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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,
Wise, Stephen S., 1937-1938.

March 22, 1937

Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Chairman,
United Palestine Appeal,
111 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

Let me acknowledge the receipt of your two letters of March 18.

With reference to the Regional Conference in Pittsburgh on April 11, I regret that I cannot attend that meeting. I have two weddings of members of my congregation scheduled for that afternoon and evening.

With reference to Mr. Untermeyer - I am afraid that I cannot be of any help in that direction.

You may recall that I opened the Milwaukee Campaign for the UPA and the JDC on March 8. I find absolutely no report of this meeting in the New Palestine either of last week or of this week. I recall that you opened the Milwaukee Drive last year and that the New Palestine devoted a full column to your meeting. I assume that the report of the meeting was crowded out because the space was needed to report the Anti-Nazi demonstration in New York.

At the Washington Conference, resolutions were passed thanking certain leaders in the UPA Campaign, including yourself, Nathan Straus, Jacoby and others for the service which they rendered last year. You may recall upon consultation of the records in your office, that I, too, did a little work in connection with last year's campaign and traveled to quite a number of communities to open their drives. I looked high and low in the New Palestine issue which reported the convention for a similar resolution thanking me for my efforts. I wonder whether all this is purely accidental? Don't you think there has been too much of monopoly in this business?

Very sincerely yours,

THE GOAL FOR 1937: \$4,500,000 UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)—JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (KEREN KAYEMETH)
EMERGENCY FUND (MIFAL BITZARON) OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
FOR THE SETTLEMENT IN PALESTINE OF JEWS OF GERMANY, POLAND AND OTHER LANDS

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111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

October 20, 1937

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Silver:

I am sorry to say that I cannot arrange to do what you very generously ask me to do. I must be back in New York on Tuesday morning, December 7th, and the only way I can be home early in the morning is if I leave your city at four, five or six in the afternoon -- one of the late afternoon trains.

I am terribly sorry. I will try to manage it some other time this year.

With appreciation of your invitation, I am,

Yours,

Stephen S. Wise
9E.

Stephen S. Wise
National C hairman

SSW:FE

The above letter, which was dictated by Dr. Wise, was not transcribed until after he had left for the Middle West, and therefore is without his personal signature.

"LET EVERY AMERICAN JEW MEASURE HIS GIFT IN THE LIGHT OF THE
FUTURE HE IS CREATING FOR JEWS IN PALESTINE"

TELEPHONE
ALGONQUIN 4-3600

Dr. Wise's personal address is
40 West 68th St.
New York, N.Y.

CABLE ADDRESS
ZIONISTS
BENTLEY'S CODE

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ISRAEL MALTIN
Auditor

November 10, 1937

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Silver:

I am turning over the first paragraph of your letter of November 8th to Morris Margulies. He will know better how good a speaker Rhys Davies is. Morgan Jones made a deeper impression upon us when we had them both at a luncheon. I am not sure that Davies is quite big enough for a whole evening meeting.

I am delighted to learn about the opening of the Jewish Welfare Fund campaign in Toledo. I prepared the way a little in my address ten days or a fortnight before you went. How fine that they should have gotten two-thirds of their quota the night of the meeting! Your man, Leon Feuer, is certainly doing a beautiful job.

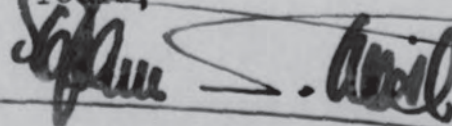
Saw Niebuhr the other day and we spoke about our "symping" together at your place Monday, December 6th.

I had an invitation to attend a meeting of the Political Commission in London, but that is all I know.

I begged Weizmann to come over because I heard that pressure was (to be) brought to bear upon him both in Palestine and London not to go to Palestine because of the danger of assassination, but apparently he is resolved to go.

What a foul situation it is in Palestine. Yesterday those five Hashomer men killed! All the result of England's never taking a decent position with regard to the Mandate.

Yours,



Stephen S. Wise
President

SSW:FE

MEMORANDUM

Date Dec. 21, 1937

To Dr. Stephen S. Wise

From Henry Montor

Subject

I hope that my advocacy of the following will not too greatly prejudice the possibilities of its acceptance.

I think that the finest act which the UPA could perform in expressing appreciation ~~to~~ those who have served and will serve in its ranks and in binding to itself the employees working for it would be to adopt the program of social security that is herewith described.

Ever since its organization men and women working for Palestine fund-raising efforts have been treated like paupers when their age compelled them to retire or when age impaired their usefulness or when death overtook them before the scheduled number of years. Each time there was a sickening spectacle of children and widows and sisters appealing to the charity of those at that time in charge of the administration of the organization.

Please note that so-called white collar workers in charitable and educational organizations are not subject to the provisions of the Social Security Act, with every likelihood that the vested interests controlling such bodies will prevent the inclusion of their employees.

The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, upon the basis of figures submitted by the ZOA, the UPA and the JNF, has worked out a scheme of social security for the employees of the various organizations which, in substance is as follows:

The normal retirement age would be 60. At that time the employee would be given an annuity for an amount depending upon his or her salary and the years of service with the organization.

In addition, there would be death payment or a life insurance policy for each employee for a maximum of \$3,000.

~~Insofar as the UPA is concerned~~, the annual cost on the basis of the number of employees now on the staff would be \$8,500 for the retirement annuities and \$880 for the life insurance premiums, a total of \$9,180.

That the retirement system may take cognizance of the fact that employees of the UPA have been with it for many years, or with some branch of the organization, there will have to be a sum deposited representing payment toward the annuity plan for years of service in the past. For the UPA this would involve a total of \$103,000 to be paid over a period of 19 years, or approximately \$5,000 a year.

I do hope that the members of the Administrative Committee, when they consider this proposal, will think not only in terms of the substantial amount involved but in terms of the good to be done with the expenditure. I should like to call

MEMORANDUM

Date

To

From

Subject

--2--

your attention to the fact that the World Zionist Organization and all its units operate under a similar system and has done so for many years. The Palestine Economic Corporation has also adopted this program. It is fair to the employees and conserves the interests of the UPA. I cannot urge too strongly that you use your influence to bring about the adoption of this social security scheme.

I should add that the employees of the UPA would be called upon to pay an aggregate sum of \$5,535 as their share toward the annuity system. If and when the Administrative Committee of the UPA approves the plan, it will have to be submitted to the employees themselves to determine whether they are sufficiently interested in their future to take a few dollars a month off their salary in the present.



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

January 10, 1938

DR. STEPHEN S. WISE
40 WEST 68TH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y.

MANY THANKS YOUR TELEGRAM. MET MONTOR CINCINNATI. FEEL THAT HE SHOULD BE
HEAD CAMPAIGN. BLITZ HEAD NEW YORK CAMPAIGN. ROTHENBERG COMPTROLLER.
NO NEED AT PRESENT FOR ANY ONE ELSE. YOU OF COURSE TO ACT AS CHAIRMAN
EXECUTIVE STOP KINDEST REGARDS.

A H SILVER.

Night Letter

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RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE TEMPLE CLVD

REJOICE TO LEARN YOUR MOST STIRRING AND SURPERB ADDRESS
CINCINNATI LAST NIGHT. WONDERFUL PRELUDE YOUR SERVICE
AS CHAIRMAN UPA. MAZELTOV AND THANKS

STEPEHN S WISE.

TELEPHONED
MAIN OFFICE

Time *3:49 P*
To *opr nrcpt 6*
mail

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THE GOAL FOR 1937: \$4,500,000 UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

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EMERGENCY FUND (MIFAL BITZARON) OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
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111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

January 12, 1938

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

Dear Silver:

Attached herewith is a copy of an invitation being sent out for a meeting of the Executive Committee of the United Palestine Appeal at my study Monday night. I don't suppose you will be able to come although it would be valuable if you could.

Faithfully yours,

SSW/GH

Stephen S. Wise

"LET EVERY AMERICAN JEW MEASURE HIS GIFT IN THE LIGHT OF THE
FUTURE HE IS CREATING FOR JEWS IN PALESTINE"

January 12, 1938

Mr. Louis Lipsky
386 Fourth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Lipsky:

I am calling a meeting of the Executive Committee of the United Palestine Appeal for Monday evening, January 17th, at 8:30 P.M., at my study in the Synagogue Building, 40 West 68 Street. The Executive Committee comprises the chairmen, vice-chairmen, treasurer and associate treasurers recently elected by the Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal.

As you know by now, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver has been elected National Chairman.

A number of matters concerning the organization of the campaign must be decided. We shall also discuss the program for the National Conference to be held at Washington next week-end. I know that you will try to be present.

Faithfully yours,

SSW:BCM

Stephen S. Wise

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111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

January 12, 1938

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Silver:

Since you are taking charge, I thought you might like to see my reply to a letter from Albert Epstein of Chicago asking me to send out letters to Zionist friends throughout the Mid-West, urging them to contribute to a campaign on behalf of "Haqiqat Al-Amr", which he wants Dr. A. E. Abramowitz to direct.

We shall have to take vigorous steps to enforce at least in America the discipline, which the Zionist Congress seems unable to impose on its constituent parties with regard to the priority and primacy of the United Palestine Appeal campaign.

Yours,
Wise

Stephen S. Wise
National Chairman

SSW:FE

"LET EVERY AMERICAN JEW MEASURE HIS GIFT IN THE LIGHT OF THE
FUTURE HE IS CREATING FOR JEWS IN PALESTINE"

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

P.S. Thanks for your telegram, dear Silver. I agree with you. Either Montor alone should be the head or he should run the campaign with the cooperation of Blitz for New York, and Alex Rothenberg as Comptroller, etc.

How I wish you could be at Sunday's meeting! We poor partitionists - NEBISCH - are to be flayed alive. I shall, of course, speak for two things on which we agree:- for a Jewish State, and against minority status. There, I assume, you would go along.

The Co-Chairmen, including myself, are in hopes that you will be able to give a day or two to New York after the 23rd. Will that be possible? If I thought it were, we could arrange a meeting some time on Monday or Tuesday, the 24th or 25th. Let us know.

I think you are going to find on every side a very real desire to be cooperative and helpful. The response to the notice of your call to the Chairmanship has rejoiced my heart.

I am enclosing herewith the material from Dr. Epstein. Please be good enough to return it for our files.

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JOSEPH B. PERSKIE, Atlantic City
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HENRY WINEMAN, Detroit
MRS. STEPHEN S. WISE, New York
SAMUEL WOHL, Cincinnati
ALEXANDER S. WOLF, St. Louis
IRA M. YOUNKER, New York

111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

January 13, 1938

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

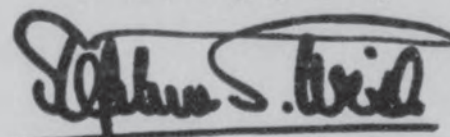
Dear Rabbi Silver:

Dr. Bernard Joseph, Legal Adviser of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, will arrive in the United States next week to confer with us with regard to the situation in Palestine. Dr. Joseph is also to address the National Conference for Palestine to be held in Washington on January 22 and 23.

So that the individuals carrying the responsibility for Palestine affairs in America may have an opportunity of meeting privately with Dr. Joseph, we are arranging a luncheon for Thursday, January 20, at 12:30 P.M., at the Aldine Club, 200 Fifth Avenue (near 23 Street) New York.

Will you please indicate on the attached card whether we may expect you at the luncheon.

Faithfully yours,



Stephen S. Wise
National Chairman

SSW.SBM

"LET EVERY AMERICAN JEW MEASURE HIS GIFT IN THE LIGHT OF THE
FUTURE HE IS CREATING FOR JEWS IN PALESTINE"

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C O P Y

FULL-RATE MESSAGE UNLESS MARKED OTHERWISE

Sender's Name and Address

(Not to be transmitted)

January 14, 1938

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
40 West 68th Street,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

I plan to spend Monday, January 24th in New York City. If you think that a meeting of the U.P.A. would be desirable on that day or that evening, I shall be very happy to attend it.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

P.S. I am returning herewith your correspondence with Dr. Albert Epstein of Chicago. I approve of everything that you say in your letter. It seems to me that the subsidy for such a paper may well come out of the rather large appropriations which are set aside in the budget of the K.H. as well as the K.K. for political activity. Separate campaigns for individual projects of this character should not be countenanced.

C O P Y

EPSTEIN REYNOLDS & HARRIS
Consulting Chemists and Engineers
5 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago

January 14, 1938

Dr. Stephen S. Wise
Zionist Organization of America
111 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

I regret very much that you were unable to be in Chicago as I intended to talk with you for a few minutes with reference to the letter which I mailed you on January 10.

I am enclosing herewith copy of a cablegram which I received yesterday from the editors of the Arabic newspaper, Haqiqat Al-Amr. This cablegram is self-explanatory.

I am today cabling them \$1500.00 to tide them over for a few weeks, but their budget is \$14,000.00 a year which is about \$1200.00 a month.

I am, therefore, asking you to be kind enough to write to the various leaders in the South and send me copies of your letters so that I can have Dr. A. Abramowitz, who is kind enough to be willing to spend his time in assisting me to raise the necessary funds, visit these people, as discussed in my letter of the 10th.

With many thanks, I remain,

Yours very truly,

ALBERT K. EPSTEIN

P.S. I have Sol Lamport on my list but I believe he passed away. Will you kindly let me know to whom I can write in place of him? Which of his children do you think would follow in his father's footsteps and is there anything you can do by discussing the matter with him?

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16

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WE WENT THROUGH HANDSOME GESTURE OF INVITING GOLDMAN TO JOIN
RANKS OF COCHAIRMAN URGE YOUR ASSENT FOR UPA EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE MEETING TONIGHT MY STUDY 40 WEST 68 STREET GLAD TO
KNOW YOU CAN ATTEND MEETING HERE MONDAY AFTERNOON FOUR TO SIX
WHEN WILL YOU REACH WASHINGTON GREETINGS=

W ISE.

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Telephone Your Telegrams to **Postal Telegraph**

January 18, 1938

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
40 West 68th Street,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

I was in Columbus last evening addressing the University so that I did not get a chance to reply to your telegram. I do not know that I could have given you a satisfactory reply even if I had received in in time. The Executive of the U.P.A. has been selecting the official family of the Campaign. I have had nothing to say about these selections, nor do I wish to. If they would like to add any other names to the list of co-chairmen, that is their privilege.

As far as making gestures are concerned, I am in no mood for it. Let others make them first.

I plan to arrive in Washington Friday noon. Montor writes me that there will be a meeting of the field representatives of the U.P.A. on Friday and I should like to meet with them.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

C O P Y

EPSTEIN REYNOLDS & HARRIS
Consulting Chemists & Engineers
5 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago

January 18, 1938
AIR MAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY

Dr. Stephen S. Wise
Zionist Organization of America
111 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Wise:

In reply to your letter of January 12th, I should like to say the following:

1. Before I received your letter I mailed you a copy of a wire from Palestine which is self-explanatory. I could not help but dig down deep in my pocket and cable them \$1500.00 to tide them over for the next month although at the present time it was practically beyond my means.
2. At the present moment, if the paper should cease to issue, it would be a great loss to the interest of the Yishub, from a political standpoint; it would have been much better if the paper had not been started.
3. This Arabic newspaper cannot be considered an "individually-owned enterprise." Although I do not consider myself an expert in political Zionism, I am inclined to believe that at the present time it is of utmost national importance. It has the approval of the Va'ad Luni and also such people as Dr. A. Ruppin, Miss Henrietta Szold and other leaders.
4. It is not our intention to go out and campaign the man who contributes \$10.00 to the U.P.A. A man who gives \$10.00 or \$25.00 or \$50.00 to the U.P.A. perhaps is doing all he can possibly do in contributing to Palestine. It was suggested in my previous letter that we should call upon people of means in each and every community, explain the situation to them and the importance of the issue, and there is no doubt but that we could raise several thousands of dollars in a quiet way without interfering with the U.P.A. or the Welfare funds.
5. The Arabic paper at the present time may be considered a form of Hagana. It will have an appeal to many Jews and they will contribute to this purpose outside of their contributions to the U.P.A.

I want to call to your attention, Dr. Wise, an experience which I had recently with one of the members of the Board of Directors of the Chicago Welfare Fund. This man contributes \$20,000 to this Fund. For the past six months I have cultivated his confidence and endeavored to interest him in some Palestine project outside of the Welfare Fund. I brought Palestine close to him and it

will be a surprise to you to know that about two weeks ago I received a check from this man for \$1,000, which I cabled to Palestine for a certain national institution. This year he did not decrease his contribution to the Welfare Fund. On the contrary, he was one of the few members of the Welfare Fund who fought against Max Epstein and his associates. Furthermore, he is also one of the few members who has pleaded our cause for the Hebrew University and asked that a larger sum of money should be appropriated outside of the money allotted the U.P.A.

It is through this man that I obtained the information a month ago regarding which I wrote you in New York, which made possible for you to take the necessary militant steps to prevent the establishment of an unfavorable precedent with reference to the relative allotment of funds to the U.P.A. and J.D.C.

This simply proves that in certain cases, by interesting a man in a definite project, he becomes closer to the Palestine problem. He feels that he has a direct investment in Palestine and he becomes a larger contributor to the U.P.A. or to the Welfare Fund, and a fighter for our cause.

Dr. Wise, I appreciate your state of mind in connection with the proposition which I presented to you. I am asking you, therefore, to be kind enough to reconsider the matter in the light of the above discussion and authorize Dr. Abramowitz to call upon certain people in the United States as outlined in my previous letter for the purpose of discussing the problem with them. As indicated, a contribution to the U.P.A. is important but its appeal is abstract. The contributor feels that he is giving money to help some Jews whom he doesn't know and with whom he doesn't have a direct contact. The publication of an Arabic paper may have a special appeal to intensify the interest in Palestine of some American Jews in that it conveys to them the idea that a real effort is being made on the part of the Jews to establish friendly and cordial relations between the Arabs and the Jews, and that he is instrumental in making possible the materialization of such noble and practical task.

When the problem is presented to a prospective donor in a confidential manner and he is made to understand that it is not a campaign; that it is not politically wise to make a campaign for such a project; that he has been chosen as one among the many in whom confidence is placed, there is no doubt that this type of approach will have a strong appeal to many Jews, and that it will not interfere with the U.P.A. On the contrary, such action will intensify that man's interest in the U.P.A.

By approaching certain types of Jews along this line, one actually does educational work and prepares him to become a larger donor to other Palestine funds.

Hopeing to hear from you, I remain,

Very truly yours,

ALBERT K. EPSTEIN

P.S. In writing the letters to the leaders of the various communities in Texas; Louisville, Kentucky; Missouri; and other parts of the West or Southwest, you may state that Dr. A. Abramowitz intends to call upon them to discuss a very important matter.

THE GOAL FOR 1937: \$4,500,000 UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)—JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (KEREN KAYEMETH)

EMERGENCY FUND (MIFAL BITZARON) OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

FOR THE SETTLEMENT IN PALESTINE OF JEWS OF GERMANY, POLAND AND OTHER LANDS

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111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

January 27, 1938

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

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JOE WEINGARTEN, Houston
HENRY WINEMAN, Detroit
MRS. STEPHEN S. WISE, New York
SAMUEL WOHL, Cincinnati
ALEXANDER S. WOLF, St. Louis
IRA M. YOUNKER, New York

Dear Silver:

The enclosed letter has just come to me from Joseph Schlossberg, our highly respected friend among the workers, who at times is very helpful to us. Incidentally may I suggest that you and Mr. Montor ought to make the fullest use of him, for he is always ready to speak (and he speaks with effectiveness) in connection with the campaign.

His letter is very disturbing. I send you a copy of my own reply, in which I indicated that I would forward his letter to you. I do not know what action you will feel like taking, but I venture to suggest that you send the letter on both to the Zionist Organization of America and the Jewish National Fund with your comment. I am really afraid that Ben Avi must either be curbed or denied the right to represent Zionism. I did not hear his speech because I was telephoning to say good-bye to Jim, leaving for Spain a little after that time, but I did hear that the speech was just as offensive as Schlossberg says it was.

I feel that you have the right as head of the United Palestine Appeal to suggest to the Z.O.A. and to the J.N.F. that no man be permitted to speak in these terms in connection with Zionism. What a silly parallel -- that of White Man-Indian; and we are almost to favor troubles in Palestine in order to cheapen land.

I take it you will act in the matter and send word to Montor.

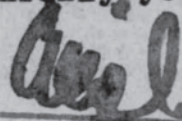
I was delighted to see how effectively you gripped hold of the entire situation at the meeting of the U.P.A. the other day. I regretted we did not have a chance to talk about your own plans with respect to coverage of territory. If I do not go to London or Palestine, I shall be able to give considerable time to communities that you, Montor and I will decide I ought to visit. You will let Montor or me know when you decide whether you can go to the Western coast, as I hope you can.

"LET EVERY AMERICAN JEW MEASURE HIS GIFT IN THE LIGHT OF THE
FUTURE HE IS CREATING FOR JEWS IN PALESTINE"

At the instance of Montor I accepted an invitation to speak to the workers of the Welfare Fund drive of Chicago. Inasmuch as they made a fairly decent arrangement with us, I felt I had no right to decline, though I cannot help feeling that it would be much better if you could go on February 23rd. Perhaps you will feel like doing so.

With most hearty greeting, I am,

Faithfully yours,



Stephen S. Wise



SSW:FE

CC: DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

January 27, 1938

Mr. Albert K. Epstein
Epstein Reynolds & Harris
5 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Epstein:

I have given careful consideration to your letters of January 14th and 18th. I do not see how I can recede from the position which I took previously.

My responsibility as a national co-chairman of the United Palestine Appeal is to see to it that every dollar available is sent to Palestine for the Keren Kayesed and Keren Kayemeth. I appreciate the value and importance of an Arabic newspaper that will present the Jewish point of view. But if I should encourage a campaign, no matter how quiet it is promised to be, I would be doing a disservice to my major responsibility.

It is true that there are various individuals whose interest in and contributions to Palestine will not suffer if they give special amount to special enterprises such as the Arabic newspaper, but these individuals must be sought out. They cannot be persons who are officers of the United Palestine Appeal or officers of Welfare Funds in various communities. At least, I, as national co-chairman of the United Palestine Appeal, cannot offer letters of introduction to these individuals. They must be approached directly by you or someone you designate.

Already the United Palestine Appeal suffers grievously because there are so many other Palestine fund-raising projects each of which considers itself, and perhaps is, of great importance. In various communities the funds allotted to the Hebrew University, Gewerkshafen, Hadassah, yeshivas, and other institutions in Palestine are deducted from the share which the United Palestine Appeal would otherwise receive.

I feel sure that you will appreciate the position which I am forced to take. I am sorry that it must be taken with one so devoted to the United Palestine Appeal interests and to Palestine as a whole, as you are.

Faithfully yours,

SSW:BCM

Stephen S. Wise
National Co-Chairman

January 28, 1938

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
40 West 68th Street,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

I have written to Goldstein with reference to Ben Avi and the criticism of Joseph Schlossberg. There were many others at the Conference who resented the speaker's remarks. I think that Goldstein will handle the matter satisfactorily.

I am delighted to know that you have accepted the invitation to speak in Chicago on February 23. It will prove extremely helpful.

With reference to the Western Coast - I have received several requests to visit it this Spring. I do not know whether I can get away. Montor is corresponding with the communities to learn when their campaigns are to be launched. I shall keep in close touch with you about the situation there.

I shall be in New York on February 7. I am scheduled to open the campaign in Jersey City. I shall get in touch with you and we will talk over the matter of our speaking engagements in connection with the campaigns.

Following the Conference which I had with some of the members of the J.D.C. last Wednesday, the minutes of which you have probably received by now from Mr. Montor, I received word this morning that the J.D.C. was willing to proceed on the basis of the arrangement of last year for welfare fund communities - namely, the sixty-forty ratio. An effort was made to rope us into a seventy-thirty arrangement which I stated could not even be considered. I will keep you in touch with further

January 28, 1938

developments.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



THE GOAL FOR 1937: \$4,500,000 UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)—JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (KEREN KAYEMETH)
EMERGENCY FUND (MIFAL BITZARON) OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
FOR THE SETTLEMENT IN PALESTINE OF JEWS OF GERMANY, POLAND AND OTHER LANDS

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111 FIFTH AVENUE
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January 31, 1938

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SAMUEL WOHL, Cincinnati
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IRA M. YOUNKER, New York

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Silver:

I was delighted to have your letter of the 28th, saying that you would be in New York on February 7th, and that you are going to open the campaign in Jersey City.

Montor and I take it for granted, unless we shall hear from you to the contrary, that we may call a meeting for Monday afternoon, February 7th. My own suggestion is four o'clock for the Executive, and five for the Administrative Committee. Let the Administrative Committee meet once with you. They would like it and it would be well in many ways.

No, I am not going to Chicago. They have gotten Horner instead of me, and so I am dropped, much to my delight for certain reasons that we need not discuss.

It is a joy to come to learn that you were able to achieve the sixty-forty arrangement with the Joint Distribution Committee; and I am particularly happy that you were able to escape the seventy-thirty arrangement, which you refused to consider.

Montor tells me that he may join you in Cleveland some day this week in order to work out details with Jonah, Hyman and Shroeder.

With warmest greetings,

Faithfully,

SSW:FE

"LET EVERY AMERICAN JEW MEASURE HIS GIFT IN THE LIGHT OF THE
FUTURE HE IS CREATING FOR JEWS IN PALESTINE"

The Goal For 1938: \$4,500,000

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (KEREN KAYEMETH)
EMERGENCY FUND (MIFAL BITZARON)
OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
For the Settlement in Palestine of Jews of Germany, Poland, Rumania and Other Lands

111 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK CITY

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ELIHU D. STONE
DAVID WERTHEIM

February 18, 1938

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Silver:

We are looking forward to the meetings at four and five o'clock respectively of the Executive and Administrative Committees on March 1st.

I was most happy to learn from Montor that you have decided that you will go to the Western coast. I think it fine that you should do so, and, of course, your visit will mean a great awakening of interest. When I come to know the dates I will write to a few key people in Los Angeles, San Francisco and my old home, Portland, so that my friends may take their full part in the welcome to you. It ought to mean a great deal to the coast to have you visit it.

We have had no answer as yet to several cables to Weizmann. I am sorely tempted to run over to London for a week or ten days, and I think I might have reached the decision to do so almost immediately but one is so unhappy over the rape of Austria by Germany that one wonders whether one can do anything that counts in this most confused and desperate situation.

With most cordial greeting, I am,

Yours,

Stephen S. Wise

SSW:FE

"Let Every American Jew Measure His Gift in the Light of the Future He Is Creating For Jews in Palestine"

C O P Y

FEBRUARY 18 1938

LONDON PO 42 18 1529

LC WISE LIPSKY ZIONISTS

NEWYORK

AMERICAN JEWISH
PRESENCE OF YOU TWO ESSENTIAL WHILE AM STILL HERE STOP
QUESTION OF OTHERS LEAVE TO YOUR JUDGMENT STOP EXPECT
STAY HERE MAXIMUM TWO AND AD HALF WEEKS MY SPEEDY RETURN
PALESTINE URGENTLY REQUIRED SHALL EXPLAIN PERSONALLY

WEIZMANN

The Goal For 1938: \$4,500,000

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (KEREN KAYEMETH)
EMERGENCY FUND (MIFAL BITZARON)
OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
For the Settlement in Palestine of Jews of Germany, Poland, Rumania and Other Lands
111 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK CITY

NATIONAL OFFICERS

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CYRUS ADLER
ALFRED M. COHEN
HERBERT H. LEHMAN
JULIAN W. MACK
NATHAN STRAUS
HENRIETTA SZOLD
SAMUEL UNTERMYER

February 22, 1938

National Chairman

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Silver:

National Co-Chairmen

STEPHEN S. WISE
Chairman,
Executive Committee
LOUIS LIPSKY
Chairman,
Administrative Committee
SOLOMON GOLDMAN
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN
HAROLD JACOBI
MORRIS ROTHENBERG

This word to say "Good bye" before we sail tomorrow. In the light of this urgent message from Weizmann, we -- Lipsky and I -- felt we had to go. I am sorry that I must leave for a few weeks but I think you will agree with me that it is important that we go over and find out just what is happening with regard to our situation, and what, if anything, we can do.

Treasurer

ARTHUR M. LAMPORT

Associate Treasurers

ABRAHAM L. LIEBOVITZ
LOUIS RIMSKY

I had a good talk with Justice Brandeis and he had some things of importance which I shall carry with me to London.

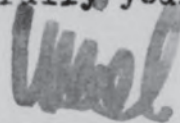
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MICHAEL SCHAAP
ELIHU D. STONE
DAVID WERTHEIM

I regret that I cannot be here for next week's meeting, when you are to come. I hope to be back by the 13th and I shall at once get back into the work. In the meantime I have made arrangements with Montor for all sorts of meetings including the Food Division and the dinner to you for the Manhattan campaign.

I will try very hard to get Lady Reading to come over for a fortnight. I think that she could be of real help.

Faithfully yours,



Stephen S. Wise

P.S. Since writing the above word has come of the meeting of the Actions Committee and the Administrative of the Agency in mid-March. I wish they had made it a little earlier but I suppose they cannot.

SSW:FE

"Let Every American Jew Measure His Gift in the Light of the Future He Is Creating For Jews in Palestine"

March 25, 1938

The Temple, Ansel Rd. and E. 105
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
40 West 68th Street,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

Secretary Hull's call for an international conference in behalf of German and Austrian refugees may prove of extraordinary significance to us if properly capitalized. In such a conference the American Government might well suggest to the British Government the urgency of allowing a much larger Jewish immigration into Palestine without any relation to the present political level. It would give the British Government, if it is so inclined, a real excuse for issuing a much larger schedule, i.e., an international demand for it.

Secretary Hull's call also dramatizes the present moment and it can be capitalized for a large-scale emergency campaign for Over-seas refugee relief. The American Government having recognized the extraordinary character of the present situation, the Jews of America can do no less. I had previously written to the JDC people about the matter. I sent a wire today to Rabbi Jonah Wise urging him to communicate immediately with the leaders of the JDC so that the present hour could be exploited by us for maximum aid for our people abroad.

I listened, at the Administrative Committee meeting, to the proposal of the Mifde Zioni. Frankly, it left me cold. I see no money in it and a tremendous interference with the UPA. To raise any substantial plan among Zionists of America would require a tremendous campaign through the New Palestine, the press and through every other avenue of publicity open to us. This would seriously interfere with our UPA campaigns right through the year. A fraction of the energy which would have to be invested into this new project, if applied by the Zionists to the UPA, would net a far greater revenue for Palestine. Such proposals as the Mifde Zioni might be helpful in those countries where there are no highly organized and united campaigns such as we have in the United States. Here such a project can but divide

Dr. Stephen S. Wise

-2-

March 25, 1938

our energies, clutter up our machinery and confuse our communities. You will agree with me that there are already too many separate money raising activities going on in Jewish life today for Palestine. Our people are fast reaching a point of saturation not in the extent of their giving, but in their reaction to a nigh endless series of solicitations for Palestine.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



The Goal For 1938: \$4,500,000

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (KEREN KAYEMETH)
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ELIHU D. STONE
DAVID WERTHEIM

March 28, 1938

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Silver:

Many thanks for your note. I was terribly sorry that you had to rush off to Jamaica, where I hear you had a magnificent meeting; and I had to hurry home after a most trying day -- doubly trying because I have not been well since I left New York, troubled with an acute colitis.

I wanted very much to see you and to give you my personal impressions of the London Conference. The "Jewish Chronicle" report is wrong. It does not convey a true picture, neither does the "New Palestine".

You would be shocked if you were to hear from me what Weizmann told us of a proposal that came to the Foreign Office, and from the Foreign Office to the Cabinet, with regard to partition -- a proposal that gives Britain everything north of and including Haifa, and the Arabs the sea-coast from Tel Aviv to Gaza, so that Weizmann at Rehoboth will be in the Arab State. That takes Jerusalem out, and it practically withdraws the Northern Galilee from the Peel proposal, leaving us only the Huleh. The thing was not authorized but it had the High Commissioner's approval; and -- remember my prediction -- it will constitute the basis of the memorandum for all partition from the British government. Weizmann was frightened stiff over it; thinks that he has beaten it down, but I am not at all persuaded that he has, and I don't think that he is persuaded.

But we will have a chance, I presume, within the next fortnight or three weeks. Perhaps you will call a meeting of the Administrative soon after Passover. Could it not be arranged?

I see that I am to preside at the great dinner for you on May 3rd. Perhaps you will be in town for the 2nd and 3rd, and we could have a meeting on one of these days, and we can together set aside an hour for a quiet talk.

Returning to your letter of March 25th, I agree with you about Secretary Hull's call. We have got to

"Let Every American Jew Measure His Gift in the Light of the Future He Is Creating For Jews in Palestine"

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

capitalize it, as you say; and I send you the original of a telegram that came to me from Spiegelman. We acted upon it at yesterday's meeting. We shall act upon it tomorrow; and I will read to the meeting of the Zionist Executive tomorrow evening the first two paragraphs of your letter.

I think it was hardly necessary to ask the JDC to get into the picture. They will not only be in it but they will run it unless we insist upon a proper place for Zionism in the picture.

Within the next few days I think I ought to go to Washington, perhaps with Lipsky, to talk to the State Department. Perhaps you could join us in the hope of making them see that this is the time, through Kennedy - our Ambassador at London -, to say to the British government that the one way in which they can help is to open wide the doors and to give us not conditional and restricted but general admission say of twenty-five, thirty - perhaps even forty thousand. What would you think of that?

While I am dictating this letter the proposed telegram to Roosevelt is brought to my attention. I think it might be well to send it but I wonder whether we ought not send a copy at the same time to Secretary Hull. I think you will find that Roosevelt will transfer the whole thing to Hull and, I hope above all, to George Messersmith, one of the Associate Secretaries and former minister. *to Messersmith*

It is just as well to send the telegram in the name of both of us, and I think Lipsky should sign with us as a member of the Executive of the Jewish Agency. But in addition I wonder whether we ought not go to Washington and lay the thing before Hull and get something started. If the Palestine proposal is not before the English government immediately, they will try to crawl out of it when the conference is held.

As for Mifde Zioni, I was not very happy about it when they first broached it. It is, of course, a nice enough attempt to get a large sum of money in order to tide things over in Palestine. They claim they are going to take care of the middle class folk. I hope for their souls' sake that they are. I at once said to Ben Gurion and Eliezer Kaplan in the presence of Lipsky - "Silver has undertaken a tremendous job, and we must do nothing to interfere with carrying it out". They then put it to me that this was not a collection but just to be self-taxation. Of course, we could do this:- we could ask the Zionists to tax themselves and take the result of the taxation and put it to the UPA; but the trouble there would be that the Histadruth crowd will not be prepared to divide it, but will want the whole sum for their Mifde fund. What shall we do about it?

Yours,

Abba Hillel Silver

March 31, 1938

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
40 W. 68th Street,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

Let me thank you for your letter of March 28. I shall leave tomorrow afternoon for the Pacific Coast and will be gone for about twelve days. You will probably not hear from me during that time.

I think that a visit by you and Lipsky to the State Department in connection with the International Refugee Conference would be highly desirable. I will, of course, not be able to join you because of my program on the Coast.

I am strongly of the opinion that the Mifde Zioni ought to be dropped for the reasons which I indicated in my last letter. There is nothing fresh or dramatic about asking the Zionists to tax themselves. That, you may recall, was the underlying idea of the original Keren Hayesod. The tax idea is rather played out. The Mifde Zioni will simply be another money raising effort on the part of Zionists of America which will involve a great deal of organization publicity and expense. It will yield us very little and will seriously interfere with the work of the United Palestine Appeal. I have been making a strong effort to rally the Zionists of America to the United Palestine Appeal. I regret that Zionists in many communities are among the least active in behalf of the United Palestine Appeal and Welfare Funds, generally. I think that launching a special Zionist fund-raising project now would simply nullify all our efforts in this direction.

I am happy to know that you will speak on the Broadcast for the United Palestine Appeal on April 14.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

April 18, 1938

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
40 West 68th Street,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

I thought that you would be interested in the enclosed letter from Dr. Wise. A rather sad letter, don't you think? He writes of the possibility of his coming to the United States in June or September. I think that at our meeting on the 25th, we ought to discuss the matter of his coming and the best time for his visit.

I had a perfectly delightful time on the Pacific Coast in spite of the fourteen addresses which I delivered in the five communities which I visited. The reception everywhere was most cordial and enthusiastic. The communities on the Coast are confident of reaching their quotas which are, this year, in every instance higher than last year and, possibly, passing beyond them.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:
BJK

May 5, 1938

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
40 West 68th Street,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

I have just returned home from the East and have been reflecting on the progress of our campaign in New York City. I had a meeting with the field workers in my hotel yesterday morning. Of all the campaigns in the country, the one in New York seems to be showing the least progress. Blitz reported that the campaign is doing as well as last year and a little better. But that, of course, in view of the fine mood which exists among our people at the moment and in view of what other communities are doing, is altogether inadequate. What the New York campaign lacks is workers and solicitors. Of all the communities in the United States, New York is about the only one which still resorts to the outmoded and quite ineffective method of raising money at banquets and public meetings. Outside of some of the trade organizations, no direct solicitation is going on. The Office has a large list of possible donors but no solicitors to approach them.

I am convinced, based on my experiences here in Cleveland and in other communities, that if you could organize, in New York, an active and dependable team of no more than one hundred workers and have them solicit, say, one thousand to fifteen hundred names of those able to give and who have not given, that a substantial sum of money could be realized for the UPA. It seems to me that the Zionist leadership in New York City ought to devote itself to this important job at this time. I regret to say that you are about the only one in New York City who is today concerning himself with the actual and prosaic business of raising money for the UPA. The others seem to be content to lend us "prestige" and occasionally to make speeches for us. They even forget to make their own contributions.....

The meeting last Tuesday night at the Biltmore was fine. Your address was eloquent and moving. I was sorry that the meeting had to be climaxed by public schnorring. The money

Dr. Stephen S. Wise

-2-

May 5, 1938

which was raised there should have been raised and could have been raised through personal solicitation afterwards.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



May 25, 1938

Dr. Stephen S. Wise
40 West 68th St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

It is my thought that on the program of the forthcoming convention of the Zionist Organization of America, an important place should be assigned to the United Palestine Appeal. As a rule this important part of our Zionist work is lost in the shuffle of convention business or assigned an insignificant place at some insignificant session. In view of the widespread complaint which has come to us from many parts of the country that Zionists have not been cooperating as actively as they should in UPA and Welfare Fund campaigns, it is important to dwell forcibly and at considerable length on this subject. I would suggest that at one of the evening sessions, when a maximum of delegates is present, a factual report of the work of the UPA be made by Mr. Montor and that it be followed up by a word from you as chairman of the Executive of the UPA, Lipsky as chairman of the Administrative Committee, and myself.

Is there anything that I ought to know about the Convention? What are the plans for next year?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS

The Goal For 1938: \$4,500,000

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)
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OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
For the Settlement in Palestine of Jews of Germany, Poland, Rumania and Other Lands

111 FIFTH AVE. CABLE ADDRESS—PALFUND NEW YORK CITY

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DAVID WERTHEIM

May 27, 1938

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Silver:

I have your note. I am communicating with Messrs. Lipsky, Montor and Margulies. I remember that I made the same proposal a year ago, and it was rather definitely vetoed on the ground that the Zionist Convention was the one occasion when Zionists should devote themselves to their inner Zionist problems rather than money raising. Perhaps you will have more luck than I had in the last two years.

I shall submit your letter to a meeting of the Executive of the Zionist Organization on Wednesday evening, June 1st; and we can consider it further at the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal on Thursday, June 9th, at four.

You ask, is there anything you should know about the Convention. Yes, you ought to know everything about it. I cannot quite answer the question as to what the plans are for next year, because I shall not be President. The plans for next year will have to be determined by the President, officers and Executive Committee.

I am resolved not to accept re-election as President. I can best serve the Zionist cause by refusal to accept a third term, assuming it may be offered to me, which would mean that the rule about a two-term Presidency of the Zionist Organization will hereafter be scrupulously observed.

What is your own thought about next year and your own plan?

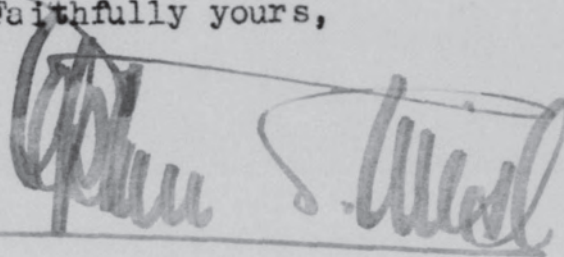
I have been approached by some people who feel that I ought to support one candidate or another for the Presidency. I think you will agree with me that a retiring President of an organization ought

"Let Every American Jew Measure His Gift in the Light of the Future He Is Creating For Jews in Palestine"

not to handicap any candidate with his support,
and ought to leave the organization free to
choose his successor. I for my part am resolved
to continue to serve within the organization.
I shall be prepared to accept a Vice-Presidency
if it be offered me, and to give my fullest
support to whomever may be elected President.

With all good wishes, I am,

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Philip S. Weiss". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

SSW:FE



[1938]

STEPHEN S. WISE
40 WEST 68TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

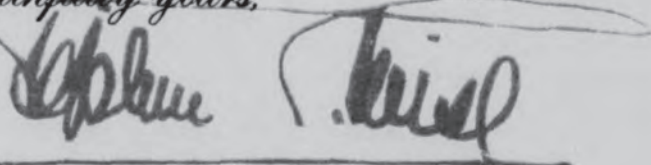
Dear Friend:

Twenty years have passed since the Balfour Declaration was issued. The great progress made in population, growth and general development is a matter of universal knowledge and pride. But once again, as on several other occasions, that progress is being checked by forces spurred by unworthy aims. The Jewish community in Palestine, 425,000 men, women and children, is in a mighty struggle to preserve the gains of two decades and to broaden the foundations so that tens of thousands of others may have opportunity and security.

We of American Jewry must assure Palestine Jewry that we recognize their heroic efforts and shall sustain them with moral and material support. We must emphasize to the British Government that American Jewry has a profound concern with the future of Palestine now being determined.

For these reasons we are summoning a National Conference for Palestine in Washington, D. C. on January 22nd and 23rd. Your presence, as a leader of the community and as a colleague in the United Palestine Appeal, is essential at that conference. The support visibly manifested by your presence will be a message of encouragement to our sorely-tried people in Palestine.

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "S. S. Wise", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

National Chairman

United Palestine Appeal

National Officers of the United Palestine Appeal

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Israel Goldstein	Morris Rothenberg
Maurice Levin	Abba Hillel Silver
William M. Lewis	Elihu D. Stone

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L. Manuel Hendler, Baltimore	James Marshall, New York	Ira M. Younker, New York

*The Officers of the
United Palestine Appeal
earnestly invite you to attend the
National Conference for Palestine
Saturday evening, January Twenty-second
and
Sunday, January Twenty-third
Nineteen hundred and thirty-eight
Hotel Mayflower
Washington, D. C.
for the purpose of considering an enlarged program
to further the upbuilding of the
Jewish Homeland in
Palestine*

*Your reply invited
on the enclosed card*