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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,
Warburg, Felix M., Colony, 1937-1938.

RABBI SCHWEFEL'S LETTER TO MR. FELIX M. WARBURG

October 5, 1937

My dear Mr. Warburg:

Some members of our Executive Committee have been discussing the desirability of naming one of the new colonies in Upper Galilee in your honor. I have been asked to discuss this matter with you, in the hope that we may obtain your consent to initiate such a proposal.

You may be aware of the fact that Justice Brandeis has recently given permission to name another settlement in Palestine in his honor: the new American colony on the southern tip of Mount Carmel, facing the Mediterranean, will bear the name Ramat Brandeis. Of course there is K'far Brandeis in the Sharon. Likewise there is a village recently named in honor of Henrietta Szold. It is our hope that we may name a colony near the new Weitzmann village in Upper Galilee in your honor. We feel that your record in behalf of Palestine prompts us to want to preserve the name of Felix M. Warburg in one of the new settlements in Galilee.

It will be ~~my~~ my pleasure to meet you to discuss this matter at any time or place that is convenient to you,--and I can be brief.

With best wishes and cordial greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

LJS:SS

LOUIS J. SCHWEFEL

Mr. Felix M. Warburg
Kuhn Loeb & Co.
52 William St.
New York City

MR. WARBURG'S REPLY TO RABBI SCHWEFEL'S LETTER

52 William Street

New York

October 13, 1937

Dear Rabbi Schwefel:

I have your letter of October 5th, advising me that your Committee has been discussing the desirability of naming one of the new colonies in Upper Galilee in my honor.

I deeply appreciate the compliment which you pay me. I feel, however, that the situation in Palestine is so complicated and uncertain, that it would be better not to have my name brought before the public in any new connection at the present time. I prefer to work as quietly as possible behind the scenes, to see whether we can bring about some better solution to the difficult problems facing that part of the world.

Cordially yours,

(signed)

FELIX M. WARBURG

Rabbi Louis J. Schwefel
111 Fifth Avenue - Room 805
New York City

DR. GOLDSTEIN'S LETTER TO MRS. WARBURG

January 7, 1938

Mrs. Felix M. Warburg
1109 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Mrs. Warburg:

Before writing you this letter, I consulted Dr. Cyrus Adler and Mr. Sol M. Stroock, and I have their approval for this communication.

Last October, Rabbi Schwefel, the New York Director of the Jewish National Fund, communicated with your dear departed husband, offering a suggestion in behalf of our Executive Committee, with reference to the establishment of one of the new colonies in Palestine, to bear the name of Felix M. Warburg.

Mr. Warburg's response to our suggestion was, on the whole, encouraging to us. It was our thought to take it up again at some time in the near future. Shortly thereafter, unfortunately, the great bereavement occurred.

We feel at this time that the suggestion, if deemed appropriate by you, may result in a living, abiding memorial in the Holy Land, to a great Jew and a great lover of Palestine.

May I be granted an opportunity to discuss this matter with you?

Sincerely yours,

(signed)

DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN
President

MRS. WARBURG'S REPLY TO DR. GOLDSTEIN'S LETTER

January 11, 1938

Dr. Israel Goldstein, Pres.,
Jewish National Fund of America,
111 Fifth Avenue, N. Y. C.

My dear Dr. Goldstein:

I have received your letter of January 7th and have shown it to my sons.

We have had a number of requests for permission to name various projects after my husband as a memorial to him, and we have decided that we prefer not to have his name used to sponsor even the best of causes. I therefore regret that while we feel honored that you wish to call a colony after him, we feel at present it is better not to give our permission to do so.

With friendly greetings, believe me

Sincerely yours,

(signed)

Frieda Schiff Warburg

January 31st, 1938.

Mendel N. Fisher

Dr. Israel Goldstein

Miss Ingrad Warburg phoned me yesterday to say that she conveyed to Mrs. Warburg my conversation with her in Washington, and that Mrs. Warburg said "yes", giving her consent to our proceeding with a Felix M. Warburg Colony, but that she did not wish to have it done in the form of a campaign. What it means is that we may do it more or less as we did it in the L.D.B. project.

The question now is - can it be done? I think we ought to go into this matter immediately.

Miss Warburg advises not to lose any time, for if it is delayed Mrs. Warburg may change her mind about consenting.

I wish you and Rabbi Schwefel would give some thought to this question. Perhaps Rabbi Schwefel can be helpful in rounding up a few people who would serve as a nucleus for this effort. I should like to discuss it with you and Rabbi Schwefel very soon.

C
O
P
Y

CABLE

MARCH 10, 1938

WISE
ZIONIBURO
LONDON

KAYEMETH THROUGH INGRID OBTAINED MRS. WARBURGS CONSENT
NAME NACHLATH FELIX CONDITION NO OBLIGATIONS WARBURG
FAMILY STOP BLITZ BELIEVES IDEA PRODUCTIVE BANKERS
DIVISION TAPPING NEW MONEY PALESTINE STOP AMERICAN
KAYEMETH WILLING TURN OVER PROJECT UPA INCLUDING LAND
AND COLONIZATION MINIMUM TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND STOP
COLONY AND NAME REQUIRE CONSENT KERENS STOP PLEASE
URGE AND CABLE USSISHKIN AND HAYESOD REPRESENTATIVE
CONSENT

GOLDSTEIN

C
O
P
Y

CABLE

MARCH 13, 1938

KERJESSOD
JERUSALEM (Palestine)

MRS. WARBURG CONSENTED NAMING COLONY FELIX AT INVITATION
KAYMETH BUT NOW SUGGESTED UPA CONDUCT SOLICITATION HOPING
ADDITIONAL FUNDS STOP COULD FELIX NAME BE GIVEN TO ONE OF
COLONY PROJECTS PLANNED THIS YEAR SO THAT FUNDS MIGHT
PROPERLY BE SOUGHT STOP INCOME WOULD BE TREATED AS PART
REGULAR UPA PROCEEDS

MONITOR

Administrative Committee
UPA - March 23, '38

and Mrs. Joseph Stroock has been enlisted. It is expected that a number of women not active before will this year lend their services to the campaign.

He stated that the highlight of the Manhattan campaign will be a dinner in honor of Dr. Silver on May 3rd, on which occasion he will be presented with a check for \$100,000. The dinner is to be utilized for the purpose of getting special gifts not obtained in the trades.

Mr. Blitz called attention to the fact that this year the problem of getting contributions from wealthier Jews is aggravated by the death of Felix M. Warburg, in addition to the unfavorable conditions in Wall Street. Through the American Friends of the Hebrew University, the cooperation of Roger W. Straus and Maurice Wertheim have been secured. Mr. Wertheim has agreed to call a dinner meeting of the Bankers Division in the latter part of April, with a special appeal to be made by Dr. Silver.

He declared that outside of the Bankers Division, the receipts of the UPA in Greater New York are larger than those of the J.D.C., and it was therefore believed that with the acquisition of Mr. Wertheim, the income would be substantially increased. Of the 55 trades organized in Greater New York, Mr. Blitz stated that 28 trades are being conducted jointly on a basis of parity; the balance are independent efforts.

Dr. Silver, supplementing the remarks made by Mr. Blitz informed the committee that in spite of the fact that the U.P.A. could not come to a complete agreement with the J.D.C., the most cordial relationship exists between the officers of both organizations. The U.P.A. had offered combined drives on an agreed basis throughout the country without exception, but that this had not been acceptable to the J.D.C.

FELIX WARBURG COLONY:

Dr. Goldstein reported that some time ago, following the death of Mr. Warburg, the Jewish National Fund considered a plan to establish a tract of land in Palestine that should bear his name. More recently, however, it seemed to the J.N.F. that the U.P.A. could make much more comprehensive use of this idea than the J.N.F., and that the U.P.A. should therefore undertake this project on a large scale. Mrs. Warburg was sounded out through her niece, Ingrid, and it was ascertained that whereas the Warburg family itself could not undertake such a project, there would not be any objection if it were undertaken in a dignified way. Thereupon, Dr. Goldstein cabled to the leaders in London, and the following reply was received:

"LONDON
MARCH 15, 1938

ZIONISTS
SILVER GOLDSTEIN
NEW YORK

UNANIMOUSLY FAVOR WARBURG COLONY MEMORIAL PROVIDED ALL
MONEYS THIS PROJECT FROM NEW SOURCES NOT PREVIOUSLY
TAPPED BY UPA AND NOT DERIVING FROM NORMAL UPA INCOME
AWAITING YOUR FINAL DECISION AFTER YOUR CONSULTATION
WITH WISE LIPSKY

(SIGNED) USSISHKIN BENGURION JAFFE KAPLAN"

Dr. Goldstein declared that inasmuch as Dr. Wise and Mr. Lipsky had first-hand information, it was unnecessary for him to offer any interpretation of the called reply, and he therefore submitted the matter as an opportunity for the U.P.A. to raise substantial funds particularly through the Bankers Division.

Mr. Blitz pointed out that when he discussed the matter with Dr. Goldstein, it was intended that the Zionist Congress should grant authorization for the naming of a colony as the Warburg Colony; it was hoped that a substantial sum would be raised for the establishment of such a colony. However, the reply from London did not meet the purpose intended, inasmuch as the money raised would not be credited to the normal income of the U.P.A.

Dr. Wise expressed the belief that Mr. Ussischkin must have heard from America that the money that would be raised would not be new money but would be money that would normally accrue to the U.P.A.; that the naming of any colony would not suffice for the memory of so great and distinguished a Jew as Felix Warburg, and that if his name were to be used, it would have to be a large undertaking that would measure up to his devotion to Eretz Israel. It therefore occurred to Dr. Wise that Mr. Wertheim be approached with a view to ascertaining whether he would make a special effort among the banking group to raise half a million dollars, with the understanding that this money is to be used for the upbuilding of a settlement that would be a fitting memorial for Mr. Warburg.

The chairman suggested that the entire matter be referred to the Executive Committee for further study. He stated that it was quite possible for the Keren Hayesod, in making its plans for next year, to name a colony "Warburg Colony", without any question being raised as to whether the funds are derived from new sources or from old sources.

After further discussion

It was moved, seconded and carried that the matter be referred to the Executive Committee for further study, and to report back to the Administrative Committee.

HASHOMER HATZAIR:

With reference to the request of Hashomer Hatzair for a subsidy from the U.P.A., Mr. Montor suggested the following proposed reply:

Mr. Yechiel Greenberg
Hashomer Hatzair
305 Broadway
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Greenberg:

This will acknowledge the receipt of your letter of February 23rd, calling upon the United Palestine Appeal to make a subvention to the Hashomer Hatzair Organization for the year 1938.

C
O
P
Y

KEREN HAYESOD
P.D.B. 731
Jerusalem

May 5, 1938

Mr. H. Montor,
United Palestine Appeal,
111 Fifth Ave., Room 703,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Montor:

I am referring to your various cables and letters - especially of March 11th - concerning the Felix M. Warburg colony. The minutes of the United Palestine Appeal of March 23rd wherein the same question was dealt with I received on Sunday preceding the Monday on which, according to your cable of April 9th, the final decision should have been in your hands. I forwarded the extract of these minutes immediately to the Executive, asking Kaplan to see to it that a decision be taken. However, a decision was not taken, and I therefore had nothing to cable to you. But that implies already that there was no prospect of coming to a positive reply, and this is not difficult to explain. The Executive did not see a way of suggesting the naming of a colony in honour of Felix M. Warburg without having definite prospects of getting sufficient additional amounts to guarantee that this new colony would be built up shortly and in such a way as to be a real memorial to the man who was being honoured. They feel that the name of Felix Warburg stands too high to be attached to one of those settlements of ours which have to wait for years before they are put on their feet.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) LEO HERRMANN

June 29/38.

MRS. FELIX M. WARBURG

WOODLANDS

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Silver.

Thank you for your letter and for your offer to come to see me on Saturday, July 9th. I shall be glad to have a talk with you and can easily put an automobile at your disposal, if you will let me know when is the most convenient time for you to motor out here.

With greetings.

Cordially

Frieda Schiff Warburg.

MEMORANDUM

Date July 8, 1938.

To MR. HENRY MONTOR

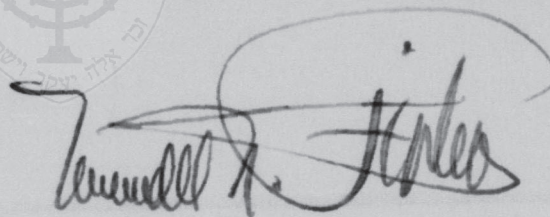
From MR. MENDEL N. FISHER

Subject In re: FELIX M. WARBURG COLONY

I asked Rabbi Schwefel, who conducted the original negotiations with Mr. Warburg, on our behalf, to prepare a summary of the discussions and the correspondence. I am attaching herewith his memorandum, which you will be good enough to turn over to Dr. Silver.

You might supplement the memorandum by quoting the decision the UPA Administrative Committee made when the matter was submitted for discussion. As I recall it, a committee was appointed to go into the question. Please consult the minutes for an accurate record of what transpired.

I also wish to add a copy of Dr. Goldstein's memorandum to me, dated January 31st, conveying the substance of Dr. Goldstein's conversation with Miss Ingrad Warburg.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mendel N. Fisher", is written over a faint circular stamp. The stamp contains the text "AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES" and a menorah symbol.

MNF:RB
Enc.

MEMORANDUM

Date July 8, 1938

To DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

From RABBI LOUIS J. SCHWEFEL

Subject FELIX WARBURG COLONY

Some time in September, 1936, after my return from a year's stay in Palestine, I sent a note to Mr. Felix M. Warburg informing him of my return and suggesting that I would be pleased to have an opportunity to discuss Palestine matters with him. He invited me to his office and discussed the whole Palestine situation with me. He was particularly anxious to have a first-hand report concerning the disturbances in Palestine, the attitude of certain leaders, etc.

At that time, I had occasion to ask for his special assistance in the matter of the tree campaign of the Jewish National Fund and from this subject, we went to a discussion of the possibilities of his permitting the establishment of a Colony bearing his name. He asked me not to press the matter just then in view of the disturbances, but seemed to feel that the suggestion might appeal to him at some other time.

A little more than a year later on October 5, 1937, I sent Mr. Warburg a letter renewing this suggestion and received a reply dated October 13, 1937. (Copies of both letters are attached).

A few days after Mr. Warburg wrote me, he passed away. I discussed the exchange of correspondence with Dr. Israel Goldstein and suggested that he consult with Dr. Cyrus Adler and Mr. Sol Strock as to the steps to be taken that would lead most readily to the accomplishment of such a project. Dr. Goldstein consulted both of these gentlemen, who seemed to indicate that there were fair possibilities for achieving this purpose and suggested that Mrs. Warburg be apprized of our hopes in this matter. (Attached are copies of the exchange of correspondence between Dr. Goldstein and Mrs. Warburg).

About two weeks later, Dr. Goldstein and Miss Ingrid Warburg had occasion to discuss the matter and Miss Warburg offered to renew conversations with Mrs. Warburg on this subject, after which, Miss Ingrid Warburg telephoned to Dr. Goldstein stating that Mrs. Warburg said "Yes", giving her consent to our proceeding with a Felix M. Warburg Colony, but that she did not wish to have it done in the form of a campaign. Miss Warburg also advised that we lose no time in taking the initial steps to assure the creation of the project.

After some private negotiations, we called a little conference at which the following were present: Dr. Goldstein, Mr. Lipsky, Mr. Blitz, Mr. Fisher and myself; and decided to send a cable obtaining the consent of the Keren Kayemeth and the Keren Hayesod. Since this was the time of the Actions' Committee meeting in London, we sent the cable to Dr. Wise as follows:

KAYEMETH THROUGH INGRID OBTAINED MRS WARBURGS CONSENT NAME NACHLATH
FELIX CONDITION NO OBLIGATIONS WARBURG FAMILY STOP BLITZ BELIEVES IDEA
PRODUCTIVE BANKERS DIVISION TAPPING NEW MONEY PALESTINE STOP AMERICAN
KAYEMETH WILLING TURN OVER PROJECT UPA INCLUDING LAND AND COLONIZATION
MINIMUM TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND STOP COLONY AND NAME REQUIRE CONSENT KERENS
STOP PLEASE URGE AND CABLE USSISHKIN AND HAYESOD REPRESENTATIVE CONSENT
GOLDSTEIN

On March 15th, we received the following cable in reply:

X UNANIMOUSLY FAVOUR WARBURG COLONY MEMORIAL PROVIDED ALL
MONIES THIS PROJECT FROM NEW SOURCES NOT PREVIOUSLY TAPPED
BY UPA AND NOT DERIVING FROM NORMAL UPA INCOME AWAITING
YOUR FINAL DECISION AFTER YOUR CONSULTATION WITH WISE
LIPSKY.

USSISHKIN BENGURION JAFFE KAPLAN





Friday ^{Canceled}

WOODLANDS

WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK

My dear Mr. Pier.

My car will await you
at the 42nd street entrance of
the Hotelory mode at 10 P.M.
To morrow Saturday & look
forward to seeing you on then.

With greetings

Cordially

Hieda Schiff Varney.

[Undated]

" NEW YORK'S BEST LOCATED HOTEL "

FRANK J. CROHAN, PRESIDENT



42 ND STREET AT GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL

New York City

Prospects for Warburg colony:

Henry Littleton

Herbert Lehman

Paul Baerwald

Lessing Rosenwald

William Rosenwald

John Schiff

George Backer

Albert D. Lasker

Max Epstein

Maurice Wertheim

Benjamin Buttenweiser

Irving Lehman

Nathan Straus

Samuel D. Lidesdorf

Ira Sobol