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Joint Distribution Committee, 1933-1939.

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1933 JUN 6 PM 12 50

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE EAST 105TH AND ANSEL ROAD=

FROM MANY QUARTERS WE LEARN OF MAGNIFICENT PLEA YOU DELIVERED
LAST NIGHT PHILADELPHIA FOR WHICH PLEASE ACCEPT OUR GRATEFUL
APPRECIATION PERIOD MEANTIME WE HAVE MESSAGE JEWISH WELFARE FUND
INDIANAPOLIS QUOTE IMPERATIVE WE SECURE RABBI SILVER OUR CAMPAIGN
MEETING JUNE FOURTEENTH END QUOTE :FEEL CERTAIN JONAH WISE WHO
STILL OUT OF TOWN WOULD STRONGLY JOIN ME URGING YOU ACCEPT THIS
INVITATION=

PAUL BAERWALD CHAIRMAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

INC.

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FUND RAISING COMMITTEE
JOSEPH C. HYMAN,
SECRETARY
ISIDOR COONS,
FIELD DIRECTOR

PAULINE BAERWARD,
CHAIRMAN JUNIOR DIVISION

September 1, 1933.

Dear

The Joint Distribution Committee, as you know, is at present engaged in a campaign to raise funds for the relief of our co-religionists in Germany.

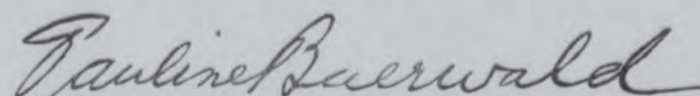
We hope that you will join in the effort of the newly-organized Junior Division of the J. D. C. to offer the help of American Jewish youth to the Jewish youth of Germany, who stand in such dire need of physical and moral support.

Should you wish to join with us in this effort, we would suggest that each child in your religious-school be asked to bring some contribution for German relief to school with him on Sunday morning, November 26th, which has been designated Emergency Roll Call Sunday.

If however, following consultation with your principal and religious-school committee, you should prefer to allocate all or part of your total social-service fund collected by January 1st, 1934, to the German Relief Campaign, your contribution in this form would be most welcome. You may feel this latter method will result in a more substantial contribution and therefore better represent the sentiment of your school.

I know that we can count on your cooperation and that you will return the enclosed card just as soon as you have decided in what way you wish to work with us.

Sincerely yours,



Pauline Baerwald
Chairman
Junior Division.

PB:DLS
Encl.

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ISIDOR COONS,
FIELD DIRECTOR

September 18, 1933

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

Dear Friend:

A complete report on that which we term the 1933 Spring program of the Joint Distribution Committee Campaign, with special reference to the German Emergency "Drive", has been submitted by Mr. Isidor Coons, National Field Director. The report covers the period of January 1st - September 15th, inclusive. I think that you will find interesting some of the facts set forth in this report, which I bring to your attention herewith:

There was officially reported as pledged from January 1st, 1933 to September 15th, 1933 - \$1,102,038, against which \$835,363 had been received in cash. Of the total pledged, \$996,073 was subscribed during the four months following my return from Germany, i.e., May 21st - September 15th, inclusive.

The National Headquarters' cost of raising \$1,102,038 was slightly more than 3 percent.

Communities in the United States and Canada participating in and contributing to the fund-raising campaign between January 1st and September 15th, 1933, numbered 362.

The fund-raising organization comprised the Field Director, Mr. Isidor Coons, and six field representatives, four of whom were engaged for the three months' emergency drive only. Functioning in the headquarters of the Joint Distribution Committee itself, the fund-raising department enjoyed the complete facilities and machinery of the Committee, and the unfailing counsel and cooperation of Mr. Joseph C. Hyman, Secretary of the Joint Distribution Committee, and Miss Evelyn Morrissey, Assistant to the Treasurer, although both were overwhelmed with administrative duties at the time.

Generally speaking, the individual communities contributed about 10 percent of the amounts subscribed by the same communities in the years of 1926 and 1927. This was the first national Jewish campaign of major proportions since the "Depression" became a recognized factor in philanthropic undertakings, and in the Spring of this year, assurance seemed to be lacking on the part of Jewish

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communities that basic improvement in the economic situation permitted the same generous response as during the peak of prosperity. At the same time, an aroused American Jewry manifested its determination to assist our unfortunate people in Germany.

Special recognition should be given to Newark, New Jersey, and Greensboro, North Carolina for their contributions to this campaign. In Newark, Mr. Louis Bamberger personally subscribed \$25,000 and by his generosity set the example for his community to accept its full share of the national responsibility. Greensboro, with a small Jewish population, subscribed \$5,463.00. Cities in which were conducted the intensive community-wide drive involving personal solicitation by volunteer workers and localized publicity, produced far better results than communities that undertook to raise funds through other methods. Mail campaign per se failed in every instance.

In the early stages of the emergency campaign, the Joint Distribution Committee maintained a cautious attitude toward publicity lest it evoke reprisals on those whom we were seeking to aid in Germany. It soon developed, however, that nothing which we might or might not do in this direction would have the slightest influence or effect on the Hitler governmental policies toward the Jews. When we countenanced the use of publicity, we received generous space for our news releases in addition to favorable editorial comment in the secular as well as the Jewish press. Localized publicity proved, as always, most valuable for the success of community campaigns. National headquarters provided source material and special cooperation through a competent publicity department.

Volunteer speakers assisted in a most gratifying way for the success of our campaign in a number of communities, and among those who answered the plea of the national office to visit various communities and bring our message were Dr. Cyrus Adler and Dr. Jacob Billikopf of Philadelphia; Mr. Lewis Browne of Santa Monica; Rabbi James G. Heller of Cincinnati; Mr. Joseph C. Hyman and Mr. Alexander Kahn of New York City; Rabbi Harry Levi of Boston; Rabbi Alexander Lyons of Brooklyn; Rabbi Irving F. Reichert of San Francisco; Rabbi William F. Rosenblum of New York City; Rabbi David Seligson of Long Island; Mr. Dudley D. Sicher of New York City; Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland; Mr. B. C. Vladeck of New York City; Mr. J. L. Wiseman of Boston. In addition, there were many friends throughout the country who spoke at local rallies and campaign meetings.

Two major territorial conferences were held in connection with the campaign - one at Chicago, where fifteen states of the Middle West were represented and where Mr. Paul Baerwald, Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee and I were privileged to be present; the other at Pittsburgh, where I had the opportunity to meet Jewish leaders of Western Pennsylvania, Northern Ohio and a portion of West Virginia. These conferences proved of the utmost value in permitting us to meet representative leaders of a goodly section

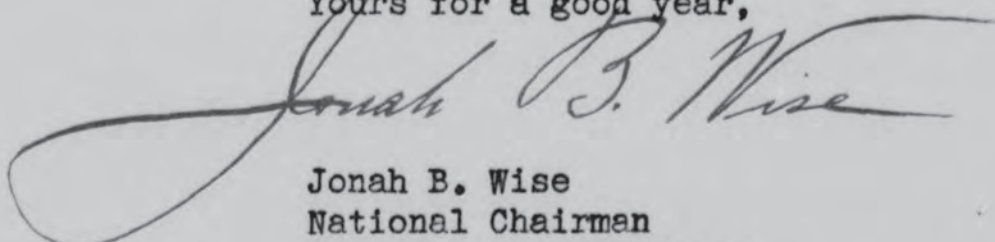
of the country and discuss with them our common problem to the end of enlisting their understanding and practical aid. The greatest credit is due these Jewish leaders, some of whom travelled great distances to deliberate with us and all of whom came at their own expense.

The Joint Distribution Committee enjoyed the endorsement for its campaign of practically every religious, fraternal and social Jewish organization and agency of national scope. It had the wholehearted cooperation as well of the B'nai B'rith, the National Council of Jewish Women and the National Council of Jewish Juniors, the Temple and Synagogue Sisterhoods, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and the Central Relief Committee, the Secretary of which devoted himself exclusively to the interests of the campaign during the emergency drive.

Although the Joint Distribution Committee has been recognized for many years exclusively as a relief and rehabilitation agency not concerned with politics, propaganda or protest, a number of other organizations made their plea to the country for financial support purely on the basis of "German Relief". This caused confusion in the public mind and resulted in a number of combined campaigns with lesser organizations, most of which were approved by community leaders to preserve harmony in their midst and to save effort. This proved costly to the Joint Distribution Committee, which was called upon to divide funds with organizations that in most instances had neither fund-raising leadership nor a contributing constituency in the respective communities, and probably would have raised insignificant sums if compelled to seek money independent of our organization.

I wish you well for the New Year. We are confronted with serious problems. They can be faced with some sort of equanimity if we are resolved to make better Jews and better times. Both are matters for serious work and courageous leadership. Many are afraid of the days to come, but I still believe that "Penitence, Prayer and Charity avert the evil decree". We Jews have much to forget and more to learn. We have a teacher.

Yours for a good year,

A large, elegant handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jonah B. Wise". The signature is written in a cursive style with long, sweeping strokes, particularly in the first and last names.

Jonah B. Wise
National Chairman
Fund-Raising Committee

JBW:BS

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PAULINE BAERWARD,
CHAIRMAN JUNIOR DIVISION

Rabbi Abba H. Silver,
The Temple,
E. 105th St. & Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

October 3, 1933

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Over seventy-five religious schools in different parts of the country have already promised us, through their rabbis, that they will definitely take part in the Emergency Roll Call for German Relief sponsored by the Junior Division of the Joint Distribution Committee.

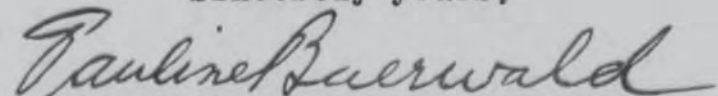
Many have written to tell us that they prefer making a special collection on Sunday morning November 26th, which has been designated as Emergency Roll Call Sunday. Others have indicated that they wish to allocate all or part of their social-service fund total as of January 1, 1934, to the Campaign. And not a few assure us that their participation in this worthy cause will take the form of both a special collection and a more substantial allocation.

I am sure that your failure to return the enclosed card, which was sent you along with the enclosed letter, is not to be interpreted as a sign of your unwillingness to have your religious-school join in with all the others in this immensely important relief effort. Will you not therefore please return the card, properly filled out, so that we may add the name of your school to the honor-roll of religious schools in the United States which are rallying to the aid of the unfortunate Jewish boys and girls of Germany, and do so without delay?

As soon as we hear from you, we shall promptly send you some descriptive material on the Joint Distribution Committee and the German Relief Campaign which may help you in any appeal you may want to make to your children.

With best wishes for a Happy New Year for yourself and for a fruitful year of activities in your religious school, believe me

Sincerely yours,



Pauline Baerwald
Chairman
Junior Division

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December 7, 1933.

Rabbi Johah B. Wise,
Joint Distribution Committee,
7 Hanover Street,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Jonah:

I am enclosing herewith a letter which I received from the president and secretary of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Jugoslavia. The letter is self-explanatory. Please take the matter up with the gentlemen in the Joint Distribution Committee who are in charge of the allocation of funds.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

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December 11, 1933.

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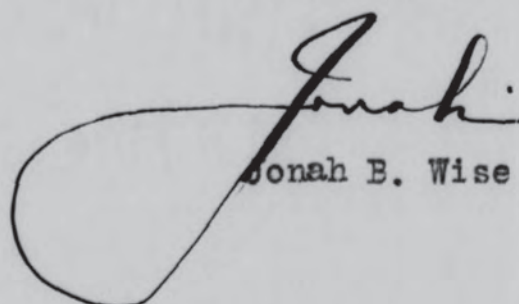
Dear Abe:

I have your letter of December 7th with an enclosure of November 12th, from the Federation of Jewish Communities of Yugoslavia.

It may interest you to know that we too received such an enclosure, and have already sent it on to our European office for their consideration.

Believe me, with kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,



Jonah B. Wise

JBW:JO

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SECRETARY
ISIDOR COONS,
FIELD DIRECTOR

December 11, 1933

CONFIDENTIAL

Rabbi A. H. Silver,
The Temple,
Ansel & E. 105th St.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

At the suggestion of Mr. Goldhamer of your city, we enclose herein, a resume of the reports rendered at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Joint Distribution Committee on October 18th, 1933, and of the discussions and action taken at that meeting.

This statement was prepared for the members of our Executive Committee and Board of Directors, but Mr. Goldhamer felt that you, as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Jewish Welfare Federation which cooperates with the Joint Distribution Committee, should receive this statement in order to keep you advised of the many problems of the Committee.

You will be interested to know that to date, 562 communities have pledged the sum of approximately \$1,255,000. in the 1933 campaign.

Sincerely yours,

J. C. Hyman
Secretary

JCH:DLS
Encl.

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ISIDOR COONS,
FIELD DIRECTOR

January 3rd, 1934.

Dear Friend:

You will find both interesting and informative, I think, the enclosed pamphlet defining the social and economic aid rendered the Jews in Germany and the refugees in the various lands where they have sought haven.

Through the response of 580 communities in the United States and Canada to the Joint Distribution Committee appeal since last May, \$1,302,361.17 has been subscribed as of December 31st, 1933, and against these pledges \$1,108,814.17 has been paid in cash as of the same date.

The pamphlet itself reveals the absolute necessity of the Joint Distribution Committee continuing its fund-raising activities in order that a larger sum of money may be mobilized for the German relief and reconstructive program both within Germany and the refugee countries.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Jonah B. Wise
Jonah B. Wise,
National Chairman,
Fund-Raising Committee.

JBW:LG
Enc.

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January 18th, 1934

Dear Friend:

The statement made by Mr. James G. McDonald, High Commissioner for Refugees (a reprint of which is herewith enclosed) on his return to this country on December 23rd last, describing in detail the situation of the 60,000 refugees who left Germany when the present situation in that country was precipitated, is so important that it ought to be in the possession of all who are concerned to know what is happening to them and what steps are planned to ameliorate their condition.

The Joint Distribution Committee was the first organization to provide funds for their relief, and in collaboration with other agencies, has engaged in reconstructive programs for their training and economic absorption into those countries in which many of them are now settled.

Sincerely yours,

Jonah B. Wise
Jonah B. Wise,
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JBW:JG
Encl.

P.S. If you desire any additional copies, we shall be glad to supply them in limited quantities.

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Dear Friend:

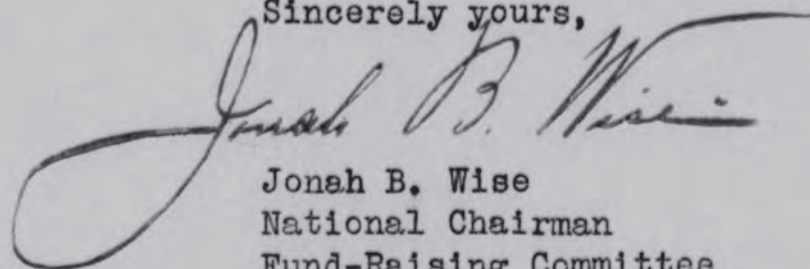
There are over 100,000 Jewish children under 15 years of age in Germany; another 90,000 between the ages of 15 and 25. A year ago they were hopeful, enthusiastic, trusting, looking forward to a future of accomplishment and self-respect - like our own children here in America. Today - their souls are a mass of wounds.

I use these words of Stephan Zweig's as the nearest approach to the description of a staggering, an incredible tragedy. Read the enclosed reprint of his address in London and pass his message on to all men and women who feel keenly the overwhelming problem of the Jewish children of Germany.

Some of the children may be enabled to be brought out to be settled in other lands. Possibilities in these directions are being sought for them by the Joint Distribution Committee and by other agencies. At best, only a comparatively small number will be able to emigrate and even these must be prepared and trained, within Germany itself, for their emigration. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that these children be trained in Jewish elementary schools and Jewish trade and artisan schools so that these boys and girls may become self-respecting, self-supporting persons able to make their own way wherever their future lies.

The problem of the education of the Jewish children stands out as most pressing and important, and it is precisely in that field, as well as in other constructive problems, that the Joint Distribution Committee is lending its cooperation to the Jews of Germany.

Sincerely yours,


Jonah B. Wise
National Chairman
Fund-Raising Committee

JBW/MT
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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Friend:

The Joint Distribution Committee will shortly be in a position to announce the result of its effort to collate the facts which bear upon the responsibility of the American Jewish community in extending aid to the victims of the German situation. I wish to state briefly that these facts are based on the minimum requirements of organized German Jewry within the Reich - as set forth in actual figures - and of the necessities of the refugee committees in the various countries adjacent to the Reich, and on the program developed by the Commission appointed by the League of Nations under the Chairmanship of Lord Cecil of Chelwood and High Commissioner James G. McDonald.

It must be obvious to you that the situation is growing worse day by day. The celebration of the Hitler domination of Germany for one year makes it plain that the policies of that government toward the Jews will not only remain unchanged, but that there is every possibility that it will become more pressing.

Our program is based, not only on our previous intimate contact with the German leaders and the leaders of Continental and British Jewry, and on my personal visit to them of April, 1933, but on the reports of Mr. Joseph C. Hyman, our Secretary, Mr. M. C. Troper, our Accountant, the reports of our European Committee, and of the High Commissioner, himself. These gentlemen discussed the whole situation with the leaders of British and Continental Jewry, and Messrs. Hyman and Troper spent considerable time in Germany itself discussing the problem and developing a practical program.

The result of these calm and complete deliberations is that the Jewry of the world must strain every effort to meet the problem presented by the German situation in order to relieve those who are its victims and to prevent, as far as possible, a spread of a more serious Jewish question throughout the civilized world.

We shall shortly send you a statement of the actual and factual budgetary requirements of the Joint Distribution Committee for 1934. The statement would also include the record of our allotments in behalf of the Jews of Germany since the inception of the German Relief Campaign last Spring, as well as the sum that has been allotted to continue vital work of self-help in Poland and other Eastern European lands.

In advance of preparation of the complete and final statements for 1933, we feel that you will be interested to know that the total



THIS ORGANIZATION IS SUPPORTED SOLELY BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

appropriations of the Joint Distribution Committee since the beginning of 1933 to date are \$1,080,000. Of this, of course, the largest portion was allotted for German aid, viz: \$825,000. Approximately two-thirds of this sum was allocated for relief and reconstructive undertakings within Germany in cooperation with the Zentral Ausschuss fuer Hilfe und Aufbau, to further its activities in connection with emigration to Continental and other countries, emigration to Palestine and repatriation to Eastern European lands; for support of educational institutions, welfare work and largely for economic aid especially in the fields of re-training and vocational training.

The major responsibility of the Joint Distribution Committee has been and will be to safeguard the future of the Jewish children and youth who must perforce remain in Germany at least until such time as they are equipped to maintain themselves in other countries, by increasing its allocations for the maintenance and extension of Jewish schools and for the establishment and equipment of trade and vocational training schools. During 1933, the Jews of Germany themselves were able for the most part to maintain their welfare institutions and in a measure, contribute toward the program for economic aid. With the gradual impoverishment of the Jews of Germany, however, the Joint Distribution Committee will be called upon to bear an increased share of these burdens.

Over \$300,000, or one-third of the total appropriations for German aid, has been allotted by way of grants to refugee aid committees in France, Holland, Belgium, Austria and other lands, as well as by subventions to the Hicem to defray the transportation of German emigrants and other charges. The ever increasing difficulties in connection with the support and absorption of these refugees in the countries bordering on Germany, and the necessity for transporting to and settling a large portion of them in other lands in cooperation with the High Commissioner, present a tremendous problem in which substantial aid from the Joint Distribution Committee will be required during 1934.

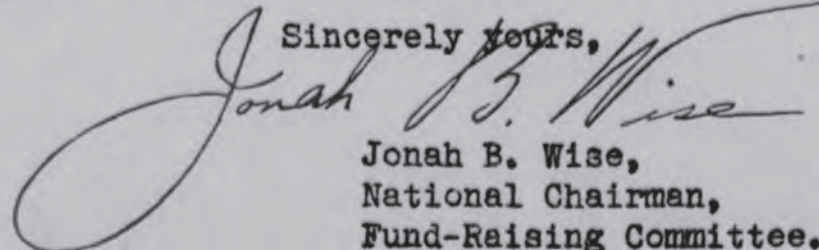
It is of interest to note that in connection with this German situation, a number of smaller grants were made to various types of organizations dealing with specialized phases of the problem, not only in overseas countries, but also in the United States, including allotments to the Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced German Scholars, the Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced Foreign Physicians, etc.

In addition, the program of the Joint Distribution Committee in Eastern Europe has been continued and well over \$250,000. has been allotted to the Jewish organizations in Poland, Roumania, Latvia, Lithuania, etc. for free loans, child care, medical aid, support to cultural institutions and other activities. It should be mentioned that burdens on these institutions have increased in a large measure due to the repatriation of their nationals from Germany.

The Joint Distribution Committee raised in pledges in the 1933 drive about \$1,300,000, against which there has been paid in approximately \$1,150,000. As indicated above, approximately \$1,100,000. has been specifically allocated, which would leave us without any funds to continue our activities.

I trust that you will hold yourself in readiness during the next few weeks for the most important contribution which an individual or a community can make to the welfare of world Jewry, i.e. the determination to face the problem as it presents itself, with the utmost devotion and vigor.

Sincerely yours,


Jonah B. Wise,
National Chairman,
Fund-Raising Committee.

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

February 20, 1934

Dear Friend:

We are giving you herewith the gist of important reports submitted at the last meeting of the Joint Distribution Committee. These describe the situation of the Jews in Germany and in the countries where large numbers have sought asylum, after one year of Hitlerism.

The within statement is based on the observations in Germany of officers in our European office, of our Secretary, Mr. Joseph C. Hyman, and of our Auditor, Mr. Morris C. Troper. Mr. Hyman, who represented us at the initial meeting of the High Commission for Refugees at Lausanne last December, also visited Germany, France and England, where he conferred with Jewish leaders of these countries and studied at first-hand the problem of the Jews in Germany and of the refugees in the other countries. Mr. Troper spent six months in the Reich, observing and aiding in the organization of relief work in cooperation with German leaders.

Even in summary form, the statement is a gripping document in which pathos and hope blend. It gives a clear and dispassionate account of a situation almost without parallel. The document speaks for itself.

The moneys collected last year are almost gone. The results accomplished are recognized, not only by the members of the Central Jewish Committee for Relief and Reconstruction in Germany, but also by the refugee committees in the adjoining countries whose leaders, whether in France, Holland, Belgium and other lands, are men of the highest type. In some communities, the committees are comprised of Jews and Christians alike.

It must, therefore, be clear to every thinking person, moved by this problem, that for the year 1934 even larger additional sums will be required. Concerning that program, we shall advise you shortly.

Sincerely yours,

Jonah B. Wise
Jonah B. Wise, Chairman
Fund Raising Committee
German Relief Fund

JBW:JG
Encl.



\$3,000,000

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

OF THE

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May 22nd, 1934.

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

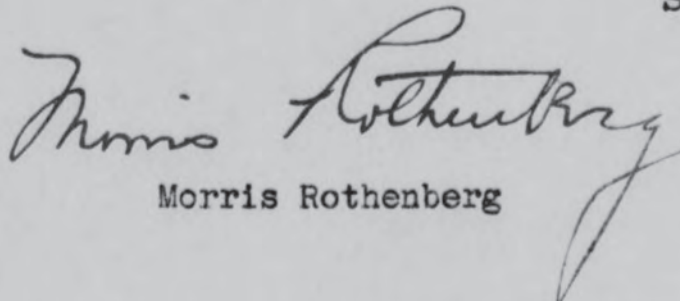
We are enclosing herewith a facsimile copy of a letter addressed by Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, Chairman of the American Christian Committee for German Refugees, to Mr. Felix M. Warburg, National Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, tendering full support to our effort for raising funds in behalf of the refugees from Germany.

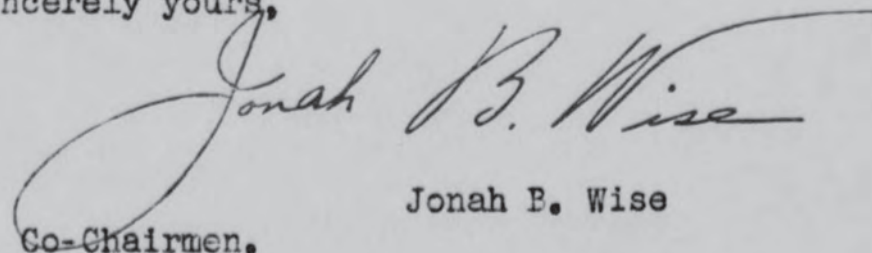
The American Christian Committee, comprising outstanding Protestant and Catholic leaders of America, was organized at the behest of Mr. James G. McDonald, the High Commissioner for Refugees appointed by the League of Nations.

On the basis of Dr. Cadman's letter to Mr. Warburg, we feel that you and the other Jewish leaders throughout the United States will wish to elicit the sympathetic and financial cooperation of our Christian neighbors for the success of the United Jewish Appeal.

We shall welcome an expression of your views.

Sincerely yours,


Morris Rothenberg


Jonah B. Wise
Co-Chairmen.

RABBI JONAH B. WISE
35 EAST 62nd STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

September 4, 1934

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

Dear Friend:

With the coming of the New Year, I feel that it is a special privilege to thank you and the other members of the National Council of the Joint Distribution Committee for all you have done for our most important cause, and to wish you Health, Happiness, and Prosperity.

I wish we could assure you that conditions are such that our efforts in behalf of Jews in Germany, those who are exiled from Germany, and the great masses of our distressed brethren in Eastern Europe, could be relaxed. Such, however, is not the case.

While all the men and women connected with the United Jewish Appeal have worked zealously for the cause, we find that the needs we are trying to meet are far greater than any means we have for meeting them.

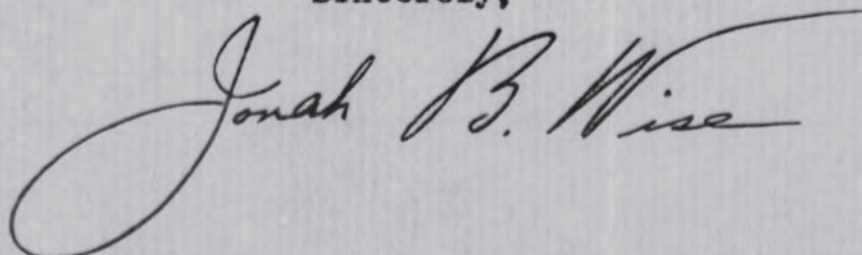
In the past few weeks, returning travelers, competent to observe and comment, as well as our own representatives on the ground in Europe, have brought us stories of suffering and sorrow which make it difficult for us to approach the New Year without the greatest feeling of concern for the present and future of untold thousands of our people.

We are thankful for the blessings which God has showered upon us in this country, and we pray that those blessings may continue.

May your strength be conserved by good health and contentment throughout the coming year to continue the service which you have so signally rendered in the past.

Wishing you a Happy New Year, I remain

Sincerely,

A large, elegant handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jonah B. Wise". The signature is written in dark ink and occupies the lower right portion of the letter.

JBW:AHG

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To the Members of the National Council of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee

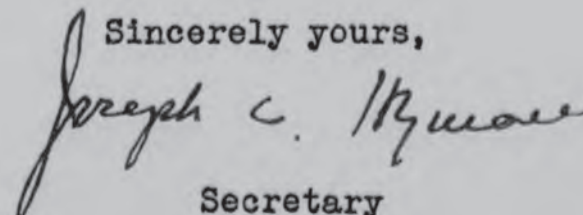
At the meeting of the Executive Committee of this organization, on September 20th, the Committee was advised that a Rabbi Fernando Friedmann of Barcelona had come to this country to raise \$125,000. for the Jewish communities of Spain, which, he stated, consist of some eight to twelve thousand Jews, a considerable number being refugees from Germany. He also spoke of the possibilities of large scale refugee settlement in Spain.

A sub-Committee was appointed to meet Rabbi Friedmann. The Committee, likewise, addressed an inquiry to our European office, from which we had a reply to the effect that the statements reputed to have been made by Rabbi Friedmann (some of which had appeared in the press and had reached the other side) were most inaccurate. Messages from European and other organizations connected with emigration aid, question seriously Rabbi Friedmann's claim to represent the Jewish community of Barcelona, and charge that he speaks only for a small group, if for any at all, and that in any event he is not competent or qualified to initiate the projects he sponsors. These statements have appeared in the newspapers as well. Rabbi Friedmann has denied these charges and ascribed them to animus on the part of a group of the community which he states he does not assume to represent.

Quite apart from the merits of this controversy, the Joint Distribution Committee, as you know, has followed the consistent policy of not endorsing or sponsoring special pleas or collections, and it advises the members of its National Council not to give color to claims of Joint Distribution Committee's support to any special fund-raising appeals.

I am communicating this to our co-workers throughout the country. The Joint Distribution Committee has granted substantial sums to emigration aid organizations which are concerning themselves with the possibilities of settlement wherever practicable, and the Joint Distribution Committee is associated with the Advisory Board of the High Commission for Refugees from Germany, which is studying these problems.

Sincerely yours,



Secretary

JCH:JO

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November 14, 1934.

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

Dear Friend:

We are sending you and other members of our National Council, under separate cover, the "Report on the Activities of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee for the Year 1933 and Early Months of 1934". This has just been issued. It sets forth in detail the activities of our organization for the twelve month period following the advent of the National Socialist regime in Germany. It refers also to the Jewish situation and the Joint Distribution Committee's work in Eastern and Central Europe.

For those persons who wish only a general survey of the problems of relief and reconstruction of the Jews in Germany, among the refugees and in Eastern Europe, there is a Summary of about ten pages (pages 7-16) by the Secretary. For those persons who wish to have much more detailed information concerning specific activities and work carried on in different countries, the body of the Report presents this information. It is hoped that you will keep this Report and use it in connection with the many questions that arise concerning the situation of the Jews in Germany and other lands where the Joint Distribution Committee has been working.

You will note that the Report covers the year 1933 and only the early months of 1934. It will not be possible to issue a report for the current year until the Spring of 1935. It is but necessary to add that during the last nine months, in the main, the conditions abroad have changed for the worse, not alone among the Jewish people within Germany, but also among the refugees and in Eastern Europe.

Should you desire additional copies of the Report, or only of the Summary, please be good enough to let us know. We shall, of course, be glad to answer any questions that may occur to you.

We trust that the Report will prove of interest and use to you.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph C. Hyman
Secretary

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December 24th, 1934.

Dear Friend:

You have received the invitation of the National Conference on Jewish Welfare for its sessions of January 3rd through January 6th, to be held at Temple Emanu-El, 1 East 65th Street, New York City.

One session, commencing at 3:30 P.M. on Thursday, January 3rd, is devoted to the subject: "American Aid to Jews Overseas". The speakers at this session will be: Mr. Neville Laski, K.C., Joint Chairman of the Joint Foreign Committee of England, on Conditions in Eastern and Central Europe; Dr. Joseph A. Rosen on Agricultural and Settlement Developments in Russia; Dr. Bernhard Kahn on the Refugees and Organized Aid Overseas. The Presiding Officer at this session will be Mr. Paul Baerwald.

These gentlemen bring direct and personal reports on the situation abroad, and their observations should prove of the greatest interest to us all.

We trust that you will make every effort to attend this session, and, indeed, the other sessions of the Conference as well.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph C. Hyman
Secretary.

JCH:LF

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March 11th, 1935.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Abe:

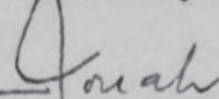
I have just returned to Paris from a visit to Germany. While there I conferred with our leaders and with many of the persons who are concerned with meeting the present problem of the German Jews.

At the moment I have time only to let you know that I have been there, that I have seen our people facing their problems with a great deal of courage, that their difficulties are enormous, but, -and this is the important thing- they are not absolutely insoluble. I do not believe that we Jews ever have had an opportunity for meeting a major situation affecting our people which so definitely offers a solution through cooperation.

I hope to tell you more about it when I have arranged the material. At present, I just wish to let you know of my having been with our people in Germany, and also that I am meeting with our continental and British leaders.

With kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,



Jonah B. Wise

JBW/jo

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February 5th, 1936

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

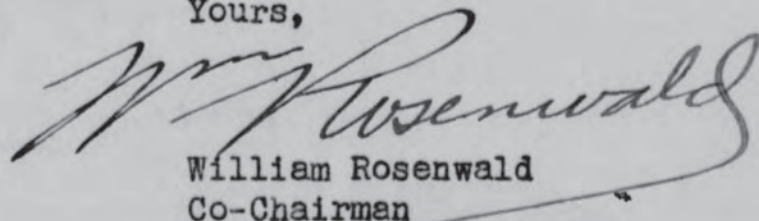
Dear Rabbi Silver:

A limited number of copies of the letter which Mr. James G. McDonald submitted to the League of Nations, resigning the office of High Commissioner for Refugees Coming from Germany, has been made available to me in the form of a reprint from the "Christian Century."

As I know that you are vitally concerned with the problem of helping the refugees readjust their lives and find permanent places of settlement, I feel that you will want to have this statement written by the man who has been so close to the whole problem for the past two years. I should be pleased to receive your comments.

With cordial greetings, I am

Yours,


William Rosenwald
Co-Chairman

WR:PS
Enc.

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February 24th, 1936

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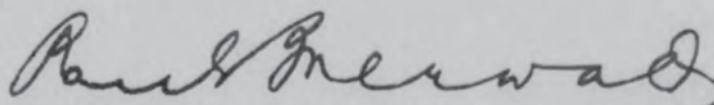
Dear Rabbi Silver:

We have had so many inquiries concerning the mission of the English delegation and the understanding supposed to have been reached with them, that I have felt it desirable to give to you and to others of our friends who are deeply interested, a statement clarifying the position of the Joint Distribution Committee. I earnestly urge you to read this statement which we hope sets forth the facts adequately.

Because it is an important document, I want you to have it in advance of its being sent out to the large and general list. This is the statement which I presented to the meeting of our Plan and Scope Committee in Cincinnati yesterday.

With greetings,

Sincerely yours,



Paul Baerwald, Chairman.

PB:LC
enc.

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C O P Y

Office of the High Commissioner
for Refugees (Jewish and Other)
Coming from Germany

Temporary Address:
8 West 40th Street, New York, N. Y.

March 26, 1936

Dr. Jonah B. Wise
The American Jewish JDC
100 East 42nd Street
New York City

My dear Dr. Wise:

I deeply regret that my obligations here in New York would make it impossible for me to accept your cordial invitation to speak at the meeting in Cleveland on May 10. I wish conditions were otherwise, but unfortunately they are not.

There is a possibility that some time during the Spring I might be able to speak at a private group meeting of larger contributors in Cleveland, if that would be of any use to you. If it would be, let me know and perhaps after a month or two a date could be arranged which would be convenient for your associates in Cleveland and possible for me.

Sincerely yours

JGM:RG

(signed) James G. McDonald

J.D.C
1936

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March 27, 1936.

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

Dear Abe:

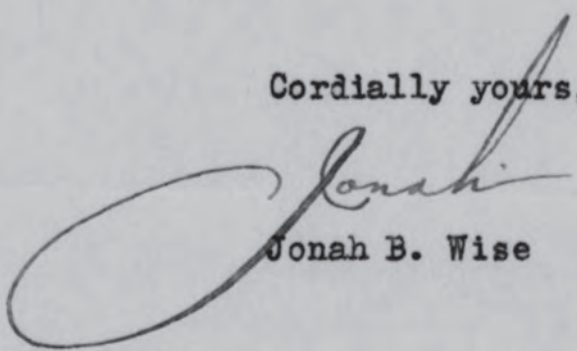
I am attaching hereto a copy of a letter which I received today from Hon. James G. McDonald, in which he regrets his inability to be the guest speaker at the Cleveland meeting on May 10, and expresses the possibility of his being available for a private meeting a few months hence.

You know that we shall be very happy to urge the acceptance of any other speaker of your choice.

With kind regards, I am

Cordially yours,

JBW:JH
encl.


Jonah B. Wise

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FIELD DIRECTOR

May 31, 1936

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The enclosed brief report from our European office contains the latest available information on the conditions of the Jews in Germany, Poland and the other countries of Eastern and Central Europe in which the Joint Distribution Committee operates. It also tells of the activities of the Joint Distribution Committee since the beginning of the year.

Knowing of your interest in the problems of the Jews abroad and in the work of the Joint Distribution Committee, I am sure you will be glad to have this information.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph C. Hyman
Secretary

JCH:LG

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June 7, 1936

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am sending you herewith copy of a news story released to the press announcing the inauguration of a plan in cooperation with the Polish Government to aid the Jews of Poland which is the result of long study and negotiations.

Since you may not have seen this item in the newspapers, or since it may have appeared in abbreviated form, I am taking this opportunity of enabling you to learn the full particulars.

I trust you will find this release of interest

Sincerely yours,

Joseph C. Hyman
Joseph C. Hyman
Secretary and Executive Director

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J.D.C.
1936

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PLAN AND SCOPE COMMITTEE
of the
\$3,500,000
Joint Distribution Committee Campaign

FELIX M. WARBURG, *National Chairman*

100 EAST 42ND STREET, *New York*

Telephone ASHLAND 4-0920



June 26th, 1936

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

Dear Friend:

The second meeting of the Plan and Scope Committee of the Joint Distribution Committee National Campaign took place at the office of the J.D.C. Campaign in New York on June 18th. Leaders attended from the South, the West and the East, as well as local men from New York.

Special discussion of the program was invited by my report and by the reports of Messrs. Joseph C. Hyman, the Executive Director of the J.D.C.; William Rosenwald, Chairman of the Publicity Committee; the remarks of Messrs. Felix M. Warburg, National Campaign Chairman, and Paul Baerwald, Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee.

Those who took leading parts in the discussion included Messrs. E. I. Kaufmann of Washington, D. C., Harold Hirsch of Atlanta, Jerome J. Rothschild of Philadelphia, Sidney Lansburgh of Baltimore, A. L. Saltzstein of Milwaukee, E. J. Schanfarber of Columbus and others.

These gentlemen impressed upon the campaign executives the necessity for placing before the American people the extreme need of the Joint Distribution Committee for support far in excess of what it has secured in the past few years, and what seems probable that it will secure in the present year. These gentlemen pointed out that the major part of the problem arising from persecution and economic disability in Central and Eastern Europe, as far as it is a responsibility of American Jewry, comes within the program of the Joint Distribution Committee.

It was pointed out that while the J.D.C. frequently participates with one or more agencies in local combined fund raising activities, and while it is our responsibility as well as the responsibility of other included agencies to help raise as large a sum as possible in such campaigns, the J.D.C. at the same time has an obligation to require as much from these communities through combined campaigns as it would have a right to expect in an independent appeal in such communities.

An inadequate allotment in any one city is not only difficult to offset by larger gifts in other communities, but, as was pointed out by these gentlemen, is a distinct invitation to shift the responsibility.

The officers concede the wisdom and vigor of the statements as made, and are grateful to the members of the Committee for the suggestions offered.

The National Campaign Committee reported through Mr. Isidor Coons, National Campaign Director, that for the first six months of this year, \$2,139,998 had been pledged by 642 communities. This sum reported pledged represents nearly three times as much as was represented in the J.D.C. share of the campaign pledges last year at this time; however, it must be pointed out, in all fairness, that the largest contributions have already been accounted for and that the achievement of the campaign goal of \$3,500,000 is more difficult than it would appear from the half-yearly statement. It is incumbent upon all persons interested in this program and this problem to concern themselves with the method of meeting the necessary obligation. May I say that there is no change for the better, and there is every prospect of a change for the worse in Germany, Poland and other overseas lands.

The Joint Distribution Committee must be prepared to meet not only the demands made upon it at the moment, but because of its enormous responsibility, a result of its twenty-two years of usefulness, it must be in a position to rush emergency aid to persons and localities that are not now budgeted in our program.

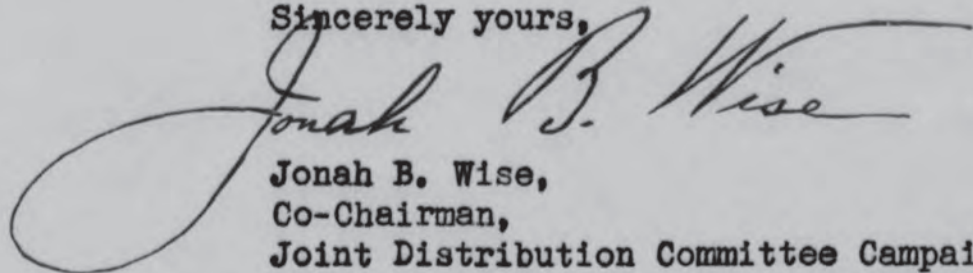
As our Executive Director, Mr. Hyman, pointed out and as Mr. Warburg and Mr. Baerwald also pointed out, we have not enough to meet what the Budget Committee should empower the office to expend towards the budget of \$3,500,000 unanimously authorized by the Chicago Emergency Conference last December.

I know that the problem of the Jewish people overseas has been and is a matter of vital concern to you. Only through concerted efforts shall we be able to meet the large responsibilities confronting us, and I trust that we may have your continued interest and cooperation.

The Committee expressed its gratitude, an expression in which I join completely, to the thousands of men and women and to the energetic community leaders throughout the country, who have made possible the continuation of this important work.

Trusting you will have a pleasant summer, and with kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A large, elegant handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jonah B. Wise". The signature is written in a cursive style with long, sweeping strokes, particularly in the first and last names.

Jonah B. Wise,
Co-Chairman,
Joint Distribution Committee Campaign.

JBW:PS

PAUL BAERWALD

CHAIRMAN

7 HANOVER STREET

NEW YORK

June 30, 1936

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

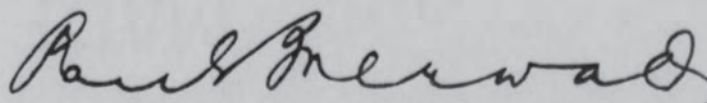
I am writing to you and to the other members of the National Council of the Joint Distribution Committee in this personal way to let you know about the plans for our Annual Meeting. Normally, we should be holding the Annual Meeting at about this time, for the election of officers, and also to submit a brief statement on our program and a report for the year 1935.

The last five months have been so busy and have taken so much of our time and effort, not only in relation to the raising of funds, but also in acting upon many important matters affecting our programs abroad, that the officers of the Committee felt we ought to postpone the Annual Meeting until the fall, perhaps sometime after the Jewish High Holydays. In this way, we are hopeful that the inspiration of such a meeting will stimulate fall campaigns and perhaps pave the way for next year's efforts.

From time to time we have sent you material on matters of interest and importance. I know that you welcome such information. Some of us who have been laboring on these taxing problems for these last twenty years, realize how critical the situation of the Jewish populations overseas has become and how much the people over there need our sympathetic understanding and cooperation.

Let me take this occasion to thank you and all the others who have helped me this year in the discharge of my duties.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul Baerwald".

Paul Baerwald, Chairman.

J.D.C
1936

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\$3,500,000

Joint Distribution Committee Campaign

100 EAST 42ND STREET, *New York*

Telephone ASHLAND 4-0920



January 12, 1937

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

Dear Friend:

As an officer of the campaign in your community which gave support to the Joint Distribution Committee Campaign in 1936, I take great pleasure, on behalf of the national campaign officers, in enclosing a token of our appreciation.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

JBW:LG
ENC.

Jonah B. Wise,
Co-Chairman.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC. IS SUPPORTED
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January 28, 1937

Mr. Robert Herman,
Joint Distribution Committee Campaign,
100 East 42nd Street,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Herman:

Rabbi Harris, my Associate, has turned over his correspondence with you concerning the showing of the film "23 Years of Human Salvage". I am inclined to feel that there has been unnecessary confusion in this matter. Mr. Herbert Seligmann wrote us, under date of January 7th, kindly offering the use of the film for display before religious schools. We were glad of the offer and we wrote to you on January 12th requesting the use of the film. On the 13th, you informed us that you were sending the film here. Accordingly, we scheduled the film for February 6th and 7th and made arrangements with the Western Union Telegraph Company for the necessary projector. The showing of the film was announced in this week's Temple Bulletin, a copy of which I herewith enclose. This film will be shown only to the children of the religious school. It will not be shown to any adults.

I cannot understand by what stretch of the imagination the showing of the film in our religious school will interfere with the Campaign which will not be scheduled for another three months. I happen to be chairman of the Campaign and I am, of course, vitally interested in its success. In order not to embarrass our religious school I would strongly urge that you send on the film in time for its showing here on the 6th and 7th of February.

I have tried to contact Mr. Goldhamer, this morning, but he is attending the Convention of the Council of Federations and Welfare Funds in Philadelphia and will not return until early next week. As chairman

Mr. Herman

-2-

Jan. 28, 1937

of the campaign of the Jewish Welfare Fund of Cleveland,
I shall assume full responsibility for this matter.

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

P.S. I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr.
Samuel Goldhamer.



J.D.C

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100 EAST 42ND STREET, *New York*

Telephone ASHLAND 4-0920



February 1, 1937

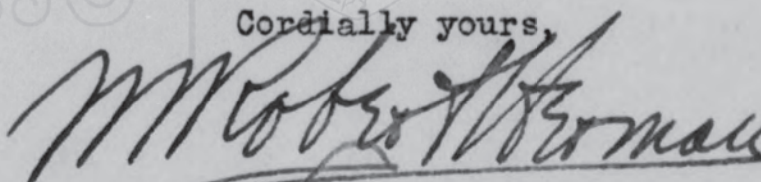
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple
East 105th St. and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

In reply to your letter of January 28th, we have sent you by parcel post special delivery today, film and record of "23 Years of Human Salvage".

I am indeed sorry that the misunderstanding occurred but I believe that the correspondence I had with Rabbi Harris explains the situation. I feel confident that your Sunday School classes will find the film both interesting and instructive.

Cordially yours,



M. Robert Herman

MRH:LRW

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And National Campaign Officers
ex-Officio

Joint Distribution Committee Campaign

100 EAST 42ND STREET, *New York*

Telephone ASHLAND 4-0920



February 4, 1937.

Mr. H. G. Goulder
The Federal Knitting Mills Company
Detroit Ave. W. 29th St. and Vermont Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Goulder:

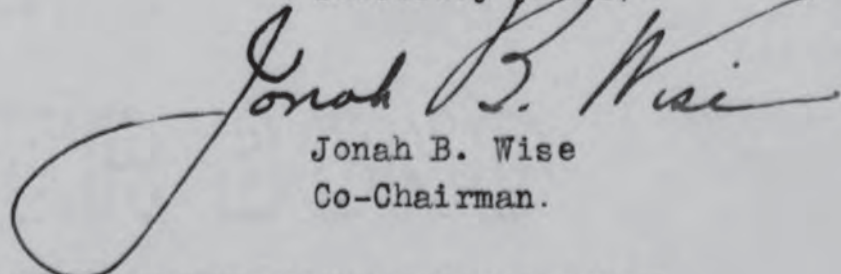
The criticism which you make in your letter of February 2, relative to our sending tokens to those who contributed largely to the success of the Joint Distribution Committee Campaign of 1936, is well taken.

Only a few hundred of these were issued to campaign officers and others in the United States and Canada who cooperated in an outstanding way for the advancement of our program. The national Campaign officers, including myself, felt and continue to feel that we should occasionally express our satisfaction and gratitude to those who devote themselves so wholeheartedly to the welfare of our people overseas, as we are called upon to do in giving leadership to the national effort. This is the first time in more than ten years that we have expressed our gratitude in this way, and we have been rewarded by an expression of good will and appreciation from important community leaders in all sections.

I can say to you that while the token is attractive in appearance, the cost involved for it in its limited distribution was very small. The Joint Distribution Committee at all times has an eye to economy, and I think our percentage cost in fund-raising and administration is less than that of any other comparable organization, Jewish or non-Jewish, in the country. I take great pleasure in sending you under separate cover the most recent Report of the Joint Distribution Committee, in which you will find carefully audited financial statements showing income and expenditure for the years 1914 to 1935 inclusive. I shall also be happy to answer any further questions you may have with reference to our operations.

Hoping that we may continue to count on your understanding and support, and with best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,


Jonah B. Wise
Co-Chairman.

JBW:CJH

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INC.

100 EAST 42ND STREET

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May 28, 1937

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

As a member of the National Council of the Joint Distribution Committee, I think you will be interested in having the official summary report of the Zentralausschuss fuer Hilfe und Aufbau, showing the Jewish constructive work in Germany during 1936, which is being sent to you under separate cover.

You will recall that this is the Central Jewish Agency in Germany to which the J.D.C. makes its contributions, in order to keep Jewish children at school, furnish training and retraining, assist emigration, grant economic aid and bring relief to distressed communities.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph C. Hyman
Executive Director.

JCH:RM

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that at the annual corporate meeting of the members of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee you were re-elected a member of the National Council. The term of your membership extends to April 1941.

As you no doubt know, the National Council consists of about 1200 leading men and women throughout the country who have demonstrated their interest in the work and problems of the Joint Distribution Committee and on whom we feel we can count for extending cooperation in meeting the needs of the sorely distressed Jewish people overseas.

As Mr. Paul Baerwald, Chairman, and Mr. Alexander Kahn, Vice-Chairman, emphasized at the annual meeting, there is every prospect that the burdens of the Joint Distribution Committee will be increased both in gravity and in geographical extent in the coming year. We know that in re-electing you to the National Council we are adding an element of strength and that we can count upon you, both to help us guide the Joint Distribution Committee in this difficult period and to constitute one of those indispensable links to our people upon which the success of the Joint Distribution Committee work so greatly depends.

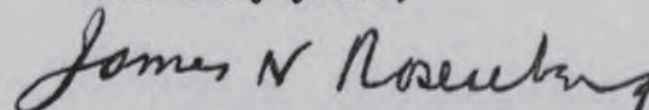
It is from the National Council that the members of the Board of Directors and the officers of the J.D.C. are elected. It is to them we look for direction, guidance and leadership, as well, in our fund-raising efforts in this country.

We shall send you from time to time informative matter concerning our problems and our programs and we shall at all times welcome your suggestions, criticisms and comment.

Mr. Leon Falk, Jr. of Pittsburgh has been elected to the office of Vice-Chairman of the Council. We are delighted that so able a younger man has agreed to associate himself actively in this work.

With every hope for the outcome of the united efforts of the officers and members of the Council in behalf of those overseas who have only us to look to, I am, with best wishes for the New Year,

Sincerely yours,



James N. Rosenberg,
 Chairman, National Council.

JNR:EP

THIS ORGANIZATION IS SUPPORTED SOLELY BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Confidential News Letter

FROM THE

AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

100 East 42nd St. — New York, N. Y.

* * * * *

EMIGRATION SOLE HOPE OF GERMAN JEWRY

The speeding up of emigration from Germany and Austria is the major overseas Jewish problem during 1939, it is emphasized in reports which the Joint Distribution Committee has received from its overseas offices. Two European officers of the J.D.C., Mr. Morris C. Troper and Mr. David J. Schweitzer, who were on the scene in Germany during the tragic excesses of the week of November 10, declare that the newspaper accounts of horror and suffering in that country were pale understatements. More than half the male Jewish population of Germany were interned in concentration camps following the death of Ernst vom Rath, German Embassy Secretary in Paris. Although many are now being released, after having suffered untold hardships, in almost every case freedom is contingent on assurance of rapid emigration.

TWO MAJOR EMIGRATION PLANS

Two major emigration plans have been evolved for German and Austrian Jewry, and are rapidly being put into effect; (1) the evacuation of children, for temporary or permanent refuge in European and overseas countries; and (2) establishment of transit refugee camps for adults in various European countries.

Almost 70,000 Jewish children under 18 still live in Greater Germany. Uncertain of their own fate, Jewish parents are eager to see their children given a chance to begin life anew elsewhere. They are well aware that this may mean never seeing their children again.

REFUGEE CHILDREN IN HOLLAND

Temporary refuge for large numbers of children was sought by the Dutch Refugee Committee in a request to the Dutch Government shortly after the November 10th events. The Government consented, provided that assurance be given to re-emigrate the children as soon as possible, and that a deposit of 100,000 guilders (\$55,000) be made to insure immediate maintenance for the children. The Joint Distribution Committee promptly cabled \$50,000 toward maintenance, and to enlarge the facilities for training and re-training young people at the Wieringen school. Large additional sums were raised locally in Holland.

Approximately 600 children had been admitted to Holland by the middle of December. Not permitted to lodge with private families, they are concentrated in group camps. Several thousand children will eventually be provided for, it is believed by the Dutch Refugee Committee. As emigration proceeds, the places of those who leave can be taken by new children from Germany and Austria.

ENGLAND ADMITS
2000 CHILDREN

Nearly 2,000 Jewish children from Germany and Austria were transferred to England during the month of December, 1938. With the assistance and cooperation of the British Government, the Committee for the Care of Children from Germany had been able to arrange a simplified procedure for rapid admission of young refugees. Passports have been omitted, and a card for each child, with photograph and description, substituted. The Committee has guaranteed that the children will not become public charges and that, when old enough, they will either be re-emigrated or employed in Great Britain only in occupations approved by the Government.

Two summer camps, at Harwich and Lowestoft, have been taken as temporary homes for the youngsters. A children's home at Broadstairs had been lent to the committee for the youngest boys and girls. Local committees investigate private homes, hostels, and institutions which offer hospitality. Wherever possible, private homes are preferred.

Under the leadership of Rt. Hon. Viscount Samuels, and Sir Wyndham Deedes, the necessary funds are being raised by the Committee.

REFUGEE CARE
THROUGHOUT
EUROPE

Government approval for admission of 5,000 - 10,000 children into France is being sought by a special committee headed by the Rothschild-Guinzburg families. The J.D.C. has been approached for assistance in this proposal.

Sweden is prepared to admit 800 children, Denmark 600, and Switzerland 300. Belgium will accept 250 immediately, and may extend permission for up to 2000 children.

REFUGEE
TRANSIT
CAMPS

Temporary refugee camps, to hold about 30,000 adults, will be established in England, France, Holland and Belgium, according to the second major emigration plan now being considered. These camps will provide for transmigrants between 17 and 45 years old, with preference given to those with immediate prospects of emigration. Thus, new refugees can constantly replace those who leave. The estimated cost for such camps would be about £1,000,000 a year. Trade re-training would be part of camp life, to equip refugees for permanent resettlement.

The J.D.C. has been asked to share the cost of this venture, and it is being considered in the estimated budget for 1939. J.D.C. European representatives and cooperating agencies keep closely in touch with these plans.

* * * *

AGE GROUPS OF
GERMAN JEWS
LISTED

That there are still almost 300,000 adults of wage-earning age (18 to 60) residing in Germany was learned in an age-chart recently sent from overseas. There are also some 64,000 children (up to 18 years), and about 137,000 adults who are over 60, and are not usually considered good prospects for emigration. The chart is as follows:

	<u>In Germany</u>	<u>In Austria</u>
Under 6 years of age	7,200	3,200
6 to less than 14 years of age	20,200	8,700
14 " " " 16 " " "	8,300	3,500
16 " 18 years of age	9,300	4,000
18 " 20 " " " "	9,300	4,000
20 " 25 " " " "	12,900	5,600
25 " 45 " " " "	93,800	40,000
45 " 50 " " " "	37,100	16,000
50 " 60 " " " "	55,700	24,000
60 " 65 " " " "	21,600	9,500
65 years and over	<u>74,600</u>	<u>31,500</u>
	<u>350,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>

* * * *

J.D.C. DOES NOT SEND DOLLARS INTO GERMANY

Not a single American dollar or other foreign exchange enters Germany through the J.D.C. All J.D.C. funds for activities in Germany - emigration aid, trade training, education and welfare - are spent through a Central German Jewish agency known as the Reichsverband. By special arrangement with German financial authorities, the J.D.C.

pays its dollars to individuals or institutions outside Germany, against an equivalent amount of money paid into the Reichsverband treasury. There are two main ways in which this is done:

Student Clearance: Many German parents have sent their children outside of Germany for schooling and training. Though they can afford to pay for the education of their children, German currency laws forbid them to send money outside the country. Instead, therefore, they deposit the cost of tuition, in marks, with the Reichsverband, which in turn notifies the Paris office of the J.D.C. The J.D.C. pays the equivalent sum in dollars to the child or institution. Thus, instead of American dollars going into Germany, they are used outside the country, against deposits of parents and relatives made in the Reich.

Here's how it works: say 100 parents send their children abroad to study. They ask the Reichsverband to accept 250 marks each to pay for the tuition. The Reichsverband then has 25,000 marks on deposit. It instructs the J.D.C. to pay out an equivalent sum in foreign exchange. The Reichsverband then uses the 25,000 marks for its regular welfare work inside Germany, and credits this sum as a J.D.C. contribution to its budget.

The major portion of J.D.C. funds for work in Germany are cleared in this way. The remainder is cleared through the Intria, whose chief function is to help emigrate Jews of the "capitalist" class to Palestine. Prospective emigrants pay their money into the Reichsverband. The J.D.C. pays an equivalent amount, in foreign exchange, to the Intria in London. In turn, the Intria reimburses the emigrants in Palestine.

* * * *

NEED FOR J.D.C. WORK IN GERMANY

Since small numbers of Jews living in Germany still have sufficient wealth to meet expenses for emigration, re-training, etc., and German-Jewish wealth cannot be sent out of the country, some question of the necessity of J.D.C. work within Germany has recently arisen.

Stringent government control of all German wealth makes it impossible for the Jews to help themselves. Records show the exact assets of every Jew in the country. Only by special government permission can Jews engage in almost any transaction, including contributions to the Reichsverband, central Jewish welfare organization, or other Jewish agencies. In addition to normally heavy taxes, Jews must pay crushing fines, such as the \$400,000,000 impost after the November pogrom, and the 25% Flight Tax imposed on prospective emigrants.

* * * *

**\$2,400 DAILY
FOR POLISH
DEPORTEES**

The sum of \$250,000 was appropriated in 1938 by the J.D.C. for "No-Man's-Land" assistance, an outstanding example of which was the deportation of 15,000 to 20,000 Polish-German Jews in October. The situation of the unfortunates dumped over the Polish border is being liquidated by agreement of Polish and German governments.

In Zbaszyn alone, \$2,400 was being expended daily for care of the deportees. Large sums were raised locally among the Polish Jewish population to care for the refugees at Zbaszyn, Cracow, Poznan, and other border towns. Praise throughout Europe was accorded the J.D.C. for its superb emergency work in this crisis.

* * * *

**JEWISH PROBLEMS
IN ITALY**

A questionnaire is being circulated among the Jews of Italy and the Italian Colonies by the Milan Refugee Committee, to determine the total number of Jews, their education and professional backgrounds, status of passports, financial requirements, etc., according to overseas reports. Since the recent anti-Semitic legislation, some 15,000 Jews face immediate expulsion. Included in their number are about 6,000 German and Austrian refugees who fled to Italy to escape Nazi persecution.

In addition to the 15,000 deportees, twenty-thousand native Italian Jews will find themselves destitute. Because the new decrees affect all except the very poor, who can scarcely provide for their own existence, substantial outside aid will be needed.

Self-help is further blocked by banking laws. No depositor can withdraw more than 5,000 lira (\$250) a month. This would mean that the maximum which can be withdrawn by March 12th, the day on which the decrees go into effect, would be \$1,000 - and even this amount cannot be taken out of Italy.

* * * *

**EXPLOITATION OF
REFUGEES BY
SHIPPING AGENTS**

Thousands of refugees are being exploited in Germany and in the various countries of Europe through the unauthorized activity of irresponsible steamship agents, who are selling passage to South and Central American ports where admission is doubtful.

With profits as their sole aim, they even supply worthless visas at exorbitant prices. For example, a Bolivian visa normally costs \$15. One offender sells them at \$100. Since most Latin American consuls can supply visas only on authority from their central governments, the unauthorized visas are generally invalid.

In order to protect themselves, these steamship agents compel prospective emigrants to purchase return tickets to Germany. If admission is refused, the company loses no money.

In some cases, boats have called at port after port, trying to dump their passengers. If and when they finally succeed, the penniless, illegally-entered refugees become the problem of Jewish relief organizations.

AID TO STRANDED
EMIGRANTS
THRU HICEM, ETC. In the past, the Hicem and other organizations have spent large sums to aid these stranded unfortunates. It was therefore decided at a recent conference in Paris of J.D.C., Hicem, and other emigration organizations, to issue a definite statement of policy.

Offending steamship agents and companies were warned that the J.D.C. and the Hicem cannot assume responsibility for private immigration arrangements through steamship agencies. They were urged to discontinue a practice that only piles misery on an already crushing load.

American Jews who are interested in the emigration of friends or relatives from Germany should bear this in mind and should advise their German relatives accordingly.

In Germany, information can be secured through the office of the Hilfsverein der Juden in Deutschland, Ludendorffstrasse 20, Berlin W. 35; in Austria, from the Israelitische Kultusgemeinde, 1. Seitenstettengasse 2-4, Vienna; in France, from the "Hicem", 2 Avenue de Messine, Paris, VIIle; and in other countries through local refugee committees. Questions can be answered in the United States by the National Coordinating Committee for Aid to Refugees and Emigrants Coming from Germany, 165 West 46th Street, New York City.

* * * * *

J.D.C.
APPROPRIATIONS,
1938 More than \$4,100,000 was appropriated by the J.D.C. during 1938, it is learned through a summary statement prior to the final audit. These are the figures just released:

1. Program of Aid in Germany and Austria.....	\$1,131,700.
2. Program of Aid in Refugee Countries of Europe.....	858,200.
3. Program of Refugee Aid in North and South America.....	751,500.
4. Program of Aid in Countries of Eastern and Central Europe (outside of Germany and Austria).....	1,060,500.
5. Special Projects.....	100,000.
6. Operating Expenses Overseas.....	126,800.
7. Administration Expenses - General Office, New York.....	83,200.
	<hr/>
	\$4,111,900.
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The Ohio Region
of
The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc.

cordially invites you to participate in

A Regional Conference

to consider

The Pressing Problems Facing World Jewry Today

And Their Relationship to the Work of the

Joint Distribution Committee

On Sunday, October 16, 1938, at 10:00 A. M.

at the

Hotel Deshler-Wallick

Columbus, Ohio



Your presence is urgently requested

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(Committee in Formation)

Critical problems face the Jewish people of Germany, Poland, Rumania, Austria and other countries overseas. These conditions impose new responsibilities upon the Joint Distribution Committee.

The Joint Distribution Committee has been in close touch with important Jewish organizations and groups on these problems. Officers and representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee have been abroad. We will hear reports and observations on the Jewish situation in Central and Eastern Europe.

To consider these reports on overseas conditions and to counsel with you and other Jewish leaders, we have called this Conference for Sunday, October 16. **The meeting is not a fund-raising gathering. There will be no solicitations of contributions.**

EDWARD M. BAKER
Cleveland

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January 17, 1939

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