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Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

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Zionist Organization of America, 1918.

PROVISIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR GENERAL ZIONIST AFFAIRS

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FEDERATION OF AMERICAN ZIONISTS
LOUIS LIPSKY, EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN

PALESTINE RESTORATION FUND

To Prepare for the Final Establishment of the Jewish Homeland

FIRST INSTALLMENT—ONE MILLION DOLLARS

TO REHABILITATE the Jewish Settlements and Institutions in Palestine, and facilitate their continued development and extension.

TO CONTINUE and expand the work of the Zionist Organization, here and abroad, to enable it to realize its aims: the age-long hope of the Jewish people.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, OHIO STATE ZIONIST ASSOCIATION
The Temple,
Central ave and E. 55 st,
Cleveland.

D. GARA, PRESIDENT

507 Cuyahoga Building,

CLEVELAND, OHIO

January 14, 1918.

NATIONAL FINANCE COMMISSION

EUGENE MEYER, JR.
CHAIRMAN

NATHAN STRAUS
VICE CHAIRMAN

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CHAIRMAN
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

HENRY G. ALSBERG
SECRETARY

ADOLPH HUBBARD
ADMINISTRATIVE SECY.

D. GARA
CHAIRMAN

OHIO MEMBERS

Friday
at 11
My dear Rabbi:

The recent National Jewish Conference in Baltimore, called in consequence of tremendous world events, has formulated plans for the final establishment of the Jewish homeland in Palestine and is making it its first aim to relieve the suffering created by the war and to rehabilitate the Jewish settlements and institutions in Palestine. We hope to achieve these ends through the good will of our government and of its allies.

A Restoration Fund is to be the corner-stone of this undertaking. The first installment is one million dollars and it must be raised in sixty days. One quarter of this sum has already been contributed by voluntary donations. Ohio is expected to raise a reasonable share.

I therefore take the liberty of asking you to serve with me as a member of the National Finance Commission of the Restoration Fund, having been authorized to organize the work in our state by the National Finance Commission headed by Eugene Meyer, who is also chairman of America's National Defense Committee. We contemplate arousing the interest of all Cleveland and I hope you will see your way clear to participate in the work with me.

I would like to talk with you further on this subject and beg of you the honor of a personal interview at the earliest possible date. Will you please call my office and inform me when it will be most convenient for you to see me.

Very truly yours,

D. Gara

507 CUYAHOGA BLDG.

TELEPHONES

MAIN 3578 CENTRAL 5610

FEDERATION OF AMERICAN ZIONISTS

44 EAST 280 STREET

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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 Max Shulman, Chicago
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TOUR DEPARTMENT, A. H. FROMENSON, Director

NEW YORK, Feb. 14th, 1918.

Rabbi A. H. Silver,
 c/o The Temple,
 E. 55th St. & Central Ave.,
 Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Rabbi Silver:

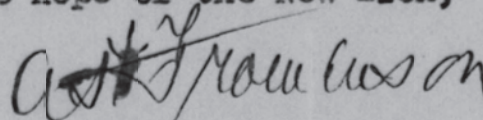
I am very sorry to have had to disappoint you and the Cleveland community with regard to Mr. Ben Avi, but as I explained in my last letter, the thing proved a physical impossibility, for the date fixed.

It is impossible for me to say, at this time, whether or not you can have Mr. Ben Avi in April. I am contemplating a tour for him through the south in March, and I had hoped to start him from Cleveland on the first of that month. I am waiting to hear from Dr. Heller of New Orleans in order that I may cover the leg of the tour.

It may be, however, that I will so adjust this tour as to bring him back via Cleveland.

I want to tell you how glad I am to notice your Zionist activity.

Yours, in the hope of the New Zion,



AHF/FR

P. S. Since the above was written, the Ohio branch of the Palestine Restoration Fund Committee has arranged that Mr. Ben Avi be in Cleveland on Feb. 27th. Can you use him at about that time? If so, I will arrange for him to stay over. Let me know by wire.

PROVISIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR GENERAL ZIONIST AFFAIRS

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To Prepare for the Final Establishment of the Jewish Homeland

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ADMINISTRATIVE SECY.

D. GARA
CHAIRMAN
OHIO MEMBERS

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
% The Temple,
East 55 Street.
City.

My dear Rabbi:

I beg to enclose a copy of letter and clipping that we are mailing out to a selected number of people, foremost among them the members of your Temple.

I regret very much not having had the opportunity of seeing you personally since the conference. I am so deeply engaged in the details of this work that I could not find time, convenient for both of us, to see you. However, I will make an effort on Monday if it is agreeable to you. In the meantime may I not suggest that you find some way to urge the members of your Temple to sign and return the resolution attached to our letter of invitation.

Very sincerely yours,

D. Gara

507 CUYAHOGA BLDG.
TELEPHONES:
MAIN 3579 CENT. 5610

OFFICE: 507 CUYAHOGA BLDG.

CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS: HOLLENDEN HOTEL, PARLOR K

National Finance Commission

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TARY

PALESTINE RESTORATION COMMITTEE

Campaign Headquarters Parlor K, The Hollenden. Office 507 Cuyahoga Bldg.

Main 3579

Central 5610

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SECRETARY

Cleveland, Ohio,

February 16, 1918.

RESTORATION

What It Means

The Palestine Restora-
tion Committee is
organized to

Rehabilitate the Jewish
settlements and institutions
in Palestine, and facilitate
their continued develop-
ment and extension.

Prepare for the final es-
tablishment of the Jewish
homeland.

Help maintain the exist-
ing Jewish settlements and
institutions in Palestine,
and re-patriate Palestinian
refugees, expelled during
the war.

Maintain the schools in
Palestine, educational, vo-
cational and agricultural.

Make loans to prospec-
tive colonists, farmers and
business men in the new
settlements.

Make the necessary plans
and surveys for harbors,
roads, irrigation projects,
waterworks and other pub-
lic utilities necessary for
the welfare of the country.

Dear Sir:-

On behalf of a committee of 100, named at a city-wide con-
ference held on Feb. 2 and 3, I have the honor to invite you to a ban-
quet and mass meeting to be held on Wednesday, February 27th, and fur-
ther ask you to sign and return the attached resolutions, submitted
herewith for your approval. Your signature is needed to give the res-
olutions the weight of the indorsement of our most influential citizens.

This conference followed the declaration of Great Britain,
who, in concert with her allies, declared for the restoration of Pal-
estine to the Jews. Our own government has declared the rights of
small nations and a world Democracy as its essential aims in this war
and, in view of this declaration, the restoration program has the sup-
port of President Wilson and the National government.

Following these historic events, an international conference
was at once called, met in Baltimore, and arranged for immediate relief
work for the 48 war-stricken Jewish colonies and for general restora-
tion activities. Cleveland was made the headquarters - the pivotal
point - for all Ohio activities.

THE MASS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN GRAY'S ARMORY, WEDNESDAY, FEB.
27th AT 8 P. M. For this meeting such speakers as Louis D.

Brandeis, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court,
Judge Julian W. Mack, Chicago, Secretary of War Baker, Gov. Cox,
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Ambassador Myron T. Herrick, Mayor Davis
and Dr. S. Levin have been invited. A motion picture film,
showing the entry of Gen. Allenby into Jerusalem, and other in-
teresting scenes in Palestine also is being arranged for. The
committee in charge of the meeting is bending every effort to
make sure of the attendance of the invited speakers.

PRECEDING THE MASS MEETING A BANQUET WILL BE HELD IN THE HOLLEN-
DEN HOTEL, AT 6 P. M. sharp, at which the speakers will be the
guests of honor. The committee has instructed me to extend to
you an invitation to attend this banquet yourself and to invite
others as your guests. Plates for the banquet will be \$2 each.

Accommodations at the banquet and mass meeting will be limit-
ed and it is desired that you send your acceptance by return mail, us-
ing the coupon showing what reservations you will require. Should you
find it impossible to attend the banquet or meeting, please do not fail
to sign the attached resolutions and return at once.

Respectfully yours,

A. Gara

*2685 Ave
Hood
Eu. Heights*

Copy.

State of Ohio
Executive Department
Columbus

February 26, 1918.

Mr. D. Gara,
Parlor K,
Hollenden Hotel,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Gara:

I regret very much that the pressure of war tasks prevents my attending your meeting. I am thorough sympathy with the preservation of Palestine, and I feel that I would honor the state by speaking for our people to representatives of a race conspicuous for two things, - loyalty to its religious belief, and devotion to country.

In this day of trial and stress, there is no uncertainty about the Jews. They have lived happily and securely under the flag that they now stand ready to protect. Theirs has not been a practice of deriving benefit in fair weather and denying sacrifice when the storm comes.

The whole civilized world rejoices that Palestine has fallen into the hands of those who honor her glorious traditions. The strength and resource and resolve of the state are at the command of your laudable project.

Very truly yours,

Signed:-----James M. Cox.

Copy.

Postal Telegram.

New York, February 26, 1918.

D. Gara,
507 Cuyahoga Bldg.
Cleveland, O.

Regret exceedingly Judicial duties here prevent acceptance of your invitation to address Cleveland Jewish community I should have liked to be present to urge support of efforts now being made to establish in Palestine a homeland for the Jewish people the opportunity has come and it now rests with Jews themselves whether the splendid offers of the British and French governments are taken advantage of every Jew wishing to uphold the dignity and repute of his own people should give of his means and of his influence to support Palestine Restoration Fund.

Julian F. Mack



Copy.

Western Union Telegram.

Chillicothe, O. February 27, 1918.

Palestine Restoration Mass Meeting
Gray's Armory.
Cleveland, O.

Our hearty wishes to the success of the Palestine Restoration Campaign.

Jewish Soldiers,
Camp Sherman.



Postal Telegraph.

Copy.

New York, February 27, 1918.

D. Gara
Hollenden Hotel,
Cleveland, Ohio.

The promised Jewish repatriation marks turning point in history of our people comparable to escape from bondage from Egypt thirty five hundred years ago the reestablishment of old homeland in Palestine will give us a centre of preservation and development of Jewish ideals in religion and culture and will afford a refuge for the oppressed through the Palestine restoration fund. Every American Jew is called upon to cooperate in this great historic task.

Stephen S. Wise.



Copy

Postal Telegraph

New York February 27, 1918.

D. Gara.

Care Hollenden Hotel, Cleveland, O.

For over half century I have worked hoped for realization of Zionist dream for restoration of old Jewish homeland in Palestine, at last dream is coming true from all over the world Jews are looking to our people in the United States to play the leading part in laying financial foundation of new Jewish state surely every American Jew will be proud to avail himself of this opportunity for we hold in our hands today the future of our people through the Palestine Restoration Fund. We should manifest our sympathy with this ideal.

Nathan Strauss.



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OHIO STATE ZIONISTS ASSOCIATION
D. GARA, PRESIDENT

PALESTINE RESTORATION FUND

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ארגון

לנא"ל

February 28, 1918.

TO REHABILITATE the Jewish Settlements and Institutions in Palestine, and facilitate their continued development and extension.

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ADMINISTRATIVE SECY.

D. GARA
CHAIRMAN
OHIO MEMBERS

Rabbi A. H. Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland, O.

My dear Rabbi:

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the great efforts you have made to help us in this good cause. I sincerely believe that our event last night was a great success and will have far reaching consequences to the best interests of the community. I always knew that we had an uphill fight but I feel, judging from the answers recorded in my office, that the ice is broken and all it needs is a continued and efficient effort to make good on these promises.

I now wish to acquaint you with the facts that were responsible for the missing speakers. Governor Cox not only promised to come but that day his Secretary by a long distance call, said that he would possibly be late coming in from Mt. Vernon. The Secretary added that the Governor was sending a special delivery letter to be ready in the event he misses connections. I am enclosing herewith a copy of this letter.

Myron T. Herrick, while in New York, contracted a bad case of tonsillitis and it was my luck that just that day he had a relapse while speaking at another gathering, contrary to the advice of his physician. Last evening I spoke to him four different times over the phone and once with his house physician. You possibly had noticed me leaving the table often and each time it was to speak with Mr. Herrick. Mr. Herrick repeatedly insisted he was very eager to attend our meeting but he explained he was so much in sympathy with our cause and would have so much to say that he feared he could not withstand the strain. His physician was there all evening trying to reduce the inflammation to a point where he could come out. But to my misfortune, as it seems, he not only did not succeed, but

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TELEPHONES:
MAIN 3579 CENT. 5610

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D. GARA
CHAIRMAN
OHIO MEMBERS

No.2

the last time I spoke to the physician, he told me that Mr. Herrick had high fever and had to be put to bed. Mr. Herrick wanted me especially to tell you that he is at your service in this cause and he will do anything in his power to help it. In fact he wanted you to make the address for him and was giving me some points when the physician interrupted and would not let him speak any further. He was truly anxious and sincere in his desire to be there but could not.

There is only one man from whom I did not hear and that was Mayor Davis. I had the absolute assurance of his coming and up to the present moment I have not been able to get in touch with him to find out why he was not there. The best proof to me of his intention to come was that he did not send a representative as is customary for a Mayor to do at almost every occasion.

I have received many telegrams and I beg to enclose copies of some of them.

I was very much depressed by my inability to live up to my promise with reference to the program, but those of the committee who were among the people in the audience assured me that no one felt the absence of these celebrities and they were all happy, satisfied and enthusiastic. As far as I am concerned I want to emphasize again that the collection of moneys was a secondary consideration.

I am beginning to-day to build an organization on the nucleus of what we have created throughout the last half year and I know that when I succeed we will not need mass-meetings to raise any funds.

I hope I can count on your further confidence and that you will help me carry this work through to a success. I also wish to assure you that while I cannot control mass-meetings, the arrangements for which concern many people,

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OFFICE: 507 CUYAHOGA BLDG.

CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS: HOLLENDEN HOTEL, PARLOR K

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ADOLPH HUBBARD
ADMINISTRATIVE SECY.

D. GARA
CHAIRMAN
OHIO MEMBERS

No. 3.

I will continue my further work in accordance with the high standard and propriety befitting your worthy personality.

With thanks, I am,

WRHS

Respectfully yours,



D. Gara

507 CUYAHOGA BLDG.
TELEPHONES:
MAIN 3579 CENT. 5610

OFFICE: 507 CUYAHOGA BLDG.

CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS: HOLLENDEN HOTEL, PARLOR K

FEDERATION OF AMERICAN ZIONISTS

44 EAST 23D STREET

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 Dr. David de Sola Pool, New York
 Bernard A. Rosenblatt, New York
 Morris Rothenberg, New York
 Miss Alice L. Seligsberg, New York
 Max Shulman, Chicago
 Miss Henrietta Szold, New York

NEW YORK, March 7, 1918.

Dr. Abba Silver,
 Cong. Tifereth Israel,
 Cleveland, Ohio

@
 3/7/18

My dear Dr. Silver:

The Maccabean is making a special effort to increase its circulation, and for that purpose is getting out a leaflet to contain words of commendation by men eminent in the Zionist organization and prominent in the eyes of the Jewish public.

Would it be possible for you to let us have two or three sentences that would express your opinion of The Maccabean and would at the same time be useful for this campaign? I would appreciate very much if you would let us have this letter as soon as possible, and not later than ten days from this date.

Thanking you very much for your kindness, I am

In the hope of the New Zion,

Very cordially yours,

Louis Lipsky
 Chairman

LL/TZ

“ A most stimulating periodical, replete with Jewish interest, sacrificing neither logical judgment nor literary tone in the cause of propoganda. Decidedly worth while. ”



5

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NATHAN STRAUSS,
Vice Chairman
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ADOLPH HUBBARD,
Administrative Secretary
D. GARA
Ohio Chairman

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OFFICE 507 CUYAHOGA BUILDING

Main 3579

CLEVELAND, O.

Central 5610

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Mr. M. Wolk
I. Mervis
Max Morris
M. A. Levin
S. Warner
Rev. A. London
M. B. Freedman
I. N. Adler
J. N. Galvin

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
% The Temple,
City.

Dear Rabbi:

I take the liberty of calling a meeting of
your committee at 7:30 P. M. Saturday May 4 in the
Hollenden Hotel. At this meeting I shall propose to
you a permanent organization to take the place of
the committee and I hope you will attend promptly.

Very truly yours,

L. Gara
Ohio Chairman

National Finance C

May 1, 1918.

PALESTINE RESTORATION COMMITTEE

MEN OF NATIONAL PROMINENCE ENDORSE RESTORATION

MAYOR'S CIVIC COMMITTEE

Mayor
Harry L. Davis
Chairman

Charles E. Adams
E. S. Burke, Jr.
E. H. Baker
J. Robert Crouse
F. H. Caley
Judge Thomas L. Dunlap
P. J. Darling
M. B. Daly
James H. Foster
Carl D. Friebolin
M. F. Fisher
W. A. Greenlund
F. H. Goff
R. F. Grant
James R. Garfield
Warren S. Hayden
J. J. Hanley
Myron T. Herrick
Homer H. McKeehan
Judge Walter D. Meals
M. P. Mooney
Roland T. Meacham
W. J. Murphy
Victor Morgan
Charles A. Otis
C. A. Paine
Harry F. Payer
Dr. John H. Quayle
Geo. A. Schneider
Col. J. J. Sullivan
Andrew Squire
Samuel Scovill
President Charles F. Thwing
Judge Willis Vickery
Windsor T. White
E. M. Williams
E. S. Wertz

ADVISORY

Hon. Champ Clark.
Speaker House of Representatives—

The Restoration of Palestine is a sacred privilege to Jew and Gentile alike. The British declaration is one of the most far-reaching developments of the war. It is the most important event in modern Jewish history. Jews in all parts of the world should contribute liberally to the Palestine Restoration Fund, and I am sure all good Christians should be no less interested in giving material aid to the work.

Gov. James M. Cox—

The whole civilized world rejoices that Palestine has fallen into the hands of those who honor her glorious traditions. The strength and resource and resolve of the state are at the command of your laudable project.

I am in thorough sympathy with the preservation of Palestine.

Justice Louis D. Brandeis, U. S. Supreme Court—

"The Palestine Restoration Fund is today the means whereby the world's Jews may begin to look again to themselves as a reconstructed nation. Ohio has always done its part in national Jewish work, and I know that your great state will respond as nobly as it has done in the past. Every Jew should give to the Restoration Fund, and I know that Cleveland and Ohio will give their quota."

E. S. Wertz, United States District Attorney—

The Jewish people are entitled to their ancient inheritance. I hope the time is soon at hand when a restored Palestine will become the home of the Jewish people and that its extent shall include every foot of ground originally given them by God when they first were taken to Palestine.

WHAT WE HAVE DONE AND PLAN TO DO IN PALESTINE



THE British Government

has officially offered Palestine to us. Most of our allies have concurred in her action. The British offer can only be made binding and permanent by acceptance. What does acceptance mean? It means our going to work at once to rebuild the colonies that have been injured in the Turkish retreat, it means rebuilding houses, replanting orchards, bringing the colonists back into the colonies, opening our schools, hospitals and other institutions. A medical mission must go out as soon as possible to help rid the country of sickness and epidemics which the war has fostered.

Anglo-Palestine Bank Needs Help.

Our Anglo-Palestine Bank in Jaffa and Jerusalem, which has financed the colonies and which will finance new colonies, and which was looted by the Turks, must receive immediate help. Commissions must be sent out to Palestine to begin the preliminary work for establishing civil order, for investigation of conditions, to report on what is needed at once so that steps for further colonization can be taken without delay. This is what the world expects of us. This is what we must do right away in order not to lose the greatest chance we have had in two thousand years. That is what we want the million dollars for.

It remains for the Jews of America particularly, because of their fortunate situation, to take advantage of this offer of justice and good-will and join in an organized effort to found the New Palestine. In this new state will be established the center of Jewish culture and civilization, which cannot fail to be an inspiration to the Jews throughout the Diaspora as well as to the other peoples of the world. The material out of which a new Palestine must be built can be found only in an independent and sturdy people, the basis of which is a thriving agricultural class. That this is feasible has been proved by the success of the forty-eight Jewish colonies in Palestine.

Colonial Managers are Experts.

Many of the managers of the colonies were experts of the highest technical skill. There was a measure of self-government in these colonies, each of which practically controlled its local affairs. All the colonists had a voice and a vote in the Vaad, or local assembly. By common consent Hebrew became the language of the colonies. A complete system of Hebrew education has been developed from kindergarten to high school. The diploma of this high school [the Hebrew Gymnasium at Jaffa] is accepted for admission to Columbia and other American as well as European universities. In addition, there is a Technical School at Haifa, the Bezalel Arts and Crafts School at Jerusalem, and a Music School at Jaffa.

What Colonies Produced.

The products of the country consisted of wines of such excellence that they have been awarded medals at French expositions, and this in competition with the French products. The value of the vineyards in 1914 amounted to 2,800,000 francs. The wine-cellars of the colony Rishon-le-Zion, built out of caves hewn in the solid rock, are among the largest in the world. Among the other products were olives and olive oil. The value of the olive orchards in 1914 amounted to 1,380,000 francs. The oranges of Palestine found a ready market in Marseilles, Liverpool, and London, and in the same year the orange orchards were valued at 10,780,000 francs. The value of almond groves for the same period amounted to 5,550,000 francs.

There were also extensive harvests of cereals, and at the Agricultural Experiment Station at Haifa, established with the co-operation of the United States Government, there were made some notable agricultural discoveries and applications particularly of a wild wheat, suitable to arid sections like those of southwestern United States. All the latest and most advanced methods of scientific agriculture were employed in the colonies.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH - COMMERCIAL CABLES

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CLARENCE H. MACKAY, PRESIDENT.

TELEGRAM

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RABBI H SILVER,

The Temple
CLEVELAND OHIO

Roe 1330
557 Central

PRESIDENT WILSON HAS OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED ZIONIST MOVEMENT
PERIOD SHOULD YOU BE INTERVIEWED SAY SOMETHING ALONG THESE LINES
PERIOD THE JEWS OF UNITED STATES AND WORLD OVER WILL REJOICE
GREATLY IN LETTER OF PRESIDENT WHICH COMES AS NEW YEARS MESSAGE.
WE FEEL IT IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE IN ITS BEARING ON RESTORATION
OF PALESTINE TO JEWISH PEOPLE AND ARE PROFOUNDLY GRATEFUL PERIOD
PITTSBURGH CONVENTION GAVE GRAPHIC PROOF OF RAPID GROWTH OF ZIONIST
ORGANIZATION AND BREADTH OF ITS PLATFORM IN KEEPING WITH PRINCIPLES
OF DEMOCRACY CLEARLY AND NOBLY ENUNCIATED BY THE PRESIDENT PERIOD
ZIONIST MOVEMENT HAS BEEN RALLYING FORCE OF WORLD JEWRY AND ITS
SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE HAS BEEN GRASPED BY THE PRESIDENT IN HIS
REFERENCE TO LAYING OF CORNERSTONE OF HEBREW UNIVERSITY AND WORK
OF WEIZMANN COMMISSION PERIOD. ZIONIST EVERYWHERE WILL BE DEEPLY
ENCOURAGED TO GREATER EFFORT ON BEHALF OF CAUSE.

A H FROMENSON.

TELEPHONED
TO *C.S.* BY *C.S.* AT *9-16*
CONFIRM BY *9-5-8*

UNITED STATES OFFICES:

BOSTON, MASS.
27 SCHOOL STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
417 LAFAYETTE BLDG.
CLEVELAND, O.
507 CUYAHOGA BLDG.
CHICAGO, ILL.
1613 ASHLAND BLOCK
NORFOLK, VA.
602 FAIRFAX AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
441 PHELAN BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.
812 EQUITABLE BLDG.
WASHINGTON, D. C.
11TH STREET AND
PENNSYLVANIA AVE.

החברות הציוניות של ארצות הברית

CABLE ADDRESS: ZIONISTS

TELEPHONE GRAMERCY 131

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



Successor to
PROVISIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FOR GENERAL ZIONIST AFFAIRS

OFFICERS:

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JULIAN W. MACK	PRESIDENT
STEPHEN S. WISE	VICE-PRESIDENT
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LOUIS LIPSKY	SECRETARY FOR ORGANIZATION
HENRIETTA SZOLD	SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION
ROBERT D. KESSELMAN	COMPTROLLER

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

44 EAST 23RD STREET
NEW YORK

September 11th, 1918.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
Cong. Leshem Shomayim,
University Club,
Wheeling, W. Va.

Dear Colleague:-

We quite realize that in the number of instances, it has been difficult for our communication requesting your signature to the statement on the British Declaration, to receive prompt attention. Nevertheless, we have already secured a considerable number of signatures of members of the C. C. A. R. To our knowledge a large number of members of the Conference who have not as yet given us the permission to use their names as signatories to the statement, are in entire accord with the enclosed statement.

The letter of the President expressing satisfaction in the growth of the Zionist movement in the United States and Allied countries make this an opportune time for the issuance of such a statement. May we have the authority to use your names as a signatory? We should be glad to have your reply by telegraph collect.

In the hope of the New Zion, we are

Very truly yours,

STEPHEN S. WISE?
MAX HELLER
MARTIN A. MEYER.

P.S. Among those who have signed are Dr. Joseph Krauskopf, Dr. Max Lefkovits, Dr. Max Raisin, Rabbi George Fox, Dr. Caffee, Dr. Maurice H. Harris, Dr. Stephen Wise, Dr. Max Heller, and Dr. Martin A. Meyer.

I authorized Rabbi Lefkovitz to use my name immediately upon my return from France.

WRHS
JEWISH ARCHIVES

[1918?]

The undersigned members of the Central Conference of American Rabbis desire to record their disagreement with the resolution of the Central Conference, which withholds unqualified approval of the British Declaration in favor of the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish People. We, for our part, wish to express our gratitude to the government of Great Britain, and to the governments of the other Allied Democracies, which have given the Declaration their official approval.

We do not feel that the Conference was justified in assuming that the phrase "Palestine is to be a national home for the Jewish people" implies that the Jewish people are a people without a country. Such assumption seems to us wholly unwarranted, particularly in view of the express provision of the Declaration that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in other countries. The Jews of America and of all other countries have, by their loyalty and sacrifice, earned the right to be considered an integral part of the countries in which they reside.

The Declaration comes in response, not only to the devotion and sacrifices of our brethren in Palestine, but to the hopes and aspirations of a large majority of the Jewish People. In our opinion, it is in entire accord with their religious convictions, and with our historic religious role. It is in harmony with the principles of democracy and the rights of small nationalities as formulated by the President of the United States and the representatives of the Entente Powers, for the recognition of which we are now at war.

We believe that not the least of the results of the establishment of a national home for our people will be the creation of a spiritual center where the religious genius of the Jew can find fullest expression.

Dear Rabbi Silver: In view of the manner in which the Conference resolution on the Balfour Declaration was brought in and acted upon, it would seem perfectly proper that those who are opposed to it should publish a statement to that effect. The above statement has already been signed by twenty members of the Conference — among them being some of the foremost men in the American rabbinate. If you feel so inclined, I shall thank you very much if you will kindly let me have the authorization of your signature, — at your earliest convenience.

Fraternally

M Lefkowitz.

1919 E. 3rd St.

Duluth, Minn.

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