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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, "N," "O," and "P",  
1938-1939.

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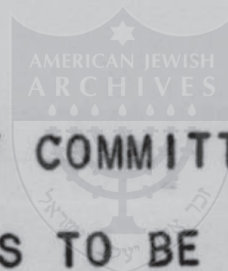
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DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

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WRHS



MEETING OF THE PALESTINE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER PRESENT  
SITUATION AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS TO BE HELD SATURDAY NIGHT  
OCTOBER TWENTY SECOND AT EIGHT THIRTY PM HOTEL WARWICK SIXTY  
FIVE WEST FIFTY FOURTH STREET NEWYORKCITY HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE  
TO ATTEND=

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# WESTERN UNION

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PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

2-4-39

H. B. Newman  
Galion Ohio

I SEND YOU MY WARMEST GREETINGS ON THE OCCASION OF THE OPENING OF THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL. THE TRAGIC PLIGHT OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF JEWISH REFUGEES IMPOSES A SUPREME MORAL OBLIGATION UPON EVERY MEMBER OF THE HOUSEHOLD OF ISRAEL TO MAKE A MAJOR FINANCIAL SACRIFICE AT THIS TIME. AT NO TIME IN OUR HISTORY HAS THERE EVER BEEN A GREATER NEED FOR THE EXERCISE OF JEWISH COMPASSION AND BROTHERLY LOVE. IN THE MOST HUMANE MANNER POSSIBLE? WE MUST TAKE CARE OF OUR REFUGEES DRIVEN BY HATE AND PERSECUTION AND WE MUST FIND HOMES FOR THEM AND THEIR CHILDREN IN NEW LANDS AND MORE ESPECIALLY IN THE ANCIENT LAND OF ISRAEL NOW BEING REBUILT. I WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS IN YOUR GREAT UNDERTAKING.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
National Chairman  
UNITED PALESTINE APEAL

*Manufacturers of*  
**OVERCOATS &  
TOPCOATS**

*Stratbury* **MANUFACTURING CO.**  
*Galion, Ohio*  
Feb. 7, 1939

Rabbi Abbel Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Rd. At 105th  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Thank you very much for your  
telegram wich was read at our Dinner,  
Sunday Evening. I am sure that it was  
instrumental in enabling us considerable  
to go over our quote in the United  
Jewish Appeal Drive.

Yours very truly,

STRATBURY MFG. COMPANY

H. B. Newman

HBN:DN



ORIGINATORS OF ALPAGONA OVERCOATS AND TOPCOATS



## NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE FUND, INC.

AN ORGANIZATION TO RECEIVE AND DISBURSE FUNDS FOR THE  
NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

165 WEST 46TH STREET

NEW YORK CITY

March 25, 1939.

WILLIAM ROSENWALD  
PRESIDENT

DAVID HAYS SULZBERGER  
VICE-PRESIDENT

S. MARSHALL KEMPNER  
TREASURER

PAUL FELIX WARBURG  
SECRETARY

To: The Campaign Chairmen, and Members and Alternates of  
the Allocations Committee of the United Jewish Appeal  
for Refugees and Overseas Needs.

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(Board in process of formation)

### STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Gentlemen:

As you know, the original budget of the National Coordinating Committee Fund, Inc., submitted for inclusion in the United Jewish Appeal, estimated that our needs would be between \$2,000,000.00 and \$2,500,000.00 in 1939. The budget which was prepared in January, (a copy of which is enclosed), practically confirmed this estimate. It showed a total of \$3,034,000.00, and included a working fund of \$400,000.00 with which to start the year 1940. Since then, however, certain unforeseen circumstances have arisen. Recent developments, here and abroad, have affected our work to such an extent, that it now becomes apparent that this amount will be entirely inadequate. After careful consideration of all the factors involved, it would seem that no less than \$4,000,000.00 will be necessary to enable the National Coordinating Committee Fund to carry on its work, without drastically curtailing its activities.

S. C. KOHS  
NATIONAL FIELD DIRECTOR  
S. B. JACOBSON  
CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR

### AGENCIES RECEIVING APPROPRIATIONS

EMERGENCY COMMITTEE IN AID OF  
DISPLACED FOREIGN PHYSICIANS

GREATER NEW YORK COORDINATING  
COMMITTEE FOR GERMAN REFUGEES

NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
FOR AID TO REFUGEES AND EMIGRANTS  
COMING FROM GERMANY

AND OTHERS

Following is a brief outline of the circumstances and developments, as a result of which, unexpected demands are being made upon the resources of the National Coordinating Committee Fund:

1. It was decided in January that the National Coordinating Committee will, as of January 1, 1939, have to take care of many of those persons arriving from other countries in Central and Eastern Europe (in addition to those from Germany, for whom the National Coordinating Committee was originally established). Among the many new categories of people coming to us for assistance, are American citizens who have resided for many years abroad. Forced by circumstances to return here, they are arriving destitute, in some instances not even speaking English,



To: The Campaign Chairmen, and Members and Alternates of  
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for Refugees and Overseas Needs.

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March 25, 1939.

and they, thus, present all the problems of newly-arrived immigrants. It was also decided that the National Coordinating Committee would pay for all persons in transit through the United States to other countries. (Professor Chamberlain, in a letter of February 9th, indicated the effect these decisions would have upon our budgetary requirements.)

2. It now appears that the Cuban burden will be greater than was anticipated. We shall not be able to speed up the return to the United States of those people sent down from here, as was originally expected. Although the number of such people is small, the cumulative demands upon us will be considerable.
3. People are now arriving substantially without any personal resources or means of support. For many reasons (such as, for instance, a change in financial circumstances since signing the affidavit), the affiant today does not seem to be as well-equipped, as heretofore, to assume his responsibility toward the refugee he has helped to come here. Consequently, emergency relief must be given. In addition, those who arrived previously are now exhausting their resources. Whereas it was anticipated that there would be some increase over the rate of expenditure of last November (when the original estimate for 1939 was made), it could not have been expected that, by April the relief burden would be doubled, as now appears likely. If this rate of increase continues, as it seems to be doing, the fall months may see a burden three or four times as great as the November rate.
4. Resettlement has become one of the most important aspects of our work. With greater numbers of people coming to the United States, and the acuteness of the relief problem in New York City, resettlement must be attempted on a much larger scale than heretofore. Pressure is being brought from all sides to do this. The expansion of this program depends largely on the funds at our disposal.



To: The Campaign Chairmen, and Members and Alternates of  
the Allocations Committee of the United Jewish Appeal  
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5. The March budgetary requests from all the affiliated agencies, received before the Czecho-Slovakian crisis, show that even the expanded relief and service budgets, mentioned above, will be inadequate. The Czecho-Slovakian crisis will, undoubtedly, place further burdens upon us. The effects are already noticeable with regard to demands for service made by American citizens. It is also within the realm of possibility, that further developments in Europe will present additional problems for the National Coordinating Committee Fund, Inc.

An attempt is now being made to increase the efficiency of our organization. All possible measures are being utilized to decrease the financial burden of the relief problem, and such efforts will be continued. Nevertheless, although effecting every possible economy, and making every attempt to have affiants assume their responsibility, we are faced with the following alternatives: stopping intake of new cases (which may make these individuals subject to deportation, and by so doing, tempt them into sub-standard jobs which may cause the kind of community repercussion which we are so anxious to avoid), reducing relief allotments below any accepted subsistence relief budget standard, cutting down on adjustment, immigration, and other advisory services (including resettlement), or taking a combination of these steps. The effect of any one of these steps may reflect adversely on the public's response to our appeal.

More important is the effect such curtailment might have upon public opinion in this country. The United States has been absorbing the greatest number of refugees. No refugee has been permitted to become a public charge, and emigration to this country has been handled, thus far, without incurring any hostility or unpleasantness, such as has occurred in other refugee countries. It seems to us, from our contacts in different parts of the country, that there should be no modification of this policy. In addition, it is especially important, at this time, that the situation should not be permitted to get out-of-hand, lest we impair the confidence of the authorities, and the good-will of officials, friends, and potential givers, as well as that of the general public.

There is a great possibility, because of present developments throughout the world, that we in America may be faced with the decision as to whether the refugees in the United States should not be given prior consideration to those abroad. It seems to us that our primary responsibility is to those in the United States, for only if we safeguard the situation here, can we continue to give help abroad.

In the light of the growing requirements, and the constant and increasing urgency of our needs, it is necessary that we know, at the earliest



To: The Campaign Chairmen, and Members and Alternates of  
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possible moment, what amount we may count on in 1939 (including the necessary working fund with which to start the year 1940). The last budgetary figures for the National Coordinating Committee Fund, as given in the January budget, show a need of \$3,034,000.00. For the reasons outlined in the preceding paragraphs, it would seem that at least \$4,000,000.00 will be necessary for our minimum requirements. It is especially important that we, immediately, be in a position to determine our current permissible rate of expenditure.

It would be very much appreciated if, as soon as the Allocations Committee is formed and can meet, you would advise us as to the amount we may expect in 1939. Should you wish us to appear before you, or if there are any other steps which we should take to facilitate our getting guidance, we would welcome the opportunity to cooperate.

With thanks, in advance, for your attention to this matter, and looking forward to hearing from you, we are,

Yours,

*Joseph P. Chamberlain*

Joseph P. Chamberlain, Chairman  
National Coordinating Committee for  
Aid to Refugees and Emigrants Coming  
from Germany.

*William Rosenwald*

William Rosenwald, President  
National Coordinating Committee Fund, Inc.

(Enclosures)



# PREIS INC.

FASHIONABLE FEMININE APPAREL

POPULARLY PRICED

ASHLAND - - OHIO

April, 15, 1939.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
Cleveland, O.

Dear Rabbi Silver,

In acknowledgement of your recent letter I wish I could suggest some helpful solution for our stricken brethren.

As to our community raising funds, we have just completed our drive and have raised this year \$1233 against last year's total of \$317, thanks to my friends who helped me to raise this money.

While writing I wish to explain how we were able to raise this sum. Several of my Ashland friends and I went to the drive meeting at Galion and there we were asked to pledge \$1,000. Knowing it was not possible to raise it here as none of our community could give large sums, I went to see Mr. Jacobson, a factory owner in our town, and explained that if he would head our list with a contribution we felt sure we would raise the amount of money required. In the course of conversation a gentleman by the name of Mr. Green, who is not of Jewish faith, said to me if we should raise \$1,000 he would give us \$200. We raised the \$1,000 and got the \$200 additional.

Hoping I have not burdened you with too much reading, I assure you of my willingness to cooperate at any time.

Sincerely yours,

*David Preis*

**"CLOTHES FOR THE CHILDREN TOO"**



May 1, 1939

Mr. David Preis  
Preis Inc.  
Ashland, Ohio

My dear Mr. Preis:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of April 15. I wish to congratulate you upon the fine service which you have rendered for the cause of the United Jewish Appeal in Ashland as well as in Galion.

The contribution of Mr. Green, a non-Jew, to your fund is indeed very gratifying. We have had numerous instances of non-Jews volunteering their contributions to help our unfortunate brothers in Europe.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



[1939]

1939

Notes on Budgetary Requirements of the  
National Coordinating Committee Fund, Inc.  
and its Supported Organizations

In the preparation of the 1939 budget of the National Coordinating Committee Fund, Inc. and its supported organizations, amounting to \$3,034,900., due consideration was given to the necessary expansion of our national program and activities on behalf of the refugees, who, for the first time since 1933, will reach the maximum immigration allowed under the quota from greater Germany, namely 27,370. In addition, some refugees come from greater Germany under other quotas, further enlarging our problem.

The National Coordinating Committee Fund, Inc. itself, which is purely the fiscal and fund distributing organization to our supported agencies, will require for its administrative and auditing activities, an estimated sum of \$39,000.

Our estimate for the National Coordinating Committee amounting to \$766,000., includes \$372,000. for immigration service, repatriation and general expenses involved in assisting the refugees with immigration aid, (enabling refugees with transit visas to find temporary or permanent residence in nearby Central and South American countries), relations with committees in those lands, and maintaining relations with groups and individuals interested in particular refugee cases. For our resettlement program, which calls for 5,000 units to be distributed throughout the country in 1939, we have calculated our 1939 needs at \$394,000. Whereas we worked with about 250 local refugee committees in the United States in 1938, we shall increase this number to 500 in 1939. This resettlement program involves among other things, the payment of transportation of the refugees and their effects to their ultimate destinations in the United States.

The Greater New York Coordinating Committee's activities in 1939 will require, we had estimated, \$1,006,900. This committee, through the Jewish Social Service Association, the Jewish Family Welfare Society, the New York and Brooklyn Sections of



the National Council of Jewish Women, is handling the various problems of assistance, employment, retraining, naturalization and immigration service for refugees in New York.

In addition, we are handling special categories of refugees, such as rabbis and musicians. A number of projects furthering the absorption and placement of these and other groups of refugees are now being worked out and will be a part of our program.

Since New York is practically the only port of entry for German refugees, the Greater New York Coordinating Committee has to carry the burden of the initial work with the refugees after their arrival. The resettlement work of the National Coordinating Committee also draws heavily on the activities of the Greater New York Coordinating Committee in selecting and preparing clients for resettlement.

Since the statistical analysis of our needs was made, on which this budget was based, we find that the rate of increase in our burden is such as to make even this budget an inadequate one.

To provide for an increase in our volume of work, principally in view of the increased immigration, and also because the immigrants arriving since November 1938 are virtually without financial resources, we have included a sum of \$400,000. We have also set up a contingency reserve of \$150,000. in line with approved budgetary practice followed by other organizations, to provide for emergencies and other unpredictable situations.

Past experience, particularly the early months of 1939, have demonstrated the prudence of including a provision to enable us to begin our activities in 1940, for at least two months. Should there be a united Jewish campaign again in 1940, it will be several months before we might expect allocations from the 1940 campaign; hence we have set up the sum of \$400,000. to enable us to carry on our activities during the first two months of 1940.

February 27, 1939



ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1939

FOR THE NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE FUND, INC. AND SUPPORTED ORGANIZATIONS

National Coordinating Committee Fund, Inc.:

Administration and auditing of all  
supported organizations ..... \$ 39,000.

National Coordinating Committee:

\*Immigration service, repatriation,  
and general expenses ..... \$372,000.  
Resettlement Division ..... 394,000.

Total ..... 766,000.

\* Greater New York Coordinating Committee ..... 1,006,900.

Estimated subventions toward budgets of committees  
for Scholars, Physicians and other special categories  
of refugees and subventions to other organizations ..... 273,000.

Estimated requirements to provide for increase in  
volume of work due to cumulative effect of continued  
immigration and to provide for increased expenditures  
due to the fact that since November 1938 emigres from  
Greater Germany must leave virtually without funds or  
property ..... 400,000.

Contingency reserve ..... 150,000.

Working fund required to carry work in 1940  
until funds become available from 1940 campaign ..... 400,000.

Grand Total ..... \$3,034,900.

\* These figures are based on the situation as of January 31, 1939.

The above budget represents the minimum requirements to meet the needs faced by the National Coordinating Committee Fund, Inc., whose ability to meet this budget depends on the resources made available from the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs to the National Coordinating Committee Fund, Inc.

On request, further details will be submitted to the proper officers and committees of Welfare Funds or of other campaign organizations to which the United Jewish Appeal applies. Such a request should be addressed to the offices of the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs, marked for the attention of the National Coordinating Committee Fund, Inc.

February 7, 1939.