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

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

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

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Jewish Telegraphic Agency, 1940-1949.

Western Reserve Historical Society

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American Jewish Archives

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September 9, 1940

Jewish Telegraphic Agency
1560 Broadway
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

I note that you are still sending my copy of the JTA Bulletin to Mooselookmenguntic Lodge, Haines Landing, Maine. I have been back in Cleveland since September 1. Will you please send the JTA Bulletins to me at the following address: 246 East 105th St., Cleveland, Ohio.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

Canada

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

October 8, 1940.

The greatest worry of Canadian Jewish leaders today is the fact that Jews in Canada are not enlisting in the Canadian military forces to the extent to which they should. The Jewish population in Canada is a little over $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the entire population. There are today about 200,000 Canadians enlisted in the army. Proportionally the number of Jews therein should therefore be over 3,000. This is, however, not the case. There are not even 1,000 Jews among the enlisted. This fact is known to the military authorities, and the Jewish leaders in Canada fear that eventually it will be held against the Jews.

There is no conscription in Canada. The entire army is being organized on the basis of voluntary enlistment. Hence none can be forced to enlist if he does not wish to do so. Jewish leaders in Canada would welcome military conscription, as this would solve their problem. The number of Jews in the army would then correspond to the proportion of the Jewish population in Canada and might even exceed this proportion.

The reason why enlistment in Canada is being conducted on a voluntary basis lies in the fact that the French population in Canada, which constitutes 43 per cent of the entire Canadian population, is firmly opposed to conscription. In fact, the Canadian French population is openly sabotaging all efforts which Canada is making to help England win the war. With the French Government in Vichy restoring full rights to the Catholic Church, the French population in Canada - entirely under the influence of the Church - is now completely pro-Pétain.

The Government of Canada is combatting this opposition in every way possible. It has arrested the Mayor of Montreal, a leading Frenchman, for calling on the population not to enlist, and has arrested a number of other leading French Canadians. However, with the French population almost half of the entire population of Canada, the problem of coping with the French resistance to the Canadian war effort is very delicate, especially since the Church is backing the French Canadians in their isolationist sentiments.

With the burden of organizing the defense forces in Canada falling entirely upon the British population, the Jews there are doing their best to assist the administration in its war efforts. Generous contributions are being made by Jewish individuals and organizations. A Jewish branch of the Canadian Red Cross has been organized. Full cooperation is being maintained between the Jewish central bodies and military authorities. A special Jewish National Emergency Committee has been established to mobilize the resources of the Jewish community in behalf of the British cause.

This cooperation which the Jews - in contrast with the Canadian Frenchmen - are displaying towards Canada's military efforts does not, however, cover the fact that the Jews are not fully represented in the ranks of the army. Though no open accusations have thus far been made in this respect, it is felt in Jewish circles that they may be forthcoming. Central Jewish bodies as well as the Jewish press in Canada are therefore trying their best to stimulate Jews of military age to enlist. At the same time these organizations are compiling data and material about Jews who have already enlisted, including those who have been shipped from Canada to England to fight in the overseas forces.

The unreserved pro-British attitude of the Canadian Jews is naturally not doing them any good with the French Canadians. There have always been anti-Jewish tendencies in Canada among the French Catholic population. These tendencies are now increasing.

The anti-Jewish feelings among the French Catholic population in Canada are finding their expression in the so-called "achetez chez nous" ("patronize us only") movement. This movement, which is being fostered by the Catholic Church openly, is nothing but a boycott directed by the French Catholic population both against the Jews and the English in Canada. Some French publications, especially the large Catholic daily "L'Action Catholique," even go so far as to refuse advertisements from Jewish firms.

Nevertheless, anti-Jewish propaganda in Canada has greatly decreased since Canada's entry into the war. This arises from the fact that all the leaders of the two principal anti-Semitic organizations - National Socialist Christian Party and the National Unity Party - have been arrested. The activities of these two organizations have been declared illegal.

In their efforts to liquidate fifth column action in Canada, the authorities are discovering more and more that anti-Jewish propaganda has been made one of the principal weapons of Nazi agents in Canada to hamper patriotic activities in the country. The insufficient participation of the Jews in the army is naturally being exploited by Nazi provocators to stir up anti-Jewish feelings. In some cities prominent Jews are receiving anonymous letters asking why their children have not enlisted. In other cities, such as Hamilton, Jewish stores were stoned by persons, said to be parents of sons serving in the Canadian forces.

The Canadian Jewish Congress is receiving letters from provincial Jewish communities asking for advice on how to counteract anti-Jewish provocations stimulated by propaganda that Jews do not enlist in the defense forces. There have been cases where Jewish soldiers were brought down in groups from Toronto to neighboring provincial towns in order to prove to the non-Jewish population in these towns that Jews have enlisted.

The Canadian Royal Mounted Police are on the alert in street cars, restaurants, hotels and various public places to counteract the defeatist and anti-Jewish propaganda. Anti-Semitism as such is, however, not prohibited in Canada.

With the stubborn opposition which the Canadian Frenchmen are displaying against the British war effort it is becoming more and more evident that the Canadian Government will have to reverse its anti-immigration policy and will, as soon as the war is over, be ready to open the gates of Canada for immigration of at least one million people. Only in this way will the English in Canada be in a position to resist the continuous growth of the French influence in the country.

Already one can hear high British officials in Canada admit that it was a mistake to keep the doors of Canada closed to immigrants and thereby give the French population the opportunity to reach the high percentage which they have attained. While the birth rate among the English in Canada is very low, it is very high among the French there. Competent observers estimate that if the doors of Canada remain closed to new immigrants then the French population will become the majority in the country within the next five years.

Meanwhile, the Jewish community in Canada is facing the added problem of the Jewish refugees from Germany. Jewish leaders complain that most of the refugees are becoming converted to Catholicism. This is true not only of such Jewish refugees who entered as capitalist immigrants and are therefore not a burden upon the Jewish community, but also with regard to such refugees for whom the Jewish community is responsible to the Government. In one refugee settlement maintained by the Jewish community-the setting up of which has cost the Jewish community of Canada more than \$120,000- Catholic priests are being invited every Sunday to perform religious Catholic ceremonies, since the majority of the settlers there have abandoned Judaism for Catholicism. Jewish organizations are helpless to prevent the conversions and must continue to support the refugees from Jewish funds despite their desertion of the Jewish religion, since they are responsible to the Government for the existence of the settlement.

Then there is the problem of the internees. There are ten internment camps where about 3,000 German Jews are being held as "enemy aliens." Most of them were shipped to Canada from England to remain in the isolation camps until the end of the war. About 1,800 of them have been classified by the British authorities as "non-dangerous." Some are holders of numbers for immigration visas to the United States. Others are chalutzim trained in England for life in Palestine as agricultural workers. There is also a group of Yeshivah students from the Frankfort-on-the-Main Yeshivah. All present a problem to Canadian Jewish leaders interested in securing their release from the camps.

A representative of the Hechalutz organization in the United States is now in Canada trying to establish the exact number of the interned chalutzim, and to see whether they cannot be transferred to the United States to continue their agricultural training under the supervision of the American Hechalutz. To date he has registered more than 250 chalutzim among the internees. The Canadian authorities take the attitude that they will have no objection to releasing these chalutzim provided London orders them to do so, since the chalutzim were sent to Canada as internees from England.

The number of interned students from the Frankfort-on-the-Main Yeshivah is said to be about fifty. They are all kept in one camp and are permitted to observe their religious rituals. Jewish organizations are permitted to communicate with them and to supply them with religious literature.

The efforts of the Jewish leaders in Canada are at present directed towards inducing the Canadian military authorities to agree to release those internees who can emigrate from Canada to the United States, the Dominican Republic, or to other countries in Latin America. Whether these efforts will be successful is difficult to predict, since the Canadian military authorities are of the opinion that as far as releasing people from internment camps is concerned nothing can be done without the consent of London in each case.

During the writer's visit to Canada he established the interesting fact that the archives of the Jewish Agency for Palestine as well as those of the World Zionist Executive have all been safely transferred from London to Canada with the permission of the Colonial and the Foreign Office. They are a part of the most important documents transferred by the British Government from London to Canada at the height of the Nazi invasion fear last month.

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JEW DEVELOPS ANTI-BLAST DEVICE FOR BRITAIN

LONDON, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- Dr. S. Zuckerman, formerly of Oxford and Professor-Designate of Anatomy at Birmingham University, has discovered a protective device of sponge rubber coating against injuries from bomb blasts and other explosions, it was announced today. The coating will be worn by members of the armed forces, fire-fighting services and Air Raid Precautions squads.

Dr. Zuckerman belongs to a well known Zionist family of South Africa. He was married last year to a daughter of Lord Reading. At one time he held a Yale research scholarship.

Z.O.A. STARTS DRIVE FOR 150,000 MEMBERS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- Edmund I. Kaufman, president of the Zionist Organization of America, has proclaimed the period of Nov. 10 to Dec. 25 as National Zionist Membership Month, dedicated to the furtherance of the nationwide enrollment campaign for 150,000 members. Public rallies and other events are planned in hundreds of Jewish communities under the auspices of local Zionist branches, to be climaxed with the holding of special celebrations during Chanukah week, Dec. 25 to Jan. 1.

Kaufmann will leave on a tour of New England and the Midwest to aid the enrollment campaign. He will be accompanied on his tour by Rabbi Isadore Breslau, executive director.

Kaufmann also announced appointment of Dr. David Tannenbaum, an authority on Palestine economy and Zionist organizer, as director of the Metropolitan Bureau of the Z.O.A. in New York.

A.M. LAMPORT, BANKER AND PHILANTHROPIST, DEAD AT 56

NEW YORK, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- Arthur M. Lamport, investment banker and philanthropist, died in his sleep in his apartment in the Hotel Lombardy here today. He was 56.

Lamport, who was treasurer of the United Palestine Appeal and co-treasurer of the United Jewish Appeal, had been ill for several months and had suffered a number of heart attacks. He was formerly co-chairman of the Greater New York U.J.A.

The U.P.A. said, following his death, that he "was one of the most courageous Jewish leaders of present-day America. He was a liberal in his outlook on the American community and in his interpretation of Jewish problems."

Lamport, who took the initiative in the establishment of the Sosua refugee settlement in the Dominican Republic, in March of this year visited the Republic to investigate the possibility of establishing small industries there in coordination with the settlement.

The banker was born in Franklin Falls, N.Y., and was educated in the public schools of Burlington, Vt. He was graduated from the College of the City of New York in 1902.

Funeral services will be held Sunday morning at the Jewish center and burial will be in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Westchester.

(Continued on reverse side)

CHURCH GROUP HITS FRENCH ANTI-JEWISH LAWS

NEW YORK, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, largest Protestant Church organization in this country, today made known its protest against anti-Jewish decrees issued by the Vichy Government. The Council associated itself with the meeting to protest against the abrogation of racial and religious freedom in France which will be held Wednesday evening, Nov. 13, at Carnegie Hall under the auspices of the American Jewish Congress.

The attitude of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America was expressed by its officers, President George A. Buttrick and Secretary Samuel McCrea Cavert, in a message to Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the Congress. They said:

"In behalf of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America we write to express deep interest in the great meeting which is to be held at Carnegie Hall on the evening of November 13 to protest against the abrogation of racial and religious freedom in France. The discrimination against Jews in France as reported recently in the press must cause the gravest concern to all those who still cherish the ideals of liberty, equality and fraternity which we once gloriously associated with the Republic of France."

2 REFUGEE COUPLES WED IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

CIUDAD TRUJILLO, Dominican Republic, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- The first marriages among settlers at the Sosua refugee colony occurred yesterday when two engaged couples were wedded less than 24 hours after debarking here.

The usual waiting period before marriage was waived by the Dominican Government. Both couples had become engaged in England. They were among a group of refugees which arrived here on the steamship Coamo from New York.

REVISIONISTS BACK RUTENBERG UNITY PROGRAM

NEW YORK, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- The New Zionist Organization has sent a cable to Pinchas Rutenberg assuring him of "full backing for your patriotic effort to unite the Yishub on the general basis of your statement," it was announced today. The cable referred to a statement made by Rutenberg in Jerusalem urging establishment of a single authoritative Jewish body in Palestine, reorganization of work distribution and welfare services and a ban on strikes.

SERVICES HELD FOR ALTSHULER, CHICAGO ARCHITECT

CHICAGO, Nov. 8. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held today for Alfred Altshuler, nationally famous architect, who died yesterday at the age of 64. He built many temples and synagogues.

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THE JTA NEWS WILL NOT APPEAR MONDAY, ARMISTICE DAY

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JEWS FORCED TO REPAIR EARTHQUAKE DAMAGE IN RUMANIA

BUCHAREST, Nov. 21. (JTA) -- Unemployed Jews between 15 and 50 years of age in the Prahova district have been ordered to join labor gangs to repair earthquake damage, it was disclosed today. Those evading the labor service are threatened with internment in concentration camps. The order does not apply to men already employed for a minimum of six hours daily.

SALONICA JEWISH MERCHANTS AID DEFENSE FUND

SALONICA, Greece, Nov. 21. (JTA) -- Jewish merchants have made a first contribution of 1,000,000 drachmas to the national war subscription, it was announced today.

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Rabbi Hertz Voices Hope for Greek Victory

LONDON, Nov. 21. (JTA) -- A message expressing hope for a Greek victory over Italy was cabled to Chief Rabbi Zvi Hirsch Koretz of Salonica today by British Chief Rabbi J.H. Hertz in response to a plea asking transmission to heads of the churches in Britain of a protest against the bombing of civilians in Salonica.

"British men and women, who are now enduring indiscriminate bombings for many months, fully sympathize with the victims of the latest exhibition of Fascist barbarism against your brave country and community," Dr. Hertz's message said. "May God speedily send victory to all the fighters for freedom."

BRITISH ZIONIST ORGAN HITS RUTENBERG PLAN

LONDON, Nov. 21. (JTA) -- The Zionist Review, organ of the British Zionist Federation, today editorially condemned Pinchas Rutenberg's plan for Palestine Jewish unity through abandonment of the party system as leading not towards unity but regimental uniformity.

The net effect of Rutenberg's statement, the editorial said, is to strengthen the forces which in the past have disturbed Jewish unity. Rutenberg performed no service to the community by launching an irrational attack on the Histadruth and an unreasoned tirade against political parties, the paper asserted.

The Review urged for the Yishub the kind of cooperation worked out among parties in Britain, but said difficulties lay in the agglomeration of small parties of the right founded for the most part by "elements yearning for the limelight and power, against which stands the labor movement, which has made a solid contribution to Palestine and occupies a commanding position built up by democratic means."

The editorial said Rutenberg's request that labor abdicate would not be regarded as fair to the vast labor element.

ATTLEE EXPLAINS REFUSAL OF AMERICAN RED CROSS AID FOR PALESTINE

LONDON, Nov. 21. (JTA) -- Lord Privy Seal Clement R. Attlee denied in Commons yesterday that the Palestine Government's decision to decline American Red Cross aid for air raid victims had been taken on political grounds. Replying to a question by

(Continued on reverse side)

Laborite Geoffrey Mander, Major Attlee said the Palestine Government did not view the situation as an emergency ordinarily requiring an appeal for assistance abroad since the needs of victims and dependents could be met by local organizations' existing funds supplemented by Government grants, British Red Cross, donations and private gifts.

ROOSEVELT, LEHMAN AND LA GUARDIA ENDORSE "NIGHT OF STARS"

NEW YORK, Nov. 21. (JTA) -- President Roosevelt, Governor Lehman and Mayor LaGuardia have joined in endorsing the seventh annual "Night of Stars," which will be presented at Madison Square Garden next Wednesday night for the benefit of the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs.

In messages which will be published in the 1940 United Palestine Appeal Yearbook to be issued next Wednesday, the officials lauded the work of refugee immigration and settlement in Palestine. The messages were addressed to Housing Administrator Nathan Straus, chairman of "Night of Stars."

Roosevelt sent "hearty felicitations" to "all who work through the United Palestine Appeal to lessen human suffering, restore hope to the desolate and to bring happiness into the lives of the wretched." Governor Lehman declared that "the forward progress of reconstruction of Palestine by the Jews represents an example of faith and idealism of far-reaching significance for the future of all mankind." Mayor LaGuardia said, "Palestine has not only been a great ideal, but an outstanding factor in bringing hope and promise to large numbers of homeless men and women."

JEWISH COMMUNITY GROUPS TO AID DRAFTEES STRESSED AT PARLEY

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 21. (JTA) -- The immediate necessity of setting up local army and navy committees, representative of all groups and organizations in each Jewish community, to serve the needs of Jewish young men already in the Army and Navy or about to be inducted as a result of the Selective Service Act was urged by Col. Max R. Wainer, of Philadelphia, member of the National Army and Navy Committee of the Jewish Welfare Board, at the Second Annual Conference of the Midwest Section of the Jewish Welfare Board last weekend. Nineteen communities from 14 states sent 130 delegates to the two-day conference.

Louis Kraft, executive director of the Jewish Welfare Board, said the Board had had a continuing program of service to Jewish soldiers and sailors since the last World War and was better prepared to meet the new emergency than it was when the organization was first initiated. He said the chief service required in the present situation is a "friendly hand and guidance."

LAMPORF WILL LEAVES \$150,000 TO EXPAND CHARITY FOUNDATION

NEW YORK, Nov. 20. (JTA) -- A bequest of \$150,000 for the Sadie and Arthur Lamporf Foundation, to enable it to "enlarge its beneficial scope without regard to race, color or creed," is included in the will of Arthur M. Lamporf, banker and philanthropist, who died on Nov. 8. The will, dated Sept. 6, said the foundation had been formed "in order that I might thereby interest my children to continue the charitable activities in which I have been engaged during my lifetime."

FULL TEXT
OF THE ANTI-JEWISH ECONOMIC ORDINANCE
ISSUED BY THE GERMAN OCCUPATION FORCES IN PARIS.

(Translated from the French)

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

December 3, 1940.

Preamble

The position of the Jews in French economy is much stronger than is generally supposed. The solidarity existing among the Jews represents a real danger for French economy and the smooth collaboration of this economy with the German occupation authorities. French legislation does not contain any provisos denouncing the great influence of Jews nor does it provide any defense against this influence.

Taking advantage of the tolerant principles prevailing in France--principles which prevent investigation of religious adherence--the Jews have thus far been able to camouflage themselves to a considerable extent. Since the German occupation and the danger of German anti-Jewish measures this camouflage has assumed far greater scope. Hence the necessity for acting against the Jewish influence in the French economic sphere both in the interest of France and of Germany.

The second ordinance provides the obligation that all Jewish enterprises should be proclaimed as such. It will broaden the category of Jewish concerns to such an extent that all enterprises in which the danger of Jewish influence might be felt will be included.

The anonymous Jewish influence, which is particularly strong, will be exposed by the obligation to proclaim all and any Jewish participation, which, exerted from the outside, oftentimes is barely recognizable even by those who are strongly influenced by it. Depending on the extent of such Jewish influence and participation in an enterprise it can be listed as Jewish by a decision of the prefecture.

This regulation cannot in any way replace Jews with Germans but on the contrary will replace them with Frenchmen. Therefore there exists no plan to take action against transfers made to real Frenchmen. In order, however, to make sure that such transfers are not subterfuges involving "straw men" those enterprises which were still Jewish after May 23, 1940, will likewise have to be declared as Jewish. In cases where a transfer arouses real doubts it can be declared null and void.

French economy must not be undermined. Hence the Jews will continue to operate their commercial houses. But in the more important concerns Jewish influence will be broken by the appointment of special supervisory commissars. Frenchmen primarily will be chosen for such posts.

This ordinance is based on the expectation that there will be firm collaboration between the French authorities and the French population.

By virtue of the plenary powers granted me by the Fuehrer as Supreme Commander of the Army I order the following:

I.

Under the terms of this ordinance a concern is considered an economic enterprise when its activity involves autonomous participation in the manufacture, transformation, exchange and administration of merchandise, without taking into account the juridical constitution of the enterprise or its immatriculation in a register.

Among others included in this category are banks, insurance companies, the offices of notaries, exchange agents and real estate companies.

An enterprise is considered Jewish whose proprietors or leaseholders are:

- (a) Jews or
- (b) companies one of whose associates is Jewish
- (c) limited companies in which more than one third of the associates are Jews and in which more than one-third of the stock is in the hands of Jewish associates or whose managers are Jewish or in which more than one-third of the members of the board are Jewish.
- (d) corporations whose administrative president or acting administrator are Jewish and whose governing board is more than one-third Jewish.

In addition, an enterprise shall be considered Jewish which receives from the prefect of the locality in which it functions a notification that it is preponderantly under Jewish influence.

II.

Any Jewish economic enterprise and any economic enterprise which was Jewish after May 29, 1940, must be declared as such by Oct. 31, 1940, at a competent sub-prefect and, in Paris, at the police prefecture. Competent authorities are those functioning in the arrondissement where the physical personages live or the impersonal ^{entities} have their headquarters. This applies also to Jewish economic enterprises which have their headquarters outside the occupied territory for that part of their enterprise exploited in occupied territory.

A declaration must contain the following:

- (a) the purpose of the concern, its headquarters and the name of the owner or leaseholder. It must state on what bases the enterprise is or was Jewish after May 23, 1940.
- (b) enterprises no longer Jewish must explain how this came about
- (c) a specification of the merchandise or goods which the concern manufactures or handles, which also clearly states the principal purpose of such activities
- (d) a list of branch offices or plants

(e) an accounting of the concern's financial status based on latest income tax payments.

(f) the value of the stocks of merchandise, raw materials, real estate and currency of the concern.

III.

All Jewish economic enterprises as well as all Jews and persons connected with Jews and all impersonal entities which are not economic enterprises and which have more than one-third of Jews among their ranks or in their administration must inform the police of the following by Oct. 31, 1940:

The stock they own or which has been placed in their possession.

Commodities in economic enterprises and loans made to economic enterprises and a list of real estate property and their ownership in their property.

IV.

All juridical operations effected after May 23, 1940 and those disposing of the goods of persons listed in Article 3 can be declared null and void by the chief of the military administration in France.

V.

An administrative commissar can be named for Jewish enterprises. The provisos of the ordinance covering business administration of May 20, 1940 (V.O.B.I.F. page 31) will apply in such case.

The first article of the ordinance covering business affairs continues valid as regards Jewish economic enterprises.

VI.

Violations of Article 2 and 3 will be punished by imprisonment or a fine or both. In addition the property of enterprises which did not declare themselves as well as the goods which should have been declared under Article 3 and were not can be confiscated.

This ordinance goes into effect as soon as it is published.

On behalf of the Commander-in-chief of the Army
The Chief of the Military Administration In France.

- - -

GEORGE BACKER
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU
SECRETARY & MANAGING
DIRECTOR

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG
TREASURER

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

1560 BROADWAY
NEW YORK CITY

LONDON
PARIS
JERUSALEM
WILNO
WASHINGTON

December 13, 1940.

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

Dear Rabbi Silver -

I wonder whether it would be too much to ask you for an article dealing with Zionist problems in the light of the present war. I would like to distribute this article through the JTA service the first week in January in order that it be published prior to the Zionist Convention in Washington.

With kindest personal regards.

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Very sincerely yours,

Boris Smolar

Boris Smolar

BS/HBF

NEWS

from all over the world

VIA

CABLE
WIRELESS
TELEGRAPH
TELEPHONE

by the
JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VIII. NO. 17.

Friday, December 27, 1940.

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL DISSOLVED; U.P.A. ANNOUNCES \$12,000,000 GOAL FOR 1941

NEW YORK, Dec. 26. (JTA) -- The agreement for a United Jewish Appeal, through which approximately \$30,500,000 was raised for the three constituent agencies in the past two years, will not be renewed for 1941, it was announced today, following the failure of negotiations extending over the past several months.★

The joint chairmen, Rabbis Abba Hillel Silver and Jonah B. Wise, announced in a statement that the Joint Distribution Committee, United Palestine Appeal and National Refugee Service would conduct separate campaigns during the coming year, but stressed that "cordial relations and generous cooperation" would continue.

The United Palestine Appeal immediately announced an unprecedented goal of \$12,000,000 for 1941, with Chairman Silver declaring in a statement that next year would be a decisive one for the Jewish national home in Palestine and asserting that "American Jewry cannot...let down those Jews in Palestine who are our front-line soldiers in the war for the liberation of mankind."

A last-minute effort to obtain continuation of the united appeal had been made by Sidney Hollander, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, who telegraphed the heads of the three agencies urging them to meet with the Council on Dec. 27. The JDC and NRS agreed to attend, but Chairman Silver of the UPA replied that "we have already announced independent campaigns for 1941."

Hollander's telegram, addressed to Rabbi Silver, William Rosenwald, president of the NRS, and Paul Baerwald, chairman of the JDC, said: "In view of mounting protests on the part of welfare funds and of representatives of UJA agencies and hazards to 1941 campaigns, consider it essential that representatives of agencies meet with Council for reconsideration and for joint conference and planning. Will you appoint three representatives to meet at Council office, New York, Friday, December 27 at 2:30 p.m."

Statement on Dissolution of UJA

The joint statement announcing dissolution of the UJA pointed out that the appeal would continue to collect and distribute outstanding funds from the 1939 and 1940 campaigns. The statement follows:

"We herewith announce that as of Dec. 31, 1940, the United Jewish Appeal will cease to function as the agency for the collection and distribution of new funds for the 1941
(Continued on reverse side)

programs of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service. The United Jewish Appeal will continue to collect and distribute all funds outstanding in the 1939 and 1940 campaigns on the basis of the agreements of 1939 and 1940 and the decisions of the Allocations Committee of 1939 and the Allotment Committee of 1940.

"The campaigns of 1939 and 1940 yielded substantial sums for the three causes. It is the firm belief of the undersigned that the de facto dissolution of the common fund-raising national organization will not impair the cordial relations and generous cooperation now existing among the three beneficiary agencies of the 1939 and 1940 United Jewish Appeal. They are further convinced that the three agencies will cooperate with all communities and with one another in our primary task of finding adequate funds to meet the needs of reconstruction, relief and refugee service required today.

"We are grateful to the leaders of the communities all over the United States of America who have given their unstinting confidence and generous support. Every consideration will be given by the previous beneficiary agencies to the promotion of our common enterprise and to the most adequate assistance to the causes of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service."

The UJA, which was widely hailed as a forward step in coordinating of fund-raising when it was first formed, collected approximately \$16,250,000 in 1939 and \$14,250,000 in 1940.

Palestine Drive Announced

Dr. Silver announced the decision of the UPA Administrative Committee to inaugurate a nationwide war emergency campaign for \$12,000,000 in 1941 to rally the widest possible support behind Palestine as a major haven of refuge for the oppressed and homeless Jews of European lands and as a vital point in the defense of the British Commonwealth and democracy in the Mediterranean zone. This is the largest campaign for Palestine aid in the history of American Jewry.

Through the assistance of American Jews during the past two decades, Dr. Silver pointed out, the Jewish community of Palestine has grown from 55,000 to 550,000 souls and now represents, next to the Jews in the United States, the largest free Jewish community in the world. The material support made available through the United Palestine Appeal which combines the Palestine Foundation Fund and the Jewish National Fund has made possible the immigration into Palestine of 24,000 Jewish refugees during the first year of the war and a total of 280,000 Jews from Germany, Austria, Poland, Rumania, Czechoslovakia and other lands since the advent of Hitler in 1933.

Funds raised in the \$12,000,000 campaign of the United Palestine Appeal will be administered by the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Jewish National Fund, the land-purchasing and land-reclaiming agency of the Jewish people.

Emphasizing that the role of small countries may prove decisive in the present struggle for the preservation of democracy, Dr. Silver said the "ability of Palestine to defend itself and to give manpower for its security may help determine the outcome of this struggle."

With the aid of the UPA more than 270 towns and villages were established in Palestine and within the last four years 60 new agricultural settlements have been founded. A total of 137,000 Jews make their living from the soil, the majority of whom are located in the 257 agricultural colonies established by the Palestine Foundation Fund in the past twenty years.

December 28, 1940

Jewish Telegraphic Agency
1560 Broadway
New York City

Gentlemen:

I read the announcement of the dissolution of the United Jewish Appeal in the Jewish Telegraphic News of yesterday. Frankly, I was amazed at the way you presented it. I do not know why you had to introduce a controversial note in the very first announcement, when the entire purpose of the joint statement issued by the JDC and the UPA was to allay controversy and to indicate that the dissolution was by mutual agreement and amicable.

Furthermore, there was a definite distortion, perhaps unintentional, in the news item. You speak of "A last-minute effort to obtain continuation of the United appeal had been made by Sidney Hollander" who telegraphed the heads of the three agencies and called a meeting for December 27th, and that I replied that we already announced an independent campaign for 1941. This suggests a refusal on my part to meet with the Council. You failed to indicate that this was not the first meeting called by Mr. Hollander, but the second, that we met with Mr. Hollander and the JDC in the offices of the Council on Tuesday, December 17. At this meeting, the UPA again made a substantial concession in the hope of retaining the United campaign. The proposals were rejected, and it was at that time agreed by the JDC and the UPA to issue the joint statement on the dissolution.

I think that the way you handled this important item is about as shabby a piece of journalism as I've come across in recent years. You could easily have checked up on your facts by calling up the offices of the UPA. Unless I receive an explanation and proper correction is made in the JTA News, I shall be compelled to resign from the Board of the JTA.

Sincerely yours,

AHS:RR

VOL. VII. NO. 91.

Sunday, December 29, 1940.

Headlines of the Week

United Jewish Appeal dissolved....United Palestine Appeal announces \$12,000,000 drive...Bulgaria adopts anti-Jewish law stricter than original bill...Soviet bars 600 Jewish refugees from Rumania....France names committee to exempt 'meritorious' Jews from anti-Semitic law...6,500 Jews now enrolled in British forces in Palestine...Zionists protest deportation of refugees from Palestine.

. . .

JEWISH FUND-RAISING

Trend in Jewish fund-raising in the United States for overseas causes has been towards coordination to avoid duplication of effort and multiplicity of appeals. The Allied Jewish Campaign, formed in 1926 to combine overseas and Palestine appeals, raised \$18,000,000 in three years. In 1934 and 1935 the Joint Distribution Committee combined with the American Palestine Campaign into a United Jewish Appeal.

In 1939 and 1940, with the unprecedented increase in distress and the outbreak of the war, JDC, the United Palestine Appeal and National Refugee Service joined in a United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs which raised about \$30,500,000 in two years. The 1939 appeal sought \$20,000,000, raised about \$16,250,000; the 1940 appeal sought \$23,000,000, collected about \$14,250,000.

In the 1940 united appeal, a record number of 3,371 Jewish communities participated. The extent of community coverage represented an all time high in American Jewish history. New sources of financial assistance were discovered in distant communities which had not previously given any organized support to the UJA or its agencies. (JTA NEWS DEC. 24).

For several months negotiations have been in progress for renewal of the united appeal agreement. This week it was announced the UJA would be dissolved after Dec. 31. The United Palestine Appeal immediately announced a 1941 independent campaign for \$12,000,000.

Dissolution: The end of the United Jewish Appeal was announced in a statement by Joint Chairmen Abba Hillel Silver and Jonah B. Wise, which stressed that "cordial relations and generous cooperation" among the three would continue. Said the statement:

We herewith announce that as of Dec. 31, 1940, the United Jewish Appeal will cease to function as the agency for the collection and distribution of new funds***The United Jewish Appeal will continue to collect and distribute all funds outstanding in the 1939 and 1940 campaigns***the three agencies will cooperate with all communities and with one another in our primary task of finding adequate funds to meet the needs of reconstruction, relief and refugee service required today.

Palestine: Chairman Silver of UPA immediately issued a statement announcing the decision of its Administrative Committee to inaugurate a nationwide war emergency campaign for \$12,000,000 in 1941. This is the largest campaign for Palestine aid in the history of American Jewry.

The statement stressed the next year would be a decisive one for the Jewish national home in Palestine and asserted that "American Jewry cannot***let down those Jews in Palestine who are our front-line soldiers in the war for the liberation of mankind." It added that the "ability of Palestine to defend itself and to give manpower for its security may help determine the outcome of this struggle." (JTA NEWS DEC. 27).

Post-Mortem: Reason for the disagreement which resulted in dissolution of the UJA was not immediately made public. It was learned, however, that a last-minute effort to obtain continuation of the UJA was made by Sidney Hollander, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, who telegraphed the heads of the three agencies urging them to meet with the Council, "in view of mounting protests on the part of welfare funds and of representatives of UJA agencies and hazards to 1941 campaigns." JDC and NRS agreed to attend the parley; UPA declined, with Chairman Silver replying that "we have already announced independent campaigns for 1941."

The UPA issued a statement Friday explaining its side of the question (not yet available as this is written) and plans a press conference Monday to elaborate its viewpoint further. (JTA DEC. 27,29).

* * *

ANTI-SEMITISM IN EUROPE

As the year drew to a close, anti-Semitic action continued in European countries occupied or dominated by Germany.

Bulgaria: Parliament adopted an anti-Jewish bill, much more severe than the original draft, which serves to make the Jews second-class citizens and contains restrictions on Jews' economic activities. Bulgaria's 50,000 Jews must register their property with the National Bank within a month after the effective date of the law. (JTA NEWS DEC. 23,24).

Rumania: Six hundred Rumanian Jews who had rented a barge to carry them down the Danube to Bessarabia were refused admission by the Soviet authorities and forced to return to Galati. Hitherto the Soviet authorities had been allowing Jewish refugees to enter freely, even when they did not have satisfactory proof of Bessarabian birth. (JTA NEWS DEC. 24).

France: The Vichy Government appointed a committee to discover Jewish officials eligible for exemption from the anti-Jewish law, since Jews had been reluctant to file voluntary applications claiming special merit, resulting in the hampering of French scientific research by mass discharges of Jews. Meanwhile, the Government took steps to facilitate emigration of refugees. (JTA NEWS DEC. 26, ONA NEWS DEC. 26).

Poland: It was revealed that the 2,000 Jews who have been expelled from Radom have been sent to provincial localities. The Jews were included in three categories: (1) persons who had arrived in Radom during the current year, (2) jobless persons and (3) "elements dangerous to society." (JTA NEWS DEC. 27).

DUTCH PROTESTANT GROUPS DEMAND END OF ANTI-JEWISH LAWS

LONDON, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- Leaders of the six Protestant church groups in Holland have sent a manifesto to German Governor Arthur Seyss-Inquart demanding withdrawal of the anti-Jewish laws in Holland as contrary to Christian ideals, the newspaper Frii Nederland reported today. Opposition to the anti-Semitic restrictions is growing, the paper said.

JUSTICE HUGHES TERMS BIGOTRY 'DEADLY ENEMY' AS HE GETS INTERFAITH AWARD

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes, accepting a citation from the National Conference of Christians and Jews for his contribution toward the improvement of human relations, declared today that "rancor and bigotry, racial animosities and intolerance," were the "deadly enemies of true democracy."

The Chief Justice spoke at a private ceremony at his residence. Present were Dr. Arthur H. Compton and Roger W. Straus, co-chairmen of the National Conference of Christians and Jews; Basil O'Connor, who represented Prof. Carlton J.H. Hayes, also a co-chairman; and Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, president of the National Conference.

Expressing himself as "deeply grateful that I had the opportunity to join in this organized effort to promote a continuous and effective expression of the sentiment which vitalizes our democracy," Justice Hughes said:

"Liberty cannot be conserved by majority rule unless the majority hold sacred basic individual rights regardless of race or creed, so that, along with our differences of view, political and religious, we have a deep and abiding sense of human dignity and worth and hence of our capacity for friendly cooperation in pursuit of common ideals of justice.

"Rancor and bigotry, racial animosities and intolerance, are wholly incompatible with that cooperation. They are the deadly enemies of true democracy, more deadly than any external force because they undermine the very foundation of democratic effort."

Justice Hughes praised the work of the National Conference of Christians and Jews which, he said, "is devoted to the promotion of national unity -- the unity of a free people with that respect for individual rights which makes possible the attainment of our common ends."

The citation described the Chief Justice as "eminent among those whose influence has encouraged Americans of all religious faiths not to hold aloof from one another but, through conference and cooperation, to sustain the spiritual and ethical standards of the nation."

UPA, JDC ISSUE STATEMENTS ON UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

NEW YORK, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- The United Palestine Appeal today issued the following statement regarding an invitation addressed to it by the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds to attend a meeting on Dec. 27 for the purpose of further consideration of a United Jewish Appeal for 1941:

"In the statement attributed to Mr. Sidney Hollander in the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Bulletin of Dec. 27 it is not pointed out that the United Palestine Appeal accepted the invitation of the Council of Federations to participate in a meeting on Dec. 17 at which time representatives of the United Palestine Appeal, the Joint Distribution Committee and the Council were present. There was a prolonged discussion lasting several hours during which the United Palestine Appeal made a substantial concession for the sake of unity, which was not accepted.

"The Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, although recognizing that negotiations were in progress between the United Palestine Appeal and the Joint Distribution Committee, waited two months, during which negotiations dragged on, without doing anything in the situation. This was unlike the attitude which the Council adopted in previous years.

"When negotiations finally broke down, the Council stepped into the picture and asked for a conference. In the meantime the position originally taken by the Joint Distribution Committee at a meeting with the United Palestine Appeal on Oct. 31 had not changed. Despite that fact, however, the United Palestine Appeal accepted the invitation of the Council to participate in a final session. When no other proposals were forthcoming the Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal adopted its decision to undertake an independent campaign. The fact that no agreement could be reached was fully demonstrated in the joint statement issued on Dec. 24 by Rabbi Jonah B. Wise and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver announcing the dissolution of the United Jewish Appeal.

"The United Palestine Appeal is conducting a campaign for \$12,000,000 in 1941. It trusts that these needs will be met. It is the function of the Council of Federations, representing all points of view in the community, to share with the United Palestine Appeal and the Joint Distribution Committee in the task of impressing upon the Jews of America that greater generosity must be forthcoming in 1941 to meet our common requirements."

Paul Baerwald and Edward M.M. Warburg, chairman and co-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, telegraphed the following message to key Jewish leaders throughout the country:

"We of the Joint Distribution Committee are anxious to present the picture of our needs and our general campaign problems, but not until the expiration of the 1940 United Jewish Appeal. Thereafter we can consider all the facts, together with colleagues and community leaders throughout the country, in ample time to meet our responsibilities in these critical days both as Americans and as Jews. We urge that no one commit himself or his community to programs or budgets until the American Jewish responsibility can be studied and appraised as a whole."

RED CROSS OFFICIAL DESCRIBES OUSTING OF 6,000 GERMAN JEWS TO FRANCE

NEW YORK, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- Some 12,000 refugees, including 6,000 Jews uprooted on one hour's notice from their German homes, are existing on rations sufficient only for about 9,000 persons in the Gurs concentration camp in unoccupied France, according to F. Sahlman, a Portuguese Red Cross official who inspected the camp and was interviewed by a United Press correspondent while en route to the United States.

"When 6,000 German Jewish refugees arrived from the Palatinate, Baden and Wurtemberg the commander of the camp received no increase in his food allowance," Sahlman said. "If this situation continues many of the older refugees, as well as the sick and some 500 children, will die for lack of nourishment."

Sahlman had obtained a letter smuggled out of the camp, telling of the plight of the Jewish refugees. It said:

"On the morning of Oct. 22 Jews from the Saar Palatinate, the Palatinate, the Grand Duchy of Baden and the Wurtemberg Province were awakened by the Gestapo and warned to be ready to leave Germany within one hour.

(Continued on reverse side)

"They were informed they would be allowed to carry with them 100 Reichsmarks and 110 pounds of luggage. The great majority took with them the bare necessities, fearing they would have to carry their own luggage. Aged persons, some 80 and 90 years old as well as sick and feeble men and women, were among those deported.

"Due to the great number of exiles it took many trains, which left at short intervals between the 22nd and 23rd of October. After crossing the Rhine bridge there was no possible doubt that our final destination would be French soil. After a 54-hour train ride, during which soup was given us only once, we arrived at Oloron, in the Basses Pyrenees Department. From there we were taken to the Gurs camp in trucks, which also took our meager luggage.

"Owing to the fact that the French commander of the Gurs camp had not been advised as to our number and was taken by surprise by our mass arrival, it is not astonishing that he lacked food at the beginning. Despite the fact that the French administration are doing all it can to help the internees, it is understandable that old people and the sick cannot resist the hardships of camp life.

"During the few weeks of our stay here at Gurs the camp cemetery has grown in an anguishing proportion."

HARRISON WARNS AGAINST HARRASSING OF ALIENS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- With the deadline for alien registration past, Director E.G. Harrison today warned "local officials, employers and others" that there was no Federal regulation requiring aliens to produce registration cards at the behest of anyone save Federal officers. He also pointed out that fewer than half of those registering have received cards from Washington and that distribution will not be completed for about six weeks.

PROF. BRODETSKY UNDERGOES OPERATION

LONDON, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- Prof. Selig Brodetsky, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews and Zionist leader, was taken to a nursing home today for a minor operation. He will be unable to attend to public business for three weeks.

TIBERIAS SPRINGS MADE INTERNATIONAL RESORT

JERUSALEM, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- At the opening of the Tiberias hot springs Winter season, Dr. Aron Barth told newspapermen that the springs had now been converted into an international health resort for rheumatic and similar diseases. The springs company has so far invested £55,000 and is now planning to issue debentures for another £30,000.

He replied: "No, they did not."

(While this alleged peace plan was drawn up after the conquest of Poland--more than a year ago--Germany is since reported to have prepared a plan to deport Europe's approximately five million Jews to Madagascar. According to an article by Max Nussbaum in the Contemporary Jewish Record, the Gestapo informed Jewish officials last July that the plan provides for self-administration, cultural and religious autonomy, under the rule of a German Government for the Jews in Madagascar.)

He added, however, that he was convinced the creation of a sound world economic basis would cause the problems "to solve themselves, and God knows they need solving."

Davis, Marshall said, went to Europe to sound out peace sentiment after a White House conference with President Roosevelt and Berle. He declined, however, to call Davis an "emissary" of the President. After encountering difficulties with the British authorities at Bermuda, Marshall continued, Davis reached Europe and secured a peace parley offer "initialled by high officials of two belligerent powers."

UPA ARRANGES TRANSPORTATION OF 995 REFUGEES FROM WILNO TO PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- The United Palestine Appeal has appropriated \$175,000 for transportation of 995 Jewish refugees from Wilno, Lithuania, to Palestine via the Far East, Chairman Abba Hillel Silver announced today at a press conference at the Hotel Commodore at which he outlined the program of the UPA \$12,000,000 campaign for 1941.

The refugees, all of whom possess immigration certificates, will travel by way of Moscow, Siberia, Tokyo, the Indian Ocean and Basra. They include 60 children up to 14 years of age and 150 between 14 and 17 whose traveling expenses will be paid by the Youth Aliyah; 150 girls up to 22, 60 young men up to 28, 50 student chalutzim, 75 yeshiva students, 120 rabbis and their families, 100 prominent Zionists, writers and social workers, 80 old persons with relatives in Palestine and 150 others.

The 6,000-mile journey is expected to take a month. The refugees have received transit visas from the Soviet and Japanese governments. They include refugees who fled to Wilno and Kaunas during the German invasion of Poland, among them German Jews who had found temporary haven in Poland. Dr. Silver added that there were at least 7,100 others in various parts of Europe in possession of Palestine certificates, lacking only funds for transportation.

Discussing the UPA campaign, Rabbi Silver said the \$12,000,000 was necessary towards the Jewish Agency budget of \$13,640,000 for 1941 for (1) normal processes of rebuilding, (2) mobilization of resources for the war effort and (3) refugee absorption and alleviation of unemployment caused by war dislocation.

The Jewish Agency is now providing relief for 75,000 persons. The Agency is combating unemployment by (1) public works, including roads, water towers, airfields, schools and workers' homes and (2) stimulation of industries, with 31 new industries having been founded in the past year through loans guaranteed by the Agency.

The Agency plans to establish 15 new strategically-necessary settlements in the coming year. In the past year eight were founded. The Zionists have contracted for purchase of 198,000 dunams of land in the coming year. In the past year 44,000 dunams were purchased.

(Continued on reverse side)

Dr. Silver stressed the necessity of continuing with land purchase and colonization in order to place Palestine Jewry in the best possible position when the ultimate peace conference comes. "To ask the Zionist movement to liquidate itself for the duration of the war is to ask the Zionist movement to surrender its philosophy," he said.

NAZIS IN FRANCE PLAN TO 'ARYANIZE' JEWISH FIRMS IN MONTH

VICHY, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- "Aryanization" of Jewish trade and industry in occupied France must be completed within four weeks, it was reported from Paris today. Jewish enterprises not essential to French economy will be closed and the others will be handed over to "Aryans," it was said.

SCHOOLS WITH REFUGEE FACULTIES URGED AT SCIENCE PARLEY

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- Formation of a Preservation of Science Council which would, among other things, establish schools of experimental science with refugee scholars comprising the faculties was proposed by Dr. K.A.C. Elliott, of the Institute of the Pennsylvania Hospital, addressing the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

"The idea," he asserted, "represents one of the great advantages gained by this country in bringing over foreign scholars. Formerly countless American students went to European universities to supplement their American training by learning the methods and ideas of foreign scientists."

"By bringing foreign scientists here, their teachings become much more conveniently available." He recognized the costliness of such a project, but said the money "must somehow be raised."

Dr. Elliott said that the Rockefeller Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation and interested persons recently guaranteed \$500,000 to bring 100 German refugee scholars to this country and establish them in American institutions.

EINSTEIN GETS FRATERNITY AWARD, DONATES FUNDS TO REFUGEES

CHICAGO, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- Prof. Albert Einstein has been awarded the Phi Epsilon Pi National Service Award for 1940, it was announced tonight at the fraternity's annual convention, by Grand Superior Samuel J. Sherman, Chicago attorney.

The award was given to Dr. Einstein because of the Jewish contributions he has made during the short period he has been in this country, and is highlighted by his recently acquired American citizenship. It is the first award he has accepted since he became a citizen, it was stated. Einstein immediately applied the check accompanying the award to refugee work.

THREE FAITHS TO JOIN IN NEW YEAR'S DAY BROADCAST

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- The War Department announced today that Col. William R. Arnold, Army Chief of Chaplains, will participate in sending a special New Year's Day message to be broadcast to all members of the armed forces by spokesmen of the Protestant, Catholic and Jewish religious faiths. The Jewish speaker will be Rabbi David de Sola Pool, chairman of the Committee on Religious Activities of the National Jewish Welfare Board.

THE JTA NEWS WILL NOT APPEAR WEDNESDAY, NEW YEAR'S DAY

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Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

BERNE
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WASHINGTON

1560 BROADWAY
NEW YORK CITY

December 31, 1940.

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I was very glad indeed to learn from Mr. Smolar that you are satisfied by his explanation of our release pertaining to Hollander's appeal. I am sure that you now appreciate that there was no intention on our part to aggravate the controversy.

I am sorry that you were given cause for annoyance.



Sincerely yours,

Ida Landau

IL: HBF

A REPORT ON JEWISH COLONIZATION IN MEXICO

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

January, 1941.

MEXICO CITY -

Jewish land colonies in Mexico are being abandoned. Only six or eight Jewish farmers are left in the colony between Monterrey and Saltillo, northern cities of the Republic. Remains of what was a Jewish colony near Minatitlan, Veracruz are now being cultivated by a colony of Spanish refugees.

The other day a prominent business man gave this correspondent several reasons for abandonment of the soil. First, he said, Jewish immigrants have found it easier to make a living in cities and towns than in the country. Second, the majority of immigrants are not farmers but business or professional people. Third, good land in Mexico is accompanied by the terrible climate of the tropics which must be suffered for many years before final acclimatization.

According to this business man, Jewish land colonies in Mexico are practically impossible because of Mexican agrarian laws. These state that ninety per cent of parcels of land in foreign colonies must be farmed by Mexicans. Agriculture on a large scale is prohibited; only a certain number of hectares may belong to private owners.

The first attempt to found a Jewish colony in Mexico was made two years ago. A member of the Central Committee to Help Jews in Mexico owned twenty-eight hundred hectares of land near Minatitlan, Veracruz. Thirty immigrant families who would not have been permitted to remain in Mexico unless they farmed in the country went to live there. The understanding between owner and immigrants was that, after a certain number of years of small payments, the land would be turned over to them.

The land in Veracruz was good but the climate was tropical. Some of the colonists died. Others could not stand the hardships. These were many and although the immigrants were forced to become farmers, the majority were doctors, lawyers, tradespeople.

Quarrels began. Colonists claimed that the owner of the land was making money out of them. A serious conflict developed when the Government discovered that twenty-eight hundred hectares of land belonged to a single party and that no percentage of the land in the colony was being farmed by Mexicans.

The result was, a thousand-odd hectares of land were taken away from the owner. In the meantime, a person who owned other land came to the colonists with a magnificent proposition which members of the Central Committee in Mexico City promptly declared to be a fraud.

This proposition provided for sale of thirty-six hundred hectares of rich land between Saltillo and Monterrey at only twenty pesos a hectare. The land was surrounded by highways and trains. The immigrant families pooled the money together and bought the land without inspecting the proposition beforehand.

The colonists abandoned the tropics and went to live in northern Mexico. When they arrived here, they discovered that the thirty-six hundred hectares were pure rocks. The only good land was thirty hectares that were hard to irrigate and which belonged to the owner. Her idea was to make a tourist resort out of the thirty hectares. A Jewish land colony would attract foreigners, and hotels, restaurants, etc., could be built on the thirty hectares.

The colonists discovered it was impossible to grow anything on the land. Dairy farming was thought of, but grass could not be grown and it cost too much to buy so the idea was given up.

The rocks were abandoned by the majority of the colonists. The owner also departed when she found that her idea had failed. Six or eight persons were left on the land. They began to cultivate the thirty hectares finally turned over to them by the owner.

This correspondent is told that the thirty hectares of land will be abandoned soon, too. The writer's informant states that there is no need to suffer in a remote section of Mexico when half a dozen people can earn a fairly good living from small businesses in Mexican towns. If business is good in Mexico, why waste time cultivating bad land?

The other day, the owner of the land in Minatitlan told the writer that the property taken away from him by the Government is now being cultivated by Spanish refugees. The only remark forthcoming was, if the Jewish colonists had not quarreled, perhaps they might have made a success of what would have been the only Jewish land colony in Mexico.

January 9, 1941

Mr. Boris Smolar
Jewish Telegraphic Agency
1560 Broadway
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Smolar:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the "Review of the Jewish Week" by Fred A. Stern, distributed by the Seven Arts Feature Syndicate, which I understand is controlled by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. Here, again, the untruth to which I called your attention, is repeated, namely, that the offer of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds for mediation was rejected by the United Palestine Appeal, as well as the other inaccuracy that "the Zionist partner was fully satisfied with the proportional distribution of the funds raised in the United Campaign." The gentleman in question doesn't know what he is talking about. The article is not only inaccurate and misleading, but designedly provocative.

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

CAPITAL PAPER URGES U.S. TO SEEK AID OF REFUGEES IN DEFENSE WORK

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- Skilled refugee Jewish craftsmen, technicians and scientists should be sought out all over the world and brought to the United States to aid in the national defense, the Washington Times-Herald declared yesterday in an editorial signed by Frank C. Waldrop, foreign and political editor.

The German Jews now exiled developed important minerals such as beryllium, tungsten and magnesium, the editorial said. "It is a cold, official fact that the German Jews were the brains of the post-war research that got German industry moving again and it is on their intelligence that the Nazi machinery keeps in motion to this day."

Asking what had become of the Jews of Jena, experts on optical instruments, the Times-Herald said: "Hitler tried to keep many of them, even in spite of his general pogroms, but the wild excesses of local Nazis made that impossible. Today the Jews of Jena are scattered around the world. Nobody knows where they are and that is a detriment to our national defense. We are, believe it or not, seven years behind the demand in supplying our army and navy with cameras, field glasses, range-finders and optical equipment. "It would be plain common sense to assemble these technicians from Zeiss and let them make up that shortage."

The editorial said there was quietly going on a search for a Czech Jew who was the brains of the Skoda munitions works and who had escaped the Gestapo. He is urgently wanted to aid in manufacture of American munitions, but thus far the American Government has been unable to find him, according to the editorial.

Celebrated figures such as Thomas Mann and the Rothschilds are followed by the public eye, but these quiet mathematicians and technicians have been left to crawl into corners and lick their wounds," the editorial said. "Plainly, it is time to invite them out."

UPA HITS HOLLANDER PLAN TO DELAY ALLOCATIONS FROM 1941 DRIVES

NEW YORK, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- The United Palestine Appeal today made public a resolution adopted by its Administrative Committee expressing disapproval of the request issued to welfare fund communities by Sidney Hollander, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, urging them to withhold making commitments on their 1941 campaigns until a budgeting body, which Hollander has proposed, is established to recommend allocations to local communities. The text of the resolution follows:

"Having consistently given its unreserved support to the policy of established local welfare funds in which, through a single campaign, all communal obligations and overseas responsibilities of American Jews are pooled and distributed; and having cooperated with the Council as a federation of representatives of the welfare funds was intended to be an impartial, fact-finding body interested in servicing its member agencies with dependable reports; and the Council having on various occasions indicated that it could not undertake to assume the function of determining allotments either as between the national fund-raising agencies or in the local Jewish communities;

"The Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal is in duty bound to express its profound disapproval of the action taken by the president of the Council, who has seen fit at this time to give notice to all member agencies of an intention on his part

(Continued on reverse side)

to propose at the Atlanta conference of the Council that it set up its own budgeting body to recommend allocations to its member agencies in making their 1941 commitments; and further, urging all welfare funds to await the recommendations of such a body before completing their local 1941 budgeting.

"The United Palestine Appeal is constrained to lodge its protest against this premature action on the part of the president of the Council, on the ground that it seeks to arrogate to the Council the function of decision in matters of budgeting, and that if its President's advice were followed, it would at once paralyze the 1941 campaign of the United Palestine Appeal--as well as of other bodies--until the so-called budgeting body would render its report, which could not be presented before late in 1941.

"The United Palestine Appeal must emphasize its unqualified opposition to any such program. We question the right of the president of the Council to advise communities to withhold making their budget until they have heard from the Council, and we give notice that we intend to apprise our friends throughout the country of the destructive consequences that must flow from the proposed transformation of the Council from an impartial to an interested body, and from its unwarranted and unprecedented interference with the normal progress of local 1941 campaigns throughout the country."

ANTI-SEMITISM LAID TO NO-WAR BODY BY ONE OF ITS FOUNDERS

NEW YORK, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- With Verne Marshall, head of the No Foreign War Committee, scheduled to speak at a meeting tonight on the same platform as supporters of Father Charles E. Coughlin, it was reported that O.K. Armstrong, national director and one of the founders of the committee, would resign his post because he believed the organization to be anti-democratic and anti-Semitic.

Marshall was to speak tonight at a rally in Queens organized by an isolationist group. Bernard Darcy, New York representative of Coughlin's Social Justice, and other Coughlinites were listed on the program. Prior to the meeting Marshall issued a statement denying that the committee was anti-democratic and anti-Semitic, declaring the charges were part of a "desperate smear campaign aimed to deceive and confuse the American public."

According to the New York World-Telegram, Armstrong told a meeting of the governing committee of the Keep America Out of War Congress last week that he was "fed up" with the Marshall committee, that he had become convinced it was reactionary and anti-Semitic and that no peace organization could be effective on such a basis. Armstrong was quoted as saying he had been invited to dinner by Merwin K. Hart, president of the New York State Economic Council, on behalf of the No Foreign War Committee, and that he had never heard such anti-democratic and anti-Semitic talk in his life as he heard that night.

PALESTINE GROUP HERE BACKS UPA CAMPAIGN

NEW YORK, Jan. 12. (JTA) -- A resolution urging support of the \$12,000,000 War Emergency Campaign of the 1941 United Palestine Appeal was unanimously adopted today at the 18th annual conference of the Council of Organizations for Palestine. The meeting was attended by delegates representing more than 550 Jewish fraternal and communal organizations. Herman Hofmann, Grand Master of the Independent Order of Brith Abraham, was elected president and Judge Jonah J. Goldstein honorary president of the Council.

Fascist anti-Semitic propaganda has virtually disappeared, he said, but some anti-Semitism has arisen as a result of the problems of evacuating London's population to the hinterlands and providing shelters for those remaining in the city.

Discussing the refugee question in England, Bienstock said most of the English people regarded the policy of indiscriminate internment of aliens with shame and anger. He paid tribute to the Manchester Guardian for leading the fight against this policy and securing modification of the Government's attitude.

Jacob Blaustein, president of the ONA, who presided, stressed the necessity of providing accurate news, as disseminated by the JTA and ONA, as a guide to intelligent thinking in the United States. Another speaker was Mendel Moses, former head of the JTA bureau in Warsaw, who has just arrived in New York.

Among those present were Baron Robert de Rothschild, Herbert Bayard Swope, George Backer, Harold K. Guinzburg, Dr. Frank Kingdon, Dr. Wm. Jay Schieffelin, Morris D. Waldman, Dr. Bernhard Kahn, Edward A. Norman, Czech Consul Vladimir Hudec, Mrs. Rose Jacobs, Mrs. Judith Epstein, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Dr. Harry Lurie, Max Gottschalk and Miss Juliet Benjamin.

B'NAI B'RITH BUYS \$10,000 CANADIAN WAR BONDS

WINNIPEG, Manitoba, Jan. 24. (JTA) -- B'nai B'rith tomorrow will purchase \$10,000 worth of non-interest Canadian war loan certificates "as a further manifestation of the profound desire on the part of the membership of B'nai B'rith and its affiliate organizations to support the cause of Great Britain to the utmost."

The purchase is being made by Philip M. Klutznick, of Omaha, president of B'nai B'riths District No. 6, and a member of the Supreme Advisory Council of AZA, B'nai B'riths youth organization, from funds provided by the two organizations' 51 Canadian chapters.

HUTCHINS URGES OPENING U.S. DOORS TO REFUGEES

CHICAGO, Jan. 24. (JTA) -- America should be made a refuge for "those who will not live without liberty," President Robert M. Hutchins of the University of Chicago declared last night in a nationally-broadcast address. "For less than the cost of two battleships," Dr. Hutchins said, "we could accomodate half a million refugees from totalitarian countries for a year."

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL LAUNCHED IN SOUTH AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 15. (JTA-By Mail) -- At the inauguration meeting of the United South African Jewish War Appeal, sponsored by the South African Jewish Board of Deputies and the Zionist Federation, Justice Greenberg, who presided, said the present intention was to divide the proceeds of the appeal equally between the two bodies responsible for it, for allocation by them to the various objects of the cause.

As far as the Board of Deputies was concerned, he said, one of their objects was to help the dependants of Jewish volunteers, and another was to assist those countless numbers all over the world who, through war conditions, had become refugees. The Zionist Federation's share would be devoted to war work in Palestine.

(Continued on reverse side)

JEWS FLEE KATTOWICE AS GERMANS SEIZE PROPERTY

LONDON, Jan. 24. (JTA) -- Jews in Kattowice are hastily gathering their personal belongings and moving to the nearby mining district of Dobrowa to avoid seizure of their property by arriving Germans, Polish Government sources here reported today.

Newly-settled Germans in Upper Silesia, complaining of insufficient means, have looted large department stores owned by Jews and Poles in Kattowice, while Gestapo agents looked on without intervening, the report said.

AUSTRALIAN JOURNALIST VOLUNTEERS FOR MILITARY SERVICE

PERTH, Western Australia, Dec. 22. (JTA-By Mail) -- Philip Masel, Editor of the Westralian Judean and Perth correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, has volunteered for military service and is at present in Melbourne undergoing a specialist's training as an officer of the Australian Imperial Force. Lieutenant Masel has edited Western Australia's only Jewish newspaper for the past eleven years.

EXTENSION OF PALESTINE LABOR EXCHANGE PLANNED

JERUSALEM (JTA-By mail) -- Communal life continues in Palestine despite existing war conditions. Following are some new notes on life in the Holy Land:

The Jewish Agency's labor department has been negotiating with the various labor organizations regarding extension of the existing labor exchange and distribution of work on the basis of a personal register of workers, rather than by party affiliation.

A reader of Davar, labor daily, has contributed L3 for a prize for a new Hebrew marching song, in view of the fact that the Jewish soldiers and supernumerary policemen have no suitable tune to sing while on march.

Official figures of persons employed by the Palestine Government give their number as 13,717, of whom 5,663 are on the permanent staff.

Unknown persons recently entered the offices of the Agudath Israel Workers' Organization in Jerusalem and removed all the documents found there.

A meeting of Jewish teachers of Arabic from 52 kvutsoth (colonies) was recently held in Haifa to discuss methods of teaching the language to adults.

The Arab daily Falastin reports that the American Jewish colony Raanana sent gifts to the Arab village Azzoun when the Arabs of the latter celebrated the Moslem feast of Id el Fitr.

A call to revive the old custom of "heralds" announcing the arrival of "Queen Saturday" was voiced by the Central Committee of the Agudath Israel, stating that since it is no longer possible to continue the blowing of the horn (shofar) as sign of lighting candles, the old custom of heralds should be revived to announce the time candle-lighting.



VOL. VIII. NO. 41.

Monday, January 27, 1941.

MASSACRES OF JEWS REPORTED SPREADING TO RUMANIAN PROVINCES

LONDON, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Massacres of Jews which began in Bucharest have spread to the Rumanian provinces, accompanied by widespread pillaging, Reuters reported from Bucharest today.

Indications were, the dispatch said, that the mass murders were carried out by Iron Guard rebels. Thousands of Jewish families were said to have been slain. Attacks were particularly severe in Brasov, Brila, Ploesti and Galatz.

The number of casualties was not immediately ascertained, but long lists of wounded were posted in hospitals, Reuters said.

Other reports, from Sofia, quoted travelers leaving Bucharest as saying they counted 200 dead on the highway, most of them Jews. Jewish prisoners in Jilava Prison were reported killed by the rebels.

PALESTINE PARLEY URGES CREATION OF COMMONWEALTH; BACKS 'ALL-OUT' AID FOR BRITAIN

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Concluding its two-day session the National Conference for Palestine today unanimously adopted a resolution urging establishment of Palestine as a Jewish commonwealth, supporting America's "all-out" aid policy for Great Britain, criticizing the Churchill Government's failure to abrogate the White Paper restricting immigration and land sales, and urging eradication of all racial, religious and national discrimination at the termination of the war.

The resolution said creation of a Jewish commonwealth in Palestine would make possible large-scale colonization by Jewish refugees after the war. Expressing profound regret at the continuance of the White Paper policy despite the change in the British Government, the resolution called for an end to "this injustice to the Jewish people." It asked Britain to "open the gates of Palestine to those Jewish refugees who turn to Palestine as their only hope of salvation, to remove the discrimination against Jews entailed in the land transfer regulations so that Jewish colonization may proceed unimpeded as contemplated in the mandate for Palestine."

The resolution also expressed gratification at the "splendid contribution of the Jews of Palestine by providing nearly 8,000 volunteers for service in the British Army,"

(Continued on reverse side)

and demanded that Great Britain make possible the establishment of "a suitable Jewish military force for service in the struggle for democracy and for the defense of Palestine."

The conference, held at the Hotel Willard with the participation of some 1,500 delegates from all parts of the country, elected Dr. Abba Hillel Silver as National Chairman of the United Palestine Appeal's \$12,000,000 campaign and of the National Conference for Palestine. Prof. Albert Einstein, Governor Herbert H. Lehman, Judge Julian Mack, Henry Monsky, Nathan Straus and Henrietta Szold were named honorary chairmen. Dr. Stephen S. Wise was elected chairman of the Administrative Committee, and Louis Lipsky chairman of the Executive Committee. National co-chairmen named were: Dr. Solomon Goldman, Dr. Israel Goldstein, E.I. Kaufmann and Judge Morris Rothenberg. Charles J. Rosenbloom was elected treasurer and Abraham L. Liebovitz and Jacob Sincoff assistant treasurers. The following were named vice-chairmen: Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner, Leon Gellman, Rabbi James G. Heller, Rabbi Edward L. Israel, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, Charles Reiss, Elihu D. Stone, Joseph Weingarten and David Wertheim.

The conference heard messages of encouragement from President Roosevelt, Secretary of State Cordell Hull, Secretary of Navy Frank Knox, Governor Lehman, U.S. Housing Administrator Nathan Straus, Jewish Agency President Chaim Weizmann, who said he would be in this country within a few weeks; British Minister Neville M. Butler, Secretary for India Leopold S. Amery, Lord Robert Cecil, Viscount Samuel, Col. Josiah Wedgwood, Lord Snell.

Addressing the banquet session which marked the close of the conference, House Majority Leader John W. McCormack urged the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine and scored "appeasement policies" which restricted immigration and colonization. Declaring "appeasement in Jerusalem is no less wrong than appeasement at Munich," McCormack said Jewish sacrifices and achievements in Palestine and the Jewish "tragic homelessness," made it imperative that opportunities be granted to tens of thousands of Jewish victims of oppression and persecution to enter Palestine "as a matter of right."

Earlier, the conference heard Federal Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt hail Palestine as a symbol of the world-wide struggle of the democracies for survival, and Dr. Bernard Joseph, legal advisor to the Jewish Agency, made a first-hand report of the homeland's war effort.

Drawing a parallel between the development of Palestine and the struggle of "new" democracy against the "age-old" forces of tyranny and greed, McNutt declared the building of a haven and refuge for the oppressed was an expression of an ideal held by all freedom loving men regardless of race, religion or nationality. He emphasized that he saw "no divided loyalty or hyphenated Americanism in your support of Palestine," adding: "It is a cause all can support, not as Zionists, not as Jews, not even as Americans, but as freedom loving men and women."

Dr. Joseph told the delegates that Palestine had suffered practically no material damage in the Italian air raids and that the morale of the population remained at a high level. "Although several hundred people were killed and wounded in air raids in Tel Aviv and Haifa, our general impression is that the Italians are pretty poor shots," he said.

The speaker, who came to the conference direct from Palestine via Trans-Pacific Clipper, said the news that the policy of appeasement had been abandoned had apparently not yet reached the British Palestine Administration, which does not echo the fine, uplifting spirit and high moral tone of the utterances of Winston Churchill. "But we firmly believe

that when victory crowns the British efforts and the new world order is set up, justice will be done to the Jews by granting them their national liberty in their ancient homeland."

Dr. Joseph reported that 136,000 men and women registered for military service with the British in Palestine and 8,000 of them were now serving with distinction on all battle fronts. He urged that the British take advantage of the offer to raise and equip a force of 40,000 young men to fight as a Palestine Army Corps.

Earlier in the day, a meeting of delegates from youth organizations represented at the conference voted the establishment of a National Youth Conference for the U.P.A., designed to encourage participation of Palestine-minded youth in the 1941 funds drive.

At the opening session last night, speakers called for "all-out" support of the Jewish homeland by raising of the U.P.A.'s quota of \$12,000,000 towards the total Palestine budget of \$13,640,000. The keynote was sounded by Dr. Silver and echoed by Dr. Goldman, Mr. Lipsky and Dr. Goldstein.

At the same time, Dr. Silver attacked the administration of the United Jewish Appeal, from which he said the U.P.A. had withdrawn because of a failure to grant Palestine a fair share of the total contributions. Reviewing events leading up to the split of the U.J.A., the speaker laid the blame for "niggardly" treatment of Palestine on the influence of "our philanthropic potentates and their professional henchmen" who, he charged, opposed Palestine as a visionary scheme.

Contending that events in Europe had proved the fallability of "the practical schemes of territorialists," he referred sarcastically to the Dominican Republic project, declaring that 100,000 "hypothetical settlers" there had received more publicity than the 550,000 actual settlers in Palestine. He termed Jews who failed to contribute to Palestine support because of non-Zionist views "traitors" and expressed the conviction that "the Zionist movement will be able to take care of its own needs."

Expressing doubt that the Welfare Council's probe of Jewish organization budget requirements would be successful because it aimed to set itself up as "a national budget authority," Dr. Silver revealed he had urged the committee merely to report its findings and recommendations at the Atlanta conference next week and await the reaction of American Jewry before taking any positive action.

The Palestine budget, cabled from Jerusalem, as read by Dr. Silver, provides that in 1941 the Jewish Agency receive \$7,647,000 and the Jewish National Fund \$6,000,000. Broken down, the Agency budget calls for expenditures of \$720,000 for relief, training and immigration; \$1,900,000 for maintenance and development of existing agricultural communities and establishment of additional colonies; \$1,000,000 for support of the citrus industry, hard hit by wartime restriction of exports; \$1,400,000 for public works and other measures to counteract unemployment; \$300,000 for vocational training; \$320,000 for fisheries development, pilot and seaman training and Tel Aviv harbor development; \$400,000 for education and research, and the balance for administrative expenses.

The JNF budget calls for \$3,840,000 for land purchase, \$616,000 for reclamation and improvements and \$1,480,000 for payments on land now occupied.

(Continued on reverse side)

Other resolutions approved by the conference called for establishment of joint Zionist councils throughout the country to bring about the greatest possible unified effort on behalf of the Palestine campaign; paid tribute to the leadership of Dr. Silver; lauded the resolution and courage of the Palestine Community under the trials of war and expressed gratitude to the daily and Jewish press for their aid in placing the cause of Palestine before the public.

NO JEWISH DELEGATE NAMED TO VICHY NATIONAL COUNCIL

VICHY, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- No Jewish representative has thus far been named to the newly-created National Council, although the Protestant and Catholic communities have received representation. Among those who have been named to the council are the violently anti-Semitic Jacques Doriot, Col. Francois de la Rocque and the former liberal Deputy Gaston Bergery.

Jews are ousted from posts as municipal secretaries under a decree published in the Official Journal.

It was announced that the Jewish agricultural expert, Marcel Felix Garsin, has been retained by the Agriculture Ministry, despite the anti-Jewish statute, because of "scientific merits." He is the fourth Jew on record to receive such exemption, the others being Jacques Rueff, vice-governor of the Bank of France; General Darius Paul Bloch and Commander Pierre Brisac.

THIRD ANTI-JEWISH LAW IN HUNGARY SEEN DELAYED UNTIL WAR IS DECIDED

BUDAPEST, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Hungarian Jews breathed easier today following publication of Premier Paul Teleki's speech to Parliament on Thursday night in which he not only ignored the "Jewish question" but entirely omitted any reference to the long-expected third anti-Jewish law in discussion of the parliamentary agenda through May.

The Premier thus strengthened the growing belief in political circles that Hungary's anti-Semitism would be restricted to enforcement of the present law and no further measures would be taken as long as the war's outcome remained doubtful.

SLOVAK JEWS ORDERED TO WEAR ARMBANDS; NEW CURBS IMPOSED

BUDAPEST, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- The Slovak Government has decreed that Jews must wear "distinguishing armbands," it was learned here today.

Other new measures against the Jews forbid them to enter cafes, hotels and public baths, restrict them to special seats in cinemas, bar them from Bratislava's main boulevards and allow them to make purchases in stores and markets only during certain hours daily.

RED CROSS CHAIRMAN VOTED B'NAI B'RITH AWARD

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Norman H. Davis, chairman of the American Red Cross, has been voted the 97th Anniversary Award of B'nai B'rith, symbolizing "honor, duty and achievement," and will receive it at a Covenant breakfast at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel on Feb. 16, it was announced today.

Davis accepted the award after it had been tendered to him at Red Cross headquarters here by Col. A. Ralph Steinberg, a member of the award committee, and Maurice Bisgyer, secretary of B'nai B'rith. It is in recognition of his humanitarian services as head of the Red Cross and his insistence that Red Cross relief supplies in the German-controlled areas of war-torn Europe be distributed on a completely non-sectarian basis.

January 28, 1941

Mr. Jacob Landau
Jewish Telegraphic Agency
1560 Broadway
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Landau:

Following up our conversation of yesterday, in Washington, I should like to call your attention to the report of the Washington Conference which appeared in the JTA News on Monday, January 27. There are three paragraphs devoted to my address Saturday night, and they contain at least four inaccuracies.

In the first place, it is stated that I attacked the administration of the United Jewish Appeal. I did not attack the administration of the United Jewish Appeal. Nor did I say that the United Palestine Appeal withdrew from the United Jewish Appeal. I said that the United Jewish Appeal negotiations broke down. I stated in my address that the major causes for the dissolution of the United Jewish Appeal were the mounting demands of the National Refugee Service, and I devoted a great deal of time in my address to the amount of money which is being spent on refugees in the United States in relation to the amount of money which is spent on refugees in Palestine. Not a word in the JTA report about it.

I did not term "Jews who fail to contribute to Palestine support because of non-Zionist views 'traitors'". I stated that there were Jews who were so opposed to Palestine that they refused even to contribute to the United Jewish Appeal and witnessed United Jewish Appeal campaigns in their communities undermined because of their refusal to contribute to the United Jewish Appeal rather than have Palestine share in their contributions.

Furthermore, I did not express doubt that the Welfare Council's probe of Jewish organization budget requirements would be successful. I heartily endorsed such a probe and urged upon the Council to make a thorough scientific study of the budgets of all agencies seeking the support of American Jews, including the United Palestine Appeal. What I opposed, was the conversion of the Council from a fact-finding and serviceing body to a policy-making and budgeting body.

Mr. Landau

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1-28-41

Nor did I refer sarcastically to the Dominican Republic project, as such, but to the over-emphasis which is being given to it in the public press utterly without relation to the number of refugees which it has actually taken care of (or is likely to take care of in the proximate future), and more particularly, to the Jewish philanthropists who are so enamored about refugee prospects in Santo Domingo, and are so blind and hostile to the refugee realities in Palestine.

It would take real genius to pack more inaccuracies and false emphases in the narrow compass of three brief paragraphs. I am afraid, my dear Mr. Landau, that in the near future I shall have to make a public statement on the treatment of the United Palestine Appeal by the JTA.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



Overseas News Agency, Inc.

1059 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 29, 1941

Mr. Jacob Landau, Director
Overseas News Agency, Inc.
1560 Broadway
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Landau:

I have replied at some length to the exceptions taken to our account of the recent Conference for Palestine by Dr. A. H. Silver, Chairman of the Conference, in a letter to Mr. Wishengrad. I presume you will see that letter.

However, I am moved to address you personally because Dr. Silver's charges might be taken to indicate a reflection on the journalistic integrity of either myself or the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, although I cannot believe that was Dr. Silver's purpose in his letter to you.

In this connection I should like to point out the following facts, which seem to me to be pertinent.

In the first place I am not a Jew. ~~While~~ Since my employment with the JTA and the Overseas News Agency last September I have, of course, attained a working knowledge of the existence of the vast number of organizations speaking for various groups in American Jewry. But certainly my personal background and my experience would not indicate that I have any personal feelings either for or against any particular group.

Secondly, in the absence of Pat Frank, I was strictly on my own in covering this conference. My only instructions from New York stressed that it was extremely important and should be given the maximum coverage possible. My copy was not edited in any substance, but was carried in our report just as I had sent it.

Thirdly, Dr. Silver's speech was the only important conference address of which copies were not made available to the press. I was totally unprepared for the statements he made late Saturday night and I had to write it as swiftly as possible in order to cover up the omission in our advance story based on press releases. Since Dr. Silver's speech was one of the most important I think a good deal of the blame for some of his objections lies with the conference's own press department.

Mr. Jacob Landau
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January 29, 1941

The impression I took away from the conference after Dr. Silver's address was that he was a man who feels deeply and sincerely the essential righteousness of the cause for which he is spokesman.

And my seven years experience as a reporter has made me fully aware that frequently men who are as whole-heartedly consecrated to a task, as Dr. Silver obviously is, are likely to lose their perspective a trifle when they feel that justice has not been done--not to them, but to the cause they espouse.

Perhaps this is true in Dr. Silver's case. At any rate, if you communicate with him or see him in the near future, will you be good enough to bring these points to his attention and convey to him my assurance that an unfair treatment of either his good self or the cause he so ably speaks for was the furthest thought from my mind.

Best regards.



Sincerely yours

Edward B. Talty
Edward B. Talty

T:R

January 29, 1941

Mr. H. Wishengrad, Editor
Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.
1560 Broadway
New York, N. Y.

Dear Hi:

Herewith the reply you requested to Dr. Silver's criticisms. Rabbi Paul Richmond of the B'Nai B'Rith office here affirmed the accuracy of my report especially relative to the term "traitor", but because of his position, he is naturally reluctant to stick his neck out. He said, however, that a Mr. Lurie of the Welfare Council in New York attended the session and remarked to him that he had been shocked by the strong words Dr. Silver had used in this connection, and that he would be in a position to substantiate our story.

As I pointed out in the letter there are no copies of Dr. Silver's speech available. I think it is perfectly obvious that this conference and Dr. Silver particularly intended certain parts of his speech to go to the daily press and designed the other portions for consumption for conference delegates only. When I spoke to Steinglass, the publicity man, about his failure to give me a complete copy of Dr. Silver's speech in advance, he told me quite frankly that their failure to release copies was a matter of "policy".

I shall shoot you the new Palestine Magazine as soon as I get it tomorrow, but I am calling to your attention to Alpert's admission that Dr. Silver refused to authorize the release of the speech and subsequently edited it.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Edward B. Talty

T:R

January 29, 1941

Mr. H. Wishengrad, Editor
Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.
1560 Broadway
New York, N. Y.

Dear Hi:

Replying to your memo regarding Dr. Silver's criticisms of our account of his speech before the Palestine Conference, I would like to take up the specific points outlined by Dr. Silver one by one.

Dr. Silver says we were inaccurate in stating that he attacked the administration of the United Jewish Appeal and that he said the United Palestine Appeal withdrew from the United Jewish Appeal. In his address Dr. Silver stated that the United Palestine Appeal heads had accepted in 1939 and 1940 less than they thought they needed and deserved "for the sake of unity". In describing the negotiations which led up to the dissolution of the United Jewish Appeal in 1941, Dr. Silver said that of the two last conferences called in an effort to avoid the collapse, his organization had signified its willingness to attend the first of these and refused to attend the second because they felt that all that could have been said had been said and that there was no hope for a settlement of the difficulties.

While Dr. Silver, according to my recollection and notes, made the additional statements he pointed out in his letter to you, I feel that his criticism of both these quotations is largely based on a difference of opinion as to whether "administration" and "withdrew" were strictly accurate descriptive terms. I think they were.

Regarding Dr. Silver's complaint of the absence of some portions of his speech in the JTA report, I should like to point out that his speech was 15 pages long and that our service carried far more of the text than did any other wire service or daily paper.

I have a distinct recollection of Dr. Silver's use of the word "traitor". I don't recall whether his statement was exactly as he outlined in his letter to you, but I should like to point out that I quoted him only on the word "traitor" and I submit that the balance of my statement, "He termed Jews who failed to contribute to Palestine's support because of non-Zionist views....", is a fair report of this particular aspect of his message. Certainly I understood him to mean that this failure to contribute was the result of anti-Zionist views on the part of individuals he was criticising and I'm sure that's what he meant to convey.

Mr. H. Wishengrad
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January 29, 1941

Dr. Silver did endorse an investigation of the needs of all Jewish organizations, but he was also equally definite in expressing the belief that the majority membership of the Welfare Council was not sympathetic to the needs of Palestine and that the ultimate objective of setting up a national budgeting organization would interfere with its effectiveness as an impartial fact finding body.

The question of whether Dr. Silver's reference to the Dominican Settlement project was in a "sarcastic manner", is of course, largely one of personal interpretation. I based my use of the word "sarcastic" on the manner in which Dr. Silver made his reference and the audience's reaction to it. I think, in light of Dr. Silver's own statement in his letter to you, that he is extremely skeptical about the ability of the Dominican Settlement to prove of great benefit to the refugee problem.

Dr. Silver is quite correct in his statement that in this connection he singled out the emphasis of the press and Jewish philanthropists on resettlement outside of Palestine for attack. However, I should like to point out that his opinion of "territorial schemes" and their sponsors had already been covered elsewhere in my dispatch and again cite the demands of time and space in newspaper coverage.

With one exception, it seems to me that Dr. Silver's criticism of our account seems to be based on two points. First, our choice of explanatory or descriptive words, and second, on the omission of certain phases of his speech. No quotations, as such, meet with his objection.

The one exception is the word "traitor". From reading Dr. Silver's letter I am not quite clear whether he is denying that he used this word, or that he is criticising our account for its failure to give a complete quotation of the sentences making up this phase of the speech. In any event I think a number of people who attended this conference session will bear me out on the use of the word "traitor".

Checking my notes and memory it seems to me that Dr. Silver is correct in saying that he charged certain Jewish interests with failure to support the United Jewish Appeal because the Zionist movement had a share in it. To the extent that our report failed to carry this additional charge on his part, Dr. Silver's criticism in this respect is justified. But, again considering the demands of time and space, I think our report could hardly be described as unfair or erroneous on the basis of that instance.

On the Sunday following Dr. Silver's speech conference press relations offices informed me that a complete copy of Dr. Silver's speech was being made ready. I inquired repeatedly after this up until a late hour Sunday without obtaining a copy.

Mr. H. Wishengrad, Editor
Page -3-
January 29, 1941

I learned today from Carl Alpert, editor of the New Palestine Magazine that mimeographed copies of the complete address had been made but that Dr. Silver would not authorize their release and that he, Alpert, had the sole manuscript copy of the address which had been "edited" by Dr. Silver. As Alpert is using the copy to put in the next edition of the New Palestine, and has informed me that he would have to send it back to New York this afternoon, it will of course be impossible for me to check the accuracy of my notes against the printed speech until it appears in an edited form in the New Palestine magazine tomorrow.

I should like to point out also that this phase of Dr. Silver's speech had to be taken "off the cuff" at the session itself as there were never any copies made available to the press, and I understand that there is only one complete manuscript in existence. Prior to Dr. Silver's speech Saturday evening a copy of part of his speech, not covering his references to the United Jewish Appeal split, and his criticisms of the support given the Palestine movement were given out to the press. There was no intimation at that time that there were any additional remarks to be made, and I have ascertained that none of the press associations or the daily papers were covered on that phase of his address.

I am of course extremely regretful that our report of this conference should meet with criticism from anyone and, as far as I know, this is the only phase of our account which has been criticised.

Sincerely yours,

Edward B. Talty

T:R



VOL. VIII. NO. 48.

Tuesday, February 4, 1941.

JDC LAUNCHES 1941 DRIVE, SETTING \$11,250,000 GOAL

NEW YORK, Feb. 3. (JTA) — The Joint Distribution Committee today inaugurated its 1941 fund-raising campaign, announcing a quota of \$11,250,000. Chairman Paul Baerwald said in a message to Jewish community leaders that the relatively low figure was set because the JDC recognized the Jewish communities were faced with many demands on their generosity, although JDC needs for the first six months of this year alone totalled \$12,600,000.

Baerwald's message follows, in part: "It cannot be too strongly emphasized that the problem is not merely one of relief, important as that is. A disaster of such proportions as has overtaken the Jews of Europe cannot be confined to a country or a continent. Its effects ignore national boundaries, natural barriers and even oceans. They are felt around the world. It is simple logic to say that the well-being of every Jew on earth, not excepting the Jews of America, is bound up with the fate of European Jewry. If they are allowed to perish, we will be the weaker. They must be strengthened and preserved for the day when they will once again be free to rebuild their lives in security...

"The Jews of Europe must be helped. Not every individual can be sheltered or rescued from the horror that reigns on the Continent, but the great mass of the people can be enabled to survive until a better day. Most vital, their will to live and spirit of hope can be maintained. This is the task which the Jews of America have recognized as confronting their accredited overseas relief agency, the J.D.C.....

"All that is necessary is an adequate supply of funds with which to continue the work of relief, reconstruction and emigration in fifty countries of Europe, the Near and Far East and Latin America. The J.D.C. is not establishing an annual budget for 1941. We have before us requirements for the first six months of the year only, totalling \$12,600,000. These represent actual emergency needs for feeding, clothing, sheltering, medical aid, child care and emigration. They do not include funds for long-range settlement programs or capital investments.

"All of this money can be spent by the J.D.C. within six months in complete conformity with U.S. Government regulations and American public opinion, without assisting the economy of the totalitarian countries or violating the British blockade. Unless there is a radical, fundamental change in Europe, we may reasonably anticipate that requirements for the last six months of 1941 will be at least equal to \$12,600,000.

(Continued on reverse side)

"However, the J.D.C. has had long years of experience in fund-raising through organized Jewish communities. It recognizes that \$25,000,000 is not realizable in the light of the many other obligations, domestic and foreign, that Jewish communities face. The J.D.C. is therefore adopting the attitude that communities can and should allot to the J.D.C. sums which are in line with their past giving history and their fair share of responsibility in the present crisis. Quotas are being requested from communities aggregating \$11,250,000. This sum represents a realistic approach to the problem from the point of view of giving potentialities and at the same time is on a par with the rate of expenditure of the J.D.C. during the early months of the war, which aggregated \$1,000,000 a month.

"In accordance with its established policy, the J.D.C. relies entirely on the Jewish communities of America for its resources. It has no other source of revenue, no parallel or auxiliary agencies raising funds to relieve it of any part of its burdens. The J.D.C. will make its appeals through welfare funds and local campaigns."

FUNDS PARLEY CALLS REFERENDUM ON BUDGETING PLAN; OFFICERS REELECTED

ATLANTA, Feb. 3. (JTA) -- The plan to establish a national advisory budgeting service to assist local communities in allocating funds to national and overseas agencies will be submitted to a referendum of the 203 groups holding membership in the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, following approval by the council's board of directors.

The plan was advanced by Sidney Hollander, reelected president of the council, after dissolution of the United Jewish Appeal. Representatives of the three erstwhile UJA agencies--the Joint Distribution Committee, United Palestine Appeal and National Refugee Service--have given assurances that they will not undertake independent campaigns in welfare fund cities in 1941, Board Chairman William J. Shroder announced yesterday.

The member agencies of the council, located in 167 cities, will receive the budgeting service plan with the supporting majority report of the council's Committee on National Budgeting Proposals and an opposing minority report. Action by April 1 will be asked.

The majority report also recommended immediate steps toward reestablishment of the United Jewish Appeal in 1941 in response to "the overwhelming desire of the welfare funds and their contributors" throughout the country. Although no united fund may materialize this year, local communities should continue to do their utmost in support of overseas and refugee agencies, the report declared. The committee was headed by Jacob Blaustein of Baltimore.

Following a report on the status of the General Jewish Council, the assembly passed a resolution authorizing the president to appoint a committee "to determine how the council can be helpful in working out joint fund-raising in the civic-protective field." In his report on efforts by the American Jewish Congress, American Jewish Committee, B'nai B'rith and Jewish Labor Committee to coordinate their activities and financing, Amos P. Deinard, of Minneapolis, urged patience with the rate of progress so far made.

The business session, in addition to reelecting Hollander as president, also re-elected Shroder chairman of the board; William Rosenwald, Greenwich, Conn., Henry Wineman, Detroit, and Ira M. Younker, New York, vice-presidents; Elias Mayer, Chicago, secretary, and Dr. Solomon Lowenstein, New York, treasurer. Albert Lieberman, Philadelphia, was added to the board.

BRITISH FASCISTS WARNED OF RE-INTERMENT FOR ANTI-JEWISH ACTIVITIES

LONDON, Feb. 7. (JTA) -- Reinternment of a number of Fascists recently released is foreshadowed by a special correspondent of The Jewish Chronicle, following reappearance of scurrilous anti-Jewish slogans on walls in London and the provinces.

"If an offender should prove to be a Fascist released from detention, it is safe to assume that he can expect to be sent back," since releases were in some cases conditional, the correspondent said, stressing that the Home Office was determined not to relax its vigilance and to stamp out ruthlessly the subterranean anti-Semitic activities of the Fascists.

A new campaign for the release of Sir Oswald Mosley is being launched anonymously through the mails by Fascist agents, it is learned. During the past few days they have been mailing small Union Jacks to prominent people and organizations. In the center of the flag, printed in ink, is the Fascist "lightning" sign. Across it are the words, "Release Mosley."

MAYOR OF RUMANIAN CITY VOICES REGRET OVER POGROM

LONDON, Feb. 7. (JTA) -- The mayor of Ploesti, Rumania, has written to the Jewish community condemning anti-Semitic rioters and expressing deep sympathy with the victims of the recent pogrom, it was reported here today. During the excesses Iron Guardists bombed a house in which 24 Jewish men, women and children were barricaded.

Prayers for Victims in Palestine

JERUSALEM, Feb. 7. (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Ben-Zion Uziel today called for special eulogies and prayers in Palestine for victims of the Rumanian anti-Jewish excesses. The Vaad Leumi (Jewish National Council) called a mass meeting for Monday in protest against the Rumanian pogrom. Rabbi Uziel also proclaimed a month of prayers for a British victory.

LOCAL WELFARE FUNDS URGED TO REJECT PROPOSAL FOR CENTRALIZED BUDGET CONTROL

NEW YORK, Feb. 7. (JTA) -- An appeal to welfare fund communities not to accept the proposal for the establishment of a national budgeting committee on the ground that it would standardize Jewish life and bring about a form of centralization which would affect the growth of communal responsibility has been issued by the Committee on the Referendum for Budgeting, it was announced today.

Among the members on the committee are Judge Samuel Barnet of New Bedford, Rabbi Isadore Breslau of Washington, Albert K. Epstein of Chicago, Rabbi Leon Fram of Detroit, Gustave L. Goldstein of Los Angeles, Rabbi James G. Heller of Cincinnati, D. Beryl Manischewitz of Cincinnati, Charles J. Rosenbloom of Pittsburgh and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland.

The committee, which was established in order to clarify the arguments against setting up a committee to recommend ratios for all national and overseas agencies, issued a statement of principles adopted by some of the delegates who attended the Atlanta General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

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Declaring that the proposal to establish a national budgeting committee represented a radical departure from the fact-finding functions of the Council, the committee emphasized that the establishment of the new body would vest in a small group of men the power and authority over the distribution of funds in which were involved not merely the financial support of institutions and agencies, but "principles and ideals, aims and aspirations that would be more properly and more equitably evaluated in the councils of the local communities in which these ideals, principles and aspirations come in more direct contact with those who give and who decide."

If welfare funds surrender the right to determine how the funds which they raise are to be distributed, they will give up preogatives and responsibilities which go far beyond the mere task of fund-raising and which form the basis for fully developed communal thinking and action, the statement said.

UNITED SYNAGOGUE ISSUES PROGRAM TO STRENGTHEN RELIGIOUS LIFE

NEW YORK, Feb. 7. (JTA) -- A fifteen-point program designed to meet the needs of American Jewish communities has been completed by the United Synagogue National Committee to Strengthen Religious Life in preparation for the opening of its nation-wide effort, President Louis J. Moss of the United Synagogue of America announced today.

Inauguration of the program will take place officially on March 5 at a dinner to be held in Ezzex House.

As finally presented by Dr. Elias L. Solomon, chairman of the national committee, the program provides for (1) fortifying synagogues, (2) organizing Jewish education, (3) inspiring synagogue worship, (4) training youth for leadership, (5) directing adolescent activities, (6) assisting men's clubs, (7) solving budgetary problems, (8) strengthening unaffiliated synagogues, (9) contacting non-synagogue groups, (10) preserving morale of draftees, (11) serving Jewish students, (12) cooperation with adolescents' organizations, (13) aiding refugees, (14) ties with Palestine and (15) cooperating with defense bodies.

More than 1,200 prominent Jewish laymen and rabbis from every section of the United States, have endorsed the program and campaign of the committee.

JEWISH FIRM HONORED FOR WORK ON HISTORIC CROSS IN LONDON

LONDON, Feb. 7. (JTA) -- A historic ornamental cross in a private chapel in Buckingham Palace now has a plate affixed to its base commemorating the efforts of the Jewish firm of Wartski, court jewellers, in reconstructing the cross, which was smashed during an air raid. The plate, affixed by special request of the King and Queen, was placed below the old plate recording the history of the cross, which originally was a possession of Queen Victoria and was handed down to various members of the royal family.

The well-known Jewish communal worker, Emanuel Snowman, member of the Wartski firm, learning of the damage to the Palace, suggested to the distressed King and Queen that they turn over to him the hundreds of fragments of the cross strewn over the floor, promising to report on the possibilities of reconstruction. He declined payment. After three months he succeeded in reconstructing the cross and returned it to the King and Queen.

Dr. Wise also made known that a communication had been addressed to the representatives of the Congress in cities where there are welfare funds and community councils advising them to act in concert with other agencies to register their opposition to this appeal.

The board of directors of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds approved the proposal to set up the national budgeting committee at its General Assembly in Atlanta and is submitting it to a referendum of the welfare funds and community councils.

PARLEY FEB. 16 TO OPEN J.D.C. FUNDS DRIVE

NEW YORK, Feb. 9. (JTA) --- To inaugurate a nationwide campaign for funds for rescue and rehabilitation of millions of Jewish victims of war and persecution throughout the world, an extraordinary meeting of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, will be held on Sunday, Feb. 16, at the Hotel Astor. Governor Herbert H. Lehman, a J.D.C. vice-chairman, will address the meeting, which will be attended by Jewish leaders from all parts of the country.

In New York City, arrangements are being made for a combined campaign for assistance to refugees in the city and throughout the country as well as for overseas Jewish needs. Announcement of plans for this campaign is expected to be made in the next few days.

A report on the overseas work of the J.D.C. by Morris C. Troper, European chairman, who recently returned from his headquarters in Lisbon, will be one of the features of the Feb. 16 meeting.

3 GROUPS TO SHARE FUNDS RAISED BY BRITH ABRAHAM

NEW YORK, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- The Independent Order of Brith Abraham, which has an enrollment of more than 60,000 members throughout the United States, today announced the inauguration of a combined campaign in behalf of the United Palestine Appeal and overseas relief and refugee agencies.

In an appeal to the membership, Herman Hoffman, Grand Master and Max L. Hollander, Grand Secretary of the Order announced that all contributions to its campaign would be divided equally between the United Palestine Appeal and the combined drive of the Joint Distribution Committee and the National Refugee Service. Fifty per cent of the total funds will go to the UPA, the remaining half going to the JDC and NRS.

LEHMAN, MACK URGE WIDE SUPPORT OF PALESTINE AS HAVEN FOR REFUGEES

NEW YORK, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- Accepting honorary chairmanships in the \$12,000,000 war emergency campaign of the United Palestine Appeal, Governor Herbert H. Lehman and Judge Julian W. Mack issued statements today urging the widest support for the drive and asserting that Palestine, today more than ever, offered a haven for thousands of refugees from oppression.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the U.P.A., announced that honorary chairmanships in the campaign have also been accepted by Prof. Albert Einstein, Henry Monsky, Nathan Straus and Henrietta Szold.

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PALESTINE CITIZENSHIP LAW AMENDED

JERUSALEM, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- A newly-published amendment to the Palestine citizenship order empowers the High Commissioner to count the time spent in Government services to fill the prescribed two-year waiting period for citizenship.

USSISHKINS CELEBRATE GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- Mr. and Mrs. M.M. Ussishkin today celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Ussishkin is world president of the Jewish National Fund. He is 78 years old.

LICENSES RESTORED TO ITALIAN JEWISH STREET VENDORS

ROME, Jan. 28. (JTA-By Airmail) -- Italian Jewish street vendors, who for more than five months have been without means of livelihood, have now had their peddling licenses temporarily renewed. The licenses were withdrawn in August of last year.

Approximately 1,200 heads of families, or more than 10 per cent of the whole of Italian Jewry, are affected.

1,800 JEWISH REFUGEES INTERNED IN ITALY

ROME, Jan. 27. (JTA-By Airmail) -- Approximately 1,800 Jewish refugees are now interned in Italian concentration camps while about 1,400 other--nearly all women and children--are still at liberty, principally in the cities of Milan and Rome.

The largest group of those interned, numbering about 1,000, are concentrated in barracks near the village of Comenza, in Southern Italy. Although the accommodation is improvised and heating and toilet facilities are lacking, conditions are described as being reasonably comfortable, and the internees enjoy a fair amount of liberty, although under close supervision. Sport is encouraged, and there have been occasions when "all-star" teams from among the refugees have met and usually beaten--local village football teams.

Their greatest need has been for clothing, particularly warm clothing for the winter months. This need has been satisfied to some extent by the Jewish Committee in Milan. In that city there were some 800 women and children refugees at liberty, none of whom was permitted to engage in any occupation, due to the restrictions against foreigners. In order to make use of this potentially productive body, the Committee borrowed a number of sewing machines, and solicited from Jewish manufacturers gifts of woolen and cotton cloth. Many of the refugee women are now busily engaged in turning out suits, overcoats, shorts, socks and underclothing for the men in internment, who are thus able to cope better with the rigours of camp life.



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JDC READY TO REOPEN TALKS FOR UNITED APPEAL, OPENS \$11,250,000 DRIVE; WARBURG CHAIRMAN

NEW YORK, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- Asserting in a resolution its readiness to reopen negotiations for a United Jewish Appeal, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee at an extraordinary meeting today launched a national campaign for \$11,250,000 for the relief and rehabilitation of Jews abroad.

The meeting, which heard a message from President Roosevelt expressing his admiration of the J.D.C. and wishing it success, unanimously elected Edward M.M. Warburg as chairman of the J.D.C. in succession to Paul Baerwald, retiring chairman, who was named honorary chairman, a position he will hold jointly with Mrs. Felix M. Warburg. Mr. Warburg was also chosen a national chairman of the 1941 J.D.C. campaign, to serve with Dr. Jonah B. Wise.

The President's message, read to the some 1,000 Jewish communal leaders from all parts of the United States who attended the day-long meeting, said:

"I have long known of the distinguished record of your organization for widespread humanitarian service in behalf of the victims of war and persecution in many lands overseas. Because I know that millions of men, women and little children look to you for rescue, for food, for refuge and asylum, and for surcease from their overwhelming burdens, I am glad to convey to the extraordinary meeting of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee my best wishes for the success of its endeavors.

"Your cause is the cause of all Americans, for democracy must begin with man's humanity to man. Through the activities of your organization and other American agencies of mercy, dignity, self-respect and hope for a better order of things have been restored to millions of men and women. They have thus been reminded that they are not alone in their travail and suffering; that free men and women of good will hope for their liberation and in the meantime are ready to come to their assistance."

The attitude of the J.D.C. on the question of a united appeal was expressed in the following resolution:

"The Joint Distribution Committee has for 26 years dedicated itself to ameliorating the plight of Jewish populations of Eastern and Central Europe and throughout the world. At this crucial period in world affairs, the Joint Distribution Committee looks to the continued support of the Jewish citizens of the United States. Without the active, enthusiastic assistance of local American Jewish communities, and a consecrated sense of

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service on the part of every man, woman and child who can give and serve, the Joint Distribution Committee will be unable to render an adequate measure of help to those who are sorely in need.

"In the last two years, the J.D.C. has been associated with the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service in a centralized fund-raising campaign through the United Jewish Appeal. Earnest efforts to continue the United Jewish Appeal in 1941 have thus far come to naught but it is the hope of the J.D.C. that a unified appeal may still be possible. The major difference of opinion arose with respect to the amounts deemed requisite for the activities of the National Refugee Service. The Joint Distribution Committee desires to record now, as it has done in the past, its willingness to accept any equitable proposal, whereby the primary requirements of the National Refugee Service can be met, and whereby the Joint Distribution Committee, as trustee for the welfare of millions of suffering, homeless and persecuted Jews the world over, can receive a proper share of the sums raised in this country.

"At meetings of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds in Atlanta from January 31 to February 3, representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee expressed their entire willingness to accept an arrangement for a fact-finding study of the needs of the National Refugee Service, provided such a study be undertaken under the supervision of fair-minded and objective persons, such as the neutral members of the 1940 U.J.A. Allotment Committee or some other instrumentality acceptable to the three agencies. The Joint Distribution Committee stands ready to abide by the decision of such a group. If the United Palestine Appeal agrees to abide by the same recommendations, the J.D.C. is prepared in concert with representatives of the Welfare Fund communities, to engage in any discussions leading to the reconstitution of the United Jewish Appeal for 1941.

"If, however, such proposals are not accepted by the United Palestine Appeal, the Joint Distribution Committee is constrained to make independent applications to the various communities in behalf of its own program. In so doing, the J.D.C. recognizes and respects the existence of welfare funds or similar organized fund-raising bodies in the individual communities which conduct local campaigns on the basis of a centralized, unified solicitation. The Joint Distribution Committee pledges itself to work with such local organizations, and to extend to them its fullest cooperation and support. The Joint Distribution Committee is convinced that, in turn, Welfare Funds and other communal fund-raising agencies will give to the J.D.C. increased support consistent with the enormous and increased burdens now resting upon it."

Other resolutions adopted by the meeting commended Baerwald for his services as chairman since 1933 and James N. Rosenberg for his work as chairman of the J.D.C. Executive Committee, and explained the \$11,250,000 quota set for the drive as "both realistic and attainable," although the real needs of the J.D.C. for 1941 approximated \$25,000,000.

Speakers at the meeting included Governor Herbert H. Lehman, Dr. Paul Van Zeeland, Mr. Warburg, Mr. Baerwald, Morris C. Troper, chairman of the J.D.C.'s European Executive Council; Joseph C. Hyman, executive vice-chairman of the J.D.C., and Rabbi J.H. Lookstein, of Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun of New York.

In his address, Gov. Lehman linked the work of the J.D.C. in preserving the life, hope and spirit of victims of totalitarian oppression to the world struggle for maintenance of democracy. "In the Joint Distribution Committee," he said, "we find a channel for the

expression of our sympathy, and are enabled not merely to relieve suffering, but to share with the persecuted and the driven those inestimable benefits which the American way of life confers upon us. It is not merely that the J.D.C. offers tangible help--bread for the hungry, clothing for the naked, shelter for the homeless, escape for the enslaved. In the minds of these harassed and persecuted peoples the J.D.C. is the living symbol of a land where there is opportunity and tolerance for all, where all men may enjoy freedom and, unhindered, stretch out their hands in compassion to the suffering."

Announcing the election of Warburg as his successor, Baerwald said that there would be in Warburg's assumption of the office "no interruption in the comradeship and friendship in the common endeavor throughout the country" of the J.D.C.'s "vast family."

Accepting the chairmanship, Warburg emphasized the readiness of the J.D.C. at all times to collaborate with all other agencies, sectarian or non-sectarian, dealing with relief of suffering, and its special responsibility, beyond that, of "helping the Jew who through no fault of his own has been singled out for discrimination and for persecution."

Hyman, analyzing the budgetary requirements of the organization for the next six months, declared: "If J.D.C. were no longer here in 1941, a J.D.C. would have to be created. A devastating flood is sweeping over Jewish life, and it will spread from land to land unless we stem and dam it. Our most sacred task is to prevent the innocent victims of this tragedy from losing all their hope, their pride, their self-respect."

Troper described his experiences as European relief director for the J.D.C. from the vantage point of Lisbon and analyzed J.D.C. operations to relieve Jewish distress abroad. "One million men, women and children in more than fifty countries throughout the world were assisted by the J.D.C. during 1940," he reported. "In German-occupied Poland alone, the J.D.C. is bringing daily assistance to 630,000 people through 2,000 various institutions of aid."

Troper pointed out that all funds which the J.D.C. remits to Germany and countries annexed or occupied by Germany are made available without sending American dollars into these lands.

United J.D.C., N.R.S. Drive Launched Here

NEW YORK, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- A joint drive in Greater New York to aid Jews abroad and for rehabilitation and resettlement assistance to refugees in America will be conducted this year by the United New York Appeal for the Joint Distribution Committee and the National Refugee Service, it was announced last night at a dinner-meeting of the J.D.C. at the Ritz Carlton Hotel. Dr. Jonah B. Wise has accepted the chairmanship of the new appeal.

Announcement of the 1941 New York City campaign followed addresses by Eve Curie, noted French writer; Morris C. Troper, European director of the Joint Distribution Committee, and Edward M.M. Warburg, who presided at the dinner.

Dr. Solomon Lowenstein, J.D.C. vice-president, speaking in behalf of the National Refugee Service, gave the background of the offer contained in the J.D.C. resolution adopted today at the Hotel Astor meeting with regard to possible resumption of a United Jewish Appeal for 1941.

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JEWS SHUN BUCHAREST STREETS AS RUMORS OF NEW POGROM SPREAD

BUDAPEST, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- While the Rumanian press daily accuses the Jews of having organized against themselves the excesses in January in which some 2,000 of them were killed, Jews fear to appear in the streets of Bucharest as inspired rumors are continually circulated of another, bigger pogrom pending, it was reported from the Rumanian capital today.

Porunca Vremi, leading anti-Semitic daily of Rumania, demands that the Jews be placed in concentration camps "in order to avoid a repetition of the disorders."

A propaganda campaign in Rumanian newspapers is gradually retouching the official version of the January insurrection to make it appear that "Communists and Jews were entirely responsible."

Typical of this is an article in Sfama Piatra purporting to prove that all pogroms are "nothing but Jewish propaganda designed to compromise the regime. This is true of the Bucharest pogrom as it was of the Russian pogroms organized during the tzarist regime," the paper declares. It voices the singular conviction that Jews are never killed during pogroms; they only say so.

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U.S. Voices 'Shock' At Excesses

NEW YORK, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- The United States Government has expressed to the Rumanian Government its "indignation and shock" over the "unspeakable outrages" of the Iron Guard last month, Secretary of State Cordell Hull revealed in a letter, made public today, to Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress, in reply to the Congress's appeal for intercession with the Bucharest authorities.

"I need hardly tell you," Secretary Hull wrote, "this Government looks with horror on atrocities of this sort and that it regards them as another manifestation of the unprecedented conditions that unfortunately now prevail in certain European countries."

"This Government has brought to the attention of the Rumanian Government the indignation and shock with which the news of these atrocities was received by this Government."

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Bucharest Jews Seek British Legation's Aid

BUDAPEST, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- The British Legation at Bucharest was said by a diplomat just arrived from Rumania to be packed with Jews "pleading to be allowed to accompany" departing Britons. "But even if the Legation gave them visas for Palestine," the envoy declared, "the Rumanians would refuse to issue passports."

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890 Jews Sail From Constanza

ROME, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- The Panama-flagged steamship Darien II sailed from Constanza last night transporting 890 Jews emigrating from Rumania, according to Italian dispatches from Bucharest.

Confidential Report

IS THERE ANTI-SEMITISM IN SOVIET RUSSIA?

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

February 18, 1941.

Widely accepted opinion, especially in America, has it that the Jewish question is non-existent in Soviet Russia, and that there is absolutely no anti-Semitism there. This opinion is not entirely correct.

True, Soviet Russia does not have anti-Semitism of the type that prevails in many other countries of Europe, or of the brand that existed in Czarist Russia. No official anti-Jewish laws are in effect in the Soviet Republics. The Soviet Constitution guarantees full equal rights to all nations of the Soviet Union. Russia is the sole country--not merely in Europe, but throughout the world--where, according to law, severe punishment is meted out to persons engaged in anti-Semitic propaganda. Use of the Russian, insulting word "Zhid," draws a stiff, three-year jail term for example.

Official education of all citizens in Soviet Russia is conducted in the spirit of tolerance and mutual respect of all peoples and races. All groups of the population--from the most intellectual to the most primitive--are being constantly reared in the spirit of absolute equality of all laboring people.

What, then, is the form of anti-Semitism in Soviet Russia?

Anti-Semitism in the U.S.S.R. finds its expression chiefly in ignoring the Jewish requirements, in paying no attention to Jewish feelings, in subduing Jewish interests to the interests of other nationalities in the Soviet Union whenever this is politically profitable for the Soviet regime. A few examples will illustrate this point:

Following the Red Army's occupation of the eastern areas of Poland--the so-called West Ukraine and West White Russia, proclamations, in many millions of copies, were distributed in these regions. They were appeals directed, not to all the citizenry, but to the Ukrainians and White Russians.

In these proclamations, Ukrainians and White Russians were told of the good news, that the Soviet soldiers had come to liberate them from the rule of the "Polish Masters," that their "oppression at the hands of a foreign nationality would be ended;" that henceforth they would become "free citizens of the Soviet Republic."

The Soviet Government did not, however, find it necessary to inform the Jews of these areas that they would be liberated from pogroms, Nazi excesses, oppression. These proclamations, distributed daily by the Soviets, contained not a single mention of the Jews. The Jewish masses were at a loss to explain the situation. The Jewish Communists went about--shamefaced. Subsequently, it was explained that the action was a "tactical maneuver," intended to attract nationalist elements among the Ukrainians and White Russians--principally those in Eastern Galicia who were of anti-Soviet and anti-Semitic sentiment.

The Soviets took into account the prevailing Nationalist and anti-Jewish feeling, and failed to refer to liberation of and equal rights for the Jews. Also characteristic of this move, the Yiddish language was not employed in the official proclamations of the Soviet Government, which had been directed to the population of the land. Yiddish had an equal footing with other languages in only secondary instances--when matters of registration forms for refugees and similar issues came up for consideration. On the other hand, insofar as public proclamations, appeals, and notices were concerned, they were published in various languages current in the land--excepting Yiddish.

In Lemberg (Lwow), the city's only Yiddish newspaper, the Lemberger Tageblatt, was closed. In Bialystok, the local Yiddish newspaper, Unser Leben, which, following Soviet occupation of the city, was published as the Bialystoker Shtern, continued to appear only until the paper supply held in stock by this organ's former owners, had been exhausted. The paper's staff was left jobless. On the other hand, the Government did not fail to supply paper to the Bialystok newspapers of other languages--Russian, Polish, Ukrainian.

In Lemberg, as throughout all of Eastern Galicia (now Western Ukraine), the Soviets put into effect a severe Ukrainization of the land. Jews and Poles were ousted from all posts. This was especially directed against the Jews. The Jewish intellectual element of the professional class was not allowed to assume any responsible posts. This move was made under the pretext that the Jews lacked command of the Ukrainian language. Nevertheless, in the case of Poles, exceptions were made, and many Poles were entrusted with various posts, despite the fact that they, too, still had to learn the Ukrainian language.

The noted Jewish attorney of Lemberg, Leib Lando, a leader of the Lemberg Bar Association, was compelled to eke out an existence through sale of his household articles. He was prohibited from further practice of law, despite the fact that, during Polish rule, he often appeared in the courts as a defender of Communists.

Then, too, wholesale arrests were made--for the most part among the Jewish intellectuals. The former Jewish Sejm deputy, Emil Sommerstein, was arrested because of his previous political activity. A similar fate met Prof. Moses Schorr, Jewish scholar and former Chief Rabbi of Warsaw, who had been living in Russian territory. Others, too, landed behind bars, as for example, the Jewish labor leaders, Henrick Ehrlich and Victor Alter; and the veteran of Yiddish writers, Dr. I. Gottlieb. All of these men are now jailed, or have been exiled in far-off Siberia. Yet nothing was heard concerning arrests of Ukrainians for former political "sins." Even the leaders of the Nationalist Ukrainian Party, Unda, which conducted expressly anti-Soviet activity, remained at liberty.

Following Lithuania's absorption by the USSR, Lithuanian laws not in accord with the Soviet regime were abolished. It is, however, typical that the Lithuanian decree completely banning Jewish inscriptions on signs of stores, bureaus, and institutions--a decree first promulgated by the Poles and later intensified by the Lithuanians--was allowed to remain on the statute books. Even the Jewish Community was prohibited from having an inscription in Yiddish. This was explained as being a concession to the nationalist elements among the Lithuanian masses.

Wilno is the Citadel of Jewish life, where almost the entire Jewish population uses Yiddish almost exclusively, as its conversational language, and where Jews comprise 30 per cent of the city's residents. Yet, in Wilno, no announcement, decree, or appeal, issued by the Soviets when they came into the city, was released in the Yiddish language. The official decrees were issued in three languages: Russian, Polish, and Lithuanian--but not in Yiddish. It should be noted that, following the Lithuanization of Wilno, the total number of Lithuanians in that city did not reach ten per cent.

Following Lithuania's actual and formal annexation to Soviet Russia, in August, 1940, there was held in Kovno an all-Lithuanian Conference of Public Instructors. The discussion centered principally about the topic: how to maintain the Lithuanian spirit in the schools; how to guard the children against the Jewish influence. Only after a great deal of difficulty, did the Jewish delegates succeed in gaining the floor for their utterances.

This occurred in the presence of Government spokesmen, who did nothing about the matter. When, on the other hand, the delegates failed to rise as the orchestra played "The Internationale," one of the Government representatives spoke up, pointing out that such action was not permissible, and expressing his conviction that the teachers would become good Soviet citizens. However, these representatives did not utter a single word of rebuke, to assail the anti-Jewish propaganda conducted at the Conference. The Yiddish-Communist press, too, was not permitted to write about the matter.

The first transition cabinet, which followed the unseating of the Government created by Justas Poletski included one Jewish minister. Dr. Kogan, noted Jewish physician of Kovno and active Jewish Communist, was given the post of Health Minister. Two other Jews were appointed vice-ministers. The first cabinet which had been created following Lithuania's annexation to the Soviet, did not include a single Jew among the Commissars and their aides. The Government was purely Nationalist-Lithuanian in character, although behind the scenes, the same Jews were the actual leaders of the "resorten."

All Jewish institutions and organizations in Lemberg, Bialystok, Rovno, Kovno, Wilno, and other cities, are shut down. Some of them, for example the Zionist Palamten, "HIAS," Agudath Israel, Agudath Harabonim, and a number of others - have been dissolved. Their resources, mobile and immobile, have been confiscated, and the archives sealed. In the case of other Jewish organizations, their administrative boards have been ousted, and in their stead, commissars were appointed. The previous administrative board members were, however, compelled to continue association with their foreign central headquarters. The former administrative board members of "ORT," in Wilno were compelled to wire "ORT" headquarters in France, concerning further financial aid.

Of the nine Yiddish daily newspapers published in Lithuania, the Soviets permitted only one--the Kovno Volksblatt--to remain. Wilno no longer has a single Yiddish newspaper, although 2 Polish and 3 Lithuanian papers are being published there. Yiddish journalists and writers have been left jobless. The resources of the Yiddish press have been confiscated. While the Yiddish newspapers of Wilno and Kovno were being published, they were prohibited from printing any bit of news concerning the life of Jews in the world. Not merely

news of Palestine, but even the most innocent news concerning Jewish life in America, could not be printed. Publication of the news of Vladimir Jabotinsky's death was prohibited. A certain Yiddish newspaper in Wilno could not even release this same news in the identical manner in which a Polish paper had printed it; that the "noted leader of the Jewish Fascists" passed away. The Yiddish press was barred too, from printing a short item concerning the death of the Wilno Goan, Reb Chayim Ozer Grodzinski. Yet the non-Jewish press was permitted to print this news.

Following the Nazi-sponsored massacre in Przemysl, Eastern Galicia, in which 500 persons, mostly Jewish intellectuals, had been murdered, the Soviet Government did not--after Soviet capture of the city--permit the Przemysl Jews to voice their protest and indignation against the Nazis. This was reiterated in more pointed manner, following the massacre of the Jews in Hrubeshev, and in the surrounding cities of the Soviet border. No less than 2,000 Jews had, at the time, perished at the hands of the Nazis. The roads, fields, and woods which led to the Soviet border, were strewn with the bodies of the slain and slaughtered Jews. When the Jews of the towns in the Soviet areas gathered to pay tribute to the fallen Jewish victims, and express their grief and indignation against the Hitler murderers, they were prohibited from going through with their plan. The Soviet commander requested the Jews to disperse, threatening to shoot at the assemblage. The provincial, naive Jews had then learned that the Nazis were their allies, against whom it was forbidden to demonstrate.

The aforementioned facts do not justify one in reaching the conclusion that anti-Semitism is conducted or stimulated in Soviet Russia. The Bolsheviks do not take into account Jewish sentiment, and even suppress it if it is not in accord with Soviet domestic or foreign policy. The Jewish Communists of Soviet Russia approve these tactics, and see in them a means of deadening and uprooting anti-Semitism. Such methods have, however, led to this situation; that while anti-Semitism has been deadened, the sympathy of the Soviet Jews toward the sufferings of their brethren in other lands has been dulled. Under the influence of the constant agitation to the affect that "Stalin knows better," the natural antagonism and hatred of the Russian Jews against the Nazis have even been weakened. The close ties of one Jew to another in Soviet Russia, have disappeared. Jewish unity is no more. Jews in Russia live in scattered fashion. In Russia proper, one Jew has no contact with another, and Soviet Jews are ignorant of the life of their brethren outside the USSR. They have no conception of how Jews are faring outside of the Soviet land, and they have no ties with the outside world. Since the signing of the Stalin-Hitler pact, news concerning anti-Jewish gatherings in Germany is not permitted to find its way into the Soviet Union. The Soviet Jews have no knowledge of the massacres, misery, and sufferings experienced by their brethren in Nazi Poland.

GEORGE BACKER
PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU
SECRETARY & MANAGING
DIRECTOR

JACOB BLAUSTEIN
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG
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NEW YORK CITY

February 26, 1941

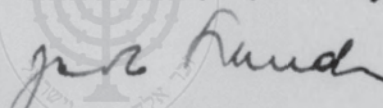
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
105th St at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I asked Maxa Nordau to give us an advance story on her speech in Cleveland, and the mistake was contained in the copy she gave us. Mr. Smolar, who is editing our bulletin, has been in Europe for so many years that he let this mistake pass inadvertently.

JL:F

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES
Sincerely yours,


JACOB LANDAU,
Managing Director

NEWS

from all over the world

by the

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY

VIA

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TELEPHONE

VOL. VIII. NO. 75.

Friday, March 7, 1941.

Brief Announcement UNITED JEWISH APPEAL RENEWED IN RESPONSE TO U.S. JEWS' 'OVERWHELMING DESIRE'

NEW YORK, March 6. (JTA) -- The United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs, which was dissolved last December, has been reconstituted as the 1941 fund-raising instrument of the three major Jewish relief agencies, it was announced today.

An agreement to renew the united appeal was signed last night at a meeting of officials of the Joint Distribution Committee and United Palestine Appeal, held at the United Jewish Appeal offices, which culminated several weeks of negotiations. The agreement terminates independent campaigns which had been initiated by the JDC, UPA and National Refugee Service.

A statement issued today stressed that the action was taken in response to "the overwhelming desire of American Jewry to establish a union of forces in this critical period." It declared that "the officers of these three organizations recognize that the need for funds is so pressing and the amounts required so great that unity in raising funds is essential."

Reconstitution of the united appeal was hailed by Sidney Hollander, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, who said in a letter to member agencies: "Now that the handicap of competition and conflict need no longer be feared, local energies can be devoted wholeheartedly to achieving maximum results in this year's welfare fund campaigns. With a reconstituted UJA, welfare funds have both the responsibility and the opportunity to demonstrate their capacity to meet unquestioned needs."

Hollander also pointed out that renewal of the united appeal would remove a "befogging issue" from the referendum of welfare funds on a national advisory budgeting service. The ballot in the referendum is divided into two proposals--the first for establishment of the budget service and the second for establishment of a special commission to formulate advisory recommendations on the needs of the JDC, UPA and NRS. The second point "is not of such immediate consequence" as a result of the new development, Hollander pointed out.

Hollander paid tribute to the "outstanding contribution" of Jacob Blaustein of Baltimore in the final successful phases of the reopened negotiations, "stimulated by the unanimity of sentiment expressed by the delegates at the Atlanta assembly" of the Council.

The negotiations were conducted by Chairman Edward M.M. Warburg and Vice-Chairmen Harold F. Linder and Solomon Lowenstein for the JDC and by Chairman Abba Hillel Silver

(Continued on reverse side)

and Co-Chairmen Stephen S. Wise and Morris Rothenberg for the UPA. Also present at the meeting at which the agreement was signed were Honorary Chairman Paul Baerwald, Fund-Raising Chairman Frederick F. Greenman and Fund-Raising Director Isidor Coons of the JDC and Executive Director Henry Montor of the UPA.

The UJA statement said the united appeal would "ask the Jews of the United States to provide funds for the programs of the JDC, UPA and NRS to meet the problems of the Jews who are victims of persecution abroad, to assist in the upbuilding of Palestine and for the program of immigrants coming to the United States within the quota limitations." The initial statement did not announce what system of allocations had been agreed upon or what the total goal would be.

Decision not to renew the UJA, which had raised a total of \$30,500,000 in 1939 and 1940, had been announced on Dec. 26. Subsequently the three agencies announced separate drives and set up campaign offices. Several weeks ago, however, negotiations were reopened which resulted in the new agreement.

PRESS HITS WHEELER, HOLMAN FOR INJECTING ANTI-SEMITISM IN LEND-LEASE BILL DEBATE

NEW YORK, March 6. (JTA) -- With the speeches of Senators Burton K. Wheeler and Rufus Holman introducing a hint of anti-Semitism for the first time into the debate on the lend-lease bill, leading American newspapers today denounced the Nazi-style references to "international bankers" and the emphasis on Jewish names.

At the same time, the official Berlin radio approvingly quoted Senator Holman's utterances on this subject. The broadcast termed Senator Holman's speech "interesting" and "important."

The New York Post declared editorially that Senator Wheeler's speech had reached "levels sickeningly below mere sordid politics." It said that Wheeler's remarks about Rothschilds, Sassoons and Warburgs "was in the approved pattern set by Father Coughlin as he worked up to his outspoken anti-Semitism. Does that mean," the editorial continued, "that the Protocols of Zion shortly will be brought out against H.R. 1776?"

Referring to the support of Senator Wheeler by Father Coughlin, Charles B. Hudson, Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling and Joe McWilliams, the editorial stated: "Senator Wheeler now has his following--at disastrous cost to his name. He has won supporters and they--including that strange crew of political untouchables without any recent hope of getting a respectable front--have won a far greater victory. They have won a voice in the United States. They are his but, alas for him, Senator Wheeler is theirs."

The Philadelphia Record editorially spoke of Hitler's "undoubted gratitude for Wheeler's help" and published an imaginative letter from Hitler to Wheeler expressing thanks to him.

The Newark Star-Ledger said: "Senators Wheeler, Nye and Holman...have given voice to Nazi propaganda slogans and have sought to inflame un-American passions. Senator Reynolds has coupled his opposition to the lease-lend bill with vicious and untruthful attacks upon our alien population that recalls the savage racialism of Hitler."

The New York Times criticized "Wheeler's alarms about international bankers."

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NEWS

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JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VIII. NO. 77.

Monday, March 10, 1941.

MORE ANTI-SEMITIC MEASURES FEARED IN CREATION OF NEW VICHY BODY

VICHY, March 9. (JTA) — A special General Commissariat for Jewish Affairs will be created by the Petain Government, it was officially announced following a cabinet meeting last night.

The name of the person selected for the new post of Commissioner for Jewish Affairs was not immediately disclosed.

Competent circles said creation of the post was made necessary by the multitude of complicated and delicate problems arising from the application of the anti-Jewish statute, which brought the need for coordination of the anti-Jewish actions and a more elastic handling of the problem.

On the other hand, rumors current for several days indicate a more rigid application of the anti-Jewish statute and also that new anti-Semitic measures similar to those in occupied France are pending. It is not impossible that the rumors will shortly find justification.

In that case, restriction of Jewish participation in trade and industry and a number of clauses in the professions are likely to be the first measures imposed after a census of the Jewish population, which is reportedly imminent.

U.J.A. SETS \$25,000,000 GOAL FOR 1941 DRIVE

NEW YORK, March 9. (JTA) — The reconstituted United Jewish Appeal today announced a goal of \$25,000,000 for its 1941 drive.

At the same time, the UJA made public the basis of distribution of funds contained in the agreement which was signed last Thursday night. Of the first \$8,800,000, the Joint Distribution Committee will receive \$4,275,000, the United Palestine Appeal \$2,525,000 and the National Refugee Service \$2,000,000. The balance of the funds raised is to be distributed by an Allotment Committee to be constituted in the same manner as in 1940.

A statement by Chairman Abba Hillel Silver of the United Palestine Appeal and Fund-Raising Chairman Jonah B. Wise of the Joint Distribution Committee stressed that the united appeal had every right to expect greater support "on the basis of the pledges that have been given toward the reestablishment of a unified campaign organization for three important causes." The statement follows:

(Continued on reverse side)

"Since the dissolution of the United Jewish Appeal of 1940 was announced last December there has been an unmistakable expression of opinion from all segments of American Jewry regretting the dissolution even though the organizations involved believed that the causes which they served might benefit from an individual approach to the communities. Leaders throughout the country stated that their capacity for raising larger funds to meet the increasing responsibilities of the United Jewish Appeal agencies would be hindered through separate appeals. They declared that the emergency position in which millions of Jews find themselves during this war period required cooperative action among Jewish leaders in America.

"Recognizing that the support which their causes receive is dependent completely on the sympathy and good will of the Jewish communities of America, the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal, after reviewing the various factors which constituted their original differences, have come to an agreement that will permit the continuation of the United Jewish Appeal as the central fund raising instrument for the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service.

"The leadership of these organizations have responded to Jewish public opinion in America. They now turn to American Jewry confident that the United Jewish Appeal will receive that enlarged measure of support which they have every right to expect on the basis of the pledges that have been given toward the re-establishment of a unified campaign organization for three important causes.

"The needs of the Jewish people require from the free Jews of America unprecedented generosity. The establishment of a national quota is not an estimate of such needs but merely a framework of irreducible minimums which the agencies urgently require for their tasks. Such a framework endeavors to take into account the experience of the past but it must also consider the inescapable obligations of the present in order to direct attention to the increased requirements which must compel increased generosity from all Jews. Accordingly, the United Jewish Appeal, conscious of its obligations to the Jews of the world as well as to the Jews of America, earnestly hopes that new levels of giving will be established so that a goal of \$25,000,000 may be reached for the needs of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service."

COURTS TO RULE ON WHETHER ARAB CONVERT TO JUDAISM MAY HOLD 'FORBIDDEN' LAND

LONDON, March 9. (JTA) -- The puzzle of whether land in the "prohibited" zone of Palestine can be transferred to an Arab converted to Judaism will shortly be unravelled by the Palestine courts, The Zionist Review reports.

The question has arisen in connection with an application on behalf of an Arab of Beisan married to a Jewess and converted to Judaism. He is the heir to 500 dunams of land in the Beisan valley left by his father, but his family is opposing the transfer on the ground that transfer of property to Jews in this area is prohibited under the land regulations of 1940.

The Review asks: "Could any story provide a more scathing comment on the absurdity and injustice of the White Paper's land regulations?"

pointed out that the Government had pledged all non-citizens voluntarily registering as aliens that "they would be fairly dealt with."

Encouragement of citizenship on the part of immigrants by providing an illiteracy test at the time visa application is made and waiving the literary requirements for older aliens of good character. Jackson cautioned, however, against putting any pressure at this time on aliens to become citizens, pointing out that recent increases in applications had put the Naturalization Service about a year behind. He did recommend that study be made of simplification of the naturalization laws, to be put into effect when the service was caught up on its work.

Clarification of the rule regarding deportation for advocacy of the overthrow of the Government by force or violence, to designate specific organizations in order that both the courts and aliens will have "a clearer rule to live by."

HIAS PARLEY ADOPTS \$1,000,000 BUDGET TO EXPAND SERVICES

NEW YORK, March 16. (JTA) --- A \$1,000,000 budget to expand the services of the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society and the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association, its overseas affiliate, was adopted today by some 2,000 delegates representing 850 organizations who attended the HIAS 56th annual convention at the Hotel Astor.

The budget was adopted following an all-day session during which speakers stressed the necessity of enlarging the "rescue through emigration" program because of the war. Among those on the speakers' list were Max Gottschalk, president of HIAS-ICA; Abraham Herman, president of HIAS; Judge Jonah J. Goldstein, Justice Mitchell May, License Commissioner Paul Moss, Rabbi Isaac Rubenstein, former Polish Senator, and leaders of various Jewish organizations.

The 24 members of the board of directors were reelected and the following new members were added: John L. Bernstein, Edward M. Benton, Rabbi A.D. Burack, Elias A. Cohen, Adolph Held, Harry G. Herman, Judge Goldstein, A. L. Malkenson, Jacob Massel, Nathan Schoenfeld and Benjamin J. Weinberg.

Herman declared that "our determination to go on with this work is derived from our profound conviction that while the struggle for the cause of humanity is being waged the practice of humanitarianism is an integral part of the struggle itself."

"The task of bringing rescue and succor to the refugees is today a challenge not only to one community or group," he said. "It is a challenge to all liberty-loving people throughout the world." He reported that during 1940 the organization's European headquarters had given direct aid to 5,025 men, women and children to emigrate and join relatives and friends overseas.

Executive Director Isaac L. Asofsky of HIAS reported that more than 500,000 Americans, worried about the fate of relatives and friends abroad, sought the advice and cooperation of the society in 1940 with a view to finding havens for the refugees in the Western Hemisphere and other parts of the world.

Lists 25,000 Emigration Applicants

MARSEILLE, March 16. (JTA) -- Twenty-five thousand applications for emigration have so far been filed with the office of the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association here, it was announced today. The prospective emigrants intend, for the most part, to go to the United States and South America.

(Continued on reverse side)

BUDGETING PRINCIPLE BACKED BY RESTORATION OF UJA, BLAUSTEIN HOLDS

NEW YORK, March 16. (JTA) -- Reconstitution of the United Jewish Appeal was interpreted today by Jacob Blaustein, chairman of the committee which recommended establishment of a national advisory budget service, as indicating acceptance of the national budgeting principle by the three participating agencies. Creation of such a service is the subject of a referendum among member agencies of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

Hundreds of congratulatory telegrams and letters welcoming reconstitution of the UJA have been received by Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver and Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, National Chairmen, from communal leaders throughout the country, it was announced today.

Blaustein's views were expressed in a letter to local communities. Declaring the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service had, by reestablishing the UJA, reaffirmed their faith in objective fact-finding and evaluation by a national committee, he expressed his gratification with the agreement and urged local agencies to approve the budget service proposal.

Blaustein, who played a major role in the final negotiations for a 1941 UJA, described the service as an essential aid in the intelligent allocation of their funds to the many causes appealing to them for support. He pointed out that a precedent for fact-finding and evaluation by a national body had already been set by the Allotment Committee of the 1940 UJA.

"The responsibilities of that Committee," he declared, "extended even beyond those contemplated in the present proposal, since the findings of that Committee were mandatory instead of advisory. It was reasonable, therefore, to expect, at least, that none of the three major agencies in the UJA would oppose a national advisory budget service if the Council's Committee on the Study of National Budgeting Proposals, after careful study, recommended it and the Council approved it."

Blaustein asserted that as Chairman of the Council's Committee to study the proposals, he treated the matter as a businessman and contributor who for a long time has been deeply interested in all legitimate Jewish causes. As a result of the study which the Committee made of the pros and cons of a national advisory budget service, he said, he was convinced that it was the only way to help local welfare funds achieve understanding and fairness in their allocations.

"Such a service," he said, "is essential and desirable, and the need for it is in no way altered by the fact that there is now to be a UJA for 1941. For remember, this national advisory budget service would apply to many organizations other than the three beneficiary agencies in the UJA; also that the UJA has been reconstituted only for 1941."

He appealed to local communities for unity within the Jewish group, while it is having so much trouble from the "outside."

340 ENTERED PALESTINE IN WEEK

JERUSALEM, March 16. (JTA) -- A total of 340 Jewish immigrants entered Palestine last week, it was announced today. They came from Lithuania, Bulgaria and Turkey.

NAZIS SEEN READY TO CREATE GHETTO IN PARIS

VICHY, March 16. (JTA) -- According to rumors current in occupied France, the German authorities have decided to establish a ghetto for the Jews in Paris in the near future, it was reported here today.

GEORGE BACKER
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG
TREASURER

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Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

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1560 BROADWAY
NEW YORK CITY

March 20, 1941

Mr. Jacob Landau
Biltmore Hotel
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Landau:

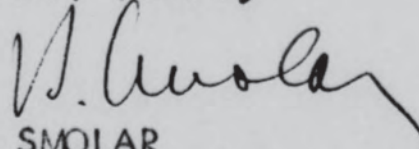
I have your note of March 19th. It seems to me that Rabbi Silver is mixing up two things. One is a brief announcement issued that the United Jewish Appeal has been renewed, and the other is the full statement which was issued under the signature of Rabbi Silver and Rabbi Wise.

I am enclosing herewith the pages of the bulletin wherein both stories were carried. The brief announcement came in on March 6th together with the statement of the Council of Federations congratulating the merger. I do not think there was anything wrong in combining this story since Sidney Hollander's statement did not contain anything but praise for this action.

When a few days later, on March 9th, the United Jewish Appeal issued its full statement under the signature of Rabbi Silver and Rabbi Wise, we carried that statement verbatim in our bulletin of March 10th, as you will see from the enclosed.

Perhaps Rabbi Silver is not aware of these details. I am sure that after you submit the two enclosed pages to him he will see for himself that we handled the story in the best way.

Sincerely yours,



BORIS SMOLAR

BS: F

THE BILTMORE HOTEL
LOS ANGELES



March 27th 1941.

Dear Dr. Silver,

I am enclosing Swisher's reply
to my letter in which I reproached him for
having incorporated the Council's statement
in the release of the U. S. A. I have asked him
to be more careful in the future.

Sincerely yours
Fred Handman

CONFIDENTIAL

Washington, March 31 -- Formation of a definite "Peace Party" dedicated to the sabotage of America's aid to Britain and preparedness, and the undermining of President Roosevelt's foreign policy, appears certain in the very near future.

For the past two weeks something has been going on here in Washington which I feel were the preliminary steps towards the foundation of the new party. I've been working on it for a week, hoping to obtain concrete evidence that such a party is being formed. I haven't been able to get the story, in documentary form. But I did find out enough, from reliable people, to write this memo:

The two leaders of the new party will be John L. Lewis and Burton K. Wheeler, and in the background will be such a strange group of bed-fellows as the Townsendites, Coughlinites, and The America First Committee, W. R. Davis, and the ancient stand-pat Republican, Senator Tom Watson.

The move towards a new party is being supported by Communists, Nazis, the Lewis faction within the C.I.O., and in fact practically every dissatisfied group in the country, plus all Roosevelt-haters.

Gardner Jackson, the former head of the Labor's non-Partisan League, told me that one of their platforms will be a modified form of anti-Semitism--the kind that was keynoted by Sen. Wheeler in some of his speeches on the Lend-Lease Bill.

Wheeler has been in constant telephonic contact with Father Coughlin I was told by several sources. I was also told that Louis Ward, Coughlin's Washington lobbyist, wrote several of the speeches Wheeler delivered in the past two weeks.

The first goal of this new party, I hear, will be to block in every way possible America's participation in the war. Lewis has been quoted as saying that if he can keep the U.S. out of war, his battle will be won.

The second goal is to win sufficient congressional seats in the 1942 elections to control Congress. They don't expect to win as many seats as either Democrats or Republicans, but they do expect to win enough so that neither party can have a majority in the House without their bloc.

The third goal, of course, is the Presidential elections of 1944, with either Lindbergh or Wheeler on the front end of the ticket, cooperation with a victorious Germany as their platform, and Lewis running the show behind the scenes.

Just when there will be announcement of the new party I don't know. I feel it may come any day. I'd give anything to break the story now, but the only people I know who possess any evidence won't talk. They would talk last week, but now they've suddenly turned mute and that makes me uneasy.

Pat Frank

Palestine's manpower, its industries and resources are being dedicated to the cause of freedom for which Britain and her allies struggle. Every assistance to Palestine at this grave hour therefore represents direct and immediate aid to the democratic forces upon whose victory depends the fate of Palestine as well as the survival of civilization in the modern world."

Ickes Scores Nazi 'Fellow-Travelers' at Chicago 'Third Seder'

CHICAGO, April 13. (JTA) -- Nazi "fellow travellers" and other pro-Hitlerites in this country were the targets of a scathing attack by Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes in an address in the Masonic Temple here tonight. Speaking at a "third Seder" sponsored by the Jewish National Workers' Alliance of America for the benefit of the Jewish National Fund, the Secretary warned of the grave dangers faced by the United States at present and urged intensified action against all types of pro-Nazi fifth column activity.

ADVISORY BUDGET PLAN WINS WELFARE AGENCY REFERENDUM

NEW YORK, April 13. (JTA) -- The proposal for a national advisory budget service, which was submitted in a referendum to the member agencies of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, has been approved by a majority of the agencies voting, it was announced today by H.L. Lurie, executive director of the Council. The results of the referendum will be submitted to the Council's board of directors at a meeting to be held early in May, when the board will consider the steps to be taken and the procedures to be established to develop the type of services most helpful to its member agencies.

The board of directors, at its meeting in Atlanta last January, approved the advisory budget proposal but decided to submit it to the entire membership of the Council in order to give each the opportunity of registering its wishes. Even before the referendum was taken, there was general agreement on the need for expanding the Council's fact-finding services and broadening their scope. The votes on the referendum, negative as well as affirmative, have supported this view.

A complete report on the referendum to the member agencies, Lurie said, will be made by the board after it canvasses the ballots at its May meeting.

The questions on which member agencies expressed their views on the referendum were based on recommendations made at the Atlanta assembly by the Council's Committee on the Study of National Budgeting Proposals. After an extended study, this Committee, headed by Jacob Blaustein of Baltimore and William Rosenwald of Greenwich, Conn., proposed the establishment of a national advisory budget service for national and overseas agencies appealing to local communities for support. It recommended that a competent and intensive process of fact-finding, both on programs of service and on financial experience, should be developed under the auspices of a committee of the Council and that this committee, with appropriate sub-committees for special fields, should be responsible for evaluating the information secured in the fact-finding process. The reports and findings of the Committee when established would be made available on an advisory basis to the local communities who wished to use this service in determining their allocations to agencies appealing for support.



VOL. VIII. NO. 120

Friday, May 2, 1941.

ZIONISTS MAKE ELEVENTH-HOUR PLEA FOR JEWISH ARMY; NEAR EAST 'BLITZ' IN 10 DAYS SEEN

LONDON, May 1. (JTA) -- The Zionist Review, organ of the British Zionist Federation, today voiced an eleventh-hour appeal to the Government to sanction formation of a Jewish army and not withhold from the Palestine Jews any longer an opportunity to defend themselves.

The appeal came as the British Press Association and the Free French newspaper France predicted a great Nazi offensive towards Suez through Libya on the west and Syria on the east within six to ten days.

"Our appeal is no less cogent because it is reinforced by considerations of immediate practical importance," the Zionist organ said. "The Prime Minister has said that in 'none of his successive victories could Wavell maintain in the desert for action, at one time, more than two divisions, or about 30,000 men.' But it must be remembered that in September, 1939, 136,000 Palestinian Jews registered for national service."

Asking why advantage was not taken of the opportunity to enlist more Jewish volunteers, the Review complained that the Palestine administration had not given the slightest encouragement to the Jewish community and only reluctantly had agreed to enlistment of special Jewish units. Nevertheless, 8,000 Jews enlisted, compared with 3,000 Arabs, although the Jews are only one-third of the population, the paper said.

Stressing that the Palestine Jews had a tremendous advantage in familiarity with the terrain, the paper declared that the power of resistance of a people fighting despair and building a homeland after 2,000 years should not be minimized and "it would be a crime against humanity to rob them of the chance to defend their honor and the cause of freedom."

The Press Association's diplomatic correspondent foresaw a great conflict in Palestine as the great Axis pincer movement developed.

Germany expects no opposition in French-mandated Syria, where there have been nationalist uprisings recently and where part of the French forces are believed to be disaffected, the report said. From Syria, the Nazi mechanized units could roll across the desert into Palestine and thence towards Suez, while another Italo-German force was fighting its way across the Egyptian desert.

(Continued on reverse side)

"According to reports," it was stated, "Hitler is planning to attack Egypt on a gigantic scale. His High Command have been instructed to disregard casualties and concentrate on achieving the swiftest possible advance through Palestine by the use of every device of modern mechanized warfare on land and in the air."

The Press Association reported an asserted boast of Hitler that the conquest of the Mediterranean would be completed by Aug. 1 and said Germany would avoid Turkey and land large forces in Syria by air.

400 Reach Palestine from Greece

LONDON, May 1. (JTA) -- Arrival at Haifa of an Allied steamer bearing 400 refugee Britons, Poles, Czechs, German Jews and Yugoslavs from Greece was reported today by Reuters, British news agency.

The steamer was part of a large British convoy which was unsuccessfully attacked from the air five times. Escorting destroyers reportedly shot down one of the raiders.

Barkley Sees Jews Defending Rampart of Freedom

WASHINGTON, May 1. (JTA) -- Addressing more than 200 Congressmen, Cabinet officers and others attending the dinner launching the American Palestine Committee, Senator Alben Barkley, chairman of the committee, last night extended encouragement "to those who are manning the rampart of freedom which Palestine has become today."

Declaring America looked forward to the day when the small nations would be restored, Senator Barkley asserted that the Jewish people would be restored to "its rightful heritage."

Major Victor Cazalet, chairman of the Palestine Committee in the British House of Commons, predicted that "Jew and Arab, by cooperation, will create a Middle East which may rival in prosperity the happiest days of their ancient glory." Dr. Chaim Weizmann foresaw that it would take decades after the war to detoxicate the minds of millions from the virus of anti-Semitism. Senator Burton of Ohio also spoke. Senator Wagner sent a message.

NAZIS INTRODUCE YELLOW ARMBANDS IN YUGOSLAVIA

ISTANBUL, May 1. (JTA) -- The Nazi occupation forces in Yugoslavia are forcing Jews to wear yellow armbands with the word "Jew" printed in German and Serbian, it was reported here today. Many Jews have been drafted into labor gangs to work at clearing debris in Belgrade, it was said.

LISBON REFUGEE-AID HEAD COMING HERE

LISBON, May 1. (JTA) -- Augusto Desaguy, president of the Portuguese Jewish Refugee Committee, left for New York today on what was described as an important mission to American refugee-aid organizations.

ITALIANS ARREST BENGHAZI JEWS

LONDON, April 17. (JTA-By Mail)-- The Italian authorities in Benghazi arrested a number of Jews in the city immediately after its reoccupation by the Axis forces, says The Jewish Chronicle. The Jews were accused of pro-British activities.

June 4, 1941

Mr. Jacob Landau
Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.
1560 Broadway
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Landau:

During the last few months, I have had occasion to write to you more than once concerning items of news affecting me or the United Palestine Appeal or the dissolution of the United Jewish Appeal earlier in the year which I believe were improperly treated in the Jewish Telegraphic Agency News Bulletin. I have again received a report of the manner in which a statement issued by the Committee on the Referendum was treated by the Bulletin. Following the announcement of the Council of Federations and Welfare Funds on the results of the Referendum, a statement was sent to you by the Committee on Referendum. It was sent to you on a Thursday. It did not appear in the Bulletin until the following Tuesday and then it appeared with a reply from the President of the Council attached to it. Clearly the statement of the Committee on the Referendum was delayed to give the President of the Council a chance to reply to it in the hope of neutralizing the effectiveness of the statement. This is journalism of a certain kind of which I do not approve. You did it once before in connection with the dissolution of the UJA. I know the great obligations which you are under to Mr. Jacob Blaustein, who has sponsored the National Budgeting scheme and you may wish to show your appreciation in such ways. I do not wish, however, to be embarrassed time and again by remaining on the Board of the JTA, and I hereby submit my resignation. I wish to be free to say the things which I might have to say about the JTA, and my continued membership on the Board would be misunderstood.

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

GEORGE BACKER
PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU
SECRETARY & MANAGING
DIRECTOR

BERNE
LONDON
JERUSALEM
WASHINGTON

JACOB BLAUSTEIN
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG
VICE-PRESIDENT

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

XXXX BROADWAY
NEW YORK CITY

106 East 41st Street

June 12, 1941

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have your letter of June 4th.

We received the statement on the referendum on Thursday. Friday was a holiday, we never work on Saturday, and on Sunday we always have a very reduced staff in our office -- the story was inserted in our bulletin on Monday. On that particular day they had to deal with material which accumulated over Friday and Saturday. Our bulletins are all postdated a day ahead.

I recall that when I saw you some months ago you complained that we had inserted in our bulletin the statement of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds criticizing the United Palestine Appeal without first getting in touch with the United Palestine Appeal obtaining a statement. Following this talk with you I instructed our editor that in future when any statement is received in which an organization is criticized that we should obtain a statement from that organization. Now you are criticizing us for following a course which you yourself suggested.

I do trust that this explanation will satisfy you and that you will withdraw your resignation as member of our Board.

While some incidents may have created some doubt in your mind about impartiality, I can only assure you that they were inadvertent and that we honestly strive to adhere to a policy of objectivity and impartiality. Our task is extremely difficult. Our community is terribly divided and each group expects from us an impartiality which is frequently tantamount to a 100% identification with their specific policy. If you were in my place for a few weeks, I have no doubt you would comprehend with how many difficulties our task is beset.

Sincerely yours,

JL:F

Jacob Landau
JACOB LANDAU,
Managing Director

GEORGE BACKER
PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU
SECRETARY & MANAGING
DIRECTOR

JACOB BLAUSTEIN
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG
VICE-PRESIDENT

BERNE
LONDON
JERUSALEM
WASHINGTON
RIO DE JANEIRO
BUENOS AIRES

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

106 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK CITY

March 3, 1942.

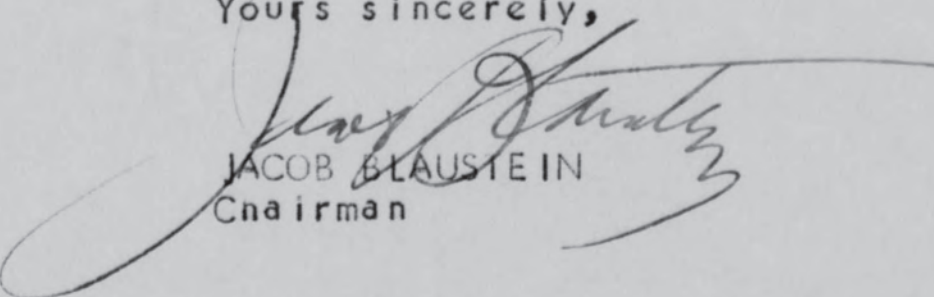
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
105th St. at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:-

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the only world-wide news service devoted to the gathering and distribution of information concerning the Jews and developments affecting our position, is now marking its twenty-fifth anniversary. In connection with this, a special booklet summarizing the work of the agency and its contributions to the Jewish cause is to be published.

We would deeply appreciate a brief statement from you appraising the J.T.A.'s work and its value to the Community as a speedy source of accurate and impartial information, as a protective service and as an instrument for interpreting Jewish life to the non-Jewish world. We should like to include your statement in the publication along with those of other outstanding Jewish and non-Jewish leaders.

Yours sincerely,


JACOB BLAUSTEIN
Chairman

JB:F

March 6, 1942

Mr. Jacob Blaustein, Chairman
Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.
106 East 41st St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Blaustein:

Permit me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 3 to Rabbi Silver. As you undoubtedly have learned by this time, Rabbi Silver has left for England on an important Zionist mission. When he returns to Cleveland I shall be pleased to refer your letter to his attention.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.

GEORGE BACKER
PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU
SECRETARY & MANAGING
DIRECTOR

JACOB BLAUSTEIN
CHAIRMAN

DAVID L. PODELL
VICE-PRESIDENT

PARIS
LONDON
JERUSALEM
WASHINGTON

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

106 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

NOVEMBER 7, 1945

DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER
THE TEMPLE
105 ST. & ANSEL RD.
CLEVELAND, OHIO

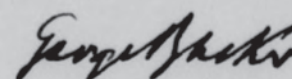
DEAR DR. SILVER:

I AM INVITING YOU AND SOME OTHER OFFICERS OF THE UPA AND
THE JDC TO MEET WITH ME FOR LUNCHEON ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH
AT 1:00 P.M. IN ROOM 116 OF THE VANDERBILT HOTEL.

I WOULD LIKE TO CONSULT YOU ABOUT A PROPOSAL I WANT TO
MAKE ON BEHALF OF THE JEWISHTELEGRAPHIC AGENCY.

WOULD YOU PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF I MAY COUNT ON YOU BY
TELEPHONING ME AT MURRAY HILL-3-2985.

SINCERELY YOURS,



GEORGE BACKER
PRESIDENT

November 9, 1945

Mr. George Backer, President
Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.
106 E. 41st St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Backer:

I should very much like to attend the luncheon meeting to which you have invited me on Wednesday. Unfortunately I shall have to be in Cleveland that day and must forego the pleasure of meeting with you. Please be assured of my continued interest in the good work of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

106 EAST 41ST STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

June 15, 1949

MURRAY HILL 3-2641

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

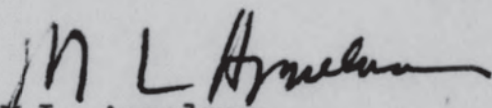
Mr. Joseph Heftman, President of the Israel Journalists Association, is chairing a dinner on June 21st in honor of Mr. Jacob Landau. This occasion marks the 30th anniversary of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

It would be nice if you would send a cable to the gathering. You, of course, will know what to say.

We have, in our office, direct communication facilities with Tel Aviv, and if you would have your secretary telephone me the text of your message, we would be glad to transmit it on our machine.

With thanks in anticipation and with regards,

Sincerely yours,


M.L. Appelman
Field Director

MLA:RG:J

JUNE 17, 1949

(Telephoned to JTA, New York, for transmission to Israel)

JOSEPH HEFTMAN, PRESIDENT
ISRAEL JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION
TEL AVIV, ISRAEL

I should like to add my voice in tribute to the JTA on the occasion of its 30th anniversary which the Israel Journalists Association is commemorating and to Mr. Jacob Landau who has with such distinction and high integrity developed the Agency to the high position which it occupies. It has been to us an indispensable source of information concerning all that has transpired in the Jewish world and a valuable vehicle for the transmission of information about Jewish life, Zionism, and Israel to the non-Jewish world. I felicitate most heartily Mr. Landau and the JTA and I send my warmest greetings to the members of your journalistic fraternity. With warmest regards

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

1220

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

PM 8-45
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CTB936

CT. BRA414 LONG NL PD=AM BALTIMORE MD 21=

=RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER, THE TEMPLE=

EAST 105 ST AT ANSEL RD CLEVE=

CRITICAL SITUATIONS CONFRONT JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
REQUIRING IMMEDIATE BOARD MEETING. LAST BOARD MEETING HELD
14 MONTHS AGO. OUR EFFORTS TO HAVE GEORGE BACKER, JTA
PRESIDENT, CALL BOARD MEETING HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL. FINALLY
HAD UNDERSTANDING HE WOULD ISSUE CALL FOR MEETING TO BE HELD

DURING WEEK OF JUNE 27TH. HOWEVER, NOW RECEIVE LETTER
STATING HE IS POSTPONING AGAIN UNTIL LATTER PART JULY. OUR
AND YOUR OBLIGATIONS AS DIRECTORS OF JTA MAKE FURTHER DELAYS
HIGHLY INADVISABLE. WE NOTE THAT BY LAWS PROVIDE THAT BOARD
MEETING MAY BE CALLED BY ANY 2 DIRECTORS BY GIVING 3 DAYS
NOTICE TO OTHER DIRECTORS. CONSEQUENTLY, THE UNDERSIGNED ARE
CALLING A JTA BOARD MEETING FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 1949 AT
10:00 A.M. AT BILTMORE HOTEL, NEW YORK, ROOM 110. MEETING MAY
CONTINUE INTO AFTERNOON. PLEASE PROMPTLY WIRE JACOB BLAUSTEIN,
AMERICAN BUILDING, BALTIMORE MARYLAND IF WE MAY EXPECT YOU
PRESENT

=JACOB BLAUSTEIN MRS EDWARD JACOBS ALBERT H LIEBERMAN
FRANK L WEIL=

14 JTA 27 JTA 2 3 28 1949 10:00 A.M. 110=

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

106 EAST 41ST STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MURRAY HILL 3-2641

June 24, 1949

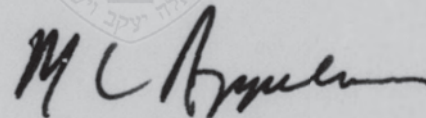
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Ansel Road at East 105 St.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Let me thank you in behalf of the JTA and Mr.
Landau for your splendid message to the Tel Aviv Dinner of the
Israel Journalists Association.

We have received word that the affair went off
enthusiastically and that your message created a deep impression.

Sincerely yours,



M. L. Appelman
Field Director

MLA:LT:J

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

106 EAST 41ST STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MURRAY HILL 3-2641

June 30, 1949

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

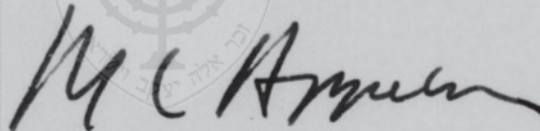
Dear Rabbi Silver:

I should like to tell you how very much your message was appreciated both by us here and Mr. Landau.

We have received word that when your message was read at the dinner, it created a deep impression.

WRHS

Sincerely yours,



M. L. Appelman
Field Director

MLA:LT:J