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World Zionist Congress, 1928-1929.

THE BEISAN LANDS IN PALESTINE.

Government's Statement of Policy.

The Central Office of the Zionist Organisation issues the following statement:-

The Palestine Official Gazette of September 16th, 1928 contains a statement of policy with reference to the Ghor Ludawarah Agreement (commonly known as the Beisan Agreement) of 1921. The circumstances in which the 1921 Agreement was made are thus described by Sir Herbert Samuel in his report on the Administration of Palestine, 1920-1925:

"There was in the Jordan Valley, south of the Sea of Galilee, a large area of about 106 square miles of land which had been cultivated by certain tribes of Bedouin for a long period. Some 40 years ago these people had been called upon by the Turkish authorities to register the ownership of their land; they had not done so; it had consequently been declared to be the property of the Sultan, and afterwards of the Turkish State.

"For a generation or more the cultivators had been legally tenants, and had paid an annual rent to the Government. It was known that it was an area which might possibly be dealt with under the article in the Mandate which favoured Jewish colonisation on State lands. This was regarded as a test case, and the action that the Government would take was closely watched throughout Palestine. Although the original title of the people to the land was doubtful, and although it was quite clear that under Turkish law the ownership was now vested in the Government there was undoubtedly a strong moral claim on the part of the cultivators to continue their possession. The Government recognised the strength of this claim. An arrangement was negotiated under which the people were allowed to become the registered owners on easy terms, not only of the areas actually under cultivation, but also of such additions as were needed for grazing, and to provide for future growth of population".

As will be seen from the foregoing extract from Sir Herbert Samuel's report, the object of the 1921

Agreement was to enable the cultivators to become free-holders on easy terms. The main provisions of the agreement may be summarised as follows:

- (i) The cultivators to be entitled to acquire the ownership of their holdings at a price of PT.150 per dunam of non-irrigable land.
- (ii) The transfer-price to be payable by 15 equal annual instalments.
- (iii) A family cultivating less than 150 dunams to be entitled to the transfer of additional land bringing its total holding up to 150 dunams. If the family consisted of more than five persons, 30 extra dunams were to be added for each additional member.
- (iv) So long as the whole of the transfer price has not been paid, the transferees were not to be entitled to dispose of their holdings except by way of mortgage to the Government or of succession.
- (v) The transferees to have the right to time any sum beyond the annual instalment.

In connection with the 1921 Agreement two distinct points have been raised by the Zionist Organisation:

- (a) It has been pointed out that there is reason to believe that, when bona-fide claimants have received all that they are entitled to receive under the agreement, a substantial area of land will be left over, and the Government has been urged to make this surplus land available for Jewish colonisation in conformity with the provisions of Article 6 of the Mandate. As long ago as October 1925, Mr. Cansby-Gore, as the accredited representative of the British Government at the Seventh Session of the Permanent Mandates Commission, stated, with reference to the Doisan area, that "it was possible that some of it might remain unoccupied, in which case it could be given to the Jews".

(b) The Zionist Organisation has also pointed out that the allotments under the Agreement have, in some cases at least, been demonstrably surplus to the actual requirements of the cultivators concerned, as is shown by the fact that they are seeking to dispose of their allotments for cash. It will be observed that, although the right of disposition is strictly limited so long as any part of the transfer-price remains unpaid, there is nothing in the Agreement to prevent a cultivator from parting with his land, once the outstanding instalments have been paid off. If the Zionist Organisation wished to obtain the transfer of land from an allottee desirous of parting with it, it could do so by enabling him to pay off in cash the outstanding balance of the purchase-price, but so also could any private person who might desire to acquire the land for speculative purposes. What the Zionist Organisation has consistently urged has been that, as a bona fide colonising agency, and by virtue of its status under the mandate, it is entitled to better treatment than private individuals in cases in which land within the scope of the Agreement comes into the market as a result of the allottee's desire to part with it. It has, therefore, been proposed by the Zionist Organisation that provision should be made for enabling a purchaser approved by the Government to be substituted for cultivators within the scope of the Agreement who voluntarily decide to part with their allotments on his covenanting with the Government to complete the payment of the purchase-price by annual instalments, this privilege being strictly confined to bona fide colonising agencies like the Jewish

National Fund, which can be relied upon not to use the land for speculative purposes but to hold it for colonisation and development.

Repeated representations on these lines have been made by the Zionist Organisation over a period of years. The whole question was fully discussed in Dr. Weizmann's covering letter to the memorandum submitted by the Zionist Organisation to the Permanent Mandates Commission in 1926, and it was again referred to in similar communications to the Mandates Commission in 1927 and 1928.

The purport of the statement of policy which has just been published may be summarised as follows:

i) A concession is made to the cultivators, in so far as the Government states its willingness, in appropriate circumstances and under certain conditions, to modify in individual cases terms of the 1921 Agreement, by extending the period over which the instalments of the transfer-price are to be paid to a period of ^{from} 25 to 30 years, instead of 15 years as originally laid down. It will be observed that this concession is not indiscriminately extended to the Deisan allottees generally; the intention appears to be that each application shall be considered on its merits, and shall, if granted, be subject to such conditions as the Government may think it right to impose.

ii) On the other hand, a bona-fide colonising agency like the Zionist Organisation will now be in a better position than before to acquire land of which allottees under the agreement desire to dispose. It will be remembered that, under the original agreement, an allottee could not part with his

rights, otherwise than by way of mortgage to the Government or of succession, so long as any part of the transfer-price remained unpaid. The Government now states that it is prepared to waive this restriction under certain conditions, of which the first is that the surplus land shall be transferred to "persons approved by the Government and having as their object the promotion of close settlement and the intensive cultivation of the land," - a definition which would clearly cover the case of such a purchaser as the Jewish National Fund.

The second main condition is that the cultivator shall retain "such extent of land in the area to which the Chor Mudawarah Agreement of 1921 applies, or elsewhere, as will in the opinion of the Government suffice for the maintenance of himself and his family".

Subject to this qualification, the effect of the statement of policy appears to be that, if land within the scope of the 1921 agreement comes on to the market, a bona fide colonising agency like the Jewish National Fund will now be able to acquire it without necessarily paying the outstanding balance of the purchase-price in cash. The approved purchaser will presumably be entitled to take over the land under the same conditions with regard to the payment of the transfer-price by instalments as were given to the original allottee.

The practical value of this concession from a Zionist point of view depends, of course, on the amount of land which is actually offered for sale by allottees under the 1921 Agree-

ment, and on the suitability of such land for the purposes of Jewish Colonization.

It will be observed that the statement of policy deals only with the question of the transfer to bona-fide colonising agencies of lands allotted to cultivators under the 1921 Agreement, and has no bearing on the other question raised by the Zionist Organisation, namely that of the allotment for Jewish colonisation of such land in the Beisan area as may be left over when the claims of bona fide applicants under the 1921 Agreement have been satisfied.



ההסתדרות הציונית . המשרד המרכזי.

THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION.

CENTRAL OFFICE.

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.

11th October, 1928.

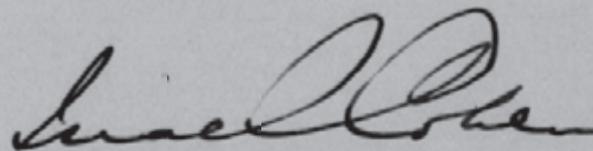
Dr. A. H. Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland,
O H I O.

Dear Sir,

I am enclosing herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter on the subject of the incident at the Wailing Wall on Yom Kippur, which we are sending to our Federations.

With Zion's greetings,

Yours faithfully,



General Secretary.

WRHS



ההסתדרות הציונית . המשרד המרכזי.

THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION.

CENTRAL OFFICE.

TELEGRAMS: "ZIONIBURO, LONDON."

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 3817 (4 LINES)

CODES: BENTLEY'S & MOSSE'S.

77, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,

LONDON, W.C.1,
9th October, 1928.

In reply please address The Secretary,

and quote the following Reference No.:

The Executive,

Gentlemen,

In view of the world-wide interest aroused by the deplorable incident at the Wailing Wall on Yom Kippur, we think it desirable to place at your disposal information on this matter received from the Palestine Zionist Executive and from the Colonial Office, as well as to acquaint you with the steps already taken and others to be taken by the Executive with a view to preventing the recurrence of such an incident and bringing the problem involved therein to a satisfactory and permanent solution.

2. About 9 o'clock on the morning of Yom Kippur British Police, acting on the order of the Deputy District Commissioner, Mr. Keith-Rosch, broke through the crowd of worshippers at the Western Wall to remove a light portable screen set up the previous evening, which separated men and women while leaving the thoroughfare open. No Jewish police officer was present. Colonel Kisch had seen the screen in position on Erev Yom Kippur. It had been used ten days previously on Rosh Hashanah without any protest being raised from any quarter. On the termination of Yom Kippur Colonel Kisch immediately went to see Mr. Luke, the Acting High Commissioner, and lodged an emphatic protest against the action taken by the police. Mr. Luke reserved his reply until he should receive the report of the District Commissioner.

3. On the afternoon of the following day, September 25, the Acting High Commissioner received a combined Jewish deputation representing the Zionist Executive (Colonel Kisch, with Mr. Ariev), the Chief Rabbinate (Chief Rabbi Kook and Chief Rabbi Meir), the Vaad Leumi (Dr. Thon and Mr. Kalvarisky), and the Vaad Hair (Mr. Meyuchas). On behalf of the Government there were present, besides the Officer administering the Government, Mr. Mills, Mr. Bentwich, Mr. Mavrogordato, and the Deputy District Commissioner. The Acting High Commissioner requested that the proceedings of the meeting should be treated as strictly confidential.

4. On September 26th the Government in Jerusalem issued the following communiqué:-

"On the evening of the 23rd September, the eve of the Day of Atonement, a complaint was made to the Deputy District Commissioner, Jerusalem, by the Mutawali of the Abu Madien Waqf, in which the pavement and the whole area around the Western or Wailing Wall is vested, to the effect that a dividing screen had been affixed to the pavement adjoining the Wall, and that other innovations had been made in the established practice, such as the introduction of additional petrol lamps, a number of mats and a tabernacle or ark much larger than was customary. The Deputy District Commissioner visited the Wall during the evening service, and, acting in accordance with the practice established by Government, decided that the screen would have to be removed before the service on the following day. He gave instructions accordingly to the beadle in charge of the arrangements for the conduct of the services at the Wall, reserving his decision in the matter of the lamps, the mats and the ark. The beadle undertook to remove the screen, and the Deputy District Commissioner gave him until early the following morning to do so. The Deputy District Commissioner accepted the beadle's assurance that his instructions would be carried out, at the same time informing the British Police Officer on duty that in the event of the beadle not complying with his undertaking the screen was to be removed.

On the following morning the Police Officer visited the Wall, and, finding that the screen had not been removed, asked members of the congregation present to take it away; they replied that they were unable to move it because of the holiness of the day. The Police therefore removed the screen themselves. The worshippers in general, unaware of the circumstances that had gone before and seeing only the police in the act of removing the screen which had been used to separate the men and the women, became excited and some of them endeavoured by force to prevent the screen being taken away. Ultimately the screen was removed.

The importation of the screen and its attachment to the pavement constituted an infraction of the status quo which the Government was unable to permit. At the same time the Government deeply deplore the shock that was caused to large numbers of religious people on a day so holy to Jews. Government understands that the beadle responsible for the innovation which caused the incident has been dealt with by the Jewish authorities, and on their side have impressed on the Jewish authorities the need, manifested in connection with the incidents at the Wall in 1922 and 1925 and again on this occasion, for prior consultation with the proper officers of Government as to the arrangements for the services at the Wall on the principal Jewish holidays.

No Jewish Police Officer was present at the Wall on the occasion in question owing to all Jewish Officers in Jerusalem having been excused duty for the Day of Atonement. Government will, however, consider the desirability of a responsible Jewish Officer being included in future among the Officers detailed for duty at the Wall on the solemn Jewish Holy Days.

In conclusion, Government consider that the removal of the screen was necessary, but regret all the circumstances attending that removal."

5. A special meeting of the representatives of the Yishub from various parts of the country was held on the evening of September 26th under the auspices of the Vaad Leumi for the purpose of conferring on the situation. It was attended by, among others, Colonel Kisch, both Chief Rabbis, several representatives from Tel Aviv (including Mr. Bloch, Mr. Bialik, Mr. Hoofien, Mr. Rosoff, and Mr. Suprasky), the President of the Mizrachi Organisation, and a special representative of the Histadruth. Colonel Kisch, after reciting the facts in relation to the incident, explained the standpoint of the Executive, which may be summarised as follows:-

6. The Executive laid the burden of their complaint not on the amount of violence employed by the police in carrying out an order received from their superior, and the effects upon certain worshippers, as upon the fact of the disturbance committed whilst Jews were engaged in prayer on the most solemn day of the Jewish year at what was venerated as the most sacred Jewish site. The act of the police constituted an insult to the Jewish people as a whole. The Executive could not accept as an excuse the circumstance that the beadle (Shamash), after promising the Deputy District Commissioner on the eve of Yom Kippur that he would remove the screen, failed to keep his promise. Nor could they accept as a justification the fact that a representative of the Supreme Moslem Council demanded of the District Commissioner that the screen should be removed because a number of Moslems were greatly excited. The Executive maintained that it was the duty of the District Commissioner, before issuing any instructions to the police, to have taken up the matter with the recognised Jewish authorities and with the Government; that he should have shown sufficient appreciation of Jewish religious sentiment on such a day and at such a place to have refrained from ordering the disturbance that was committed; and that he should have taken appropriate measures to prevent any attack that might have been threatened by Moslems.

7. In order to bring home to the Government of Palestine the serious view that the Yishub take of the incident, the special meeting convened by the Vaad Leumi decided that a public meeting should be held on September 27th in every town or colony, at which resolutions of

protest should be adopted. These meetings were duly held, and the resolutions were presented to the local representatives of the Government. In addition, the Vaad Leumi and the Chief Rabbinate despatched telegrams through the Government of Jerusalem to the League of Nations.

8. On September 27th the Palestine Zionist Executive issued a statement in which, referring to the Government communiqué, it pointed out that Colonel Kisch, in submitting on behalf of the Zionist Organisation a most emphatic protest against the action taken by the Deputy District Commissioner, contended that no formal departure from previous custom as regards ceremonial arrangements for religious services at the Wall could possibly justify the use of Police for aggressive action at such a place and on such a day. Nor could the Zionist Organisation admit that any error on the part of a Shamash could justify the action taken by the responsible Officer of the Government, one of whose first duties must be to secure that Jews should not be disturbed at prayer at this most holy site.

On the following day (the statement proceeded) united representations in a similar sense were made to the Acting High Commissioner by a deputation comprising representatives of the Zionist Executive, Chief Rabbinate, Vaad Leumi and Vaad Ha-ir of Jerusalem. The Government communiqué setting forth details of the occurrence, and concluding with an expression of regret at the circumstances attending the removal of the screen was subsequently issued.

The occurrence (the statement concluded) has profoundly stirred all sections of the Yishuv, who are united in supporting the national authorities in an endeavour by all proper and legitimate means to secure such a solution to the question as will render impossible any recurrence of this most deplorable incident.

9. The Executive in London, as soon as they received a telegraphic despatch from their colleagues in Jerusalem, secured an interview at the Colonial Office and made such representations as they could on the basis of the information at their disposal. Dr. Weizmann had an interview with the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Amery, in the course of which he gave expression to the strong feeling of indignation shared by Jews throughout the world at the flagrant affront to Jewish sentiment, and urged that the question of Jewish rights in regard to the Wailing Wall should receive prompt consideration and satisfaction.

10. The Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregation of the British Empire, the Very Rev. Dr.

J. H. Hertz, has also had an interview with the Colonial Secretary, in which he made suitable representations.

11. The Executive, after reviewing the whole situation, have come to the conclusion that they cannot rest content with what has already been done but that they must take every possible step with a view to ensuring that the matter at issue shall at length be properly dealt with and in a manner that will satisfy Jewish susceptibilities and Jewish religious feeling. They are resolved to pursue their conversations with the British Government towards this end, and also to carry the matter to the Council of the League of Nations.

12. As a first step, the Executive will immediately submit a petition to the League, through the medium of the High Commissioner of Palestine, for consideration at the meeting of the Mandates Commission to be held on October 26th. Further, they propose to argue the case at length in a special Memorandum, on the basis of the historical connexion of the Jews with the Wailing Wall and of the provisions of the Mandate relating to holy places; and this Memorandum, which will naturally take a little time to prepare, will be submitted to the League of Nations in time for consideration by the Mandates Commission at its next session in June, 1929.

13. The Executive attach very great importance to the ventilation of the question in the House of Commons. They are therefore taking the requisite steps with a view to an interpellation being addressed to the Government by an influential member of the House.

14. In view of the facts recited above, the Executive have adopted the following resolution as regards action to be taken by our Federations:

In order that it may be brought home both to the British Government and the League of Nations what a painful impression has been produced upon the Jews of the whole world by the Yom Kipur incident and what a serious view they take of the matter, the Executive consider it desirable that telegrams of protest should immediately be addressed both by (1) the Zionist Federation of each country and (2) the Chief Rabbinate or other supreme ecclesiastical authority of the Jewish community to (1) the Colonial Office and (2) the Secretariat of the League of Nations. The message from the Zionist Federation should be sent separately from that of the ecclesiastical authority.

Its purpose should be an expression of protest at the affront committed against the religious feelings of the Jewish people, a condemnation of the act of a local official

in ordering an interruption of Jewish divine worship without previously communicating with the recognised Jewish authorities and submitting the matter to the Government, and a demand that the question of the Jewish right to pray at the Wailing Wall shall receive prompt and satisfactory consideration.

15. We accordingly address an earnest request to you to assist us with your active co-operation by (1) forwarding a telegram in the suggested sense to the British Government and to the League of Nations, and by (2) inducing the Jewish ecclesiastical authority of your country to forward similar (but not exactly identical) telegrams to the same two bodies. In case you or the ecclesiastical authority have already taken the action here proposed, it need not, of course, be repeated.

16. We shall be obliged if you will kindly give this communication your immediate and very careful attention, and if you will send us copies of the messages forwarded by yourselves and the ecclesiastical authority to the British Government and the League of Nations.

WRHS


With Zion's greetings,
 Yours faithfully,



Joseph H. ...

Member of Executive.

Samuel Cohen

General Secretary.

ההסתדרות הציונית . המשרד המרכזי.

THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION.

CENTRAL OFFICE.

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.:
30.Fed.19.

77, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,

LONDON, W.C.1.

October 17, 1928.

TO THE ZIONIST FEDERATIONS AND
SEPARATE UNIONS.

Dear Sirs,

Commission on Organisation & Propaganda.

1. The following resolution was proposed by the Executive and passed by the General Council at its last meeting.

"The Executive is requested, in conjunction with a Commission appointed by the General Council, to make a thorough examination of questions of Zionist organisation and propaganda, to carry out an inquiry in relation thereto, and so far as this is possible without involving the Organisation in any expenditure, to convene a Conference in the course of the coming winter for the consideration of these problems.

The results of the inquiry and of the Conference shall be published.

The Executive shall submit proposals relating to organisation and propaganda based upon this investigation to the 16th Congress.

The following shall be elected members of the Commission: Professor S. Brodetsky, Dr. B. Feiwel, Rev. J. K. Goldbloom, Mr. M. Grossman, Mr. M. Schiff and Mr. Dov Hos."

2. The Commission appointed by the General Council has begun its work. According to the programme adopted, it is intended to conduct the inquiry by means, in the first place, of written questionnaires, and when this stage is concluded to call a conference of experts. Every section of the Zionist movement

will be given an opportunity of expressing its views on the subject of the inquiry.

It is intended to publish a list of the questions connected with organisation and propaganda which shall form the subject of the inquiry. Zionist Federations and groups, and some individual Zionists, will be invited to state their opinion in regard to these questions. In addition, the Commission will appoint experts to prepare detailed memoranda on those questions which require a particularly careful scrutiny. The proposed Conference, as to which fuller information will be communicated to the Zionist public in good time, is to take place only after the completion of these preparations.

It is the intention of the Executive and the Commission to carry through the preliminary work with the utmost despatch in order that the Conference may be convened as early as possible before the next Congress.

3. It is hoped that the Zionist Federations will assist the Commission to the best of their ability. For the time being, the Commission requests you

- a. to name such questions as you consider should be made the subject of inquiry, only problems touching on the structure of our Organisation or on the ideology and methods of our propaganda being admissible, and
- b. to send a small selected list of authoritative members of your Federation who you consider should be invited to take part in the written inquiry.

4. We shall much appreciate your early reply, and hope to be able to supply you soon with further particulars.

With Zion's greetings,
Yours faithfully,

Executive of the Zionist Organisation

Joseph P. ...
Member of Executive and
Chairman of Commission.

Isak Hershbach
Secretary of Organisation Dept.
and Secretary to the Commission.

ההסתדרות הציונית . המשרד המרכזי.

THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION.

CENTRAL OFFICE.

TELEGRAMS: "ZIONIBURO, LONDON."

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 3817 (4 LINES)

CODES: BENTLEY'S & MOSSE'S.

In reply please address The Secretary,

34. Fed. 22

and quote the following Reference No.:

77, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,

LONDON, W.C.1.
October 26th, 1928.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

To the

Zionist Federations and Separate Unions.

Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Executive of the Zionist Organisation I beg to address you on the subject of the situation arising out of the recent regrettable incidents at the Western Wall. It goes without saying that the Executive, both in London and in Jerusalem, have not only made energetic protests in the proper quarters with regard to the deplorable events which occurred on the Day of Atonement, but are also pressing for a final settlement of the whole question of the Western Wall on such terms as will satisfy Jewish sentiment and guarantee Jewish worshippers full liberty to perform their devotional exercises at the Wall in a dignified and appropriate manner without external interference.

2. It will, however, be readily recognised that, if a favourable atmosphere for such a settlement is to be created, it is essential that nothing should be done to afford a pretext for Moslem Propaganda designed to show that what is really contemplated is an attack on the Mosque of Omar and the contiguous Moslem Holy Places. What the Jews are justly entitled to demand is the unrestricted right of access to the Western Wall, and complete freedom to worship in their own way on a site which immemorial tradition has consecrated as a Holy Place for the entire Jewish world. This demand does not, however, include or imply any claim to the ownership of the Wall. The Wall forms the boundary of the Haram-el-Sharif, which enjoys peculiar sanctity in Moslem eyes, and it is important to refrain from any expressions which may be construed as suggesting that its inviolability is being called in question. In the petition which has just been submitted by the Zionist Organisation for the consideration of the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations, the Executive state that they

"wish emphatically to repudiate as false and libellous the rumours which have been circulated that it is the intention of the Jewish people to menace the inviolability of the Moslem Holy Place which encloses the Mosque of Aksa and the Mosque of Omar."

3. The Executive trust that you will use your best endeavours to ensure that, in any articles which may appear in the local Jewish Press, or in any resolutions which may be

adopted at local public meetings, nothing shall be said that is not in strict conformity with this declaration.

4. It is hardly necessary to say that the contents of this letter should be regarded as strictly confidential. The Executive are communicating with you on this subject in the hope that you may be able quietly to use your influence behind the scenes to prevent local agitation from taking a form which might unintentionally be detrimental to Jewish interests, and might prejudice the attainment of the practical object in view, namely a settlement satisfying the legitimate Jewish demands and accepted as final by all parties concerned. The prospects of such a settlement will be inevitably lessened by any suggestion of a Jewish claim to the actual ownership of the Wall - a claim which it is impossible to support, and which there is no need to put forward in order to secure the right of access and the facilities for freedom of worship for which the Jews are properly entitled to press.

With Zion's greetings,

Yours faithfully,

Joseph H. ...



Member of the Executive
of the Zionist Organisation.

ההסתדרות הציונית . המשרד המרכזי.

THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION.

CENTRAL OFFICE.

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In reply please address The Secretary,

and quote the following Reference No.:

34. Fed. 22

77, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,

LONDON, W.C.1.

October 26, 1928.

To the Zionist Federations & Separate Unions.

Dear Sirs,

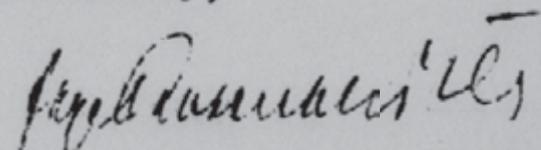
We have the honour to forward herewith copy of the petition concerning the Wailing Wall submitted by the Zionist Organisation to the Permanent Mandates Commission, which is now in session.

It is anticipated that the petition will be dealt with by the Mandates Commission at its meeting of Wednesday next, October 31st. In accordance with custom, the petition may not be published before that date.

Wednesday, October 31st, is therefore the earliest date for publication in the press, and we urgently request you to see that no earlier publications are made.

With Zion's greetings,

Yours faithfully,



Member of the Executive.

PETITION

SUBMITTED BY THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION AS THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE PERMANENT MANDATES COMMISSION, OCTOBER, 1928.

Zionist Organisation,
Offices of the Palestine Zionist Executive,
Jerusalem.

His Excellency,
The Officer Administering the Government of
Palestine, Jerusalem.

October 12, 1928.

SIR,—On behalf of the Executive of the Zionist Organisation, which is recognised as the Jewish Agency for Palestine in Article 4 of the Palestine Mandate, I have the honour to request that this petition may be transmitted through the proper channels to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations for the information of the Permanent Mandates Commission.

2. The petition relates to a deplorable incident which recently occurred in Jerusalem on the Jewish Day of Atonement, which has caused the most painful impression throughout the Jewish world.

About 9 a.m. on the Jewish Day of Atonement, falling on September 24, 1928, British police, acting on orders received from the Deputy District Commissioner of Jerusalem, broke through the crowded worshippers at the *Kothel-Maaravi*, generally known as the Wailing Wall, and effected the removal of a portable screen which had been set up the previous evening. The screen separated men and women at worship, in accordance with the traditional Jewish religious rite, but did not interfere with the right of way. The entreaties of the worshippers that the removal of the screen be postponed until the conclusion of the Services and the Fast of the Day of Atonement were ignored. In carrying out the order to remove the screen, the police thrust aside, and, as was perhaps inevitable for the execution of the order, knocked down several aged worshippers, men and women. One worshipper holding on to the screen was dragged along the ground.

The identical screen had been in use in the same position ten days previously on the Feast of the Jewish New Year, without any complaint or protest having been communicated to any Jewish authority.

3. The Government of Palestine in an official communiqué have justified the action taken, on the grounds that the screen and its attachment to the pavement constituted an infraction of the *status quo* which the Government was unable to permit, and that the beadle in charge of the arrangements for the conduct of the Services at the Wall had been instructed, on the eve of the Day of Atonement, that the screen would have to be removed before the Services on the following day.

The Executive regret that they cannot be satisfied with this explanation, and maintain that no formal departure from previous custom as regards ceremonial arrangements for religious Services at the Wall could justify the use of police for aggressive action at such a place and on such a day. Nor can the Zionist organisation admit that any error on the part of a mere caretaker, referred to above as the beadle, could justify the action taken by the District Authorities without giving previous notification to any responsible Jewish authority.

4. The Executive remind the Permanent Mandates Commission that this is not the first occasion upon which the Palestine Government have found it necessary to make aggressive use of the police at the *Kothel-Maaravi*. The previous incident also occurred on the Day of Atonement, when, in 1925, police were sent by the District Authorities to remove seats and benches placed at the *Kothel-Maaravi* for the use of aged and infirm worshippers during the Fast, as reported in paragraph 9 of the letter dated May 3, 1926, addressed by Dr. Weizmann on behalf of the Zionist Organisation to the High Commissioner for Palestine, for transmission to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations. On that, as on the present occasion, the order for police action was given by the Administrative Officer concerned, as a result of representations received from the Moslem authorities in regard to arrangements made for the conduct of Jewish religious Services.

5. The Executive feel confident that it was the desire both of the Permanent Mandates Commission and

of the Mandatory Government to prevent any repetition of such an incident as occurred on the Day of Atonement in 1925. The fact that recurrence has not been prevented is evidence of the impossibility of prolonging the present state of affairs.

6. In order that the Permanent Mandates Commission may appreciate what such an incident means to the Jewish people it is necessary to explain that the Day of Atonement is the most sacred day of the Jewish calendar. The *Shmoneh Esrei* prayer during which the incident occurred and the police broke in among the worshippers, is the most important prayer of the whole day of worship. The *Kothel-Maaravi* has ever been the most holy spot for the Jewish nation since the destruction of the Temple.

7. On the other hand, the Jewish place of prayer at the Wall is not holy to any other nation or community, and while the Jews have for generations past undertaken the most arduous journeys in order to be able to pray at the Wall if only for a few moments, the Moslem neighbours have never used the site for prayer, and have not hesitated to desecrate it in the most offensive manner.

The Executive wish emphatically to repudiate as false and libellous the rumours which have been circulated that it is the intention of the Jewish people to menace the inviolability of the Moslem Holy Place which encloses the Mosque of Aksa and the Mosque of Omar.

8. The demand of the Jewish people is that they shall be given freedom to pray according to their religious rites without external interference. The land in front of the Wall is a place of prayer for Jews, and an end must be put to a situation under which an institution belonging to another community, in this case the Moslem Supreme Council, can interfere with the manner in which the Jews arrange their religious Services at their most Holy Place.

9. Similarly, the Jewish people believe that the Permanent Mandates Commission will recognise that it is inconsistent with the spirit and the letter of the Mandate that Jewish worshippers before the Wall should be confined to a narrow alley-way (twenty-eight metres long by 3.6 metres wide), through the fact that on the adjacent land there are a few hutments, the property of the *Wakf* (Moslem Ecclesiastical Foundation), but having no religious significance. These dwellings are occupied by members of the Moroccan community, who pass to and fro through the praying place of the Jews, often carrying loads and sometimes driving laden donkeys before them.

10. The situation thus explained is painful and humiliating to the whole Jewish world, and the Executive venture to think that it is unworthy both of the League of Nations and of the Mandatory Power, under whose joint auspices the administration of Palestine is conducted.

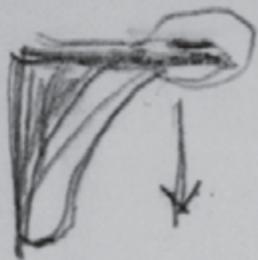
11. The Jewish people have always been anxious to secure for themselves proper conditions for free and undisturbed worship at the *Kothel-Maaravi* by direct arrangement with the Moslem authorities, with fair compensation for any proprietary rights affected. The Executive submit that the provision of such conditions for Jewish worship at the most sacred place of prayer for all Jewry is an essential condition of civilised government in Palestine. That real freedom of worship is impossible under existing conditions is demonstrated by reason and confirmed by experience. The Executive therefore urgently trust that the Mandatory Government will use its good offices to promote an arrangement eliminating the present obstacles to the free exercise of worship at this Holy Place.

The Jewish Agency appeals to the Permanent Mandates Commission and to the Mandatory Power to secure this end.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

F. H. KISCH.

for the President of the Zionist Organisation.



ההסתדרות הציונית . המשרד המרכזי.

THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION.

CENTRAL OFFICE.



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.:

35.AG.17

77, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,

LONDON, W.C.1.

November 6th, 1928.

To the Members of the General Council.

Gentlemen,

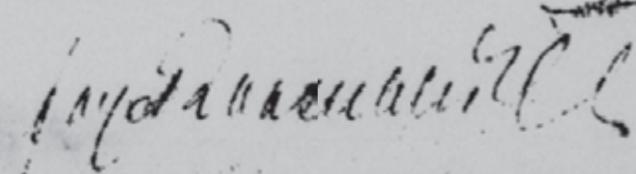
We have the honour to hand you herewith
for your files

copy of H.M. Government's observations of
June 5th, 1928, on the memorandum of the Zionist
Organisation submitted to the Mandates
Commission of the League of Nations, dated April 30th,
1928 and

a communique regarding the Crown lands in
the Beisan district.

There is no objection to the publication of
these documents.

With Zion's greetings,


Member of the Executive.

Enc. 35.AC.17.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

C.P.M./728

Geneva.

June 8th, 1928.

PERMANENT MANDATES COMMISSION

PALESTINE.

Observations dated June 5th, 1928, from the British Government on a letter dated April 30th, 1928, and a Memorandum on the development of the Jewish National Home in Palestine, 1927/28, from the Zionist Organisation.

London,
5th June, 1928.

To the Secretary-General.

I am directed by Secretary Sir Austin Chamberlain to transmit to you the accompanying twenty copies of a letter addressed by the Zionist Organisation to the High Commissioner for Palestine, and of a memorandum on the subject of the development of the Jewish National Home in Palestine 1927/28. Twenty copies of the Hebrew text of these documents are also enclosed.

2. The Secretary of State will be grateful if you will cause these documents to be communicated to the President of the Permanent Mandates Commission, together with the following observations which His Majesty's Government wish to offer thereon:

(a) As regards the question of the fulfilment of Article 6 of the Palestine Mandate, which is raised in paragraph 7 of the letter from the Zionist Organisation, attention is invited to the discussions on the question of Jewish settlement on the land, which have taken place when previous reports on the administration

of Palestine and Transjordan have been under examination by the Permanent Mandates Commission. The Palestine Government are not unmindful of their obligations under Article 6 of the Mandate and, as is recognised in the letter from the Zionist Organisation, they are endeavouring to arrive at some satisfactory arrangement in regard to the Beisan lands. As the Mandates Commission will recall from their consideration last year of a petition in regard to the Barrat Caesarea lands, the pre-war inhabitants of Palestine still regard with considerable suspicion any act of the Palestine Government on matters pertaining to the possession of State lands. It is therefore the duty of the Palestine Government to discharge their obligations under Article 6 of the Mandate with the caution which is clearly essential to the peaceful order of the country, without which the Jewish National Home cannot be established on sure foundations.

(b) As regards the Beisan lands, the circumstances in which the existing agreement was negotiated are described on pages 41 and 42 of the Report of the High Commissioner on the Administration of Palestine 1920 - 1925, copies of which were communicated to you. Claims arising out of that agreement have been and are being, investigated by a special commission, and on page 61 of the 1927 Report on Palestine and Transjordan statistics are given showing the considerable progress made by the commission. In addition, attention has been given to the possibility of enabling individuals and bodies concerned with agricultural development to acquire land

from beneficiaries under the Beisan agreement, on the conditions on which these beneficiaries held the land. This possibility is still being considered, and, while His Majesty's Government are hopeful that a satisfactory conclusion may be reached, they wish to point out that the matter is one in which it is necessary to proceed with caution in order to guard against the return to the landless class of the present beneficiaries under the agreement, thus nullifying the object of that instrument.

(c) As regards paragraph 3 of the memorandum from the Zionist Organisation, I am to explain that the Chief Immigration Officer acts under the explicit directions of the High Commissioner, and does not exercise any arbitrary powers in regard to the admission to Palestine, as immigrants, of persons of independent means.

(d) As regards paragraph 31 of the memorandum, attention is invited to the fact that the Palestine Government have provided funds, amounting to three thousand eight hundred Palestinian pounds, (£P.3,800 for the completion of the Tel-Aviv Hospital; that they are contributing two thousand Palestinian pounds towards its equipment, and propose to ensure a contribution of three thousand Palestinian pounds for three years by the Tel-Aviv Local Council out of the grant made by the government in aid of the Council's finances. Proposals to provide additional accommodation for insane patients are under consideration.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed) MONTEAGLE.

ההסתדרות הציונית. המשרד המרכזי.

AMERICAN MEMBER
LOUIS LIPSKY

THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

CENTRAL OFFICE
LONDON, ENGLAND

AMERICAN OFFICE
111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

November 8, 1928.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

You are hereby notified that a meeting of the Actions Committee has been summoned to be held in Berlin, beginning on December 20th.

A cablegram from the office of the Zionist Executive in London has been received, asking me to notify the American members of the Actions Committee, and urging them to attend this important conference which is to deal, as I understand, with the questions arising out of the Jewish Agency.

Will you please let me know whether it is your intention to attend the meeting?

Very cordially yours,

Louis Lipsky

Nov. 22d, 1928.

Mr. Louis Lipsky,
The Zionist Organization,
111 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Lipsky:-

In reply to your communication
of November 8th permit me to say that it will
not be possible for me to attend the meeting
of the Actions Committee in Berlin in December.

With kindest regards, permit
me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

ההסתדרות הציונית. המשרד המרכזי.

AMERICAN MEMBER
LOUIS LIPSKY

THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

CENTRAL OFFICE
LONDON, ENGLAND

AMERICAN OFFICE
111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

November 25, 1928.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Silver:

In view of the fact that you are not going to attend the meeting of the Actions Committee to be held in Berlin in December, would you be agreeable to the appointment of Dr. Alfred Landsberg of Wiesbaden, Germany, as your substitute?

Please let me know by return mail.

With best regards, I am

Very cordially yours,

Louis Lipsky

*P.S. Landsberg had one of our proxies
this summer.*

Dec. 4th, 1928.

Mr. Louis Lipsky,
The Zionist Organization,
111 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Lipsky:-

It is perfectly agreeable
to me to have Dr. Alfred Landsberg of Wiesbaden,
Germany act as my substitute at the forthcoming
meeting of the Actions Committee to be held in
Berlin in December.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



LOUIS LIPSKY
President

WILLIAM M. LEWIS
MORRIS ROTHENBERG
MAX SHULMAN
Vice-Presidents

ELIHU D. STONE
Chairman
National Executive Committee

MORDECAI M. KAPLAN
Chairman
Administrative Committee

ABRAHAM L. LIEBOVITZ
Chairman
Finance Committee

ISAAC MEISTER
Treasurer

HARRY P. FIERST
Associate Treasurer

ABRAHAM J. RONGY
Secretary

I. M. RUBINOW
Executive Director

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

HERMAN BERNSTEIN
MAX BLUMBERG
JACOB H. COHEN
MORRIS COHEN
ABRAM CORALNIK
ADOLPH EDLIS
MORRIS FISENMAN
JACOB FISHMAN
HARRY FRIEDBERG
DAVID FREIBERGER
ABRAHAM GOLDBERG
ISAAC E. GOLDBERG
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN
JONAH J. GOLDSTEIN
NATHAN E. GOLDSTEIN
GUSTAVE HARTMAN
JAMES G. HELLER
BERNARD HORWICH
DAVID J. KALISKI
GUSTAVE KLAUSNER
WILLIAM B. LEAF
LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL
HARRY S. MEDINETS
ISIDORE D. MORRISON
MAX PERLMAN
NATHAN RATNOFF
HERMAN G. ROBBINS
IRVING ROSENZWEIG
NELSON RUTTENBERG
MAURICE SAMUEL
PHILIP SCHOTLAND
MAX SHOOLMAN
MRS. ARCHIBALD SILVERMAN
MAXWELL TEICHER
LOUIS TOPKIS
PHILIP WATTENBERG
MORRIS WEINBERG

111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

April 4, 1929.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

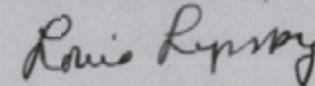
My dear Dr. Silver:

Your name has been placed on the nomination list of the Zionist Organization of America, for election as a delegate to the next Zionist Congress to be held at Zurich, beginning on July 28th and continuing for about 10 days.

Before making up the ultimate list, it is indispensable that the Administrative Committee have a personal assurance from every nominee that, in the event of his or her election, he or she will positively, barring accidents, attend the Zionist Congress until it adjourns.

Please let me have your written assurance to that effect as soon as possible, but not later than May 1st.

Very cordially yours,



President

ההסתדרות הציונית . המשרד המרכזי.

THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION.

CENTRAL OFFICE.

TELEGRAMS: "ZIONIBURO. LONDON."

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 3817 (4 LINES)

CODES: BENTLEY'S & MOSSE'S.

In reply please address The Secretary,

66 AC 31

I A

and quote the following Reference No.:

77, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,

LONDON, W.C.1.

May 9, 1929.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

Dear Sir,

You have no doubt received from the Presidium of the General Council the intimation that the Council will meet in London on May 30th.

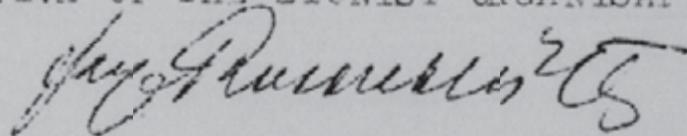
In the event of your not being able to attend, you should appoint one of the deputy-members of the General Council to take your place, as provided by the Statutes from which an extract is enclosed, such member to be selected from the deputies belonging to the same group as yourself. Should you fail to appoint a deputy in due course, the committee of the group of which you are a member shall be entitled to do so.

We would therefore ask you to notify your decision as soon as possible to the committee of your group as well as to ourselves and to the Presidium of the General Council, in order that further action, if necessary, should be taken.

With Zion's greetings,

Yours faithfully,

EXECUTIVE OF THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION



ההסתדרות הציונית . המשרד המרכזי.

THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION.

CENTRAL OFFICE.

TELEGRAMS: "ZIONIBURO, LONDON."

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 3617 (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.

9th May, 1929.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that

Dr. Abba H. Silver,

WRHS



Member of the General Council of the Zionist Organisation
is proceeding to London to attend a meeting of this Council
summoned for May 30th, 1929. All consular and other
authorities are requested to grant the gentlemen named
above the facilities required for his journey to London
and return.

On behalf of the Executive
of the Zionist Organisation.

J. L. Murray
Secretary.

June 4th, 1929.

Mr. Emanuel Neumann,
Jewish National Fund,
111 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Emanuel:-

Are you planning to attend the
Zionist Congress? If so, when do you plan to
go and what boat will you take? It would be nice
to travel on the same boat for I am intending to
attend the Congress. I should like to leave around
the 10th or 15th of July. Let me hear from you.

What plans have been made for the
Zionist Convention in Detroit? Are you going?

With kindest regards, I am

As ever yours,

AHS/IR

EMANUEL NEUMANN
VICE PRESIDENT



OTHER OFFICES AT

338 WEST 23RD STREET
NEW YORK

AVENUE M AT EAST 17TH STREET
BROOKLYN

THE CENTURY BANK

300 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

June 12, 1929

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
c/o The Temple,
East 105th St. & Ansel Road,
Cleveland, O.

Dear Abba:

- I have been strongly tempted to attend the Zionist Congress. Of late, I have been receiving letters and cables from Ussishkin also urging me to attend the J.N.F. Conference at Zurich on July 22nd. I have been resisting the temptation, because my business interests would be best served by my remaining in New York.

Now comes your letter to tempt me further. Such a trip in your company will be too darn pleasant to miss, but what am I to do? Important developments are taking place in my bank and I must summon all my resolution to place, for the time being, business before other considerations. I shall probably attend the Convention at Detroit, if only for the purpose of reporting on the J.N.F.

By the way, we are arranging a dinner for our Board of Directors, the Advisory Board and a select list of friends of the J.N.F. to discuss its future status in view of the approaching ratification of the Agency, and the probability that the J.N.F. will be the only purely Zionist institution left in the field. It is to be held in New York on Wednesday, June 19th at 7 P.M. at the Hotel Astor, 44th St. & Broadway. If this date, by any chance, would fit in with your other plans, it would be a fine thing if we could have you with us that evening. Mr. Sokolow, Mr. Julius Simon and other men of prominence will participate in the discussion. Can you possibly come?

On what boat would you be going to Europe if you leave between the 10th and 15th of July? Are you traveling alone or with your wife?

As ever yours,

Emanuel Neumann

EN:RC

June 18th, 1929.

Mr. Emanuel Neumann,
The Century Bank,
300 Madison Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Emanuel:-

Judging from your letter you are weakening and I should like to help your "Yotser Tov" or if you will, your 'Yotser Ha-ra' in persuading you to go to Zurich. I have as yet made no arrangements on any boat. I plan to leave around the 15th and will be gone all told about five weeks. Mrs. Silver is not going along because of the prior claim of our little Daniel. Let me hear of your final decision.

I should like to see you before the Detroit Convention. It will not be possible for me to attend it in as much as I have a number of weddings scheduled for the days of the Convention. I shall also have to attend the Rabbinical Conference for four days immediately preceding the Zurich Congress as I shall not be able to absent myself from Cleveland for almost a week. If you arrive in Detroit a day earlier we shall have an opportunity to shmooze.

I am sorry that I shall not be able to attend your meeting on June 19th. I leave that night for Indianapolis in behalf of the Endowment Fund of The Hebrew Union College.

With best wishes, I am

As ever yours,

AHS/IR

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

TELEGRAMS: "ZIONIBURO. LONDON."
TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 3817 (4 LINES)
CODES: BENTLEY'S & MOSSE'S.

77. GREAT RUSSELL STREET,

LONDON, W.C.1.

JUNE .25.1929.

In reply please address The Secretary.

By AC 30
Following Reference No.:

To the Members and Deputy-Members of the General Council.

Material for the 16th Congress.

Dear Sir,

The Organisation Department of the Executive is making it its special care to prepare as far as possible the discussion at the coming Congress. The following measures have been devised to achieve this object:-

1. Despatch of proposals, motions and memoranda on points of the Agenda,
2. Despatch of advance proofs of the Executive's report for the last two years,
3. Publication of extracts from the reports in the Zionist press,
4. Publication of matter dealing with Congress problems in the Zionist press in a special supplement to our Press Review.

We cannot definitely promise that this programme will be carried out in its entirety, but will do our best to assist the preparation of the Congress along these lines.

We enclose herewith, as a first instalment of the material for the 16th Congress, the "Observations of the Keren Hayesod Board on the Budget Estimate for 5690!"

We wish to point out that these observations emanate from the Keren Hayesod, and do not in any way affect the position of the Executive. They contain important and interesting information, however, the conscientious study of which is indispensable in the interests of the preparation of the Congress debate.

We enclose further, the text of an address delivered by Mr. Sacher on the occasion of a press conference at the offices of the Keren Hayesod in Jerusalem on June 2nd, on the subject of the Financial Policy of the Palestine Zionist Executive. Extracts from the address appeared in practically the whole Zionist press, but we consider it especially important to communicate it to you in its entirety. The Observations of the Keren Hayesod Board are strictly confidential, and must not be published in any shape or form.

With Zion's greetings,
Yours faithfully,

EXECUTIVE OF THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION.

Joseph H. Sacher
Member of the Executive.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH - COMMERCIAL CABLES

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, PRESIDENT.

RECEIVED AT

Ce 0132

STANDARD TIME
INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

TELEGRAMS
TO ALL
AMERICA



CABLEGRAMS
TO ALL
THE WORLD

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.

BLUE	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
NITE	NIGHT TELEGRAM
LCO	DEFERRED
NLT	CABLE LETTER
WLT	WEEK END LETTER

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1929 JUL 9 PM 12 55

PY NEWYORK NY 9

RABBIN ABBA HILLEL SILVER

351

CARE THE TEMPLE EAST 105 ST AND ANSEL ROAD CLEVELAND OHIO

SAILING ON VOLENDAM FRIDAY TWELFTH WOULD LIKE TO SAIL WITH YOU CAN

YOU MAKE THIS BOAT WIRE

NEUMANN.

TELEPHONED
FROM MAIN OFFICE

1250
GME July 9
To...

Delivered
12976

POSTAL TELEGRAPH - COMMERCIAL CABLES

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, PRESIDENT

RECEIVED AT

Cedar 0132

STANDARD TIME
INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

TELEGRAMS
TO ALL
AMERICA



CABLEGRAMS
TO ALL
THE WORLD

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.

BLUE	DAY LETTER
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LCO	DEFERRED
NLT	CABLE LETTER
WLT	WEEK END LETTER

NA88 7

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RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE TEMPLE CLEVELAND OHIO

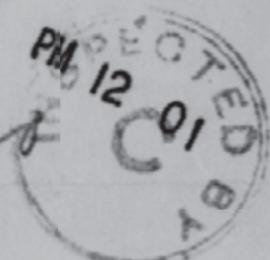
RESERVATIONS FOR DELEGATES MADE HOTEL BAURAUAC ZURICH

A TANNENBAUM.

June

1929 JUL 9

Yel 1828



TELEPHONED FROM IN OFFICE

Time *1:20 PM* Date *July 9*
By No *128*



7/9/29

Mr. A. Tannenbaum
Z. O. A.
111 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

WILL ATTEND ZIONIST CONGRESS ARRIVING ZURICH JULY 25th
PLEASE MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS stop INFORM WEISGAL CAN NOT
ATTEND ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING WEDNESDAY NIGHT BECAUSE OF HERZL
CLUB REUNION SAME NIGHT.

A. H. SILVER

Telegramm — Télégramme — Telegramma

Wörter — Mots
Parole

, 1443, newyork 553,24, cial N^o

Der Telegraphist: - Le télégraphiste:
Il telegrafista:

Aufgegeben den — Consigné le 192 um — à Uhr — heures min.
Consegnato il alle ore

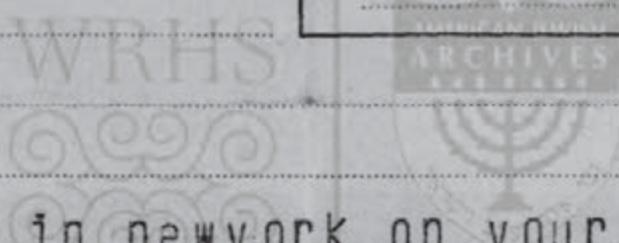
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PARIS BSE

Contr. N^o **336**

Event. Angaben . }
Indications. évent. }
Indicazioni event. }

Adress: lco , rabbi abbi hillel silver
zionist congress zurich :



anxious to see you in newyork on your way home
: b c vladeck jewish daily forward :-

Obertelegraphiert an — Réexpédié à den — le um — à Uhr — heures min. Der Telegraphist: — Le télégraphiste:
Ritrasmeso a il alle ore Il telegrafista:



Telegramm — Télégramme — Telegramma



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Wörter — Mots
= Parole

Der Telegraphist: — Le télégraphiste:
Il telegrafista:

Aufgegeben den — Consigné le
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London

192 um — à
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Event. Angaben
Indications event.
Indicazioni event.

Contr. N° 1197

RABBI ABBA SILVER

ZIONIST CONGRESS ZURICH =

WRHS



DELIGHTED YOU SUPPORT HENRIETTA SZOLD WHOLE HEATEDLY STOP
SHE HAS DONE MORE THAN ANYBODY ELSE FOR WELFARE OF THE HOLY
LAND STOP YOUR STAND IS BEYOND REPROACH WHICH MAKES YOUR
SUPPORT MOST VALUABLE AND ALL SIDES SHOULD HEED YOUR UNSELFISH
ADVISE AND VAST EXPERIENCE = NATHAN STRAUS =

70 TEXTWORD OCI LISIBLE HEARTEDLY =

Der Telegraphist: — Le télégraphiste:
Il telegrafista:

RULES GOVERNING THE PARTICIPATION IN
GENERAL COUNCIL MEETINGS.

I.

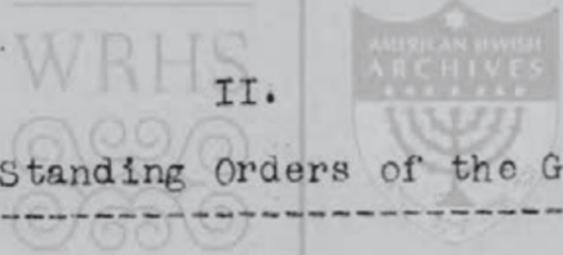
Extracts from the Statutes

Paragraph 46.

Clause 3. The MEMBERS of the General Council shall be elected in accordance with the numerical strength of the various Congress delegations of the Separate Unions, Fractions, and total number of representatives of the Federations to take part in the Congress.

.....

Clause 5. If any MEMBER of the General Council is prevented from attending any meeting of the General Council, he may appoint one of the DEPUTY-MEMBERS, belonging to the same group as himself to replace him at this meeting. If he makes no use of this right, the appointment may be made by the committee of the group in question. The same applies in the case of the retirement of any member.



II.

Extracts from the Standing Orders of the General Council.

Art.7. The following persons are entitled to participate in the meetings of the General Council:

The MEMBERS of the General Council mentioned in Art. 46 of the Organisation Statutes.

Persons whose advice is desired for the treatment of certain questions or for the whole duration of the session by the Executive of the Presidential Board of the General Council, or who are invited by a special resolution of the General Council.

The DEPUTY-MEMBERS of the General Council shall be entitled to attend the meetings of the General Council if they so desire, but they shall not have the right to speak or vote.

III.

Resolution of the 15th Congress.

1. The members of the General Council, in accordance with the order of procedure of the General Council have a right to a refund of the expenses they incur through their attendance at meetings.

2. The Congress resolves that the order of procedure of the General Council shall be supplemented as follows:

The refund of expenses incurred by members of the General Council shall be based on the following:

- (a). Cost of passport and visa:
- (b). 3rd class railway fare and steamship cabin;
- (c). 10s. for every day spent at the place of meeting.

The members of the General Council shall have no claim for any refund when attending meetings of the General Council that take place on the occasion of a Congress.

The persons named in par. 46 (c) have a claim for the refund of their expenses only against their respective institutions and for the amounts stipulated.



I. Budget for 5690.Observations of the Keren Hayesod Board.

We have pleasure in enclosing herewith a statement which should assist in the preparation of the debate on the budget for 5690. The statement is based on £750,000, - the amount named in the course of the Executive's discussions with Mr. Felix Warburg on the subject of next year's budget. It was estimated that 60% of this amount, i.e. £450,000 will be contributed by the United States, the balance of £300,000 being raised by other countries. £750,000 has therefore been taken as the basis of the present estimate, although grave doubts are entertained as to whether this amount will actually be raised. The average of the Keren Hayesod's annual income in countries other than the United States has been £240,000 for the last few years. Out of this £20,000 were contributed by Canada, and £48,000 by South Africa. There is no reasonable expectation of an increase in the contribution of these two countries. Canada has assumed such considerable liabilities towards the Keren Kayemeth, that the utmost difficulty is being experienced in raising the regular Keren Hayesod quota of £20,000; in fact, the collections fell short of it last year, and it is still very doubtful whether it will be reached in the current year. The £48,000 raised by South Africa represent a large amount for that country. There, also, the Zionist convention decided to contribute to the Keren Kayemeth during the coming ^{three} years £75,000, i.e. £25,000 per annum. This represents so considerable an increase of the Keren Kayemeth quota that a further increase of South Africa's contribution to the Keren Hayesod cannot be expected. In Eastern Europe the economic position is so unsatisfactory that it would be vain to expect more than a slight improvement in the receipts. Thus, if the countries other than the United States are required to contribute 40% of £750,000, i.e. £300,000 instead of £240,000 as heretofore, the £60,000 will have to be raised entirely by Western and Central Europe. We venture no estimate as to whether it will be possible to achieve this increase already in the course of the coming year.

With this provision, the statement proceeds on the basis of a budget of £750,000.

The various items of the budget are divided into three sections:

Section (A) contains items arising out of liabilities assumed, the expenses of the Keren Hayesod Board for Organisation and Propaganda (which are necessary to create the conditions for the incoming of funds), the amount usually paid for political work in London, which is not subject to considerable fluctuations, and finally, the sums required to carry through the consolidation of existing colonies. These items, also, represent

liabilities assumed by the Keren Hayesod towards the settlers.

Section (B) comprises items which are capable of modification by resolution of Congress. These, too, include many amounts representing contractual liabilities, such as the payment of rent for school buildings, and others representing working expenses, viz., salaries to teachers, agricultural instructors, the staff of the Experimental Station, the administration of the Palestine Executive, or doctors, nurses, and other officials of the Hadassah. But items included in Section (B) differ from those in the previous section in that the amounts are subject to modification. Efforts are being made to transfer certain items from the budget of the Palestine Executive to a special fund, to the Knesseth Israel or the Palestine Government, but it is not likely that the budget will be affected thereby in practice for years to come. The new members of the Jewish Agency also hold fast to the idea of a central fund, such as the Keren Hayesod, and of covering the budget. The Knesseth Israel will presumably remain too weak to assume new burdens for some years to come, and even if the Government consented to make substantial grants to education and health work, the growth of immigration and extension of the work would on the other hand create new needs which the Keren Hayesod will be expected to meet.

Section (C) represents the balance which, after deduction of the items in Sections (A) and (B) will remain for the purposes of new colonisation.

We readily admit that opinions may differ in regard to certain items, and shall pay regard to possible objections in our comments. The statement itself, we believe, represents the first attempt to acquaint the Zionist public with financial prospects for a number of years to come. It will be seen from the statement that for a few years, especially next year, a large portion of the income will be applied to meeting obligations incurred in the past. From 5691 onwards, however, a not inconsiderable amount, growing year by year, will become available for new colonisation and will enable us to found several new settlements yearly, provided, of course, that the strictest economy is observed in other items of expenditure.

The statement shows also something more. £750,000 are not regarded as the permanent annual budget of the Keren Hayesod. Should we be successful in raising the receipts to £1,000,000, any surplus over £750,000 would become available for new colonisation, which item would rise to £650,000 annually. The growth of colonisation and subsequent large immigration depend, therefore, on the development of the Keren Hayesod.

I.

Tabulated Survey of 6 years - 5690 - 5695.

Year	5690	5691	5692	5693	5694	5695
<u>A</u>						
<u>Definite appropriations</u>						
1. Various liabilities of the Keren: Hayesod & interest	103,200	17,600	16,200	8,500	4,400	4,400
2. Judja Irrigation	20,000	-	-	-	-	-
3. Mortgage Bank	-	10,000	-	-	-	-
4. Banks	37,500	50,000	50,000	50,000	12,500	-
5. Amzic Loan	17,500	18,400	-	-	-	-
6. Amzic Guarantee	3,400	6,400	26,400	30,300	30,300	18,600
7. Executive's Deficit						
a-	30,000	48,000	-	-	-	-
Expenditure in excess of Budget:						
b-	23,000	-	-	-	-	-
8. Expenditure of K.H.	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000
9. London	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
10. Consolidation Programme	153,000	62,000	-	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>440,600</u>	<u>265,400</u>	<u>145,600</u>	<u>141,800</u>	<u>100,200</u>	<u>76,000</u>

Year	5690	5691	5692	5693	5694	5695
<u>B</u>						
Items subject to modification						
1. Hadassah and School Fund	104,400	104,400	104,400	104,400	104,400	104,400
2. University	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
3. Regular Palestine Budget:						
a. Colonisation, general expenses: Instructors &c.	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
b. Education	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
c. Labour	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
d. Experimental Stn.	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
e. Political	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
f. Administration	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
g. Trade	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
h. Health Council	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
i. Mizrahi						
a. Religion	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
b. Education	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
k. Technical Institute	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
l. Cultural work	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
m. Immigration and other items	81,000	81,000	81,000	81,000	81,000	81,000
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>309,400</u>	<u>309,400</u>	<u>309,400</u>	<u>309,400</u>	<u>309,400</u>	<u>309,400</u>
<u>C</u>						
Amount available for new colonisation.	-	175,200	298,800	298,800	340,400	364,600

COMMENTS.A. Definite appropriations.1. Various Liabilities of the Keren Hayesod.

These are contractual liabilities. They include also an old debt of the Zionist Organisation to the Jewish Colonial Trust, which is being repaid in yearly instalments of £4,400 - without interest. From 5694 this item will represent the only liability.

2. Audja Irrigation.

This item represents the amount with which the Keren Hayesod is to participate in the company which is to irrigate Jewish settlements on the Audja.

3. Mortgage Bank.

This represents a loan taken up by the Keren Hayesod at the Jewish Colonial Trust to meet its obligations to the General Mortgage Bank, which must be repaid.

4. Banks.

In accordance with the decision of the Zionist Executive, these amounts are to be placed at the disposal of the Bank for purposes of internal reorganisation on a sound basis.

5. Amzic Loan6. Amzic Guarantee.

In order to make the general liquidation of the American Zion Commonwealth possible, and to prevent the return of the land to the original Arab owners, the Keren Hayesod, with the assistance of the United Palestine Appeal, raised in New York a loan of 250,000 dollars and assumed guarantees to the sellers of the land in Palestine. A portion of the loan is already being repaid in the current year, the balance will fall due in the two following years. Of the Amzic land, about half was disposed of to individuals, the other half is still unsold. The collection of instalments still due by the purchasers will take some time, since certain preparations have to be carried through before the title-deeds can be handed over, and the purchasers will pay the balance due only upon receiving the deeds. It is difficult to estimate what proportion of the still available land can be sold to individuals. In principle, the Keren Hayesod is in favour of the transfer of this land to the Keren Kayemeth, since the latter alone is directly concerned in the acquisition of land. The Directors of the KKL have not yet expressed an opinion on the matter. The difficulty lies in the multiplicity of the Keren Kayemeth's own liabilities, which render impossible the assumption of still further obligations. Under the circumstances, it may be taken for granted that the Keren Hayesod will be called upon to provide the whole of the budget as set forth in the statement herewith. The recovery of any item of expenditure is uncertain.

7. Deficit of the Palestine Executive and expenditure in excess over budget in 5689.

Expenditure incurred in excess over the budget of 5689 will be detailed in the report of the Palestine Executive. It consisted mainly in payments in connection with the consolidation of colonies. A further postponement of the payment of the Palestine Executive's deficits will hardly be possible, since it includes a claim of the Anglo-Palestine Company amounting to £20,000, and an amount of approximately £12,000 due to the teachers in accordance with the decision of a court of arbitration a few years ago. In addition, it is not improbable that the Executive will again accumulate arrears of salaries to teachers and officials by the end of the current year. The balance of the deficit can only be met by bills of exchange - an expedient which should be reserved for temporary loans.

8. Expenditure of the Keren Hayesod.

It is only with the utmost difficulty that the expenditure of the Keren Hayesod itself is kept down at £38,000. It consists not only of administrative expenses in Jerusalem, but also, and for the main part, of the cost of propaganda, which should properly be borne by the various countries but for a variety of reasons is debited to the Central Office. The printed report to the Congress will show that the actual expenditure of the Jerusalem office has been reduced to the minimum.

9. London.

This item of £15,000 was fixed by Congress, and in consideration of the Jewish Agency's interests will no doubt remain unaltered.

10. Consolidation.

The figures are based on information supplied by the Colonisation Department, and will probably undergo certain modifications.

B. Items subject to modification.

1. Hadassah & Sick Fund.

A very high percentage of this amount will remain unaltered as long as the cost of health work is borne by the Zionist Organisation.

2. University.

These £7,000 for the University were up to the present paid annually by the United Palestine Appeal, and are now again borne by the Keren Hayesod.

3. Items of the old Palestine Budget.

These items were calculated mainly on the basis of last year's expenditure. They, too, can be changed only slightly as long as this work continues to be carried out by the Zionist Organisation. When it is remembered that most of these items were much higher in previous years, the truth of this assertion becomes evident. The question of shifting the Education budget to the Government has already been dealt with in the introduction. Item 3.m. will lend itself to any increase that may become necessary in this group, since in addition to expenditure for immigration varying with the number of immigrants who enter the country, it contains certain amounts with which the budget will be charged next year, but not in the following years. In the main, these are amounts required to meet old liabilities the extent of which can only be ascertained some time after they have been incurred. Item 3.a. - Colonisation, General Expenditure, Instructors etc. - contains the amounts which the Colonisation Department requires in addition to the cost of carrying through the consolidation programme and of new colonisation.



Financial Policy of the Palestine Zionist Executive.

When the present Executive took office, in October, 1927, the combined debt of the Palestine Zionist Executive and the Keren Hayesod was approximately £400,000. One of the first tasks of the Executive was to reduce this debt. It is estimated that the figures on the 30th September 1929 will be £255,000. This means a reduction of the debt by over £144,000. The amount paid off in the year 1927-28, was:

by P.Z.E.	.. £61,400
less debts increased by KH	.. 32,317
making balance of	.. £29,083

and in the year 1928-29 by the Palestine Zionist Executive and the Keren Hayesod will be at least £115,000. The debt reduction would have been much larger but for the following circumstances:

a. The budget for 1927-28 was approved by Congress before the present Executive took office was made to balance only by including on the revenue side new borrowings amounting to £25,000.

b. The income received in 1927-28 by the Keren Hayesod from America fell below the Estimates by a sum of £73,000.

c. It is estimated that the revenue received by the Keren Hayesod in the year 1928-29 will be at least £20,000 below the Estimates.

2. But for these failures in revenue, the debt over the two years would have been reduced by another £93,000, making a total debt reduction of over £237,000.

3. When the present Executive took office on the first of October 1927, the number of bills outstanding amounted to £98,642 and fixed period obligations amounting to £17,726, making a total of £116,368. By the first of April, 1929, the amount of bills had been reduced to £41,184 and fixed period obligations amounting to £1,940 making a total of £43,120. This is the lowest figure since December 1923. It is expected that by the 30th September 1929, the figure will be still lower.

4. When the present Executive entered office, the teachers and officials were owing five months salary by the Executive, in addition to a debt the result of an Arbitration Board, dating back many years due to the teachers. At the present moment, the Palestine Zionist Executive has wiped out the whole of this debt, except the sum due in respect of the Arbitration Board. It is five to six years since the Executive stood in such a relation towards the teachers and officials.

5. The Administrative expenditure of the Palestine Zionist Executive has been reduced during the years 1927-29 by a total of £17,266, namely £8,574 in 1927-28 and £8,692 in 1928-29.

In the Colonization Department alone the cost of administration has been reduced from £21,441 in 1926-27 to £16,161 in 1927-28 and to £13,226 in 1928-29.

6. These figures indicate a substantial advance towards the sanitation of the finances in the Zionist Organisation and towards economy in Administration. One effect has been the improved financial credit of the Executive and to render possible further administrative economies which will release money for constructive expenditure.

7. The Budget for 1927-28 was £146,500 less than the budget for 1926-27, and the budget for 1928-29 was £107,000 less than the budget for 1927-28. If, nevertheless, there could be carried out a reduction of debt in these two years by an amount of over £144,000, this could be affected only by reducing expenditures to their minimum. But even these figures do not do justice to the difficulty of the position with which the present Executive was faced on entering office. The previous Executive had spent on account of the budget for 1927-28 a sum of £90,493 by way of advances, whereas the Executive is responsible for will not exceed £15,000.

This means that the amount actually spent by the present Executive was £55,000 less than appeared in the budget. One may give as an illustration the fact that although Congress voted for 1927-28 £4,000 for trade and industry, nevertheless advances against that budget existed for the whole amount of the budget.

8. The nature of the Palestine Zionist Executive budget is such that certain of the most important branches of expenditure are capable of little, if any, reduction, so that a reduction of the total revenue always means a reduction principally of the Colonisation Budget. The Colonisation Department has theoretically the consolation that increases of revenue will tend to go towards the expansion of the Colonisation Budget. Unfortunately, during the two years of office of the present Executive, the Colonisation Department has suffered from rather enjoyed the benefits of the operation of this rule.

It was obvious from the first that there could be no hope of increasing colonisation and that the utmost that the Executive could do would be to maintain the existing settlements until additional revenue could come in. The task of the Executive in this respect was made all the more difficult because the previous Executive had in the years 1925-27 commenced the establishment of seven new colonies which there was no prospect for the present Executive to complete and which it was bound to maintain.

9. A problem which overshadowed all other problems facing the present Executive was the economic crisis in Palestine, expressed more particularly in the existence of unemployment to the extent of over 8,000.

The Executive has in its estimates a sum of £9,632 for grappling with this problem. By May 1928, it succeeded in raising an extra budgetary revenue of £30,447 for the special purpose of unemployment by means of which the whole system of the dole was put an end to. Since that date unemployment has steadily been on a decline, and for practical purposes has no existence at the present moment.

10. The special fund for dealing with the unemployed enabled the Executive to take some steps towards the consolidation of the colonies because the money was used almost exclusively for carrying out permanent improvements in the colonies, which were part of the Consolidation Programme.

11. The previous Executive laid before the 15th Congress an estimate for the Consolidation of the existing colonies amounting to £547,000. The present Executive estimates the sum necessary for such consolidation to be £275,000. It should be understood, however, that these two figures are not strictly comparable. In the interval at least £85,000 have been spent on consolidation and the Estimate of £275,000 does not include the two Occupation Groups. Nevertheless, the figure of £275,000 implies a definite reduction in the estimated cost per colonist and per colony. This is due partly to a reduction of the cost of building, a reduction of cost of plantation and numerous minor important economies. The Executive is satisfied that these economies in no way affect the economic efficiency of the Colonists and colonies and represent a real saving to the colonies of the Zionist Organisation.

12. The question arises what are the possibilities for the future? Without wishing in any way to anticipate the policy of its successors, the present Executive can indicate certain financial facts from which certain inferences must be drawn. For the sake of discussion, it will be assumed that the income for the year 1929-30 will amount to £750,000. This figure includes the Hadassah budget and whatever sums may be payable in respect of the University etc., such as were payable during the previous years out of United Palestine Appeal collections, as well as the cost of administration of the Keren Hayesod and participation of the Administrative Expenses of the London Office.

When allowance is made for these sums and for the debt commitments of various kinds falling due in 1929-30, the balance remaining to the Palestine Zionist Executive for expenditure under its various heads will not exceed £412,000.

The cost of all the Departments, other than the Colonization Department, can hardly be less than £224,000. leaving a balance for colonisation of £188,000.

As the amount required for consolidating the existing colonies is £275,000, it is obvious that there cannot be enough money available in 1929-30 for completing the colonies and still less will money be available for new colonization. It is to be hoped that in 1930-31 it will be possible not only to complete the consolidation of the existing colonies but also to begin new colonisation. In this connection, however, it should be understood that colonization depends upon land being available. Not only is there a limited amount of land available now in the possession of the Jewish National Fund, but the most considerable areas in its possession are not likely to be available for colonisation in 1930-31, unless the Jewish National Fund has considerable sums available for the purpose of draining the Wadi Huvarah and Haifa Bay lands in the coming year. The most urgent problem facing the next Executive and facing the Zionist Organisation is the securing of a land reserve, and it will be necessary to weigh very carefully the competing advantages of building up a land reserve and establishing new colonies in coming years. It may be taken for granted that any Executive in the future will shift the central gravity of new colonisation to lands capable of irrigation, which have a great advantage of more concentrated colonisation and more immediate returns and great probabilities for prosperity.

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