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Weizmann, Chaim, 1924.



THE COMMODORE
 FORTY-SECOND STREET AND LEXINGTON AVENUE
 GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL
 PERSHING SQUARE
 NEW YORK

JOHN MC E. BOWMAN
 PRESIDENT
 GEORGE W. SWEENEY
 VICE PRES & MGR.

8th February, 1924.

Abba Hillel
 Rabbi Silver,
Ch the Temple,
 E. 55 St - Central Ave.
 Cleveland.

My dear Rabbi Silver,

I suppose that the official invitation to the Conference on the 17th will have reached you by now, and I do hope that it will be possible for you to be with us on that day. I wonder whether it would be possible for you to come to New York a day earlier so that we could have a few hours to consider matters which may arise before and during the Conference. I should also like to have a talk with you on the position of the Movement generally. We were prevented from having a private talk in Cleveland and I should very much like to make up for the loss.

Hoping to hear from you soon,

I am, with kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely,

Ch. Weizmann

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WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

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RABBI SILVER

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CARE THE TEMPLE EAST 55 ST AND CENTRAL AVE CLEVELAND OHIO

LEARN WITH CONCERN THAT THUS FAR NO REPLIES RECEIVED TO CONFERENCE SEVENTEENTH FROM OUR CLEVELAND FRIENDS AM. PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS THAT YOU EDWARD BAKER EMIL JOSEPH NATHAN LOESER BENJAMIN LOEWENSTEIN PAUL FEISS SHOULD ATTEND IN VIEW IMPORTANCE PRESENTING AT THIS CONFERENCE UNITED FRONT AMERICAN JEWRY REQUEST YOU MOST EARNESTLY PERSONALLY SEE OTHER GENTLEMEN AND ENSURE THEIR ATTENDANCE PROCEEDINGS OF CONFERENCE WILL BE WATCHED WITH GREAT INTEREST BY WORLD JEWRY MANDATORY POWER AND HIGH COMMISSIONER WIRE PLEASE

WEIZMANN COMMODORE.



Weitzman

TELEPHONE - VANDERBILT 6000



THE COMMODORE

FORTY-SECOND STREET AND LEXINGTON AVENUE
GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL
PERSHING SQUARE
NEW YORK

JOHN MC E. BOWMAN 20th February, 1924.
PRESIDENT
GEORGE W. SWEENEY
VICE PRES & MGR.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
c/o The Temple,
E. 55th Street and Central Avenue,
CLEVELAND.

My dear Rabbi Silver,

As promised I am sending to you copy of my letter to Mr. Marshall .
Please forgive me for not doing this before but we were very hard pressed
on the days immediately before and after the Conference.

You will no doubt have read short reports about the Conference
which we all think was a signal success. The "New Palestine" of this
week will have a full account of the proceedings and I am sure you will
be as pleased as I am. We were not asked to give up anything of our
principles or our intentions. It was a most harmonious meeting. My great
care now is the campaign for the Keren Hayesod. The Investment Corporation
will be of help but this assistance will be felt only in a year's time.
Meanwhile we have got to shoulder a heavy burden and see the immigration
into Palestine continuing with greater strength than has been the case
hitherto. I need not labour this point as we spoke about it at great
length. I feel sure that at this critical turn of events you will lend
us your valuable support and help. I understand that you will be tied
up in Cleveland but if Cleveland and the vicinity does well it will be
of considerable importance. I think we have got David Brown to help us



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VICE PRES & MGR.

- 2 -

in New York, and shall be very happy to hear how things stand in Cleveland.

I shall be very grateful if you will convey my kindest regards to Mr. Loeser. Perhaps you will be good enough to write to California where I shall be going at the beginning of April. The National Office of the Keren Hayesod think it would be most useful to have a capable executive in San Francisco and suggest Mr. Irving Lipshitz. I would greatly value any advice you could give me on the subject, and if you think Mr. Irving Lipshitz a suitable man who could devote a little time for this work temporarily, perhaps you could sound him and let me know.

With kindest personal regards and all good wishes,

I am,

Yours very sincerely,

Ch. Weizman

February 13th, 1924

Mr. Louis Marshall,
47 East 72nd Street,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Marshall:

I hesitate to address myself to you once more but I hope that you will forgive me for troubling you with this letter. My justification for writing is my anxiety that the Conference should be successful and achieve the purpose which we so ardently desire. I view this conference, and from information I have received I think I am entitled to believe that my view is shared by many in Europe, as a beginning which some day may really lead to unity in Israel; and it seems to me that the old saying of our sages is beginning to come true, that Erez Israel is destined to unite the fragments of our People.

With this in view I venture to write to you about one matter. I saw Dr. Adler and Judge Stern last Sunday and they read to me the formulae which they have tentatively drafted as the possible platform which may be the outcome of the Conference. I do not think that they intend to introduce this Resolution at the Conference. They will follow your advice of allowing a free discussion first and not forestall such discussion by any Resolution however seriously worded. I fully share your view that the Conference must not be "managed" and must be allowed a free course, although I feel sure that your introductory speech will give the tone to the proceedings. In the statement which Dr. Adler and Judge Stern were good enough to read to me there are in my opinion one or two sentences which, if allowed to remain in their present form, will cause considerable misapprehension and which could be eliminated and modified without any harm to the general context of the statement. I refer to the remarks regarding political Zionism, Nationalism, etc. Whereas I fully agree that in the discussion a clear and frank statement of these thorny problems should be made, and nobody is more willing to have such a discussion than I, nevertheless I think that the inclusion of the above-mentioned sentences in a solemn manifesto, would cause grave misgiving and anxiety throughout the Jewish world particularly in Europe. If I interpret the Conference right I take it that we are all anxious to emphasize the points which unite us not those which divide us, and furthermore unity, -if it is to be real- must be based on mutual respect and tolerance. I have incessantly endeavored for the past two years to preach this doctrine to my followers, not without trouble and with a certain amount of success. Far be it from me to presume to indicate to you these views, which I know you hold as dearly as anybody. The only thing I venture to suggest is that the best way would be to emphasize the programme as laid down in the Mandate or any other official documents which, as you know, never mention a Jewish State, political Nationalism, or anything of that kind. These documents refer to the reconstruction of a National Home in Palestine and on this point I think we all agree, and we all can agree.

That the words "National Home" have been abused and misinterpreted by both sides is really no concern of ours, as we wish to inaugurate a new period of united activity. Another aspect of this is the following. The Conference will be watched not only by the Jews but also by our non-Jewish opponents, especially the Arabs inside and outside Palestine, and any statement which can be interpreted or twisted into suggesting a split between Zionists and the rest of Jewry will be seized upon and exploited to the full in Palestine, the Near East and also in Westminster.

I should also be glad if you would be kind enough to make some suggestion as to whether the press should be invited to be present at the Conference. I think it is a matter of such general interest and will call forth so much comment that it would, perhaps, be better to have it open to the Jewish Press at any rate, rather than to allow rumours to circulate and find their way in a distorted form into the press. From my point of view, and pardon my emphasizing it, at this stage, it would certainly make my position easier if the Jewish press is allowed free access. We could always ask them to abstain from publishing any particular news which may be found undesirable in the public interest, but I feel sure that nothing is likely to arise at this Conference which would necessitate such a request.

I think you may be interested to read the address which was submitted to our representative in Palestine to King Hussein on the occasion of his visit to Trans-Jordania. I understand that this address was approved by Sir Herbert Samuel and the authorities. It sets out clearly our position towards the Arabs and it should do away with any misconception in the minds of the Jews. This is the only copy I have, and I should be grateful if you would be kind enough to bring it with you to the Conference next Sunday, as I think it may be of interest to some of the people present.

Once more I beg of you to forgive me for inflicting this letter on you, but I hope you will realise that I am writing it only in my anxiety to bring about real unity, and to avoid any misconception.

With kindest regards,

I beg to remain

Yours very sincerely,

Chwe.

February 25th, 1924.

Dr. Ch. Weizman,
Hotel Commodore,
New York City.

My dear Dr. Weizman,

Permit me to thank you for your letter of the 20th. I am leaving within an hour for Montreal and shall be away from Cleveland for three or four days. The campaign is being launched today. I think that with an intensive effort we shall be able to do something worth while here.

I was very pleased with the results of the Sunday conference. I think a very fine beginning has been made. The trick is to keep these people on the job, working.

I shall write to San Francisco and shall also get in touch with Mr. Lipschitz whom I know and who to my mind is a very capable man for the work you have in mind.

With kindest regards, I beg to remain

Very sincerely yours,

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RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

CARE THE TEMPLE CLEVELAND OHIO

HAVE HEARD ENCOURAGING REPORT FIRST MEETING OF WORKS CALLED BY
YOU ACCEPT MY GRATEFUL APPRECIATION

CHAIM WEIZMANN.

Cedar 2093



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To Self

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ההסתדרות הציונית . המשרד המרכזי.
THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION
CENTRAL OFFICE.

Ch. Weizmann

TELEGRAMS: "ZIONIBURO. LONDON."

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 3817 (4 LINES).

CODES: BENTLEY'S & MOSSE'S.

In reply please address The Secretary,

and quote the following Reference No.:

77, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,

LONDON, W.C. 1.

May 30th, 1924.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland,
U.S.A.

Dear Rabbi Silver,

I was very glad indeed to receive your note and the kind wishes from Mrs. Silver and yourself. I did indeed have a strenuous time in the U.S. but if I have contributed in the slightest degree towards the union of forces in America for the upbuilding of Palestine, I shall consider myself sufficiently repaid.

I have been delighted to hear from many sources of the excellent work you are doing in Cleveland and the other towns you visited.

I shall be glad to have a word from you to let me know how matters are progressing.

With kindest regards and all good wishes *from all of us*

I am,

Yours sincerely,

Ch. Weizmann

P.S. Since writing the above, the enclosed press notice has reached me. I am most happy to hear of your great success in New York and of the excellent work you are doing for the Keren Hayesod.

"PALESTINE WEEK" IN AUSTRIA.

Half Milliard Crowns Raised for the K.H.

In connection with the Keren Hayesod campaign in Austria a "Palestine Week" took place in that country in May during which great efforts were made to raise funds for the Keren Hayesod.

On May 20th a large conference took place in Vienna in the Hall of the Jewish community of that city at which all workers on behalf of the Keren Hayesod in Austria were present.

Professor Dr. Chaies, Chief Rabbi of Vienna, who is Chairman of the Keren Hayesod in Austria, presided. In the course of an eloquent address, Professor Chaies said that when they had decided to carry out the "Palestine Week" they were fully aware that the economic conditions in Austria at the present time were far from favourable. Nevertheless they had resolved that the untoward circumstances should not deter them from proceeding with the campaign. It would, they thought, be an acid-test whether the Jews in Vienna could rise to the occasion at a difficult moment. By the response to the Keren Hayesod they would be able to judge whether their efforts hitherto had yielded any results and whether they had succeeded to inculcate the spirit of Palestine in certain Jewish circles in a sufficient measure to bring sacrifices for Eretz Israel even at a time when the financial and the economic situation was very bad. He was glad to say that the leaders and organisers of the campaign had stood the test & deserved the thanks of the whole Jewish community in Vienna. They were not disappointed in their expectations. The results accomplished were favourable. For their aim was not merely to raise material means but they had also in mind the object of gaining in Vienna an ever increasing number of Jews ready to assist in the work of reconstructing Palestine. It was, of course, much pleasanter if the Jews would come to them without waiting for an appeal to do their duty to Palestine. But apparently the time has not yet come for that and they were obliged to make repeated appeals to Jewry. Under the circumstances it was satisfactory to record that 300 Jews in Vienna have devoted all their time and energy to make the campaign an immediate success and he felt confident that the success would be even more noticeable during the coming months.

Dr. Nahum Blauer, the chief organiser of the campaign, in the course of his speech recalled that when they first launched the organisation of the "Palestine Week" a great deal of pessimism prevailed amongst some of their friends, who feared that owing to the present financial situation in Vienna the undertaking would meet with failure. Fortunately, events have proved that the exaggerated fears were unfounded. Having regard that the "Palestine Week" in Vienna was the first attempt of its kind and that it was confined only to certain circles, they were entitled to be satisfied with the result. Considering the present financial conditions in the country they had no reason to complain for the campaign resulted in raising half a milliard Austrian Crowns.

Inspiring reports continue to come from Keren Hayesod campaigns throughout the country. Philadelphia which presented Dr. Weizmann with a cheque for \$100,000 at its opening dinner the night before he sailed for London, expects to have a second cheque of \$100,000 for the Keren Hayesod ready early in June.

Mr. Samuel Blitz, Director of the Department of Organisation of the Zionist Organisation of America, who preceded Dr. Weizmann on his historic trip to the Pacific Coast and who directed the organisation work there, returned to New York and reported that leading Jews of the Coast, who have for the first time taken an active interest in the Keren Hayesod and who have assumed the leadership of the campaign, feel confident that the Coast will raise in cash a minimum of \$300,000 in its 1924 effort. Because of the deep interest in the Keren Hayesod now evinced on the Coast and the sentiment created as a result of Dr. Weizmann's visit, a Regional Bureau of the Keren Hayesod will be established at San Francisco and a committee of prominent Jews from San Francisco are expected at National Headquarters next month to arrange for the opening of the office.

THE WORK OF THE KEREN HAYESOD IN POLAND.

We are informed from Warsaw that as a result of the vigorous Keren Hayesod activity throughout Poland during the last few months, the income of the K.H. in that country has considerably increased. Tens of thousands of new pledges have been obtained within the last few months and the major portions of the previous pledges have been redeemed. Over 150 larger Jewish towns were visited by special delegates who organised the work of the Keren Hayesod and have endeavoured to stimulate Jewish interest in the rebuilding of Palestine. The most prominent and leading personalities in Polish Jewry have participated in the work.

The distinguished poet Leib Jaffe of Jerusalem, in particular has helped to further the Keren Hayesod in the leading Jewish centres of Poland. Owing to the Jewish communal elections in certain parts of the country, the Keren Hayesod efforts will be concentrated in the next few weeks in the districts where no such elections are taking place. These provinces will be visited by special delegates to organise the work.

BEQUEST FOR THE KEREN HAYESOD IN A WILL.

Mrs. Turel, a wealthy Jewish widow from Vilna, who recently died there, left the whole of her fortune to various local Jewish institutions including 8000 Gold Roubles for the Keren Hayesod.

The deceased lady, who was 66 years of age, recently visited Palestine and was greatly impressed by the Jewish achievements there.

THE KEREN HAYESOD IN CAPE TOWN

Dr. Alexander Goldstein Welcomed by the Mayor •
S.A. Government Represented

Dr. Alexander Goldstein, continuing his successful tour in South Africa, has reached Cape Town where he was accorded an enthusiastic reception.

The distinguished emissary from the Keren Hayesod Head Office London, was officially welcomed at the City Hall by the Mayor of Cape Town on May 5th. In the absence of the Prime Minister General Smuts, from Cape Town, the Government was represented by the Rt. Hon. F.S. Malan, Minister for Mines and Industry.

The reception was attended by a large and representative gathering and was presided over by Mr. A. Alexander K. C. M.L.A. The Mayor, having extended to the visitor the official welcome of the city, the Right Hon. F.S. Malan (Deputy Prime Minister) welcomed Dr. Goldstein on behalf of the Government of South Africa.

The South African Government, Mr. Malan said, had never failed to show its sincere and strong sympathy with the aim of establishing a Jewish National Home in Palestine. He felt confident that Dr. Goldstein's mission in the interest of the Keren Hayesod would be successful and that South African Jewry would contribute its share in the upbuilding of the Jewish homeland in Palestine.

The Rev. A.P. Bender cordially welcomed the special Keren Hayesod delegate in the name of the Jewish population in the Cape Peninsula.

Dr. Goldstein, in acknowledging, made a strong impression upon all present with his message from Palestine.

The Keren Hayesod Committee in Cape Town have made extensive preparation for a close canvass and all sections of the community are represented in the campaign Committee. The actual campaign was inaugurated on May 11 with a large mass meeting which was addressed by Dr. Goldstein.

SIR WYNDHAM DEELES ON THE KEREN HAYESOD.

Lord Rothschild at K.H. Meeting.

On May 25 a meeting to further the Keren Hayesod activity in North West London took place at the Brondesbury Synagogue Class Room. Lord Rothschild was present at the gathering and Sir Wyndham Deedes, formerly chief Secretary of the Palestine Government, was the principal speaker. Rabbi Dr. S. Daiches presided.

Sir Wyndham, in the course of his address, likened the National Home in Palestine to a building of which the Balfour Declaration was the corner-stone, the Chaluzim the foundation layers, the Keren Hayesod the foundation, and the British Administration the scaffolding. The plans for the

building, he said, envisaged it neither as an almshouse nor as a museum, but as a real home, a permanent home for the Jews who lived there, and a spiritual home for the Jews of the rest of the world. He knew there was an idea on the part of certain British Jews that the National Home was prejudicing their social, economic, or political position in this country. There could be no more mistaken idea than that. He felt sure it was true to say - and it was felt by 90 per cent. of Englishmen - that the better the Jew, the better the citizen.

Thanks were accorded to Sir Wyndham Deedes, on the motion of Lord Rothschild, seconded by Dayan H.M. Lazarus, M.A.

KINGS AND QUEENS VISIT THE PALESTINE PAVILION AT THE BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION -----

Their Majesties the King, Queen Mary, and the King and Queen of Italy, visited the Palestine Pavilion of the British Empire Exhibition on May 28th.

The Royal Party was received by Sir Alfred Mond and by Mr. Walter H. Cohen and Mr. A. Sefi, (members of the London Organisation Committee of the Pavilion). Among those present were Mr. Joseph Cowen, Col. and Mrs. H. J. Solomon, Mr. H. Franc (representative of the I.C.A.) Mr. Leonard Stein, Mrs. Weizmann and Mr. N.J. Tischby.

Sir Alfred Mond conducted the Party over the Pavilion. At the stall illustrating Jewish work in arts and crafts, the Queens were presented with lace d'oyleys. King George spent some time at the Zionist Organisation Agricultural Stall.

A basket of Jaffa oranges, sent specially from Palestine by the "Pardess" Co-operative Society, was presented to the Royal Party at the Luncheon which followed the tour of the Exhibition.

THE RUTENBERG CONCESSION

Statement in the House of Lords

A statement was made in the House of Lords on May 28th by Lord Arnold, Under Secretary for the Colonies, in connection with the Rutenberg concession in Palestine.

The statement was made in reply to Lord Raglan, who asked the Government whether Mr. Rutenberg had fulfilled the conditions under which the concession was made to him and what works had actually been constructed and sanctioned; also whether compulsion had been used to acquire any land or instal any plant.

Lord Arnold, replying for the Government, said a concession in connection with the supply of electrical energy to the district of Jaffa was already in force and was held by the Jaffa Electric Company. The High Commissioner had recently reported that this company was conducting its operations

to the satisfaction of the consumers whom it supplied, and that it was correctly adhering to the terms and conditions laid down in the concession. Jaffa and Tel-Aviv are now provided with electrical energy for private and street lighting, water supply and industrial purposes. Petach-Tikvah remained to be supplied and would be supplied, either from the existing fuel power house at Tel-Aviv or from the hydro electric station on the River Auja. The existing power house consisted of two Diesel generator sets of a 1,000 h.p. capacity. About 5 kilos of high tension underground cables had been made in Jaffa and Tel-Aviv, transmitting energy to five sub-stations with transforming plant. A high tension transmission line 18 kilos long was being erected from the Jaffa power-house to Sarafend and would serve a number of places in the Southern part of the Jaffa district. The erection of a third Diesel generator set would shortly be completed. He had been glad to learn that since October 1923, the Arab Municipality of Jaffa, and private Arab consumers were using electric energy from the Jaffa power-house. There were 184 street lights in Tel-Aviv and 126 in Jaffa. The number of consumers in Tel-Aviv was 800 and the number in Jaffa 260.

The position with regard to the larger Jordan concession was somewhat different. Under the agreement with Mr. Rutenberg of September 21st. 1921, a concession was granted to a company with an authorised capital of not less than £1,000,000, of which not less £200,000 was to be subscribed and paid for in cash, application for the grant of the concession being made within two years from the date of the agreement. Application was duly made within the time specified and the Secretary for State had been satisfied that a company had been duly formed with the requisite authorised and paid up capital. The actual issue of the concession had not yet been made, but he understood it was on the point of being completed. In these circumstances the Palestine Electric Corporation, to whom the concession was to be granted, was not yet under any obligation to carry out its terms. As a matter of fact, however, a considerable amount of progress had been made and the High Commissioner reported that he was satisfied with it. The engineering investigations into the works to be established on the River Jordan had been completed, and the plans required had been submitted to the Colonial Office, and after reference to its consulted engineers, had been approved.

Lord Raglan referred to the Rutenberg concession in Palestine. There were, in fact, two concessions and not one, representing the greatest attempt yet made to develop the natural resources of the country.

He was informed that negotiations for acquisition of land required for the power-house and other necessary works were now being conducted and the tenders for the necessary machinery and materials had been called for.

Work on the Jordan would commence as soon as the necessary land had been acquired, and it was hoped that the work would actually be commenced during the present year. Meanwhile a good deal of work had been done in connection with subsidiary fuel power stations at Haifa and Tiberias.

At Haifa land for the power house and for the future transmission station had been acquired. Plans for the power house were being prepared and the tracing of distribution net made. Orders for the steel frame construction for the powerhouse had been placed in this country and orders for machinery were also being placed here. The Haifa power-house was expected to commence the supply of energy early next week. Land for the Tiberias power-house had been acquired; machinery and materials required were already in Palestine and an agreement had been arrived at with the Municipality for the supply of energy which was expected to be available towards the end of this year. Plans for the Jerusalem installation had been prepared as far back as 1921, but the actual execution of the works had been delayed owing to complications which had arisen in connection with the claim of another party to a pre-war concession for a similar purpose. The Palestine Electric Corporation had been in no way responsible for any delay in this connection. He was informed that the cost of the first stage of the works indicated was estimated at £750,000, of which about £300,000 represented the cost of machinery and materials required to be imported into Palestine. It was hoped that by far the greater part of these orders would be placed in this country. So far as he was aware no compulsory powers had been exercised in connection either with the acquisition of land or installation of plant for any of the schemes in hand.

In reply to a question by Lord Raglan, Lord Arnold said he had no knowledge of any differences having occurred between the Municipality of Jaffa and the electric company.