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Keren Hayesod, 1945-1946.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD), INC.
OCTOBER 3, 1945

A dinner meeting of the Board of Directors of the Palestine Foundation Fund (Keren Hayesod), Inc. was held on Wednesday, October 3, 1945, at 6:00 P.M. at the Paramount Restaurant, New York.

PRESENT:

There were present: Herman L. Weisman, in the chair; Messrs. Herman Bernstein, Jacob H. Cohen, Mrs. Arthur Ellis, Harry Fierst, Ben Flax, Hyman J. Fliegel, J. Gabriel, S. S. Gross, Mrs. Rose Jacobs, I. M. Kowalsky, Abraham Krumbein, Cyrus Levenson, Harris J. Levine, Abraham L. Liebovitz, Jack Lukashok, Emanuel Neumann, Harry Pine, A. A. Redelheim, Hyman J. Rett, Charles Ress, Sigmund Thau, Mrs. Abraham Tulin, Harold Weinberg; by invitation, Dr. Michael Traub.

Letters of regret at inability to attend were received from Dr. Israel Goldstein and Judge Emanuel Greenberg.

AMENDMENT TO BY-LAWS:

The chairman stated that in accordance with the by-laws of the Keren Hayesod, the annual meeting of the Keren Hayesod is scheduled for the last Thursday in October. A feeling had grown up in the Keren Hayesod that in view of the forthcoming Zionist convention, and the expected change in the administration of the Zionist Organization, it would be unfitting to have an election of officers of the Keren Hayesod prior to the Zionist Convention. It had therefore been suggested that the annual meeting be postponed until after the Zionist convention. This postponement called for amendment in the by-laws, with prior notice to the Board. Accordingly, a notice had gone forward to the Board, indicating the proposed change and calling the members to a meeting to affect the change.

After discussion, it was moved by Judge Reit, seconded and carried . . .

THAT the annual meeting for the election of the Board of Directors for 1945 be held on the second Thursday in December.

It was explained that this meant that the by-laws remained unaltered, but that the decision affecting the change referred to the annual meeting for 1945 only.

KEREN HAYESOD PARTICIPATION IN UPA CONFERENCE:

The chairman urged that the Keren Hayesod cooperate as far as possible in assuring the success of the UPA conference, in which the Keren Hayesod is involved officially. He pointed out that the 1945 campaign was being set up, and that the UPA proposal for a \$100,000,000 quota was being entertained by the JDC. He believed it essential that the UPA conference should be as successful as possible.

KEREN HAYESOD PARTICIPATION IN ZOA CONVENTION:

It was pointed out that the Jewish National Fund was to have a special luncheon session at the convention, and that the Keren Hayesod should have a similar session.

After a lengthy discussion, in which many of the members participated, all agreeing that the Zionists at the convention should have the Keren Hayesod brought to their attention, it was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the Keren Hayesod ask the ZOA to include a Keren Hayesod luncheon session in its convention program.

PALESTINE INFORMATION BUREAU:

The chairman reported that at the request of Mr. Berson, chairman of the Finance Committee of the ZOA, conversations had been held between representatives of the Keren Hayesod and the ZOA, with a view to asking the Keren Hayesod to participate in the future maintenance of the Palestine

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD), INC.
HELD NOVEMBER 8th, 1945 - BILTMORE HOTEL, N.Y.

PRESENT:

Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt in the chair; Messrs. Herman W. Bernstein, Mrs. Arthur H. Ellis, Mrs. Rose Jacobs, Abraham Krunbein, Seymour R. Levine, Sol Reiter, Louis P. Rucker, Harry Pine, David Tannenbaum, Sigmund Thau, Morris Weinberg; by invitation: Michael Traub.

The meeting was opened at 7:30 P.M. by Judge Rosenblatt. No minutes were read due to the absence because of illness of Miss Behrman, Executive Secretary.

REPORT OF MR. REITER:

Mr. Sol Reiter, who served as Acting President during the absence of Judge Rosenblatt, presented a report of the past three months activities of the Keren Hayesod, as follows:

Cash on hand as of October 1, 1945.....	\$ 455,936.49
Total receipts during 3 months.....	1,250,000.00
Sent to Palestine during August.....	1,500,000.00
Balance as of November 1st.....	485,000.00

In giving a brief summary of what has been done during the past three months during Judge Rosenblatt's absence, Mr. Reiter reported that Zionist districts and individuals had been contacted throughout the country, in order to obtain lists of Jewish lawyers who could be interested in the Keren Hayesod. The reaction of individuals to the bequest campaign was that the public must be conditioned to the Keren Hayesod needs in order to evoke a proper response from them. Such steps were initiated. A mailing list of Jewish attorneys has been compiled, which is the most exhaustive of its kind in the United States. Booklets "Where There is a Will" have been sent to these contacts eliciting dozens of sympathetic responses wherein the attorneys have said that Keren Hayesod was a worthy cause and that the activity should be expanded. Rabbi Passow contacted a number of attorneys personally. In addition to the foregoing, the Keren Hayesod calendar, published in Palestine, was sent to 2500 lawyers in the smaller communities; many of whom were so impressed that they have signified their desire to receive additional copies. In conversation with the profession, Rabbi Passow was told that not much could be expected unless mass education is undertaken. A press campaign was undertaken, therefore, to reach the English and Anglo-Jewish press. The last release was issued on October 19th, at a press conference with Judge Rosenblatt a few days after his return from Palestine.

The Keren Hayesod Manual which was prepared and sent to Zionist districts, key Zionists and rabbis, met with very favorable response. A proclamation was issued, calling for the celebration of Keren Hayesod Month in November, and declaring November 2 and 3 Keren Hayesod Sabbath. Rabbis were asked to preach their sermons on the Keren Hayesod, on that occasion. Jewish centers and other institutions were asked to display the Keren Hayesod proclamation during November.

With respect to the UPA conference, Mr. Reiter stated that when the

plans were first announced, the Keren Hayesod decided not to participate. However, on the assurance that the Keren Hayesod would be given a prominent place on the program, it was decided to participate. Despite this assurance, this was not done. However, our educational and publicity program has gone on. Articles are in the press of every English and Anglo-Jewish publication. A film distributing service was begun. We have already filled several dozen film and speaking engagements with Judge Rosenblatt, Mr. Weisman, Rabbi Passow and Mr. Röss representing the Keren Hayesod. The country is thrilling anew to the film "Land of Promise". Through Dr. Greenstein the Program Preview for the month of November was Keren Hayesod Month. Mr. Weisman was the speaker. In order to help the demand for additional educational material regarding the Keren Hayesod, as proven by the publication of the Manual, a booklet "Looking Forward After 25 Years of Keren Hayesod" by Abraham Revusky, is now in process of publication. Work has been begun on a map showing Keren Hayesod's contribution. This work, initiated by Miss Behrman and executed by the Keren Hayesod staff, was carried out effectively. Mr. Reiter added that he was consulted at all times, and no step was taken without first conferring with him.

The material prepared by the Keren Hayesod, and the response evoked, indicated the importance of disseminating information through all media with respect to the work of the Keren Hayesod. Mr. Reiter believed that all the above would eventually redound to the benefit of the United Palestine Appeal, as well.

Dr. Tannenbaum raised the question regarding the status of free gift dollars in Palestine, and future commitments. Judge Rosenblatt referred this to the report to be given later by Mr. Hammer, but added that about one half million dollars had been used in transactions of the Trading Account..

Dr. Tannenbaum said that people coming from Palestine to make purchases now were having difficulty on the dollar exchange. All of them say that they are not getting the use of free gift dollars. It was something in which Keren Hayesod should take an interest, in his view.

Judge Rosenblatt then proceeded with his report on his trip to Palestine, as follows:

"I spent six weeks in Palestine and I must tell you that it was one of the great experiences of my life. This was my 19th trip to Palestine and it must be something in favor of Palestine if I can say that much. From way in the north to below Beersheba new colonies are being established by the JNF and Keren Hayesod. I don't want to go into details, but I wish all of you could have seen it. I was in the Negev, in the desert, and then you come to hundreds of dunams of cultivated soil. An artificially created oasis -- wheat, potatoes, tomatoes, etc. This was made possible because a short distance away two hills are damed and collect water, and in this way they have turned a Sahara Desert into fertile districts. We can do this over all the Negev. There is enough water to irrigate most of Palestine. Stories of this kind really give you an idea of how Senator Pepper felt when he said that this is the only place that 'I can compare to the old pioneering spirit of America'. Senator Pepper was tremendously impressed. We took him on a through trip of two days. First to Tel Aviv's textile industry, then to Givat Brenner and a few other smaller settlements. In Tel Aviv we had taken him to the industrial exhibit. I came to a country that had been completely industrialized. We have done in a span of five years what took England over

one hundred years to produce — from retreading tires to the beginning of plastics. The Senator was so surprised that he wanted to ask many questions of the Mayor of Tel Aviv. I must say that the Mayor acquitted himself in a remarkable manner. As he began to talk to us, Senator Pepper repeated a conversation that he had had with the Prime Minister of Iraq. He told Senator Pepper that they would rather give the Jews anything — but not give them a Jewish State, for 'they will then organize an army of 300,000 to dominate the East!' Pepper's answer was 'I offered him a United States guarantee that they would not have an army of 300,000 but want only a Jewish State in Palestine.' Senator Pepper then addressed the Mayor — 'Mr. Mayor, how long have you been here?' 'Why, I was born here before it was Tel Aviv! My family has been here over 105 years!'

"Then Mayor Rokeach turned to Senator Pepper. 'Senator Pepper', he asked 'will you tell me what harm we have done to anyone by building up Tel Aviv? This was nothing but a waste and desert thirty-five years ago!' 'I don't know what the complaints are about', said the Senator. We then went on to Givat Brenner and viewed the agricultural development. I must tell you that when Pepper was looking at the children there were tears in his eyes. He said 'You know, when I am sitting in Capitol Hill as a legislator, I won't forget the children of Givat Brenner!' I am convinced that if we could only show Palestine, not talk about it, we would win our program; perhaps it is a big mistake we make when we try to pump visitors full of information. Senator Pepper's secretary, a young man who was opposed to Zionism but is now a Zionist said 'But why do you people get so excited when you are asked a question?' Pepper is our friend and these problems must be answered. I must say the rest of the day was quite different. The children convince better than any of the arguments. I want to contrast that with what happened when two other members of Congress came to Palestine! Frances Bolton and Mund. Frances Bolton came in and bolted out in one afternoon. All she did was to take testimony as if this were a trial. She did not see a single colony.

"I spent a night in Herzlia. I remember when it was started in 1924. You ought to see Herzlia today, with a population of over 6,000. They are talking about a bond issue to build up their seashore. In any event, the most impressive thing is their seashore development; only about six kilometers from Tel Aviv, so it really is no more than a few miles and you have a wonderful beach — perhaps the finest in all Palestine. I stayed one night in a first class pension, and had breakfast in the home of Mr. Deutsch, the father of the winner of the Olympic swimming contest before the war in Germany. Besides being the owner of a first-class hotel, he is breeding ornamental fish, gold fish, silver fish, etc., for trade all over the near east. Herzlia was celebrating twenty years of existence. In Jerusalem I talked to Ulitzer to get the story of Herzlia and other colonies of the American Zion Commonwealth. If I were to tell you that the American Zion Commonwealth paid back every nickel advanced with 7% interest and has been paying not only the Keren Hayesod but the Haifa Bay Administration expenses, and in addition to that Ulitzer figures that the land left after paying everything off is worth over at least 100,000 Pounds, then you will understand what this means to the country. They say 'Why don't you revive it and give us more money?' Their report will probably come in within the next four to five months. One other American achievement only can be compared with it, and that is Hadassah and its medical unit.

"I want to tell you about Keren Hayesod. In the first place I found a rather peculiar situation. It is my duty to retell this to Keren Hayesod

here. They have built first class personnel, first class secretaries — a fine institution. But they have no power of decision. When it comes to a question of what Keren Hayesod is doing, you get an order from the Executive of the Agency. Keren Hayesod is only the treasury of the Jewish Agency. We direct campaigns in South America and England — but as far as Palestine is concerned, it is practically submerged in the Jewish Agency. For example, there was a serious situation with respect to Tiberias. They were losing Jewish population — becoming more Arab than Jewish. So a few first-class Jewish business men, promoters if you please, stepped in and are doing a marvelous job. Some of these people became rich during the war — they wanted to do something worthwhile for the country. Then they came to Keren Hayesod and Keren Kayemeth and said this is not only a private enterprise, but also a public enterprise and Keren Hayesod joined at the request of the Jewish Agency for the protection and development of Tiberias. The directorate of Keren Hayesod ought to be given generally an independent status so that it can do something on its own, even if only 20% of the money collected by it.

Someone of the Keren Hayesod in America, because so much money does come from here, should be in constant touch and go to Palestine at least once in two years to get the feel of Palestine. The time has come for the World Congress to recognize Keren Hayesod representatives in Palestine from America.

I want to say one thing that Dr. Tannenbaum touched on. Palestine is a rich country. The banks can give money for any enterprise. American administrative ability and ingenuity is needed more than money — administrative skill and know-how is much more important than the money in Palestine.

Palestine is hungry for dollars. They have pounds sterling galore. Do you know that the English spent 120 million pounds during the war? One hundred twenty million pounds were spent for war use. But they got products for it. You learn from the British that they spent so much money in Palestine that they have to devise ways to get it back. They are getting it through monopolistic power, through the Near East Purchasing Corporation. No fish is allowed to come in except through the Near East Purchasing Corp. The British buy it at seventy pounds a ton. They then resell it to the Palestine Wholesale merchants for seven hundred pounds a ton — one thousand per cent profit. You can't import anything without their consent through import licenses. Every Jew who comes from America would like to import something from America. How can they change their money into dollars! I met many of them, and sent them to see Eleazer Kaplan and he gave me a good picture of what one said to him — an American Jew. He had two sons here who want to bring Frigidaires into Palestine. A used Frigidaire in Palestine today, if you can get it, sells for 130 pounds — over \$500.00 for a used Frigidaire. This man has plenty of pounds, but he would like to have his sons send him Frigidaires. "Maybe you can help me get dollars", said he; but I later saw Kaplan who told him that there were three priorities. "Our first priority is agricultural machinery, then machines for industry, and if you think that after we satisfy these two, you can still want to bring in Frigidaires", said Kaplan, — Frigidaires will have to wait. The Jewish Agency has a public policy. Now we are saving money here. We will have to donate a few more dollars over and above what we have given before, we will hear more about this from Mr. Hammer.

You have a remarkable situation in Palestine where free enterprise combines with the national funds to build up the country. What the world today is looking for — there you have it — the bridge between

capital and labor. No one business man in Palestine is opposed to the highest possible wage for labor.

Nesher Cement Works was organized back in 1920's with an investment of 200,000 pounds and now from the profits and the value of the land there is besides one half million pounds or more that lies in the bank. They just sold the land and factory to a syndicate headed by Solel Boneh for a cool million pounds. The fact is that Shemen was also purchased by Solel Boneh and they are building the bridge between capital and labor to such an extent that if it were done in this country, you would say that a new economic system was being inaugurated.

At the World Congress, American Zionists must take the position that when a Zionist goes for a temporary or perhaps permanent settlement to Palestine, he does not cease to be an American Zionist. It will be healthier not only for us but even more important for Palestine to have this connection cemented.

MR. ROCKER: Did you observe any immigration going on despite the White Paper?

JUDGE ROSENBLATT: The week before I left, some 380 so-called illegal immigrants landed near Natanya Beach.

MR. ROCKER: Are Jews making any effort toward the good-will of the Arabs?

JUDGE ROSENBLATT: There is no chance for an explosion unless the British desire it. The Arabs are in a position where they don't want to fight. The Arabs over there say this time the British can not get us to rise against the Jews. The order will have to come from London. It cannot come from Palestine.

Mr. Hammer then delivered a report on the work of the Jewish Agency in this country, particularly in the benefit of matters for Palestine. The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

SEYMOUR R. LEVINE
Secretary

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND
(KEREN HAYESOD), INC. ON DECEMBER 13, 1945.

The annual meeting of the Palestine Foundation Fund (Keren Hayesod), Inc. was held on Thursday evening, December 13th, at 8:00 P.M. in the Library of the Keren Hayesod, 41 East 42nd Street, New York.

PRESENT:

There were present: Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt in the chair; Herman W. Bernstein, Sol Cohen, Mrs. Arthur Ellis, Harry P. Fierst, Mitchell Salem Fisher, Daniel Frisch, Joseph Goldberg, S. S. Gross, Mrs. Emanuel Halpern, Dr. Jacob Hoffman, Samuel Inselbuch, Jacob Ish-Kishor, Mrs. Edward Jacobs, Jacob Kraushar, Abraham Krumbein, Dr. Harris J. Levine, Seymour R. Levine, Abraham L. Liebovitz, Jack Lukashok, Samuel Markewich, Jacob Marrus, J. Proujansky, A. A. Redelheim, Charles Ress, Dwora Rothbard, Louis J. Schwefel, Robert Silverman, Rudolph Sonneborn, Miss Helen Vogel, Morris Weinberg, Herman L. Weisman, David Wertheim and Charles Wolf. By invitation: Dr. Michael Traub.

Excuses for absence were received from Messrs. Mark Eisner Samuel Perry, Sol Reiter.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

In the absence of the treasurers and the chairman of the Finance Committee, the following financial report was rendered by Mr. Seymour Levine:

FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 1945 to NOVEMBER 30, 1945

Receipts

United Palestine Appeal income	36,050,000.00
Latin American income (rec'd in New York)	173,055.38
Bequests	7,239.22

On hand

Bonds	\$15,750.00
Bank balance	469,705.33

Disbursements

Headquarters	31,012.79	
Payments for Keren Hayesod, Jerusalem	23,695.34	
Payments " Jewish Agency "	1,116,725.78	(includes Trading Acct.)
Payments Latin American activities	64,704.58	
Regular remittances to Palestine	4,050,000.00	
Latin-American remittance "	59,865.24	
American Zionist Emergency Council	242,748.00	
Independent Jewish Press Service	750.00	
Commission on Palestine Surveys	30,000.00	
Jewish Agency - Palcor	7,499.98	
Jewish Agency - Hechalutz	16,000.00	
Jewish Agency office budget	122,464.54	(in United States)
Remittance of bequests	3,701.47	
American Friends of Hebrew Univ.	15,000.00	
Advance to Palestine Exhibits	1,001.00	

APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE:

The chairman appointed a Nominations Committee, which was asked to retire to another room in order to discuss nominations for the Board of Directors of the Keren Hayesod for the ensuing year. He stated that the members present were designees of the Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah, Poale Zion and Mizrachi numbering 100, plus four permanent members. These 104 members were to elect 125 Board members. He added that of the 21 members at large to be elected, two were to be designated by Poale Zion and two by Mizrachi. He thereupon appointed the following Nominations Committee: Joseph Goldberg, S. S. Gross, Jacob Ish-Kishor, Harry Fierst, David Wertheim, Jacob Knaushar, and Louis Schwefel.

DATE FOR MEETING OF THE BOARD:

The chairman stated that according to the by-laws of the Keren Hayesod, the first meeting of the Board, following the annual meeting, must be held within a month after the annual meeting.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the first meeting of the Board to

be elected take place on Thursday evening, December 27th.

APPOINTMENT OF KEREN HAYESOD MEMBERS OF JOINT KH-KK COMMITTEE:

The chairman reported that he had been urged by the Jewish National Fund to name the Keren Hayesod members of the Joint Keren Hayesod-Keren Kayemeth Committee, to meet with the Keren Kayemeth members for the purpose of discussing immediate problems of mutual interest. However, in view of the fact that the 1946 United Jewish Appeal had been set up some months ago, there was no necessity for taking precipitate action. Also, in view of the fact that a new administration was to be elected, he felt it inadvisable to appoint the Keren Hayesod members. He added that the Keren Hayesod had received an invitation from the United Palestine Appeal to the United Jewish Appeal conference in Atlantic City, to be followed by a United Palestine Appeal conference to be attended by the United Palestine Appeal Board of Directors as well as members of the Joint Keren Hayesod-Keren Kayemeth Committee. He pointed out that inasmuch as the members of the Joint Committee for 1945 were already members of the UPA Board, there seemed to be no need for additional appointments.

After a lengthy discussion, it was moved, seconded and carried that in addition to the Keren Hayesod members of the Joint Committee, who were already on the UPA Board, the following should constitute a temporary committee to represent the Keren Hayesod at the UPA meeting on December 18th: Daniel Frisch, Leon Gellman Abraham Krumbein, Emanuel Neumann, Sol Reiter, Charless Ress and David Wertheim.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE:

Mr. Louis Schwefel, Chairman of the Nominations Committee, reported for the Committee as follows: The Nominations Committee had before it five lists of designees: 62 representing the Zionist Organization of America, 12 representing Poale Zion, 11 representing Mizrachi, 8 representing Hadassah and 7 representing Bnai Zion. In addition, there were four permanent members. This made up a list

104 names which the committee considered and accepted as being representative of the respective organizations. Of the remaining 21 names, the past practice had been accepted and Poale Zion and Mizrachi were asked to name two members each, thus leaving 17 places to be filled, apart from the party designees. He thereupon read the list which had been approved by the Nominations Committee. (A copy of the list will be appended to the minutes of the forthcoming Board meeting.)

The list was unanimously adopted as read, and will constitute the Board of Directors of the Keren Hayesod for 1946.

KEREN HAYESOD RELATIONS WITH UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL:

With the eyes of American Zionists focussed on political events, Mr. Weisman pointed out that the raising of funds was an important political factor. He stated that in the past 24 years, ending June 30, 1945, the two national funds contributed a total of \$47,000,000. The first 18 years yielded 55% of this amount while the last 6 years yielded 45%, so that the tempo was almost trebled in the past 6 years. On this record, said Mr. Weisman, our leaders ought to hesitate somewhat in intimating that the Zionists throughout the country have not played a significant role in raising this sum. It was the Zionists who responded. For 1946 a new high in goals was set - \$100,000,000, of which \$43,000,000 is applied to the United Palestine Appeal and \$47,000,000 to the Joint Distribution Committee requirements, the \$43,000,000 to be distributed evenly, after deductions for expenses, between the Keren Hayesod and the Keren Kayemeth.

Mr. Weisman pointed out that it was incorrect to take the position that the Keren Hayesod had no place in the pattern of things because it was not actually a fund-raising institution. He indicated that from that point of view the United Palestine Appeal was not a fund-raising body - nor was the United Jewish

Appeal. The funds were raised by local Welfare Funds, for the most part. For that reason it is important to keep all the funds before the Jewish communities throughout the country, and he regarded it especially essential to keep the American Jewish public informed about what the Keren Hayesod funds achieve in Palestine. He believed that the Zionists should be brought closer to the fund-raising picture, and that they should be in control of the funds. He urged closer cooperation on the part of all, so that the \$100,000,000 UJA quota might be met.

There was some discussion concerning the proposal that the United Palestine Appeal set up councils throughout the country, but the matter was left for more detailed discussion at a subsequent meeting.

PALESTINE RESOLUTION:

The chairman believed that the meeting should not adjourn with a word being said about the passage of the resolution on Palestine by the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate. He believed that Zionists throughout the country owed a vote of thanks to the Emergency Council, and more particularly to Dr. Emanuel Neumann who, in the absence of Dr. Silver from the country, carried on all the negotiations, etc. He felt that it was the first step in the direction of breaking the chain of events against the Jewish people, and hoped that when the resolution passed through the Senate and the House, the Zionists of America might look with some hope toward the realization of their aim.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

BERNARD A. ROSENBLATT
President

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD), INC.
DECEMBER 27, 1945

The first meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors of the Palestine Foundation Fund (Keren Hayesod), Inc. was held on Thursday evening, December 27th, 1945 at the Hotel Biltmore at 6:30 P.M.

PRESENT:

There were present: Messrs. Samuel Berson, Jacob H. Cohen, Sol Cohen, Harry P. Fierst, Mrs. Harry P. Fierst, Messrs. Mitchel Salem Fisher, Hyman J. Fliegel, Daniel Frisch, Jacob Goodman, Dr. S.S. Gross, Messrs. Charles Gutwirth, Samuel Inselbuch, Jacob Ish-Kishor, Mrs. Rose Jacobs, Rabbi I.M. Kowalsky, Mr. A. Krumbein, Dr. Harris J. Levine, Mr. Jacob Lkashok, Rabbi Irving Miller, Messrs. Max Perlman, Milton Pollock, Sol Reiter, Charles Ress, Bernard A. Rosenblatt, Louis J. Schwefel, Dr. David Sheitlis and Messrs. Robert Silverman, Rudolph Sonnenborn, Sigmund Thau, Herman L. Weisman, Charles Wolf.

By invitation: Messrs. Yale Goldberg, Leo Herrmann and Dr. M. Traub

Mr. Weisman, in the Chair, welcomed the newly elected members of the Board of Directors to the first meeting, and stated that he had been indicated to serve as interim Chairman. He added that the first item of business would be the appointment of a Nominations Committee who would be asked to bring in a list of Nominees for Keren Hayesod offices for the ensuing year.

APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE:

The Chairman appointed the following to serve on the Nominations Committee:- Jacob Goodman, Harris Levine, Samuel Inselbuch and Rabbi I.M. Kowalsky, and asked them to bring in their recommendations for Officers and Administrative Committee of the Keren Hayesod.

HECHALUTZ:

The Chairman stated that a communication had been received by the Keren Hayesod dated November 3, 1945, over the signatures of Messrs. Hantke and Kaplan of Jerusalem, approving the payment of \$16,000.00 to Hechalutz. It was explained that action on the cable had been postponed pending the election of the new Administrative Committee of the Keren Hayesod.

Attention was called to the fact that inasmuch as this amount was to be made available to an American Hechalutz, it was within the province of the American Keren Hayesod to make inquiry concerning Hechalutz activities, budget, etc.

It was therefore moved, seconded and carried

THAT a communication be directed to the Hechalutz Organization of America advising them of the position of the Keren Hayesod and asking for relevant information which would guide the Hechalutz in its decision, and

THAT the Administrative Committee be authorized to discuss the matter on the basis of the material received from Hechalutz, with full power to act.

INDEPENDENT JEWISH PRESS SERVICE:

The Chairman introduced a communication from Mr. J.L. Teller, editor of the Independent Jewish Press Service, who expressed concern for the future of the Press Service because of the paucity of funds. Mr. Teller expressed surprise at the fact that while the United Jewish Appeal allocated \$50,000 as a payment to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency which represented only a part of its profit, he had not succeeded in securing from the United Palestine Appeal anything like an adequate subsidy for the maintenance of what he regarded as an important Zionist service.

A lengthy discussion ensued in the course of which Mr. Silverman urged that the Keren Hayesod make a substantial allocation to the Press Service. He felt that in addition to being an effective Zionist medium for the dissemination of Palestine news the Press Service acted as a counter-foil to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency bulletin. After other members of the Board participated in the discussion, it was moved by Mr. Frisch

THAT in order to save the Service the Keren Hayesod double its subscription to the Service, subject to the report of the sub-committee. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried. The committee appointed by the Chairman consisted of Rabbi I.M. Kowalsky, Dr. Jacob Lukashok and Mr. Louis J. Schwefel as Chairman.

The gentlemen were asked to meet at the earliest possible moment in order to help the Independent Jewish Press

Mr. Leo Herrman, Director of the Keren Hayesod in Jerusalem brought greetings to the meeting on behalf of Jewish Palestine. Dr. Traub reported on the work of the Keren Hayesod in Latin-American countries, and

urged that the Keren Hayesod engage in a propaganda program in the United States.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE:

The Chairman of the Nominations Committee, Mr. Jacob Goodman expressed his thanks to his colleagues on the committee for their cooperation and reported for the committee that it had been decided to recommend that an additional office be created. Since the setting up of the slate depended upon the acceptance of that proposal by the Board, he had hoped that it would be acted upon at once. The recommendation asked for the election by the Board, of a Chairman of the Administrative Committee who would be someone other than the President of the Keren Hayesod, as was indicated by the present By-Laws. He added that the Administrative Committee was the equivalent of the Executive Committee of the Zionist Organization of America, that it would meet semi-monthly and carry the entire function and burden of the Keren Hayesod. Mr. Goodman moved that the recommendation of the Nominations Committee be accepted.

In reply to the question whether this was correct procedure, Judge Rosenblatt reported that he himself had gone over the By-Laws and that he was certain that the procedure was correct and legal. Mr. Goodman's motion was thereupon seconded and duly carried. The Chairman of the Nominations Committee then submitted the following list of recommendations:

President, Bernard A. Rosenblatt; Chairman of Board of Directors, Herman L. Weisman; Honorary Chairmen, Leon Gellman, Mrs. Edward Jacobs, Louis Lipsky, Henry Monsky, David Pinsky, Drs. Abba Hillel Silver and Stephen S. Wise; Vice Chairmen, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Dr. Israel Goldstein

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For the record the Chairman read the completed list of members of the Board of Directors to which the parties had added their candidates as: Z. Baumgold, Miss Juliet L. Benjamin, Oscar Berman, Maurice Bernhardt, Herman W. Bernstein, Samuel Berson, S. Bonchek, Samuel Caploe, Miss Naomi Chertoff, M. I. Cohen, Frank Cohen, Jacob H. Cohen, Sol Cohen, Max Doft, Mark Eisner, Judge Henry Ellenbogen, Mrs. Arthur Ellis, Harry P. Fierst, Mrs. Harry P. Fierst, Dr. Mitchell Salem Fisher, Hyman J. Fliegel, William Fondiller, George I. Fox, Daniel Frisch, Suggs Garber, Leon Gellman, Kalman Ginzburg, Joseph Goldberg, Harold Goldenberg, Mrs. B.J. Goldstein, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Joseph Goldstein, Samuel Goldstock, Abraham Goodman, Jack Goodman, Judge Louis E. Goodman, J. Gootman, Judge Emanuel Greenberg, Dr. S.S. Gross, Dr. H. Grushkin, Charles Gutwirth, Mrs. Emanuel Halpern, Rabbi Harry Halpern, Isaac Hamlin, Dr. Benjamin B. Harris, Samuel Hausman, James G. Heller, Sidney Herold, Dr. Jacob Hoffman, Herman Hollander, Samuel Inselbuch, Jacob Ish-Kishor, B. Itzkowitz, Mrs. Edward Jacobs, Marvin Kane, Rabbi Max Kirschbloom, Edmund I. Koblenz, Joseph Kohn, Rabbi I.M. Kowalsky, Mrs. Siegfried Krenarsky

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It was moved, seconded and carried that the secretary be empowered to cast one ballot.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

LOUIS J. SCHWEEEL
Secretary

Palestine Foundation Fund . קרן היסוד

(KEREN HAYESOD) Inc. - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

41 EAST 42nd STREET
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February 20, 1946

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD), INC.

Dear Friends:

We are enclosing herewith a copy of the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Palestine Foundation Fund (Keren Hayesod), Inc. held on December 13th, 1945 in the Zionist Archives and Library.

We are also enclosing a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Keren Hayesod, held at the Biltmore Hotel on December 27th, 1945.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Herman L. Weisman

Herman L. Weisman, Chairman
Board of Directors

hlw/rs
encls

MINUTES OF THE INNER COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1946
KEREN HAYESOD CONFERENCE ROOM

PRESENT: Rabbi Irving Miller, Presiding, Mark Sugarman, Jacques Torczyner, Abe Goodman, Joseph Greenleaf, Harry Shapiro, Br. Sidney Marks, Dr. David Tannenbaum, Dr. Shlomo Bardin, Charles Ress, Jacob Coleman

Rev. Richard Evans:

The problem of Rev. Evans was called to the attention of the meeting. Dr. Marks reported that Rev. Evans was within the city of New York but had not come anywhere near the office. In fact, a newspaper item noted his participation in a War Veterans Service. Dr. Marks also indicated that another unfortunate financial transaction had come to light and reimbursement was being made by us with the charge being made against Rev. Evans' severance pay. In order to circumvent any future possibilities of occurrences of a similar nature, Dr. Marks suggested that a letter be sent to the country at large notifying them of his severance. It was unanimously decided that such a letter be carefully drawn up, and, after consultation with Rabbi Miller, be circulated throughout the entire country.

Palestine Economic Bureau

Dr. David Tannenbaum reported on an arrangement we had with the American Economic Committee for Palestine wherein \$5500 was expended for their informational and consultative services last year. Dr. Tannenbaum had consulted with Mr. Pollack and had been informed that he could not pass upon this until it had been resolved as a matter of policy by this Committee. Dr. Tannenbaum advised the Committee that this agreement expires in February and that a new budget was being compiled for the American Economic Committee for Palestine. This research group has requested an increase to \$10,000, but Dr. Tannenbaum and Mr. Sugarman, in consultation, had decided that this sum was disproportionate to the needs of the Bureau. It was decided that an arrangement be made for the balance of the fiscal year and a sum of \$4125 which consists of three quarterly payments of \$1375 be given to the American Economic Committee for Palestine on behalf of the Bureau and that the agreement be renewed on that basis.

Rabbi Miller raised the question of the Palestine Economic Bureau and the possibility that it be made the concern of all parties, through the Keren Hayesod. Mr. Ress indicated that it would require some real thinking on the activities of the Keren Hayesod in this country and stated that a precedent is to be found in the Zionist Library and Archives. It is a matter to be decided by American Zionists, he felt.

Rabbi Miller stated that the Z.O.A. controls the Palestine Economic Bureau and only the Z.O.A. Executive has the power to transfer this activity to the Keren Hayesod. Rabbi Miller suggested that Mr. Ress take the matter up with the Administrative Committee of the Keren Hayesod and that a letter be written to the Z.O.A. requesting such transfer. At that point, the National Executive Committee will pass on it. The Inner Committee will recommend favorable action.

Building:

Mr. Sugarman reported on the availability of a building at 4th Street and Madison Avenue. He indicated that this had been inspected by Mr. Goodman, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Sugarman, and Mr. Pollack. Before proceeding with further negotiations, he stated that it would be necessary to make arrangements for funds. Judge Rosenblatt and Mr. Ress were to be at the meeting.

Apparently, the Jewish National Fund is becoming more receptive, as Mr. Fisher had approached the Building Committee and indicated that they may be interested in participating.

Mr. Coleman indicated that steps should be taken to insure the availability of these funds. People, Mr. Kaminsky and others, should be made parties of interest in these proposals. Mr. Sugarman stated that a letter has been prepared, addressed to Mr. Ress and Judge Rosenblatt, seeking the assurance that the Keren Hayesod would make available a sum of \$300,000 if necessary, with the assurance that they would secure a tenancy at a fair rental. There is a possibility that these funds may be applied towards rent.

There is also the proposition that second mortgage bonds be sold of \$1000 denominations to refund the amount advanced by Keren Hayesod.

Mr. Mendel Fisher, and Judge Rothenberg are to receive letters and if they desire to participate, this initial advance will be shared by both Funds. It was decided that Rabbi Miller follow up the transaction by appropriate phone calls to Judge Rothenberg and Mr. Ress. The money will be advanced on the word of the Zionist Organization of America and Mr. Coleman will handle the prospects for purchase of these amortization bonds.

Convention:

Dr. Marks reported on the inability to secure a Convention date in the Mid-west. He stated that he had explored the situation rather thoroughly and had been unable to secure early Convention dates.

Rabbi Miller stated the proposition to be discussed as whether time of Convention is more important or whether place of convention is more important. It was decided that the time of the Convention was of primary importance and that the middle of October is most suitable. Under those circumstances, it was decided to empower Dr. Marks to find available space, whether it be in the East or the West, for the middle of October, for the staging of the Convention.

Palestine Bureau:

Dr. Marks reported that a meeting had taken place of all party representatives in reference to the reconstitution of the Palestine Bureau. A suggestion had been made that the Palestine Bureau receive contributive shares from the various parties.

The point was made that tremendous prestige accrues to the organization and contributions from other organizations would not recompense us for the goodwill of our expenditures. It was decided that a committee be appointed to study the reconstitution of the Palestine Bureau and ascertain whether we shall continue the present arrangement or whether we shall operate on a contributive basis from other parties, or whether a subsidy can be secured from the Jewish Agency.

Dr. Shlomo Bardin

Dr. Bardin has just returned from Palestine and rendered a brief report, on his trip. He indicated that he had been requested by Dr. Goldstein to survey General Zionism in Palestine and the General Zionist settlement groups. In substance his remarks were as follows:

There is a united Yishuv and the only other large integrated group was to be found in the United States. In the Yishuv, General Zionist groups have no backing. All other parties provide additional backing in addition to the general allocations made by the Agency funds. This makes a serious problem for our youth. As an illustration, scouts, which represent a large youth group within the country, eventually go to the labor groups when they graduate by reason of the additional funds which are provided. These additional funds are given by the other parties to the various kibbutzim maintained by them.

We have General Zionist groups in six settlements. They have a large educational institution. Since we provide them with no additional monies, they cannot send shlichim. It is necessary for us to tie up physically, groups in this country with those in Palestine. The groups here in America should maintain a liason with the units in Palestine. In furthering this program, direct contact should be made with our own groups, our own General Zionist groups in the Yishuv.

The largest number of Zionists from Europe are coming into Palestine, contrary to current report, wholesome and splendid material. There is a need to corral American skills for Palestine. Chalutzim claim full prerogatives and are not concerned with limited services. Palestine is interested in America and every large group in Palestine requested us to send them people who are first-rate in skills. These skills may range from excellent typists to businessmen who would stay three or four years. They would include every trade. These temporary employees may not subscribe to the chalutz conception, but their skills would make a permanent impress and impact upon the Palestinian economy. It is the General Zionists who can provide these people, who should be of the age spread of 18-35.

Dr. Bardin stated that there is very little value in training agricultural people here. He questions the complete efficacy of hachshara and stated that what is needed is activity such as dietetics, home economics, professional people like dressmakers and other aspects of practical economics. If agricultural training is to be given here, it should be received in the best schools devoted to agriculture.

Dr. Bardin stated that programs and materials are needed from Palestine. We have adequate political material, but not enough material which can be used to arouse people. He has arranged for these materials to be sent to us and has commissioned, in conjunction with the Jewish Agency, materials from Palestine, writers, poets, composers. He stated that a more direct liason is needed with them. It is necessary to send someone to Palestine, with a public relations sense, for a period of one year in order to secure these materials. He recommended that after a year, someone else should be sent who can objectively pass upon these materials. Their very presence in Palestine so enthralls them that they might possibly lose perspective.

Dr. Bardin stated that people are needed here from Palestine for Brandeis Camp and for a reawakening of the American Zionist scene culturally. He has secured two for that purpose, and more are needed.

Dr. Bardin suggested that we send our own young people to Palestine. We send them on fellowships. He has already made arrangements with Rutenberg House to take these leaders from our country and train them. Rutenberg House will accept our leaders for a one-year fellowship, which will cost \$1500 for each fellowship. He recommended that we send ten people. South America has adopted a similar plan. The housing problem is difficult. If we could send them to a kibbutz, it would be satisfactory otherwise they would be lost.

He stated that every aliyah had its own pattern. It is necessary for us to create in Palestine an institution which can take in all English-speaking groups. They need what corresponds to an International House in Palestine. In this house, one-third of the tenants should consist of American and other groups and two-thirds should come from Palestine so that the association would provide a greater facility in language and a greater insight into Palestinian customs and usages.

Mr. Goodman expressed his gratefulness to Dr. Bardin on behalf of the Inner Committee. Rabbi Miller stated that steps would be taken to implement these suggestions. Mr. Greenleaf spoke of the work which the Mt. Vernon Zionist District is doing along some of the lines recommended by Dr. Bardin.

Shekel Board:

Dr. Marks read a telegram from Mr. Daniel Frisch wherein he declined the chairmanship of the Z.O.A. Shekel Board. Mr. Jacques Torczyner was thereupon appointed in his place instead.

Hyman Shoulson:

After a discussion with Mr. Harry Shapiro, Mr. Shoulson is to be employed by the American Zionist Emergency Council in their Washington office at the salary of \$6000.

The Executive Union:

Mr. Shapiro reported on negotiations with the Executive Union and stated that one meeting had been held with representatives of the Union, which was unsatisfactory since no proposition had been presented and another meeting was had with the Union organizer. This entire matter of wages and relationship will be made the major subject of the next meeting of the Inner Committee and a complete chart is to be prepared for a review of all problems in connection therewith.

Miscellaneous:

In the discussion, Rabbi Miller indicated that he would be present in the Zionist offices every Wednesday and devote the entire day to Zionist business. He stated that the Committee should spend most of their time on one major problem at each meeting and several of the problems which will be resolved include; Regional organization, and New Palestine. The next meeting will devote its major time to the Union problem and if any time is available, to the New Palestine. The meeting was adjourned.

Dr. Sidney Marks,
Executive Director

Palestine Foundation Fund . קרן היסוד

(KEREN HAYESOD) Inc. - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

41 EAST 42nd STREET
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March 27, 1496

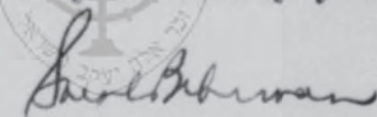
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Dear Dr. Silver:

At the request of Mr. Ress I am sending you attached herewith a copy of a cable just received from Palestine in which you will undoubtedly be interested.

Very cordially yours,



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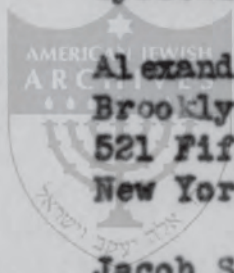
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975 Walton Ave
Bronx, N.Y.

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Poale Zion
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210 Blackstone Blvd
Providence, R.I.

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2819 N. 44th St.
Milwaukee, Wisc

ZOA Robert Silverman
United Palestine Appeal
41 E. 42nd St.
New York, N.Y.

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295 Madison Ave
New York, N.Y.

PZ Dr. Saul Sokal
Poale Zion
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New York, N.Y.

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1020 Commerce Title Bldg
Memphis, Tenn

ZOA Dr. Harold M. Weinberg
32 W. 23rd St.
New York, N.Y.

ZOA Morris Weinberg
The Day
183 E. Broadway
New York, N.Y.

[undated]

C O P Y

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JERUSALEM 34 25

(ROOM 1111)

NLT KERYESOD (TRY KERYESSOD, PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND 41 E 42 St.)

NEWYORK

RECEIVED COMPLAINTS RE DECISION FOR GENERAL ZIONISTS COLONISATION
FUND AND LOAN STOP EXECUTIVE FULL MEETING DECIDED ASK YOU CABLE
FACTS EXPLANATION AND ABSTAIN ANY ACTION UNTIL FURTHER INSTRUCTION

EXECUTIVE JEWISH AGENCY



Bureau of the ZOA.

The reaction of the Finance Committee was that it would be unwise for the Keren Hayesod to share in the maintenance of the Bureau, but that the Keren Hayesod might entertain the advisability of taking full responsibility for the Bureau.

The opinion was offered that the Palestine Bureau was properly within the province of the Keren Hayesod in the United States, as it was in Palestine, and it was suggested that a subcommittee be appointed to discuss the matter with the ZOA, with that in view.

It was moved, seconded and carried that a sub-committee be appointed to discuss the whole matter with the ZOA and to report back to the Keren Hayesod.

JEWSH AGENCY OFFICE BUDGET:

The chairman stated that prior to his departure from the United States, Mr. Eliezer Kaplan had authorized a budget of \$132,000 for the maintenance of the Jewish Agency office in New York for 1945-46. This, he stated, represented a substantial increase over the budget of the previous year. He noted that the Jewish Agency was setting up an office in Washington and would at the same time maintain an office in New York.

After a full discussion, it was moved, seconded and carried

THAT in view of the many changes envisaged in the next few months, there should be no action on the matter of the whole year's budget, but that for the next two months payments should be made to the Jewish Agency on the basis of the increased budget, with the understanding that in the meantime the American representatives of the Jewish Agency should be asked to make available whatever information they have on the matter, so that the Keren Hayesod may act on an informed basis with respect to future payments.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

BERNARD L. WEISSMAN

Chairman, Board of Directors