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75

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United Jewish Appeal, United Palestine Appeal, national
budgeting, 1941-1942.

TWO DECADES OF HISTADRUTH

IN THE TWENTY YEARS OF ITS DEVELOPMENT, THE Palestine Labor Federation (*Histadruth*) rose to a membership of over 100,000 and its part in the building of the National Home is inestimable. But the *Histadruth* has given something more to the Jewish laboring masses in the Diaspora, namely, the vision of an integrated Jewish man.

The orthodox Jew in the Diaspora did not need the orthodox in Palestine to show him by example a life in which religious beliefs were put into daily practice. But the radical and the free thinker in the Diaspora, the one whose Jewishness was secular, who substituted religion with the ideals of socialism, nationalism and freedom—this radical has not succeeded in building anywhere in the Diaspora a place where his ideals would find full expression in daily life.

The Jewish workers in Palestine not only profess socialism—they live it. The members of the *kvutza* do not advocate communism—they practice it. They do not extol the idea of nationalism—they live it. They do not sing the praises of Jewish culture—they are part of it. They do not sermonize about the continuity of Jewish history—they make it. In their working days and their holidays, in their individual and their common interests, they have drawn a new design for a full Jewish life, as Jewish in its secularity as was that of their ancestors in its religiosity. This is probably why the gulf between orthodoxy and radicalism is so easily bridged by those elements to whom Palestine is more the Homeland of the present and the future than the Holy Land of the past.

That gift of the *Histadruth* to the Diaspora—the vision of the integrated Jewish man—is yet to play its part in the moulding of the character of the new Jew for generations to come.

NO CENTRALIZED BUDGETING!

An Editorial

THE IDEA OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS CAME FROM the belief in the democratic management of Jewish affairs. The Community Council was to be the elected body of the Jews in every locality and to take up all Jewish interests. The National Assembly as the supreme representative body of American Jewry was implicit in the conception of Community Councils.

The idea was well received by those to whom Jewish life in America is not something isolated, but is part of the continued existence of a people through many ages and in many lands; those who believed that the strength of a people was measured by the will of the many rather than by the bank accounts of the few. That was a fatal handicap to the development of Community Councils. Philanthropy being the principal Jewish activity, it was possible for leaders who overwhelmed the people by their wealth or prestige to exercise a paralyzing influence upon the mass movement for self-assertion.

There were other factors that hampered the progress of the Community Council idea. The Jewish labor leadership of the Left shared with the philanthropic leaders of the Right a common hatred and fear of nationalism. This resulted in a close union of the two. There was also Palestine, whose needs increased with the spread of persecutions in Europe and its usefulness in Jewish life. Palestine needed more and more money to fulfill its destiny. With the same half-hearted recognition philanthropy accorded to Palestine since the Balfour Declaration, it offered Zionism a partnership in raising funds. Zionism joined in this marriage of convenience and even

agreed to subdue its nationalist aspirations for the sake of meeting the material needs of Palestine.

The leadership in philanthropy was well aware of its own strength and of the weakness of its democratic opponents. Recognizing the danger presented by the appealing idea of Community Councils, philanthropy decided to "edit" and reshape it. Instead of an all-inclusive, democratic Community Council, philanthropic Community Chests and Welfare Funds were born. In place of a democratic National Assembly, representative of all interests in American Jewry, there came into being a general assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Chests. These were agencies of financial control. Through them, ideologies could be kept within bounds.

Was the victory of philanthropy complete? Was its leadership able to exercise unchallenged domination? Not quite. In many communities there are nationalist and Zionist elements who have a great deal of influence. Then there is the field of defense of Jewish rights, which lay outside the area of philanthropic control. The experiment called General Jewish Council, which gave an opportunity to philanthropy to exercise control in the field of defense, proved an utter failure. The American Jewish Congress and the idea of World Jewish Congress were making headway in following and in influence. The B'nai B'rith could not be relied upon by philanthropy for an unquestioning support, for its ranks were "infested" with Zionists and nationalists. The fundraising union with Zionists was only a business contract which had to be renewed every year. Although Zionism had surrendered a great deal for the sake of

the contract, it was far from being subordinated. It was always violating the agreement in the campaign program. The Zionists could not be controlled. But it looked like a steady march forward.

This steady march was halted by what amounted to a revolt on the part of the Zionists. The official statement of the dissolution of the United Jewish Appeal seems to be an amiable termination of a business contract. Actually, it registered the beginning of a revolution all along the line. The communities which were to be spared the battle of ideas by the contract for joint campaigns were to become again the battleground of opposing conceptions of Jewish life. Jews in general, lulled into mental indolence by the pretense of unity, were to be reawakened to a consciousness of causes and purposes, relations and ratios. They would be exposed to propaganda, meetings, speech-making, calculated to arouse thought and the dangerous self-assertion that comes with independent thinking. There was menace in this threatened independent approach to the communities. Philanthropy realized that this danger must be averted. If it could not be done by reconstituting the joint campaign which had been dissolved, then a declaration of war might bring the leaders of the revolt to their senses.

THE DECISION of the Board of Directors of the Council of Welfare Funds to establish a National Budgeting Committee is nothing less than a declaration of war against the Zionist movement, and more specifically the United Palestine Appeal. The agreement to submit the proposal to a referendum of Welfare Funds merely means that the top layer leadership is going through the motions of democracy in order to register the approval of their local constituents. In effect, the decision is an ultimatum to the groups behind the United Palestine Appeal: either you will be satisfied with the share we are ready to give you, or we will thwart your efforts in the local Welfare Funds; so that either way you will not get a cent more than what we are ready to give you.

On the surface it may appear confusing, for the contract was terminated not with the Council of Welfare Funds but with the Joint Distribution Committee. In reality, it is all very clear. The leaders of the Joint may or may not appear on the letterhead of the Council of Welfare Funds. But there is a solidarity of class interest and a bond of understanding which makes philanthropy in all its branches—

whether Joint, National Refugee Service, American Jewish Committee or Council of Welfare Funds—in complete agreement when it comes to action.

What the Jews of America are now facing in the referendum submitted to the Welfare Funds is a new battle between conflicting conceptions of Jewish life and its future in the United States. This is not the first battle of its kind. It was fought out in the first American Jewish Congress, and resulted then in a compromise. Five years ago the issue was faced when American Jews were called to participate in the organization of the World Jewish Congress. Three years ago the battle raged around the referendum submitted by the American Jewish Congress to the Jews of America on the fundamental question of public responsibility for Jewish public affairs.

The seeming disadvantage of the national forces in the present battle arises from the fact that the proposal for a National Budgeting Committee is not being submitted to the masses of the people, but only to the few who hold key positions within the local Welfare Funds. Upon the Zionists and the democratic individuals and groups in the communities now falls the task of taking up the cudgels for a new order in American Jewry. All the energies accumulated during the years of the truce will now be released for the decisive encounter. Although the masses will not be called upon to vote directly upon the question, their opinion and support mean a great deal. Public opinion is a powerful weapon. It is up to us to get it aligned on our side. The American Jewish Congress, being especially concerned with bringing about the fullest and most democratic expression of Jewish communal effort, has recorded its opposition to the proposal for national budgeting as "a negation of community responsibility and a contradiction of the democratic process." The Jewish press has condemned it as a dictatorial measure, as an attempt to seize communal power. The Jews in every Welfare Fund community must be aroused to realize the dangerous implications of a centralized budgetary control which is designed to fasten a dictatorship over Jewish life in the hands of a philanthropic group.

America is being transformed into an arsenal to defend democratic freedom against dictatorial aggression. It is time for the democracy within American Jewry to mobilize against its own philanthropic dictators.

We regard the issues raised by the proposal for National Budgeting to be of supreme importance to Jewish life in America. We have pointed out the dangerous implications of the proposal which has already aroused a serious division of opinion among leaders of public life. The issues transcend in importance the vote on the specific proposal, which will be cast by a small group in each Welfare Fund community. A public discussion is the democratic way to arrive at a consensus of opinion and we invite our readers to communicate their views for publication.

—THE EDITORS.

Egy for Dr Silver

June 30, 1941

Mr. Jacob Blaustein
910 American Bldg.
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Mr. Blaustein:

I trust you will pardon the long delay in sending you the draft of a statement which I promised to send you. I have been in Atlantic City with Mrs. Silver, who has been recuperating from her operation. I am today here in New York seeing my boys off to Camp Wigwam and also attending a meeting of the United Jewish Appeal.

The enclosed draft follows closely the resolutions which were adopted by the Executive of the Council last month. I suggest in this draft changing the name of the committee from the National Advisory Budgeting Committee to the Extension and Research Committee, to correspond more accurately to the type of service which, under the resolutions of the Council, this committee is to do in the immediate future. The scope of the activities of the committee follows exactly the outline of the Council resolution.

I have made but one definite suggestion in the last paragraph to allay the suspicion in the minds of many of our friends that the Council is just postponing national budgeting to 1942, now that the 1941 campaigns of the American Jewish communities are nearly all over. I suggest that the new committee carry on its work of fact-finding over a period of at least three years, at the end of which it will be fairly apparent whether there is need for national advisory budgeting or not. This, as you will see, does not put the Council on record as abandoning national budgeting, merely postponing it for a later date when more data will be available on the basis of accumulated experience.

I shall be very pleased to receive your reaction to this suggestion which is, of course, entirely unofficial but which I believe will pave the way for a satisfactory reconciliation of divergent views which have been so sharply defined and so conflicting during the past year. Should this suggestion be acceptable I should be very happy to sit down with you and talk over the personnel of the Extension and Research Committee, if you will wish me to.

- 2 -

Mr. Jacob Blaustein

June 30, 1941

Permit me to assure you again of my deep interest in the continued progress and helpfulness of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:JB

P.S. The material on the Jewish Telegraphic Agency I will send you when I get back home.

Encl.

June 30, 1941

In view of the substantial opposition which was recorded against the proposal to set up a National Advisory Budgeting Service and the large number of agencies and communities which failed to express themselves on the subject, the Board of Directors of the Council deemed it advisable not to proceed at this time with this service. There was, however, an almost unanimous desire expressed by the American Jewish communities for an extension of the fact-finding services of the Council and for a more intensive and analytical survey of the agencies which appeal to them for support. In order to meet this high universal request, the Board of the Council has decided to establish a special committee to be known as the "Extension and Research Committee" which shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors and which should consist of not less than nine and no more than fifteen persons. This committee shall supervise the expansion of the fact-finding services of the Council and shall approve of all reports which will be transmitted to member agencies.

The Extension and Research Committee will address itself to an examination and analysis of the organizations engaged in overseas, Palestine or refugee service, that function in the same or related fields of service or that supplement or relate to the work of the UJA organizations. The Council Extension and Research Committee shall work collaterally with, and supplement, the work of the Allotment Committee and the Inquiry of the UJA, and will at all times hold itself in readiness to cooperate with them.

Agencies in other fields shall also be considered for study.

Nothing herein contained shall limit the Council from furnishing the services heretofore rendered.

The fact-finding and analytical procedures to be undertaken will include

- (a) Intensive examination of all basic financial records, including those of the ultimate spending organizations,
- (b) Collection of periodic service data for all organizations and subsidiaries,
- (c) Study and description of needs met by the organization and by other resources in the same field,
- (d) Examination of administrative and fund-raising processes,
- (e) Examination of results of the services provided by organizations,
- (f) Efficiency in organization activities, overlapping of programs and other qualitative factors.

Reports issued on agencies will be limited to analysis and descriptions of functional services, administration and fund-raising procedures, the problems with which the organization deals, and the results of services rendered.

If and when the Committee on Extension and Research finds, on the basis of its experience over a period of at least three years, that the extended fact-finding services of the Council do not meet all the needs of the Jewish communities of America and that an Advisory National Budgeting Service is indicated, the Committee may by a 2/3 vote make such a recommendation to the Board of the Council, and the Board of the Council may vote upon it subject to the approval of a ~~special~~ meeting of the Council.

Draft of letter to Mr. Jacob Blaustein

In view of the substantial opposition which was recorded against the proposal to set up a National Advisory Budgeting Service and the large number of agencies and communities which failed to express themselves on the subject, the Board of Directors of the Council deemed it advisable not to proceed at this time with this service. There was, however, an almost unanimous desire expressed by the American Jewish communities for an extension of the fact-finding services of the Council and for a more intensive and analytical survey of the agencies which appeal to them for support. In order to meet this high universal request, the Board of the Council has decided to establish a special committee to be known as the "Extension and Research Committee" which shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors and which should consist of not less than nine and no more than fifteen persons. This committee shall supervise the expansion of the fact-finding services of the Council and shall approve of all reports which will be transmitted to member agencies.

The Extension and Research Committee will address itself ~~in 1941~~ to an examination and analysis of the organizations engaged in overseas, Palestine or refugee service, that function in the same or related fields of service or that supplement or relate to the work of the UJA organizations; but this limitation shall not prevent the Extension and Research Committee from considering and reporting on the UJA agencies should necessity arise. The Council Extension and Research Committee ~~for 1941~~ shall work collaterally with, and supplement, the work of the Allotment Committee and the Inquiry of the UJA, and will at all times hold itself in readiness to cooperate with them.

Agencies in other fields shall also be considered for study if staff resources are available.

Nothing herein contained shall limit the Council from furnishing the services heretofore rendered.

The fact-finding and analytical procedures to be undertaken will include:

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- (b) Collection of periodic service data for all organizations and subsidiaries,
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Reports issued on agencies will be limited to analysis and descriptions of functional services, administration and fund raising procedures, the problems with which the organization deals, and the results of services rendered.

If and when the Committee on Extension and Research finds, on the basis of its experience over a period of at least three years, that the extended fact-finding services of the Council do not meet all the needs of the Jewish communities of America and that an Advisory National Budgeting Service is indicated, the Committee may by a 2/3 vote make such a recommendation to the Board of the Council, and the Board of the Council may vote upon it subject to the approval of a biennial meeting of the Council.

C
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P
Y

JACOB BLAUSTEIN
American Building
Baltimore, Md.

September 3, 1941

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

First, I must ask you to excuse this delay in giving my reactions to the draft of statement incorporating your ideas as to changes the Council should make in its program for extended budget services. As my secretary wrote you, I have been away practically all of the time, busily engaged, among other things, in matters pertaining to the National Emergency, - and I did not want to reply until I had had sufficient opportunity to give careful thought to your suggested revisions.

I hardly need tell you that I am sincerely appreciative of your efforts to find a basis for cooperation in the situation.

As you know, before our talk in Baltimore, the Council already had adopted its resolution and had made announcement thereof to its member agencies.

I assume, therefore, that the purpose of our talks and correspondence is to see whether you and I can agree, unofficially, on some revisions which you would recommend to those of your associates who oppose the present plan and I to the members of the Council's Committee on Referendum; and if they concur, you and I would jointly submit same to the Board of Directors of the Council.

In this connection, I think we must recognize that any revisions approved by the Board of the Council could not be announced in the nature of a new statement - as if one had not already been issued - but instead in the nature of specific definitions or revisions to the statement as issued.

It seems to me that the scope of the services that you propose and some of the procedure you suggest need further be defined and clarified. Also, your statement omits a number of essential details from the Council Report, and I am not clear as to your reasons for these omissions.

As a step towards a better understanding of the points involved, I am outlining those on which agreement might be possible and those that need further consideration, as follows:

1. Relation of Action to the Referendum

The Report, as adopted by the Board, and the President's transmittal letter to the Member Agencies of the Council indicated there was substantial opposition to some of the proposals in the original referendum. It was in a desire to meet this opposition that the restrictions were imposed on the services originally proposed. Specifically, the studies were to be limited so that recommendations on budgets and quotas would not be offered, nor would any judgment be advanced on relative needs of individual organizations in the same field of work or on relative needs between various fields in Jewish effort.

In this connection, please note the following from the statement on Page 11 of the June 30, 1941 issue of the Council's 'Notes and News':

"Because of the organized opposition to some of the proposals advanced at the Atlanta Assembly and the befogging effect of the debate on the issues, the Board of Directors voted not to proceed with those parts of the proposal about which there was the greatest question.

"The result showed a small majority in favor of the Referendum proposals but to meet the views of the agencies that voted in opposition, the major recommendations for advisory budgeting service will not be inaugurated. The results of the studies undertaken, therefore, will not include any direct advice on amounts or any suggestions for specific distribution of local funds. Instead, the Council will seek to prepare for member agencies more informative and more intensive studies of the finances and programs of agencies appealing for welfare fund support."

Your suggested statement reads: "In view of the substantial opposition which was recorded against the proposal to set up a National Advisory Budgeting Service and the large number of agencies and communities which failed to express themselves on the subject, the Board of Directors of the Council deemed it advisable not to proceed at this time with this service." *of Adv. Budget.*

The service as proposed contained a number of specific items. The Council decided to go ahead with some of them and not to adopt others which were controversial. Obviously, any revision in the statement on which both of us could agree would necessarily have to make this point clear; otherwise, Member Agencies would have a right to feel that the statement was evasive or untrue.

2. Name of Committee

I do not consider the name of the Committee particularly important except as it describes the contemplated services. The difficulty is changing a name, once it has been announced - and the 'National

Advisory Budget Committee' has been. The Board followed the term used in the first report of the Committee on the Study of National Budgetary Proposals. Undoubtedly, if we can agree on the other points, we will be able to do so on this one.

You suggest 'Extension and Research Committee', which seems somewhat indefinite. As I sense it, your principal objection is to the implication of the word 'Advisory'. Perhaps it might be satisfactory all around to drop 'Advisory' from the present title and name the Committee the 'Committee on National Budget Research Service' or the 'National Budget Research Committee'.

3. Restrictions and Limitations of the Service

You retain the description of the fact-finding and analytical procedures as outlined in the Council's statement but you omit the following sentences which I think are essential to the preparation and understanding of the services now to be rendered:

- (a) "The reports in 1941 will not attempt to translate evaluation in terms of total budget requirements and no specific recommendations will be offered to member agencies on approved minimum or maximum financial needs of any organization. If as a result of the studies undertaken, the Committee concludes that it is possible to arrive at individual or relative budget evaluations, it shall so report to the Board of Directors of the Council."
- (b) "It shall have the authority to appoint sub-committees on specific organizations or fields of service and to appoint advisory committees including representatives of organizations being studied."

Since you include the outline of procedures to be undertaken (Points a to f, inclusive, in the Council statement) and since there has been so much talk about 'evaluations', the elimination of the first section above may lead to misunderstanding and confusion. It is intended now to limit the extent of conclusions reached in the process of research so that the reports will not concretely state amounts which local agencies might use as a basis for determining their own financial responsibilities. This, then, should be stated. Otherwise, the intent is not clear and provides a possibility for fiscal recommendations which the Board felt it best to restrict at this time. u.u

If you fear that the second sentence, under (a) above, implies - as was not intended - that even in 1941 the Committee could make recommendations to local agencies with respect to individual or relative evaluations, that sentence might be left out. 7

It is believed that the sub-committees and advisory committees, representing the organizations studied - the appointment of which you omit - would be a safeguard to help in reaching agreement between the research studies and the organizations on matters of fact and interpretation of fact. ✓

4. Additional Staff Required

You leave out Section (2) under 'Specific Recommendations', Page 3, of the Council Report relative additional staff that will be required; also the words 'if staff resources are available' from the first sentence of Page 4 reading 'Agencies in other fields shall also be considered for study if staff resources are available'. I am not clear as to why you want these references eliminated. e.g.

5. Inclusion of the UJA Agencies ----- Program Beyond 1941

You have eliminated reference to budgetary studies of UJA organizations. Obviously, the Inquiry of the UJA will perform this function in 1941. The UJA is, however, a temporary agency on a year-by-year basis. With this in mind, the following was inserted in the Council Report, Page 3: "But this limitation shall not prevent the National Advisory Budget Committee from considering and reporting on the UJA agencies should necessity arise." We know today that the UJA agreement has been signed, and an allctment committee appointed, and an inquiry planned. These stages had not been reached at the time of the Board meeting. There is, therefore, at this time no great need for the above sentence. But there is need for Section (4) of the Council Report 'Program Beyond 1941'. b.c.

If you will read that paragraph carefully, you will see that the Board has made no commitments for continuation of the extended studies of organizations beyond 1941 and that the Board must decide on the fields of work and organizations to be studied and the functions of the budget research to be undertaken. Should there be no UJA or inquiry on UJA agencies in 1942 or thereafter, the Board will have to decide - without any commitment - as to the assumption of responsibility for continuing the inquiry on the work of the JDC, UPA and NRS. Your statement does not cover this contingency. It assumes either that the inquiry of the UJA will be continued for three more years or that if the UJA is not continued the JDC, UPA and NRS are not to be included in the budget studies of the Council. This point should be clarified.

6. Re: Last Paragraph of your Statement and "Program Beyond 1941"

I assume the last paragraph of your statement is intended as a substitute for Section (4) of the Council Report 'Program Beyond 1941'.

Under the previous sub-heading, I have discussed somewhat the need for, and intent of, this Section, 'Program Beyond 1941'.

Your revision seems to be based on the fears expressed by some of your associates concerning plans for the budget service in 1942 or some other future year. I can understand how the referendum debate has provided the soil for growth of these fears - but I know them to be groundless; there are no plans set beyond 1941.

It is the expectation that consideration of future programs and procedures will be based on the experience with the initial studies to be made under the auspices of the Committee. This, by the way, makes it all the more imperative that the Committee incorporate the approach and points of view of you and your associates. ✓

Frankly, the last paragraph of your statement does not appear to me in the nature of a 'compromise' - and I believe that upon second thought you will agree with that observation. If that revision were adopted, the opposition would not only gain everything they wanted in the first instance, i.e., 'no evaluations' for the time being (subject to change as might be deemed necessary or desirable by the Council), but an improvement on it from their standpoint by absolutely tying the hands of the Council for a period of at least three years so that it could not move in the meantime. ✓

Your revision would close the door to, and place obstacles in the way of, any extension of budget service for at least three years, and would impose restrictions that would prevent even minor changes during that time. In my opinion, that is neither fair nor practicable. Certainly, it cannot be deemed sound or proper procedure to check the Council in being flexible enough to meet changing needs. The Board of Directors meets three times a year and the General Assembly meets annually. Your revision would be restricting action of these bodies for a very long period. 20

I hope my explanation of what is intended by, and the limitations on, Section (4) 'Program Beyond 1941', of the Council Report will satisfy you that it should be left in. If it does not, we should make another effort to get together on this point.

I have endeavored to approach your suggestions objectively and I hope you will give additional consideration to the points I raise. I am eager - as I know you are - to work out something mutually satisfactory; and believe this should be possible. To my mind the issue and differences have been magnified far beyond their true proportions.

I understand the Council expects to hold a Board Meeting about the last of this month. It would be good if you and I could reconcile our views in sufficient time to take such other steps as may be necessary and be prepared to submit recommendations to the Board at that meeting.

I await your further advice. Perhaps you would prefer we have another talk, at which time we also could discuss Committee personnel.

(Signed)

Sincerely,
Blaustein

JACOB BLAUSTEIN

AMERICAN BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.

September 5, 1941

Subject: JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

For the reasons given in my letter to you of last Wednesday, I trust you also will pardon this delay in commenting on your complaints about the JTA.

I have reviewed the copies you sent me of your December 28, 1941, January 9, 1941 and January 28, 1941 letters to JTA (which, as requested, I am returning herewith). I have discussed this situation with Mr. Landau, who also has shown me your letter to him of June 4, 1941 and his reply of June 9, 1941.

Without getting into too detailed explanations, I can advise as follows:

1. Re: Your December 28, 1941 Letter:

I understand that upon his return from South America in January, Mr. Landau had a talk with you about the report in the December 27, 1940 JTA bulletin pertaining to the dissolution of the UJA, and that at that time you pointed out to him that JTA also should have obtained a statement from the UPA regarding that of the Council and should have included it in the same issue. I notice the final paragraph of your letter contains the sentence "You could easily have checked up on your facts by calling up the offices of the UPA".

Mr. Landau considered your point well taken, as do I. He therefore instructed the JTA editor that thereafter, when a statement is received in which an organization is criticized, a statement, wherever possible, also should be obtained from the criticized organization.

Incidentally, as Landau wrote you in his June 9th reply, it is the following of that course which formed the basis of your June 4th objection as to the handling by JTA of a statement issued by the 'Committee on Referendum'. In that instance, the statement in question made a vicious attack on the very integrity of the Council and it was only fair and proper to include a statement of the Council's position in the same issue.

And thinking in terms of the future: I think--and I believe from our talk in Baltimore that you will agree--that that policy, wherever practically possible, should continue.

2. Re: Your January 9, 1941 Letter:

Seven Arts is an organization with which I do not have direct contact. However, I am informed that a correction was sent out by Seven Arts and that the particular paragraph from the article by Fred A. Stern was eliminated and, as far as is known, did not appear in any publication.

3. Re: Your January 28, 1941 letter:

This is a lengthy subject,--but I understand that Landau saw you after the report of the Washington conference of the UPA appeared in the JTA January 27, 1941. He hoped that he had convinced you that even though you felt reporter Talty's report was wrong in several particulars, nevertheless that he rendered it in all good faith. As Landau told you, Talty, an experienced reporter, covered the UPA conference for JTA. He is not a Jew, has no preconceived notions or prejudices regarding various forces in Jewish life, and believed he was doing a careful reporting job. From your viewpoint, he made mistakes--and we regret the differences occurred.

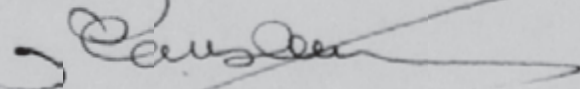
I join now--as I did when I saw you--in Mr. Landau's request that you withdraw your resignation as a member of the JTA Board. In this connection, I concur in, and repeat below, the last paragraph of Landau's June 9th letter:

"While some incidents may have created some doubt in your mind about impartiality, I can only assure you that they were inadvertent and that we honestly strive to adhere to a policy of objectivity and impartiality. Our task is extremely difficult. Our community is terribly divided and each group expects from us an impartiality which is frequently tantamount to a 100% identification with their specific policy. If you were in my place for a few weeks I have no doubt you would comprehend with how many difficulties our task is beset."

In all honesty, we cannot undertake to promise you that there will not be other occasions when you may disagree with JTA's handling of certain items. We can promise you that JTA will aim to be objective and impartial, and we express the hope that the occasions requiring your criticism will be as nearly eliminated as possible.

I would be happy to have you advise me shortly that you will continue as a Board member.

Sincerely,



jb/d
Encls.

Draft of letter to Mr. Blaustein

In view of the substantial opposition which was recorded against the proposal to set up a National Advisory Budgeting Service and the large number of agencies and communities which failed to express themselves on the subject, the Board of Directors of the Council deemed it advisable not to proceed at this time with this service. There was, however, an almost unanimous desire expressed by the American Jewish communities for an extension of the fact-finding services of the Council and for a more intensive and analytical survey of the agencies which appeal to them for support. In order to meet this high universal request, the Board of the Council has decided to establish a special committee to be known as the "Extension and Research Committee" which shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors and which should consist of not less than nine and no more than fifteen persons. This committee shall supervise the expansion of the fact-finding services of the Council and shall approve of all reports which will be transmitted to member agencies.

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Nothing herein contained shall limit the Council from furnishing the services heretofore rendered.

The fact-finding and analytical procedures to be undertaken will include:

- (a) Intensive examination of all basic financial records, including those of the ultimate spending organizations,
- (b) Collection of periodic service data for all organizations and subsidiaries,
- (c) Study and description of needs met by the organization and by other resources in the same field,
- (d) Examination of administrative and fund ~~raising~~ raising processes,
- (e) Examination of results of the services provided by organizations,
- (f) Efficiency in organization activities, overlapping of programs and other qualitative factors.

Reports issued on agencies will be limited to analysis and descriptions of functional services, administration and fund raising procedures, the problems with which the organization deals, and the results of services rendered.

If and when the Committee on Extension and Research finds, on the basis of its experience over a period of at least three years, that the extended fact-finding services of the Council do not meet all the needs of the Jewish communities of America and that an Advisory National Budgeting Service is indicated, the Committee may by a 2/3 vote make such a recommendation to the Board of the Council, and the Board of the Council may vote upon it subject to the approval of a biennial meeting of the Council.

Tentative Draft

September 27, 1941.

Despite the fact that a small majority of the Council's member agencies which voted on the subject favored the full proposals for a national advisory budget service, in view of the substantial opposition which was recorded against the full proposals and the number of agencies which failed to express themselves on the subject, the Board of Directors of the Council deems it advisable, for the sake of unity and to insure the full cooperation of the various national organizations and also in recognition of the practical problems involved, to proceed at this time with those phases of the proposed service that are not of a controversial character.

There was the almost unanimous desire expressed by the member agencies for extension of the fact-finding services of the Council and for a more intensive and analytical survey of the organizations which appeal to the communities for support.

Until such time as the Board of the Council may decide otherwise;

1. Reports issued on organizations will be limited to analysis and descriptions of functional services, administration and fund-raising procedures, the problems with which the organization deals, and the results of services rendered.
2. Reports will not attempt to translate evaluations in terms of total budget requirements and no specific recommendations will be offered to member agencies on approved minimum or maximum financial needs of any organization.

The Board of Directors of the Council has decided to establish a special committee to be known as the "National Budget Research Committee" which shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board

of Directors and which shall consist of not less than nine and not more than fifteen persons. The Committee shall supervise the expansion of these services of the Council, shall have responsibility for all of its studies, serve in an editorial capacity, and shall approve all reports to be transmitted to member agencies.

The Committee shall have the authority to appoint sub-committees on specific organizations or fields of service, and to appoint advisory committees including representatives of organizations being studied.

The Committee will address itself to an examination and analysis of the organizations engaged in overseas, Palestine or refugee service that function in the same or related fields of service or that supplement or relate to the work of the UJA. organizations. The Committee XXXX shall
XX
XX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX work collaterally with, and supplement the work of, the Allotment Committee and the Inquiry of the UJA, and will at all times hold itself in readiness to cooperate with them. Should there be no independent Inquiry conducted by the UJA in any year, or should the UJA be dissolved, the Committee will undertake the examination and analysis of the agencies comprising the UJA on the same basis as it will study other agencies. The Committee shall study agencies in all other fields which appeal for funds to the Jewish communities when staff resources are available.

The present staff of the Council shall be supplemented by such additional regular or special staff as may be required to conduct the services herein contemplated including research, accounting, and clerical personnel.

The fact-finding and analytical procedure to be undertaken will include:

- a) Intensive examination of all basic financial records, including those of the ultimate spending organizations,
- b) Collection of periodic service data for all organizations and subsidiaries,
- c) Study and description of needs met by the organization and by other resources in the same field,
- d) Examination of administrative and fund-raising processes,
- e) Examination of results of the services provided by organizations,
- f) Efficiency in organization activities, overlapping of programs and other qualitative factors.

If and when the Committee finds that the services of the Council as herein outlined do not meet all the requirements of its member agencies and that full national advisory budget service as originally proposed is desirable, the Committee may by a majority vote make a recommendation for the latter to the Board of the Council, whereupon the Board of the Council may vote upon it.

Final
Tentative Draft (*Revision of Draft of September 27, 1941*)
September 27, 1941.

Despite the fact that a small majority of the Council's member agencies which voted on the subject favored the full proposals for a national advisory budget service, in view of the substantial opposition which was recorded against the full proposals and the ~~number~~ number of agencies which failed to express themselves on the subject, the Board of Directors of the Council deems it advisable, for the sake of unity and to insure the full cooperation of the various national organizations and also in recognition of the ^{mutual} ~~practical~~ problems involved, to proceed at this time with those phases of the proposed service that are not of a controversial character.

There was the almost unanimous desire expressed by the member agencies for extension of the fact-finding services of the Council and for a more intensive and analytical survey of the organizations which appeal to the communities for support.

Until such time as ~~the Board of~~ the Council may decide otherwise:

1. Reports issued on organizations will be limited to analysis and descriptions of functional services, administration and fund-raising procedures, the problems with which the organization ^{deals}, and the results of services rendered.
2. Reports will not attempt to translate ~~expressions~~ ^{findings} in terms of total budget requirements and no specific recommendations will be offered to member agencies on approved minimum or maximum financial needs of any organization.

3. The Board of Directors of the Council has decided to establish a special committee to be known as the ~~"National"~~ Budget Research Committee" ✓ which shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board

of Directors and which shall consist of not less than nine and not more than fifteen persons. The Committee shall supervise the expansion of these services of the Council, shall have responsibility for all of its studies, serve in an editorial capacity, and shall approve all reports to be transmitted to member agencies.

The Committee shall have the authority to appoint sub-committees on specific organizations or fields of service, and to appoint advisory committees including representatives of organizations being studied.

The Committee will address itself ^{initially} to an examination and analysis of the organizations engaged in overseas, Palestine or refugee service that function in the same or related fields of service or that supplement or relate to the work of the UJA. organizations. The Committee ~~will~~ shall ~~address itself initially to an examination and analysis of the organizations engaged in overseas, Palestine or refugee service that function in the same or related fields~~ work collaterally with, and supplement the work of, the Allotment Committee and the Inquiry of the UJA, and will at all times hold itself in readiness to cooperate with them. Should there be no independent Inquiry conducted by the UJA in any year, or should the UJA be dissolved, the Committee will undertake the examination and analysis of the agencies comprising the UJA on the same basis as it will study other agencies. The Committee shall ^{also} study agencies in all other fields which appeal for funds to the Jewish communities ~~when staff resources are available~~ ^{as soon as possible}.

The present staff of the Council shall be supplemented by such additional regular or special staff as may be required to conduct the services herein contemplated including research, accounting, and clerical personnel.

The fact-finding and analytical procedure to be undertaken will include:

- a) Intensive examination of all basic financial records, including those of the ultimate spending organizations,
- b) Collection of periodic service data for all organizations and subsidiaries,
- c) Study and description of needs met by the organization and by other resources in the same field,
- d) Examination of administrative and fund-raising processes,
- e) Examination of results of the services provided by organizations,
- f) Efficiency in organization activities, overlapping of programs and other qualitative factors.

If and when the Committee finds that the services of the Council as herein outlined do not meet all the requirements of its member agencies and that full national advisory budget service as originally proposed is desirable, the Committee may by a ~~majority~~ ^{2/3} vote make a recommendation for the latter to the Board of the Council, whereupon the Board of the Council may ~~act on such recommendation~~ ^{act on such recommendation as it may deem desirable} ~~may vote upon it.~~

subject to the approval of the Assembly of the Council

3 year

September 29, 1941

Mr. Jacob Blaustein,
American Building,
Baltimore, Maryland.

My dear Mr. Blaustein:

In connection with our discussions, I intended to raise with you, as you will recall, the matter of the personnel of the Committee to be appointed. It was our understanding that we would have a chance to talk over the personnel of the Committee before it ~~was~~ organized. I was surprised to learn at the meeting in Cleveland that official letters of invitations had already been sent out to eleven members, and that seven had already accepted. These seven are nearly all avowed champions of Advisory Budgeting, and have been very partisan in the prolonged controversy which developed. Only three invitations were extended to men who may be said to represent our point of view. Thus the Committee is already heavily loaded with pro-Advisory Budgeting men. If the additional five to be chosen (I assume the Committee will be composed of fifteen) are to be more or less of the same complexion, then it is clear that even the two-thirds vote which we regard as essential for an agreement would fail of its purpose. It is important, in my judgment, that the remaining members of the Committee be carefully chosen for their objectivity. They should not be men who have been identified actively with the controversy. I would therefore suggest that pending our agreement, no further invitations be sent out before we have had a chance to talk over the remaining members of the Committee. This was your hope in your letter of September 3.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

JACOB BLAUSTEIN

AMERICAN BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.

October 16, 1941

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

AIRMAIL

Dear Rabbi Silver:

This is the first opportunity I have had to acknowledge your September 29, 1941 letter and to thank you for sending me your book of essays, 'The World Crisis and Jewish Survival', which I shall read with much interest.

I. Referring to your September 29th letter:

1. When you and I met in June and the question of Committee personnel was raised, I told you:

- (A) That the plan provided for the appointment of the Committee by the President of the Council with the approval of its Board of Directors, but that if we could get together on the other items under discussion I would be willing to review names with you with the idea of making some recommendations to them;
- (B) That a number of invitations already had been issued and since they could not be retracted, any suggestions would have to go to additional places on the Committee still to be filled;
- (C) That the persons already invited to serve had been selected with a view towards balance; also that Messrs. Charles Rosenbloom and Joseph Goldstein had been asked to serve on the Nominating Committee to make recommendations to the President and the Board but did not do so.

2. I think we must keep clearly in mind certain fundamentals as they affect the personnel of the Committee in question, as follows:

- (A) Until it is decided otherwise, the Committee is not to translate findings in terms of total budget requirements and no specific recommendations are to be offered to member agencies on approved minimum or maximum financial needs of any organization. Therefore ideologies will not present a problem to the Committee, -- at least not until later, if and when, the services it is to render are broadened to include the above.
- (B) The services to be offered at this stage will not deal with the three agencies in the UJA but with other organizations that function in the same or related fields of service or that supplement or relate to the work of the UJA organizations. Thus, even ideologies as between the three agencies in the UJA do not present a problem at this time.
- (C) The Committee also is to study as soon as possible agencies in all other fields which appeal for funds to the Jewish communities. These do not present the usual ideological problems.

I. 2. continued

- (D) It seems to me, therefore, that the important thing is to aim to get for this Committee fair-minded individuals of character, with broad enough experience, with ability along the lines of the work to be undertaken by the Committee, and persons who will conduct themselves on the Committee in a way that will merit the confidence of the Community in it.

I agree, of course, 'that the remaining members of the Committee be carefully chosen for their objectivity'; also, if you wish it, that such members 'not be men who have been identified with the controversy', provided we can find enough of the latter who are otherwise qualified.

Frankly, though, it seems to me that the restriction as to identification with the national advisory budget service controversy has nothing to do with the actual functions for which the Committee is being set up. And we must not lose sight of its main job. True, the Committee can make a recommendation as to the enlargement of the services to include the full national advisory budget service proposal but I consider that quite incidental to its primary duties, and any recommendation along that line would be subject anyway to other action and approval. I believe that men who have served on such a Committee for a period of time would not be biased for or against the extension of the services simply because of any pre-conceived notions prior to the actual start of the work of the Committee. Final selections, in my opinion, should be on the basis of qualification for the job and not on the basis of attitude in the referendum. In any event, the make-up of the Committee would not be frozen. I am sure you realize it would be most short-sighted for the Council to have a Committee prejudiced in any direction. To do so, would defeat quickly the whole program.

3. With the above in mind may I suggest that you send me as soon as you can a list of individuals from which you believe suitable members could be selected for the unfilled places on the Committee? You understand, of course, that no person or group other than the Council itself has the right to name members, but your suggestions will be given every consideration; and I am asking the President of the Council to withhold further appointments until we see whether we can make some recommendations and agree on the other items under discussion. By the way, Dr. Solomon Lowenstein was invited prior to the receipt of your letter to serve in the place of Harris Perlstein who declined.

II. I think it might be well, in order to arrive at something definite, to review the other points which we discussed in Cleveland. My understanding as to these is as follows:

1. We agreed on the Tentative Draft of Plan dated September 27, 1941 (a copy of which is attached) with the following changes or reservations:
 - (A) We agreed that there should be incorporated a sentence as follows: 'Nothing herein contained shall limit the Council from furnishing the budgetary services heretofore rendered'.
 - (B) We agreed that in the eighth line of the first paragraph, Page 1, before the words 'practical problems' should be inserted the word 'initial'.
 - (C) We agreed (with some reservation by me as it ties into the last paragraph of the draft) that from the first line of the third paragraph, Page 1, the words 'Board of' should be eliminated.

II. 1. continued

- ✓ (D) We agreed that under Item 2, next to the last paragraph, Page 1, the word 'evaluations' should be changed to 'findings'.
- ✓ (E) As to the NAME which appears in the last paragraph of Page 1 and elsewhere, I advised you that the members of the Committee on Referendum desire -- some of them very strongly -- to retain the original name 'National Advisory Budget Committee' but that they might be receptive to a changed name provided the word 'Budget' appears in it, such as 'National Budget Research Committee' or 'National Budget Extension and Research Committee'. The latter incorporates your original preference 'Extension and Research Committee'. I finally took it that you might be agreeable to some such name with 'Budget' in it but that you wished to discuss it with your group and that you would advise me. If you inform me they are agreeable I will endeavor, and I hope successfully, to have the members of the Committee on Referendum consent to the change from the present 'National Advisory Budget Committee' name.
- ✓ (F) We agreed that in the first line of the third paragraph, Page 2, after the words 'address itself' should be inserted the word 'initially'.
- ✓ (G) We agreed that in the next to the last line of the third paragraph, Page 2, before the words 'shall study' should be inserted the word 'also'.
- ✓ (H) We agreed that in the last line of the third paragraph, Page 2, the words 'when staff resources are available' should be changed to 'as soon as possible'.
- (I) As to the last paragraph, Page 3:
- ✓ (a) In the last line, we agreed to change the words 'vote upon it' to 'act on such recommendation as it then deems desirable'.
- ✓ (b) This draft left out the provision in your previous draft which would prevent the Council for at least a three-year period from offering a full national advisory budget service. I told you that the Council could not agree to the three-year stipulation under any circumstance and gave you the reasons therefor; and I understood finally that your group would agree to waive the three-year provision provided certain other items under discussion are arranged satisfactorily to you.
- 213 ✓ (c) As to whether any recommendation by the Committee for a full national advisory budget service should be by majority vote, as stated in the tentative draft, or by two-thirds vote, I told you that the members of the Committee on Referendum believe firmly that it should be by regular majority vote. I gave you the reasons therefor, particularly that they can see no reason why customary procedure should be changed in this instance, especially when the Committee could only make a recommendation which would be subject to other action and approval. I understood that you were going to discuss this point further with your group and advise me.
- ✓ (d) At the end of the paragraph, you wish inserted the words ', subject to approval of a meeting of the Council'. While there is objection to this addition on the part of some members of the Committee on Referendum, I told you I believed I could get consent to it if the other items under discussion can be arranged satisfactorily.

II. 1. (I) continued

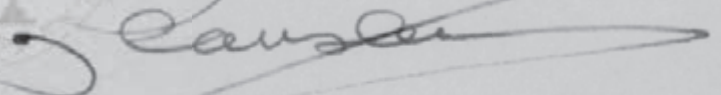
(e) If we can agree on the fundamentals, the last paragraph of the plan might be clarified by re-wording it somewhat like the following:
'The Committee shall, from time to time, report to the Board on the progress of its work, recommending such modifications or expansions of the program as may seem desirable. But should the Committee at any time recommend that the full national advisory budget service as originally projected be adopted the Board shall, before putting such recommendation into effect, submit same to a meeting of the Council for its approval'.

2. So as the matter now stands, I am awaiting your next advice as to the Name, the Committee 'majority' question, and the possible re-wording of the last paragraph of the plan.

I have assumed that if a mutually satisfactory plan is agreed upon, the UJA and other Palestinian organizations will thereafter fully cooperate with the Council in its program; and that this is to continue even if, under the procedure agreed upon, the Council should ultimately proceed with a full national advisory budget service. There would be little advantage to our working out and the Council agreeing upon a compromise plan, if the same disagreements and opposition were again to arise despite the compromise.

Expecting to hear from you in connection with these matters, and with best regards,

Sincerely,



Oct. 20, 1941

Despite the fact that a small majority of the Council's member agencies which voted on the subject favored the full proposals for a national advisory budget service, in view of the substantial opposition which was recorded against the full proposals and the number of agencies which failed to express themselves on the subject, the Board of Directors of the Council deems it advisable, for the sake of unity and to insure the full cooperation of the various national organizations and also in recognition of the initial problems involved, to proceed at this time with those phases of the proposed service that are not of a controversial character.

There was the almost unanimous desire expressed by the member agencies for extension of the fact-finding services of the Council and for a more intensive and analytical survey of the organizations which appeal to the communities for support.

Until such time as the Council may decide otherwise:

1. Reports issued on organizations will be limited to analysis and descriptions of functional services, administration and fund-raising procedures, the problems with which the organizations deal, and the results of services rendered.

2. Reports will not attempt to translate findings in terms of total budget requirements and no specific recommendations will be offered to member agencies on approved minimum or maximum financial needs of any organization.

3. Nothing herein contained shall limit the Council from furnishing the budgetary services heretofore rendered.

The Board of Directors of the Council has decided to establish a special committee to be known as the "Budget Research Committee" which shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors and which shall consist of not less than nine and not more than fifteen persons. The Committee shall supervise the expansion of these services of the Council, shall

have responsibility for all of its studies, serve in an editorial capacity, and shall approve all reports to be transmitted to member agencies.

The Committee shall have the authority to appoint sub-committees on specific organizations or fields of service, and to appoint advisory committees including representatives of organizations being studied.

The Committee will address itself initially to an examination and analysis of the organizations engaged in overseas, Palestine or refugee service that function in the same or related fields of service or that supplement or relate to the work of the UJA organizations. The Committee shall work collaterally with, and supplement the work of, the Allotment Committee and the Inquiry of the UJA, and will at all times hold itself in readiness to cooperate with them. Should there be no independent Inquiry conducted by the UJA in any year, or should the UJA be dissolved, the Committee will undertake the examination and analysis of the agencies comprising the UJA on the same basis as it will study other agencies. The Committee shall also study agencies in all other fields which appeal for funds to the Jewish communities as soon as possible.

The present staff of the Council shall be supplemented by such additional regular or special staff as may be required to conduct the services herein contemplated including research, accounting, and clerical personnel.

The fact-finding and analytical procedure to be undertaken will include:

- a) Intensive examination of all basic financial records, including those of the ultimate spending organizations,
- b) Collection of periodic service data for all organizations and subsidiaries,
- c) Study and description of needs met by the organization and by other resources in the same field,
- d) Examination of administrative and fund-raising processes,

- e) Examination of results of the services provided by organizations,
- f) Efficiency in organization activities, overlapping of programs and other qualitative factors.

The Committee shall, from time to time, report to the Board on the progress of its work, recommending such modifications or expansions of the program as may seem desirable. But should the Committee at any time recommend by a two-thirds vote that the full national advisory budget service as originally projected be adopted the Board shall, before putting such recommendation into effect, submit same to a meeting of the Assembly of the Council for its approval.



October 20, 1941

Mr. Jacob Blaustein
American Building
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Mr. Blaustein:

Thank you for your letter of October 16th. I have taken up the matter of the final draft with my colleagues and after a thorough re-canvassing of the whole situation, we have come to the following conclusions. If these conclusions are acceptable, I shall then be very happy to submit a list of individuals who, we believe, should be placed on the committee of fifteen.

My group is very reluctant to yield on the three-year stipulation originally suggested. It is, however, prepared to yield on that point provided the two-thirds vote of the committee necessary for recommending favorably full national advisory budgeting is retained. We regard this latter as indispensable to an agreement.

We will also yield to your insistence on retaining the word "budget" in the official name of the committee. The name should be "Budget Research Committee".

As far as the re-wording of the last paragraph of the tentative draft which you suggest -- the re-wording is acceptable; but of course the second sentence would have to include, after the word "recommend", the words "by a two-thirds vote"; and in place of "The Council", the words "Assembly of the Council". We assume that that is the official title of the annual meeting of the entire Council.

Of course, if a mutually satisfactory plan is agreed upon, it is our hope and expectation that all Palestine organizations will fully and loyally cooperate with the Council in its program. If after the procedure agreed upon has been carried through and the Assembly of the Council should ultimately decide upon a full national

October 20, 1941

advisory budget service it will, of course, be our clear duty to accept graciously such a decision. This does not, of course, mean that if and when this matter comes up before an Assembly of the Council those of us who are opposed to advisory budgeting will not fight it as strongly as we can on the floor of the Assembly.

I am enclosing herewith the tentative draft of September 27, 1941 and I have included in it our final revisions. In it I also incorporated all the items which we had previously agreed upon and which are re-capitulated in your letter of October 16th.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BE
Enc.

WRHS



P.S. You realize, of course, that much will depend upon the final composition of the committee. If there is no effort at least to approximate an adequate balance between the proponents and opponents of advisory budgeting, the Council will be charged with having "stacked" the committee. I understand fully all that you say in your letter of October 16 on this subject. But it is still a surprise to me that every outspoken champion of advisory budgeting has found a place on the committee. They were probably not selected with that in view. But there they are.

JACOB BLAUSTEIN

AMERICAN BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.

Los Angeles, Cal.,
November 8, 1941

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

As my office has informed you, I have been away from Baltimore the last several weeks attending some business Board Meetings, and inspecting properties in Texas and California. Copies of your October 20th, 1941 letter and attached draft of statement have been forwarded to me and the other members of the Council's Committee on Referendum. I have received comments from the majority of them, and can advise you as follows:

I. Although very reluctant to change from the **original** name, "National Advisory Budget Committee", and further not liking the elimination of the word "National", they nevertheless will accept "Budget Research Committee."

II. They are not willing that a 2/3rds vote of the Committee (instead of the regular majority vote) be necessary for the Committee to recommend a full National advisory budget service. To my mind, this ^{whole point} is not important from a practical stand-point. I say so for the following reasons:

1. The Committee, after all, can only recommend. Before the recommendations could become effective, it would have to be approved by the Board of the Council, and by the Meeting of the Council.
2. Even if, according to the plan, a regular majority of the Committee would be sufficient for a recommendation, I should think that in practice (assuming there were still a substantial difference of opinion about ^{the} matter), unless a substantial majority of the Committee actually made the recommendation, the chance of its approval by the Board and the Meeting of the Council, would be considerably lessened. A bare majority recommendation, I am sure, would be one of the strongest arguments the opposition would use against its approval.
3. The final and strongest protection for the opposition against ^{adoption} of any such recommendation would be the Meeting of the Council. And that is the requirement which you insisted upon and which is being granted (if the other items under discussion are satisfactorily arranged.)

By the way, in conceding this, it was not the intention of the Council's Committee on Referendum that such approval would have to await ~~the~~^{an} Annual meeting, but instead could be asked at any properly called meeting of the Council if it were deemed desirable to do so. There is really no sufficient reason why action ~~of~~^{by} the Council on this question should be delayed, possibly as long as almost a year after the Board might approve, while awaiting an Annual meeting of the Council. However, the request in your last letter limiting it to the Annual meeting (Assembly) of the Council will be conceded if the other items are satisfactorily arranged.

In view of ^{all} the above, I urge that you agree to the regular majority vote; and I urge it particularly because what you are asking by way of the 2/3rds vote is out of the ordinary, and would establish a procedure for this Committee different from that followed by all other committees of the Council, whereas a majority vote is regular procedure.

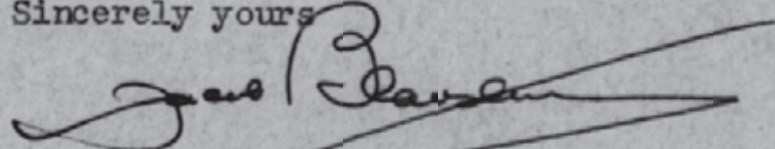
I expect to be back in Baltimore on Wednesday or Thursday, November 12th or 13th. As you know, the Council is holding a Board Meeting the following Saturday evening and Sunday, November 15th and 16th.

I hope it may be possible for you to let me have word upon my return to Baltimore that you will agree to the above, and also to furnish me with the list of individuals for consideration, from which you believe suitable members could be selected for the unfilled places on the Committee.

In this connection and referring to the P.S. of your October 20th letter, while the persons already invited to serve were not selected from the stand-point of whether they had been proponents or opponents of the National Advisory Budget Service, and while I don't have with me a list of those who were invited, I believe that Messrs. Rothenberg, Rosenbloom, Goldstein and Schanfarber were, and they certainly were opponents.

I await your ^{reply,} ~~and~~ and with best regards.

Sincerely yours



P.S. I notice that when you inserted the word "initial" in the eighth line of the first paragraph, page one, of your rewritten draft of statement, you left out the word "Practical." I assume this was omitted in error.

[Please excuse the many stenographic errors as I had to obtain 'outside' services for this letter and retyping would mean a delay till Monday.]

C O N F I D E N T I A L

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1941 AT 1:00 P.M.

AT THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL, 41 EAST 42ND STREET, NEW YORK CITY

PRESENT: Stephen S. Wise, presiding: James G. Heller, Abraham L. Liebovitz, Henry Montor, Charles Ress, David Wertheim;

Mrs. Oscar Bender, Samuel Blitz, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Mendel N. Fisher, Sylvan Gotshal, Isaac Hamlin, Max Kirshblum, Miss Jeannette Leibel, Irving Miller, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Joseph Schlossberg, Simon Shetzer.

- - - -

PERMANENT NEW YORK UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

At the request of the Chairman, Mr. Montor reviewed the history of the effort to establish a permanent United Jewish Appeal organization in New York City, saying that he would wish Mr. Blitz to give the fuller background. Discussion of such a permanent structure had been heard during the past few years, but early in 1941 an active agitation for it was initiated. The Administrative Committee of the U.P.A. had considered the problem at several meetings and decided that action should be held up pending clarification of the issues involved and, subsequently, pending a decision on the 1942 campaign. On the one hand, there was a substantial group in the U.P.A. which felt that the creation of a permanent organization would seriously hamper the freedom of action of the U.P.A. on the national scene. There were those, on the other hand, who felt that since a permanent body would eventually have to be established in New York City, it would be wise for the U.P.A. to share in it from the beginning.

The New York U.J.A. Chairman had appointed a sub-committee to go into the problem, with the participation of certain members affiliated with the U.P.A. Discussions had been going on in that sub-committee for the formulation of a definite program.

At the last meeting of the U.P.A. Administrative Committee, a motion was introduced and unanimously adopted that nothing further be done in New York City to create a permanent U.J.A. structure until the national United Jewish Appeal problem had been disposed of for 1942.

In the meantime, certain people in the New York U.J.A. felt that there was undue procrastination on the part of the U.P.A. Suddenly, on November 9th, the New York community was confronted with a meeting called by the leaders of the New York U.J.A. to ratify a program to establish a permanent structure in New York. Unfortunately, a number of the leaders of the U.P.A. didn't have the opportunity or feel the necessity of attending that conference, so that the U.P.A. point of view was not presented. Following the meeting there was distributed to hundreds of people in New York a letter from the New York U.J.A. asking them to join as "charter members" of this permanent organization. People associated with the U.P.A. were now asking what they should reply. (Appendix A)

The letter asking for charter memberships was distributed as though the U.P.A. did not exist - presumably the same attitude to the J.D.C. officially. The question that now faces the U.P.A. is whether it is prepared, permanently and irrevocably, to assign its rights as a campaign institution in New York City to a body called the United Jewish Appeal of New York. That is the intention of those pressing for its formation. In view of the fact that the U.P.A. should share in the creation of this permanent U.J.A., if the first question is answered affirmatively, what form shall that U.J.A. take? That was the question before the Executive Committee.

Mr. Blitz reviewed the campaign situation in New York City. It had been found by all organizations raising funds in New York, including Hadassah, that a special campaign problem existed in the city. Even a body like Federation depends on a continuously functioning organization to raise its money. With a 1942 campaign imminent, it was deemed essential to plan now for the 1942 campaign. That was why the program for the permanent New York U.J.A. structure was now being rushed. It was felt that if a 1942 campaign could begin with 1,000 charter members of the organization, a good nucleus would have been created for the 1942 campaign. In the past few years, the problem of dissolving or continuing the campaign had always hampered adequate drive preparations. In each case, New York had to wait to see what the national organizations did.

The plan for a permanent New York U.J.A., Mr. Blitz said, called for a charter and by-laws. In his opinion, the contents of the charter and by-laws, rather than anything else, ought to be discussed and safeguarded. He doubted whether there was any power in New York today that could stop the organization of a permanent New York U.J.A. At the meeting on Sunday, despite the short notice, numerous people associated with the U.P.A. were present, and one after another stood up to endorse the project. He did not see any possibility of going against the wishes of these people.

A committee of eleven had been put in charge of the charter and by-laws. It includes Dr. Stephen Wise, Mr. Sylvan Gotshal, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Mr. Louis Lipsky and Mr. Nathan Straus. If these men had not attended meetings previously, it was because there was a definite understanding to that effect. The question now was whether the U.P.A. people should attend further meetings of the organizing committee. If they refuse, others will go through with the plan. It would be better for the U.P.A. to safeguard its position in the charter and by-laws. Every city in America has the same thing. People refuse to be used as a club to fight. The U.P.A. would be better off in taking part in the plan.

Mr. Liebovitz felt that regardless of how anyone feels, there will be a unified campaign in New York and no one could stop it. The wise thing to do would be to be represented on the committee of eleven and be present at the deliberations and help form the charter. It would be a mistake for the U.P.A. to stay out. He felt the U.P.A. had good representation.

Dr. Wise asked Mr. Gotshal whether if the J.D.C. and the U.P.A. nationally come to an agreement to include the N.R.S. as a beneficiary, the New York U.J.A. would follow and accept the decision of the national U.J.A. Mr. Gotshal replied "unquestionably."

Rabbi Miller stated that what was proposed in New York was not a partnership organization, as between the U.P.A. and the J.D.C., but a membership corporation consisting of citizens of New York City, organizing for the purpose of raising funds to be distributed to the three agencies, U.P.A., J.D.C. and N.R.S. The men going on

the board of directors of the U.J.A. in New York do not go in any representative capacity but merely as citizens of the city. That was made very clear by Mr. Warburg. He had said that if a partnership organization were created, the N.R.S. would have to be included. The situation was different than in the national U.J.A. He would not submit to any partnership arrangement in which it might be suspected that the J.D.C. and N.R.S. were making common cause against the U.P.A.

This fund-raising corporation in New York would take its receipts and turn them over to the national U.J.A. for distribution. If there should not be a national U.J.A., then the three agencies would agree upon an allocations committee to decide on the funds. The problem would then revert to the beneficiary organizations. The decisions of such an allotment committee would be announced before the campaign began, if there were no national U.J.A. Its decisions would have to be accepted by the three organizations.

On Sunday, 300 out of 600 people invited attended a meeting. They definitely represented the fund-raisers of New York City and they were unanimously agreed that all arguments pointed in favor of the creation of a permanent fund-raising body.

Rabbi Miller felt that since 6 of the 11 members of the organization committee were of the U.P.A., it was well protected. It was his view that the people of New York are determined that there shall be a permanent fund-raising machinery. He felt that in 1941, \$800,000 had been lost by the delay in the campaign. This was represented in the loss of collections on 1940 and in the new overhead expenses as a result of the division. He felt the U.P.A. should get in on the ground floor, working with leaders and fund-raisers in New York City and making them sympathetic toward Palestine. The interests of the U.P.A. would be adequately protected and it would get more money.

Mr. Gotshal said that the present plan was the best opportunity the U.P.A. has had. The problem was to make sure the committee of 11 had on it leadership which could hold its own in any group. He felt that most of the appeal to people who put up the money is no longer in the hands of the J.D.C. but of those interested primarily in Palestine. He felt there was now an opportunity to make New York Palestine-conscious. Rabbi Jonah Wise, he said, had become more and more Palestine-conscious and it was not just lip-service.

He did not think there was going to be any great difficulty in setting up an Allotment Committee that would give Palestine everything it is entitled to. The job was to make sure of the amounts of money to be raised in the future and not bicker on what the technical set-up would be.

Rabbi Heller said that if his community of Cincinnati were confronted with the problem of New York, it would not form an organization devoted solely to the collection of funds for the U.J.A., because, he knew, that under these circumstances the position of the U.P.A. would be much weaker than otherwise. If two groups are called in representing the money-giving community, the J.D.C. will always be found to have the edge on the U.P.A. He suspected this was also true in New York. Therefore, it would be advantageous to place the problem on a broader basis. It might be possible to follow the example of communities all over the country in organizing a general Welfare Fund in which the U.J.A. would have its place. A democratic method of representation would have to be worked out.

Mr. Montor said that those favoring a permanent New York U.J.A. had sought to create the atmosphere that we were faced with something inevitable and inescapable. As far as he was concerned, if the planning went forward on the basis it had already done, the epitaph could be written on the effectiveness of the U.P.A. as a New York institution.

If all that was involved was a genuine wish to create a permanent fund-raising machinery in New York, the structure which Rabbi Miller had so vividly described would not have been suggested. Suddenly we find a desire to be "non-partisan." Suddenly, it is discovered that no invidious distinctions are desired between the U.P.A., J.D.C. and N.R.S. No one was to be on the New York U.J.A. because he represented an institution but merely because he was a citizen of New York.

Mr. Montor believed the U.P.A. could not be guided by this sudden naivete, although he felt it was more than that. The picture in New York ought to be related to what has been taking place in American Jewish life during the past year. Those developments tended in one direction - the definite constriction of Zionist influence in American Jewish life. In New York City, Zionists had hitherto played a role greater than was justified by their wealth or their prestige. That has been a sore point to others. When the situation of past years is reviewed, it would be recalled that usually unity in fund-raising efforts had been brought about because of the definitely strong position which Palestine commanded in New York City. The great mass of New York Jews could outweigh the little segment of powerful Jews in New York and the country who, if they alone controlled the American Jewish community, would not, unfortunately, be as generous and sympathetic to the cause of Palestine as Mr. Gotshal in all sincerity had felt they would be. It is evident what direction is being taken by the streams of Jewish life. The current is running away from Palestine. What is dominating the thoughts of some leaders is the removal of Zionist influence from the American Jewish scene.

It is now stated that the reason why a New York U.J.A. must be created is because efficiency in fund-raising is desired. If that alone were true, then the form of the structure would not be considered important. The mere existence of such a structure would suffice. But we find that very severe pressure is being brought to bear to see to it that the New York U.J.A. does not bear any resemblance to the corporate structure of the national U.J.A., which has functioned very efficiently. In the national U.J.A., the U.P.A. and the J.D.C. are equally responsible in the Board of Directors, which determines policies of campaign management, allocations and other aspects of the fund-raising machinery. But in New York that was not wanted.

The U.P.A., Mr. Montor continued, is a trustee for a certain cause. It has a stake in the fund-raising ~~campaign~~ in New York. Palestine should receive its rights and not the good will bestowed on it by people who might or might not be sympathetic to its needs.

That, Mr. Montor said, was the heart of the point he was trying to make. If the U.P.A. believes that the formation of a U.J.A. in New York is inevitable, then there should be a contract and an agreement between the U.P.A., on the one hand, and the J.D.C., on the other, so that this merged organization could raise funds.

Mr. Gotshal said he was not naive, and knew the dangers that might face the group just as well as anybody else. But he believed that the dangers Mr. Montor was talking about simply did not exist. We could control that structure. We could

write the certificate of incorporation the way the U.P.A. would like. Nobody had agreed to anything.

Mr. Montor said that that was exactly his objective. Something had been said of a feud that had grown up between certain J.D.C. and N.R.S. leaders. That was surely a poor reed for the U.P.A. to rely upon for the protection of its interests. What the U.P.A. needed was not merely the sympathy or good will of any individual but the definite incorporation into the legal by-laws of the corporation of the rights of the U.P.A. What could be wrong with that demand?

Mr. Gotshal replied that he was a lawyer and preferred to base his rights and remedies on men representing him rather than the law.

Mr. Montor said it would be pertinent to the particular discussion to point out, in view of what had been said about the increased interest existing in Palestine and the greater knowledge of the needs of Palestine, that the J.D.C. had suggested for 1942 that the share which Palestine should receive should be decreased and not increased. As a result, there was a stalemate in the negotiations. The very same men who were so eager about unity and a combined drive in New York could not be gotten to express that same unity in the national picture.

Rabbi Miller asked what Mr. Montor's suggestion was.

Mr. Montor drew attention to the use of the phrase "representatives of the U.P.A." as applied to men on the committee of 11 supposed to be organizing the New York U.J.A. This, he said, was a complete misnomer. Those men are not considered delegates of the U.P.A. They were chosen by the New York U.J.A. and are considered merely citizens of the city and not representatives of any organization. The U.P.A., in other words, has no voice whatsoever in determining the formation of a structure which would be delegated to raise funds on its behalf in New York. Those most energetic in desiring a New York U.J.A. want to avoid identifying the U.P.A. as a body with the U.J.A.

It wasn't fair to the U.P.A. or to Palestine, Mr. Montor felt, that men should be speaking on that committee of 11 or in the subsequent corporation without any representative character, insofar as the U.P.A.'s interests are concerned.

At the meeting held recently at the Harmonie Club to begin discussing the 1942 campaign, Mr. Sidney Hollander, President of the Council of Federations, had asked Dr. Silver whether the U.P.A. would be interested in having a two or three year agreement so that these recurrent "headaches" would not occur. Dr. Silver replied he would be happy to discuss that. Messrs. Becker, Lowenstein and Hyman, representing the J.D.C., very definitely said they could not consider such a proposal. In a period of international flux and uncertainty, the J.D.C. could not tie itself down to a proposal for more than a year, they said.

But when some associated with the U.P.A. take exactly the same position with respect to the formation of a New York U.J.A., they are accused of sabotaging the New York effort.

Mr. Montor offered the following proposal:

(a) That the men on the committee to form the U.J.A. structure should be definitely and specifically representative of the U.P.A. vis-a-vis the J.D.C. The

denial of that right would mean that it is not desired that the U.P.A. shall express any influence in the New York situation, except for a few individuals who might be called in.

(b) That the U.J.A. of New York should constitute a replica, with such modifications as might be needed by the situation in New York, of the national U.J.A. structure, which consists of a Board of Directors on which the U.P.A. nominates its representatives and on which the J.D.C. names its own. If there is a corporation in which the U.P.A. has a direct and expressed interest, the U.P.A. would be able to protect its interests.

Mr. Blitz said that he shared Mr. Gotshal's and Rabbi Miller's views that the U.P.A. has the strength to win friends for Palestine. He disagreed with Mr. Montor's view of the situation. He felt Palestine could win friends through such joint drives.

In response to a question by Mr. Fisher, Mr. Gotshal stated that in the event there is no national campaign, the question of allocations would come back to the U.P.A., the J.D.C. and the N.R.S., who would be asked to agree on an allotment committee in New York.

Mr. Fisher felt that eventually the structure now being discussed would become a Welfare Fund. He thought the U.P.A. ought to insist that the power to determine allotments in the New York U.J.A. should rest with the national U.J.A., so that there might not be created a precedent whereby any city in the United States might decide for itself how to divide its funds for U.J.A. agencies. The power of allocating funds must remain with the national organization. Insofar as the articles of incorporation are concerned, they should specifically define the rights of the U.P.A. It was not possible to predict that men of the same zeal for the U.P.A. as Mr. Gotshal would be available always; and, therefore, what was important was the specific definition of U.P.A. rights.

Mr. Ress said that the only reason he could see for acquiescing to the program was that it could not be helped. He saw no merit in the argument that the U.P.A. should rely exclusively on the appeal of Palestine among those able to control such fund-raising bodies. At the end of the war, when zealous protection of the needs of Palestine was required, it would be necessary to share fully in the control of agencies now being established.

But if the setting up of the structure suggested could not be helped, then care should be exercised in forming it. The anomalous type of structure being discussed could easily be packed against Palestine, if it were so desired. He felt it was necessary to define in the charter that the only power the structure would have would be that of fund-raising, with no power of decision as to allocations, with all questions of allocations determined by a committee made up of the U.P.A. and the J.D.C.

Mr. Ress suggested that if any action at all is taken, it ought to be voted, the vote to be democratically binding, morally at least, upon the men associated with the U.P.A. to take the position that we do not participate in the structure unless a provision such as he outlined were made.

This was the view taken by the Chairman.

At this point Dr. Wise had to leave and turned the chair over to Rabbi Heller.

The Chairman pointed out that New York is in an anomalous position. Since a Welfare Fund or Community Council was not being created, and since this was solely a campaign for three national causes, it was perfectly justifiable to ask that the national organizations consent to such an arrangement as a permanent New York U.J.A.

Mr. Shetzer said that the trend was toward community organization and that the Zionists should share in it in New York, especially if Mr. Montor's suggestions were incorporated.

The Chairman summed up the agreement of the Executive Committee as being, first, that the U.P.A. leaders be urged to attend a meeting of the committee of 11 scheduled for the following Monday, and, secondly, that they try to secure in any agreement safeguards of the position of the Zionists in relation to the campaign.

Dr. Wise, who had briefly returned, suggested that Mr. Montor might be made either a member of the committee or an expert consultant for the committee.

Mr. Blitz stated that the committee had been appointed by the U.J.A. and not the U.P.A., and it was a policy of the leadership of the U.J.A. not to have paid officials serve as members of any committee.

STATUS OF NATIONAL ADVISORY BUDGETING

Mr. Montor reviewed the events since the last meeting of the Board of Directors of the Council of Federations, during which discussions had been going on between Dr. Silver and Mr. Jacob Blaustein, Chairman of the sub-committee formulating plans for a national budgeting program. These had in view a compromise whereby the Palestine bodies could be protected. The lengthy correspondence involved had been sent to the members for their perusal.

The essence of the proposals was (1) that there should be a three-year waiting period before a national budgeting program could be instituted, if the committee on budgeting were to state that fact-finding functions alone were insufficient; (2) that it would require a two-thirds vote of that committee to recommend national budgeting, in addition to fact-finding; (3) that the decision on that recommendation should be made not by the Board of Directors of the Council but by the annual Assembly.

The last communication from Mr. Blaustein stated that he was prepared (a) to change the name of the committee from National Advisory Budget Committee to Budget Research Committee; (b) to have the final decision made by the annual Assembly of the Council, not the Board; (c) but he did not agree to a three-year waiting period or (d) on a two-thirds vote requirement for a recommendation for budgeting by the committee.

Most of those who were to serve on that committee had already been invited. Largely, they were men who, early in the year, had very vigorously espoused national budgeting. It was felt that a two-thirds vote in that committee was a basic essential if the views of those opposed to national budgeting were to be safeguarded.

Rabbi Heller said that mere reference to the Assembly of the Council was not sufficient, inasmuch as the exact constituency of the Council was doubtful and the methods of determining representation confused. There should be negotiation with

the Council as to the entire method of representation in the Assembly. He would also insert a provision that if the committee recommends fact-finding ultimately that, before the Assembly votes on it, the communities of the United States should be notified of the decision sufficiently in advance to be able to discuss it thoroughly.

The effectiveness of any decision, Mr. Montor said, rested on the coordinated action of all the Palestine bodies, U.P.A., Hadassah, Poale Zion, Mizrachi, etc.

Rabbi Miller moved that, having had presented to it the full correspondence between Dr. Silver and Mr. Blaustein relative to the setting up of a Budget Research Committee, the U.P.A. Executive Committee confirm Dr. Silver's final revised draft of the agreement on a fact-finding committee, to include a provision that any vote to recommend national budgeting must be by a two-thirds majority.

Mr. Schlossberg was opposed to the power of recommendation, however voted. Opposition to Zionism was growing stronger in certain groups, he said. He felt that the research committee should be given no power whatever to make recommendations.

Mr. Shetzer said he was prepared to join in instructing Dr. Silver to stay adamant on the two-thirds provision, although he realized that ordinary procedure held that a simple majority was sufficient.

Rabbi Miller pointed out that distinctions are made between certain types of votes, as to their importance. Almost all constitutions, he said, carry varying provisions for votes on amendments as compared with ordinary votes.

The Chairman stated the motion thus:

That the Executive Committee expresses to Dr. Silver its approval of the stipulation that he ask for a two-thirds vote in the future Budget Research Committee as required before it could recommend the expansion of fact-finding into budgeting; and

That if the Committee should then decide, by such a vote, to recommend budgeting, notice to that effect should be given two months in advance to all communities which have the right to send delegates to the Assembly.

This was unanimously approved.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR 1942 UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

A review was given by Mr. Montor of several meetings held between the representatives of the U.P.A. and the J.D.C. to discuss a 1942 U.J.A. At the appointment of Dr. Silver, Judge Rothenberg had met with Mr. Linder of the J.D.C. and Mr. Watchmaker of the Council of Federations at Mr. Linder's home.

The essential points that continued to be made by the J.D.C. were that (a) the traditional collections of the J.N.F. should be included in the U.J.A. pool; and (b) that the J.E.C. original allotment should be increased by \$561,000, as compared with the first allotment of 1941. The U.P.A. had made its own position clear:

(1) that it was prepared to continue the status quo of 1941; and (2) it was prepared to take its chances with an Allotment Committee.

Rabbi Heller felt that the U.P.A. has an impregnable position this year. He was sorry to hear that some representatives of the U.P.A. were considering a compromise in regard to the traditional collections of the J.N.F. He thought the U.P.A. representatives should this year take the stand that they wanted merely the same agreement as in 1941.

Rabbi Miller felt that the general basis of the agreement made for 1941 was as close to a fair agreement as could be obtained under the present circumstances and the U.P.A. ought to stand on that.

Mr. Montor pointed out that the U.P.A. negotiators have consistently taken the position that the J.N.F. traditional collections are outside the bounds of discussion.

The Chairman moved that the Executive Committee recommend to the U.P.A. negotiators that they maintain the stand that the U.P.A. is content with the agreement of 1941 and that it should serve for the campaign of 1942.

This motion was unanimously approved.

SIGNATORIES OF CHECKS

It was moved, seconded and approved that the Executive Committee of the United Palestine Appeal adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the United Palestine Appeal is hereby authorized to open and from time to time reconcile an account or accounts for and in the name of the UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL FOR 1941 with the National City Bank of New York at Thirteenth Street and Fifth Avenue, New York, and from time to time to deposit the funds of the United Palestine Appeal therein, the same to be subject to withdrawal by check, drafts, or orders, when signed by any two of the following officers:

Abba Hillel Silver, Charles J. Rosenbloom, Abraham L. Leibovitz, Jacob Sincoff, Israel Goldstein, Louis Lipsky, Solomon Goldman. The said Bank may rely upon the authority herein conferred upon said designated persons until delivery to it of a certified copy of a resolution of this Committee revoking or modifying the same, and that such authority shall include checks drawn to the order of any said persons.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

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UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

APPENDIX A

New York City and Metropolitan Area

250 West 57th Street
New York City

November 12, 1941

Mr. Jacob Sincoff
Empire Boxboard Corp.
124 West 26th Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Sincoff:

Mr. Sylvan Gotshal and I sincerely regret that you did not find it possible to attend the conference on Sunday.

Representative leaders in the trades, communities, women's division and fraternal groups were present and dealt with the problem of future campaigns in New York in a practical and constructive way. After full and free discussion, a resolution was unanimously adopted, copy of which is enclosed, approving the formation of a permanent United Jewish Appeal in Greater New York.

Pursuant to that mandate, the Executive Committee of the New York United Jewish Appeal instructed a Special Committee on Organization to proceed with the filing of the necessary charter and with the drafting of proper by-laws. It was carefully explained at the meeting that such a permanent organization would devote itself to raising funds for the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service. Failing a national agreement by these agencies, the fairest possible means of distributing the funds collected in New York would be found.

As you can see from the enclosed resolution, those present agreed to serve as Charter Members of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York. Both Mr. Gotshal and I feel that it would be most helpful to have your name included among the original sponsors of this project. I am enclosing a card for your enrollment.

With kindest regards in which Mr. Gotshal joins me,
I am

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Jonah B. Wise
Jonah B. Wise
Chairman

JBW/EG
Enc.

RESOLUTION UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED AT A MEETING OF TRADE, COMMUNITY
AND ORGANIZATION LEADERS OF THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL IN
GREATER NEW YORK, SUNDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 9, 1941 AT THE
HOTEL COMMODORE, NEW YORK CITY

"BE IT RESOLVED, (1), That we who are here assembled
urge the Executive Committee of the New York United Jewish
Appeal campaign to proceed at once with preparations for the
1942 campaign;

(2), That we further urge Rabbi Jonah B. Wise and
Sylvan Gotshal forthwith to proceed with the organization
of a United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York for refugees,
overseas needs, and Palestine, as a permanent fund-raising
organization;

(3), That we here offer ourselves as charter members
and pledge whole-hearted support to such organization, and we
ask the community to join in supporting such a united effort.

JACOB BLAUSTEIN

AMERICAN BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.

February 19, 1942

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Upon my return to the city, I find the copy which you were good enough to send me of your February 11, 1942 letter to Harry Lurie.

I agree with you that the 'Budget Research Service' was poorly reported in the special bulletin of the Chicago Assembly dated February 2, 1942 and I have so advised Mr. Lurie.

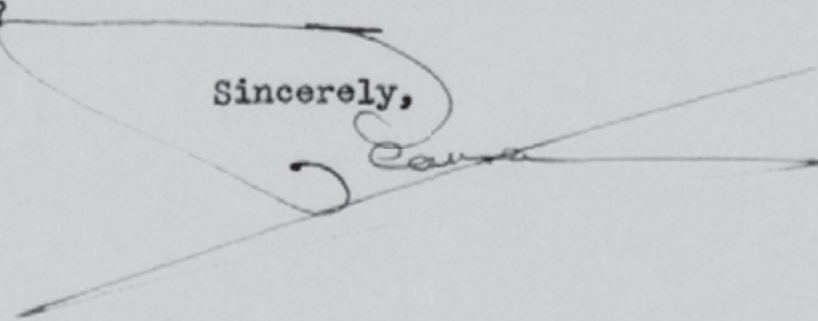
I was not consulted as to this nor, by the way, as to the article about the Service which appeared in the JTA Bulletin of February 4, 1942. As to the Council Bulletin, Mr. Lurie informs me it would have been impracticable to do so since that would have occasioned delay and the value of these Assembly Bulletins is in their promptness.

I think the reporting was inadequate not only from the viewpoint of the former opposition group but also from the standpoint of the Council itself and the proponents. It may interest you to know that some of the latter have also complained to me. They feel the impression has erroneously been given that recommendations as to financial quotas are permanently out of the picture.

Mr. Lurie tells me that other reports on the subject will be released to the Council's member agencies, including a copy of the Revised Plan. I hope these will correct any misunderstandings, and I assume you agree there is nothing to be done in the meantime.

A meeting of the Budget Research Committee should be called shortly and I consider it important for you to be present if at all possible. Sufficient time should be allowed for this meeting, probably reserving both an afternoon and evening for it. It will be necessary to give the members at least ten days' advance notice of the meeting. Can you let me have promptly the choice of a few dates when you could attend a meeting in New York shortly after March 1st?

Sincerely,



JACOB BLAUSTEIN

AMERICAN BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.

February 24, 1942

AIRMAIL

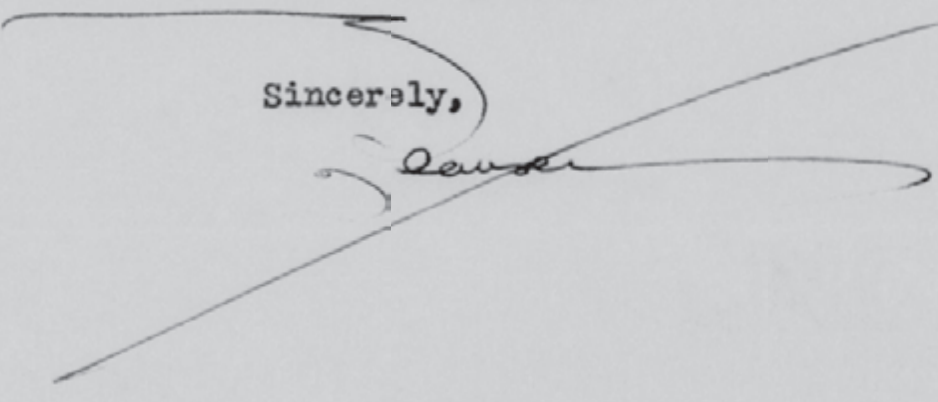
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple
East 105th St. at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Since my February 19th letter to you,
Harry Lurie has suggested the Budget
Research Committee meet in New York on
the afternoon and possibly the evening of
either Saturday, March 7th, or Monday, March
9th, as he understands those dates will be
convenient to some of the members of the
Committee.

Will you please wire me upon receipt of this
letter whether one of these dates is agreeable
to you?

Sincerely,



Jacob Blaustein

Charge to the account of

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
OVERNIGHT TELEGRAM	NIGHT LETTER
SPECIAL SERVICE	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary radiogram.

WESTERN UNION

1206-B

CHECK

ACCOUNTING INFORMATION

TIME FILED

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

2-26-42

Jacob Blaustein
American Building
Baltimore, Md.

REGRET EXCEEDINGLY UNABLE TO ATTEND MEETING ON DATES MENTIONED. REGARDS

SILVER

JACOB BLAUSTEIN

AMERICAN BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.

February 28, 1942

AIRMAIL

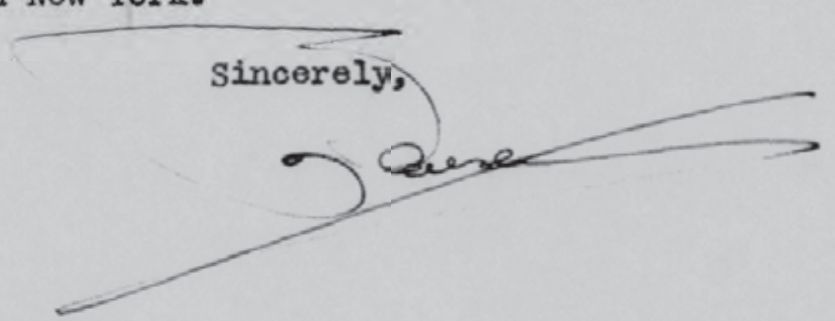
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I regret to learn from your February 26th wire that you could not attend a meeting of the Budget Research Committee in New York on either March 7th or March 9th. I am accordingly suggesting to Mr. Lurie that the meeting be not called for either of these dates.

As requested in my February 19th letter, I will appreciate if you will promptly let me have the choice of a few dates in the near future when you could attend a meeting in New York.

Sincerely,



Would you approve agreement with Council
 Warfar Federation on basis of a revised Referendum
 report ~~concerning~~ limiting scope of Committee
 to be created to fact-finding, name of
 Com. to be ^{changed to} Budget Research Committee
~~on this basis~~ National Advisory Budgetary
 Com. and reading ^{out} if and when the Com. finds that the
 services, the Council as herein outlined do not meet
 all requirements, it member services and that full
 nat. advisory budget series as originally prepared
 is desirable, the Com. may by a 2/3 vote make
^{rules} a recommendation to the Board, and the Board
 may vote upon it subject to the approval
 of the Assembly, the Council. ~~Stop~~ Stop. There is
 a willingness ~~expressed here at~~ to accept our
 position as ^{expressed} stated in our memorandum to Blankin
 except ^{the} 3 year waiting period. Stop Council
 Board meeting here will talk matter up Sunday
 morning. Please write me your opinion as
 early as possible.