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World Zionist Congress, 1946, 1962.

WORLD CONFERENCE OF GENERAL ZIONISTS

The World Conference of the General Zionists opened on Saturday, 7th December 1946 in the Casino Kleinbasel. Hundreds of delegates representing 43 countries filled the hall. Mr. Kubowitzki opened the session in the name of the European Office. After welcoming the people, he underlined the importance of the Conference, the success of which will have a great influence on the forthcoming Congress. Then the audience stood in tribute to our deaths.

With acclamation the presidium has been elected. It is composed as follows:

President of the Conference:

Dr. A. Silver

Members of the Presidium:

Dr. Bernstein

Prof. Brodetzky

Mrs. Epstein

Mr. Gering

Mr. Goldstein

Mrs. Halperine

Mr. Kolodny

Mr. Kossower

Mr. Kubowitzki

Mr. Rabinowitsch

Mr. Reznikow

Mr. Reznik

Mr. Segal (secretary of

Mr. Zacks the Conference)

Whilst the presidium was taking its seat on the stage, the delegates rose and sang Hatikvah. Dr. Silver read his message to the delegates. He began in Hebrew and expressed his pleasure in seeing the General Zionist party representing the most important fraction on this Congress, assembled in fraternity and with the aim to assure the common success of the Congress. We support with all our power, said Dr. Silver, the will of all to increase our constructive work

in Palestine. Overlooking the political situation, Dr. Silver declared that the Congress has to affirm before the world that the aim of Zionism is the establishment of the Jewish State. We agree with the Jishuw, which resists with all its power, to assure our rights in Palestine.

On the social plan we think that it has to be one and only organisation in Palestine which unites the workers for the defence of their interests.

Mr. Segal, General Secretary of the European Office, afterwards makes the statement of the organisation problems of the Confederation. General Zionism saw a period of important development and we have to adopt an efficient apparatus of organisation, finally to be able to allow the Confederation to continue its development. The Office of the Confederation is in active contact with our organisation of 40 different countries. The press disperses General Zionism throughout the world. In Europe General Zionism is represented by a big chalutzio party which is about to leave for Palestine. From everywhere the eyes are fixed upon us, constituting a third of the Congress. The meeting has shown once more that in the historical moment of the Zionist history the General Zionists were strong and united just before our fight.

Mr. Gruenbaum, who received a great ovation, spoke about the problem of our constructive work in Palestine. Mr. Gruenbaum insisted on the necessity for the General Zionists to concentrate their efforts to create economical positions and continued then in detail to talk about the possibilities to establish economical institutions which would help the workers and the middle class, that have enormous difficulties to install themselves in the country. This Conference has to decide upon the establishment of a General Zionist Fund, said Mr. Gruenbaum, which would be the financial instrument for the constructive work of the General Zionists in Palestine. There is already a fund of the Mizrachi and a fund of the workmen of Palestine. Therefore it would be only fair if we would have a fund for the General Zionists.

Mr. Kolodny spoke too of the constructive work in Palestine and the property of the colonisation. He mentioned the efforts of the Haoved Hazioni for the creation of the Kibutzim. He drew the attention to the fact that hundreds of chalutzim of the General Zionists arrived in Palestine and the Haoved Hazioni could not settle all of them, because of the lack of financial means. We are happy, said Mr. Kolodny, that the American General Zionists received a yearly allocation of 500 000 dollars for the constructive work of the General Zionists in Palestine.

We have big possibilities for the development, closed Mr. Kolodny and I hope that we shall be able to explore them in a united effort.

The Conference voted then for the elections of the members of the Steering Committee, which is composed as follows:

Mr. Dunsky
Mr. Frisch
Mr. Gelber
Mr. A. Goldstein
Mrs. Greenberg
Mrs. Halperine
Mr. Hartman
Mr. Herrman
Mr. Janner
Mr. Kubowitzki
Rabbi Miller
Mr. Meller
Dr. Newman
Mr. Rabinowitsch
Mrs. Rosensohn
Mr. Serlin
Mr. Sam Segal
Mr. Sultaneck



After that Mr. Silver resumed in a short speech the tasks of the Conference and closes the first session.

WORLD CONFEDERATION OF GENERAL ZIONISTS
WORLD CONFERENCE

2nd Session, Sunday, 8th December at 9.30 a.m.

The second session of the World Conference of the General Zionists opened Sunday, 8th December at 9.30 a.m. under the chairmanship of Mr. Zacks - Canada.

Mr. Meller and Mr. N. Reznik made a statement on the "Sheerit Hapleita." The speakers mentioned the necessity for an immediate Alijah but the demand for this Alijah had not brought any territorial concessions in Palestine.

Dr. Bernstein made a statement on the situation of the General Zionists in Palestine. He underlined the importance of the fusion of the groups A and B. Dr. Bernstein also spoke about the importance of our constructive work in Palestine.

The following participated in the debate:

Mr. Suchowitzki - Palestine, Mr. Sultanek - Germany, Dr. Mibashan - Uruguay, Mr. Orfus - France, Mr. Golub - Italie, Mr. Reznikow - Mexico and others.

3rd Session, Sunday, 8th Decembre at 3 p.m.

The third session under the chairmanship of Mrs. Epstein, was devoted to the political debate. Before passing over to the political debate, Dr. Goldstein spoke of the role of American Jewry in the Jewish and Zionist life, as well as of the moral and material support of the World Confederation of the General Zionists by the American Zionists.

Prof. Brodetzky reported on the political situation and gave a detailed report about the question of participation in the Conference in London. He mentioned the situation of the British Jewry which remained loyal in regard to Zionism. Prof. Brodetzky said that the actual situation demands the establishment of a Jewish State and he approves the decision of the Executive in Paris which he

considers necessary, because it has to be proposed as a basis for discussion. "In my view", said Prof. Brodetzky, "the Congress has to decide that the aim of the Zionism is the creation of a Jewish State in the whole of Palestine. But Congress must also give instructions to the Executive that she will be able to negotiate without being bound to vague formulations. "Regarding the Conference in London, Prof. Brodetzky's view is to participate. Prof. Brodetzky concluded that for us Zionism is the solution of the Jewish problem and all our politics have to lead to the one aim that the utmost numbers of Jews will be able to go to Palestine and this will be the realisation of our aim.

Dr. Goldmann defended in a long statement the decision of the Executive in Paris and gave interesting details about his negotiations in Washington. The Executive thought that it could not remain inactive because the solution of the problem of Palestine is a very urgent one. We need a Jewish State immediately and we cannot get the whole of Palestine at this very moment. The resistance should be the last step to take when all other possibilities are exhausted. "I do not think", said Dr. Goldmann, "that the moment for a hopeless fight has come already. England, although she has not accepted the partition scheme, has not rejected it either. We have to try once more to reach an agreement with England in order to obtain the solution of the Palestine problem, because England will not accept a big Jewish immigration without receiving a general solution of the problem. The Congress, must not take a resolution concerning the partition but it cannot bind the hands of the new Executive in its negotiations."

Dr. Sneh declared that in his opinion there was no reason to believe that England wished to negotiate with us for finding a solution of the Palestine problem. "How much more time are we going to waste before we will be convinced of this fact. We must not underestimate the importance of our resistance controlled by Zionist institutions. The period of cooperation with the English is over now. We tried everything and we made all sorts of concessions but we did not get any satisfying results. We are alone in this brutal world, but we have to fight with all our power to break the obstacles which hinder the establishment of a Jewish State."

After the statement of Dr. Sneh the session was closed.

WORLD CONFEDERATION OF GENERAL ZIONISTS
WORLD CONFERENCE

4th Session, Sunday, 8th December 1946 at 9 p.m.

Chairman: Dr. J. Goldstein

Continuation of the political debate. Mr. J. Gruenbaum thinks that the decisions of this Congress will influence very much the destiny of Zionism. "The essential is to know how to urge Great Britain to alter its policy in Palestine. Our development in Palestine was a surprise to England. Certain people thought, England would not dare to undertake any steps against us if we would resist the law of the White Paper. The Mandate has survived and the question is how could we continue our work in Palestine. We must also know which is the strategy of our fight and how long we will be able to hold out."

Mr. Goldburt-Germany, brings before the Conference the greetings of the "Sheerit Hapleita". "Our brothers in the camps are ready to fight in spite of their terrible living conditions."

Mr. Zvi Herman declares that Biltmore is not only the name of a hotel but it symbolises the Zionism towards which we have to remain faithful. "We are for an active policy against the London Conference and for resistance as long as the White Paper subsists." The political debate continues and the following participated in the debate: Mr. Suchowitzky-Palestine, Mrs. Halprin-U.S.A., Mr. A. Goldstein-U.S.A., Rabbi Miller-U.S.A., Mgr. Rostal-Poland and Rabbi Abrahams-South Africa.

After that two commissions have been elected:

a) Commission of Organisation and Finance:

Mrs. Benjamin-Mrs. Ettinger	U.S.A.
Mrs. Davidoff-Mrs. Franks	Africa
Mrs. Dora Goldstein	England
Mrs. Guerschuner	Argentina
Ing. Druker	Czecho-Slovakia
Mr. A. Goodman	U.S.A.
Mr. Ilutowitz	China
Dr. H. Klee	Switzerland
Mr. L. Kremer	Palestine
Mr. Luksenburg	France
Dr. Mibachan	Uruguay
Mr. Mortimer May	U.S.A.
Mr. Orfus	France
Mr. Charles Reiss	U.S.A.
Mr. Reznik	Italy
Mrs. Raginsky	Canada
Dr. S. Roth	Hungary
Mgr. Rostal	Poland
Sam Segal	France
Mr. Toff	Ecuador
Mrs. Tourover	U.S.A.
Mr. Torczyner	U.S.A.
Mr. Zynand	Palestine



b) Commission for Constructive Work in Palestine:

Judge Bernard Rosenblatt	U.S.A.
Judge Morris Rothenberg	U.S.A.
Mr. B. Tourover	U.S.A.
Mrs. Schoolman, Mrs. Kramarski	U.S.A.
Mrs. Toulin, Miss Ludwin	U.S.A.
Mr. Crestohl	Canada
Rabbi Abraham	South Africa

Mr. Nettler-Dr. Sagall Joseph
Mr. Zuchowitzki
Mrs. Guerschunow
Mr. Golub
Mr. Krasnianski
Mr. Spilman
Mr. Zvi Herman
Mr. Seidel
Mr. Czecynowicz
Mr. J. Goldstein
Mr. Blumenthal
Mr. Salomon
Mr. Reznikow
Mr. Nahum Manelzon
Mr. Horowitz
Mr. Abraham Redelheim

England
Palestine
Argentina
Italy
Czecho-Slovakia
France
North Africa
Poland
India
Haoved
Roumania
Australia
Mexico
Austria
Belgium
U.S.A.

5th Session, Monday, 9th December 1946

Chairman: Mr. Gering-South-Africa

Mr. Hartman, makes a statement on the work of the Constructive Commission. The following result has been adopted by the Conference:

The World Conference of the General Zionist Confederation decides the establishment of a General Zionist Fund for the constructive work in Palestine.

Mr. Sam Segal reports on the first work of the Commission of Organisation and Finance. The following participated in the discussion on the problem of organisation: Mr. Valin-Italy, Mr. Luksenburg-France, Dr. Mibachan-Uruguay, Mr. Salomon-Australia, Mr. Reznikow-Mexico, Mr. Golub-Italy, Mr. Kolodny-Palestine.

WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE GENERAL ZIONISTS IN BASEL.

The 6th Session, Friday the 13th of December, chairman Prof. BRODETZKI, the 7th Session, Saturday at evening 14th of December, chairman Mr. KOLODNY and the 8th Session, Sunday the 15th of December 1946, Chairman Mr. GERING, were devoted to the political debate. In the debates participated the followings: Dr. Szwarcbard, Norman Jacobs (England), Dr. GOLDMAN, J. FISHLAN (USA) Adv. Strauch (Austria), Dr. Roth (Hungaria), Dr. Halpern (E.I.) Azraeli (America), Ilutovitsch (China), Dr. Schmorak (E.I.), Dr. Wise (USA), Suhovitzky (E.I.), Judge Rosenblat (USA), Dr. Sneh, J. Grunbaum, Sam Segal (France), Prof. Brodetzky, Danky (South Africa) and Newman. (Dr.)

9th SESSION.

The ninth Session opened Monday, the 16-th of December under the chairmanship of Dr. I. GOLDSTEIN. The session was devoted to the problems of culture and education. Dr. Rimalt reported on the general education in Erez Israel and Mr. Sam Segal spoke of the role of education efficiency in galuth. Dr. Rimalt mentioned the abnormal situation of the separate education system which undermined the basis for a pure national education. The General Zionism must endeavour to national education.

Sam Segal underlined the difference between the situation of the Jewry in Eretz and in galuth concerning education. In Eretz exists a separate system of education but in galuth it is no education at all. Our youth in Europe, said the speaker, has had no possibility to be educated during the war-time. The teachers and the educators have perished in a terrible process of annihilation of the European Jewry. The youth to-day has no schools nor teachers. We must solve this problem in the nearest time.

In the debate concerning the reports participated the followings: Daniel Frisch, Messrs. Greenberg (USA), Gelberg (Austria), Reznikoff (Mexico), Suhovitzky, Stup (E.I.), Rosthal (Poland).

10-th Session.

Tuesday, the 17-th of December, under the chairmanship of Mr. Rabinovitsch (Argentina), was opened the 10-th Session, devoted to the problem of "Aliya" about which reported Mr. Zwi Herrman (E.I.) He declares that the General Zionists have a very feeble influence of the "Aliya" resort to-day, in spite of the fact that they compose more than 20 p. c. of the aliya and a great part of money for "hatzala" is given by them. The resort of "aliya" is divided between Mizrahi and Mapai without any control; we have not a representative in the "klitah" instance and we have not any possibility to enter in the camp of Athlith. All this must be changed, if we will exist as an Organization. The speaker gave also concrete propositions for the future.

In the debate participated: Zimand, Kolodny (E.I.) Goldbart (Germany), Dr. Klee, Seligsohn, Sultanik (Germany), Scheierman (E.I.) Golub (Italia), Mrs. Ziff (England)

II-th SESSION.

Chairman : Dr. I. GOLDSTEIN

The session was devoted to the political situation and the problems of the new EXECUTIVE. Mr. Adv. Serlin reports on the work of the Steering Committee and Mrs. Greenberg reports on the work of the Political Commission. After that Prof. Brodetsky and Dr. Goldman reported on the political situation.

In the Session-hall appeared Dr. Weizmann and made a statement on his point of view concerning the political problems. Dr. Weizmann concluded that we should go to London Conference. He said: I have neither a new policy nor two policies. It is our duty to advantage the opportunity of negotiations with the British Government. We must go on experimenting, without being deterred if things go wrong. We will lose nothing and can win something. I'm not agree with Dr. Sneh that we have nothing to lose. We are obliged to begin the negotiations with Bevin. Who is fearful may rest home, Biltmor was ended in Latrun. The way from Latrun to Biltmor is not the same as the way from Biltmor to Latrun. The new settlements in the Negev will have greater political significance than any declaration of President Truman. For the nearest 6-12 months or for a year I say: May you abstain. I will not surrender from my point of view. Someones will erect a "monument" for me. They will I should be elected as Honour-President. But when I see how are the matters of the Congress I will neither be President under such circumstances nor, doubtless, Honour-President. I intended my withdraw long before but was kept by two things. 1) By letters from the Jews in the camps. 2) My withdraw would discredit the others as extremists.

After the statement of Dr. Weizmann, spoke Dr. Sneh. He declares: The Confederation must decide. Some want immediately decisions, but we must be indulgent. Weizmann was there and I say that is not a personal question. He is a worthy man. But the question is to go or not. Partition or not. Resistance or not. We have nothing to expect. We have decided once upon a time. We should not regret it. No proposition for partition! May Weizmann maintains what he has said to the Inquiry Commission.

In the debate participated also followings: Rev. Goldbloom, D. Frisch, Dr. Misbasha, Ruschauer, Leventel, A. Goldstein, Norman Jacobs.

The 12-th and 13-th Session were devoted to the continuation of the political debate.

WORLD CONFERENCE OF GENERAL ZIONISTS.

Final Session, Sunday the 22th of December at 10 p.m.

The final session of the World Conference opened Sunday, the 22th of December at 10 p.m. under the chairmanship of Dr. Aba Hilel SILVER.

Sam SEGAL makes a statement on the work of the Steering Committee and its resolution about the structure of the World Confederation. In accordance with them will be create a World Committee of the World Confederation of General Zionists with representatives of all countries. Moreover will exist a Presidency of 9 and a World Executive of 25 members.

With acclamation the World Conference elected Dr. Israel GOLDSTEIN (U.S.A.) as PRESIDENT of the WORLD CONFEDERATION.

As Vice-Presidents have been elected:

Prof. BRODETZKI	(England)
Dr. JANKU	(Rumania)
Mr. GERING	(South Africa)
Mrs. HALPERIN	(U.S.A.)
Mr. RABINOVITCH	(Argentine)
Mr. SERLIN	(Erez Israel)
Mr. SACHS	(Canada)
Mr. KRU BEIN	(U.S.A.) has been elected as treasurer.

With applauses has been elected the World Executive. It is composed as follows.:

Mr. DANSKY	(South Africa)	Mr. NATAN	(Hungary)
Mr. FRISH	(U.S.A.)	Mrs. RAGINSKA	(Canada)
Mrs. GREENBERG	(U.S.A.)	Mrs. ROSENSORN	(U.S.A.)
Mr. GOODMAN	"	Mr. REZNIKOFF	(Mexico)
Mr. GOLDSTEIN	"	Mr. RIFALT	(Erez Israel)
Mr. HERMANN	(Erez Israel)	Mr. SALAMON	(Australia)
Mr. HARTMANN	"	Mrs. SHULMANN	(U.S.A.)
Mr. JANNER	(England)	Mr. SEGAL	(France)
Mr. KOSOVER	(Poland)	Mr. TALZE	(Erez Israel)
Mr. KUBOWITZKY	(Belgique)	Mr. FORSCHNER	(U. S. A.)
Mr. LEBANON	(Erez Israel)	Mr. ZILAND	(Erez Israel)
Rabbi MILLER	(U.S.A.)		
Mrs. JANNER	(U.S.A.)		

Messrs Sam SEGAL and J. KUBOWITZKY expressed on behalf of the European Office their pleasure to see the Confederation organized and hope that the new-elected Executive will realise its task successfully.

Dr. GOLDSTEIN, as the new-elected President of the Confederation thanks all the delegates for the honour and confidence they have granted him by the election. He declares: " I call you all to an intensive work in the spirit of a mutually comprehension."

Mr. SILVER in his close-speech summarizes the results of the World Conference. He emphasizes the fact of a friendly co-operation of the delegates which make a great effort for the positive issue of the Conference.

In spite of the present differences in political orientation our aim is a free Jewish People in a free Jewish State."

The delegates rose and sang "Hatikvah". The World Conference of the General Zionists is closed.

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JERUSALEM DECLARATION

Provisionally

The reestablishment of the State of Israel in our day represents a fulfillment of the millennial hopes of the Jewish people, an act of international justice, and a triumphant achievement of the Zionist movement.

The rebirth of the State of Israel opens up a new hopeful vistas for the future of our people and for the solution of the problem of Jewish existence and survival.

The realization of the Zionist program has not yet fully been achieved. The task still remains to make the State of Israel flourishing and secure in order that it may successfully absorb the hosts of our people from all parts of the world who will continue to stream towards it, seeking home, freedom, and fulfillment.

The Twenty Third World Zionist Congress, meeting for the first time in Jerusalem, capital of the State of Israel, calls upon the Jewish people to continue the historic work so nobly begun, and to devote themselves with a sense of urgency to its completion.

The 23rd Zionist Congress declares the tasks of Zionism to be: TO STRENGTHEN THE STATE OF ISRAEL; TO IMPLEMENT THE PROCESS OF THE INGATHERING OF THE EXILES IN ERETZ ISRAEL; AND TO FOSTER THE UNITY OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE.

to encourage the large scale immigration of Jews into Israel

Whereas:

the reestablishment of the State of Israel in our day represents a glorious fulfillment of the millennial hopes of the Jewish people, a singular and noble act of international justice and a triumphant achievement of the Zionist movement, and

Whereas:

the reestablishment of the State of Israel opens up new and hopeful vistas for the future of our people in the family of nations and for the solution of many of the problems of Jewish existence and survival and

Whereas:

the complete realization of the Zionist program has not been achieved with the reestablishment of the State and much remains to be done to make the State of Israel flourishing and secure in order that it might successfully absorb the hosts of our people from all parts of the world who will continue to stream towards it seeking home, freedom, and fulfillment and in order that the State of Israel might make its contribution to the enrichment of Jewish life everywhere and to its unity

Therefore

the Twenty Third World Zionist Congress, meeting for the first time in Jerusalem, capital of the State of Israel, ^{delivered} calls upon the Jewish people to continue in faithfulness and perseverance the historic work which has been so heroically and successfully begun and to devote themselves energetically and with a sense of urgency to the following tasks whose proper performance will make us worthy of the greatness of our past and the promise of our future.

מס' 1/1
למחלקת
ס' 1/1

היות
והקמת מדינת ישראל בימינו מהווה הגשמה מפורקת של הקו-
הדורות של העם היהודי, מן וכל יחידה ואצילה של עזק בין-
לאומי והישג שגיא של התרועה הציונית,

והיות
בממשלה והקמת מדינת ישראל פותחת אופקים חדשים ורבי
חקוה לעתיד עמנו במשפחות האומות, ולפתרון של רכות מן
הבעיות של המשך קיומו של העם היהודי (קול)

והיות
ועם הקמת המדינה עומד הושגה הגשמה המלאה של התבונה הציונית
וכוונתה המשימה הגדולה לעשות לעמנו ולבטחונה של מדינת
ישראל למען חוקל לקלוט המוני עמנו מכל ארצות העולם שימשיכו
לנהור אליה כבקשת בית, חושש וגאולה, ולמען חוקל ממדינה
לחרוט את תרומתה להעשרת החיים היהודיים בכל מקום ומקום
ולאפירותם,

לפיכך
הקונגרס הציוני ה"ב המתכנס בפעם הראשונה בירושלים, בירת
מדינת ישראל, קורא אל העם היהודי להמשיך בנאמנות ובמסירות
את העבודה ההסתדרותית אשר החל בגבורה ובתאולה ולהקדיש עצמו
ככל מצוו ואוננו לתפקידים הכבדים אשר מצוים המלא ייעשה אותנו
ראויים לגדולות עברנו ולייעוד עתידנו.

וועלט קאנפערענץ פאר א'פערייניקטן
אלגעמיינעם ציוניזם - ארגאניזאציאנס קומיטעט

הועידה העולמית לאיחוד התנועה
הציונית הכללית - הועדה המכינה

WORLD CONFERENCE FOR THE UNIFICATION
OF GENERAL ZIONISTS - ORGANISING COMMITTEE

ת.ד. 16002 P.O.B. • תל-אביב, רח' אבן גבירול 66 Tel-Aviv, Ibn Gvirol St. • טל. 225123-6, 224165-6

WHY THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO CONFEDERATIONS HAVE FAILED

FACTS ONLY

1) As known, negotiations took place between the leadership of the two Confederations of General Zionists during the last two years, in order to explore the possibilities of an agreement between the two movements and to unite all General Zionist Organisations and Groups all over the World.

Only the essentials concerning this theme will be brought hereunder, concentrating mainly on the period 1962 - 1963.

2) In October 1962, Dr. E. Neuman on behalf of his confederation submitted to Rose Halperin and Dr. Goldstein a clearly formulated proposal stating:

"A . Unification of the two Confederations shall be on the basis of complete equality and parity of representation.

Such unification shall be effective also regionally and locally and the United Confederation will recognize only one regional set-up in each region and only one affiliated organization in each country (exception: Hadassah and Z.O.A. in the U.S.).

B . The United Confederation will function strictly within the framework of the W.Z.C. for Zionist purposes without involvement in the domestic politics of Israel.

C . As the sole Israeli constituent of the Confederation there is to be established a council or organisation -distinct and apart from any political party in Israel- representing those Israeli Zionists who were formerly members of the Organisation of General Zionists of Israel and of the Progressive Party and others who regard and declare themselves as General Zionists. This new body will be concerned with Zionist affairs exclusively."

This proposal was followed by an explanatory letter in which Dr. Neuman repeated the principal attitude, according to which the united confederation will function strictly within the framework of the World Zionist Organisation and for Zionist purposes only, without involvement in the domestic politics of Israel. It was made clear that the sole Israeli constituent of the united confederation would be a council or a body of General Zionists being distinct from any political party in Israel and which will be concerned with Zionist affairs only.

3) Following Dr. Neuman's proposal, a joint meeting of representatives of the two confederations was held in Jerusalem in November 1962, and the discussion concerning the three essential points was repeated as follows:

a) The question of the use of the term of "non identification" or "non involvement".

b) The unity of local and regional bodies affiliated to the two Confederations.

c) The formation of the General Zionist Organisation in Israel.

4) It must be stressed that the general impression of the representatives of the two parties was, that the term "non involvement" seemed to be acceptable. Regarding the local and regional unity, the representative of the Halperin - Goldstein Confederation pointed out that this was completely unacceptable to Europe as the Amsterdam Conference accepted the principle that such a unity was desirable, but at the same time the Conference recognized that it is impossible to implement immediately this principle. Concerning the General Zionist Organisation in Israel, the representative of the Goldstein-Halperin Confederation repeated their view, according to which the joint presidency of the new body should be composed of one President representing the group of non identified General Zionists living in Israel and of another who is not clearly identified as a member of the leadership of the Liberal Party in Israel.

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At the end of this meeting, Mrs. Rose Halperin declared that she is going to England to discuss the above topics with her colleagues.

5) In the meantime contacts were established between the representatives of Dr. Neuman's Confederation and the leadership of the Liberal Party in Israel.

It is known that the Liberal Party and its governing bodies took a clear stand in the question of unity, namely:

a) For the purpose of complete unity (including Hadassah) the Liberal Party is ready to agree to the formation of a separate Zionist body in Israel and transfer to this body all its Zionist prerogatives. Every effort must be made in order to achieve such a complete unity. The Liberal Party was ready to wait until the end of 1962 in order to explore all possibilities to implement the a/m stand.

b) But if all efforts will fail, the Liberal Party will be ready, together with the Dr. Neuman's Confederation and with the support of various organisations, groups and personalities, to initiate a World Conference for the unification of General Zionists.

6) As no reply was given to Dr. Neuman's proposal by the Halperin-Goldstein Confederation, an agreement was signed in January 1963, between Dr. Neuman's Confederation and the Liberal Party, according to the lines mentioned in the previous paragraph.

7) Despite this final agreement there was a common trend to use the opportunity of the last session of the A/C in Jerusalem, in order to make a last effort to try if there is still a possibility for an agreement. The initiative for a meeting between the two Confederations was taken by the Halperin - Goldstein Confederation.

8) And so a further meeting took place in Jerusalem, on March 18, 1963, between representatives of the two Confederations. The following is a summary of this meeting:

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a) Rose Halperin stated that concerning the issue of "non identification" or "non involvement" there seems to be an understanding between the two confederations. But the question of the Israeli mandates remains to be a very serious matter, because the division of mandates in Israel is based on Knesset elections, this means that the Liberal Party in Israel will actually get the mandates, and thus the principle of "non involvement" would be nullified.

Therefore a suggestion was made by the second confederation, according to which the two confederations should be merged without the constituency in Israel. The unified diaspora-Confederation will consider, how to establish a General Zionist body in Israel, which will be its constituency.

b) Dr. Neuman in his reply stressed that we appreciate the opportunity to renew the talks with the other confederation. He mentioned the negotiations for unification which took place during the last two years, and especially the compromise proposal drafted by his Confederation one year ago, the purpose of which was to enable the second confederation to be a partner in the unified confederation. The proposal said: 1) the new Confederation wouldn't be involved in the domestic affairs of Israel and neither those of any other country, 2) in Israel, a General Zionist Council should be established, for purely Zionist purposes only, independent of the Liberal Party. This council should be affiliated to the new Confederation. Of course, practically speaking, the majority of General Zionists in Israel who will be members of this council are members of the Liberal Party. We thought that such a compromise would lead to unity, but unfortunately the Amsterdam Conference of the second Confederation didn't accept it. Dr. Neuman added, that in October 1962 he submitted our proposal to Mrs. Rose Halperin in writing. It was made clear that the Liberal Party in Israel was ready to transfer officially its Zionist prerogatives and rights to the would be Zionist Council. As is known no positive answer was received.

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c) At the end of 1962, an agreement between Dr. Neuman's Confederation and the Liberal Party was reached in Israel, according to which a World Conference for unification of the General Zionists will be convened in July 1963. Taking into consideration that the next Zionist Congress will be held in 1964, there was no time to wait any longer. Our Confederation is therefore committed by this agreement;

Concerning the proposal to merge the two confederations in the diaspora only -this is not a new proposal- Dr. Neuman pointed out that this is a question of high principle, and that he can't imagine that his confederation would agree, even temporarily, to such a "Galut" proposition.

d) Dr. Goldstein remarked here, that their attitude to the Zionist activities of the General Zionists in Israel is positive. The question is, how to organise the General Zionists in Israel without violating the principle of non-involvement.

Dr. Neuman said further, that it is impossible to agree to a unified confederation without General Zionists in Israel. The General Zionists of Israel are members of our confederation.

He expressed his personal opinion that it is possible to reach a merger of the two confederations with Israel and after the unification to consider together the question of mandates and how to settle it. But if unfortunately there would be two separate confederations - Dr. Neuman expressed his hope that they will at least find a way for cooperation at the Congress and the Actions Committee.

Dr. Goldstein said that there is a suggestion to hold the next Congress at the end of 1964, and therefore proposed that Dr. Neuman should agree to delay the World Conference for unification in order to make possible a further discussion of the proposals made at this meeting.

Mr. Dulzin remarked that if the second confederation would agree to the compromise proposal, then the World Conference can be convened on behalf of the two confederations.

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The meeting ended after Dr. Goldstein declared that they must digest the opinions and proposal voiced in this meeting.

9) As a result of this meeting the Halperin-Goldstein Confederation required a written proposal on behalf of Dr. Neuman, as they were going to have a meeting concerning this question. Being committed by an agreement with the Liberal Party, the Executive of Dr. Neuman's Confederation met the Representatives of the Liberal Party, and with their full consent the following proposition was submitted:

"It is proposed to establish at once a world union which shall embrace the constituents of the two World Confederations of General Zionists in the Diaspora and an association representing the General Zionists of Israel.

It is assumed that the Liberal Party of Israel will function only as a Knesset party and the association will function as a Zionist body concerned with Zionist affairs exclusively.

Dr. Goldstein and Mr. Dultzin are to submit an agreed list of the organizing committee of the association and its first officers. This organizing committee shall be recognized as representing the Israel constituents of the world union and be accorded appropriate representation in its governing bodies."

10) The Executive of the Halperin - Goldstein Confederation didn't accept the above proposition, and Dr. Goldstein informed Dr. Neuman orally that there is nothing further to be done.

11) It must be stressed that in the Confederation headed by Mrs. Halperin and Mr. Goldstein, a clear tendency for the unification has aroused and the leaders and members of certain groups have expressed their disagreement with the tactics of this confederation.

Specially, the opinion of Dr. Vodovoz from Argentina, member of

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the Zionist Council and one of the leaders of the General Zionists in South America, affiliated to this confederation, must be mentioned. Dr. Vodovoz who participated in the talks for the unification stated that he and his friends will participate at the World Congress for the Unification of the General Zionist movement.

According to information we have, we can forward with certainty that in Latin America the unification will be complete. We can also mention that the center of the General Zionists and the independent zionists in France that are also affiliated to this Confederation, decided unanimously to ask the unification of the General Zionists without delay. Here, we must mention that the independent zionists of France are a very important group of the European Confederation headed by Mrs. Halperin and Mr. Goldstein.

12) In view of this development, the Organizing Committee, composed of: Dr. E. Neuman, Chairman, M. Kol, J. Serlin, Deputy Chairmen, P. Bernstein, L. Dulzin, I. Dunsky, E. Epstein, Y. Harari, L. Ilutovich, Ch. Levanon, Dr. E. Rimalt, P. Rosen, J. Saphir, J. Torczyner, B. Weinstein - decided to begin with all the necessary preparations for the World Conference, to take place on 20 - 22 July 1963, in Israel.

According to information received by the Organizing Committee, all General Zionist organizations and groups in Latin America and the greater majority of these groups in Europe declared their support for the initiative of the Organizing Committee and their readiness to participate at the World Conference.

The General Secretary of the Liberal Party, Mr. I. Artzi visited the European countries on behalf of the Organizing Committee of the World Conference for the Unification of General Zionists. Mr. I. Golan, M.K., left Israel in a similar mission to the South American countries and has been in Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, Chile and Mexico. The Member of the Jewish Agency Executive, M.K., Moshé Kol will leave Israel for Europe for Europe for the same purpose and Deputy Speaker of the Knesset, J. Serlin will leave Israel in the middle of May for France and from there to South America where he will make a big tour in order to have talks for the unification of the General Zionists.