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

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

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United Jewish Appeal, United Palestine Appeal, "T," "U," "V," and
"W", 1938.

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

January 17, 1938

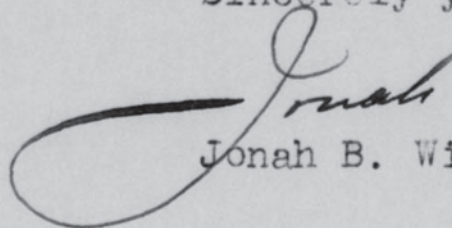
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105 Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Ab:

Mr. Baerwald, Mr. Backer and I expect to be in St. Louis over the 24th. I hope you can make another arrangement soon to be in New York, so we can have the informal meeting to which I am looking forward with great interest.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,


Jonah B. Wise

JBW:HF

January 31, 1938

Mr. David Wertheim
Poale Zion
275 Seventh Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Wertheim:

Enclosed herewith is a copy of a letter from Mr. Samuel A. Goldsmith, Secretary of the Jewish Welfare Fund of Chicago and a copy of a letter which I have addressed to Mr. Hamlin of the Gewerkshafte campaign.

In view of the close cooperation that is supposed to obtain between the United Palestine Appeal and the Poale Zion forces in America, I urge you to take prompt action in the matter.

Sincerely yours,

HM:BC
Enc.

Henry Montor
Executive Director

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

February 3, 1938

Dr. Jonah B. Wise,
35 E. 62nd Street,
New York, N.Y.

WILL BE IN NEW YORK MONDAY COULD MEET WITH YOU FOR FINAL DRAFTING AND SIGNING
OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN JDC AND UPA WILL BE FREE UNTIL THREE P.M. KINDEST REGARDS

A. H. SILVER

C O P Y

Guggenheimer & Untermeyer
30 Pine Street, New York

PALM SPRINGS, CALIF.
February 7, 1938

Rev. Abba Hillel Silver
United Palestine Appeal
111 Fifth Avenue
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Silver:-

I was pleased to hear from you again by your letter of the 4th inst., after your long silence, and wish to congratulate you and the Palestine Administration upon your election as National Chairman.

You have a tough job ahead of you in the present world situation, but I am sure you will be equal to it, and I will be pleased to do what little I can toward assisting you.

With kind regards, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

SAMUEL UNTERMYER

C O P Y

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

461 Fifth Ave. New York.

February 9, 1938

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Your letter of the 2d instant informing him of his election as an Honorary Vice-Chairman of the United Palestine Appeal was received in Mr. Waldman's absence abroad. Before he left, Mr. Waldman indicated his willingness to accept this office.

Incidentally, Mr. Waldman left a package for you (I believe he told you about it when he saw you in Washington). If you will let me know when next you are in New York, I shall be glad to see that you get it.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) Anna Friedman
Secretary to Mr. Waldman

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, National Chairman
United Palestine Appeal
111 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.



THE ISAAC M. WISE TEMPLE
K.K.B'nai Yeshurun
Cincinnati, Ohio

OFFICE - READING ROAD AND NORTH CRESCENT AVENUE
TELEPHONES - AVON 0334 - AVON 0335

RABBIS

James G. Heller Samuel Wohl

February 10th
1 9 3 8

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have received a routine announcement of my selection to a Vice-Chairmanship on the United Palestine Appeal. I accept on the condition that my services shall be used. I hope that under your leadership something worthwhile will happen to the organization in addition to the increase in fund raising.

It would be tragic if under your leadership the same old methods and same old stereotyped procedure would continue. I know that some of them are as abhorrent to you as they are to me. I am not interested now in telling you what is wrong. You probably could make up a considerable list yourself. I am eager that under the auspices of the United Palestine Appeal such things shall be done which shall make Palestine and Zionism vital in the lives of our people. That all publicity need not be of the ballyhoo type, that there are methods and procedures which can be of more lasting influence. I am placing before you a number of suggestions in accordance with your expressed desire in an earlier letter.

I. THE LEAGUE FOR LABOR PALESTINE: There are some very gifted men and women in this organization. Many key people in various communities are now associated with the League because of their friendship for the Histadruth. There are men who would undertake some definite task on behalf of the UPA and as National Chairman of the League, I shall be glad to cooperate with you in the selection of such people who could be helpful. Let me illustrate, for instance:

Mr. Alexander Kahn is very active in the affairs of the Joint Distribution Committee and is a member of the Administrative Committee of the Agency, has heretofore not been used by the UPA. He is now the Chairman of the National Administrative Committee of the League. He can be used to great advantage among non-Zionists who are friendly to him because of JDC connections and among the labor groups in the country. Mr. Joseph Schlossberg of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union, is a very eminent man and of great influence.

The Labor delegation that went to Palestine last year among them are a number of distinguished labor leaders who would do certain things in connection with the UPA Campaign.

There are men in the intellectual world who are associated with the League, and who I am sure would cooperate through the League with the United Palestine Appeal. I am convinced that such participation is necessary and would be very fruitful.

II. THE SYNAGOGUE: There are so many things that divide the Synagogue, but it is possible by joint efforts for Palestine to have a united front. It would be very desirable if you could bring together under UPA auspices or by a special sponsorship a Conference of the Executive Boards of the Rabbinic organizations. Then let them proceed to form a United Council which shall plan activities for Palestine in and through the Synagogue.

For instance: It might be well and I think it could be done successfully, to have several teams of Reform, Conservative and Orthodox rabbis traveling together as units, visiting the various cities of the country on behalf of the UPA. It would show the unity of our religious groups and it would stir the imagination of the various groups with whom they would meet. They would simultaneously address all sections of the Community and it would be a type of propaganda which ought to prove helping and of lasting influence. Not only would they address mass meetings, but they could have smaller conferences and round tables, and perhaps speed up the process of building a United Zionist Organization of all parties and groups in the country.

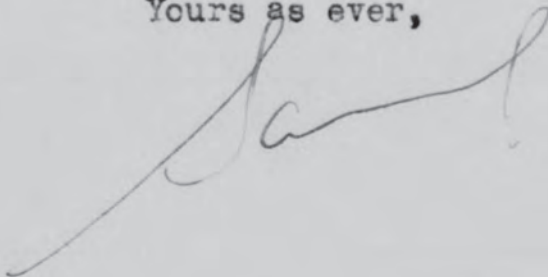
III. NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: There should be under the auspices of the UPA, an annual conference of the leaders and some of the important national bodies. They need not come all at once. They can be grouped, and in these groupings those that are congenial can get together. It is not enough to have an Annual demonstration in Washington. There should be a closer method of working with and through the existing national organizations and not merely to have figure on stationary of the UPA.

IV. KEY MEN: Social workers, Educators, Jewish Center Executives, are key people in various communities. There should be a special Palestine Council created in which these groups can show initiative and activity.

I have sketched just a few suggestions. There is much that could be said in further explanation, and I shall be most happy if you so desire to work out some of the techniques and methods or perhaps come up to Cleveland and discuss these matters fully with you.

With best wishes and warmest regards from house to house, I am,

Yours as ever,



SW:HR

C O P Y

CONGREGATION RODEPH SHALOM

615 North Broad Street

PHILADELPHIA

February 15, 1938

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
National Chairman
111 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have your kind letter of February 7, asking me "to accept an office whose obligations are already being fulfilled by the work" which I am now doing. I presume this means to be a member of the Committee on United Palestine Appeal.

Of course, you know that Philadelphia has already completed its campaign in behalf of Palestine, and in that connection I was as active as my limitations permitted me. You also know that I am not a Zionist, and while to be sure I am pro-Palestine, I hardly see how it would be proper for me to accept membership on a committee definitely committed to Zionism. I am sure you will bear with me in the matter and understand why it would hardly be right for me to accept the honor.

With very kind regards, I am,

Very cordially yours,

(Signed) Louis Wolsey

LW:Y

Congregation Adath Veshurun

HOUSTON. TEXAS

RABBI SANDERS A. TOFIELD
RESIDENCE: 1218 WEBSTER AVENUE
STUDY: 917 JACKSON STREET

February 15, 1938.

AIR MAIL

Dear Dr. Silver:

Please accept my congratulations upon the honor conferred upon you as head of the United Palestine Appeal. At the same time my felicitations to you for successful accomplishments in this great undertaking. My appointment to serve on your nation-wide committee I appreciate and accept with the humility arising from the awareness that my contribution might be of small proportion.

At an executive committee meeting of the local Zionist District last week I urged that we submit a request for \$12,000.00 from the Budget Committee of our communal drive. Last year the U.P.A. was allotted a sum in a 40-60 ratio with the J.D.C. We are aiming to raise more money this year and the U.P.A. allotment is bound to be larger. We are also fortunate in having one or two staunch adherents of Zionism on the Drive Committee. In face of all that, I nevertheless felt that the Zionist organization should indicate its continued vigilance over U.P.A. interests.

Permit me to offer a suggestion. The J.D.C. is ordering a regional conference at Dallas on March 6th. Rabbi Jonah B. Wise is expected and he is also to appear at Houston at a public meeting on the 7th. It seems most advisable that a U.P.A. representative appear at several cities in this vicinity, Houston included, at about the same time. I am sure you recognize the importance of public education even though in our case, at any rate, the practical results remain the same.

I expect to leave for New York on February 28th and return by March 14th. My pulpit can be made available to a U.P.A. representative on the Friday evenings of March 4th and 11th. Two years ago Judge Rothenberg was presented there. We are confident of an attendance ranging from 500 upwards if a noteworthy representative appears.

While my congregation would be complimented in this wise, and although it may appear that I am seeking an easy solution to the need for a substitute, I am still urging the advisability of making such arrangements if feasible. Since the drive will be opened formally with a public meeting at which Rabbi Jonah B. Wise will be principal speaker, it will be difficult to arrange another mass meeting for a U.P.A. speaker on a week night at about the same date. A Friday evening service is the most logical occasion.

Congregation Adath Veshurum

HOUSTON. TEXAS

RABBI SANDERS A. TOFIELD
RESIDENCE: 1218 WEBSTER AVENUE
STUDY: 917 JACKSON STREET

February 15, 1938.

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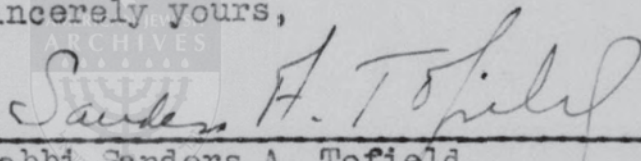
Dr. Silver:

If the plan I outlined meets with your approval, and if you are taking steps to have someone in Houston on the 4th or the 11th, please notify me at once. I am in the midst of making arrangements for visiting Rabbis to occupy my pulpit on those dates. For this reason I am sending a copy of this letter to the national office in the hope that between the two points I may receive a reply in sufficient time.

I am at your pleasure for any assistance that I may be in a position to offer to the U.P.A.

With repeated good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



Rabbi Sanders A. Tofield

SAT:EP
Dr. A. Hillel Silver,
National Chairman,
United Palestine Appeal,
Cleveland, Ohio.

February 15 1938.

Dr. Alex S. Wolf

SUITE 511-513 VICTORIA BLDG.

SAINT LOUIS, U. S. A.

Reply to 5813 Enright ave.

*Dear friend
Abba Hillel:-*

I have received your letter informing me of my election as one of the honorary vice-chairmen of the United Palestine Appeal for the ensuing year. Needless to say, that I accept the election as a matter of duty not honor, and that I place myself at your command as the supreme leader of all forces in this country, interested in the upbuilding of Ha-Aretz, and shall attend to all duties assigned to me by you, locally or in the surrounding territory.

I consider your consent to serve as the National Chairman of the United Palestine Appeal as the most gratifying event of this year, on the par with Goga's ousting from the seat of power and destruction of our brethren in Rumania. By assuming the sacred duty of the leadership of the only Jewry in the world, capable to bring aid and support to the Yishuv, you have performed a triple Mizvah: the first you are performing daily and hourly by attending to the arduous duties of the organization and propaganda, leadership and council on behalf of Eretz Israel in well understood compliance with the task bequeathed to us all by our Immortal Father, Theodor Herzl. The second Mizvah you have done to Stephen S. Wise and his dear wife by relieving him from the onerous task that in addition to the two other, that of the president of the Zionist Organization of America, and the American Jewish resp. World Congress, was beyond physical strength even of that giant in mind and body. Already at the extraordinary convention ^{at Baltimore,} in fall of 1928, caused by the Crimean adventure of Rosenwald and associates, Mrs. Wise begged me to prevail on Stephen S. to quit that terrible physical exertion on his heart and blood vessels and retire to rest for a long period lest he drop dead in the midst of one of his volcanic oratorical explosions. But even my old friendship with S.S.W. could avail anything in the matter: Lord be praised, he is still alive and going some: vide his toastmastership at the Washington

Conference of January 23rd. And the third Mizvah you are doing to yourself by dedicating yourself to the noblest task a Jew can take upon himself, to serve the wonderful people of Eretz Israel in the this direst hour of the Yishuv's existence. Were you at that meeting of One Hundred and Thirty in September 1919, at Chicago, when LDB. told us of a story he had heard from that splendid Russian Zionist, now also among those whose passing away we lament, Rosoff, a story of another Mizvah a plain Jewish soldier in the Russian army had performed in a village razed by bombardment of the German and Russian artilleries, to bring Matzoh to the Jewish people from across the German frontier, on the eve of first Sedar? 'What you have done in your life, my son, said the old Jewish rabbi, who had been facing hourly the death from a bombshell, to deserve such Mizvah? To let me pass out of this life without marring my life at its end without saying a broche over Matzos? 'I have tears in my eyes when I think of the meaning of such Mizvah, when I remember the face and the expression of LDB. deeply moved and moving us all when telling this story of a Mizvah that was in the meaning of LDB. a Mizvah for us all in serving the old Mother Zion in the spirit of that Jewish lad who had risked dozen of times his life by smuggling the box with matzoh to the destitute Jews and their rabbis whom he until that day and hour never knew. With this I wish to close the purely personal letter to you, dear Abba, with the hope that it will be given to you and me and to all whom we love and whom we esteem to meet in Eretz Israel on the momentous occasion Theodor Herzl had in mind when he wrote to me from Alt-Aussee, Upper Austria, on July 20 1902:

'Ich glaube, sie haben gut gethan, sich diesen Boden für Ihre Thätigkeit auszusuchen bis zum Zeitpunkte, der uns Zionisten der ganzen Welt im Lande unserer Väter versammeln wird.'

I am, dear Abba Hillel,

Yours to command

Alex Swoeg

A MEMORANDUM in re U. P. A in ST. LOUIS.

I should like to have the schedule of your engagements in St. Louis while here

as I do not care for any contact with that man in or on any matter, having already in the years

them. The reason for this request is Prof. Klausner's and my very urgent desire to have a confer-

Endence, particularly, in our instance, when the National Chairman lives in one community, and the

Executive Director in another, cannot accomplish in weeks what can be accomplished in a hour's

conference between yourself and us who both are anxious to see matters adjusted and moving on

forward, LoMaan Zion. The question of the territorial unit in which St. Louis should find its

place, the question of creation of U.P.A. local Councils which is my pet idea though. I like it

to be formed as Council for Palestine, omitting the word Appeal which deters many if it is be-

ing pressed right from the start, the creation of such Pro-Palestine councils in every larger

community, to comprise all Jewish organizations of the community-and nowadays, even ~~then~~ some

Federation would join such Pro*Palestine Councils--through proper representation and on a per

fectly democratic basis that sooner or later, will be adopted even by the Jewish Welfare Funds

the role and the authority the ~~xxxxx~~ honorary vice-chairmen should exert in the matters of

U.P.A. when dealing with the local Federation resp. J.W.F. Administrative committee, In St. Lou-

is the situation is somewhat beclouded by the fact that we had elected a young and extremely

ambitious younger man to the office of the president of the Zionist Organization of St. Louis

because we had enough of Klausner's four years of incumbency of the office, I myself, predecessor

of Klausner in the office of the president, felt to the very marrow of my bones, that at the end

of the third term ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ I had enough of it, that I became stale, tired, in need of rest like

a field that had not been left fallow. That young man has now two stenographers and wishes to

utilize their time fully 100 %:he writes endless letters to Montor,takes his time unnecessarily

with questions that appear of great historic and national importance to him, but in reality, are

not such as you can believe me. In former years Prof. Klausner made an arrangement that the checks

from the J.W.F. would be forwarded to our local office in order to maintain our identity in the

eyes of the Federationist Jews. But The last payment a few weeks ago came again to the Zionist

office with the request for a financial statement of the U.P.A.T. that was a trumpet call for the

young man whose name is David Berenstein to put his foot into the entire matter of the U.P.A. to communicate with Montor, with Stephen S. Wise, in brief, he wants the Zionist world know who is who in the Zionist set up here. Now the entire correspondence in this matter is being conducted by him personally and only as a courtesy to the "elder statesmen," he sends us a copy of his letters to Montor or Montor's letters to us. Now, you will admit, while his ambition in the cause of serving the Zionist movement, is laudable, and we, who helped to put over Berenstein, are certain that many of his suggestions and plans for carrying the Zionist work in this community, particularly, the membership campaign ^{and} the fiscal measures - Berenstein used to be in financing business, as you know, and studied in the meanwhile law, so he is excellently fitted out for the business end of our work, and his ^{methods} ~~methods~~ of economy and production, startling as they were to us, old timers, seem to bring results in funds and numbers, be it said to Berenstein's credit. But just the same, if the U.P.A. to start its work from St. Louis as a center, it will be the duty of Klausner, ^{and} myself ^{and} Julius Gordon, to carry the work with the aid of a director in the contiguous territory, ~~but~~ Under all circumstances, the authority in U.P.A. work even locally must be entrusted to the four honorary vice-chairmen residing in St. Louis. A U.P.A. ^{U.P.A. of hon. vice chairmen} board must be created here because of the generous number granted St. Louis, with the addition of the president of the Z.O. of St. Louis, the chairman of the U.P.A. committee of that organization, ^{it must} ~~but~~ include the president of another regular district created or ^{here} ~~changed~~ in recent months, the Maccabean Club of which the very same D. Berenstein was a pillar of strength for many years, but whose interference with the local 'authority' of the Z.O. of St. Louis of which Berenstein is president, the latter dislikes much. The Maccabean Club which had a few weeks ago celebrated its 25th anniversary of founding, has done a good deal of work for the cause, collected money, provided working committees, ~~finds~~ among the members and business friends for the J.W.F. drives in the last two years and had collected a goodly sum of money, which goes in the very keen, observing eyes of the non-Zionist machers to the credit of the Zionist front. I have not much love ~~for~~ ^{we} or contact with the group, their uncouthness and rough tactics, lack of savoir vivre go against my esthetic grain; but they are Zionists and their claim for participation in the running matters cannot be denied, Berenstein's dislikes or apprehensions to the contrary notwithstanding. So this one of the reasons we MUST talk to you, Klausner and myself. If you are going to stay over Tuesday noon we must know now quickly so we may arrange a luncheon to which we would invite outstanding members of the Federationists and welfare workers as well as our Zionist workers. At this critical period an address as you have delivered at the Cincinnati Conference of the National Council of Jewish Federations and JWF must

(A Memorandum to Rabbi Silber in re U.P.A. in St. Louis.)

go a long way towards bringing a better understanding between the groups, otherwise if not ~~more~~
antagonistic, so not congenial, to say the least. My sister Sarah (Mrs. Jack A. Goodman, of Indianapo-
lis) and Rabbi Halpern returned from the ^{Cincinnati} meeting most enthusiastic about your brilliant, moving
and touching address! Sister at once "long telephoned" me about her impressions. By the way, by whose
foolish notion the name of Jack A. Goodman, ~~former~~ ^{for years} chairman of the Indiana State Federation of
Jewish Charities, now retired, but still throwing his influence in Jewish Welfare Fund campaigns
^{in the interest of Zionist funds,}
was dropped from the list of honorary vice-chairmen, and a good Zionist, but a very poor diplomat
Daniel Frisch, was retained who has done plenty to antagonize the German-Jewish element in In-
dianapolis. My sister being the first lady of Indianapolis, gave me plenty of information about the
sad effect of uncompromising attacks by Frisch in his paper upon the other elements of that Jew-
ish community. ^{Frisch is} a fine Zionist, devoted, ardent, but like that bear in Esop's tale who smashes the
fly on the forehead of his friend-recluse with a rock- in order to protect his sleep! and, inciden-
tally, kills his friend. Speaking of vice-chairmen we should have certainly dropped the name of
Edwin Weissner, of St. Louis: his name is euphonious, sounds like a good ~~xxxx~~ German name, but my
good, dear friend Edwin does not do a lick of work, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ for our cause, never ^{had}
I do not know upon whose advice his name had been placed on the list of 'hon' in the American
Palestine campaigns- and remained there permanently, of no use to us in any ~~xxxxxxx~~ direction.
Only that he was a friend of Julius Gordon and during his nineteen years of incumbency as pre-
sident of the reform Shaare Emeth Congregation, never objected to Gordon's open es^o using the Zion-
ist ideology in his sermons. If I would have been asked as to other names in St. Louis I would have
omitted besides my own, that of Edwin Weissner and substituted the one of the Rabbi Abraham Hal-
pern, of the conservative Bnai Amoona, a fine Jew, an ardent Zionist though somewhat links einge-
stellt, as he claims, through my own efforts in this direction. But dropping that of my brother-in-
law, was certainly a boner. .
Now I think, I can reiterate my request: schedule of your engagements in St. Louis as it is in your
possession; what chance have we, Klausner and I, to meet you- strictly confidentially and alone during
the day, or late at night, after the banquet if one is planned for the Monday evening; luncheon on
Monday or what you suggest.

You pardon me if I have taken so much time: but once you are fully oriented about men and matters
you can easily arrive at conclusions and map out the line of action?

P.S. Pardon the many corrections of typewritten letter! I am my own
stenographer. Even in this shape the typewritten letter - is legible.

Respectfully
L. Wolf

Feb.15,1938

Rabbi Stephen S.Wise,
New York.

Dear Rabbi:

I was very glad to hear of Dr.Silver's being elected National Chairman - in the first place, as I feel he will be a creditable and efficient successor of yourself, and next, because I have thought all along that you are overworking yourself and that you have more than sufficient on your hands without this job. As a matter of fact, I think you can shove off a great many more of your responsibilities onto other shoulders, with highly satisfactory results, especially to yourself. Being President of the Zionist Organization of America is certainly big enough for any one man, and I would like to see you break in other men on some of these jobs, retaining, as I know you will, a guiding hand in all of these matters.

In regard to the U.P.A. in our part of the country, I feel certain that this year's drive will probably be more successful than ever before, but due to the variety of problems confronting Jews in Eastern Europe and especially in Poland, I am afraid that some of my colleagues will be inclined to apportion a much larger pro rata of the funds to the J.D.C. under the plea of necessity for emergency work in Europe, especially Poland, and the present uncertainty of affairs concerning Poland and the restriction of immigration thereto.

I am further sure that these points will be highly stressed at a regional meeting that the J.D.C. is calling in Dallas on March 6th, at which Rabbi Jonah B.Wise, Paul Baerwald and other "big shots" of the J.D.C. will be on hand.

I am just thinking if it would not be in the interest of the U.P.A. to also call a regional meeting here and have you and Dr.Silver attend same? I believe this would result in arousing a more determined attitude on the part of the Jews here to continue the great work of the upbuilding of Palestine, in the face of our present difficulties. I am afraid that if this is not done, the allotment of the U.P.A. will be cut, as already pointed out, unless, of course, you can get together with the J.D.C. as you did last year and agree upon a 60-40 proposition, in which case I feel pretty certain that Houston will abide by a continuation of such an agreement. Please let me know what you think of this idea.

Miss Ingrid Warburg was just thru here in the interest of placing German-Jewish children in Palestine, and she made a very fine impression. In fact, she is a grand girl and has a heart that is deeply concerned with all Jewish problems. At heart, she is also an ardent Zionist and I believe could do us a lot of good at some later time if she would tour some of the country on strictly Zionist problems.

Most sincerely and cordially,

Joe Weingarten

RABBI JONAH B. WISE

35 EAST 62ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y.

February 16th, 1938

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

Dear Friend:

"Sufferance is the badge of all our race" says Shakespeare speaking about the Jews. We know the degradation and injustice which calumny never hesitates to heap on its victims; no lie is too outrageous, no rumor too filthy for our detractors. We have rarely had a chance to repudiate these indignities other than by acts of individual courage and grace. At last we can try to dig in and stand fast. The Joint Distribution Committee completely rejects any theory of Jewish life which exiles Jews from any country. We will, of course, help those who are made homeless. We will not cooperate in any plan that labels Jews as "surplus population".

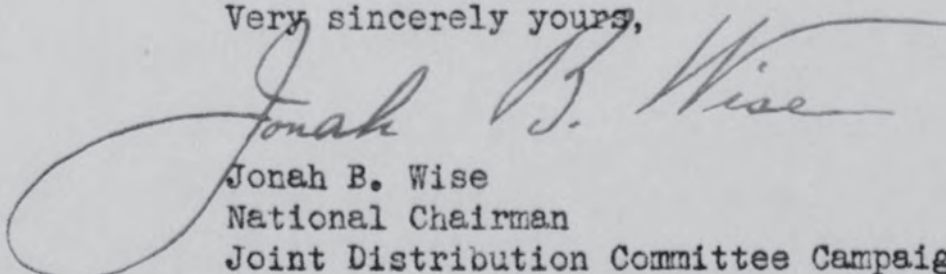
It is of the utmost importance that we realize the gravity of this movement and that we condemn it unreservedly. The Joint Distribution Committee has this year asked for more than five million dollars. It is a modest request in the face of the dire need. The purpose of the request is to maintain the morale of those Jewish populations of Eastern and Central Europe who are now bearing the brunt of the most modern anti-Semitic warfare. We must supply those people with a semblance of aid so that they can fight the battles of Israel where they now live and where they have lived for many generations. I cannot see that we have any choice in the matter if we intelligently weigh the facts.

If we have to go around making statements as obvious as a beggar's cup and parade our shame with a blind man's dog upon the public highways, then we are not worthy of saving. This is not a charity; this is statesmanship. These are the facts -- the figures, I am willing to send you at your request.

You will be called upon to support the Joint Distribution Committee's program when a fund-raising campaign is held in your community. I know that you will contribute with the utmost generosity and in the spirit which is the mainspring of the honor of Israel.

I shall appreciate word from you.

Very sincerely yours,


Jonah B. Wise
National Chairman
Joint Distribution Committee Campaign

JBW:RVH

Feb.16,1938

Bernard Stone,
Los Angeles, Calif.

My dear Sir:

I do not see that any purpose will be accomplished by your coming to Palm Springs in March, although I expect to be here until the middle of next month.

I do not approve of the idea of calling a meeting in my home here for the purpose of making a collection for the UPA drive. Whilst I have many friends in that section of Los Angeles, particularly among moving picture people, I am, as you know, President of the NON-SECTARIAN ANTI-NAZI LEAGUE, that is engaged in a boycott of German goods, whom we are soliciting to help us, and would not care to invite them here.

My home, as you know, is in New York and that is the place from which I would solicit any subscriptions, although that field seems to be pretty fully covered.

I have, as you may know, subscribed \$11,000 to the Palestine Appeal, which is the limit which I intend to subscribe to the present drive.

Very truly yours,

Samuel Untermyer

February 17, 1938.

Rabbi Sanders A. Tofield,
917 Jackson Street,
Houston, Texas.

Dear Rabbi Tofield:

Thank you for your kindness in sending to this office a copy of the letter addressed to Dr. Silver in Cleveland.

All of us appreciate the fine service you are rendering in seeing to it that a maximum sum is made available to the United Palestine Appeal in the Houston 1938 campaign.

Attached herewith is a copy of the agreement between the Joint Distribution Committee and United Palestine Appeal for a 60-40 ratio distribution of overseas funds in communities which are affiliated with the Council of Federations and Welfare Funds. I assume that Houston will follow the same procedure as last year. I do hope, however, that it will be possible to obtain a larger allotment than in 1937 when \$10,080 was the sum made available to the United Palestine Appeal. The most effective way in which to achieve this purpose is to see to it that out of the funds raised in the Houston Welfare Fund campaign a larger share is set aside for overseas purposes so that both the Joint Distribution Committee and United Palestine Appeal may benefit thereby.

I would appreciate it if when you come to New York you would give me a ring so that we could discuss various matters affecting the United Palestine Appeal in Houston and Texas generally.

As part of the program determined upon by Dr. Silver to decentralize the activities of the United Palestine Appeal, a regional unit is being established in the Southwest territory with headquarters in St. Louis so that closer contact may be maintained between the United Palestine Appeal and

the communities in the Southwest.

Dr. Baruch Braunstein, who for five years was Counsellor to Jewish students at Columbia University, has been appointed Director for the new regional unit. He is making Houston one of his first stops and he will call to see you upon his arrival there so that he may take up with you the suggestions contained in your letter of February 15th.

The spirit of cooperation which was expressed in the 1938 agreement between the United Palestine Appeal and Joint Distribution Committee is to be further carried out in the visits to be paid by Chairmen of the two campaigns to the various communities. We think it would be unfair to Rabbi Jonah B. Wise and to the campaign activity as a whole if the United Palestine Appeal were to send to Houston a speaker at the same time as Rabbi Wise will visit the city. It would seem competitive. We recognize, however, the importance of stressing our Palestine program through our own educational efforts. Would it not be possible to invite Dr. Braunstein to speak in your pulpit either on Friday evening, March 4th or Friday evening, March 11? Either when you are in New York or when Dr. Braunstein comes to Houston he could take up with you the matter of bringing to Houston at some period later than early March a speaker who would galvanize the community on behalf of the United Palestine Appeal.

Please let me know what you think of the suggestion of having Dr. Braunstein occupy your pulpit. He knows Palestine thoroughly and is a most effective speaker since he has been making lecturing his business for the past four or five years.

Awaiting your reply at your earliest possible convenience, I am

Cordially yours,

Henry Montor
Executive Director

HM:F

February 17, 1938

Rabbi Samuel Wohl,
Isaac M. Wise Temple,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Wohl:

I was very happy to receive your letter of February 10 and to study the suggestions which you make for the greater efficiency of our campaign. Some of them, we are already working on. Others will be studied.

You probably know that regional organizations are now being set up by the United Palestine Appeal throughout the country. We plan to hold regional meetings and use will be made of all the key people who have offered their services to us. We have a list of key people of some seven thousand names of men and women throughout the country who, in each community, have given real service to the local fund-raising efforts. Out of this list, we have selected a smaller list known as the National Council for Palestine which includes nearly all the outstanding rabbis, social workers, educators, executives, etc.

Your suggestion of having a Reform, Conservative and Orthodox Rabbi travel as a team throughout the country is excellent. It would be good propaganda. I have sent the suggestion on to headquarters. You must remember, however, that each community has its own specified period for campaigns and it would not be possible to dislocate its campaign calendar to meet the itinerary of such a good will tour.

I am very much interested in getting more active support from labor groups for the U.P.A. In some communities, the enthusiasm for the Gewerkschaften campaign drains away considerable workers from the Welfare Fund campaigns or straight U.P.A. campaigns. I think, for example, that a great service could be rendered to the U.P.A. if the labor leaders associated with the League for Labor Palestine in New York City would create a special labor committee to raise funds among labor groups in New York for the United Palestine Appeal. At the present time we have little if any contact with the hundreds of thousands of Jewish working men organized

February 17, 1938

in unions. These groups are reached by the Gewerkeschaften campaign or, to a far greater extent, by the Jewish Labor Committee headed by Vladeck. Funds that have been raised have usually gone to the Joint Distribution Committee or have remitted directly to Poland and other European lands. It would be a great service to us if you would call a conference of leaders associated with the League for Labor Palestine in New York and at that time create an organization which could operate within the framework of the New York City United Palestine Appeal campaign, the organization of which is now definitely under way.

It would also be helpful if you would designate some individual in the New York office of the League for Labor Palestine who would undertake on consultation with Mr. Montor, Director of the United Palestine Appeal, to supply us with speakers as we require them and as the Regional Directors of the United Palestine Appeal require them.

You realize, of course, that those communities who make requests for speakers, as a rule, want names who will attract crowds. Sometimes they may be persuaded to take someone of lesser importance but yet will not take a third-rate name. This is one of the difficulties in our campaign.

I shall be very happy to get your reactions to my suggestions and I need not tell you that I am deeply grateful for the trouble which you are taking in giving us the benefit of your judgment and counsel.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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

Please return

February 17th, 1938

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

Dear Abe:

As a matter of record I think that I should tell you about the information we have on the Boston situation. Boston, for local reasons, has not affiliated its Welfare Fund with the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds and is, therefore, not subject to the agreement this year. The Palestinian leaders of Boston, as it is reported to us, insist on an absolute parity in the division of funds or they threaten to have an independent campaign. The so-called United Jewish Campaign of Boston is, in effect, a Welfare Fund and was inaugurated in 1937 to eliminate countless drives and even more important, to undertake to raise a much larger sum of money for causes deserving support than Boston had contributed previously.

Mr. Coons has been in touch with the Boston leaders concerned with sustaining their Welfare Fund and finds that it is an open and shut proposition. If the Joint Distribution Committee would not accept a 50-50 division with the United Palestine Appeal, the Welfare Fund agency would be destroyed and we do not feel that we can be a party to its destruction. Mr. Coons was advised that if the Joint Distribution Committee conducted an independent campaign it would probably not raise more than it would receive through the United Jewish Campaign of Boston but that if the United Palestine Appeal conducted an independent campaign they would receive about half as much as they will receive through the United Jewish Campaign. Our records of the results for our respective agencies during the few years preceding the establishment of their United Jewish Campaign bears out the validity of this contention.

Boston, as I see it, presents a special problem in which you are interested. As the only large city not covered by the 60-40 agreement, the establishment of parity does not, as I see it, establish any precedent. As Boston is a Welfare Fund community not subject to the agreement, the U.P.A. and the J.D.C. have no basis for urging a separate allotment to the National Coordinating Committee for the German Refugees in this country.

The Joint Distribution Committee, through Mr. Coons, has acquiesced to participation in the 1938 United Jewish Campaign because, as I said, we will not be a party to disrupting an agency which has proved itself to be of real value not only to the community but to the number of included agencies deriving support for their programs through this Welfare Fund.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

-2-

February 17th, 1938

If you have any suggestions, I know that you will cheerfully communicate them to the leaders of the Palestinian forces in Greater Boston.

With best regards from house to house, I am

Cordially yours,

Jonah.

Jonah B. Wise.

JBW:CLG



Copy to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

February 18, 1938

Mr. Joe Weingarten,
808 Prairie Avenue,
Houston, Texas.

Dear Joe:

I am happy that you are as enthusiastic about the election of Dr. Silver to the national chairmanship of the United Palestine Appeal as I was in offering his name to my colleagues. Dr. Silver is a man of great vitality, of great devotion and outstanding influence. I know that he will bring to the service of American Jewish activity on behalf of Palestine qualities which are greatly needed.

I am very much interested to have your analysis of the situation in Houston and elsewhere in Texas. Insofar as Houston itself is concerned, you will note that the officers of the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal have come to an agreement similar to that effected in 1937. I am attaching a copy for your information. It provides that out of funds made available for overseas purposes in a Welfare Fund community, the distribution shall be in a ratio of sixty per cent to the Joint Distribution Committee and forty per cent to the United Palestine Appeal. The amount to each cause is to be computed exclusive of any grants that may be made to other causes affecting Palestine or overseas work.

Your suggestion that a regional conference should be held in Texas is most timely. As I have written to you, Dr. Baruch Braunstein has been appointed as regional director and he is expected to give a great deal of his time to Texas, for we feel that that is one section of the country that has not received fair treatment at our hands.

Dr. Braunstein has instructions to come to you in Houston and work out with you a program which will require your utmost cooperation and encouragement. Probably the best thing to do is to create a United Palestine Appeal state organization in Texas, with you taking over the leadership. With Houston as the nucleus, Palestine influence could radiate into every one of the communities, large and small, which have hitherto conducted a program on behalf of Palestine on a haphazard basis.

I wish you would write to me after you have talked with Braunstein, to give me your impression of him. He is a very capable and devoted person who will bring fresh faith and enthusiasm into the work.

I take it for granted that you will be one of the central figures at the regional conference called by the Joint Distribution Committee in Dallas on March 6th. The work which the Joint Distribution Committee is doing in Europe is very important. I myself am a contributor. The agreement which we worked out for the year 1938 exemplifies the spirit of cooperation which we want to exist between these two great organizations.

It is imperative, however, that the regional conference at Dallas should not be dominated by an atmosphere that would diminish the importance of Palestine in meeting the Jewish problem. It is possible that some one might attempt to introduce a resolution requiring that funds raised in Texas for overseas should be divided on a 60-40 basis. I would regard the adoption of such a resolution as unfortunate. That ratio prevails in all communities affiliated with the National Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. The signing of that agreement ought not to be used as a precedent for other communities which ought to continue to divide their funds on a basis of parity between the two organizations. The agreement itself specifies that the sixty-forty ratio is not binding upon communities which conduct their campaigns in other than Welfare Fund types of drives.

You tempt me greatly to accept your invitation by promising me your luscious grapefruit and strawberries. I am even more tempted by the generosity of your spirit which always gives me new strength when I come in contact with it.

With warmest personal greetings, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Stephen S. Wise
Chairman, Executive Committee

SSW/GH

February 19, 1938

Rabbi Jonah B. Wise,
35 East 62nd Street,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Jonah:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of February 17. I can understand the problem which you present with reference to Boston. It is similar to that which is likely to arise in other cities not covered by our Welfare agreement. In some cities the U.P.A. will get the edge and in others, the J.D.C. But you will recall that at our very first conference I made the official proposal that a 60-40 agreement shall hold for all communities in the United States. The representatives of the J.D.C. turned this down without much discussion. I am still prepared to re-open the subject with you at any time. For the life of me, I cannot see why Welfare Fund communities should operate under such an arrangement while all other communities should be left to the sort of unpleasant competitiveness of which you complain in your letter. If you will consult the figures of last year, concerning the total national incomes of the J.D.C. and the U.P.A., you will find that they fairly well approximate the 60-40 percentage.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AMS:BK

P.S. I do not see why a request cannot go forth to the leaders of the United Jewish Campaign of Boston, similar to the one which was sent to Welfare Fund communities suggesting a separate allotment to the National Co-ordinating Committee for the German refugees in this country. I am sure that Boston will be as eager as other communities to cooperate in this important undertaking.

February 22, 1938

Dr. Alex S. Wolf,
5813 Enright Avenue,
St. Louis, Mo.

My dear Dr. Wolf:

I regret deeply that I did not get to see you and to talk with you yesterday when I was in St. Louis. I didn't realize that my visit would be so brief and so crowded. The two meetings at Rabbi Isserman's Temple with the ministers of the city took up practically my entire day. I did not return to the hotel until very late in the afternoon and my train left for Cleveland at six o'clock in the evening. I feel very sorry that I did not have an hour's chat with you as there were many things I wanted to talk over. Dr. Klausner called at my hotel late in the afternoon and I was able to spend a few minutes with him. He and Rabbi Isserman drove me down to the station.

I am deeply grateful to you for the trouble you took in writing to me at great length and frankly about the United Palestine Appeal in St. Louis. It will help me very much.

The United Palestine Appeal is sending to St. Louis and to the southwestern region as its regional director, Dr. Baruch Braunstein. He will undoubtedly call on you soon if he has not already. You will find him a splendid man, very able and presentable. He is a good speaker, scholarly and is acquainted with Palestine, having visited it recently and having spent considerable time there. I am sure that you will give him all assistance. I am anxious to have him cultivate particularly non-Zionists in your community and throughout the southwest for our cause. I should not like to have him thrown in too much in Zionist activities in St. Louis. Rather, he should be free, as the representative of the United Palestine Appeal which represents and appeals to both Zionists and non-Zionists, to carry on intensive work of cultivation and education among those whom we wish to win over to the cause of Palestine.

Any suggestions that you may have to facilitate our

Dr. Wolf

-2-

February 22, 1938

U.P.A. work, not alone in your community but throughout the country, will be greatly and eagerly welcomed by me.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

P.S. October is so very far off and my schedule is so indefinite that I would not, at this moment, wish to commit myself to an engagement with the Ibn Ezra Lodge of your community to address its seventy-fifth anniversary.



February 23, 1938

Mr. Samuel Untermyer,
Palm Springs,
California.

My dear Mr. Untermyer:

Upon my return from an extensive tour in behalf of the United Palestine Appeal, I found your very kind and gracious note of February 7 congratulating me upon assuming the office of national chairman of the United Palestine Appeal for 1938. I need not tell you that I am grateful to you for your felicitations and good wishes.

The job is, as you say, a very tough one. But it was offered to me in such a way that I could not refuse it. The hour is so grave and the situation is so critical. I shall try to do my best.

With all good wishes and hoping that I may have the pleasure of seeing you in the near future, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Copy to Monitor

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

BEN M. WEBBER
Columbia, S. C.

February 26, 1938

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
United Palestine Appeal
111 Fifth Avenue
New York City.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I should like to inform you that I again accepted General Chairmanship for Columbia for the 1938 Campaign for the J.D.C. and United Palestine Appeal. While I was in hopes someone else in the community would accept it, I was drafted and compelled to take the Chairmanship.

Of course, I shall again try to make this Campaign a success. I also would like to inform you that Mr. Arthur Adams addressed the B'nai B'rith meeting last Monday which is composed of the most representative Jews of our city. His address was most impressive and at that meeting I accepted chairmanship. Mr. Adams is with the Joint Distribution Committee.

I would like to state that we are very fortunate in having Dr. Josiah Morse as our State Chairman. I am sure his prestige can't be equalled in the State.-

I understood from Mr. Adams that it is agreed upon that we have one Campaign and the proceeds will be divided 60% for the Joint Distribution Committee and 40% for the United Palestine Appeal.

Thanking you for your cooperation and wishing you much success in 1938,
I am

Sincerely yours,

Ben Webber.

A.H.S.
February 28, 1938

Mr. Ben M. Webber
Webber Building
Columbia, S. C.

Dear Mr. Webber:

Dr. Silver has asked me to express his deep appreciation of the sense of Jewish responsibility that you have displayed by again accepting the General Chairmanship of the fund-raising effort in Columbia for 1938. Dr. Silver and all of us are aware of the spirit of devotion and understanding which you made available in generous measure during 1937 campaign which produced results for both the United Palestine Appeal and the Joint Distribution Committee.

I know that you will not hesitate to call upon the national office for any assistance that we can provide in stimulating an even wider response to the current campaign than was manifested in 1937. The needs of both the United Palestine Appeal and Joint Distribution Committee are so urgent that only a doubling of the generosity of American Jewish communities will make it possible for these two great agencies of American Jewry to cope with the unusual tasks that devolve upon them today.

I must call your attention, however, to an erroneous impression that seems to have been created. There is no agreement between the United Palestine Appeal and the Joint Distribution Committee whereby the funds raised in any community are to be divided in a ratio of sixty percent to the Joint Distribution Committee and forty percent to the United Palestine Appeal. The agreement that has been adopted applies only to a limited number of cities which are associated with the National Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. I attached herewith a copy of this list which indicates most clearly that Columbia and about eight hundred other communities in the United States are not bound by the terms of this agreement.

In all communities except those listed it is our purpose and hope that funds will be divided equally between the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal.

It is the hope of Dr. Silver that under your leadership in Columbia this ratio will be maintained. It is not merely

a question of technical parity between two great organizations but a question of the extraordinary needs that must now be met in Palestine. It has become clearer than ever before, as we view the recent events in Germany, Poland, Rumania and Austria, that we can no longer think in terms of short-range rehabilitative efforts. We had thought for a number of years that the political dictatorships and tyrannical governments in Europe would be unable to last for any length of time. But the anti-Semitism which these countries have established as an integral part of their government policies has become more violent as the years have passed. The result is that we must think in broader terms as to what is to become of the thousands and tens of thousands of Jews being driven from their present fields of employment and forced to emigrate.

The doors of countries in South America, South Africa and elsewhere have been bolted during the past few years as the flow of refugees has become a tidal wave. Of all countries, Palestine alone offers internationally guaranteed opportunities for the increase of Jewish immigrations possibilities. The tempo of the rebuilding of Palestine depends entirely upon the funds that we can make available. If we are determined that Jews shall have an opportunity for a free creative life and for an existence which they can pass on to their children without fear of momentary destruction, we must, of course, do everything in our power to enlarge the immigration opportunities of Palestine. That is the function of the United Palestine Appeal today, and it should be the function of every Jew thinking in terms of a long-range program for the survival of the most creative elements of the Jewish people.

Attached herewith is an analysis of our 1938 quota of \$4,500,000 which indicates the purposes for which the funds are to be raised.

Will you be kind enough to indicate on the attached blank the names of your associates and any other information that may be helpful to us for our records and for our publicity.

Attached herewith are copies of literature that we have available for distribution during your forthcoming campaign. Please let us know which of these you will require and how many copies.

I trust that we may have your assurance that, as in 1937, the Columbia campaign will be a combined drive with the funds divided equally between the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal.

Sincerely yours,

Henry Montor
Executive Director

March 16, 1938

Rabbi Jonah B. Wise,
35 East 62nd Street,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Jonah:

A few men have spoken to me within the last week or ten days about the possibility of dramatizing the emergency character of our campaigns this year by adopting a method which proved successful in the early campaign years following the World War, i.e., to persuade a prominent Jew in America to give an extraordinarily large contribution contingent upon the raising of a certain amount of money in the United States. The wealthier Jews in the country would then be called upon to contribute to this special emergency fund not as heretofore, in relation to the quotas of their communities, but in relation to the dramatic gift of the large donor or donors. Such contributions would, of course, be credited to the respective communities from which they were derived.

I believe that the moment is ripe for such an effort. Unless it is done, we will probably not get very much more from our communities for Overseas relief than we obtained last year - perhaps in view of the depression, even less.

I should like to talk this matter over with you and explore its possibilities. I am going to be in New York on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 22nd and 23rd. Will you be free on either of these days?

With all good wishes and hoping that your trip to the Coast was highly successful, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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

March 18, 1938

Rabbi Abba H. Silver
The Temple
East 105 Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Dr. Wise has not yet returned from his trip to the Coast. Inasmuch as he will arrive in this city on March 25, he will be unable to meet you on either March 22 or March 23, as you suggest in your letter of March 16.

Upon his return I shall draw his attention to the contents of your communication.

Very truly yours,

Henrietta Friedman

Secretary to Dr. Wise

Samuel Ungerleider
New York City

29 Broadway,

March 21, 1938.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I have just returned from California. While there I had lunch one day with Mendal Silberberg and Louis Mayer at which time many of the Jewish problems were discussed. In the discussion Louis Mayer seemed to be quite irritated about an article that you had given to the press.

Silberberg to some degree appeased Mayer. In my later discussion with Silberberg, I found that he was very desirous of trying to get Mayer a little more interested in Jewish activities because of the great help he could be in that vicinity.

Knowing of your interest in these matters, I thought I would bring the incident to your attention with the suggestion that when you go to Los Angeles, you contact Silberberg as I think with a little help on your part, they will be able to get Mayer back in the fold. I understand from Silberberg that it is quite important to have his cooperation in order to get the best results with the many problems with which we are now confronted.

I hope that sometime when you are in New York you will give me a ring as I would enjoy a visit with you.

Trusting that this finds you and your dear ones enjoying good health, I am, with kindest personal regards and best wishes,

sincerely yours,

Sam.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
Cleveland,
Ohio.

March 24, 1938

Mr. Samuel Ungerleider,
29 Broadway,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Sam:

I was very happy to hear from you. It is quite a number of years now since I saw you last.

With reference to the matter of Mr. Louis Mayer on the Coast - I have had considerable correspondence with our Regional Director in Los Angeles. I don't know that there is much that I can do about the matter. I am sorry that Mr. Mayer is confusing my mission in behalf of the United Palestine Appeal and the great need which exists to help our suffering brethren in Germany, Austria and in other parts of Europe to find a refuge for themselves and their children in Palestine with his personal dislike of an article which I wrote on the Moving Picture Industry some years ago. I am at a loss to know how such a big man will confound such utterly unrelated matters. I am glad to meet anyone and do my utmost to persuade any Jew of the desperate emergency which exists in Jewish life at the present time and of the service which they can render. I have been doing that day after day at a great sacrifice of both time and health. I am making a hurried and hard tour of the Pacific Coast for the same reason. There is as little in it personally for me as for you or Mr. Mayer or any Jew. I shall be very happy to meet with Mr. Mayer when I am out in Los Angeles and with Mr. Silberberg. But if this meeting is contingent upon any retractions of statements which I made some years ago in my capacity as a Rabbi and not as a spokesman of the United Palestine Appeal, then I am afraid that such a meeting would prove fruitless.

In soliciting for the United Palestine Appeal, and for Overseas relief, I am not asking my fellow Jews to approve of me or of my personal views on any social, political and economic subjects which I have in my many years in public life expressed. I am appealing to them in behalf of terribly persecuted fellow Jews who are in dire need.

S. Ungerleider

-2-

March 24, 1938

In passing, you might be interested to know that within the year, I have spoken twice in my pulpit praising the Moving Picture Industry for some very splendid pictures which they produced which I regarded as a distinct contribution to the life of America.

With all good wishes to you and yours, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK



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PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
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06

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[HW137 59=NBN=NEWYORK NY 25 216P

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER, THE TEMPLE=

DLR 1&5 ST & ANSEL RD=

THANKS WE ALL WELCOME SECRETARY HULLS PLAN TO INDUCE
COOPERATIVE EFFORTS WE ARE HAVING DISCUSSIONS WITH LEADERS
MY FIRST THOUGHT IS THAT WHATEVER WE DO SHOULD BE DONE
WITH UTMOST CIRCUMSPECTION AND DELIBERATION WE DO NOT FEAR
THAT EFFECT OF THIS MOVE WILL WEAR OUT RIGHT AWAY I CAN SEE
NO OBJECT BUT MANY OBJECTIONS TO RUSHING MATTERS NOW=

JONAH B WISE.

March 25, 1938

Rabbi Jonah B. Wise,
35 East 62nd Street,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Jonah:

I was pleased to receive your telegram. I am glad to know that you are discussing the subject of the Emergency Campaign with your confreres. I hope that you will come to a conclusion before very long.

It is not my purpose to rush the matter. However, most of the important campaigns in the larger cities of the United States will take place within the next two months. They are in process of organization now. It would help these campaigns tremendously if such an Emergency Campaign would be launched. The wealthier men in the country, once they have pledged for Overseas relief to local campaigns, will not respond as readily to an "additional" solicitation as they would to an emergency one based upon a dramatic national appeal. I trust that you will keep me in touch with your deliberations.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

March 29, 1938

Mr. David Wertheim, Secretary,
Poale Zion,
275 Seventh Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Wertheim:

You will recall that I wrote to you some time ago, as I did to Hamlin, about the conflict between the United Palestine Appeal and the Gewerkschaften campaign in New York City. Hamlin assured me that the Gewerkschaften campaign was restricting itself to 2000 steady contributors of the past ten years and that there could be no possible clash between the two organizations.

Unfortunately, experience does not bear this out. I have before me a copy of a letter from the secretary of one of the scores of Landsmanschaften in New York City whom the United Palestine Appeal is trying to interest in its campaign. The secretary of this lodge informs us that a representative of the Gewerkschaften presented an appeal to his group in which it was stated that the Gewerkschaften is actually doing the major work in Palestine, giving the impression that the Gewerkschaften drive was actually the fund-raising instrument of the Jewish Agency. The secretary of this particular organization is so confused by the conflicting appeals that it is quite unlikely that we shall be able to have his support for the United Palestine Appeal. I have no doubt that this same procedure is being followed with all the organizations to whom the United Palestine Appeal is appealing at this time.

Day after day reports come to us from various communities that not only is the Poale Zion membership not co-operating with the United Palestine Appeal but that it insists upon conducting competitive campaigns, or in obtaining, with pressure, from local combined drives a substantial sum for the interests of the Gewerkschaften.



When inquiries have been addressed to this office as to the worthiness of the Gewerkschaften I have always indicated that if the local community wished to contribute to

March 29, 1938

Mr. David Wertheim,
#2.

the Gewerkschaften, after the maximum obligation had been met to the United Palestine Appeal, it would be satisfactory to us, but surely if this direct competitiveness between the United Palestine Appeal and Gewerkschaften continues, we shall be compelled to take the position that the Gewerkschaften is occupying a place which rightfully and exclusively belongs to the United Palestine Appeal as the fund-raising instrument of the Jewish Agency. It can no longer be said -- if it could be said at any time with accuracy -- that the Gewerkschaften obtains its funds from sources other than those reached by the United Palestine Appeal.

We have had a number of conferences on this subject. These have all proved fruitless. May I suggest that strong action be taken by you, as Secretary of the Peale Zion, to put an end to a duplication of effort which can only harm the interests of Palestine which concern us both.

Cordially yours,

Henry Montor
Executive Director

HM: S

C O P Y

Joint Distribution Committee, New York

INCOMING CABLE

L O N D O N

MARCH 31, 1938

NLT JOINTDISCO
BAERWALD
NEWYORK

FOLLOWING TEXT OF APPEAL SENT FOR YOUR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION stop APPEAL
BEGINS stop AUSTRIAN JEWRY stop AN APPEAL stop THE JEWS OF AUSTRIA HAVE BEEN
OVERTAKEN BY THE SAME FATE AS THOSE OF GERMANY stop THEIR PERSECUTION IS LIKELY
TO BE IF POSSIBLE MORE RUTHLESS THROUGH MACHINERY PERFECTED AND SHARPENED BY
FIVE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN ITS USE stop THE DOOM OF 200,000 OF OUR FELLOW JEWS
HAS BEEN PRONOUNCED stop PRACTICALLY EVERY JEWISH ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN
SUSPENDED COMMUNAL FUNDS HAVE BEEN SEIZED ALMOST ALL OF THE ACTIVE LEADERS
HAVE BEEN ARRESTED stop A GREAT AND HISTORIC JEWISH COMMUNITY IS FACING
DISINTEGRATION stop ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY THE COUNCIL FOR GERMAN JEWRY
MUST COME TO THE RESCUE AND SHOULDERS THIS NEW AND HEAVY BURDEN stop FOR THIS
PURPOSE THE COUNCIL APPEALS FOR LARGE ADDITIONAL FUNDS stop THESE FUNDS
WILL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE COUNCIL IN CONJUNCTION WITH AND IN EXTENSION
OF THE TASKS IT HAS ALREADY UNDERTAKEN stop ITS RECORD IS A GUARANTEE THAT
ECONOMY EFFICIENCY IMPARTIALITY AND CONSTRUCTIVE STATESMANSHIP WILL GOVERN
THE WORK stop THE FUNDS PLACED AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE COUNCIL TWO YEARS
AGO FOR GERMAN JEWS ARE PRACTICALLY EXHAUSTED AND THE COUNCIL HAS NO
RESOURCES FOR DEALING WITH THIS NEW EMERGENCY stop LARGE SUMS ARE NEEDED
IMMEDIATELY FOR THE RELIEF OF A RUINED COMMUNITY stop IN THIS DREADFUL
CALAMITY ONE OF THE GREATEST IN THE LONG AGONY OF OUR PEOPLE THE DUTY OF
EACH OF US IS TO HELP TO SAVE WHAT CAN BE SAVED stop THE MAGNITUDE OF THE
NEED IS THE MEASURE OF THE CHARGE WHICH EACH MUST LAY UPON HIMSELF AND THE
CONTRIBUTION WHICH HE MUST MAKE stop THE NEED IS AS URGENT AS IT IS BITTER
stop APPEAL ENDS stop PLEASE WIRE ANY COMMENTS BEFORE MONDAY NEXT stop
APPEAL MUST NOT BE PUBLISHED BEFORE APRIL EIGHTH stop MIGRATE

April 1, 1938

Miss Alice R. Emanuel
52 William Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss Emanuel:

I have carefully gone over this cable and, if Mr. Baerwald wishes, he may add my name in complete approval of it. I think it is an eloquent and moving appeal.

I was in London at the meeting out of which this appeal grew. It will interest you and Mr. Baerwald to know that Simon Marks objected to holding on to any funds and not spending them at this time because of obligations of another year. In the meantime he must have won Sir Osmond over to his point of view, and this is the result.

Personally I do not see why the American names should not be signed to the appeal if our London friends felt that these names would add anything to its weight.

I wonder whether this appeal ought not serve as example to the Joint Distribution Committee and United Palestine Appeal in our own country.

As the terrible things occur, such as the Austrian shame, one's sorrow is lessened over the passing of those who would have had to bear so much ~~of another terrible~~ of yet another terrible burden.

Faithfully yours,

Stephen S. Wise
Chairman
Executive Committee

SSW:FE

Miss Alice R. Emanuel

P.S. I take it for granted, of course, that this appeal is not intended for America. That would be very serious competition to the campaigns of the United Palestine Appeal and, I am sure, of the Joint Distribution Committee.

It is with that understanding that I agree to the addition of my signature to the appeal by the Council for German Jewry.

The Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal will have to take their own action to obtain the larger funds that are needed.



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PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
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RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER, THE TEMPLE=
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WRHS



THE PLEBISCITE PROJECT OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS HAS CAUSED AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF RESENTMENT HERE. THE FEELING RUNS SO HIGH THAT I SHOULD LIKE TO HAVE A PERSONAL STATEMENT FROM YOU EITHER PRIVATE OR FOR USE FOR INQUIRIES AS TO WHAT YOUR ATTITUDE IS IN THE MATTER. I ASSURE YOU THAT I WOULD NOT PUT YOU IN THIS POSITION IF IT WERE NOT OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE=

JONAH B WISE.

THERE IS NO DEPENDABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR WESTERN UNION TIME

1938 MAY 5 PM 2 44

May 5, 1938

Mr. Maurice Wertheim,
120 Broadway,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Wertheim:

Since the meeting at the Harmonie Club, over which you presided, I have been traveling quite extensively in connection with the UPA and I have not had the opportunity until this moment to write to you and to tell you how much I appreciated the courtesy of that meeting and the charming manner in which you conducted it. Your reaction to my address that night moved me profoundly.

Our campaign throughout the country is progressing very satisfactorily. In spite of the economic recession, communities are raising larger sums of money for overseas relief this year than last year. New York City, however, is lagging behind. It is a community which as you well know, is very difficult to organize. I wonder whether you and a small number of your friends could reach a limited number of those who are able to give larger sums, and appeal to them in behalf of the UPA. Our great drawback in New York seems to be the dearth of the right kind of people to approach these men.

Apart from the general work which the UPA is doing in making possible the coming into Palestine of a large number of Jewish refugees - 200,000 within the last six years - we have also included in the Fund, as you know, a substantial sum for the Hebrew University. Some of your friends would be inclined to give on that score if on no other.

It was a great pleasure for me to have made your acquaintance and I hope that it may be my good fortune to meet you in the near future again. With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio.

J·D·C

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And National Campaign Officers
ex-Officio

1938 National Quota \$5,100,000
Joint Distribution Committee Campaign

100 EAST 42ND STREET, *New York*

Telephone LEXINGTON 2-5200

May 9th, 1938

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

Dear Abe:

Mr. Henry Montor of the United Palestine Appeal conveyed to me by letter your suggestion that you and I get together at an early date to discuss what can be done to insure the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal securing larger allotments from Welfare Funds which raise their money exclusively on the basis of our overseas appeals and then give a niggardly portion of this money to our organizations. This situation has had our attention for more than two years. We have been deeply conscious of the fact that the Joint Distribution Committee has been practically compelled to raise funds for every "cat and dog cause" in America through the Welfare Fund set-up. I assume that you and your associates in the United Palestine Appeal have felt the same way about it.

If this situation, in my opinion, is to be corrected, it must have the sympathetic understanding of the responsible leaders of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. If you have seriously talked to any of these gentlemen on this problem, you have probably been amazed to know that their opinion as to the functioning of the Welfare Funds is diametrically opposite to that which you express through Mr. Montor.

Personally, I have seen no evidence of the Welfare Funds in the several communities, with one or two exceptions, taking any cognizance of the overseas emergency with which the United Palestine Appeal and the Joint Distribution Committee are so deeply concerned. I believe that in all too many instances monies are consciously held back lest the community standard of giving be judged locally as too high and a dangerous precedent thereby established.

Assuredly I shall be delighted to discuss this and other matters with you at any time you are in New York. It is always a pleasure to be with you. In fact I was at a bit of a loss to receive this communication through Mr. Montor rather than in a direct way from you.

With best regards from house to house, I am

Cordially yours,

Jonah B. Wise.

JBW:CLG

THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC. IS SUPPORTED
SOLELY BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

May 16, 1938

Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, Chairman,
Joint Distribution Committee,
100 East 42nd St.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Jonah:

Thank you so much for your letter of May 9. I hope to be in New York before very long and I will telephone you. I would like to get together with you and talk over the matter covered by your letter, namely, the exploitation of the appeal for overseas relief for purposes of local community needs at the expense of the JDC and the UPA, and also the matter of the New York campaign. I don't know whether the experience of the JDC, this year, is similar to that of the UPA. While the UPA in New York is doing as well and a little better than last year, it is not doing as well in relation to what the rest of the country is doing. The fault, I think, is largely due to the old fashioned methods of campaigning still employed in New York City - methods abandoned in most of the other communities of the country. New York City, with its million and a quarter Jews and where more than half the wealth of the American Jews is concentrated, should be able to do three and four times as much as it is doing both for the JDC and the UPA. I would like to talk to you about this matter when we meet.

With reference to the telegram which you sent me touching the plebiscite project - I understand that there will be an announcement soon of a revision in the plans as well as in the name of this plebiscite. You probably know that I have never been identified with the American Jewish Congress. I have, however, refrained all through these years from entering into any controversy with it or about it. I should not wish to be projected into such a controversy at the present time. Those who are the responsible leaders of its other Jewish organizations working in the same field should take a public position in this matter if they feel that it is necessary. I am not identified with those other organizations and have not been consulted as to their program and policies. I do not see, therefore, any reason why I should involve myself ^{and} of the office of the national chairman of the

Rabbi Jonah B. Wise

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May 16, 1938

United Palestine Appeal.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



May 23, 1938

Mr. Samuel Untermyer
Broadview
Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Untermyer:

Will you forgive me if I approach you on a matter with which I would rather not bother you. But as chairman of the United Palestine Appeal, I frequently have to do certain things which I would rather not do.

Last year, you generously contributed to the United Palestine Appeal the sum of \$11,000. This was a magnanimous gift and was tremendously appreciated as well as helpful in getting up subscriptions. As you know, the 1938 campaign of the United Palestine Appeal is now being held throughout the nation. I am happy to report that our campaigns have been uniformly successful and that inspite of the economic recession, there have been evidences on all sides of increased giving, due undoubtedly, to a growing realization of the importance of Palestine today as a place of refuge for large numbers of our people who are compelled to seek new homes.

It would hearten us greatly and stimulate the campaign in New York City where it is now in progress, if you would renew your contribution of last year. May I hear from you at your convenience?

With all good wishes and trusting that you are well, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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NIGHT LETTER

MR. HARRY M. WARNER
WARNER BROTHERS STUDIOS
BURBANK CALIFORNIA

May 27, 1938



GRATIFIED TO LEARN THAT MOTION PICTURE DIVISION IS NEARING ITS ANNOUNCED OBJECTIVE OF \$200,000. I FEEL CONFIDENT THAT YOU HAVE PLAYED IMPORTANT PART IN REACHING THIS FIGURE. COUNT UPON YOU TO USE YOUR INFLUENCE TO SECURE COMPLETION OF THIS QUOTA.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

- sent Western Union

June 16, 1938

Mrs. Frieda Schiff Warburg
1109 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Warburg:

I have been anxious for some time to consult you about an important matter and had hoped to be in New York and talk to you in person about it. Unfortunately my schedule has not permitted me to do that and I shall not be in New York for some time in the future. I am therefore taking this rather unsatisfactory way of communicating with you about it. I would rather write to you personally about it than convey the subject to you through some committee.

The many admirers of your dear departed husband among the friends of Palestine who were privileged to work with him and under his inspired leadership for the upbuilding of so many splendid things in Eretz Yisrael have been deliberating as to the most appropriate and significant way of perpetuating his memory. It is our unanimous thought, concurred in by the leaders of the Jewish Agency in Palestine, that a new colony should be established in Palestine which shall bear the name of Felix Warburg and which will forever enshrine in a growing and developing center of Jewish life the name of one who loved Israel and the land of Israel. We know that both American and Palestinian Jewry would be deeply gratified by such an action and would profoundly approve of it. Personally, I know of no finer way to pay tribute to the man we loved and honored - and whose place is greatly missed.

It is not our thought, of course, to launch any public campaign to raise the necessary funds or to give any publicity to the project until the establishment of the colony is an actual fact. A small group of the friends and admirers of Mr. Warburg will, I believe, make the project possible. As chairman of the United Palestine Appeal, I would personally undertake to see this limited group, provided of course, I

Mrs. Warburg

-2-

June 16, 1938

have your whole-hearted approval of this proposed action. Without it, of course, the project cannot be initiated.

Please let me have your thought in this matter. I am going out West for ten days following which I shall come to New York. Should you wish it, I shall be very happy to call on you and discuss further details.

With all good wishes to you and to the members of your family, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK



June 20, 1938

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Thank you for your long letter of June 16th. As you say that you will be in New York in a fortnight or so, I would prefer talking over the matter of naming a colony in Palestine after my husband with you personally as there are many angles to be considered which are better discussed than written.

Naturally, I appreciate the honor intended, but would like to reserve definite decision until our conversation. I am leaving for Europe for a few weeks in England on July 15th and hope that it may be possible to meet with you before then.

With greetings,

Sincerely yours,

Hilda Schiff Warburg

June 27, 1938

Mrs. Felix M. Warburg
Woodlands
White Plains, N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Warburg:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of June 20. It will give me great pleasure to talk over the matter of establishing a colony in Palestine in memory of your dear husband. I shall be in New York on Saturday, July 9 on my way to Maine where my family and I hope to spend our summer vacation. If the time is convenient for you, I shall be happy to come to see you on that day. If not, I shall be pleased to make a special trip to New York prior to that day.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:EK

July 1, 1938

Mrs. Frieda Schiff Warburg
Woodlands
White Plains, N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Warburg:

Thank you so much for your kind note. I shall be very happy to see you on Saturday, July 9. I shall arrive in the morning, stopping at the Commodore Hotel. If it is convenient for you, I shall come out in the morning, say around eleven o'clock. It is indeed most kind of you to offer to send your car for me.

With all good wishes and looking forward with pleasure to seeing you next Saturday, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK