



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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### **MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.**

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

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

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United Jewish Appeal, United Palestine Appeal, "E" and "F",  
1938-1939.

# JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF AMERICA

קרן קימת לישראל

111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

ALgonquin 4-2495

35  
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July 28, 1938

Dr. U. H. J. Shapiro  
10609 Euclid  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Shapiro:

We sent you a Golden Book certificate  
for:

AMERICAN JEWISH  
RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Cleveland, Ohio

You have not as yet returned the blank  
indicating that you have received the certificate.  
We must have such a record in our office and we will  
appreciate it very much if you will be good enough to  
sign the enclosed blank. If you have not received the  
certificate you must please let us know immediately.

Thanking you for your cooperation,

Sincerely yours

*Mendel N. Fisher*

MENDEL N. FISHER  
Executive Director

MNF:ER

No. 16  
UOPWA

459

1902 FOUNDING  
of J.N.F.

1920 GENERAL  
556,000

J.N.F.  
19,000

1936

GENERAL  
922,000

J.N.F.  
373,688

GROWTH OF JEWISH LAND POSSESSIONS *[in dunams]*



\_\_\_\_\_ City

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

Jewish National Fund,  
111 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

We beg to acknowledge receipt of one  
Golden Book certificate number 4528  
in the name of RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
City Cleveland ordered by Dr. U.H.J. Shapiro  
on \_\_\_\_\_.

With Zion's Greetings,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_



# M. H. Fishman Co., Inc. 5¢ to \$1.00 Stores

GENERAL OFFICES  
225 FIFTH AVENUE  
New York, N.Y.

August 18, 1938

C O P Y

Zionist Organization of America,  
111 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City

Dear Sirs:

ATTENTION: ACTING PRESIDENT

I am really at a loss to whom this letter should be addressed, since in my opinion there is no one at present who is in charge of the Zionist Organization of America. Dr. Goldman, our newly elected President is at present touring Poland and Palestine and Mr. Margolies the general secretary of the Z.O.A. is also in Palestine. We have not heard that one of the five vice-Presidents of the Z.O.A. is acting as President of the organization.

Since the Zionist convention in Detroit the Zionist public opinion is at a stand-still in spite of the horribly drastic times that our Yeshuv in Eretz Israel is living through. We, here in America, are amazed that we have heard of no action whatsoever that is being taken to help or facilitate their trouble in Palestine. There has been no enlightenment of the political situation; no meetings are being held, neither the administrative committee of the Z. O.A. or the regions or the districts. The Zionist publications are not being issued during the summer months. Because of this the Zionists of America are being kept in total ignorance and darkness of what is going on in this critical hour of our people and our movement.

Palestine Jewry is living through and bearing the greatest trouble of its history. Thousands of our best sons and daughters are lying in trenches to defend the lives, property and honor of the Yeshuv. Tens of Thousands are jobless and peniless, hence are condemned to starvation. Yet the Zionists of America and their leaders show absolutely no signs of activity or of giving a helping hand. If not for the Hadassah, the "Mazrachi" and "Poale Zion" of America which issues statements on Palestine from time to time, it would seem as though there were no Zionist movement at all in America.

MONEY has not been collected for the emergency fund. MASS MEETINGS have not been held. not even a statement of any kind has been issued to inform the Zionist rank and file regarding the situation or plans for the future. The least that can be expected of our Zionists is that they put their shoulders to the wheel and inaugurate an emergency campaign for the financial support of our struggling brothers and sisters in Eretz Israel. Instead of doing this the whole burden was thrown on the Morning Journal who in spite of its best intentions has only limited possibilities of raising sums of money.

It is incredible that no conference has been called of the papers and



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GENERAL OFFICES  
225 FIFTH AVENUE  
New York, N.Y.

August 18, 1938

C O P Y

Zionist Organization of America (Cont'd Page #2)

publishers of the entire Yiddish and Anglo Jewish papers. Instead of having one newspaper conduct a so-called emergency campaign, all newspapers should be called upon and impressed with the fact that they proclaim a campaign which would reach over half a million readers. I believe that I am correct in stating that if this is done no Jewish newspaper would refuse to join the campaign.

This letter is being written to you in protest. My heart is bleeding because of the anguish of our people and their suffering in Eretz Israel. I am embittered because of the negligence and indifference displayed by the Zionist Organization of America who instead of using initiative at this time has shown signs of helplessness and weakness. I am certain that I am not alone in my feelings towards the Z.O.A. and that the greater majority of the rank and file of the Zionists of America are disappointed and discouraged as I am. I, therefore, sincerely hope that my letter will reach someone who will wake up at this eleventh hour of our crisis.

I should like to be forgiven for any harsh remarks in this letter and hope that it will not be too much to ask that this letter be acknowledged and published in the next issue of the "New Palestine."

In hope of Zion rebuilt and our people redeemed.

Sincerely yours,

SAMUEL FISHMAN



# M. H. Fishman Co., Inc. 5¢ to \$1.00 Stores

GENERAL OFFICES  
225 FIFTH AVENUE  
New York, N.Y.

August 19, 1938

Dr. Aba-Hilel Silver,  
President, United Palestine Appeal of America,  
111 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, N. Y.

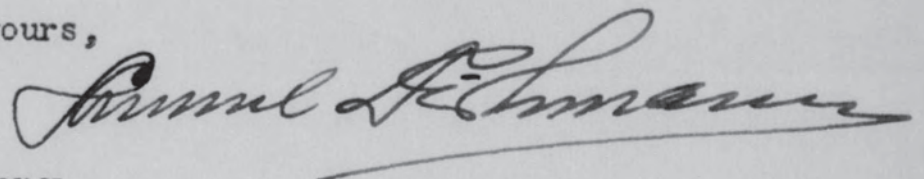
Dear Dr. Silver:

Enclosed please find a copy of my letter addressed to the Zionist Organization of America which is self-explanatory.

I feel that you as President of the United Palestine Appeal of America should be made aware of the embittered feelings of Zionists of my kind towards the executives of the Z. O. A. for the negligence existing in these hard times of our people and homeland and I am sure that from your part you will do everything in your power to improve the situation.

With Zion Greetings,

Sincerely yours,



SAMUEL FISHMAN



# Jewish National Fund of America

111 FIFTH AVENUE

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August 24, 1938.

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Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
Mooselookmeguntic Lodge  
Haines Landing  
Maine

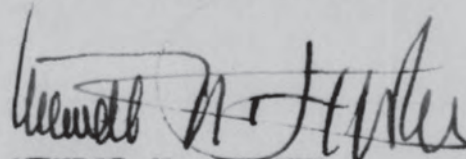
My dear Dr. Silver:

You have had some correspondence with Dr. Goldstein concerning the UPA participation in the Refugee Fund. You will see from the enclosed cable that we are transmitting to you, and to the co-chairmen of the UPA, that Mr. Ussishkin raises an objection on principle since Palestine has been excluded from the discussions at Evian.

I understand from the UPA office that \$2,500. has already been paid to the Refugee Committee. In view of this cable, you ought to instruct the UPA office not to advance any further money.

I do not like to trouble you while you are on your vacation, but I would like to hear from you how long you expect to stay in Maine.

Sincerely yours, ,



MENDEL N. FISHER,  
Executive Director.

MNF:RB

Enc.



# Jewish National Fund of America

111 FIFTH AVENUE

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September 1, 1938

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

My dear Dr. Silver:

I am sorry that I had to be in Norfolk and therefore missed you on Monday. Upon my return I found your note for which I thank you.

I am sorry that I could not see you personally, because I wanted to discuss a number of matters that require our immediate consideration.

1. There was quite a discussion at the last meeting of the JNF Administrative Committee regarding the K.H. conference to be held in Antwerp. The committee wanted very much Dr. Goldstein to go to Antwerp, but after further consideration in the matter, it was decided that we should take up the matter with you. Dr. Goldstein is unable to go to Europe.

It is possible that the matter of the 1939 agreement between the K.H. and the K.K. may be considered in a preliminary way at this conference. The agreement, of course, is decided upon in this country, but judging from previous experiences, the discussions may commence at this conference. It was therefore felt that we ought to be on hand in order that we may be fully informed on these discussions.

I was asked to take up with you informally whether, in your judgment, the JNF need to be represented at this conference. Since you asked Mr. Montor to attend the conference you must have undoubtedly received some information from him as to the nature of the agenda, etc. If you believe it necessary for us to communicate with the leaders in Antwerp, will you be good enough to indicate it?

2. We have learned that the \$2500 for the Refugee Fund has already been paid out by the UPA. Since you state that Dr. Wise said that this sum is to be treated as a loan, I take it that you have informed the UPA office accordingly. No further advances ought to be made on our behalf for this work.

3. There was also quite a discussion at our meeting concerning the Emergency Fund. Dr. Goldstein was taken to task for having permitted the emergency appeal. It was urged



Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Sept. 1, 1938


that the UPA should hold regular meetings, so that when matters of this kind are under consideration, the Administrative Committee should make the decision. It would be advisable to call a meeting of the Administrative Committee of the UPA.

I am sorry that I missed you. I had originally intended, as you know, to see you in Maine, but when I heard that you were returning I made other plans. Will you please let me know a couple of days in advance of your next visit to New York?

I hope that you and Mrs. Silver had a very pleasant vacation.

Yours most faithfully,

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

  
MENDEL N. FISHER  
Executive Director

MNF:RC

P.S. What did I hear about the JAF?  
Montez knows about our Golden Book effort. I  
keep him informed.



September 2, 1938

Mr. Mendel Fisher, Executive Director  
Jewish National Fund of America  
111 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mendel:

I received your letter of September 1st. You seem to be worried about certain matters which really should give you or Dr. Goldstein no worry. The Antwerp Conference is intended primarily for the K.H. workers of Europe. I was strongly urged to attend it but could not. I therefore requested Mr. Montor to attend that Conference as my personal representative, to give the gathering the benefit of our American experience if they wish it, and to receive whatever help they may give us for our work here. I did not discuss with Mr. Montor the question of any agreement between the K.H. and the K.K. for next year and I do not think that the matter will come up for any discussion whatsoever at Antwerp. I therefore do not believe that it is necessary for the J.N.F. to be represented at this Conference. It goes without saying, of course, that no arrangements between the K.H. and the K.K. will be made or can be made without the knowledge or consent of Dr. Goldstein and the J.N.F. of America.

With reference to the \$2500 advance to the Refugee Fund. Dr. Wise's letter to me, in which he speaks of this sum as a loan, is on file in the office of the U.P.A. As I indicated to you in my letter, no further advances are contemplated nor will they be made without the approval of the Administrative Committee of the U.P.A. Incidentally, on the subject of this advance to the Refugee Fund, the U.P.A. was confronted with a fait accompli.

Concerning the Emergency Fund - I made a complete statement about it at the meeting of the Executive of the Z.O.A. last Monday. It was not planned as an emergency campaign at all but only as a supplementary effort to the 1938 U.P.A. campaign in New York City which campaign does not close before the end of the year, to be climaxed in



Mr. Fisher

-2-

9-2-38

the synagogs on the High Holy Days. Such an activity, as part of the campaign in New York City, did not call for any action on the part of the National Administrative Committee of the U.P.A. It was purely a New York City affair. Mr. Gellman of the Mizrachi was particularly active in this matter. How this action came to take on the character which it did in the Morning Journal is a long story which I am sure Mr. Montor can explain to you when he returns from Antwerp. It is contemplated to liquidate this so-called emergency campaign right after the Holidays. I have also had the promise of Mr. Hamlin and Mr. Wertheim of the Poale Zion that their emergency campaign will be liquidated by the 10th or 11th of this month.

The disturbances in Palestine have made a lot of Zionists excited and have prompted others to clamor for emergency conferences and emergency campaigns. They fail to realize that the U.P.A. has made definite commitments to the Jewish communities of America with reference to money-raising efforts for Palestine in 1938 and has entered into contractual agreements with the J.D.C. which can not be unilaterally altered. They furthermore fail to realize that a "flash in the pan" emergency campaign which nets a few thousand dollars is distinctly harmful to the larger fund-raising efforts which may be necessary next year or the year after. It is the old story of crying "wolf! wolf!" once too often...

There is considerable chaos in the money-raising efforts for Palestine in the United States. There will be much more unless all agencies resolve not to initiate any new fund raising activities, under any guise or pretext whatsoever, without first consulting and obtaining the consent of the U.P.A.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK



# Jewish National Fund of America

111 FIFTH AVENUE

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NEW YORK

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September 23, 1938.

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

My dear Dr. Silver:

I am afraid that some of our friends did not understand the resolution adopted at a meeting of the Zionist Executive, for Mr. Montor quite emphatically told me before and after my conversation with you that if any meeting was to be convoked to discuss the Emergency Fund, the UPA would call such a meeting.

I did not intend to alarm you when I telephoned but rather to clarify the situation. Mr. Montor told me even before I talked with you that a meeting of the UPA had been called because I had a memorandum on my desk calling attention to that fact.

I want to correct any erroneous impression that may have been created because Mr. Montor made it very clear that it was not contemplated to conduct any emergency campaign outside the UPA campaign, just as you did when I talked with you.

Since you are to be here next Wednesday, I will want to have this matter more fully clarified.

With all good wishes for the New

Year, I am

Sincerely yours,

MENDEL N. FISHER,  
Executive Director.

MNF:RB



THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES

HOME OFFICE

NEW YORK

THOMAS I. PARKINSON, PRESIDENT

JOSEPH J. SCHICKLER, SPECIAL AGENT  
500 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY  
TELEPHONE: PENNSYLVANIA 6-1545

Dr. Abbe Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Oct.  
3rd  
1938

My dear Dr. Silver:

Some time ago I presented to Mr. Henry Montor, at the New York headquarters of the U.P.A., a proposal for Group Annuities and Group Life Insurance for the benefit of the employees. Similar proposals were also presented to the J.N.F. and Z.O.A..

This matter has been discussed since the latter part of last year and has been under advisement for some time. One of the other units has gone so far as to sign an application.

We have been hoping to embrace the U.P.A. in this plan. There is an indication that the employees would be willing to contribute their share to make the plan operative. If we could draw your attention to this proposal, we believe that you would want to help extend the benefits to the employees of the U.P.A..

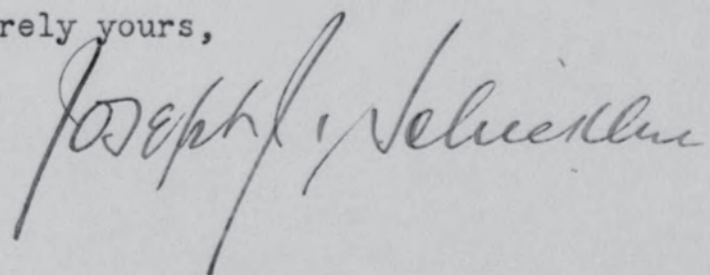
If I could be afforded an opportunity to go over the facts with you the next time you are in New York, it would be my pleasure. Besides being interested in working out this plan for the benefit of the staff, having already put in a lot of time in working out details, I am interested in this not only as a business proposal, but because of my attachment and activity in the movement. Being president of a Zionist District brings me in close contact and gives me a good opportunity to observe the situation.

Please let me know when it will be possible to see you on your next visit to New York.

Kindly accept my hearty good wishes for a very Happy New Year.

Sincerely yours,

JJS:js





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FORM 16

81H D 13 3 EXTRA

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DL	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
NM	NIGHT MESSAGE
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NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
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Form  
16

F8 7=HR NEWYORK NY 15 1249P

1938 NOV 15 PM 1 46

DR A H SILVER=

THE TEMPLE 105 ST AND ANSEL RD=

=WAITING FOR REPLY STOP HOLDING UP PLANS=

:MENDEL N FISHER JEWISH NATIONAL FUND.

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LCO	DEFERRED CABLE
NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
	RADIOGRAM

NB573 34 NL

HR NEWYORK NY 28

28 NOV 28 PM 10 14

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE TEMPLE 105 ST AT ANSEL RD CLEVELAND OHIO  
WILL DEEPLY APPRECIATE WIRE MESSAGE FOR ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD  
TUESDAY EVENING NOVEMBER TWENTY NINTH EMPHASIZING NECESSITY WIDER  
SUPPORT KAYEMETH GOLDSTEIN TO REPORT ACTIONS COMMITTEE AND ALSO TO  
REVIEW AMERICAN JNF ACHIEVEMENTS REGARDS

MENDEL N FISHER.



CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
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Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

# WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

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

Nov. 15, 1938

Mendel N. Fisher  
Jewish National Fund  
New York, N.Y.

IN VIEW OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS NECESSITATING MY SPENDING TWO DAYS IN NEW YORK NEXT WEEK WILL FIND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO COME TO YOU ON THE TWENTY-NINTH. DEEPLY REGRET IT AND HOPE TO BE OF SERVICE TO YOU AT SOME FUTURE TIME.

Abba Hillel Silver

COLLECT



CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

# WESTERN UNION

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FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

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

Nov. 29, 1938

COLLECT

Mendel N. Fisher  
Jewish National Fund  
111 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

WRHS



MY WARM GREETINGS TO DR. GOLDSTEIN ON HIS RETURN FROM LONDON AND TO THE ZIONISTS ATTENDING THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND. NEVER WAS THERE GREATER NEED FOR ACQUIRING MORE LAND IN PALESTINE FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF OUR HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF JREWISH REFUGEES THAN TODAY. COURAGE CONFIDENCE WORK AND SACRIFICE ARE THE ORDER OF THE DAY FOR THOSE OF US WHO ARE MINDFUL OF THE SUPREME HISTORIC TASK OF OUR PEOPLE

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE



# Jewish National Fund of America

111 FIFTH AVENUE

קנין קימת לישראל

NEW YORK

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*President*

LOUIS RIMSKY,  
*Treasurer*

RABBI I. M. KOWALSKY,  
*Associate Treasurer*

LOUIS SEGAL,  
*Honorary Secretary*

MENDEL N. FISHER,  
*Executive Director*

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November 30, 1938

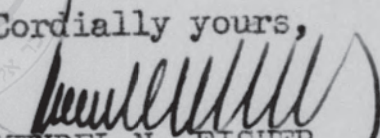
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I want to thank you very much for your kindness in sending to us your message which was read before the Annual Assembly of the Jewish National Fund held last night.

With kindest regards, I am

Cordially yours,

  
MENDEL N. FISHER  
Executive Director

MF:M



# Jewish National Fund of America

111 FIFTH AVENUE

קרן קיימת לישראל

NEW YORK

DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN,  
*President*

LOUIS RIMSKY,  
*Treasurer*

RABBI I. M. KOWALSKY,  
*Associate Treasurer*

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*Honorary Secretary*

MENDEL N. FISHER,  
*Executive Director*

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ABRAHAM SPICEHANDLER  
HON. ELIHU D. STONE  
SIGMUND THAU  
DAVID WERTHEIM  
DR. STEPHEN S. WISE

December 4, 1938

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I think you will be interested in a copy of a letter sent by Mr. Charles Bender, the newly elected president of the Texas-Louisiana Zionist District, to Mr. Karl Hoblitzelle, president of the Interstate Circuit, of Dallas, Texas, which I am enclosing.

I have also sent a copy of same to Mr. Henry Montor.

With kindest regards, I am

Cordially yours,

MENDEL N. FISHER  
Executive Director

MNF:M  
Enc.



JEWISH NATIONAL FUND  
111 FIFTH AVENUE

## MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, National Chairman  
Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Chairman, Exec. Com.  
Mr. Louis Lipsky, Chairman, Admin. Com.

Date January 10, 1939

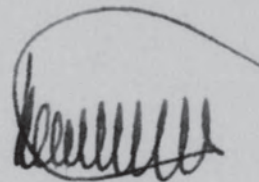
cc: Mr. Henry Montor

From Mr. Mendel N. Fisher

Subject

We have turned over today to Mr. Montor a report of our income for the month of December totalling \$84,546. December was one of the best months in the history of the Keren Kayemeth.

The total amount turned over to the United Palestine Appeal representing the traditional income of the Jewish National Fund from January, 1938 to January, 1939 was \$324,995.89.





18th January 1939

Joint Distribution Committee  
100 East 42nd Street  
New York City

Attention: Herbert Katzki  
for Jerome C. Levy  
Executive Director

Dear Mr. Katzki:

I have and thank you for your letter of January 13th, 1939, in reply to mine of January 6th, 1939.

I note that you have asked the National Coordinating Committee to give us the benefit of their advice and assistance, and that we will hear directly from them.

In the meanwhile, I should like you to put this question to the Joint Distribution Committee and let me have their opinion:

Is it improper or illegal for the Joint Distribution Committee, (or any other corporate entity with similar powers), to give a letter of indemnity to a relative or friend of a refugee, who although sufficiently able and willing to give a financial affidavit of corroboration, hesitates so to do because of the fear of the ultimate liability in the event of the refugees becoming a public charge;

While experience has shown the unlikelihood of refugees becoming public charges, nevertheless, we have in our files many cases where hesitancy to give an affidavit under these circumstances exists.

Take the case of refugee, Little and wife, presently residing at 44 Rue du Moulin, Chelles Seine et Marne, France, who wrote to Rabbi Levinthal explaining their plight in France. The Rabbi communicated with a distant relative in Brooklyn and after receiving no response, finally turned the letters over to me. I wrote to the doctor, who called at my office. We discussed the matter and the conclusion was that the doctor having two growing children, and with the uncertainty of his practice in the future, and apparently after



18th January 1939

Mr. Herbert Katzki:

discussing the matter with his wife, felt that he could not take on the added responsibility in the event these relatives became public charges. He was willing to sign a corroborating affidavit, but hesitated on account of this fear, and he left saying that he would talk the matter over with his brother and some other relatives, and that I would hear from him again. He has not yet called.

Lille's case can be multiplied by the score, and it seems to our Committee that there should be a way in which the necessary assistance should be found and given. It was to supply such need that Mr. Nathan W. Shapiro and myself discussed with Judge Lazansky the need for enlisting the aid of the Joint Distribution Committee for the service. The urgency of the situation is continually pressing as letters for assistance pile on us and it is not enough to reply to those calling for aid that the matter is having the attention of the Committee. Of course, I need not say that all our files and correspondence are at your disposal upon call.

One cannot talk to the refugees, and some from concentration camps, face to face as I have, and read their imploring letters, as well as letters from relatives, from day to day, without concluding that a way must be found, always in compliance with the law, to assist their departure.

As I understand the law, no corporate agency can furnish an affidavit or corroborating affidavit for a refugee in order to facilitate immigration to the United States. I know of no law, and if I am in error I wish you would so advise me, which prevents me from certifying to my neighbor, who has sent for a relative or friend, that during the time such parties remain in the United States I will share with him any ultimate liability which may result if such immigrant becomes a public charge; and what I can do as an individual, a corporate body, organized for humane purposes for the same consideration can likewise do.

Do you think that if the Red Cross presently recognized the European situation as resulting from an Act of God, instead of an act by man, and undertook to assist refugees, either through their contributors or as a corporate body, to hold said contributors harmless from any ultimate claim of responsibility that it would be a violation of the law?

I have just returned from the Joint Conference at Washington, D. C. as a delegate, and talked to several of the leaders there as to our required assistance, not for funds but letters of indemnity. Although all were in sympathy with the need, they felt that it was the task of the Joint Distribution Committee.

In the circumstances, I should like to have your further views in the matter,

Sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FEIT



FEIT AND FEIT  
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW  
26 COURT STREET  
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

TELEPHONES 5-9462 TRIANGLE  
5-9463

ABRAHAM FEIT  
CHARLES FEIT

19th January 1939

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
National Chairman of the  
United Palestine Appeal  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi:

Upon my return as a delegate from Washington, D. C., I found your letter of January 11th, 1939, expressing your interest in the problem of obtaining affidavits. I also found a letter awaiting me from the Joint Distribution Committee, apparently taking the position that under the existing law and as a matter of policy, the Joint Distribution Committee could not actively participate along the lines suggested.

A careful examination of the law by me, does not indicate any violation, directly or indirectly, of the immigration laws as they presently exist, to give the aid requested in my communication.

For your information, I am sending you herewith a copy of the reply which I addressed to the Joint Distribution Committee.

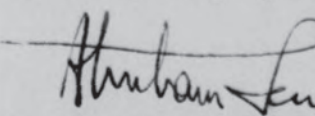
As one who was privileged to listen to your addresses at the Conference, I am quite sure that you expect your auditors not to forget the utterances that were heard at the Conference.

I shall be glad to have the benefit of your own views in connection with this matter at your convenience.

Incidentally, I spoke to Judge Rothenberg at Washington, D. C., in detail about this matter and I am also sending him a copy of my reply to the Joint Distribution Committee for his information.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

  
ABRAHAM FEIT

af:dr  
1920a  
enc.



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All America Cables  
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1939 JAN 10 PM 6 30

FORM 16

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DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER= 19 525P

:THE TIMPLE ANSEL RD AND 105 ST===

RECEIVED TELEGRAM JANUARY SEVENTEENTH ISMACH REQUESTING BARATZ  
FOR TRADITIONAL MEETING FEBRUARY FOURTEENTH SPOKE TO MONTOR AND  
INFORMED HIM BARATZ OUGHT TO GO WILL DEEPLY APPRECIATE YOUR  
CONSENT TO VISIT WHICH WILL BE INTEREST OF ONLY TRADITIONAL  
EFFORT=

MENDEL N FISHER



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:THE TEMPLE ANSEL RD AT 105 ST=

WRHS



PLEASE SEND MESSAGE BEHALF UPA OCCASION DINNER HONOR DR ISRAEL  
GOLDSTEIN TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY IN MINISTRY AND PUBLIC SERVICE  
TO BE HELD SUNDAY EVENING JANUARY TWENTY SECOND ADDRESS TO ENDEL  
PRESIDENT BNAI JESHURUN TWO SEVENTY WEST EIGHTY NINTH STREET  
HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ELECTION AS NATIONAL CHAIRMAN  
UPA REGARDS=

:FISHER.



*Manufacturers of*  
**OVERCOATS & TOPCOATS**

*Stratbury* **MANUFACTURING CO.**  
SUCCESSORS TO HORNSTEIN • NEWMAN INC.  
*Galion, Ohio*

January 30, 1939

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Consistent with our 'phone call of yesterday I am enclosing a letter which we would like to have mailed with your signature.

If you will be good enough to furnish us with 175 of your letter heads and envelopes, we will gladly type and address them here in Galion and send them back for your signature, already stamped so they can be mailed from Cleveland.

Needless to say we are grateful for your cooperation and will appreciate your reply in the enclosed envelope.

Naturally any suggestions which you care to make will be applied.

Yours very truly,

STRATBURY MFG. COMPANY.

Wm. Freeman.)

WF:DN  
Enc.



ORIGINATORS OF ALPAGORA OVERCOATS AND TOPCOATS



Letter From

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

Dear Sir:

As a brother Jew -- of a nearby community I am appealing to you to attend the J.D.C. Dinner Meeting this Sunday evening, February 5th, at the Greenlawn.

I understand that your committee has acquainted you with the work which the J.D.C. is doing for our people in lands of distress and in countries of refuge where an extensive program of economic aid and vocational readjustment, child care and medical care is being undertaken.

It is our duty for the sake of ourselves in America and even more for the sake of our brother Jews who are being ruthlessly slaughtered to carry on.

We cannot fail---

Won't you please cooperate by mailing the enclosure today telling your committee you'll be there Sunday.

Yours very truly,

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver



In your hand you hold the fate of thousands of Jewish Families!



## NEW ORLEANS JEWISH WELFARE FUND

1205 ST. CHARLES AVENUE

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

RAYMOND 2811

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Harold S. Mayer,  
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Jules J. Paglin  
Arthur Radlauer

February 1st, 1939

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver :-

We have set March 27th as the opening date of our 1939 Campaign. We want to start the Campaign with a community meeting on the Sunday evening preceding ( March 26th ). We should like very much to have you as the speaker for that occasion.

You will appreciate our desire to start with a good meeting, in view of the fact that our goal this year will be set at a much higher figure than what we actually raised last year, namely, \$60,000.00. To realize a goal that some of us feel will be commensurate with our share of the whole responsibility, particularly towards the United Appeal, we will need every help we can get. Your being with us at the opening meeting will be of great help to us.

Won't you please let me know whether you can arrange to come to us ?

I want to take this occasion also to ask that the United Appeal assign Mr. Arthur Adams to help us in our Campaign. He has been of great service to us in past Campaigns and can again be of service in helping us reach our goal.

Trusting to receive a favorable response from you to both requests, I am with cordial personal greetings,

Sincerely yours

*David Fichman*  
DAVID FICHMAN  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

DF:ML



February 1, 1939

Mr. William Freeman  
Stabbury Mfg. Co.  
Calion, Ohio

My dear Mr. Freeman:

Your letter is not very clear. Are you engaged now in your 1939 campaign for the United Jewish Appeal? The letter which I am supposed to sign is one summoning people to a J.D.C. dinner. I am not an officer of the Joint Distribution Committee. I am national chairman of the United Palestine Appeal. What is your campaign for, and what is your goal?

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



February 3, 1939

Mr. Abraham Feit  
26 Court Street  
Brooklyn, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Feit:

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter of January 19 and for the inclosure which you sent me. I should be interested to know what final action the J.D.C. has taken in the matter. I am not a member of the Board of the J.D.C.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ahs:bk



February 9, 1939

Mr. David Fichman, Executive Secretary  
New Orleans Jewish Welfare Fund  
1205 Charles Avenue  
New Orleans, La.

My dear Mr. Fichman:

I wish I could come to you on March 26, but I already have an important engagement scheduled for that day. I am sure that by contacting the national headquarters of the United Jewish Appeal, you will be able to procure some prominent individual to open your Campaign.

I am bringing to the attention of headquarters your request that the United Appeal assign Mr. Arthur Adams to help in your Campaign.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



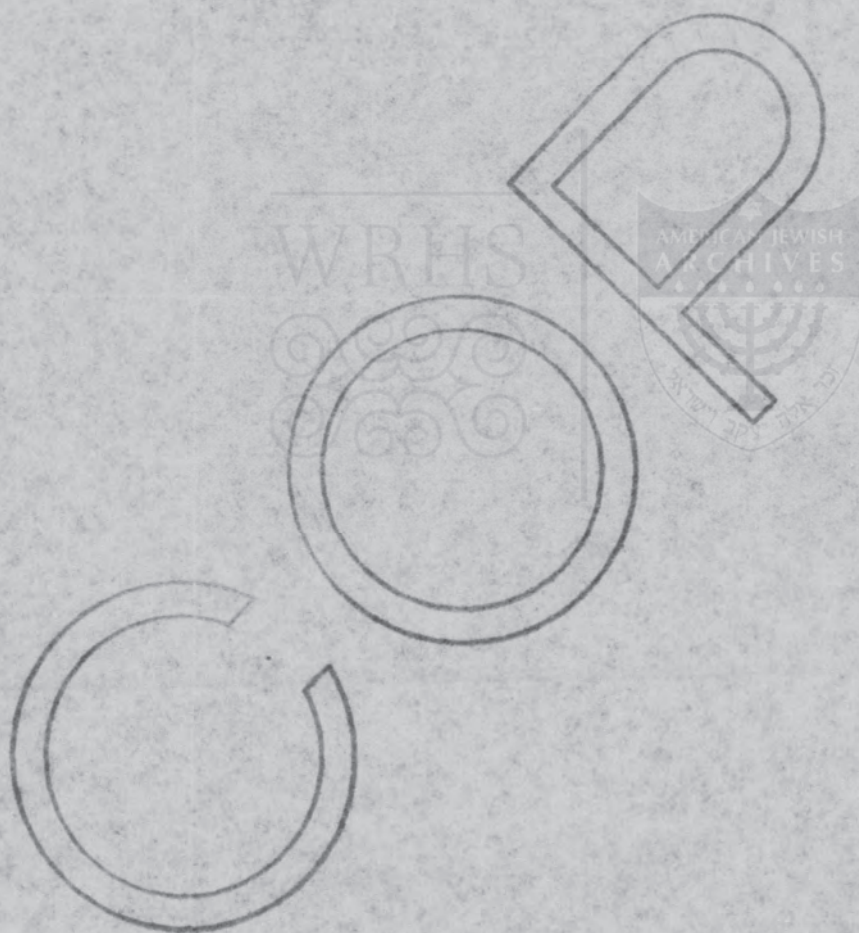
DR. SILVER

FEBRUARY 9, 1939

MR. HENRY MONTOR

MR. MENDEL H. FISHER

We have had another very good month in January as you will see from the audited statement submitted to us by our accountant, Mr. Cohen. I attach herewith a check in the sum of \$53,029.35 which is due the United Palestine Appeal for the month of January.





# Hadassah



The Women's Zionist Organization of America

1860 BROADWAY • NEW YORK, N. Y. • COLUMBUS 5-6585

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MISS NELL ZIFF  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

February 10, 1939

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am sending you a copy of the letter which I have written to Mr. Montor, which I think is self-explanatory.

I am confident that there will be a minimum of friction between Hadassah and the UJA, and that everything will be done to avoid any action that will endanger the success of the larger efforts.

Sincerely yours,

*Justa G. Epstein*  
Mrs. Moses P. Epstein  
National President

jge:k  
encl.



February 10, 1939

Mr. Henry Montor  
United Palestine Appeal  
111 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Montor:

I am sorry to have to point to a correction in your friendly letter of February 7th. It is true that I said we would write to the chapters in those communities in which UJA campaigns are being held at this time, asking them to avoid any possible conflict with the larger campaign. We are deeply interested in the success of the campaign and know that our chapters are following the progress of the campaign with keen interest, and would not want to jeopardize the success of the campaign in any way. On the other hand, if I gave you the impression that we intended to "communicate to Hadassah chapters throughout the country, asking that Youth Aliyah campaigns in cities not included in the attached list should be postponed until after the UJA drive in that community has been completed", I gave you a very wrong impression.

In the first place, we do not, in this office, set the dates for local campaigns. They are set at the beginning of the fiscal year, October 1st, always taking into consideration the local situation. In the second place, our year is completed by September 30th. There can be no such thing as our postponing our fundraising effort until fall. In the fall, we start a new year and are forced to meet new quotas and new conditions and circumstances. In the third place, our Youth Aliyah campaigns do not follow the pattern of the UPA and JDC campaigns. They are not intensive, high-pressure efforts, condensed into a limited period of time, but on the whole are carried on over a long period through more or less continuous efforts. Therefore, we could never undertake to categorically inform our chapters that there must be no Youth Aliyah efforts until after the UJA campaign is completed.

I can assure you that we will do everything in our power to avoid any friction, and that we will at all times take into consideration the larger fundraising efforts so as to conduct our affairs in such a way as to not endanger the success of the campaign.

If you think it necessary to discuss this matter further, we will



Mr. Henry Montor

-2-

call the meeting which was previously postponed for Mrs. Greenberg,  
you and me to confer.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Moses P. Epstein  
National President

jge:k





FEIT AND FEIT  
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW  
26 COURT STREET  
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

TELEPHONES 5-9462 TRIANGLE  
5-9463

ABRAHAM FEIT  
CHARLES FEIT

17th February 1939

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

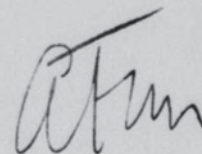
My dear Rabbi:

I have your letter of February 3rd, 1939, making inquiry as to the action taken by the Joint Distribution Committee. I regret to advise you that thus far the Joint Distribution Committee has not been convinced.

It may be of interest to you to know that a Committee on German Refugees has been organized in the Brooklyn Jewish Center, and we are endeavoring to see if we can obtain such affidavits from individual members who have the financial ability.

For your information, I am sending you herewith a memorandum on the subject.

Sincerely yours,



ABRAHAM FEIT

af:dr  
1920a



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111 FIFTH AVENUE

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March 30, 1939

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

My dear Dr. Silver:

I was in Baltimore last Sunday to attend the meeting of the Seaboard Zionist Region.

Mr. Joseph W. Spector, 501 Title Annex Bldg., 11 E. Lexington St., the Chairman of the Convention Committee for the Independent Order Brith Sholom of Baltimore, urged that we prevail upon you to accept their invitation to be their speaker on Monday, June 26th, 1939 in Atlantic City.

I promised Mr. Spector that I would gladly communicate with you and urge upon you if you have not as yet made any other engagement to accept their invitation.

This splendid organization undertook a J.N.F. project some years ago. They have been very helpful to the cause and I hope that you will find it possible to accept.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,

MENDEL N. FISHER  
Executive Director

MNF:SS



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April 7, 1939

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The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

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Dear Dr. Silver:

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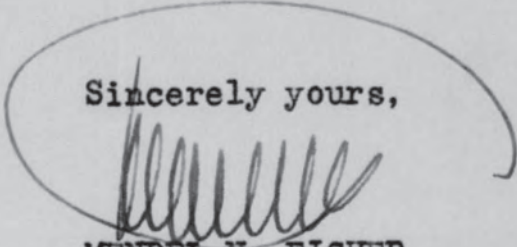
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We all regret that you cannot be with us at the National Keren Kayemeth Conference to be held in Chicago on Saturday evening April 15th, and Sunday April 16th.

We would very much like to read a message from you at the opening session on Saturday night. Will you therefore be good enough to wire such a message to us.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

  
MENDEL N. FISHER  
Executive Director

MNF:M



May 9, 1939

Mr. Mendel N. Fisher, Executive Director  
Jewish National Fund of America  
111 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Fisher:

Enclosed herewith is a check of \$10 which was sent to the Cleveland Zionist Society for the Jewish National Fund. The amount was raised by the members of Congregation Shomrei Hadath. Please acknowledge to the treasurer - Mr. R. Lustig, 12519 Buckeye Road, Cleveland, Ohio.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK  
Enc.

Secretary to Rabbi Silver



Boxes.....

Collections.....10.00

Flag Day.....

Flower Day.....

Golden Book.....

Huleh.....

Sefer Hayeled.....

Stamps.....

Tisha B'av.....

Trees.....

TOTAL \$ 10.00

YE SHALL REDEEM THE LAND

Jewish National Fund  
of America

הקדש הלאומי היהודי

111 FIFTH AVENUE,

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Receipt

is acknowledged, with thanks, of the sum of \$10.00  
Ten and 00/10 Dollars

Remitted by :

Name Miss Bessie Kline  
Address c/o The Temple E. 105th Street  
City Cleveland State O.



D-4427

For Cleveland Zionist  
Society

LOUIS KIMSKY, Treasurer

By



# Jewish National Fund of America

111 FIFTH AVENUE

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May 11, 1939

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Dear Miss Kline:

Thank you for yours of May 9th, enclosing check in the amount of \$10.00 which was raised by the members of Congregation Shomrei Hadath. Enclosed is our official receipt for this amount. We are also sending a letter of acknowledgment to Mr. R. Lustig, together with a duplicate receipt, as per the enclosed copy.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

MENDEL N. FISHER  
Executive Director

MNF:MS  
Enc.



# Hadassah



The Women's Zionist Organization of America

1860 BROADWAY • NEW YORK, N. Y. • COLUMBUS 5-6585

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May 12, 1939

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman  
United Jewish Appeal (Inc.) For Refugees  
and Overseas Needs  
342 Madison Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

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Dear Rabbi Silver:

Under ordinary circumstances, I would not bring to you the kind of problem which, were it only the administrative problem that it appears to be, would rightly belong to the group in New York charged with that phase of the campaign. However, I believe that there is something more important than administrative detail in the vexatious problem that has arisen concerning the relationship of Hadassah to the U. J. A. Allow me to review the situation.

Some time in February, I met with you and Mr. Montor to discuss ways and means of cooperation between Hadassah and the United Jewish Appeal. I agreed that Hadassah would do everything within its power to avoid conflict in the campaigns which were soon to be launched in many communities. From the letter which Mr. Montor sent to me following that conversation, I realized that the cooperation which you urged took a form which would make it impossible for Hadassah to function. We were ready to promise that we would not launch intensive Youth Aliyah campaigns in communities where the UJA was to be launched. However, I never envisaged the possibility of discontinuing all work which had been launched months before the UJA appeared on the scene and postponing it until the fall. In the first place, our year runs from October to October, unlike that of the UJA. In the second place, our work for Youth Aliyah is governed by a set of conditions over which we have no control. Let me explain. Last year we accepted a quota of \$250,000 for Youth Aliyah. The November tenth outrages in Germany, plus the unlimited immigration schedule caused us to throw over that quota and to set no limit to the amount of monies to be raised, except the capacity of our women to give. Moved by the terrible conditions in Europe and the wonderfully hopeful opportunity that Palestine offered, campaigns were launched in all the communities with tremendous enthusiasm which led to pledges on which we are still collecting. You must remember that women for the most part cannot



Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

give as men do. They fulfill their pledge over a period of months, saving monies out of their household accounts, etc. Our work is carried on without fanfare, high pressure, or campaign technique. It is accomplished through small groups, and the work gains momentum slowly but surely. For instance, in Los Angeles, a situation about which Mr. Coons lodged a complaint, the Youth Aliyah effort was inaugurated in November and a series of parlor meetings was arranged for. At one of these meetings held in January, the interest of a prominent woman was aroused. She, in her turn, gathered her friends around her to run meetings; thus work launched in November carried through to March. However, I wish to put on record the fact that I was in Los Angeles and made no attempt to raise one extra penny (although there is no question that I could have succeeded), only because the UJA was about to be launched. All fundraising efforts were officially closed at least two weeks before the luncheon.

To complain to me, as Mr. Montor did over the telephone, that an influential woman in Atlanta, Georgia, who was present at our convention in October, and who was deeply moved by the presentation of Youth Aliyah, gave \$360 to Youth Aliyah in Atlanta in November and later gave only \$100 to the United Jewish Appeal, from which overseas needs must be drawn, is to me no proof of the non-cooperation of which we are accused. One might just as well say that Federation in New York which took six million dollars out of the community, was not cooperating with the campaign. What Mr. Montor and Mr. Coons are complaining of is that Hadassah was too successful; that the cause of Youth Aliyah was too appealing; that it succeeded in securing monies from women who later failed to respond in like measure to the United Jewish Appeal or to the welfare drives from which the UJA derives its income.

I understand that it is unavoidable that field men should register these complaints. Less understandable, however, is the complete agreement which Mr. Montor gives to these complaints. I understand that it is his business, as it is Mr. Coons's to see to it that the best results are obtained for the UJA. However, it does not help the UJA nor Zionist prestige, to accuse Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, of non-cooperation. I will not burden you with the documentary proof. We have every evidence that Hadassah is giving its fullest cooperation to the UJA. It is throwing open its meetings to the UJA; it is organizing teams; it is gathering in attendance for the UJA luncheons; it is urging its women to give.

I urge upon you that you make some effort to stop this carping criticism. It has no foundation in the facts, and it is harmful and irritating to all the parties concerned. Hadassah is deeply conscious of the importance of the United Jewish Appeal and is very much concerned with its success. On the other hand, it cannot be asked to relinquish its own purposes and weaken its own machinery which is important not only for this year but for the many years to come. I need hardly point out to you that at least as important as the funds we raise is the propaganda of the Zionist ideology which we transmit through our fundraising efforts.



Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

I understand the problems with which you are faced and I understand the reaction of the non-Zionist partner of the campaign to separate organizations and efforts. However, I urge again that you do what you can, either through Mr. Montor or directly, should the argument arise again, of making clear that Hadassah is giving the fullest cooperation of which it is capable within the limits of its own organization's existence.

Sincerely yours,

*Judith P. Epstein*  
Mrs. Moses P. Epstein  
National President

jge:k





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