficulties that we are meeting with in connection with Mr. Ussishkin's visit. The agency group, including our own Administration, wanted the JNF to enter into a joint campaign. The JNF Board here was willing to do so in spite of Mr. Ussishkin's objections in principle to any joint campaign, but it felt compelled in view of Mr. Ussishkin's coming here to make a reservation whereby Mr. Ussishkin would be able during the month of December and during the first two weeks in January to interview individuals and small groups with a view to interesting them in a certain project he has in mind. The Administration voted down the reservation and insisted upon our going into the joint campaign "as is". I am afraid that by that action the chances of effecting a joint campaign have been badly hurt. If the reservation had been accepted, Mr. Ussishkin would have found upon his arrival here

a complete understanding and agreement which he would undoubtedly have accepted as a fait accompli. The refusal to grant the reservation put the JNF Board in a position where they could not in consequence agree upon the joint campaign leaving Mr. Ussishkin and his mission out of consideration.

All along I have pleaded for an attitude of sympathy and goodwill toward Ussishkin and joint action on the part of the ZOA and the Agency, to leave Mr. Ussishkin for the work of the general campaign, because I felt that in the particular circumstances in which we are now, he coming fresh from Palestine with his full-blooded Zionist point of view would make the strongest possible appeal to the Zionists and the Jewish masses generally. I was told however that the Agency would not join in such an invitation to Mr. Ussishkin.

In order to induce acceptance of the reservation I went so far as to suggest that instead of the JNF's receiving a definite fixed sum from the general campaign (\$300,000) that this amount be left indeterminate and subject to determination by a mixed committee of three. The purpose of this arrangement would be to reduce the amount to be given to the JNF if it should turn out that Mr. Ussishkin's private solicitation for large amounts among selected individuals might result in a certain loss to the general campaign. The situation is further complicated by the fact that LDB in an interview given to Mr. Elias Epstein, Secretary of the JNF, last week expressed himself emphatically in favor of Mr. Ussishkin's proposed "parlor solicitation". Mr. Epstein, claiming to do so with LDB's consent, reported LDB's interview, at JNF meetings, and later when the accuracy of this report was challenged by someone, he wrote to Mr. Brandeis and has received in reply a letter confirming the oral report. The fact is that LDB is very keen on the JNF as I have had occasion to learn for myself both from his letters to me and from personal interviews, and is also in favor of buying as much additional land as possible whenever there is a drop in prices (such a drop is now taking place).

I cannot help but feel that with the opposition which has developed among members of our own group to Mr. Ussishkin's private effort, while they are motivated in part by an honest fear that he may carry off the spoils before the campaign starts and thus "wreck it", there is no doubt another element in the situation and that is the attitude of the non-Zionist leaders in the Agency who openly avow their objection to the JNF in principle on theoretic as well as practical ground. Whatever may be the soundness or unsoundness of the argument it is clear to my mind that it is a great mistake at the present juncture of affairs to enter into a controversy with Ussishkin as to his right to

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver -32

carry on these activities. At a meeting of the Administration, I pleaded for a postponement of the decision until Ussishkin's arrival here and a round-table discussion has taken place. I was overruled by the majority. Well, the discussion with Ussishkin is going to take place just the same, of course, and I am in hopes that we will be able to arrive at a formula which will allow him to try out his plan and at the same time safeguard the legitimate interests of the general campaign.

One word more. The JNF has thus far in this country at least, and in many others, been something of a Cinderella among Zionist institutions. It has not had in this country leaders and spokesmen who could place it upon the proper plane. It is gradually emerging from that condition and the process involves a certain amount of growing pains. Knowing as I do your views on the JNF as well as your independence in thought and action, I count upon you to exert your influence -- and it is considerable both in our own Organization and with our non-Zionist leaders -- to secure a square deal for the JNF and for Mr. Ussishkin personally.

An Agency campaign is about to be launched. I have grave doubts as to its success, particularly if it is conducted in the spirit and with the tempo that characterized the central administration of the Allied Campaign. I think we can hope for very little this year from non-Zionists outside of a very small group, and that we must rely chiefly upon the response of the Zionists and Jews who feel Zionistically. The one hope that I saw of putting across the campaign was by the exploitation of Mr. Ussishkin to the utmost. Of course the Agency don't want him in the general campaign, and he, himself does not want to participate in it, but, as I said, I hope a solution may still be reached.

If you can in advance send us a summary of your speech, or at any rate a few paragraphs that we can use, we would send out this material to the newspapers ahead of the meeting. I am sending you under separate cover for your further edification copies of a letter I wrote to Robert Szold the other day, together with copy of the memorandum and resolution to which I refer in that letter.

With kindest personal regards to your family and yourself, I am
as ever

Yours,

Emanuel Newman

Dictated but not read.

קרן קימת לישראל

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December 2, 1930

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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
c/o The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Abba:

Ussishkin arrives tonight. So far as I could judge from a talk I had with Szold the other day the opposition to the "reservation" seems to be weakening. I am still hopeful of our being able to effect a workable agreement.

I had a two hours conference with Mr. Bainbridge Colby today, and I am enclosing copy of a memorandum which I drew up after I left him. I told him of our meeting on Monday night. He knew about you and said that he would be interested to hear your speech. He is coming to the meeting, although he will probably not deliver any address.

With kindest personal regards, I am as ever

Very cordially and sincerely yours,

Emanuel Neumann
EMANUEL NEUMANN

December 2, 1930

MEMORANDUM

I had a further conversation with Mr. Bainbridge Colby today lasting about two hours. We discussed the Zionist situation from its various angles. Mr. Colby's talk gave evidence to the fact that he had read a big part of the material I had sent him. It became increasingly evident that he is thinking of identifying himself in some way with our efforts to secure a reversal of the policy of the White Paper. Just now, he did not make clear, but by a process of elimination one could infer that he would like to step in as the advocate of the Zionist cause in the sphere of international affairs.

Among the many observations that he made I set down a few which seemed to me to stand out:

1. It was necessary to simplify the discussion by concentrating upon the principal point and driving that home. The principal point that he can see was that the establishment of the Jewish National Home was the prime object of the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate, and that all other considerations however important could not be allowed to deflect the Mandatory from that object any more than unemployment in St. Louis could justify a departure from the Federal constitution of the United States.

2. He thought that agitation and propaganda in this country should continue but that the most effective way of gaining our point would be through the League of Nations.

3. Our activities in that direction, he thought, should be carried out with the knowledge and approval if possible of those elements in British public life who are lined up with us.

4. He expressed great doubts as to the wisdom of negotiating with the Government at this time. In the end he thought we might have to accept a compromise but the time for making a compromise has not yet arrived.

He thought that one of the most effective means of bring about a compromise is taking an extreme and bold position demanding the maximum and fighting hard for the maximum.

5. He referred to the White Paper as a "distortion" of the purposes of the Declaration and the Mandate and the acceptance of mere concessions wrung from the present Government might mean the end of the dream of the Jewish National Home for a generation or several generations to come. The world, he thought, was not excited about 150,000 Jews in Palestine but there was a powerful appeal in the ideal of a National Home boldly conceived.

6. He thought it was unwise for him to issue a statement or make speeches at this moment, but in view of the fact that he is a former Secretary of State, he should be reserved for doing something in a large way along a line that should be carefully thought out.

He again expressed his admiration for LDB and SSW and FF and asked to be remembered to them.

At the close he intimated that he was looking forward to a continuance of our conversations.

Emanuel Neumann

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1930 DEC 4 PM 12 49

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

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YOU PLEASE MAIL US YOUR COPY SOON AS POSSIBLE

WILLIAM Z SPIEGELMAN PUBLICITY DIRECTOR JNF.

Mail copy

Dec 4 1250
Time *1250*
To *JNF*
By *10*



Dec. 5th, 1930

Mr. William Z. Spiegelman,
Publicity Director,
Jewish National Fund,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Spiegelman:-

I am enclosing herewith a few paragraphs
for your publicity.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

קרן קימת לישראל

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December 9th, 1930.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland, O.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

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In a letter received by us from Mr. Ismach, Chairman of the Jewish National Fund in Cleveland, he suggests that we should ask for inclusion in the campaign which is to be conducted there, our share of the proceeds to be \$10,000.00.

In the first place, the Jewish National Fund would oppose such a plan, because we do not feel that it would be ethical to ask for a part of the funds to be raised in Cleveland for the Allied Jewish Campaign. In addition, Mr. Ussishkin has come to the conclusion that he does not desire to raise any money at mass meetings or public gatherings. Negotiations are now in progress between the Zionist Organization of America, the Jewish Agency and Mr. Ussishkin, to arrange matters in such a way that there will be no independent campaigns for the Jewish National Fund, but that Mr. Ussishkin will seek to obtain contributions from individuals and small groups privately, at parlor meetings or in personal interviews. These sums which Mr. Ussishkin expects to raise will be larger contributions which may be paid off over a period of five years.

Mr. Ussishkin therefore asks that a parlor meeting be arranged for him in Cleveland, where he could talk to a group of the wealthier people in Cleveland. If this is arranged, he would be most happy to address a mass meeting in the interest of the Jewish National Fund.

May I therefore ask you to be good enough to let me have your view as to how and when such a parlor meeting can be arranged, so that we may advise Mr. Ussishkin, who is looking forward to an early reply in the matter.

With many thanks in anticipation, and with kind greetings,

I am

Very sincerely yours,

Bernard Stone
National Field Director.

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RABBI ABBA FILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE=

UNDERSTAND YOU ARE VISITING NEWYORK THIS WEEKEND URGENTLY

DESIRE SEE YOU PLEASE MAKE APPOINTMENT=

USSISHKIN.

Wanburg

May

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

WIRE TO

DEC. 24th, 1930

MR. M. USSISHKIN
COMMODORE HOTEL
NEW YORK N. Y.

WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO COME CLEVELAND
EITHER JANUARY SEVENTH OR THIRTEENTH FOR PARLOR MEETING
AND MASS MEETING PLEASE WIRE

A. H. SILVER



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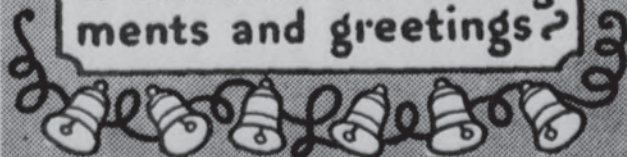
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USSISHKIN ANXIOUSLY AWAITING REPLY HIS TELEGRAM SUGGESTING
JANUARY FOURTEENTH OR FIFTEENTH FOR HIS VISIT TO CLEVELAND IN
ORDER ARRANGE HIS ITINERARY STOP RETURN WIRE URGENTLY
REQUESTED THANKS=

:BERNARD STONE.

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Leo Klein*

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RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE =

COULD NOT BE IN CLEVELAND EITHER SEVENTH OR THIRTEENTH
SPEAKING BALTIMORE SEVENTH AND PROVIDENCE EVENING TWELFTH
COULD BE CLEVELAND FOURTEENTH OR FIFTEENTH THANKS FOR HELP=
RUSSISHKIN.

The aim of the Jewish National Fund is to redeem the soil of Palestine as the inalienable property of the Jewish People

קרן קימת לישראל

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January 23, 1931.

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VIA AIR MAIL

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

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Dear Rabbi Silver:

Enclosed herewith I am sending you a copy of a letter which we have this day dispatched to Mr. Ismach. The contents explain themselves, and I ask you to help with every means in your power to secure the commitment for which Mr. Ussishkin asks as the condition of his coming to Cleveland.

Hoping to see you at the Jewish National Fund Conference on February 8th, and with kind regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Bernard Stone
National Field Director.

BS:JB

January 23, 1931.

VIA AIR MAIL

Mr. Samuel Ismach,
Jewish National Fund,
1124 East 105th Street,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Ismach:

I am happy to inform you that Mr. Rubin interviewed Mr. Ussishkin today and once more laid before him in full the Cleveland situation, and the earnest request made by you and other Zionist leaders in Cleveland that Mr. Ussishkin should not leave the United States without paying a visit to your good city.

Mr. Ussishkin has finally consented to include Cleveland in his itinerary and has left it to us to negotiate a date with you on condition that you will arrange matters so that a fully representative committee of the leading Zionist forces in your city, amongst them persons who in the past have been active in the United Palestine Appeal, will be formed during his visit and will pledge themselves to undertake at a later date when the conditions in Cleveland will be more favorable, during the spring or early summer of 1931, an action to provide the funds needed for Nachlath Cleveland or any other arrangement made in accordance with Mr. Ussishkin's general project.

If this is agreeable to you, to Rabbi Silver and Mr. Klein, and other of your local leaders whom we would be glad if you would consult, please let us know and then we will see to it that a date is provided. The date we have in mind, subject to Mr. Ussishkin's approval, is Wednesday, February 11th. It would, however, be necessary for Mr. Ussishkin to leave by the midnight train on the 11th in order that he might be in Chicago on the morning of the 12th.

May I take this opportunity of drawing your attention to the Jewish National Fund Annual Conference, which will take place this year in the city of Washington, D. C. on Sunday, February 8th, where we hope that we will see you, as well as a number of the other leaders from Cleveland and the other cities in Ohio as delegates.

Hoping that you will reply to this letter promptly so that we may definitely take up the question of the date with Mr. Ussishkin, I am with kind regards

Very sincerely yours,

BS:JB

National Field Director.

The aim of the Jewish National Fund is to redeem the soil of Palestine as the inalienable property of the Jewish People

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Rabbi Abba Hilel Silver,
The Temple
E. 105th St.,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:-

Enclosed you will please find a copy of a statement concerning the forthcoming Jewish National Fund Conference in Washington, D.C., on February 8th, which we would like to publish in the press over your signature, together with the signatures of Mr. Gedaliah Bublick, Prof. Harry Friedenwald, Mr. Haim Greenberg, Rabbi James G. Heller, Mrs. Edward Jacobs, Mr. Louis Lipsky, Mr. Berel Locker, Judge Julian W. Mack, Miss Henrietta Szold, Mr. Robert Szold and Rabbi Stephen S. Wise.

The publication of this statement at this time will undoubtedly be very helpful to the cause. The Jewish National Fund and myself would therefore greatly appreciate the permission of the use of your name in connection with this matter, and your early response.

Cordially yours,

Emanuel Neumann

EMANUEL NEUMANN

President

EN:EC
Enc.

Jewish National Fund Conference at Washington, D. C. - - Sunday, February 8, 1931

The aim of the Jewish National Fund is to redeem the soil of Palestine as the inalienable property of the Jewish People

קרן קימת לישראל

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF AMERICA

(Keren Kayemeth Le Israel, Inc.)

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Jan. 28, 1931

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Dr. Abba Hilel Silver,
The Temple, E. 105th St.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:-

On Sunday, February 8th, there will be held at the New Willard Hotel in Washington, D.C., a National Conference of the Jewish National Fund of America, for the purpose of considering large scale undertakings by American Jewry in behalf of the land redemption program in Palestine. More than 500 delegates will attend the sessions. Mr. Menahem Ussishkin, President of the Keren Kayemeth, who is now visiting this country, will address the Conference.

I do hope you will find it possible to come to Washington to attend this nation-wide gathering. Should you, however, be prevented from doing so, may I suggest that a message from you addressed to the Conference on the subject of the larger tasks now facing the Jewish National Fund, would be of great value in stimulating the interest of the delegates and in inspiring American Jewry to carry on this vital work.

Looking forward to meeting you in Washington, or, failing that, to receiving your message, I am

Sincerely yours,

Emanuel Neumann

EMANUEL NEUMANN

President

EN:EC

Jewish National Fund Conference at Washington, D. C. - - Sunday, February 8, 1931

Jan. 29th, 1931

Mr. Emanuel Neumann,
Jewish National Fund,
111 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Neumann:-

In reply to your letter of January 27th permit me to say that you may use my name in connection with the statement which you plan to publish on the eve of the forthcoming Jewish National Fund Conference in Washington.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

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RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

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SAMUEL ISMACH.

3380
Feb 1st
Mrs Silver
Mail
Per L Ans