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Kfar Silver, 1953-1955.

A. H. Silver Agricultural School To Open September 1954

Jacques Torczyner Visits Kfar Silver

KFAR LEZION (INeS). — "The Kfar Silver project promises to be of great importance for the whole country, and Is hall do everything to ensure that it receives the fullest of support from the ZOA" said Mr. Jacques Torczyner, ZOA Vice-President, during a visit to the site where the Abba Hillel Silver Agricultural School is being built. Mr. Torczyner availed himself of the opportunity of his visit to Israel to inspect the buildings already under construction.

The school which, when completed, will have cost about one and a half million dollars, will be able to accommodate 300 students, who will pass a three-year course of instruction in all fields of agriculture appropriate to the country. Situated a few miles from Ascalon on the coastal plain, in what once was the granary of the Levant, the large and fertile fields allocated to the school from the public domain and from abandoned property are eminently suitable for the purpose. It is envisaged that their produce

will assist in covering the school's current expenditure; part of which will have to come out of scholarships to be founded by donors and institutions in Israel and abroad.

The General Zionist Organization, which started the project in 1951 during Dr. Silver's visit to Israel, has thus far invested some IL. 200,000.- The General Zionist Executive has requested the ZOA to grant the school priority amongst its Israel projects.

Israel News Service, June, 1953



Kfar Silver in process of building

Centre: Mr. J. Torczyner, vice-president of the ZOA, Mr. H. Danieli and Mr. Kizelstein, members of the General Zionist Exetutive poring over blueprints.

ISRAEL NEWS SERVICE

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MARGINAL NOTES

By ANALYST

INEQUALITY IN TAXATION

It is a matter of general knowledge that in the last five years the Kibbutzim have made enormous profits. The bulk of agricultural equipment received from the United States was turned over to the Kibbutzim at a price which represents only a fraction of its real value. About 70% of credits granted to agriculture were allocated to the kibbutzim, although the percentage of the kibbutz population within the general farming community is no more than about 40%. It is no wonder that in the last three years the production of the kibbutzim has doubled, while their population grew by 8% only. These figures, released by the statistical department of the Bank Leumi, indicate the rapid growth of profits which accrued to the kibbutzim in recent years.

While the kibbutzim were accorded preferential treatment in the allocation of labour saving equipment and bank credits, they were placed in an even more privileged position as regards income tax. Recent statistics reveal that during the fiscal year of 1952/53 all the kibbutzim together were liable to pay the sum of IL 250,000.— only by way of income tax. If we divide this figure by 35,000.— which is the number of working people in the kibbutzim, the result is that the contribution of a kibbutz member to income tax is less than IL 8.— per annum. The absurdity of the figure becomes apparent when compared with the income tax paid by wage earners. Suffice to point that the average unskilled wage earner pays by way of income tax more than IL 8.— per month. It is rather ironical that the thousands of hands employed by the kibbutzim as hired labour pay a higher amount of income tax than their employers.

This virtual exemption from the burden of income tax is not confined to kibbutzim; for it extends, by the operation of law, to the great majority of Histadrut controlled enterprise. The rapid growth of the Histadrut economy accompanied by the rapid transfer of wealth from the private to the socialist sector, was brought about by the preferential treatment accorded to the latter in the allocation of funds and equipment and by its virtual exemption from income tax. In order to redress this evil and to place the private sector on a footing of equality with the socialist sector it is necessary to abolish privileges in matters of taxation and economic policy in general.

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ISRAEL AND THE DIASPORA

Despite the formal character of its agenda, the December meeting of the Zionist General Council in Jerusalem will be confronted, fundamentally, by the basic problem which was not solved but shelved at the last Zionist Congress. This is the relationship, in principle and practice, between the State of Israel and the Jewish people, of whom the vast majority are abroad, and likely to remain abroad for a considerable period. Since the discussion on the subject was initiated at the Congress, it has not ceased; but it is time that conclusions were drawn and decisions adopted. For those who still think that the Diaspora must be written off, at least to the extent that Jews, from there do not come to Israel, the solution is easy. Easy but dangerous: it not only ignores the urgent needs of Israel itself, now and for a long time ahead; it not only dooms the people as a whole; but it flouts our entire history. It is in a very real sense "to fly in the face of Providence."

Fortunately these thinkers appear to have lost ground in the international symposium held since 1951 or rather since the State arose. It is now being increasingly realised that both in outlook and in execution we must accept the dual nature of the Jewish people, at least at present and for off, at least to the extent that which constitutes the State of Israel, and a part of which resides elsewhere. The political and civic allegiance of Jews abroad to their countries of domicile in no way impinges on their love for Israel. Their separate national loyalty in no ways excludes their sentimental attachment to and practical co-operation with the Jews in Israel. This conception must now be translated into an organisational framework. The proposal that all supporters of Israel be united, without usurping the special functions of the World Zionist Organisation, is logical and natural. It corresponds to the actual situation within Jewry. The Zionist Organisation, which has been accorded (as the Jewish Agency) a special status by the Israel Parliament, must be regarded as a partner with Israel, and not an appendage. It must turn its attention more to the Diaspora, and to its needs from the viewpoint of revival of Jewish values, which the State was to promote. For this purpose it must be strong and autonomous; not subject to the State but parallel with it, in the double task of restoring Jewish vitality everywhere and enhancing the State in Israel.

The World Zionist Organisation has a greater, and not a lesser, task because of the rise of Israel as a State, but it can only perform it if it possesses due prerogatives, as well as imaginative leadership. What must be realised is that the eyes of the W.Z.O. must be turned to the Jews outside Israel, among whom it operates and whom it knows. A shift of emphasis from Jerusalem, to New York, London, and other centres, is definitely indicated.

Natural Sciences University Opened At Tel Aviv Will Train Secondary School Science Teachers Mayor Appeals For Public Support

TEL-AVIV (INeS). — An important stage in the establishment of the Tel-Aviv University was achieved with the recent opening of the Natural Sciences University Institute at Abu Kibir (a formerly Arab suburb on the road to Jerusalem). The Institute, which operates in close coordination with the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and the "Technion" (Technical Academy) in Haifa, will for the present have a three-year curriculum, at the completion of which students will be granted a B. Sc. degree. Graduates of the Institute will be admitted to the Hebrew University and the Technion for post-graduate work without additional examinations.

Until the Institute is able to provide also research facilities, it will not assume the name of a University, said Mr. H. Levanon, Mayor of Tel Aviv and one of the prime movers in the establishment of the Institute, in an interview with an INeS reporter on the eve of the opening. The Institute, he added, is a continuation of the Biological Training Station founded by the late Yehoshua Margolin and taken over

include a 4-acre botanical garden.

Eventually, the Tel Aviv University will be provided with permanent accommodation at the University City planned north of Tel Aviv, where building work for its first research institution will begin next year.

Other institutions in Tel-Aviv which provide education at academic level will soon be integrated with the Institute. These include the Tel Aviv School of Law and Economics, the Municipal School for Youth Trainers, the School for Social Welfare Workers and the Academy of Jewish Sciences.

For the first semester 24 students have been enrolled, who have been selected from among

75 candidates all over the country. In addition to the teaching staff of the Biological Training Station, which has been transferred to the Institute en bloc, a number of teachers from the Hebrew University will lecture at the Institute.

Mr. Levanon expressed the hope that wellwishers of the Tel-Aviv University in Israel and abroad would give expression to their sympathies by donating books and equipment and by founding scholarships.

The Institute's first, and for the present main, task will be to provide science teachers for secondary schools, a field in which properly trained reinforcements are still sorely lacking.

"Popular" Housing Scheme Candidates Denounce Histadrut Conditions

Political Clauses in Government Housing Contract

HAIFA (INeS). — Vigorous objections against clauses in the contract which candidates for the Ministry of Labour's "Popular Housing Scheme" are required to sign by the Histadrut housing society "Shikun" were voiced here at a protest meeting of prospective inhabitants. Protested provisions included i. a.: that the "owners" of flats under this scheme were required to be members of the Histadrut and "to conduct themselves according to the Histadrut way of life"; that they would have to contribute to the establishment of a consumers' cooperative which would have a monopoly for trading in the housing project; that they would not be allowed to sell or let "their" flat, or even sublet a room in it, without Histadrut permission.

When we signed, we thought that we would finally have a flat of our own at a price we could afford, said one of the speakers at the meeting. Now they have not only raised the price so far that any private contractor builds cheaper, but we will not even really own the flats. In fact, we shall be worse off than if we would live in rented houses: no private landlord can tell anyone where to buy his bread or to what trade union to belong!

The "Popular Housing Scheme", as announced by the Ministry of Labour on the eve of the 1951 Knesset election, was to provide a possibility to acquire accommodation at a far lower price and under much easier conditions (nominal cash payment and long-term mortgage) than projects of other public institutions, while the only condition for admission was that candidates should not own any other house or flat. Execution of the 48,000 unit programme, which was to be completed within four years, lagged far behind expectations, while it proved necessary to raise the price several times, until it lies by now above that asked for the same class of accommodation by any builder. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Labour had executed the work through a number of public housing societies, including that of the Histadrut, "Shikun". At a later stage, the Ministry also transferred its contract rights to these societies.

Candidates registering with "Shikun" had included many who were not members of the Histadrut but were attracted by the sites allocated to this society. At the time of registra-

tion no mention was made of Histadrut membership as a requirement.

Refusal to sign a contract would entail considerable hardship for candidates, who meanwhile have paid a fairly large amount on account and who have of course let any opportunity to look elsewhere pass by.

S. Pratt Israel Consul In Chicago

TEL-AVIV (INeS). — Mr. S. Pratt, the first Israel Consul in Chicago, left for the USA on Tuesday, December 8. Before his departure he was received by the Foreign Minister, Mr. M. Sharett, in his office in Jerusalem.

Mr. Pratt, who is a General Zionist of long standing and member of the General Zionist Foreign Affairs Committee, is a lawyer by profession.

A reception, attended by the General Zionist ministers, members of the Knesset and leading General Zionist Executive members, was tendered in his honour on Saturday evening, December 5, by Mr. S. Babe, Acting Chairman of the party and Chairman of the World Zionist Affairs Committee.

This is the third diplomatic appointment to be granted to a General Zionist by the Foreign Ministry. The first, that of Minister to Mexico, was granted to Mr. Kesari, also a lawyer, from Haifa, and the second to Mr. H. Margalith, who was nominated Economic Adviser to the Israel Legation in London.

Citrus Growers - Treasury Conflict Still Unsolved

TEL-AVIV (INeS). — The conflict between the citrus growers, who demand allocation of the same exchange rate as other exporters, and the Treasury, which proposes a lower rate (see also: INeS Vol. II, No 30.) continues unabated without hopes of an early solution, as no agreement is likely to be reached while the Minister of Finance stays abroad.

As a result it is feared that the Christmas season will be lost. While this may not affect the total quantities to be sold, the usual drop of citrus prices on the English market after Christmas makes this delay a matter of serious concern. The

consequent loss of foreign currency, it is thought, may well outweigh the profit which the Treasury expects to obtain as a result of the lower rate of exchange which it proposes.

ZOA House Hub Of Israel Social Life. Important Link Between Israel, USA & Other Countries. Lays Stress On Jewish Values

TEL-AVIV (INeS). — Details of the cultural activities of the ZOA House during the past year and its future plans were elaborated on by the Chairman of the Programme and Planning Committee, Mr. J. Alkow, at a press conference.

The prime objective of the House, said Mr. Alkow, is to convert itself into a centre where most national and re-

organized in collaboration with the Education Department of the Municipality of Tel-Aviv during Hanukka week.

The Autumn season, beginning in October, was opened with a series of excellent musical recitals. Chamber music for youth, which has also been organized with the help of the Education Department of the Tel-Aviv Municipality, will open on December 13. The House Administration, continued Mr. Alkow, will give the premiere of the biblical play Noah, some time at the end of December. If public response is favourable, it will be followed by others, also with a biblical background. The first of a series of lectures on archeology was given by Professor Schwabe of the Hebrew University a little time ago. The next lecture, which is sponsored by the "Israel Orient Society" under the chairmanship of Mr. Walter Eytan, is scheduled on December 20.

In the short space of time that Mr. Alkow has been in Israel, the ZOA House has become the centre of Israel social life and the meeting place of people from all countries. The House, to quote a leading Knesset member, is not only an important link between Israel and the USA but also between other countries.



J. Alkow

ligious festivals will be held and to give Israeli youth a full sense of Jewish values.

During the eight days of Hanukka the House was teeming with people who had come to enjoy the facilities offered during the occasion. On the first evening of Hanukka the Mayor, Mr. Haim Levanon, intoned the benediction and lit the first candle. Hundreds of people have also come to see the Louis Pasteur Exhibition which the House

Nahum Het President Of "Maccabi Israel"

Babe: Maccabi Identification With G. Z. Natural

JERUSALEM (INeS). — Mr. Nahum Het, General Zionist M. K., was elected as president of Maccabi Israel by the Maccabi National Convention held here recently. Mr. Het, a leading Haifa lawyer, was a member of the Israel Olympic Committee and accompanied the Israel team to Helsinki last summer.



N. Het, M. K.

At the opening session of the convention Mr. S. Babe M. K., acting chairman of the General Zionist party, conveyed the party's greetings. The identification of Maccabi with General Zionism, he said, was only natural, and the agreement signed by the two organizations was a true expression of the common ideal which they pursue.

An agreement on cooperation and mutual support was recently signed between the General Zionist party and "Maccabi Israel", and Young Maccabi in Israel is part of Young Israel, the General Zionist World Youth Movement.

Progressives Despair Of Obtaining 10% Vote

Threaten To Leave Coalition

TEL-AVIV (INeS). — Unless the General Zionist-Mapai project of an electoral reform requiring 10% of the vote as qualification for representation in the Knesset is dropped, the Progressive Party, according to a decision of its Executive, will not join a new government. The statement in which this decision was announced said that there could be no compromise on the subject.

As our readers will remember, the agreement under which the General Zionists entered the coalition a year ago contained a clause providing that the government would seek to introduce an electoral reform, in which the parties represented in the Knesset would be limited to those which obtained at least 10% of the total vote. This provision aimed at avoiding the repetition of a situation, only

too frequent in Israel, where a party unable to achieve more than token representation could decide the fate of the country or at least exercise an influence far in excess of its strength.

It is generally assumed that the Progressives fear that they will be unable to appear in the next Knesset, as there is no chance of their adding to their present electorate.

The General Zionist Record (I)

The G. Z. Sick Fund Builds A Medical Centre

A normal four room ground-floor flat in the centre of Tel-Aviv, in a none too fashionable sidestreet, twenty-odd years old (which is old, as flats in Tel-Aviv go); the sort of flat where a family with five or six children might have stayed on, year after year, even though the neighbourhood has really grown a bit too shabby since the war, because the rent is so low and the house is nearly large enough and moving is such a bother and who can afford one of those new places in the North anyhow...

But in this flat about which I want to tell you lives no family. If you come in the evening, you find it empty and locked up. In the morning there are rarely less than forty people at any given moment. For this flat, designed for living quarters for perhaps eight people, is the Tel-Aviv clinic and headquarters of the General Zionist Health Insurance Fund.

Part of the hall holds the records and accounts section. The remaining part and the passage are full of waiting patients. Some of them must stand, for there is simply no place for enough benches. The rooms are all occupied by doctors who see and treat patients. G. P.s and specialists succeed each other with one or two hours' intervals. The room of the medical director is also used for physiotherapy treatment. The general manager and the Tel-Aviv district manager use enclosed balconies for offices.

The astonishing thing is, that notwithstanding these difficult conditions the Fund attracts a continually increasing number of members: the last figure is well over 20,000. To some degree this is of course due to the fact that the Israel public always was and is increasingly becoming medical insurance conscious. In part, the public may be attracted by the rule that membership of the Fund is not, unlike in some other similar institutions, linked with membership of any political organization (curiously enough, this point is even more attractive to organized General Zionists, who see in it a confirmation of their party's liberal principles, than to outsiders). Mainly, though, the reason is that which one would expect: the outstanding service, the excellent panel of specialists, the friendly attitude of the staff to the patient.

In the outlying dispensaries and clinics the situation is easier; can be easier, because they do not have to handle as many patients and because they do not at the same time function as head office. There, however, another difficulty arises. Most of the specialists on the Fund's panel see patients at home, and where consultation is necessary, much time may be lost.

Fortunately, though, the end of these difficulties is near. INeS has occasionally informed its readers about the Medical Centre which the Fund is build-

G. Z. YOUTH MOVEMENT NAMED "ISRAEL HATZEIRA (YOUNG ISRAEL)"

TEL-AVIV (INeS). — Israel Hatzaira (Young Israel) is the name adopted by the General Zionist Youth Movement, according to an announcement by the movement's Executive Committee.

At the founding convention of the movement, held last October, the choice of a name was assigned to a committee appointed for the purpose, which has now announced its decision.

\$ 1000 Prize For Original Hebrew Play

John Friedman Memorial Prize Announced

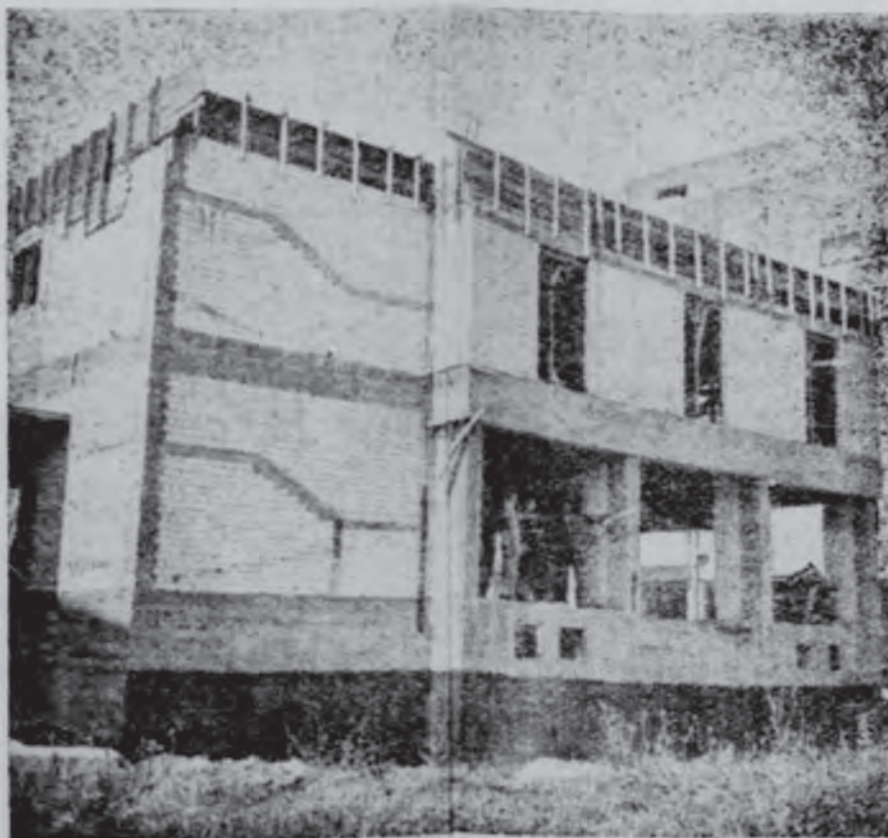
TEL-AVIV (INeS). — A prize of \$1000 for an original Hebrew play written in Israel has been established by Mr. and Mrs. Friedman of Cleveland, Ohio, in memory of their son, the late John Friedman. It is announced here. Only plays not yet performed will qualify.

Entrances, which must be submitted by July 1st, 1951, will be judged by a jury consisting of Dr. H. Boger, veteran educationalist and General Zionist M. K., Mr. J. Heitman, editor of the G. Z. daily "Hapoker"; and Mr. B. Karu, a well-known Hebrew author and critic.

Krinitzi - Pioneer Of Gardening In Israel

RAMAT GAN (INeS). — Mr. A. Krinitzi, founder and mayor of Ramat Gan was enthusiastically acclaimed by a convention of gardening experts here as the "pioneer of Israel Gardening". Under his administration, one of the speakers at the convention pointed out, Ramat Gan had shown itself worthy of its name (Garden Hill), not only because of its justly famous public parks, but also because of the support and encouragement which the municipality gave to householders in planting and maintaining their own gardens.

ing. The Centre will soon be opened (within the next half year, we hope) and your reporter had the privilege of



Medical Centre of General Zionist Sick Fund Construction of third floor begins

S.A. General Zionist Youth Affiliate With "Israel Hatzaira"

General Zionists Lead On S. A. Executive Youth Council — Isaacson

TEL-AVIV (INeS). — The Chairman of the General Zionist Youth Movement and of the Executive Youth Council of South Africa, Mr. Mervyn Isaacson, arrived in Israel on a short visit and called on the General Zionist party here. He was received by Mr. J. Tamir, Secretary General, and Mr. I. A. Matalon, Secretary of the World Zionist Affairs Department.

Interviewed later by an INeS reporter, Mr. Isaacson said that the General Zionist Youth movement in South Africa, had at a recent convention, decided to affiliate itself with the World General Zionist Youth Movement, "Israel Hatzaira". Children from the age of seven to sixteen in South Africa are organized in "Bnai Zion" Scout Organization, where they obtain a solid Hebrew, Jewish and Zionist education and are encouraged to pass examinations. Those above the age of sixteen are members of the Senior General Zionist Youth Movement and follow with interest the General Zionist struggle in Israel to liberalize the economic conditions of the country. Every youth in South Africa, he went on to say, is a potential Israel settler. Israel is the focal point of Jewish life in South Africa, he emphasized.

Dwelling on the South African Executive Youth Council, Mr. Isaacson said that the General Zionist representation of seven men, while working in

harmony with the others — Betar 4, Hapoel Hamizrabi 2, Mapai 2, Habonim 1 — gives the key note to its activity. Questioned on the political affiliation of "Habonim" Mr. Isaacson said it was a camouflaged Mapai Youth Movement, but that its following was rather imperceptible.

Asked about the Progressive

party activity in South Africa, Mr. Isaacson said that it was non-existent and that on the whole the term Progressive was little known. "We, in South Africa, do not stand for half hearted measures nor for acrobatic stunts, such as criticising Mapai and subsequently voting with them", he concluded.

Mr. Isaacson, who left for London on Thursday, December 14, expects to be back in Israel again in a fortnight before he returns to South Africa.

Kfar Silver Granted IL 50 Thousand Loan By Government

Sourasky Donates 10 Scholarships

2 Dormitories And Staff Buildings Completed

TEL-AVIV (INeS). — The Ministry of Agriculture, which is following with interest and sympathy the development of Kfar Silver, where the Abba Hillel Silver Agriculture School is being built, has approved a loan of IL 50 thousand, which will be used to acquire an irrigation system and pump for the new well which gives 330 cubic metres of water per hour. The money which has been granted at the low interest of 5% will be repayable in 8 years.

Among the important visitors who inspected Kfar Silver lately were Mr. and Mrs. Elias Sourasky of Mexico, Mr. and Mrs. Kaufman of Buenos Ai-

res and Mr. S. Pratt, Israel Consul in Chicago. Admiration was expressed at the beautiful landscape and the speed with which the school was taking shape and form.

Mr. and Mrs. Sourasky, who were accompanied by Mr. J. Alkow, Chairman of the Programme and Planning Committee of the ZOA House in Tel-Aviv and Mr. O. Guttman, Secretary of the Kfar Silver Project, expressed their wish to establish in memory of their late son, who passed away last year, a fund for 10 yearly scholarships of IL 1000 each to young people from Mexico and other Latin American countries who wanted to obtain agricultural training in Israel. Mr. Sourasky, who is a prominent General Zionist leader, promised to advance part of the money on account of the scholarships in order to enable the sponsoring committee of Kfar Silver to accelerate the completion of the school.

So far 2 dormitories and other seven buildings, which will house the school staff have been completed. The dining room will also be ready in the next few days.

Kfar Silver is a joint enterprise of the General Zionist Party in Israel and the Zionist Organization of America.

Municipal Hospital To Pass To Histadrut?

HAIFA (INeS). — A plan to transfer the local municipal hospital to the Histadrut Sick Fund (Kupat Holim) was revealed in the course of a council debate on raising hospital fees, when the Mapai mayor, Mr. Abba Hushi, stated that he could conceive of no other solution to the city's hospitalization problem. It will be remembered that a similar "so-

cialization" of municipal property was not long ago voted in Petah Tiqva, which also is administered by a Mapai-led coalition.

It may be noted that Tel-Aviv, where Mapai is in the opposition, manages to maintain about six times as many beds in municipal hospitals as Haifa.

Sassoon Elected To Judges' Appointment Committee

JERUSALEM (INeS). — Mr. B. Sassoon, General Zionist Member of the Knesset, was elected by the Knesset as one of its two representatives on the committee for the appointment of High Court Judges. The election was conducted by secret ballot. Mr. Sassoon obtained 49 votes, or more than twice the number of G. Z. members of the Knesset. 51

votes were given to the Mapai candidate, Mr. Bar Rav Hal, while the two following nominees tied with 13 votes each.

According to law, vacancies on the High Court are filled by a committee consisting of representatives of the Knesset, the Bar Association and other public institutions concerned.

about this project, I must confess that I was pleasantly surprised. Astonishingly large, the building, which lies in an area where the Tel-Aviv Municipality has allocated plots for a number of public institutions, far enough from the principal thoroughfares to be reasonably quiet, but not too far to be accessible, consists for the present of three floors. As usual in Israel, provision has been made for adding additional floors if the need should arise.

The Centre will fulfil a threefold function. Firstly — to proceed from the minor to the major — it will contain the Tel-Aviv clinic. Secondly, it will be the administrative centre of the Fund, and as such hold a central store of pharmaceutical supplies and medical equipment on which clinics all over the country will draw. And finally, it will act as a diagnostic and therapeutic centre, to which the local clinics will refer all cases which cannot be handled on the spot, and which will operate according to the system, thus far unknown in Israel, of Group Practice: the patient is seen by a team of

specialists in different fields and undergoes all necessary examination and tests on the spot, so that a full picture of his condition can be established with maximum efficiency and minimum loss of time.

The layout of the Centre has been scientifically planned to implement this system as effectively as possible and at the same time to save the patient unnecessary exertion. Consequently, the patient enters the building at the second floor, which contains the administrative and records department, as well as consulting rooms for the general practitioners. There, a general examination is made, and it is decided which specialists the patient has to see and which tests to pass. From there, he either moves down to the large laboratories and the X-ray department, or up to the specialists wing. In each department again, the smooth movement of patients is ensured.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL, Kfar Silver

January 29, 1954.

33, Hashmal St.

- 1778

F/6107/IAM/RL

Dear Mr Pesin,

We take much pleasure in congratulating you on your election as Chairman of the Kfar Silver Project, and wish you success in your important undertaking.

What we should like to say is that Kfar Silver, being a project of great magnitude, requires such devotion and considerable means for its erection and maintenance. Apart from the money problems, which are of first class importance, many are those of educational, organizational and administrative value, demanding measured judgement, planning and tireless efforts. However, like other toils this one too has its compensation. The moral satisfaction, we, who take an active part in it, get, particularly when we recall that the work we are doing is of great value for the rising generations, stimulates us to further action. They will obtain their agricultural education and training at Kfar Silver and become useful members of society. On completion, Kfar Silver will be the centre of the General Zionist youth and in our mind's eye, we foresee it as a place teeming with life and interest.

To our good fortune the site of the Kfar is an excellent one. It is situated in ancient Philistia, where the land, fertile and abounding with water, has also another great advantage, namely, the climate of the region. It is mild.

No doubt, you have already perused the correspondence exchanged on this project with Miss Hanna Stein, who has done so much to advance it. However, in order to acquaint further of our work, we should like to draw your attention to more particulars. They will very likely answer quite a number of questions which may have cropped up in your mind.

ABRAHAM HILFEL SILVER AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL, Kfar SILVER

January 29, 1954.

33, Hashmal St.

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According to preliminary estimates, which may have to be changed at any moment, the execution and equipment of the project, which is intended for 300 pupils and which will necessitate the employment of some 60 - 70 adults (teachers, instructors, staff and workers) will involve an amount of approx. 1 1/2 million IL. We are fully aware that the means available will not allow us to execute the whole project at once (though that would be far less expensive), so that we shall have to proceed step by step.

The following description refers in part to the complete project, but stresses the first stage, upon completion of which we shall be able to open the school with a capacity of 120-150 pupils. Provided means are available, this stage can be reached by the beginning of the 1954 scholastic year.

1) Land, orchard, vineyard, old buildings:

Kfar Silver covers an area of 1500 dunams, which has been acquired by the EKL and will be let to us for 49 years on the customary conditions against a rental of IL. 1.- per dunam per year. The area includes an orchard in good condition, which covers 232 dunams; the value of its trees will have to be paid to the Government's Development Authority, which has already decided to transfer them to us. There also is a 60 dunam vineyard, which has been reconditioned during the last years and will begin to bear fruit in two years' time. We are still negotiating for the price of the fruit trees and the vines, but we understand that an amount of about IL. 70,000 will be involved. The fruit of the grove already covers cultivation expenses, but a small amount must still be invested to complete the reconditioning of the vineyard and for its cultivation until the first harvest. There is a chance that we shall be able to distribute the payments over 10 years, so that they can be written off out of the profits from the orchard, which will bear increasing quantities of fruit in the next years.

The orchard and the vineyard will provide an immediate field of work for the pupils, and their revenue will soon be an important item on the School's budget.

On the Kfar Silver lands there still stand 10 shells of old houses. Seven of these have already been reconditioned and will serve as office and as part of the staffquarters. For these buildings the

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ABBA NILLEL SILVER AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL, KFAR SILVER

January 29, 1951.

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Government also demands payment, and we hope to reach agreement on an amount of about IL. 10,000.

2) Plans for School, Buildings, Farm, Irrigation, etc.

Planning of the school and its buildings and supervision of building work is carried out by the architects and engineers Messrs. Hurman-Einziger and Adler. Agricultural planning has been entrusted to the agronomist Mr Gat and his assistants. Planning of the irrigation system and supervision of its execution is carried out by Mr Halmovitsky, engineer.

Most of the plans have been completed and the majority has been approved by the governmental and municipal authorities concerned. Total expenses under this head will amount to about IL. 16,000.

3) Execution of works: RASSCO Ltd. and Hamide Haemrahi Ltd.

Construction of the buildings and farm will be carried out by the above two contracting firms. With RASSCO, a contract for works amounting to a total of IL. 200,000 has been signed, on account of which the firm has granted us a credit, guaranteed by the KW, of IL. 70,000, repayable on 31.3.55. "Hamide Haemrahi" will commence work at a later stage.

Until now the following works have been carried out.

A) BUILDINGS

2 dormitories for about 40 pupils each (out of 8 provided in the final plan), each consisting of 9 rooms, study room, bath, showers and toilets, a IL. 25,300	IL. 50,600
Dining hall and kitchen for 300 pupils, also to serve as auditorium	16,000
Reconditioning of existing buildings for office and staff quarters	23,000
	<u>IL. 119,600</u>

B) IRRIGATION SYSTEM

A new well has been sunk at a depth of 105 meters, producing some 330 m³ per hour. Within the next days a beginning will be made with the establishment of a pumping station and the preparation of an irrigated

..//..

ABRA HILIEL SILVER AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL, NEAR SILVER

January 29, 1954.

33, Hashmal St.
1778

- 4 -

area of 250 dunams. This is the first stage of the irrigation plan and will cost IL. 113,438.

Planning, building work and irrigation, and also one year's rent to the KKL, most of which have been completed, while the remainder is being carried out, will amount to a total of IL. 250,538.

4) Finance

The amounts required for the execution of the works mentioned above have been raised by us until January 1, 1954, from the following sources:

Cash and Credits available
per January 1, 1954.

KKL	IL. 86,485
United Appeal	29,761
Special contribution ..	2,000
From "Amir" Ltd. s/c	
rent	2,028
Credit from RASSCO ...	70,000
Govt. loan for 2 school	
buildings (four classes)	7,500
Govt. loan for irriga-	
tion system	50,000

Total IL. 247,777

Expenditure and commitments s/c works
ordered and partly executed and paid
(stage 1)

Plans	IL. 16,000
<u>Buildings</u>	
2 dormitories ..	IL. 14,000
Dining hall &	
kitchen	40,000
Improvements of	
old buildings ..	20,000
15% increase in	
labour and mate-	
rial cost	15,600
	<u>119,600</u>

Irrigation System

Well, pump sta-	
tion and irriga-	
tion system	
(stage 1)	IL. 98,438
15% increase in	
labour & mate-	
rial cost	15,000 (abt)

113,438

Rent

To KKL for 1 year	1,500
Total ...	IL. 250,538

Cash & Credits in hand	<u>247,777</u>
------------------------------	----------------

Deficit for covering expen-
ses and commitments for works
executed and ordered under

Stage 1	IL. 2,761
---------------	-----------

NEW YORK

..//..

ABBA HILGEL SILVER AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL, NEAR SILVER

January 31, 1958.

33, Hashmal St.,
- 3778 -

- 5 -

Note: a) The Government loans are for 8 years at 5%.

b) The figures relating to expenditure and undertakings are those which figure in the estimates which we sent to the ZOA on May 15, 1953 (copy attached), plus the increase of prices and wages which occurred in the course of the year. The same applies to the following figures, which refer to the completion of the work to a degree which will enable us to open the School at part capacity (120-150 pupils).

5) Budget for further works essential for opening the School at Stage 1
(150 pupils)

(See estimates submitted to ZOA dated 15.5.53)

Para. B

2 dormitories	IL.	14,000	
Infirmery		7,500	
8 additional staff quarters		58,000	
2 School buildings (4 classrooms)		18,000	
Increased cost of labour and material (abt. 20%)		25,500	IL. 153,000

Para. C.

Whole paragraph	IL.	43,000	
Cost increase as above (15%)		6,450	49,450

Para. E

Whole paragraph	IL.	34,000	
Cost increase (abt. 20%)		6,800	40,800

Para. F

Whole paragraph	IL.	8,000	
Cost increase (abt. 20%)		1,600	9,600

Para. G

Equipment & furniture for classrooms, dining room and kitchen	IL.	102,000	
Cost increase (abt. 20%)		20,400	122,400

Para. H

Whole paragraph	IL.	35,000	
Cost increase (abt. 20%)		7,000	42,000

Para. I

Whole paragraph			35,000
-----------------------	--	--	--------

Total

IL. 152,250

..../..

ABBA HILLEL SILVER AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL, Kfar Silver

January 29, 1954.

33, Hashmal St.,
1778

- 6 -

All in all, the following amounts are needed :

1.- Deficit a/c commitments	IL. 2,761
2.- For completion of Stage 1	152,250
3.- a/c purchase of orchard, vineyard and existing buildings (see 1 above), part payment	25,000
Total	<u>IL. 180,011</u>

This amount would enable us to open the school at part capacity.

6) Estimate for maintenance and management of the school:

This estimate cannot yet be given, for it depends on the educational level and the composition of the student material and on the degree to which parents and institutions can contribute towards the cost of maintaining and teaching the pupils.

The total expenses per pupil, including board and lodging, tuition, washing, medical expenses etc., amount at present to some IL. 70.- per month. All agricultural schools in the country, including the oldest of them, Mikveh Israel, have yearly deficits, which are in part covered by the government and by political and economic institutions which provide scholarships, and in part by other contributions.

Even now it is not too early for recruiting friends of the school who are prepared to provide scholarships, for without these it will not be possible to maintain the school.

7) Aim and educational level of the School:

It is the aim of the school to provide for boys and girls of the age of 13-17, born in Israel and from amongst the Youth Aliyah, from towns and settlements, an education based on general knowledge and Jewish ethics and laying particular stress on agricultural science and experience. Pupils will study for half a day, and for the remaining half receive training in all branches of agriculture and connected crafts.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL, KFAR SILVER

January 29, 1954.

33, Hashmal St.,
1779

- 7 -

The educational level has not yet been determined exactly. The matter is being discussed thoroughly with educational and agricultural experts, and it seems probable that the course will begin with the first grade of the agricultural secondary school and last for 3-4 years, with the issue, of its completion, of an agricultural matriculation certificate which will entitle its holder to register at the agricultural faculty of the Hebrew University.

As for the seventh and eighth grade of the national elementary school with additional agricultural syllabus, Kfar Silver will provide these pupils with training and education within the school, including experience with the types of farm commonly found in Israel, which will be duplicated at the school. Thus the pupils concerned will be able to return to the farms of their parents, who are mostly new settlers without much agricultural experience and to assist them with the aid of the training which they have received at the school. This type of agricultural education (grade 7 and 8 of the elementary school) is to some extent an innovation in Israel favoured by many experts, as it trains ordinary farmers who still will be able to become rooted at their parents' farms before they are drafted into the army. Pupils who distinguish themselves will be enabled to continue their secondary education at the school.

I hope that the educational aspect will soon be settled, and shall, of course, keep you informed.

At this juncture, after reviewing the preceding pages, you must have realized that there is still much to do before we can lay our hands down. From the newspaper clippings we get from Miss Stein, we appreciate the efforts you have expended to mobilize funds for the project. We should like to say that what hopes there are to get any money lies mainly with the ZOA which is our major partner; and we should not like to think that we should ever have to interrupt our work due to the lack of funds. We do not have to stress that the effect will be far from good on the public, both in Israel and the USA.

It is true that we already have a number of splendid buildings to our credit. We hope they will not remain empty and unused.

..//..

ABRA HILLEL SILVER AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL, Kfar SILVER

January 29, 1951.

33, Nassau St.
1778

- 8 -

It may be most unconventional that in my first letter to you I have raised so many acute problems and insisted on the responsibilities involved. However, as you have already started stimulating interest at your end, I can safely consider you one of our prime collaborators.

I should be delighted if you would maintain close contact with us. Any information you may require on the subject will be attended to immediately.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

WRHS
WRHS
WRHS



Dr. J. Virklich
Board of Regents.

Mr. M. Pesin, Chairman,
Kfar Silver Project,
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA,
41 East 42nd St.,
New York 17, N.Y.

P.S. Enclosed, please find a photograph taken during
the visit of Dr. Neumann and the Minister of Health,
Mr. J. Serlin, to the Kfar Silver Agricultural School.



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41 EAST 42 STREET • NEW YORK 17, N. Y. • VAnderbilt 6-3780

June 28, 1954

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
105th St. & Answl Road
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

I am enclosing the form that you will have to fill out in order to make it possible for me to transfer your \$5,000. Bond to our friends in Israel for use in the Kfar Silver.

Of course your generosity has put some of our friends to shame, with the result that I will probably be able to take along with me another \$15,000 for Kfar Silver purposes.

You may also be interested to know that Mr. May has designated me as Chairman of a committee that will concern itself with ZOA projects in Israel, and I am determined that above all else, the \$76,000. that we promised to set aside for Kfar Silver will be turned over to our friends in Israel before the next ZOA Convention.

It is completely out of order for me to thank you for your generosity, but your example is one which will definitely inspire others to give much more generously to our work in Israel.

Please remember me to Virginia.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Harris J. Levine
President

L/bz

Ret'd form -
Signature guaranteed
by Cleve. Trust Co.
J.N. Petz, Asst. Mgr.
dated 7-1-54

October 4, 1954

Mr. Jacques Torczyner
N. Torczyner & Son, Inc.
2 West 46th Street
New York 36, New York

My dear Jacques:

Before Dr. Neumann left for the Actions Committee meeting in Israel, I gave him a check for \$2500 from the Abba Hillel Silver Charitable and Educational Foundation for Kfar Silver. If I remember correctly, he said that you would take care of the exchange.

I understand that the money was paid out to Kfar Silver, but the Foundation has received no acknowledgment from Israel, and it requires such an acknowledgment. I wonder whether you would look into the matter.

With all good wishes for a happy New Year, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:RMS

N. TORCZYNER & SON, INC.

Diamonds

2 WEST 46TH STREET



NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

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Telephones
LUXEMBURG 2-1577-8

October 11, 1954

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105 Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

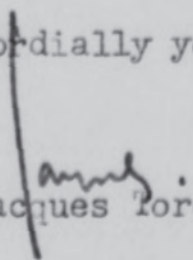
Dear Dr. Silver:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of October 4.

You certainly know that Dr. Neumann has been ill. At the first opportunity, I will ask him for the receipt. There might have been some difficulties with the Israel currency regulations which might have prevented the recipient from issuing an official receipt.

Best personal regards.

Cordially yours,


Jacques Torczyner

JT:gs

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

Department for ZOA Activities in Israel

October 22, 1954

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street and Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

On August 24th, I wrote about the establishment of the new department for ZOA Activities in Israel which was placed under my direction.

With my return from Latin America, all the preparatory work has been completed and this new department has taken upon itself the task of coordination and permanent liaison between the ZOA and the Kfar Silver Curatorium. You may rest assured that all commitments which the ZOA has taken upon itself towards Kfar Silver for the current fiscal year, will be fully honored.

In a few days, I will be in a position to supply you with exact data and information concerning remittances to Kfar Silver made thus far and concerning our plans for the future.

From the letter you received from Kfar Silver signed by Dr. J. Wirklich of September 8th, you already know that your personal \$5,000 Israel Bond was exchanged in Israel through the efforts of Mr. Ariav and that Kfar Silver received the amount of 8,375 I£ for it.

If there is any information you would like to have concerning Kfar Silver, kindly write to me.

With kindest regards, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

Leon Ilutovich
Assistant Executive Director
Zionist Organization of America

It's November 18th at the
Hotel Statler, New York
The MORTIMER MAY
Testimonial Dinner
Senators Bridges and Kefauver
will be there!
Will you be there?

cc: Dr. Harris Levine

BNAI ZION

225 WEST 57TH STREET

NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

PLaza 7-7461

Office of Chief Medical Examiner

HARRIS J. LEVINE, M. D.

Kfar Silver

October 25, 1954

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

I had looked forward to speaking to you at the Tercentenary Dinner, but in the midst of the crowd and excitement accompanying the presence of President Eisenhower, I could not get to you.

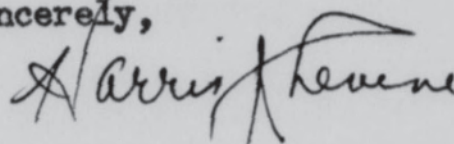
I am very anxious to discuss with you several matters relating to the Kfar Silver project. For the present, I have asked Leon Ilutovich to keep you fully informed of what is transpiring there. I want to reassure you again that the pledges that we have made to you for the coming year will be kept - or else. However, there is much more than that which can be done in that direction, ~~which~~ ^{which I} would like to discuss with you. One of them ^{is} has to do with an article that I read in "Readers Digest" several months ago in which it was stated that the Ford Foundation is allocating rather substantial sums to an Agricultural School that has been set up in Jordan and which at present accommodates only about thirty pupils. I mentioned this to the Kfar Silver Committee in Israel with the idea of approaching the Foundation here after we had gotten sufficient information on the plans for the school. I have that information now and I am wondering whether you could suggest someone whom we could approach. It is barely possible that such an effort might result in the obtaining of sufficient funds to get the school started promptly.

-2-

May I hear from you in this regard, or better still, could we make an appointment to meet on the occasion of your next visit to the city?

My sincerest regards to Virginia in which Dorothy joins me.

Sincerely,



Dr. Harris J. Levine

hjl:elg



Kfar Silver

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Telephones

LUXEMBURG 2-1577-8

November 23, 1954

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105 Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I just returned from Israel and learned from Berthe that I missed a visit "person to person" with you on the Ed Murrow program. I also heard from our friends that you were in town and I am sure that they brought you up to date on the latest developments.

1) I met with the people in charge of Kfar Silver and they are making steady progress in their work. They also informed me that they had received the money which was transferred to them. They were most reluctant to give me an official receipt for the \$2500 because they were afraid that my papers might be searched and they also did not want to send to you or to the Silver Foundation anything through the mails at this time because the Mapai is looking after everything in order to find something to create trouble for the General Zionists.

2) Our friends in charge of Kfar Silver told me that they had sent you reports and mailed you correspondence and that they never received confirmation of receipt of these letters and reports by you. They are really fine and devoted people, especially Mr. Gutman, and I am sure they would more than appreciate a note on your part.

3) The country is developing steadily. There is a tremendous shortage of money and because credits are frozen, even merchants pay 2-3% a month for loans. This is naturally real usury and weighs heavily on the business world. There is in the country a strong anti-American feeling and a sudden renaissance of pro-British sentiment. I do not believe that the political work that was done by American Zionists was too much appreciated. The Zionist Movement as such does not play an important role in the country itself.

What really struck me most was that more and more, there is a wall being built between the Jews of Israel, who become more and more Israeli and less and less Jewish, and the Jews outside of Israel, who try to find in Judaism a solution to their problems as citizens and Jews.

4) Everybody asked when you are coming to Israel and our friends in the Government sent you their best personal regards. The General

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

November 23, 1954

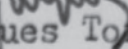
- 2 -

Zionist Party as such is divided. Some of the leaders - Serlin and, amazingly enough, also Dr. Bernstein - feel that the General Zionists have to quit the coalition if they want to wage an effective election campaign. Others, like Saphir and Rokach, believe that they have to stay in the Government and cannot afford to leave it on a purely electoral maneuver, which might backfire. The mass of malcontents who supported the General Zionists at the last election might want to express its dissatisfaction by the support of other parties. But the choice is so limited that I believe that what is most dangerous in the next election is the abstention from participation in it by many who, if they vote, would vote for the General Zionist Party.

5) I hope that the Zionist Congress will be postponed from August to November 1955 and even then, it might be even further postponed. As long as there is a heavy predominance of Israelis at the Congress, I do not see any chance of improving our situation at the Congress.

I hope to have an opportunity to meet you when you will next be in New York. In the meantime, I extend to Mrs. Silver and to you my best personal regards.

Cordially yours,


Jacques Torczyner

JT:gs

November 30, 1954

Mr. Jacques Torczyner
2 West 46th Street
New York 36, New York

My dear Jacques:

Thank you for your letter of November 23rd. I was very happy to hear from you and about your visit to Israel.

I am pleased to know that the Silver Foundation contribution of \$2500 has reached the proper people. I shall write to Mr. Gutman about Kfar Silver in the near future.

I hope to see you when I am next in New York.

With warmest regards, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:rms

Depolitization Of Settlements Now Demanded By Ben Gurion

G.Z. Ideas Gradually Accepted By Mapai

ASCALON (INeS). — The depolitization of settlement on the land was recently advocated from an unexpected quarter when Mr. Ben Gurion, late Prime Minister of Israel, addressing a meeting of pre-settlement groups of junior Mapai members, demanded that the younger generation should leave settlements controlled by political parties and establish "free" new settlements. "Politics have made Ain Harod a byword", said Mr. Ben Gurion, "and our new settlements must be free from the shame of party politics."

After resigning as Prime Minister somewhat over a year ago, Mr. Ben Gurion, as our readers no doubt remember, announced that he would devote himself to practical pioneering work and took up residence in Sdeh Boker, a Ne-

gev settlement whose members belong to various political parties. Of late, however, he regularly attends meetings of junior Mapai groups. A countrywide meeting of highschool students, which he called in order to found a non-political youth movement and at which he appealed to urban youth to settle on the land, proved a disappointment. Political observers here forecast that his present attempt to find a backing amongst the younger generation of his party will not produce any more concrete results and that Mr. Ben Gurion will have no choice but to come to terms with the incumbent Mapai leaders, who have thus far not shown much willingness to go along with his tendency to distinguish between the national and the party spheres.

Development Authority Discriminates Against Private Farmers

Land Cultivated By Rosh-Pina Farmers Handed Over To Kibbutzim

TIBERIAS (INeS). — A serious quarrel broke out when Rosh-Pina farmers, who were ploughing "abandoned" lands which they had cultivated for two years, were obstructed by members of a neighbouring kibbutz. The farmers, convinced that they were in lawful possession, called in the police, but the kibbutz furnished evidence that the Development Authority (which administers property abandoned by its former Arab holders) had placed the land in question at their disposal.

This action amounts to a direct infraction of promises made by the Development Authority according to which the Rosh-Pina farmers would be

entitled to cultivate this land unless a new settlement should be established in the neighbourhood.

In general, frequent complaints are heard against discrimination in allocating the use of abandoned land in Galilee, particularly in respect of grazing rights. These matters are at present under the control of a three-man committee, established by the Ministry of Agriculture and consisting of members of two Galilee kibbutzim and a representative of the KKL. The latter, however, has withdrawn from this appointment and his place has not been filled. As a result, the Committee now exclusively consists of representatives of the Cooperative Sector.

"Currency Controls..."

Continued from p. 1.

change was, according to Mr. Ariav, reduction of both the regular budget and the development budget of the country. If free scope was to be given to private investment, the government should refrain from utilising public funds for such projects as could be handled by private capital. Also, in the interest of stability, no investments should be made unless there was a reasonable expectation of early returns.

In many countries the Jews had proved their ability to contribute to rebuilding and constructive work, added Mr. Ariav, and it was time that they were given a realistic chance of exercising this ability in Israel.

No less important than facilities for free currency ex-

change was, according to Mr. Ariav, reduction of both the regular budget and the development budget of the country. If free scope was to be given to private investment, the government should refrain from utilising public funds for such projects as could be handled by private capital. Also, in the interest of stability, no investments should be made unless there was a reasonable expectation of early returns.

Left Attempts Return To Party Education

GZ request government to outlaw 'Teachers Movement'

TEL-AVIV (INeS). — Deep concern at the recent establishment of a 'Teachers Movement' aiming at 'propagating the principles of the Histadrut and the Labour Movement' in Israel's schools was expressed in an open letter published by the education committee of the General Zionists Organization. The new Movement, stated the Committee, endangered Uniform State Education and threatened to result in the indirect introduction of the Party Trend system which had had so damaging an effect on the education of Israel and which had been abolished mainly through the efforts of the General Zionists. As a result of the establishment of the Movement, it was alleged, tension within schools, which had disappeared after the introduction of Uniform State Education, already began to become noticeable again.

The Committee appeals to the Minister of Education and to General Zionist Knesset Members to do everything possible so that this dangerous development may be scotched.

Serlin: Preventive Medicine Chief Care Of Government

"Only One Ministry Of Health"

TEL-AVIV (INeS). — Preventive medicine is the leading principle of the Ministry of Health's policy, said Mr. J. Serlin, Minister of Health, at the inauguration of a Lung



Disease Prevention Centre in Jaffa. In addition, the Ministry directs its effort at rendering treatment of already existing disease more effective and less costly through the centraliza-

Improvements At Lydda Airport

General Zionists Open Clinic In Ramat Gan

Free Choice Of Doctors Assured

RAMAT GAN (INeS). — A clinic of the General Zionists Health Insurance Fund was inaugurated here in the presence of Mr. J. Serlin, Minister of Health, Mr. A. Krinitzi, Mayor of Ramat Gan, Dr. L. Efron, Director of the General Zionists Health Insurance Fund, and a number of local dignitaries and leading members of the Ramat Gan branch of the General Zionist Party.

Unlike most public clinics in Israel, the new dispensary will mainly be given over to diagnostic tests, electrical treatment, etc., while consultations will take place at the private offices of the physicians selected by the patients, so as not to militate against the principle of free choice of privately practising physicians. (This principle, long advocated by the General Zionists, is now seriously considered by the Histadrut as an alternative to its present system of a fully employed medical staff.)

Capacity To Be Expanded To 7 Incoming Planes

LYDDA AIRPORT (INeS). — The first stage in the improvement of facilities at Lydda Airport has now been completed and three incoming planes can be handled at the same time, said Minister of Communications, Mr. J. Saphir, at a press conference here on the



J. Saphir

occasion of the opening to the public of the enlarged waiting and customs halls.

In the near future, the restaurant is to be transferred to the second floor of the principal airport building, thus providing the possibility of ac-

commodating the passengers of seven planes at one and the same time.

Other airports in the country will also be developed, announced the Minister, though Lydda will remain the main aeronautic centre. Jerusalem, which since the War of Independence has been dependent on Lydda, as its airfield lies in Jordan-held territory, will receive an airport of its own and the first steps towards its construction will be taken in the coming year.

The number of passengers handled by Lydda has now reached 7000 per year, as compared with 1500 under the mandatory administration. The field's longest runway extends to some 2500 yards and safe landing is possible at all hours of the day and the night. The wireless system handles an average of 30,000 messages per month (while the number of civil telegrams handled by the Israel Post reaches some 50,000 per year).

The importance of the country's main airfield, concluded Mr. Saphir, is not only technical and economical, as it determines the first impression of the country on its visitors. The Ministry will do everything within its power to ensure that that impression shall be favourable.

Israel Building Company Established In Switzerland

Israel's Contractors Open Up Field For Investment

TEL-AVIV (INeS). — According to informations received here, an agreement has been signed in Switzerland for the establishment of a company which is to build houses in Israel and sell them in the Diaspora. The capital is provided by a group of Swiss Jews who are investing an amount of \$250,000. Additional shares are to be taken up by a number of merchants and industrialists from Italy, France and Belgium.

The initiative for the establishment of this investment company was taken by the Israel Building Contractors Association, whose members are participating in the project to the extent of IL. 250,000. The delegation of the Contractors Association which conducted the negotiations consisted of its Chairman, Mr. A. Goldstein, a vice-chairman of the General

Zionist Executive Council, and Dr. N. Pinker.

Not only is this company the first of its kind but it establishes a victory over the resistance against investment projects in Israel which had developed among European Jews as a result of a number of inadequately organized enterprises in which capital from abroad had suffered considerable losses. One of the principal inducements in favour of the present project is the recent amendment to the Tenants' Protection Law which exempts new buildings from rent ceilings for a period of ten years and enables house owners residing abroad to receive their rent in foreign currency.

As a first stage, the Contractors Association will build fifty flats for sale abroad.

Interim Report On Kfar Silver

This is an interim report. Kfar Silver — need we remind our readers? — is to be a modern agricultural school, established and maintained by the General Zionists Organization in Israel and the Zionist Organization of America. It is named in honour of that outstanding leader of Diaspora Zionism, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver. It is to be equipped to train 300 teen-agers in all branches of agriculture existing in Israel, as well as providing them with a sound general education and preparing them to be good citizens of the country. It will — and that is very important — train them without any bias towards forms of settlement dictated by political theories but not sufficiently justified on economic or human grounds. It will be available to children born in Israel, to Youth Aliya and to

private students from abroad. Much of this is of course music for the future, though, we hope, for not a remote future. At present all efforts, both in Israel and in the U.S.A., are concentrated on making it possible to open the school at part capacity, that is to say with the minimum of 80 to 100 students below which the overhead becomes prohibitive. If the necessary arrangements can be made within the next half year or so, and we shall soon see what that means, the school can be opened at the beginning of the coming scholastic year. The Youth Aliya Department of the Jewish Agency has promised 80 pupils, provided the necessary facilities are available, and will contribute towards their maintenance.

★ If we are to evaluate the

possibilities, however, we had best have a look at what has been done so far. We shall have to admit that the look is encouraging.

Most of the necessary buildings are already completed: The large central dining hall with accommodation for a kitchen, larder, storerooms and cold storage; two roomy dormitory buildings, each capable of accommodating up to 45 pupils in nine airy rooms, with showers, changing rooms and a common room; seven small houses which were already present on the grounds, though in dilapidated condition, and which have been converted into bachelors' and families' flats, so as to serve as staff quarters.

What is perhaps even more important, the irrigation system is about to be completed, and the farmland belonging to

the school is ready for sowing with winter grain. The whole land has been ploughed to a depth of three feet and allowed to weather during the summer in order to kill off the crab grass which is the bane of Israel's farmers. At the beginning of the Spring season, crops under irrigation, particularly ground nuts, will be planted. It is also hoped that reconditioning of the large orchard belonging to the school, which contains most types of citrus and deciduous fruits found in Israel, can be carried out early enough to provide a crop for the next season.

★ From the point of view of its situation, the quality of its soil and its climate, Kfar Silver is an ideal location. It lies in the coastal plain, an hour's drive south of Tel-Aviv and a few minutes from Migdal Ashkelon and the South African Zionist Federation's garden city Ascalon, on the very side of the ancient Philis-

tine city of that name. Any crop grown, any animal bred in Israel can be grown or bred at Kfar Silver. In fact, in mandatory times, the Government had established an agricultural experimental station here, particularly catering to the needs of the Arab farmer. The place is somewhat elevated above sea-level and enjoys fresh air on the hottest of days, while in winter the climate is characterized by the mildness of the Mediterranean seashore. In fact, it would be an ideal place for a holiday resort, if that would not be waste of good farmland.

★ But if the school is to open next autumn, a few 'minor' arrangements have to be made. There is need for furniture for the dining room and the dormitories; for kitchen equipment; last not least for farming machinery, tools and implements and livestock. Without these, the school cannot operate or indeed open. And

then the whole question of the current expense and maintenance budget, which will be considerable, is not yet accounted for.

So far, some \$300,000 have been invested in Kfar Silver, mainly from local sources. A balance of \$200,000 is needed to enable the school to begin its activities. Under the present circumstances, it is not to be expected that any considerable part of this amount will be raised in Israel. Considerable efforts are, however, made by the ZOA to raise donations for Kfar Silver amongst its members. In addition to the ZOA House in Tel-Aviv, Kfar Silver is at present the only national project of the ZOA in Israel, and it is confidently felt that the Zionists of the United States will see this project through.

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MARGINAL COMMENTS

by PARSHAN

On Election Systems

All election systems have their advantages and their disadvantages. It may perhaps be said that these are not so much inherent in the various systems themselves as in the national characteristics of the peoples who employ them. Even systems to which considerable exception can be taken on theoretical grounds, function remarkably well amongst peoples of a sufficient political maturity — and, possibly, of a sufficient lack of interest in the less savoury aspects of party politics. On the other hand, no people seems really satisfied with the election system which it has (with the possible exception of the U.S.A.). Even England, whose political stability and maturity and love of tradition is proverbial, appears to be considering a change.

Be that as it may, here in Israel a change of some kind seemed certainly indicated. The purely proportional system now in force places a premium on the creation of small parties. In fact, anyone with money enough to pay for some sort of elections campaign and with a reasonably large circle of friends and acquaintances who can be induced to vote for him, has a fair chance of getting himself elected to the Knesset. And while something may be said for the existence of small parties and independent Members, the practical results are deplorable. Since there is no chance of any single party mustering an absolute majority, the serious factors in the political structure of the country must look for allies in forming coalitions and in getting their legislation passed. These allies demand a consideration completely out of proportion to their numerical strength in the Knesset and it is not unthinkable that all members of a given party will be found within the Cabinet.

At the time when the present coalition, based on Mapai and General Zionists, was formed, it was proposed to obviate the risk of political blackmail by small groups for the future by introducing a clause restricting representation in the Knesset to parties polling a certain minimum of the total vote. A few months ago Mapai, wishing to encourage the split in Mapam and the separate existence of the Progressive Party, renounced this clause in the Coalition agreement. Shortly thereafter, however, a Mapai convention endorsed a pet project of Mr. Ben Gurion: introduction of constituency elections according to the British system. Thereupon Mr. Sharett, the present Prime Minister and titular leader of Mapai, officially requested the General Zionists to take their stand in the matter so that reforms, if possible, could be introduced in time for the coming elections.

Whether Mapai's proposal was sincerely meant, remains open to doubt. True, under the present structure of the country it would guarantee them an absolute majority in the Knesset. For the same reasons, however, it seems most unlikely that any majority, in whatever way composed, would be found for this measure in the present Knesset. If Mapai was already unwilling to risk the introduction of a percentage clause, which would only eliminate a number of the smallest parties, it obviously could not hope to find the medium parties prepared to support a system which, with the possible exception of a few Mapam constituencies, would exclude them from the Knesset; while the General Zionists might justly be expected to fear that in view of the way in which political parties in Israel exercise functions in the field of economy, labour distribution, welfare, etc., an absolute majority in the Knesset would be so consolidated, through legislation and other ways, that a change of administration in any future elections could only result from the total collapse of the country.

The General Zionists are, however, fully aware of the need for restricting the dangers to democracy and to a proper conduct of the country's affairs deriving from the presence and blackmailing potential of small parties. They are also not insensitive to the demand for closer connection, and therefore for closer contact, between Knesset Members and their constituents. The system advocated by them fulfills these requirements, while obviating the risk of majority rule by one single party, for which, it is felt, the country is not ripe.

At the same time, it is recommended that the number of Knesset Members be reduced to 71, a measure which is regarded as consonant with the General Zionists' demand for general restriction of expenditure on public administration.

Penetration Of General Zionists Ideas

Slowly but surely General Zionist ideas seem to penetrate even in the most diehard circles of Mapai. We have already been able to note that the Minister of Finance has given utterance — and effect — to thoughts on price and wage stability which conceivably might have been the result of a belated study of the General Zionist economic programme of 1952, but were more probably the outcome of an equally belated realization of the economic needs of the country. In our last issue, we reported income tax reforms forecast by the Treasury which had also long been demanded by the General Zionists. In fact, General Zionists pressure has had no mean share in their introduction, though credit is, of course, taken by the whole administration and to all practical intents by the Cabinet member whose portfolio is responsible for the execution.

Then, of course, there was Uniform National Education. The fight for its implementation by law is yet far from forgotten. In this case it was Mr. Ben Gurion who had become convinced of the justice of the General Zionist demand and the impossibility of carrying on with the party

General Zionists Propose Election System 71, Knesset Members, 30 Districts

TEL-AVIV (I.N.E.S.). — The General Zionist Executive Council at its recent session adopted by a considerable majority a proposal for a modified district election system and empowered its Executive to negotiate for the introduction of this system in the elections for the Third Knesset.

The proposed system, which combines the chief advantages of the proportional and the constituency systems, is designed to prevent the representation of splinter parties and at the same time to create a closer link between the voter and

his chosen representative, while obviating the possibility — always present in a constituency system and particularly where a large part of the electorate is still not very familiar with democratic procedure — that a group which represents an absolute minority throughout the country should obtain an absolute majority in the legislature.

The General Zionist proposal was formulated following a request of the Prime Minister, Mr. Sharett, that the General Zionists should define their attitude towards the proposal, originated by Mr. Ben Gurion and adopted by Mapai, that elections to the Third Knesset should be held according to the classical constituency system (i. e. as in force in the USA and England). It was felt in General Zionist circles that the introduction of the constituency system, which would lead to the emergence of two political parties which would, according to the outcome of selections, be alternatively in office, was premature in this country, particularly as political parties here have in the course of time assumed a range of functions not exercised by similar organizations in other democratic countries.

The following are the main points of the system proposed by the General Zionists:

1. The number of Knesset Members will be reduced to 71 (from 120).
2. The country is to be divided into 20 election districts, each with an equal number of voters.
3. Each of the districts elects 3 Knesset members in direct proportional election.
4. A minimum of 25% of the vote in any one district is required to ensure the election of one candidate of any party.
5. In addition to the slates submitted in the districts there will be national lists of all parties, from which the remaining 11 Knesset seats, as well as such seats as may remain vacant as a result of the district vote, will be selected. National lists will contain no more than 71 names of candidates.

Currency Controls May Be Abolished

Economic Conditions Improving
Budget Should Be Smaller

TEL-AVIV (I.N.E.S.). — If negotiations with a certain foreign country for the establish-



Ch. Ariav M. K.

ment of a foreign currency deposit which would improve the rate of exchange of the Israel Pound prove successful, it may be possible to abolish currency controls, said Mr. Ch. Ariav, M.K., addressing a meeting of the Commercial and Industrial Club in Tel-Aviv. Currency controls, continued Mr. Ariav, had proved one of the main obstacles in the way of foreign capital investments and capital immigration, which were essential if the country

Continued on p. 2.

trend system which introduced party strife and particularism in the shool and so infected future generations. Mr. Ben Gurion may have envisaged a slightly different form of national education than the General Zionists. But he fought valiantly against a not insignificant faction in his party — his political exile to Sde Boker may well have been the price which he had to pay.

The abolition of controls and the gradual liberalization of the economy is a horse of a slightly different colour. There the implementation has for a very large part been in General Zionist hands; though this too, and indeed the whole coalition between General Zionists and Mapai could, for all its tactical implications and for all the friction which arises time and again over the fulfillment of its conditions, never have come into being if there had not been a growing realization within Mapai that total planning must inevitably lead to total chaos. Thus we saw the introduction of production norms and premiums — an abandonment of principles which the socialists of Israel had cherished long after their colleagues elsewhere had given them up. Thus Mapai found itself able to consent to an important concession to that bugbear of all good labourites, the landlord, and to vote for far-reaching modifications of rent control.

And once again we are pleasantly surprised; though once again we must have our doubts as to the tactical considerations in the background. Again it is Mr. Ben Gurion — with sincere regard for the welfare and needs of the country and an open eye for the dangers of exaggerated party strife; though at the same time only too well aware of what is to Mapai's advantage and possible not a little concerned about the extent to which that party has drifted away from the „religion of work“ and the other cherished tenets of the

6. No one can be a candidate in more than one district, but a candidate in a district may at the same time appear on a national list.

7. No national list will be taken into consideration unless the party concerned has obtained no less than four seats in four different districts. Seats to be filled from the national lists will be allocated to

qualifying parties in proportion to the total of their vote balances in the districts.

8. No agreements on the application of vote balances, whether in the districts or in respect of the national lists, will be permitted.

9. No party will submit a list of more than three candidates in any one district.

Zysman, Lubinsky To USA

Mr. S. Zysman, M.K., member of the Executive Committee and Chairman of the Information and Public Relations Committee of the General Zionist Party, and Mr. H. Lubinsky, Vice-Chairman of the General Zionist National Council,



S. Zysman M. K.

are about to depart for the USA on a mission on behalf of the party.

Mr. Zysman is not exactly unknown in the USA, which he has visited a number of times, acquiring considerable popularity in Zionist circles there.

Mr. Haim Lubinsky, who is one of the prominent members of the group of ex-Revisionists who, together with Mr. Meir Grossman, joined the General Zionist Party about two years ago, came to Israel in his early teens. He obtained his secondary education in Israel and studied law and economics in France and England. Before the establishment of the State of Israel, Mr. Lubinsky, who strongly opposed appeasement in dealing with Arab and British



Ch. Lubinsky

Since the establishment of the State and until he joined the General Zionists, Mr. Lubinsky, who opposed the liquidation of the Revisionist Organisation in Israel and its replacement by Herut, had withdrawn from political life and devoted himself to his law practice.

Second Aliyah — who takes up one of the planks in the General Zionist platform: agricultural settlement should be withdrawn from the sphere of influence of the political parties. In faith, politics have done enough damage to our agricultural settlement work; in more ways than Mr. Ben Gurion is probably even now prepared to admit: for it was the principle itself of choosing settlement forms on lines dictated by political-sociological philosophies rather than by considerations of practical advantage and economic justification, as well as the practice of the settling authorities, first the Jewish Agency and then also the Israel Government's Department of Agriculture, to express their political preferences in preferential treatment, setting the development in motion which was to result in such deplorable effects as the shameful civil war in Ein Harod and the splitting up and resulting pauperization of a score of other kibbutzim.

So, whatever the motives and thought processes responsible — and we flatter ourselves that sober realization is not the last of them — the leading tenets of General Zionism are one by one adopted by the leading personalities of Mapai, and often enough implemented, if only after a fashion. We have good reason for optimism, though we may perhaps express the hope that the speed of the process will be commensurate with the desperate need for its completion. For a number of no less essential demands still await their turn. Not a few of the public functions which properly are the domain of the State are still exercised by political parties to the exclusive benefit of their members. Public medicine, for one; the administration of labour affairs and labour exchanges, for another. Their turn will also come. No one can even fool all of himself all of the time. We pray that insight may be granted before it is too late.

Report on Kfar Silver

Kfar Silver is in the Shefela, a few miles from Migdal Ashkelon. The Arab town of Mejdel was not completely evacuated but a new Jewish town has arisen of which an important feature is the important factory of Juval Ged for concrete pipes of very large dimensions. These pipes, produced by modern machinery, are being used for the water pipe-line to the Neg-
ev from the River Yarkon, among other enterprises. Near by a new township has arisen established by "Afridar," a South African concern of a public character which aims at reviving the ancient glories of Ashkelon as a port, tourist and holiday centre, and light industry centre. Adjacent to it are the antiquities of Ashkelon to which new finds may be added when fresh digging takes place.

1,500 dunams (375 acres) were allotted to the Agricultural School to bear the name of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver but actually a somewhat larger stretch is at its disposal. It is being established under the auspices of the General Zionists Organisation in Israel, which will appoint a separate Board of Directors who will incorporate the institution under Israel law. It is intended that the ZOA should be represented on this Board.

The completion of the institution will take some time. It is intended ultimately to cater for 300 students, and the dining-hall is being constructed for that number. A number of old buildings are on the site and are being renovated. They could accomodate 80 persons. The balance will be quartered in the new structures going up.

The land is being acquired by the Keren Kayemeth from the Custodian of Abandoned Property and will be leased to the Kfar Silver Company. It is on the whole good soil. It includes for example a citrus orchard which when worked again will pay for itself. It is irrigated from a well which yields 150 cubic metres per hour electrically operated. Additional water was needed for the other branches of the school economy and after boring for some time an abundant source was discovered. This new well yields 330 cubic metres per hour. Owing to its chloric content it will not be suitable for fruit plantations, and will therefore be applied to vegetables and grain, as well as drinking needs. In order however to place an emphasis on plantations steps may be taken to reduce the chlorine content either by diluting from mixing the supplies from both wells or chemical process.

The programme of the school is in its preparatory stage. A pedagogic committee is to be appointed which will recommend the basis of instruction. If the school is to serve the younger generation in the vicinity, for example the youth of Migdal Ashkelon which now has 10,000 inhabitants, the problem of costs will be difficult. Today it is estimated that the maintenance of a pupil boarding at the school would cost from LL. 50 to LL. 60 per month. This is much beyond the means of these families who might contribute a portion of the sum. Other sources coming into consideration would be the Israel Government and scholarships from donors here and abroad. There are today many scholarships awarded in this field from the proceeds of Foundations and Legacies bequeathed for this purpose.

It has to be decided whether the standard of education should be that of a secondary or high school or of a lower standard. For the neighboring children it may be preferable to accept them before they have completed their primary school and to simplify the instruction so as to facilitate their early earning capacity. In that case the students showing a higher degree of intelligence might by arrangement with the agricultural school in Pardess Hanna proceed there later on, where they would receive a higher education. In line with this thought, consideration is being given to the introduction of light rural crafts, a knowledge of which would be useful to a small holder without large means, for example carpentry. These technical questions must be fully clarified before a final programme is laid down. Meanwhile, however, the development of the site and construction of new buildings is proceeding in the hands of the Rassco Company with Mifde Ezrahi, as contractors. The total budget is estimated at L. 1,500,000 but for the first stage the sum needed is L. 400,000. Grants are being made by the KMK, the Fund of the General Zionists Confederation. Other funds are to be provided by way of a loan from the Development Budget up to a quarter of a million pounds.

The climate is salubrious. It is not far from Dadera where a sanatorium was built many years ago. This opens up prospects of a similar institution of Rest House attached to the Kfar. The area enjoys a cool summer and is quite near to the Mediterranean coast.

Jerusalem, October 29, 1953

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

NEW ADDRESS
145 EAST 32nd STREET
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.
MUrray Hill 3-9201

"Only a small change in the street and telephone number, but a big change in looks, working space and efficiency. Whenever you are nearby, please drop in and see us."

December 15, 1954

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

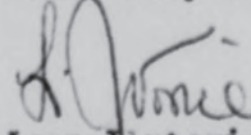
Dear Dr. Silver:

I am sure you recall my previous letter with reference to the Ford Foundation, from whom we would like to obtain some grants for Kfar Silver after the school is opened.

At the time of our conversation with Dr. Harris J. Levine in New York you promised to look into the matter and find out whether some valuable contacts in the Ford Foundation could be made.

I will greatly appreciate hearing from you about it so that we can guide ourselves accordingly.

Yours very sincerely,


Leon Blutovich
Assistant Executive Director

LI/mf

cc: Dr. Harris J. Levine

של ארצות הברית



ההסתדרות הציונית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

DEPARTMENT FOR ZOA ACTIVITIES IN ISRAEL

December 17, 1954

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am sure you will be happy to learn that to date we have already remitted to Kfar Silver over IL 60,000.

We shall continue sending IL 5000 during the eight months from January until August, 1955, in order to meet our full commitment of IL 100,000 for the current fiscal year which ends, August 31, 1955.

With warmest regards, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

Leon Ilutovich
Assistant Executive Director

LI/pb

CC: Dr. Emanuel Neumann
Dr. Harris J. Levine
Abraham Goodman

MAX BRESSLER
210 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO 6, ILLINOIS

Jan. 20, 1955

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I trust that this letter finds you and Mrs. Silver enjoying good health and that everything is well with you.

I do not know whether you know Mr. Yavnai who represents Mehadrin, Ltd. In the course of our conversation during his visit to Chicago last weekend, an idea occurred to me which I now submit to you for your consideration. I believe that many truly good Zionists - your admirers, will be willing to purchase orange groves with the understanding that the profits which they are to receive in dollars be used to amortize the investment and that after the entire capital will have been liquidated, the deeds should then pass automatically to the "Pardessei Kfar Silver".

To improve on the above, the investors can be persuaded to direct the Mehadrin, Ltd. to turn over 25% of the profits to the Kfar Silver and apply only 75% to the liquidation of the investment. If, at the end of ten years, the investment is not liquidated, then refinancing for the balance can be arranged either with the original investors or with some outside sources by the Kfar Silver.

I trust you will agree that there will accrue more than one benefit to the Klallim. The assets of Kfar Silver will be increased, a source of continued actual income assured and the influence of the Klallim strengthened. I believe that we will be able to find at least 100 men who will be willing to associate themselves with this project.

I will be the first one to buy ten dunams at \$350.00 each on that basis. I can see a quarter of a million dollars or more ultimately accruing to the Kfar Silver and an actual annual income for the first ten years based on the representations made to me by Mr. Yavnai of \$10,000 to \$12,000.

There are many details connected with this plan which I will discuss with you if you find favor with it.

The same plan would obtain in the case of the Israel Paper Mills. Many of our general Zionists are stock holders in the paper mills. I have \$5,000 invested there. I will be ready to apply to this investment the same idea of having the dividend used for the amortization of the original investment and then turn over the stock to Kfar Silver.

I lose very little by it. Since the dividends will be paid to me in dollars, I will have to pay a good portion of it in taxes.

Certainly, Zionists worthy of the name should be willing to loan a small part of their money on a secured basis, without profit.

MAX BRESSLER
210 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO 6, ILLINOIS

Jan. 20, 1955

- 2 -

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver -

Will you be good enough to respond to this as early as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Max
Max Bressler

MB:ew



של ארצות הברית



ההסתדרות הציונית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

January 31, 1955

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I know you will be glad to learn that considerable progress has been made in Kfar Silver in preparation for the opening of the School in the fall.

According to the last communication received from Mr. Gutman, there are good prospects for many pupils to be enrolled from the ranks of Aliyath Hanoar.

Our commitments to Kfar Silver for the current fiscal year are also being fulfilled. In fact only last Friday, we remitted the usual monthly allocation. Dr. Harris Levine, Dr. Emanuel Neumann and the chairman of our Finance Committee, Mr. William Dorfman see to it that ZOA allocations for our projects in Israel and especially for Kfar Silver, are remitted in time to enable our friends in Israel to proceed with construction.

I am sure you recall a previous letter of mine regarding the Ford Foundation. Is there anything you could do in this respect?

With warmest regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Leon Flutovich
Assistant Executive Director

LI/pb

MAX BRESSLER
210 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO 6, ILLINOIS

Feb. 1, 1955

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

May I impose upon you for a response to my letter of January 20th.

I discussed the contents of my letter to you with Messrs. Zysman and Flesch. Both agreed that if my plan is implemented, the Kfar Silver will be assured of a steady substantial income with a steady increase in its' assets. ~~However~~, I will appreciate to be informed of your decision so that I can proceed with my own investments accordingly.

WRHS
AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Yours,

Max Bressler
Max Bressler E.H.

MB:ew

Kfar Silver
54-58

February 3, 1955

Mr. Max Bressler
210 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago 6, Illinois

- My dear Max:

Thank you for your letter of January 20th.

I think the idea which you suggest in your letter should best be taken up with the leaders of the General Zionists in Israel who are behind the Kfar Silver. Such involved financial projects are really not in my line.

I trust that you are well, and with best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:rms

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

March 22, 1955

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th St. & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am glad to inform you that to date the ZOA has remitted to Kfar Silver over IL 72,000 in cash towards our commitment for the current fiscal year.

In addition to cash remittances, we have already purchased a Caterpillar tractor and are proceeding with the acquisition of a small truck, which together will amount to \$7,500.

This will bring our subsidy to Kfar Silver up to about IL 88-89,000 for the current year.

I am making it a point to convey such information to you from time to time, since I know you would be glad to learn that we are living up to our promises.

Dr. Harris Levine informed me that the Foundation of your temple will make available another \$2,500 for Kfar Silver in the course of this year. I assume we can count on this money and I will appreciate your taking it up with the Foundation.

You most likely heard about Mr. Jack Verdi's pledge of \$10,000 towards the construction of a library in Kfar Silver in the name of Dr. Emanuel Neumann. Although the money will be made available to us in about a year from now, Mr. Verdi told me he would be prepared to issue promissory notes if it is decided to go ahead with the building immediately.

I have written to Kfar Silver and asked them to draw up plans and submit them to us together with an estimate.

more - page 2

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

-2-

March 22, 1955

Dr. Levine and I plan to meet with Mr. Raanan Weitz, of the Colonization department of the Jewish Agency, who is at the present time touring the country in behalf of the U.J.A. There are possibilities for the inclusion of the Kfar in the Colonization budget, although I doubt whether this will materialize before the next Congress.

From reports received from Israel, it seems that Moshe Kol is playing politics vis-a-vis Kfar Silver regarding pupils from the ranks of Aliyat Hanoar. Kfar Silver would like to accomodate 80 boys and girls from Aliyat Hanoar as the initial group when the school is opened in the fall and Kol continuously postpones the matter under the pretext that the schbbl still does not have a complete staff of instructors, etc. It looks as if we will have to put some pressure on Kol from this end.

From all I hear, preparatory work in Kfar Silver is well advanced and the school will be opened in the fall. I do not know when our friends in Israel intend to arrange the official opening, but I assume that you would like to personally attend the opening ceremonies.

With warmest regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,


Leon Ilutovich

Assistant Executive Director

LI/mf

New Features to Make ZOA House Concert Garden Israel's Most Modern Outdoor Concert Stadium

TEL AVIV (ZINS) - Improvements in the ZOA - Daniel Frisch House Concert Garden designed to make this outdoor stadium the most modern and complete of its nature in Israel were announced here this week by Jacob M. Alkow, Program Chairman of the ZOA House.

Mr. Alkow, in announcing a development program designed to provide summer concert goers with complete facilities, disclosed that the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra had selected the ZOA House Concert Garden as the site of its summer concerts. The orchestra is scheduled to perform 17 concerts during July and August with the participation of outstanding European artists. Performances such as that of Verdi's Requiem during 1954 by the Orchestra broke all Israel concert records.

To provide adequate facilities for the 1955 concert series, the ZOA House Concert Garden will undergo a number of improvements, including the construction of a large new wall to eliminate street noises, as well as other renovations, including the acquisition of new and more comfortable chairs for concert goers.

Cabinet Ministers to Greet U.S. Tourists at ZOA House Passover Seder

TEL AVIV (ZINS) - Members of the Israel Cabinet will greet American tourists attending a special traditional Passover Seder on April 6 at ZOA - Daniel Frisch House, the young republic's largest cultural center, it was announced here this week.

Rendered in both English and Hebrew to meet the linguistic requirements of tourists and Israelis, the ZOA House Seder program is expected to cater to more than 400 visitors this year. The most complete program of its nature designed for visitors to Israel during the Passover season, the ZOA House presentation includes the participation of a full choir.

Kiselstein New Chairman of Kfar Silver Board of Directors

TEL AVIV (ZINS) - Moses Kiselstein was appointed chairman of the Curatorium (Board of Directors) of Kfar Silver, the agricultural school being built in the southern part of Israel, near Migdal Ashkalon, by the Zionist Organization of America and the General Zionist Party in Israel. Mr. Kiselstein is the government Food Controller in the Tel Aviv area. He was formerly the director of the Israel Private Agricultural Council.

Zysman and Lubinsky, Israel General Zionist Leaders, Address ZOA Districts

NEW YORK (ZINS) - Shalom Zysman, General Zionist member of the Knesset on tour in the United States, has recently concluded an extensive trip throughout the country. Recently Mr. Zysman addressed ZOA leaders in Chicago, Detroit and New York. He spoke on the Gaza incidents and on Israel-Egyptian relations at the last meeting of the ZOA National Executive Committee. Mr. Zysman also visited Canada and Mexico, where he conferred with leaders of the local Zionist organizations.

Haim Lubinsky, vice-chairman of the General Zionist Party Council, who has just returned from an extensive tour of the Central States and Northwest Regions, where he addressed ZOA meetings in Wichita, Peoria, St. Louis, Kansas City, St. Paul and Minneapolis, will now address a number of ZOA meetings in the New York Metropolitan area.

* * * * *

JACK VERDI

OFFICE: 590 MINNESOTA STREET — PHONE Market 1-6427
RESIDENCE: 227 FOURTEENTH AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

April 2, 1955

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

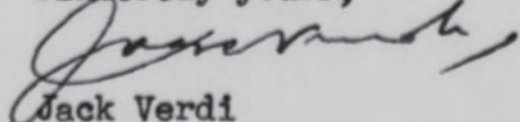
On my last trip to Israel, I had the occasion of visiting the Kfar Silver and to acquaint myself, not only with its historic significance, but also with the future promise it holds in line with our thinking and objectives.

I was impressed to the extent that I decided to make some worthwhile personal contribution towards the Kfar Silver Project. I found the opportune occasion on Dr. Emanuel Neumann's visit to San Francisco, on behalf of the A.Z.F. To give expression to the importance of Dr. Neumann's work and close association with you in the glorious historic chapter of bringing Israel to it's Statehood. So I have announced a contribution of \$10,000.00 for a Emanuel Neumann Library in Kfar Silver as a permanent link with your historic achievements.

I believe that such individual contribution towards a library and other individual buildings will hasten the completion of this magnificent project. I would like your opinion about this procedure.

My wife joins me in our kindest regards to Mrs. Silver and yourself.

Sincerely yours,


Jack Verdi

April 14, 1955

Mr. Jack Verdi
590 Minnesota Street
San Francisco, California

My dear Jack:

I was very happy to hear from you and to learn of the contribution which you have made to the Kfar Silver Project. I think it is a very beautiful thing that you have done in making so generous a contribution for an Emanuel Neumann Library in Kfar Silver.

It is some time now since I have seen you. I trust that you are well, and I am looking forward to the pleasure of seeing you in the not too far distant future.

With warmest regards to Mrs. Verdi in which Mrs. Silver joins me, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:rms

April 21, 1955

Dr. Sidney Marks
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Sidney:

WRHS



I addressed a meeting last evening of the Jewish community in Scranton in celebration of the Tercentenary. One of the speakers on the program representing the Scranton district of the Zionist Organization presented me with the enclosed check of \$500 to the Kfar Silver project in honor of my visit to Scranton.

Please see that this amount is forwarded at once to Israel. I should like an acknowledgment from Israel.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:rms

enclosure

check: Scranton District Zionist Organization of America
Harry A. Golden, Chairman of Board
Wm. Greenfield, Treasurer

של ארצות הברית



ההסתדרות הציונית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

April 22, 1955

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

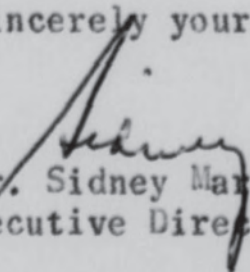
Dear Dr. Silver:

Many thanks for your letter dated April 21st. I was simply delighted to receive the check for \$500 earmarked for Kfar Silver. We are taking immediate steps to implement your direction.

I trust that this letter finds you and the family in the best of health and spirits.

Accept my affectionate regards and please extend them to the family.

Sincerely yours,


Dr. Sidney Marks
Executive Director

SM:dh

April 29, 1955

Dr. Sidney Marks
Executive Director
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Sidney:

This is a contribution which I received from
Mr. Leonard Goldberg of Cincinnati for the
Kfar Silver. Please see that it reaches its
destination.

Mr. Goldberg's address is evidently on the
check.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:rms

enclosure

#25 check

See letter from Dr. Morris Mark, Cincinnati

של ארצות הברית



ההסתדרות הציונית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

May 4, 1955

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

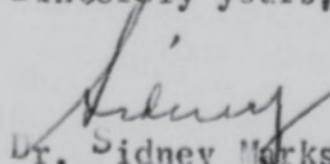
Many thanks for your letter dated April 29th. I was delighted to hear from you and to receive the check in the sum of \$25 for Kfar Silver.

We are really doing a fine job of it this year and it is good to give you a happy report.

I trust that you and the family are in the best of health and spirits.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,


Dr. Sidney Marks
Executive Director

SM:dh

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

May 13, 1955

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

We transmitted Wednesday, May 11th, the amount of \$525.00 to Kfar Silver. This amount was contributed as follows:

\$500.00 by the ZOA District in Scranton, Pennsylvania
and
\$ 25.00 by Mr. Leonard Goldberg of Cincinnati, Ohio

In accordance with your request conveyed to me by the Accounting Department, I have asked Kfar Silver to acknowledge the receipt of the above amount directly to you and to the two contributors.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Leon Ilutovich
Assistant Executive Director

LI:iwp

הסתדרות הציונים הכלליים בישראל

GENERAL ZIONISTS ORGANIZATION IN ISRAEL

ABBA HILLEL SILVER AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL, MIGDAL ASHKELON

TEL-AVIV, May 29, 1955. תל-אביב
 22-MASHMAL-571, Rothschild Blvd. תל-אביב-הרצל
 P.O. Box 1338 ת.ד. 1338-1978

Dear Rabbi Silver,

I am enclosing herewith copies of acknowledgements to Mr Greenfield and Mr Goldberg of their contribution of \$500.- and \$25.- respectively to the Kfar Silver Agricultural School.

I have heard from Mr Ilutovich and I take much pleasure in bringing the information to your attention.

I shall be pleased to let you know of the development of Kfar Silver from time to time. If there is anything specific you would like to know, please do not hesitate to call on me. I would consider it an honour to satisfy any request you may have.

Kindest regards.



Yours sincerely,

O. Guttman
 Secretary.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
 The Temple,
 East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.,
 Cleveland 6, Ohio.

66154

ABBA HILLEL SILVER AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL

May 29, 1955

4, Rothschild Blvd.

Dear Mr Greenfield,

We take much pleasure in acknowledging receipt of \$500.- - your contribution to the Kfar Silver Agricultural School. We are very much obliged for the help and the active interest you have taken in the project. The remittance was received by the Agro Bank, Tel-Aviv.

You will be glad to know that practical help has been speeding up the construction of the school and we are doing everything possible to open it in the autumn of this year.

It will give me much pleasure to keep you informed of its future development.

WRLS
Kindest regards.

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES
Yours sincerely,

O. Gutmann
Secretary

cc: Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Ohio.
L. Ilutovich, New York.

Mr Henry Greenfield, President,
20A Scranton District,
1302 Gibson St.,
Scranton, Pa.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL

May 29, 1955.

----- Rothschild Blvd. -----

Dear Mr. Goldberg,

We take much pleasure in acknowledging receipt of \$25.-- your contribution to the Kfar Silver Agricultural School. We are very much obliged for the help and the active interest you have taken in the project. The remittance was received by the Agro Bank, Tel-Aviv.

You will be glad to know that practical help has been speeding up the construction of the school and we are doing everything possible to open it in the autumn of this year.

It will give me much pleasure to keep you informed of its future development.

Kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,

O. G. G. G.
Secretary.

cc: Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Cleveland, Ohio.
L. Ilutovich, New York.

Mr. Leonard Goldberg,
World Insurance Co.,
Southern Ohio Agency,
2190 Victory Parkway,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Kfar Silver Project



WRHS
The Great Leader
of American Zionism
is being honored

by building
an Agricultural School
and Village
in the Negev

Training farmers for food
for Israel



An American Zionist Fund Undertaking



The Idea

Israel needs farmers! Food is basic to life and Israel must import food from abroad.

The Zionist Organization of America and the General Zionist Party of Israel want to help create self-sufficiency and decided to build an agricultural training school and village.

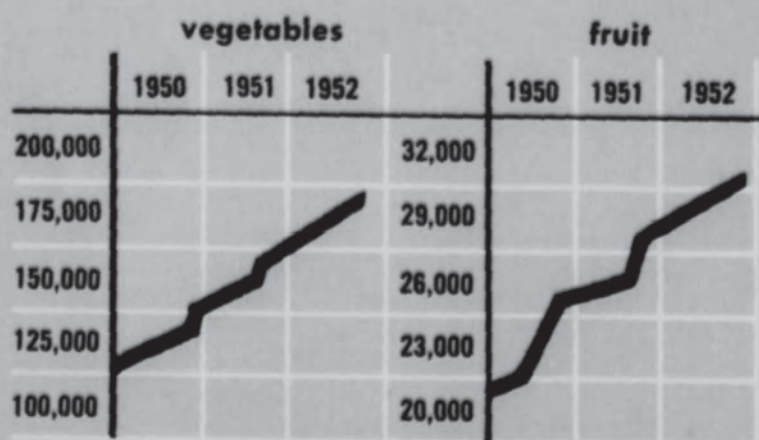
300 students, aged 14 to 17—new immigrants mingled with sabras—will receive three years training in good citizenship and expert farming.

Situated on the threshold of the Negev, where fertility rises once again from the desert, 1,600 dunams of land will produce food and teach mixed farming. Students will be taught to grow food, dairy and poultry farming, bee keeping, horticulture, and crop research. Agricultural training will be combined with a good school education.

This great agricultural training school which bears the name of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver will serve one more important purpose: American youth who may wish to

spend one to three months there to become acquainted with life in Israel will receive a great welcome and be made to feel at home.

The ZOA is proud to associate itself with this venture.



ISRAEL'S PRODUCE 1950-2 (in tons)



The Man

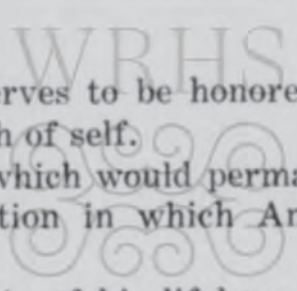
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver at 60 deserves to be honored permanently in the land to which he has given so much of self.

A citadel of learning in Israel which would permanently bear his name will reflect the esteem and affection in which American Zionists hold this great Jew.

As Dr. Emanuel Neumann wrote of his lifelong friend and colleague:

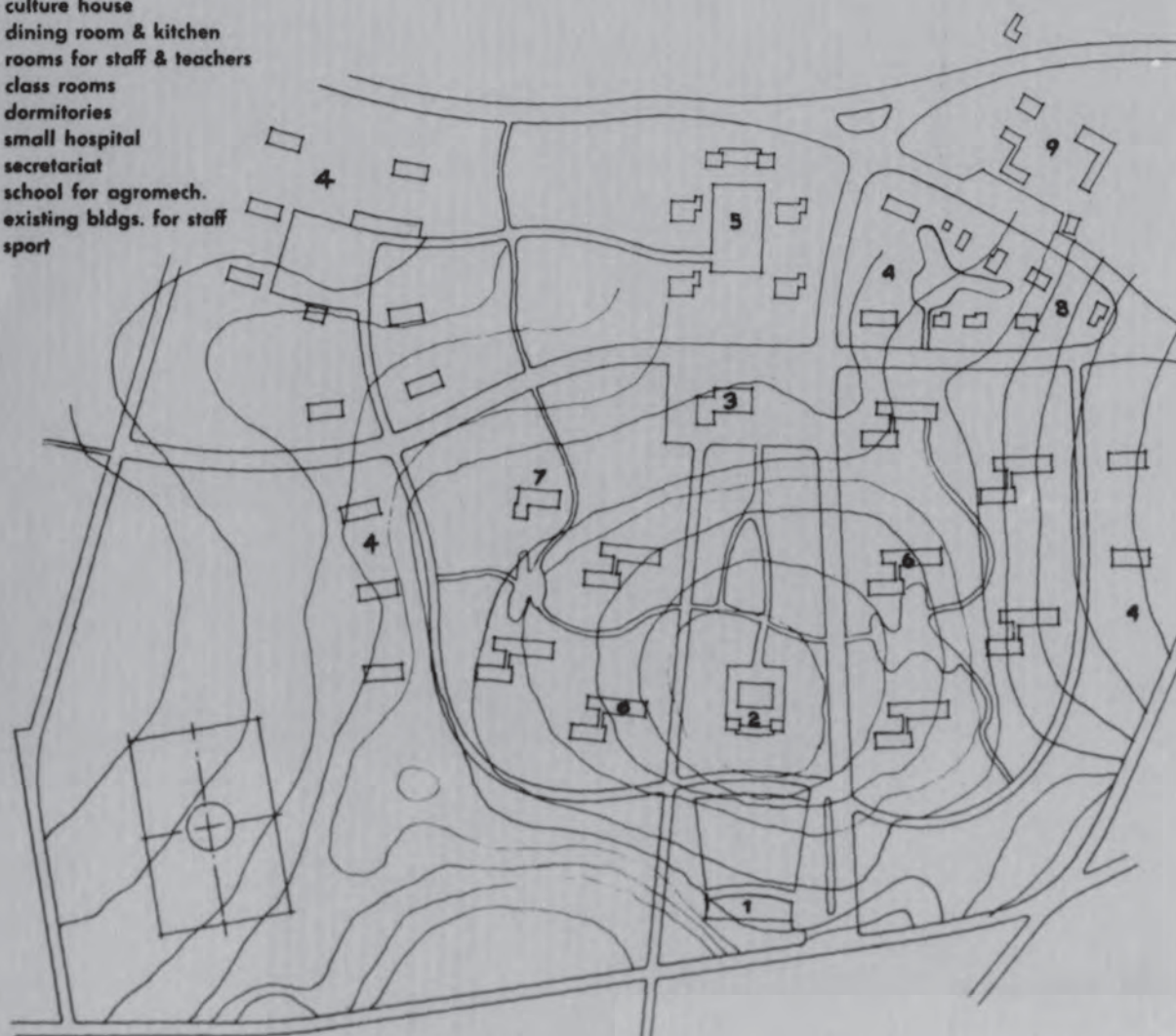
"...neither Israel nor Zionism can afford to be deprived of his galvanizing force. His place in Jewish history is already secure—but another chapter is still to be written.

"Whatever the future may have in store for him personally, there is a postscript to be added. The long and often fierce struggle waged under his leadership for the Zionist cause has yielded a by-product of inestimable value in itself—its permanent and tonic effect upon the Jewish community in this country. Silver had found American Jewry a slumbering giant: he roused the giant from his lethargy, made him conscious of his strength. To that extent the Jewish scene has been transformed. He taught us to stand up like men, to fight on our feet in the tradition of American freedom, without the paralyzing inhibitions of fear and inferiority. We dared. We risked open conflict with powerful forces and with men in the highest authority. We gained our worth. If ever the time should come—and it may come soon—when we shall have to gird ourselves once more in defense of the Jewish position, we shall be more courageous, more confident and effective, and the better prepared, because of the lessons we have learned under Abba Hillel Silver."



ISRAEL'S DAIRY PRODUCTION 1950-2

1. amphitheatre
2. culture house
3. dining room & kitchen
4. rooms for staff & teachers
5. class rooms
6. dormitories
7. small hospital
8. secretariat
9. school for agromech.
10. existing bldgs. for staff
11. sport



The Realization

Thanks to our friends in Israel, vigorous activity has already begun at Kfar Silver.

Two dormitories and the dining hall—which also serve as lecture and recreation hall—are completed. Part of the staff quarters and store sheds are ready. A well has been sunk and the land is being prepared for winter sowing.

The time has come for us to give necessary support to complete this living tribute to Dr. Silver.

Adjacent are the requirements for your selection.

Individual Districts and Regions will choose one or more of these items and upon completion of their specific project a permanent plaque will clearly identify the donor whose generosity made all this possible.

All contributions to the AZF are tax exempt. Israeli Bonds are acceptable as contributions. Please make checks payable to the ZOA.

THE FUTURE OF KFAR SILVER IS YOUR PEOPLE'S FUTURE IN ISRAEL

If you wish any further information, a letter or call to the American Zionist Fund Department, ZOA, 41 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y., MUrray Hill 2-3205, will bring an immediate response. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

Meyer Pesin
Chairman, Kfar Silver Project

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
41 East 42nd Street
New York 17, N.Y.

ESTIMATE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SILVER AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL

Accommodations for 300 students require the following expenditures:

A. PLANNING	
Planning, works supervisions, buildings.....	\$10,000.-
Topographical surveyings, irrigation plans.....	2,500.-
Agricultural programme planning.....	1,000.-
Soil tests and preparatory work.....	1,000.-
Survey, field lay-out, plantation scheme, marking	1,500.-
B. DORMITORIES, DINING HALL, STAFF QUARTERS, ETC.	
8 dormitories at \$22,000 each	\$176,000.-
Dining hall and kitchen for 300 students.....	40,000.-
Infirmary	7,500.-
8 classrooms (4 buildings) at \$9,000 each.....	36,000.-
Staff quarters (8 houses).....	58,000.-
Repair of existing buildings (offices and staff quarters)	20,000.-
C. FARM BUILDINGS	
Dairy	\$10,000.-
Chicken houses and breed coops.....	7,000.-
Tool store and barn.....	4,000.-
Machine shed	7,000.-
Fences and various	15,000.-
D. IRRIGATION INSTALLATION	
Boring	\$ 8,000.-
Vertical pump	7,000.-
Pump house	1,500.-
Power connection	3,500.-
Installation and test pumping.....	1,000.-
Water tower 100 m3 (3500 c/t).....	4,000.-
Pipes and fittings	30,738.-
Pipe laying and excavation	7,200.-
Concrete reservoir 1000 m3 (3500 c/t).....	13,000.-
2 Boosters incl. foundations, building, installation and power connection.....	7,000.-
Planning, drainage, filling in of wadis.....	18,000.-
E. PLANTATIONS	
100 dunams (25 acres) citrus grove.....	\$20,000.-
30 dunams (7½ acres) subtropical fruits.....	9,000.-
Deciduous fruit, olives, carobs, bananas.....	5,000.-
F. LIVESTOCK	
10 cows and calves	\$ 5,000.-
1000 chickens	2,000.-
2 draught animals.....	1,000.-
G. EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE	
Kitchen equipment	\$15,000.-
Hot water installation.....	12,000.-
Furniture for dormitories, dining room, classrooms	75,000.-
H. AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY	
Tractor, ploughs, etc.....	\$25,000.-
Truck	8,000.-
Tools	2,000.-
I. ADMINISTRATION	
Administration and various	\$10,000.-
Circulating capital	25,000.-
SUMMARY	
Planning	\$16,000.-
Dormitories, dining hall, staff quarters, etc.....	337,500.-
Farm buildings	43,000.-
Water supply	98,438.-
Plantations	34,000.-
Livestock	8,000.-
Equipment and furniture	102,000.-
Agricultural machinery and tools.....	35,000.-
Administration	35,000.-

ABBA HILLEL SILVER AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL

A number of buildings are already in the process of construction in Kfar Silver, on the threshold of the Negev. This agricultural training school and village is intended to accommodate 300 students. It is further contemplated that American youth migrating to Israel will have a place to which to go.

A brochure on the Kfar Silver project is in preparation. However, meanwhile, individuals, Districts or Regions can accept any of the items below as a project for this year. All monies collected will go to the American Zionist Fund and will be earmarked towards Kfar Silver. All completed projects will have a plaque permanently posted, clearly indicating the name of the individual contributor, District or Region whose generosity made this possible.

PRICE LIST

Accommodation for 300 students

Dormitories, Dining hall, Staff quarters

8 dormitories @		\$ 22,000 each
Dining hall & kitchen		40,000
Infirmery		7,500
8 class rooms (4 buildings) @		9,000 each
Staff quarters (16 houses) @		7,000 each

Farm Buildings

Dairy	\$ 10,000
Chicken houses & brood coops.	7,000
Tool store & barn	4,000
Machine shed.	7,000
Fences & various.	15,000

Irrigation installation

Water tower	\$ 4,000
Pump house.	1,500
Concrete reservoir.	13,000
2 Boosters, incl. foundations, building installation & power connection. . . .	7,000

Plantations

100 dunams citrus grove	\$ 20,000
30 dunams subtropical fruits.	9,000
Deciduous fruit, olives, carobs, bananas .	5,000

Livestock

10 cows and calves	\$ 5,000
1000 chickens	2,000
2 draught animals.	1,000

Agricultural equipment and machinery

Tractor, ploughs, etc.	\$ 25,000
Truck	8,000
Tools	2,000

All contributions to the AZF are tax exempt. Israeli Bonds are acceptable as contributions. Please make checks payable to the ZOA.

* If you wish any further information, a letter or call to *
* American Zionist Fund Department, ZOA, 41 East 42nd Street, *
* New York 17, New York, MUrray Hill 2-3205, will bring an *
* immediate response. Please do not hesitate to contact us. *

Meyer Pesin is Chairman of the Kfar Silver Project.

A number of carpentry and locksmith workshops have also been erected for the training of the pupils in trades ancillary to agriculture.

A number of problems pertinent to the development of the Institutions still remain unsolved:

- 1) The intensification of pioneering education under present conditions.
- 2) The combination of vocational training with agricultural instruction.
- 3) Financial resources for carrying out essential works, such as buildings, services, equipment, etc.,
- 4) The large discrepancy between the maintenance grants given by the Jewish Agency and the actual expenses.
- 5) The absorption of children from the Maabaroth and slum quarters, in the face of competitive activities on the part of other movements.
- 6) The organisation of the Friends of the Institutions in Israel and abroad in the form of a World Association.

"Yessodot" and also each of the Institutions, have achieved very much in this respect, but the final aim is still far away.

KEFAR SILVER - FOUNDED BY THE GENERAL ZIONISTS ORGANISATION IN ISRAEL AND Z.O.A.

In 1951, the General Zionists Organisation in Israel and the Zionist Organisation of America jointly decided to found an Agricultural Educational Institution in the form of a Youth Village, to be named Kefar Silver, after the illustrious Zionist leader, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver.

After numerous representations the Ministry of Agriculture agreed to allot a site for the Institution in the former Mandatory agricultural school, some 3 kilometres from Migdal Ashekelon

Kefar Silver extends over an area of 1500 dunams granted by the Keren Kayemeth on a 49-year lease. This area includes a citrus grove of 232 dunams and a vineyard of 60 dunams. The citrus grove is already fruit-bearing and covers its maintenance costs, while the vineyard still requires intensive cultivation. The site contains the ruins of 10 buildings which were totally or partially destroyed during the War of Liberation. 7 of these buildings have now been re-built and made suitable for the housing of part of the staff and the administrative offices.

PLANNING OF THE VILLAGE

Kefar Silver has been designed to serve as an agricultural training farm, and its specific character had to be taken into account in the planning. The village has therefore been adapted to the particular characteristics of the region, its climate and water conditions. It will comprise most branches of agriculture so as to extend as far as possible the practical agricultural knowledge of the pupils.

The Village will include mixed farming, livestock, vegetables and fruit plantation. It will also include 2 model farms of the type of the co-operative Village or the Moshav. The plantations will comprise all the fruit trees peculiar to the lowland region and also about 90 dunams of subtropical fruits. The pupils will hence be able to specialize in fruit cultivation, especially of citrus groves. The livestock section is designed to be self-sufficient while the poultry section will be for educational purposes only. All systems of irrigation will be included in the curriculum

EXECUTION

The following works have so far been carried out or are on order:

- 1) 2 dormitory buildings (out of a total of 8 in the final plan), each containing 9 bedrooms and a large reading and recreation room. Each dormitory building will house about 40 pupils.
- 2) A dining hall and kitchen to accommodate 300 pupils, also serving as a common hall.
- 3) 7 existing buildings have been re-built to house the staff and the offices.
- 4) A new well has been drilled to supply 330 cub. metres of water per hour.
- 5) Water installations for the irrigation of 400 dunams are being constructed.

FINANCE

The estimated cost of completing the construction of the Institution designed for 300 pupils and a staff of about 70 - will be some IL. 1½ millions. As this total amount is not available, the Institution will have to be built up in stages. For the completion of the first stages (120 - 150 pupils), the following works must be carried out: 2 additional dormitories, a clinic, 8 buildings to house the staff, 2 schoolhouses (4 classes), farm buildings (dairy, chicken-run, machine workshop, fences, etc.). Furthermore the livestock, agricultural implements, furnishings and other equipment must still be acquired. The sum required for the completion of this first stage is estimated at IL. 480,000. The K.M.K. has made considerable allocations in this respect.

AIMS

The educational programme of the Institution will be based on general knowledge and Jewish ethics, with particular stress laid on agricultural subjects. The Institution will comprise boys and girls between the ages of 13 - 17, particularly those from agricultural villages and farmers' families, who will form the future generation of farmers in the country.

The Kefar Silver project is headed by a Board appointed by the General Zionists Organisation, whose members are Messrs. H. Daniel, Dr. I. Wirklich, Y.M. Alkov, M. Kizelstein, Dr. S. Levin, B. Gordon, G. Salpeter, H. Avraham. Secretary: A. Gutman.



כפר סילבר

מוסד חנוכי חקלאי
מדינת ישראל

המוסד

הסתדרות הציונים הכלליים בישראל
מפלגת המרכז

ההסתדרות הציונית - ארצות הברית 208

תכנון והשגחה

משרד לבנין ולבנין ערים

מנכ"ל
מנהל

מנהל
מנהל

תל-אביב

WRHS

המרכז



חברות רסקו בע"מ
המכדה האזרחי בע"מ

תל-אביב

תל-אביב



WRHS

