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Zionist Organization of America, 1936-1937.

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#### **Western Reserve Historical Society**

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PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE  
FOR THE  
REELECTION OF MORRIS ROTHENBERG  
PRESIDENT OF THE ZOA  
1450 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, N. Y.  
SUITE 3800

June 15, 1936

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

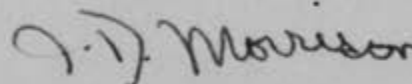
After considering the excellent record made by Morris Rothenberg as president of the ZOA and the need for his continued leadership under present conditions, a conference of leading New York Zionist voicing the sentiments of large numbers of Zionists in New York as well as throughout the country, adopted a resolution calling upon Mr. Morris Rothenberg to place his candidacy for his continuing as president of the ZOA., at the Providence Convention.

In response to this demand, Mr. Rothenberg today made a statement accepting the call. A copy of both the resolution and Mr. Rothenberg's statement are herewith enclosed.

The Zionists responsible for the action taken desire that in view of Mr. Rothenberg's record of successful leadership and the esteem in which he is held by Zionists throughout the country, that they voice their support of the call to him. Your expression of support will do much to hearten Mr. Rothenberg and strengthen his hand, in the arduous tasks he will have to face. We urge you therefore to write him at once, pledging your support.

With Zion's greetings, I am

Cordially,



I. D. Morrison  
Chairman

Heinrich Abramowitz, Sol Cohen, Isaac Imber, Dr. Harris Levine,  
Dr. Leon R. Levinson, Elias Preiss, Judge Hyman J. Reit,  
Louis P. Rocker, Abraham Spicehandler.

STATEMENT BY MORRIS ROTHENBERG, PRESIDENT OF THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF  
AMERICA, TO COMMITTEE REQUESTING HIM TO BE A CANDIDATE FOR  
PRESIDENT OF THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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I deeply appreciate the sentiments and the confidence in me that are expressed in the resolution presented to me by those assembled here today and the Zionists whom this Committee represents. Ever since it became known that I was disinclined again to assume the office of President of the Zionist Organization of America, I have been urged by Zionists from every part of the country not to lay down the office in the present critical juncture in Zionist affairs. In deference to these demands and my own concern over the present situation, I had been giving the matter serious consideration and had not until now come to any definite conclusion on the subject.

The information that was circulated by a Jewish news agency that I would not be a candidate again, was unauthorized and no inquiry on the subject was made of me by such news agency before it disseminated such information.

Having actively served the Zionist cause for twenty years, three of which as President of the Zionist Organization of America, and having, as I believed, made a substantial contribution towards advancing the Zionist Organization over the condition it was in when the present Administration took office, it was my desire to give more thought to my personal interests which were urgently in need of attention. However, after careful deliberation, I have decided that, in view of the present emergency in Palestine and in Jewish life generally, I must not decline to continue to serve as President of the Zionist Organization of America, if it be the will of my fellow-Zionists in this country, as expressed through the Convention, that I do so.

## RESOLUTION

PRESENTED TO MORRIS ROTHENBERG

President of the Z. O. A.

This body of active members of the Zionist Organization of America in Districts of Greater New York, after a thorough discussion of all aspects relating to the position of our Organization, have unanimously reached the conclusion that it is in the highest interests of our movement that Mr. Morris Rothenberg, President of the Zionist Organization of America, continue in office for the next year. To this end, we urge him to put forth his candidacy before the forthcoming Zionist Convention in Providence, R. I.

The aforementioned decision is based principally on the fact that during the three years of his Presidency, Mr. Rothenberg had conducted the affairs of the Organization with a devotion, ability and energy that have considerably contributed toward the moral and financial strengthening of the Organization.

The membership of the Zionist Organization has been more than doubled and his Administration has been characterized by an increased activity in every phase of Zionist effort.

The deficit of the Zionist Organization which was a crushing burden, paralyzing all activity, when he took office, has been reduced to a workable minimum and there have been thus created new possibilities for the expansion of Zionist work. Through the leadership of Mr. Rothenberg coordination has been brought into the fund raising effort for Palestine by the establishment of the United Palestine Appeal; a fixed and definite basis of relationship between the United Palestine Appeal and the Z.O.A. has been created by which the Z.O.A. is enabled to give the fullest measure of support to the U.P.A. and also making it possible for the Z.O.A. to engage in a broader program of activity. The impressive service of Mr. Rothenberg to the United Palestine Appeal Campaign has been acknowledged by U.P.A. leaders nationally and throughout the country.

By the indefatigable labors of Mr. Rothenberg through frequent tours over the country from Coast to Coast, Mr. Rothenberg has made friends for the Zionist movement everywhere and has earned the gratitude and appreciation of Zionists throughout the country. He has thereby helped not only in the success of the U.P.A. Campaign, but has created a closer spiritual contact between the Zionist Districts and the Headquarters, yielding immense benefit to the movement. He has been a large factor in winning new and valuable community resources to the support of our movement.

During his incumbency in the office of President of the Z.O.A., Mr. Rothenberg has succeeded in creating and maintaining a spirit of peace and harmony among all factions within the Z.O.A., as distinguished from the state of bitter internal dissension which prevailed in the Z.O.A. when he took office. He has known how to win the cooperation of influential elements outside of the Z.O.A. in Palestine effort in this country, at the same time always maintaining Zionist principle on a high level. We are of the opinion that the continuation of such harmony is essential to the furtherance of the efforts in this country for the upbuilding of Palestine.



The emphasis which Mr. Rothenberg has placed from the very beginning of his Administration on the necessity and urgency of Zionist youth work, and his continuous encouragement of Zionist youth activities, have been largely responsible for a growing interest in the subject and for the addition of new and younger blood in the Z.O.A.

All of the factors recited make it altogether desirable and essential in the interests of the Zionist movement that Mr. Morris Rothenberg continue as President of the Zionist Organization of America for the coming year.

Therefore, aware as we are of the disinclination of Mr. Rothenberg to continue as President, a Committee representing this body be designated by it to bring to Mr. Rothenberg the forgoing resolution, the sentiments of which we believe are shared by the great majority of Zionists throughout the country, and to request Mr. Rothenberg to permit his name to go before the Zionist Convention for renomination and re-election as President of the Zionist Organization of America.

Committee for the Election of  
Dr. Stephen S. Wise to Presidency  
of Zionist Organization of America  
Charles Ness, Secretary  
230 Park Avenue  
New York City

DR. WISE AGREES TO BE CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF Z.O.A.

New York (Tuesday, June 16) -- One hundred leaders of Zionist activity in New York City, assembled at the Hotel Commodore last night to urge Dr. Stephen S. Wise to allow his name to be used as a candidate for the Presidency of the Zionist Organization of America, were deeply moved as a letter was read from him in which he expressed his willingness to serve if the Zionists of America wished to call him to leadership and in which he emphasized that he was prepared for the relinquishment of other activities in view of the requirements implicit in Zionist leadership at this critical time.

Last night's meeting was part of the program initiated by a Committee for the Election of Dr. Stephen S. Wise as President of the Zionist Organization of America which had previously communicated with Zionist leaders throughout the country to obtain their views on the value of summoning Dr. Wise to take the helm of the Zionist Organization. The views of these representatives of Zionist thought were embodied in a petition which was submitted to Dr. Wise, who replied with the letter of acceptance read last night. The petition addressed to Dr. Wise read as follows:

Appeal to Dr. Wise to Become Candidate for President

"To DR. STEPHEN S. WISE:

"We, the undersigned, who have served the Zionist cause through the Zionist Organization of America for many years, respectfully urge you to consent to the presentation of your name to the next annual convention to be held at Providence, R.I., in July, for election as President of the Zionist Organization of America.

"The Jewish National Home is passing through a period of extraordinary difficulties. Our right in the land is being assailed through violence and sabotage. The spirit and intent of the Mandate is being impaired. It becomes our duty to strengthen our political as well as economic influence both in the United States and in the entire Diaspora in order to make it possible to continue our historic work with unabated vigor.

"In this critical time it is imperative that we summon the strongest and

(Continued on page 2)

ablest leadership we possess in the United States. There is no greater contribution you could make to the Zionist cause at this time than to consecrate your leadership to the service of the Zionist Organization of America.

"It is our conviction that the presentation of your name to the annual convention at Providence will be greeted by an overwhelming majority of Zionists throughout the United States. Needless to say, you may depend upon all the signatories to this petition to give your leadership the utmost of their loyalty and support.

"(Signed). . . . ."

The meeting at which Dr. Wise's willingness to be drafted to leadership was announced was presided over by Mr. Louis Lipsky, Honorary President of the Zionist Organization of America. Those who joined in appealing for Dr. Wise's candidacy were Mr. Louis J. Moss, President of the United Synagogues of America; Carl Sherman, former Attorney General of New York; H. Maldwin Fertig, former Counsel to Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt; Rabbi Irving Miller, President of the Long Island United Palestine Appeal; Rabbi Morton Berman, President of the Alumni Association of the Jewish Institute of Religion; Charles A. Cowen, member of the Executive of the Zionist Organization; Charles Kess, Secretary of the American Palestine Campaign; Samuel Schleimer, Chairman of the Flatbush United Palestine Appeal; Samuel Rothstein, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Brooklyn Zionist Region; A. D. Brahan, President of the Bensonhurst Zionist District; J. I. Rudavsky, President of the Boro Park District; William I. Siegel, President of the Eastern Parkway District; Irving Schatzberg, Secretary of the Long Island Zionist Region; Herman Drucker, President of the Yonkers District; Sigmond Thau and Abraham Krumbein, members of the Z.O.A. Finance Committee; and David Freiburger, President of the American Zion Commonwealth.

The petition addressed to Dr. Wise carried the signatures of scores of Zionist leaders in all parts of the United States, including three Vice-Presidents of the Zionist Organization of America: Harry Friedberg, Kansas City; Judge William H. Lewis, Philadelphia; and Max Shulman, President of the Midwest Zionist Region, Chicago.

Among other signers to the petition are: Rabbi Barnett Brickner, Cleveland, Ohio; Dr. A. K. Epstein, Chicago; Benjamin F. Evarts, President of the New England Zionist Region; Jacob Fishman, Editor of the Jewish Morning Journal of New York; Abraham Goldstein, Hartford, Conn.; Rabbi Edward L. Israel, President

(Continued on page 3)



DR. WISE AGREES TO BE CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF Z.O.A. -- 3

Seaboard Zionist Region; George Klein, Cleveland, Ohio; Max Kohrman, Chairman of Cleveland Zionist District; Mordecai Konowitz, President of the Long Island Zionist Region; Ludwig Lewisoohn, President of the Burlington District; Dr. S. Hargoshes, Editor of the Day, New York; Ezra Shapiro, Cleveland, Ohio, and Aaron Weiss, Chairman of the Wilkes-Barre, Pa., District.

Dr. Wise's Letter Expressing Willingness to Run

The letter which Dr. Wise wrote in response to the petition which had been sent to him read as follows:

"Dear Charles Ress:

"Someone has permitted me to see a copy of the letter which has been sent out by a committee of which you have acted as secretary. That letter seems to indicate that there is a goodly number of Zionists who feel that in this time of crisis it is my duty to accept the leadership of the Zionist Organization of America. I understand that you will have a meeting at which the problem of inviting me to accept the election to the Presidency will be considered. If the meeting reach the decision that such leadership as I can give to the cause of Zionism, which has been nearest to my heart for forty years, is needed at this hour, I can do no less than yield to such decision.

"In the time of crisis during the months that preceded the issuance of the Balfour Declaration and the securing of America's consent thereto, it fell to my lot to stand at the Zionist helm in America as President of the Zionist Organization of America. Again we are at a difficult and fateful time for the Zionist movement. If my fellow-Zionists who will gather at the Zionist Convention early in July feel that such leadership as it lies in me to offer is needed because of the crisis which is upon us, I authorize you to say that I am prepared to accept election.

"No one can ask for absolute unanimity, but I could not accept the election unless I felt that it was the earnest desire of the largest number of Zionist leaders and the Zionist following in America that I should accept the leadership.

"I leave for London Wednesday morning, in answer to the summons of Dr. Weizmann, to join him in his dealings with the Mandatory Government. I shall remain in London as long as I am needed, at the side of Dr. Weizmann and Ben Curion, in the working out of the Zionist program. To my regret, I therefore cannot attend the convention. I ask you to give my greetings to the delegates and to help them to understand what, of course, they know: that I have never sought office

(Continued on page 4)



DR. WISE AGREES TO BE CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF Z.O.A. -- 4

in or outside of the Zionist movement; that I would much prefer not to accept additional responsibilities; that I understand that the assumption of the Presidency of the Zionist Organization of America would involve the relinquishment of other tasks which I now perform.

"If, however, the Zionist Organization of America, of which I was one of the founders and in which I have been a member since the day of its founding, needs such service as I may be able to render, I can only answer that I am ready to perform any duties which our precious and sacred cause finds it needful to lay upon me.

"(Signed) Stephen S. Wise"

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Committee For The Election Of  
DR. STEPHEN S. WISE  
As President Of The  
Zionist Organization Of America

Office of the Secretary  
230 Park Avenue  
New York City

June 17th, 1936.

Dear Fellow-Zionist:

We are sending to you and to officers of Zionist Districts throughout the country a transcript of what happened at a meeting held in New York for the purpose of bringing about the election of Dr. Stephen S. Wise as President of the Z.O.A. This contains also a copy of the letter from Dr. Wise, in which, responding to a petition submitted to him, he agreed to become a candidate for the Presidency.

It is our conviction that the administrative leadership, the forensic power, the international fame, the unsurpassed Zionist record and achievement which Dr. Wise can bring to our movement at this time are the qualities which are essential if the voice of American Jewry is to be heard in unmistakable terms in the defense of those fundamental rights in Palestine for which the movement has struggled during four decades. Under the leadership of Dr. Wise there will be a rallying not only of all forces within the Organization today but of new and wider elements which will be swayed by the warmth of his Zionist spirit and the dynamic force of his democratic leadership.

We earnestly call upon Zionists everywhere to come to Providence to join us in the election of Dr. Wise as President, and thereby inaugurate a new epoch in American Zionist history and give strength and courage to the Yishuv in Palestine which will undoubtedly be enspirited by news of Dr. Wise's leadership. Never was there such urgent need for the demonstration of unity in the American Zionist ranks. Therefore, it should be our purpose to name Dr. Wise by acclamation, thereby giving him our individual and group assurance that we are prepared to share with him in the burdens which will fall upon the Zionist Organization in the near future.

We trust that you will consider the present situation at a special meeting of your District where there may be a registration of that respect and affection which all of us feel for the man who founded the Zionist Organization of America and who can now lead it to new heights of prestige and power.

Sincerely yours

*Charles Ress*  
Charles Ress

Secretary

Charles Cowen  
M. Maldwin Fertig  
Jacob Fishman  
A. Krumbein  
Louis Lipsky

Dr. Samuel Margoshes  
Rabbi Irving Miller  
Louis J. Moss  
Samuel Rothstein  
J. I. Rudavsky

Samuel Schleimer  
Carl Sherman  
William I. Siegel  
Sigmund Thau  
Joseph Weiss

Committee For The Election Of  
DR. STEPHEN S. WISE  
As President Of The  
Zionist Organization Of America

Office of the Secretary  
230 Park Avenue  
New York City

June 19, 1936

Dear Fellow-Zionist:

A few days ago we reported to you the success of our efforts in persuading Dr. Stephen S. Wise to consent to be a candidate for President of the Zionist Organization of America.

The Zionist Convention at Providence should indeed be an occasion for rejoicing of the Zionist spirit, for with Dr. Wise at the helm we can look forward to a nation-wide enlargement of our ranks. All of us wish that the Zionist Convention should give to Dr. Wise so overwhelming a tribute of affection and esteem that will serve to encourage the Yishuv in Palestine through knowledge of our united, purposeful action.

We earnestly hope that delegates from your District will attend the Convention. Believing that you share our profound belief in the importance of Dr. Wise's leadership at this time, we assume that you will instruct your delegation to work and vote for his unanimous election.

But in the regrettable event that your District cannot send a full delegation, or any delegates at all, because of distance from the Convention City, or other reasons, may we ask that you name as proxies those who are committed to the election of Dr. Wise?

We submit herewith (1) a list of Zionists from which to nominate your proxies and (2) a form to be sent to the Organization Dept., Zionist Organization of America, 111 Fifth Avenue, New York City, giving notification of your choice of proxies for the delegates to which you are entitled. If you have the opportunity, it would be gratifying if you could also send us a list of the proxies you have chosen.

With cordial greetings and mutual congratulation on the prospect of an ever greater Zionist Organization, we are

Sincerely yours,  
*Charles Riss*  
Secretary

Charles Cowen  
M. Maldwin Fertig  
Jacob Fishman  
A. Krumbein  
Louis Lipsky

Dr. Samuel Margoshes  
Rabbi Irving Miller  
Louis J. Moss  
Samuel Rothstein  
J. I. Rudavsky

Samuel Schleimer  
Carl Sherman  
William I. Siegel  
Sigmund Thau  
Joseph Weiss



SEND THIS FORM TO ZIONIST ORGANIZATION AT ONCE!

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA  
111 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

REPORT OF BOARD OF ELECTIONS

GENTLEMEN:

We, the undersigned, being duly elected officers of the Board of Elections, hereby report on the designation and election of the following proxies for the delegates, to which we are entitled to the 39th Annual Convention of the Zionist Organization of America at Providence, R. I.

NAMES OF PROXIES ELECTED

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The above is a true record of the results of the election conducted in our organization. In witness whereof, we hereby affix our signatures.

We have designated the following as a Committee authorized by us to fill any vacancy which may occur by reason of the inability of any proxy whom we have selected to represent us at the Convention: Carl Sherman, Charles Ress, Rabbi Irving Miller and Louis J. Moss.

DATED.....

.....  
Chairman of Board

.....  
Secretary of Board



[June 22, 1936]

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MAYOR DIZENGOFF HONORED BY KING EDWARD

LONDON, June 22. (JTA) -- Meier Dizengoff, 75-year-old mayor of the all-Jewish city of Tel Aviv, was made an honorary commander of the British Empire for public services to Palestine, according to King Edward's birthday honors list made public today.

Avinoam Yellin, senior inspector of the Palestine Education Department, was named honorary member of the British Empire, Ezekiel Cohen, principal clerk in the office of the High Commissioner of Basutoland, Africa, received the title Companion of the Imperial Service Order.

The Order of the British Empire was conferred on Rabbi David Isaac Freedman for public social and welfare services to Australia.

TEL AVIV AERO CLUB BUYS POLISH PLANES

TEL AVIV, June 22. (JTA) -- The Aero Club of Tel Aviv today ordered three Polish airplanes following negotiations with pilots of the Polish plane that recently arrived here. Instructors will arrive from Poland soon to train Jewish pilots, it was announced.

Rothenberg-

President Zionist Convention

Providence Rhode Island

Please convey delegate greetings ~~and~~ good  
wishes for success in deliberations.  
These trying times call for ~~increased~~ <sup>increased</sup> ~~effort~~  
effort and loyalty in ~~behalf~~ <sup>sacred</sup> our ~~great~~  
cause - Only united & ~~determined~~ <sup>resolute</sup>  
world Jewry can insure <sup>continued</sup> progress of  
Yishuv - Congratulate you on splendid  
years service & achievements ~~with~~ <sup>hope</sup>  
for your continued leadership of ZOA

Silver ←

[June 23, 1926]

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is no substitute for Jewish religious life. No fraternal order can speak for Israel and take the privilege that belongs to the synagogue alone.

"Philanthropic Judaism will soon be emptied of all Jewish content if the synagogue does not take control and show leadership. Rabbis must insist that no one not synagogue-minded and interested in religion has a right to any position of responsibility in the Jewish community."

He urged a Jewish content of sermons, saying that "the rabbis' function is not to discuss the latest play, moving picture or best-seller. The rabbinic office does not include the duties of college professor, dramatic critic and radio reader."

Dr. Levy scored humanism, Fascism and Communism, blaming the world's predicament on its having abandoned basic religious principles. Because Jews are fundamentally religious folk, he asserted, general secularization is more fatal to them. He urged the rabbis to lead the way back to a religious approach.

An address of welcome was given by Max Currick of Erie, Pa., vice-president. Memorial resolutions were passed for Jacob I. Meyer of Hazelton, Pa.; Rabbi Isador Isaacson of Hollywood, Calif, and Dr. Salo Stein of New York.

The conference will be in session for a week. It was organized in 1889 by Dr. Isaac M. Wise of Cincinnati. Approximately 200 rabbis from various parts of the country are attending.

→ LEWISOHN BACKS ROTHENBERG FOR Z.O.A. PRESIDENCY; RABBIS OPPOSE WISE

NEW YORK, June 23. (JTA) -- Ludwig Lewisohn, the author, announced in a letter to Morris Rothenberg made public today that he supports him for re-election as president of the Zionist Organization of America. The New England Zionist Region, of which Dr. Lewisohn was elected vice-president at its convention yesterday, adopted a resolution in support of Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

Dr. Lewisohn said in his letter: "I now hear on good authority that you are not unwilling to run again. Under these circumstances there seems no need to add this to Dr. Wise's multifarious and crushing responsibilities and I want to assure you again...of my unqualified endorsement and support."

The Rabbinical Assembly of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America made public a resolution adopted by its executive council at a special meeting declaring that Dr. Wise's election "would be detrimental to the best interests" of the Z.O.A. and urged election of a president "who will lead us in harmony and retain for Zionism the loyalty and friendships which have been built up through a whole generation of indefatigable labor."



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE Z.O.A. EXECUTIVE

HELD MONDAY, JULY 27, 1936 - 5 P. M., 111 FIFTH AVENUE

PRESENT: Judge Lewis (in the Chair) Messrs. Rothenberg, Cowen, Lipsky, Goldberg, Fierst, Kraemer, Rabbi Levinthal, Markewich, Margulies, Imber.

Judge Lewis explained that the immediate cause for this special meeting was the receipt of a cable from Dr. Wise.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

As the first order of business, the Chairman called for the reading of the minutes.

The Secretary proceeded to do so, and with an amendment by Mr. Rothenberg and a correction by Mr. Cowen, the minutes were duly adopted.

STATUS OF HASHOMER HATZAIR ON SHEKEL BOARD:

Mr. Cowen called attention to the fact that the Hashomer Hatzair having been designated at the last Zionist Congress as a Sonderverband, was entitled to be represented on the Shekel Board.

Mr. Rothenberg felt, however, that there seems to be a difference of opinion as to the status of Hashomer Hatzair.

It was therefore decided to ascertain the facts in the matter before taking any further action.

SUBVENTIONS:

Rabbi Levinthal inquired whether the status quo of subventions decided at the previous meeting, referred only to the Youth organizations or to other organizations as well. Mr. Margulies replied by quoting the decision from the minutes to the effect that the status quo referred to all subventions, personnel and budget.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES:

Judge Lewis reported that in accordance with the authorization from the



Executive, he had appointed the following Committees:

1. DUES : Rabbi I. H. Levinthal, Morris Margulies, Louis P. Rocker.  
Rabbi Levinthal, however, had declined to serve as he was leaving town. Moreover, he felt that he had not had sufficient experience to pass upon the subject of dues.
2. REGIONS : Morris Rothenberg, Judge Wm. M. Lewis, Morris Margulies.
3. SHEKEL BOARD: Z.O.A. representatives -- Samuel Caplan, Sol Cohen, Samuel Markowich, Samuel Rothstein; Masada -- Israel Berman; Order Sons of Zion -- Heinrich Abramowitz; Hadassah -- Mrs. S. Schulsinger and Miss Juliette Benjamin; four representatives will be appointed by the Mizrachi, and eight by the Poale Zion - Zeire Zion.

Mr. Imber called attention to the fact that he would serve instead of Mr. Berman as the representative of Masada.

4. HEADQUARTERS: David Freiburger, Isaac Meister, Morris Weinberg. The Chairman added that Mr. Meister had advised of his inability to serve.

In connection with the Shekel Board, Mr. Rothenberg was of the opinion that the Z.O.A. representatives should consist of members of the Executive or the Administrative Committee, and that Mr. Leo Wolfson ought to be added to the Board. After some discussion, the Chairman stated that he would add Mr. Leo Wolfson to the Shokel Board.

REPORT ON VISIT TO MR. BRANDEIS:

Judge Lewis reported that in accordance with the decision of the previous meeting, Mr. Rothenberg, Mr. Rubaschow and himself accompanied by Mr. Elihu Stone, conferred with Justice Brandeis at Chatham, Friday, July 17th. Judge Lewis stated that his impression was that Mr. Brandeis felt that we might as well reconcile ourselves to suspension of immigration. He then read the following text of a cable sent to London on July 18th:

"ZIONIBURO  
WISE FRANKFURTER BENGURION  
LONDON

REFERRING CABLES TWELFTH AND SIXTEENTH CONSULTED CHATHAM SUGGESTS

CONFERENCE WAGNER NOW LONDON RELATIVE STEPS HERE THEN INSTRUCT  
US STOP SEE ATHERTON RE BINGHAM STOP RINKIND ENDEAVORING  
SECURE ACTION WASHINGTON

LEWIS ROTHENBERG RUBASCHOW"

Mr. Rothenberg agreed with Judge Lewis' impression of Mr. Brandeis' view with regard to suspension of immigration. He added that Mr. Brandeis believed that we ought to press forward the principle of the absorptive capacity of Palestine and not agree to any fixed number of immigrants. Moreover Justice Brandeis had emphasized also the justice of the demand that the Yishub be compensated by the Palestine Government for the damages it sustained during the present uprising, and that at the opportune time every possible step be taken to collect such compensation. Mr. Rothenberg added that he had telephoned Mr. Rifkind who stated that Judge Rosenman had sent a very lengthy statement to the President explaining the whole situation, which he hoped would result in action being taken by the President. Thus far, however, no word had come from the President who is on a cruise and very likely had not yet received the communication from Judge Rosenman.

Judge Lewis added that Mr. Brandeis also pointed out that we have the right to take the position that the Mandate speaks of a duty to Jews and Arabs, but with regard to the latter, the Mandate specifically refers to "the existing population" and therefore we should demand restriction of Arab immigration.

Mr. Kraemer desired to have some information on the attitude of the members of the Royal Commission, to which Judge Lewis replied that his impression was that they are very conservative, most of them having had experience in the India service.

The Chairman then stated that even before the receipt of the latest cable from Dr. Wise, which he would read presently, he considered the advisability of attempting to secure some editorial expression from leading newspapers on the Palestine situation. Accordingly he telephoned to Mr. James G. McDonald who is now on the editorial staff of The New York Times and conferred with him this morning.

Mr. McDonald wanted to know who were the members of the Royal Commission and other relevant information. He believed it would be possible to have an editorial in

The Times, but that he must first confer with Dr. Finloy who would return to New York tomorrow. Judge Lewis added that Mr. McDonald is going West for his vacation and would be glad to address Zionist meetings there.

CABLE FROM DR. WISE:

The Chairman then read the following cable from Dr. Wise:

"LONDON JULY 24, 1936

•NLT ZIONISTS NEW YORK

FOLLOWING TEXT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL GORE STATEMENT YESTERDAY  
PARLIAMENT INDEX PRESENT CRITICAL SITUATION DESPITE VALLANT  
STRUGGLE HERE STOP PROBABLE OUTCOME SUSPENSION ANNOUNCEMENT  
OF WHICH AT BEST POSTPONED UNTIL COMMISSION LEAVES STOP EVERY-  
THING SHOULD BE DONE AMERICA OPPOSING SUSPENSION UNDER ALL  
CIRCUMSTANCES THESE REASONS ONE DANGER SEEMING YIELDING ARAB  
TERRORISM TWO INVITATION ARABS RENEW DISORDERS WHENEVER READY  
FOR NEW DEMANDS OR NORMAL IMMIGRATION RESUMED THREE INJUSTICE  
PENALISING MAGNIFICENT YISHUV SELFRESTRAINT BY SUSPENSION FOUR  
DANGER OF BREAKING JEWISH MORALE AND SELF DISCIPLINE FIVE PRE-  
JUDGING FINDINGS OF COMMISSION AND MAKING MORE DIFFICULT  
RENEWAL IMMIGRATION STOP CABLES FROM EVERY ZIONIST PARTY EVERY  
CONSIDERABLE JEWISH ORGANIZATION COMMUNITY TO COLONIAL SECRETARY  
STOP GOVERNORS REPRESENTATIVES SENATORS MESSAGES FORWARDED YOU  
TO COLONIAL SECRETARY STOP ROSENMAN RIFKIND SEE FARLEY OTHERS  
WARNING EVIL CONSEQUENCES EVERY SENSE OF SUSPENSION STOP ROSENBERG  
COMMUNICATE WARBURG LEHMAN STOP CABLE SENT WAGNER TO CHIEF STOP  
STRONGEST MEASURES NECESSARY EVERYTHING MUST BE DONE TO MAKE  
LEHMAN HORNER FEEL URGENCY THIS JOB STOP STRONG PUBLIC UTTERANCES  
BOTH IMMENSELY VALUABLE NOW AND NOVEMBER STOP MAIL COPY CHATHAM  
WISE"

The members of the Executive were then invited to offer their advice and suggestions as to the procedure to be followed.

Mr. Lipsky thought it was inadvisable to attempt to organize on a large scale for the purpose of preventing the announcement of suspension in view of the fact that suspension is practically inevitable with the going of the Royal Commission to Palestine, unless the Government will change its mind about the whole matter in a week or two. It is difficult, Mr. Lipsky asserted, to expect to arouse American public opinion against a threat or possibility of suspension. Moreover if this undertaking is not successful, it will paralyze any protest effort later on. All we can do here now is to try to commandeer the situation so far as the Jewish public is concerned, and as has been attempted, through Judge Rosenman



and Senator Wagner, quietly and privately have the United States Government take up the matter with the British Government, but not to have a public protest at this time.

Mr. Goldberg was in general agreement with the remarks of Mr. Lipsky but deemed it essential that no time be lost in mobilizing not only Jewish but also non-Jewish opinion and the press with regard to the unfair treatment of the Yishub in Palestine.

Mr. Cowen stated that Mr. Lipsky had anticipated his remarks about not stressing the matter of suspension only but that we deal with the situation as a whole, pointing out the Jewish position in the diaspora, and the forbearance of the Yishub by not yielding to so much provocation. In this way the proper sentiment would be created which we will be able to capitalize when actual suspension takes place. In the meantime, Gov. Lehman, Gov. Horner and other prominent Jewish and non-Jewish officials should be approached as suggested by Dr. Wise.

Mr. Markewich stated that the action taken by Judge Lewis to confer with the representatives of the New York Times is a very effective method.

Mr. Kraemer believed that it is obvious from the cable that a formal announcement about suspension is inevitable, and that this will be regarded as a definite policy of the British Government to concede to the Arabs. Therefore American Jewry ought to go on record with regard to the obligations of the British Government, and cables of protest to the Colonial Office should be sent by large Jewish organizations indicating the feelings of American Jewry. Mr. Kraemer added that the proposed suspension is merely the beginning of a subtle course to break down Jewish rights in Palestine, and therefore very definite steps should be taken in the matter.

The Executive then formally approved Judge Lewis' negotiations with Mr. McDonald regarding an editorial in The New York Times, and Judge Lewis undertook to get editorial expressions also from Mr. David Stern in The New York Post and



Philadelphia newspapers. Mr. Goldberg referred to the possibility of similar comment in the Herald-Tribune through Mr. George Sokolsky. Judge Lewis suggested also the possibility of securing expressions from the B'nai B'rith through Mr. Alfred M. Cohen, and from the American Jewish Committee through Dr. Cyrus Adler.

The Chairman then inquired as to the formulation of the reply to Dr. Wise, and Mr. Lipsky suggested that Dr. Wise be advised that we will do everything here to inform American and Jewish public opinion of the unfairness and injustice of the policy of the British Government which we disapprove and reject as not being in conformity with the Mandate.

Mr. Margulies felt that the holding of meetings of a non-protest character but devoted to acquainting American public opinion with the injustice inflicted upon the Yishub by the present policy of the British Government would help to secure the desired statements from Senators, Governors and other public officials.

Mr. Kraemer was of the opinion that the proposed editorials must be tied up with striking news and not generalities, and should point out two distinct grievances: (1) the attempt of the British Government to stop the sale of land; (2) the suspension of immigration; - these are diametrically in opposition to the obligations under the Mandate; moreover that the leaders of National and Fraternal Jewish organizations should take definite stands on these injustices and make public announcements accordingly.

Mr. Lipsky suggested that representatives of the Poale Zion and Mizrachi be coopted to act in this matter.

Mr. Rothenberg called attention to the existence of an Emergency Committee.

It was therefore decided to convene a special meeting of those members of the Executive who are not going abroad, and the Emergency Committee, on Thursday, July 30th, at 2:30 P. M.

Meeting adjourned 6:30 P. M.

Respectfully submitted  
MORRIS MARGULIES  
Secretary

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE Z.O.A. EXECUTIVE AND EMERGENCY  
COMMITTEE, HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 1936, 111 FIFTH AVE.- 3 P.M.

PRESENT: Messrs. Lewis, Rothenberg, Cowen, Rabbi Goldstein, Greenberg, Hamlin, Abramowitz, Kowalsky, Margulies, Mrs. Epstein, and Israel Berman representing Masada.

Mr. Margulies explained that Judge Lewis was detained by court matters and would not arrive until 4 P. M. In the interim, Mr. Cowen presided.

Mr. Cowen stated that this meeting was called because of the concern over the fact that no reply had been received from Dr. Wise in response to the last cable sent in accordance with the decision of the Executive - (the reply from Dr. Wise, however, arrived on Friday) - and the necessity for an understanding with the various Zionist Parties regarding the Fund which must be raised immediately in order that the Committee may proceed with its work.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

The Secretary read the minutes of the meeting of July 30th which were approved.

FURTHER EXCHANGE OF CABLES:

Mr. Margulies then read the following cable which had been sent to Dr. Wise on July 30th:

"WISE  
WORLDCON  
GENEVA

DOES GORE STATEMENT TODAY INVOLVE CHANGE YOUR SUGGESTED ACTION  
LEWIS"

Since there was no reply to the above, another cable was despatched on August 6th, reading:

"LIPSKY  
WORLDCON.  
GENEVA

WISE UNHEARD FROM AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS ACTION REQUIRED STOP  
TIMES PRINTED SPLENDID EDITORIAL ALSO ARRANGED EDITORIALS  
OTHER PAPERS

LEWIS"

On August 7th the following cable was received:

"ZIONISTS  
NEW YORK

GENEVA

EXPECTED BENGURION WOULD SEND INSTRUCTIONS STOP CONTINUE EVERY  
EFFORT STOP REJOICE TIMES EDITORIAL

WISE LIPSKY"

With further reference to editorial expression, Mr. Cowen reported that Judge Lewis has been negotiating for such editorials to appear in the Herald-Tribune, the Post and the Philadelphia Record. Mr. Margulies reported that copies of the Times editorial with a covering letter by Judge Lewis have been sent to all important Zionist centers, with the request that similar editorial expressions be secured locally.

Dr. Goldstein inquired what is being done to bring pressure to bear upon British authorities. In this connection, Mr. Cowen pointed out that the current number of the Pro-Palestine Herald contains a number of letters from Governors and other public officials, and it is proposed to send a copy of this publication to the British Ambassador here, members of the Colonial Office, members of Parliament, etc., but it was felt that proper attention might not be paid to this periodical unless it was accompanied by a letter signed by a leading member of the Anglican Clergy in the United States, such as Dr. Manning or Dr. Freeman, both of whom are connected with the Pro-Palestine Federation.

Dr. Goldstein then suggested that the various editorials and other American public expressions be collated in pamphlet form, as the record of such public opinion, and circulated among leading British statesmen as outlined by Mr. Cowen.

Mr. Cowen replied that that is a good suggestion for follow-up purposes, but the operation would involve too much time, to be used as the initial step.

Dr. Goldstein then called attention to the presence of Lord Snell in this country, and that if possible, arrangements be made to confer with him.

SENATORIAL COMMISSION TO PALESTINE:

Mr. Cowen made the following confidential statement:



A few days ago Mr. Rubashow advised that he had been informed by Mr. Harry Lang, of the Forward, that a Commission consisting of Senators Copeland of New York, Austin of Vermont and Hastings of Delaware, which has been delegated by the Hearst press, was to go to Palestine and bring back a report on conditions there, and that the Commission will have as its secretary, Mr. Isaac Don Levine. Mr. Cowen added that Senator Copeland is a member of the Pro-Palestine Federation and has at various times contributed substantially to that Federation.

In connection with the departure of this Commission, the Zionist Organization was asked to furnish a bibliography and literature, and to assist the Senators in seeing key people in Palestine and elsewhere. Moreover, Mr. Cowen pointed out, the delegation desired to see Judge Lewis, but Mr. Rothenberg and others felt that it would be inadvisable for the Acting President of the Zionist Organization to have such interview. The Senators were therefore furnished with all the necessary material which was gotten together for them by Mr. Max Rhoads, and the Commission sailed on August 8th. In addition, it was reported, steps were taken to have the Executive contact these Senators upon their arrival in London and Jerusalem, and to give them the necessary information and guidance, letters having been sent via air mail by Judge Lewis and Mr. Rubashow to Palestine, to assure the Commission's being furnished with complete information regarding the situation in Palestine. Mr. Cowen stated further that the intention of the Commission is to arrive in Palestine on August 20th and leave on September 3rd, and to confer with Premiers Baldwin and Blum, Dr. Weizmann, and someone in Rome, en route.

Mr. Rothenberg explained the political character of this Commission in connection with the forthcoming election campaign and that therefore it was not advisable for the Zionist Organization of America to officially be connected with this mission.

Dr. Goldstein suggested the advisability of informing Prof. Frankfurter about the purpose of the Senatorial delegation, to which Mr. Cowen replied that it has

been proposed to Judge Lewis that he communicate with Justice Brandeis on the subject. Mr. Margulies thereupon informed the Committee that that had already been done.

During the course of the discussion, it was pointed out that Mr. Lovine who is sympathetic toward the Zionist Cause, had promised to submit the report to Zionist leaders before it was issued, and that the report would ultimately be made to a Senatorial Committee.

Mr. Margulies then called attention to the reports in the Yiddish press about the departure of this Commission and the rumor that these Senators had left as an "official committee" at the request of Zionist leaders, and that therefore it must be made clear to the public that the Z.O.A. did not sponsor this commission, but merely furnished it with information at its request.

EMERGENCY FUND:

Mr. Cowen reported that in accordance with the decision of the previous meeting to engage a special secretary for the necessary political activities, tentative arrangements had been made with Mr. Rhoads at a salary of \$150 per week plus expense of travelling back and forth from Washington, clerical assistance, etc., which Mr. Rhoads estimated at \$75 per week, for a period of about one month.

In addition, Mr. Cowen pointed out, the 4,000 to 5,000 copies of the Pro-Palostine Herald required for distribution, amounted to \$700, besides postage, so that it is essential to secure immediately the Emergency Fund decided upon at the last meeting.

In connection with this Fund, Mr. Rothenberg recalled that the following allocations had been tentatively proposed:

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| Z.O.A. . . . .     | \$1,000. |
| Poale Zion . . . . | 500      |
| Mizrachi . . . . . | 500      |
| Hadassah . . . . . | 250      |

Mr. Hamlin pointed out that the Poale-Zion itself could not be committed for more than \$250 but that efforts would be made to secure another \$250 from its

affiliated bodies.

Mrs. Epstein reported that it is not possible to have a regular Board meeting at this time of the year since most of the members are out-of-town, but that at a meeting of a few members held last Wednesday when this question came up, it was proposed that Hadassah advance \$250 out of the annual allocation to the ZOA of \$7500. In this connection, Mr. Cowen reported that this would not be acceptable since Judge Lewis felt that he had no right to mortgage the future budget of the ZOA.

Mr. Margulies called attention to the fact that Mr. Rhoads desired to be assured that he would receive his salary every week; while Mr. Hamlin urged that if possible the subcommittee negotiate with Mr. Rhoads to accept a lower salary.

(at this point Judge Lewis took the chair).

Judge Lewis pointed out that unless funds are on hand for this special purpose, he could not countenance any expenditures.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried unanimously

THAT the subcommittee appointed to deal with this matter, be authorized to proceed with all the necessary details and incur all necessary expenditures within the limit of \$3,000, on the basis of the assurances given here by the Zionist Organization of America, the Poale Zion, Mizrachi and tentatively Hadassah.

In connection with the above motion, Mr. Rothenberg pointed out as follows:

|                  |       |             |
|------------------|-------|-------------|
| ZOA will advance | \$500 | immediately |
| Poale Zion       | 250   | "           |
| Mizrachi         | 250   | "           |
| Hadassah         | 250   | "           |

In addition there will be another \$500 forthcoming from the ZOA, and the Poale Zion will endeavor to secure a further sum of \$250. The balance could be secured by private subscription.

It was then moved, seconded and carried

THAT Mr. Morris Weinberg be requested to act as Treasurer for this special Fund.



ACTIVITY AMONG NATIONAL JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS:

Mrs. Epstein inquired what had been done to carry out Dr. Wise's instructions with reference to expressions from National Jewish Organizations, to which Judge Lewis replied that he had communicated with Dr. Cyrus Adler, President of the American Jewish Committee, and Mr. Alfred M. Cohen, President of the B'nai B'rith, with this end in view.

Mr. Rothenberg added that cables will also be sent by Mr. Felix M. Warburg and Gov. Lehman, to Dr. Weizmann which can be shown to the Colonial Office.

It was suggested that Judge Lewis send out a letter to all national Jewish organizations quoting from the cable from Dr. Wise.

STATEMENT BY MR. GREENBERG:

Mr. Cowen reported that Mr. Greenberg had completed the statement which he had been asked to prepare by the Committee, and which would be available within a day or so.

REPRESENTATIONS TO BRITISH TRADE UNIONS CONGRESS:

Mr. Hamlin reported that a committee of the Jewish Labor movement in this country has approached President William Green who has promised to communicate with the American delegates to the British Trade Unions Congress, stressing the interest of the American Federation of Labor in the Jewish National Homeland, and asking the British Trade Unions Congress to do everything possible not to permit restrictions of Jewish immigration into Palestine, or changes in the Mandate or Balfour Declaration.

Meeting adjourned 4:30 P. M.

Respectfully submitted  
MORRIS MARGULIES  
Secretary

החברת הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

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*President*

HARRY FRIEDBERG  
SOLOMON GOLDMAN  
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN  
GUSTAVE KLAUSNER  
JOSEPH KRAEMER  
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*Chairman, Administrative Committee*

A. J. RONGY  
*Chairman, National Council*

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LOUIS LIPSKY  
SAMUEL MARKEWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
LOUIS P. ROCKER

*Associate Members*  
ZELIG HARRIS  
ISAAC IMBER

August 27, 1936.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
Commodore Hotel  
Lexington Avenue and 42nd Street  
New York City

Dear Rabbi Silver:

This is to remind you of the information I conveyed to you when I met you at the boat this noon, that tomorrow at noon there will be a meeting at our office, which meeting you were kind enough to promise to attend.

Looking forward to the pleasure of seeing you, I am,

With Zion's Greetings,

Sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies,  
Secretary.

COPY

SEPTEMBER 7 1956

BRN 105 GBW 1726

LONDON

MLT WISE ZIONISTS NEWYORK

CABLEING TODAY FELIX QUOTE AM GRATIFIED SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION ADMINISTRATIVE  
COMMITTEE DOUBTLESS HEXTER KARPf WALDMAN SENDING FULL REPORT STOP CONFIDENT  
BETTER UNDERSTANDING CREATED WHICH PRESENT DIFFICULT TASK AND NEED VIGOROUS  
DEFENCE PALESTINE POSITION RENDERS IMPERATIVE STOP SUCCESS IN AVERTING  
IMMEDIATE POLITICAL DANGERS GIVES OPPORTUNITY STRENGTHENING OUR POLITICAL  
AND ECONOMIC WORK ON WHICH NOT ONLY LIFE AND SECURITY EXISTING YISHUV DEPENDS  
BUT POSSIBILITIES ALL FUTURE PEACEFUL DEVELOPMENTS NATIONAL HOME STOP OUR  
IMMEDIATE DUTY FULL COOPERATION WITH GOVERNMENT RESTORING LAW AND ORDER AND  
MAINTENANCE UNIMPAIRED FRUIT OUR WORK STOP PROGRAMME AGREED WITH GOVERNMENT  
REQUIRES EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE INTER ALIA SUPERNUMERARY POLICE ROAD  
BUILDING STOP ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ACCORDINGLY DECIDED UNANIMOUSLY  
LAUNCH PALESTINE DEFENCE SECURITY FUND THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS AMERICA  
ASSUMING ONE THIRD TO BE RAISED BY DECEMBER FIRST STOP EARNESTLY HOPE YOU  
ALL COLLEAGUES JEWISH AGENCY WILL COOPERATE PERSONALLY FULLY IN THIS GREAT  
AGENCY EFFORT STOP AM PERSONALLY PREPARED ON CALL ASSIST CAMPAIGN AMERICA  
UNQUOTE LIPSKY RETURNS 15th WITH PLANS FEEL CONFIDENT UNDER YOUR LEADERSHIP  
AMERICA WILL DO ITS MAXIMUM

WEIZMANN



ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE  
*President*

HARRY FRIEDBERG  
SOLOMON GOLDMAN  
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN  
GUSTAVE KLAUSNER  
JOSEPH KRAEMER  
WILLIAM M. LEWIS  
MAX SHULMAN  
ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
ELIHU D. STONE  
NATHAN STRAUS  
*Vice-Presidents*

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*Chairman, Administrative Committee*

A. J. RONGY  
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EDWARD L. ISRAEL  
I. H. LEVINthal  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
SAMUEL MARKIEWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
LOUIS P. ROCKER

*Associate Members*  
ZELIG HARRIS  
ISAAC IMBER

September 8, 1936

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
c/o The Temple,  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Attached herewith you will please find copy  
of a cable which came this morning to Dr. Wise from  
Dr. Weizmann.

Let us hope that this cable augurs well for  
the new year.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Morris Margulies*  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

החברת הציונית של ארצות הברית

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*Associate Members*  
ZELIG HARRIS  
ISAAC IMBER

September 8, 1936.

## TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:

The first meeting of the newly elected Administrative Committee of the Zionist Organization of America, of which you are a member, will be held on Sunday, September 20, 1936, beginning at 10:30 A.M., at the Commodore Hotel, Lexington Avenue and 42nd Street, New York City.

Matters arising out of the present situation in Palestine, and action on decisions taken at our last Annual Convention, will be considered.

Dr. Stephen S. Wise, President of the Z.O.A., and other of our representatives who attended conferences abroad, will report. Judge William M. Lewis, Acting President, will report on activities since the Convention.

You are earnestly requested to attend.

Sincerely yours,

Morris Rothenberg,  
Chairman, Administrative Committee.

Encl.

P.S. -- Please indicate on the enclosed postcard whether you will be present.

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

September 16, 1936.

LOUIS LIPSKY  
HON. PRESIDENT

MORRIS ROTHENBERG  
PRESIDENT

HARRY FRIEDBERG  
H. RAPHAEL GOLD  
SOLOMON GOLDMAN  
WILLIAM M. LEWIS  
MAX SHULMAN  
ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
ELIHU D. STONE  
NATHAN STRAUS, JR.  
VICE-PRESIDENTS

A. J. RONGY  
CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE

MORRIS MARGULIES  
SECRETARY

## GOVERNING COUNCIL

CHARLES A. COWEN  
ABRAHAM GOLDBERG  
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN  
S. MARGOSHES  
STEPHEN S. WISE  
LEO WOLFSON

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

LOUIS P. ROCKER  
CHAIRMAN

HARRY P. FIERST  
TREASURER

ISIDOR GOLDBERG  
ABRAHAM KRUMBEIN  
ABRAHAM LIEBOVITZ  
ELDAR MARKSON  
LOUIS RIMSKY  
SIGMUND THAU  
MORRIS WEINBERG

ISRAEL MALTIN  
AUDITOR

Dear Friend:

This is to remind you that the first session of the meeting of the Administrative Committee will take place on Sunday, Sept. 20th, at 10:30 A. M. at the Commodore Hotel.

Following is the tentative agenda of the meeting, prepared by the Executive:

1. Report by Judge Wm. M. Lewis, Acting President Z.O.A., on Z.O.A. activities since the Convention.
2. Report by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, President of the Z.O.A., on the political situation and Z.O.A. cooperation.
3. Report by Mr. Lipsky on meetings of Actions Committee (Zurich) and Administrative Committee of Jewish Agency (London).
4. Report by Mr. Abraham Goldberg on Actions Comm. Meeting.
5. Election of members of the Finance Committee.
6. Election of Secretary.
7. Keren Habitzoron (Emergency Fund).
8. Report on U.P.A. and J.N.F. by Dr. Israel Goldstein.
9. Convention Resolutions.
10. Reception to the Maccabees Soccer Team, now visiting in this country.

With best wishes for a Happy New Year, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Morris Margulies*  
Morris Margulies



MINUTES OF FIRST MEETING OF NEWLY ELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF Z.O.A.  
HELD ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1936, 10:30 A.M., AT THE COMMODORE HOTEL, NEW YORK.

PRESENT: Messrs. Morris Rothenberg (in the Chair), Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Joseph Kraemer, Judge Wm. M. Lewis, Elihu D. Stone, Charles A. Cowen, Abraham Goldberg, Louis Lipsky, Rabbi Irving Miller, Isaac Imber, Harry P. Fierst, Abraham Krumbein, Elias Proiss, Sigmund Thau, Heinrich Abramowitz, Isaac Allen, Rabbi Morton M. Berman, Herman W. Bernstein, Dr. S. Boorstein, A.D. Braham, Israel S. Chipkin, Sol Cohen, Dr. H. J. Epstein, Hon. M. Maldwin Fertig, Jacob Fishman, Harry Grayer, Leo Guzik, Arnold K. Isreeli, Samuel Judenfreund, Dr. Leon R. Levinson, Harry J. Moskowitz, Louis Myers, Hon. Nyman J. Reit, Charles Ress, Menahem Ribalow, Bernard G. Richards, Samuel Rothstein, Moses Robinson, Jochanon I. Rudavsky, Irving Schatzberg, Samuel Schleimer, Dr. Leo B. Schwartz, Bernard Shelvin, Hon. William I. Siegel, Abraham Spicchandler, Meyer W. Weisgal, Leo Wilson, Leo Wolfson, Abraham Goldstein, Morris Hallove, Samuel Umansky, William M. Katz, Dr. Frances Burnce, Max Cohen, Col. Benjamin F. Evarts, Jacob Ginsburg, Dr. Morton J. Robbins, Bennett Silverblatt, Dewey D. Stone, Julius Stone, Aaron Levinstone, Harry A. Rachlin, Abraham Swire, Judge Joseph H. Silbert, Jacob Ginsburg, Morris Margulies; by invitation: Laby Bakstansky and Ittamar Ben Avi.

Excuses for Non-Attendance were received from Dr. B. W. Abramson, Rabbi Arthur Brodey, A. B. Cohen, J. H. Cohodes, Jos. H. Ehrlich, B. Horwich, Rabbi Edward L. Israel, Pincus Juran, Dr. Lazarus Karp, Prof. Gustave Klausner, Max I. Kohman, Rabbi Felix A. Levy, Dr. M. B. Lichtenstein, Dr. G. A. Lowenstein, Isaac Meister, Jacob Rabinowitz, Leo J. Rabinowitz, Simon Shetzer, Max Shulman, M. J. Slonim, Chas. B. Spiner, Lewis H. Weinstein, Dr. Alexander S. Wolf.

OPENING REMARKS BY MR. MORRIS ROTHENBERG:

"It is my very pleasant duty to welcome the newly elected President of the Zionist Organization of America, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, and to welcome all of the newly elected members of the Administrative Committee, as well as our returning delegates from abroad. The weeks that have elapsed since we have had our Annual Convention have been anxious weeks for all of us. For over four months murderous attacks have been levelled upon the Yishuv in Palestine. There has been much loss of life and destruction of property. Under all these most provoking circumstances, the Jewish settlement in Palestine has behaved in a manner that has evoked the admiration of the civilized world. These attacks have been aimed to bring about a cessation of immigration, the stoppage of the sale of land -- in fact, of the further development of the Jewish National Home. For a time it appeared as if the British Government might yield to the terror of the Arabs and that there might be at least a temporary cessation of immigration. Due to the splendid efforts of Zionist leadership in which our newly elected President played a distinguished part, for the time being at least that danger has been averted. But we must not lull ourselves into a false security. The danger is not passed. Even today the Arabs have thrown down a challenge to the British Government and have said that they will go forward with the strike. There is therefore much work ahead of us. I am sure that it is your desire as it is mine, that the wish of the Convention that all elements of the Zionist Organization of America, represented in this Administrative Committee, may cooperate harmoniously and work shoulder to shoulder to protect the Jewish National Home, and to carry forward the widening and the deepening of Zionist thought in the United States, may be realized in the fullest measure.

"All of us, I am sure, have watched with deep admiration the burden of Jewish tasks which Dr. Wise took up immediately upon his landing in Europe last June. In association with Zionist leadership he has worked tirelessly to defend the Zionist position. Similarly he has labored for the protection of Jewish rights

in lands of persecution, in connection with the establishment of the world Jewish Congress. Since his return here, Dr. Wise has been tireless in seeking out ways to support the Zionist leadership abroad, and I think much has been accomplished in that direction.

"We have been anxious about Dr. Wise because he has worked with an almost reckless disregard of his health, and we are therefore happy to see him in our midst today, and I know that it is the hope of all of us that he may be fully restored to health and that he may be strengthened to take up the new responsibilities which he has taken upon his shoulders.

"I have very great pleasure in calling upon the President of the Zionist Organization of America."

ADDRESS OF DR. STEPHEN S. WISE:

"In the first place, I wish to thank you for your very kind welcome which I take for granted is extended to anyone who happens to be the President of the Zionist Organization of America. I could not help thinking when I was elected that every twenty years I become one of the heads of the Z.O.A. This is the third time. First, in 1916, then again in 1936. I hope I may have one more go in 1956. Then I shall be only, if I live, two years older than Justice Brandeis, "b'ezrat Ha-Shem", will become on the 13th of November.

"Yes, we haven't had an easy time -- none of us. What gratified me was that I have seen some non-Zionists -- not that I have much occasion to see non-Zionists-- and I have found among them a very wholesome concern over Palestine. There is beginning to dawn a Jewish consciousness, with the defensiveness of Eretz Israel as the Endziel of Jewish life.

"I want to thank you, Mr. Rothenberg, for your splendid words of welcome which I deeply appreciate, and I also wish to offer heartfelt thanks to Judge Lewis who at my request was good enough to take over the acting Chairmanship, and to whom I had to entrust a very important and difficult job, which he discharged with earnestness and effectiveness.

"While I am not going through the whole history of what happened this summer, I may say to you that there never was an imperative cause, more devotedly, more effectively served than was our deeply imperative cause throughout the summer months. I think more clearly than ever I have learned the difference this summer between the way of irresponsibility and the responsible way. I have no desire to quarrel with any one, but when I speak of the way of irresponsibility, I wish as one of the men in the active service of the Zionist Organization, to say to you that I consider the recent action of Jabotinsky to be one of the most dangerous and irresponsible acts. I have some times stood at his side -- but if the question arises at the next Zionist Congress whether he shall be permitted to come back, I shall vote 'no', unless he registers himself as a 'Baal Tshuva' and promises for the rest of his life to discontinue his unforgivable and irresponsible acts. Without approval or consent he went to the Polish Government and arranged with Beck, the Foreign Minister, to take 75,000 Jews a year out of Poland. A few months ago the Council of German Jewry announced its program with regard to Jewish immigration from Germany. Some minister in Poland -- I think it was Pontiefsky -- made the announcement that Poland, too, expects the Council for German Jewry to emigrate one million Jews from Poland. Jews must spend one hundred fifty millions to emigrate one million Jews from Poland. What we Jews have



"got to fight in Poland, as in Germany, is that it is not just the Jews who are the superfluous members of the Polish Republic, or of the German Reich.

"I stayed six weeks in London, where day after day I conferred with Weizmann, with Ben Gurion, with Lord Melchett, and with Mrs. Dugdale, niece of the late Lord Balfour. There is a chance that Mrs. Dugdale will come over to America this winter. I have invited her to come. I want her to have the joy of seeing America, and I want American Zionists and Jews to have the privilege of welcoming and of seeing her.

"I am not going through the whole long story. There was a time, on the 12th or 13th of August, when things seemed very, very grave. Up to that time it was felt in London, not altogether with my assent, and not altogether with the assent of you and our English comrades, that the thing could be done quietly, and through diplomatic methods, with no publicity, the tragedy of suspension of immigration could be averted. I took a certain action about the 12th of August because I felt that at the last moment Dr. Weizmann and Ben Gurion completely approved of the idea. Fortunately, they agree with me. I said: 'Weizmann and Ben Gurion, the time has now come to bring American Zionists into action. I happen to be the President. I have a responsibility to you as your comrade, but I have a very great responsibility to the Zionists of America who read things but who do not know what is happening and who may suddenly be faced by a fait accompli, and who had no opportunity to avert the danger. So I addressed a cablegram to Judge Lewis as the Acting President of the Z.O.A., in which I called upon him to do certain things. I want to say again in the presence of Judge Lewis what I said in his absence -- all that I asked for was done and done well and effectively done.

"When I went to Washington ten days or a fortnight ago, I found the State Department and the heads of our Government completely and accurately informed with regard to the danger in Palestine. I spoke to our State Department for an hour. There was not a thing that I could tell it that it did not know.

"I did not go to Zurich. I had the feeling that I could be more useful in America. Mr. Lipsky agreed with me.

"Within four days of my arrival, the most alarming dispatches that we have had in America in fifteen years came from the two leaders -- Weizmann and Ben Gurion -- one more desperate than the other. I cannot go into details. I have given my word of honor to our Government that I will not disclose details, and you will have to trust me in the matter. But this I will say: On Tuesday -- it must have been the 2nd of September, I spent the day in Washington. Dr. Goldstein most helpfully cooperated with me. I can only say this to you, our Government could not have helped us with greater loyalty and enthusiasm than it did.

"Gentlemen, the situation was met with wisdom and power, but I want to say this to you -- I don't think that Weizmann's wisdom, or Ben Gurion's or even our President's help would have availed if the Yishub had acted less magnificently than it did. It must always be borne in mind -- this is not 1929, when there were 160,000 Jews in Palestine. This is 1936, when the 400,000 Jews in Palestine bore themselves with dignity and responsibility, not only as nation-builders but as maintainers of the dignity and honor of a State.

"While I am not going to speak to you today about the World Jewish Congress -- I have no occasion to report on that to you -- I cannot deny myself the personal satisfaction to tell you this: Remember that letter that was circulated in April or May, asserting that the World Jewish Congress would serve to unite the Arabs against the Jews, and that we would hurt the Yishub? Gentlemen, the first act of



the World Jewish Congress after its adjournment in Geneva, was to dispatch a delegation, which included Mr. Louis Lipsky, myself, and representatives of all the great parties within the World Jewish Congress, to Berne, where we presented our case to the British Embassy. In other words, the first action of the World Jewish Congress was to speak for Eretz Yisroel, registering the complaints of a non-Zionist group against suspension and against those intolerable terms which the Arab leaders had proposed.

"It is my duty to call your attention to one of the decisions of Zurich: the establishment of the Emergency and Security Fund for Palestine. I think Mr. Lipsky will have recommendations to make. I want to tell you for your satisfaction that ten days ago Dr. Weizmann cabled and said he was ready to come to America to help us raise the \$500,000, which sum was allotted to be raised in this country. I cabled to Weizmann asking him the date of his arrival and how long he was going to stay, as afterwards he was to go to Palestine in connection with the hearings by the Royal Commission. His second cable was a little more doubtful. I think he is not in a position to know whether he can come before the Royal Commission meets. There is a tremendous amount of questions that must be faced and answered before Dr. Weizmann can make his decision.

"Gentlemen, we must have a great year. Evidently you felt you could count upon me and I tell you I could on you, everyone of you. I would like to celebrate my Presidency by trying to gain for the Zionist Organization of America -- and I don't think I am speaking in terms of exaggeration -- ten thousand new members this year.

"In the next place, we have got to make an effort, such as we have not made, to win the youth of America. The Jewish youth of America belongs to us. It does not belong to Fascism, it does not belong to Communism. The hope, idealism and faith of the Jewish youth of America must build itself around the Zionist aspirations and Zionist ideal, and I tell you we have a record which justifies us in saying to the Jewish youth -- boys and girls: 'You belong to us and you have got to support us'.

"For the first time I have had a glimpse of Jewish life in Warsaw. What interested me was not the exaggerated and enthusiastic welcome for me personally, which no man could have deserved, but the dignity, the strength, the faith, the idealism, of Polish Jewry. I wish you could have sat with me in the rooms of the Keren Hayesod in Warsaw and listened as I did for two hours to the story of a group of men from Chizik who told me what had happened, and when at the end I turned to them and asked what can we do, -- what did they ask for? Did they ask for more money? Certificates! 'Give us Certificates, Dr. Wise."

"I went back to London and I told the whole story in full. I spoke to Dr. Weizmann about it and we agreed that they were to get Certificates.

"Once again I hold out my hands to you and call for your support."

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The Chairman then called upon Judge Lewis for his report.

REPORT OF JUDGE WILLIAM M. LEWIS:

"When word came to me that a cable was received from Dr. Wise asking me to serve as Acting President during his absence, I was considerably flabbergasted. I kept on thinking of the words of the poet who said that 'Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise' -- and therefore I was unable to be 'wise' in the place of 'Wise'. However, it was a duty which came to me and which I tried to perform as manfully,

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AFTERNOON SESSION

The Chairman called upon Mr. Margulies to present his report on organizational matters.

Z.O.A. MEMBERSHIP DUES :

Mr. Margulies referred to the fact that at the Providence Convention, the Committee on Organization presented a report consisting of two parts -- one on behalf of the majority of the Committee, and another on behalf of the minority members of the Committee. While the majority report recommended that the dues for the ensuing year be \$6 and \$4, with the proviso that the \$4 members should receive The New Palestine once a month; the minority report recommended that the dues remain at the present fee of \$6 and \$3. However the Convention unanimously voted that the matter be referred to the National Council.

The Zionist fiscal year, Mr. Margulies pointed out, coincides with the Jewish calendar year. In other words, October 1st marks our new year. The Districts begin to prepare their statements, bills, during September, so that they can mail them out on October 1st. The Organization during the course of September mails each District Chairman a circular in which is requested information as to whether he desires that the statements for dues be sent direct to the membership or whether we are to mail them to him in bulk in order for the District itself to collect the membership dues. We did not send out such a circular letter this year because the Convention action left pending the decision on this year's dues.

National Council: Mr. Margulies further reported that the National Council was still in the process of formation, and that in accordance with the decision of the Convention, the National Council should be composed along the same lines as last year. The National Council last year consisted of (a) the Chairmen of each District, (b) an additional representative for every hundred members; (c) The members of the Administrative Committee. A circular to this effect was sent out to the Districts, but as during the summer the Districts do not meet, not more than a dozen Districts have taken action up till now. The National Council therefore cannot be convened for a few months. In the interim the Organization cannot function insofar as the dues are concerned. At the last meeting of the Executive of the Z.O.A. this problem was submitted and discussed at length. It was decided that the whole matter be referred without recommendation to the Administrative Committee, and that the Organization abide by the decision of the Administrative Committee, subject, of course to ratification by the National Council.

DISCUSSION ON DUES :

Mr. Fierst expressed the opinion that in view of the improved economic situation of the country, the majority report of the Convention should be accepted, that is, that the dues be \$6 and \$4.

Rabbi Irving Miller, referring to Mr. Fierst's statement concerning the improvement in general conditions, said he did not think that the matter was one merely of dollars and cents. He believed there is also a principle involved in the question of dues, and on that basis he personally was opposed to a dual dues. The time had come when we ought to do away with classifications and divisions within the membership of the Z.O.A. He suggested therefore that a unified dues should be the policy of the Zionist Organization of America, and that every member of the Organization should receive The New Palestine. He advocated that a uniform dues of \$4 ought to be fixed -- one dollar to go for subscription to The New Pal-



estine; one dollar should be allotted for the Region (where there is a Region) fifty cents for the Shekel; fifty cents for the District; and one dollar to the National Organization. Rabbi Miller urged that the problem of the Organization and the membership be viewed at this time in the larger prospective, that it be regarded from the point of view of the tremendous need at this time of increasing the membership of the Organization.

Mr. Margulies pointed out that the Convention is the supreme body in American Zionism, giving direction to the Organization. The last Convention directed us to determine whether the dues of the Zionist Organization be \$6 and \$4, or \$6 and \$3. The Convention gave us no direction about making a uniform dues -- whether that dues be \$6, or \$5, or \$4. He therefore believed that it is not within the competency of the Administrative Committee to adopt any such ruling as that offered by Rabbi Miller.

The Chairman said he did not think that the intent of the Convention was to bind this body, or any other body that was to consider the matter, but that the whole question was referred for action to the incoming Administration.

Dr. Robbins made the following amendment:

THAT the \$3 membership be retained, and that such membership will include subscription to The New Palestine.

Mr. Abraham Goldstein favored the retention of the present dues of \$6 and \$3, especially in view of the desire expressed by Dr. Wise to enroll 10,000 new members this year.

Col. Evarts inquired whether the New Palestine could be sent to the \$3 members without loss.

Dr. Wise then stated that if every \$3 member were to get The New Palestine, why should the other members want to pay \$6.

Mr. Weisgal pointed out that while considerable progress has been made in increasing the membership, the present total of 24,000 members does not adequately reflect the Zionist sentiment in the United States today. Moreover whenever the subject of membership dues is discussed, we think in terms of fiscal policy and what is needed to maintain the Organization. We must free ourselves from the position of looking at membership solely as a source of income to enable the Organization to maintain its work. Mr. Weisgal stated that he is therefore completely in accord with Rabbi Miller, that two standards of membership should be eliminated. Moreover no premium should be put on membership in the Zionist Organization of America, but that the dues should be as low as possible in order to enable the Organization to have a membership of 50,000 or 100,000 during the next few years.

Mr. Thau pointed out that it is essential to have a plan for securing the necessary income for the Organization, before deciding to reduce the dues. Personally he favored dues of \$6 and \$4.

Mr. Leo Wolfson called attention to the fact that the Convention passed resolutions calling for the establishing of regions, and therefore it will be necessary not only to provide an income for the Organization itself but for the maintenance of these regions. He therefore suggested that for the present, the \$6 and \$3 membership remain in force, but that the entire question of dues be referred to a commission which will deal with the problems of the Regions and the revision of the Constitution.

Mr. Schleimer was of the opinion that the question of dues was a local problem to be decided by the respective community.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried, as proposed by Mr. Wolfson

THAT for the present the dues remain \$6 and \$3 but that the whole matter be referred to the Commission which is to consider the question of regions, and a report brought back to this Administrative Committee.

REPORT OF MR. ABRAHAM GOLDBERG :

The Chairman then called upon Mr. Abraham Goldberg to render his report on the proceedings of the Zionist Actions Committee in Zurich:

Dwelling at length upon all phases of the questions discussed, Mr. Goldberg asserted that the Actions Committee this time proved its usefulness and effectiveness by the results achieved. The splendid manner in which our leadership discharged its responsibilities as reflected in their reports to the Administrative Committee should be a matter of pride to all of us. The union permeating the proceedings is emphasized by the fact that a man like Farbstein who was a "constant critic", said: "We are satisfied with the leadership". Throughout the proceedings it became evident that the period from 1930 to 1936 was marked by unity and good will. There is one Zionist Organization."

Stressing the harmonious cooperation of all factions during the sessions, Mr. Goldberg said that it was a wise move for a number of the Zionist leaders to have either remained in Jerusalem, or proceeded to London and New York, while another part of the leadership attended to the business in Zurich, thus vigilance was maintained on all Zionist political fronts.

It is also important to remember that the Actions Committee is constantly functioning in Palestine, where a number of the members who now reside there constitute a sort of smaller Actions Committee. No matter what develops, the Jewish National Home is already a fact and our leadership is not isolated. This state of affairs did not exist in 1913, or 1923.

"This meeting of the Actions Committee, in dealing with all matters concerned, worked also under pressure in regard to immigration. It will be recalled that during an acute crisis in Palestine, we succeeded in getting resolutions passed in the United States Senate and the House of Representatives, and again during the troubles of 1929, the United States Government stood ready to help us. In the present emergency, you have heard what Dr. Wise and Judge Lewis had to say about the trend of public opinion here. Therefore, although the situation appeared to be dismal, none of us were discouraged. We sang the Hatikvah and forgot not for one moment that we were 400,000 strong in Palestine."

Referring to the discussions pertaining to the Royal Commission, he said that the essential thing dealt with was the maintenance of our political front. "The manifesto issued -- Mr. Lipsky and I worked laboriously on it -- will go down in history as a momentous document."

Mr. Goldberg then dwelt on the creation of the Keren Bitzaron U'Bitachon which he stated was one of the most important results of the Administrative Committee meeting. There was absolute unanimity on the program drafted.



" This Administrative Committee and all Zionists throughout the country must realize - Mr. Goldberg concluded - that unless we strengthen the Zionist Organization so that it will have influence and weight - then this victory that we scored recently in the House of Commons, resulting in a statement by the British Government, that it will not yield to Arab intimidation, is wasted. Our real fight begins with the arrival of the Royal Commission to Palestine. I am certain that if we are organized, we will be able in time to come to reach an understanding with some Arab bodies."

REMARKS OF MR. LABY BANKSTANSKY :

The Chairman then presented Mr. Laby Bakstansky, Secretary of the Federation of Great Britain and Ireland, and Associate Secretary of the Council for German Jewry, who was on a visit to this country.

Speaking on the objectives of the World Confederation of General Zionists of which he was honorary Secretary, Mr. Bakstansky said that the Confederation looks to the American movement for support in the discussions and in the work which is to follow this year, and voiced the hope that the representation of American General Zionism at the next Congress will be far greater than at the last Congress.

Mr. Bakstansky further said: " The development of the last few years has been such that groups of young people who are affiliated with no party except Zionism in its totality have come into Palestine, have formed settlements, and are now looking forward to our financial and moral support in order to enable them to go forward. At one time some of us took the view that it is the function of the Keren Hayesod and of the National Funds to support these General Zionist settlements, and that there was no necessity for any special action on our part, but reviewing the situation in Zurich, with the assistance of members of the Executive, and we came to the conclusion that it is essential to afford these young General Zionist kubbutzim special financial assistance.

"I wish to say a word of warm tribute to the work of your President in London in recent months. We English Zionists have not only admired the indefatigable efforts, but have welcomed his presence in London in these critical weeks, in particular. The reassertion of the influence and the watchfulness, the perpetual alertness of American Zionism and American Jewry to all that is happening in Palestine and to the positions which the Government will adopt with relation thereto -- this was an event of great political significance, the effects of which I am certain will be observed in the immediate future."

Mr. Bakstansky then reviewed the developments in London up to the dispatch of new reinforcements to Palestine and also referred to the British policy in Palestine as reflected in the attitude of official and un-official circles in London.

The speaker then further said: "The political situation of the very near future demands a reassertion of American interest, of American influence, of the American word in our diplomatic work; and I am not referring here to more general statements of sympathy and of affection for the Jews, or the Jewish National Home, or the idea of the Mandate. What we require at the moment is the entrance of American political thought into the discussion of Palestinian problems. That must be done at once, because the Royal Commission may be leaving for Palestine in a month or six weeks. I would also like to see the American Zionists take the initiative in calling a conference which shall be devoted to the discussion of political problems in relation to the Jewish National Home, at which leading non-Jews shall appear on the platform and take our position with regard to the various suggestions which are now being discussed in England, pertaining to Palestine. I think an ef-



fort should be made to induce our non-Jewish friends in this country to write letters to English papers. The Arabs are doing it and doing it effectively. In our case it very often goes by default. Any one of the measures will depend upon you and upon the influence which you exert. There is never an end in Zionism. We shall always overcome and we shall always thrive, and somehow we shall be able ultimately to move forward. And I urge upon you that on this occasion is the time to struggle, to make the British People and especially the Royal Commissioners aware that just as there is an Arab opinion there is a Jewish opinion, that there is an American Jewish opinion which will not support any breach of the terms of the Mandate, either in general terms or in specific terms."

KEREN HABITZARON :

The Chairman then called upon Dr. Wise to present the matter of the new Fund.

Dr. Wise said: "The thing now to do, seeing that it is impossible to come to a decision with respect to a problem involving so many facts and elements, is to refer the entire problem of the Bitzaron, either to the Executive, or else to a special committee to be named this afternoon. I do not think that we can now reach decisions with regard to the matter, excepting this, that we resolve today to go forward. We accept the mandate laid upon us to secure the \$500,000 quota allotted to us, and I would not like this meeting to close without a message which would in a sense be a reply to the message I received from Dr. Weizmann in connection with Rosh Hashana. I should like to cable to Dr. Weizmann, so that he gets it not later than Monday morning: 'We are going ahead. We are entrusting this matter to an effective committee and within a week or ten days this Emergency Fund will be under way, and American Zionists are prepared to do - and as I dared to say in The New Palestine this week - more than their duty.' I therefore propose the following resolutions:

1. THAT we authorize the naming by the Executive of a Commission to deal with the Emergency Fund.
2. THAT we extend our vote of confidence to the leadership of the Zionist Movement; that we will undertake to do, whatever we are called up on, and that we will give our complete and whole-hearted support to the plans of the Zionist leadership."

THE ABOVE RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED.

Dr. Wise then called upon Mr. Lipsky for a word of comment with regard to the new Fund.

Mr. Lipsky replied that the plans are outlined in a document which has just come from London and which will be published in The New Palestine and submitted to the Executive.

Dr. Wise then stated that in the light of Mr. Lipsky's statement and the adoption of the above resolutions, nothing need at this moment be added, unless we name the commission today instead of leaving it to the Executive.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT this matter be referred to the Executive, in consultation with such other bodies as may be necessary.

MACCABEE SOCCER TEAM OF PALESTINE: At this juncture the Maccabi Soccer Team of Palestine entered the meeting-room, led by Dr. Rosenfeld. Dr. Wise greeted the Maccabees. He said:

DR. STEPHEN S. WISE: "We the elders have just been discussing plans for the moral, political and spiritual defense of our most treasured and sacred possession, namely, Eretz Yisroel, and as we bring our discussion to a close, there enters into the room a group of men who together represent the spirit of Jewish youth within and without Eretz Yisroel. We have here today the representatives of the Maccabee Soccer Team, who have come to America not to win games, but to show forth the power of Jewish youth to do better than winning games, namely, to exhibit a spirit of fair play by young Jews. To these young gentlemen, I say, speaking on behalf, I think, of American Jewry, 'Bruchim Habain'. Blessed are they who come to say they bring to us the quickening of our hopes, they bring to us a deepening of every nationalist sympathy and consciousness and understanding. They have widely represented the finest traditions of the Jewish People. I welcome them in the hope that they may again win victories, but whether they win or lose, they must reveal to Jew and non-Jew alike that the Jewish People is capable of bearing itself with dignity, with honor, and with power, not only in the fields of industry and of intellectual effort, but in the field of play, in the field of sports. These are our Olympics, but thank God they are Maccabees and not Olympics. The Olympics must be revived every five or six years that they may live, but the Maccabee torch will never be extinguished."

Dr. Rosenfeld thanked Dr. Wise in Hebrew for the warm reception accorded to the Maccabee Soccer Team. Dr. Rosenfeld's remarks were reiterated by the Captain of the Team, who also spoke in Hebrew.

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The Chairman called attention to the following matters on the agenda which had not as yet been considered: Election of members of the Finance Committee, Election of Secretary, United Palestine Appeal and Jewish National Fund Report by Dr. Israel Goldstein; and Convention Resolutions. He suggested, in view of the fact that the Executive has not had an opportunity to discuss these important matters on which action is essential, that they be referred back to the Executive for a recommendation to the next meeting of the Administrative Committee; and that this meeting be devoted to a report by Dr. Goldstein, to remarks by Mr. Ben Avi, and a report by Mr. Jacob Fishman on the meeting of the Actions Committee.

Finance Committee: Dr. Wise said that if it be true that the old Finance Committee is functioning, he would be entirely satisfied that the Finance Committee should go on, otherwise he wished to be empowered to name who should be the nuclei of the Finance Committee, which Committee is to be increased by the President together with the Executive, and should begin its work immediately after the Day of Atonement.

Mr. Rothenberg reminded Dr. Wise that the Convention had named certain people who should serve on the Finance Committee.

Mr. Lipsky pointed out that if the matter is postponed, it means postponement until the next meeting of the Administrative Committee, thereby postponing activities for two months.



The following motion was made and unanimously carried:

THAT the Finance Committee should include the following persons named at the Convention: Messrs. Louis F. Rucker, Harry P. Fierst, Morris Weinberg, Abraham Krumbein, Abraham Liebovitz, Dr. Gabriel A. Lowenstein, Isaac Meister, Elias Preiss, Louis Rinsky, Sigmund Thau; and such others to be named by the President and approved by the Executive of the Z.O.A.

Political Committee of Z.O.A.: The President stated that several months ago an Emergency Committee under the leadership of Dr. Israel Goldstein was appointed to meet what was at that time an emergency; that critical situation has for the time ended. He believed that it would be better now to adopt the regular procedure of having a Political Committee which shall deal with all the problems that have been mentioned today by all the speakers. He was willing to name such a Political Committee with the understanding that he be privileged to name additional members if deemed necessary.

Mr. Cowen thought that the President should take the matter up with the Zionist Executive, although no one will challenge the right of the Chair to appoint a Political Committee.

Dr. Wise reported that the Chairman of the present Emergency Committee wished to place his resignation in his hands, and thought that the Political Committee ought to be named today. He added that it is incumbent upon him at this time to be the Chairman of the Political Committee. It is the duty of the President, he pointed out, for the present, in the light of his relations to the problem during the last few months, to take upon himself this burden.

Rabbi Miller made the following motion which was unanimously carried:

THAT the Administrative Committee hears with great satisfaction the willingness of Dr. Wise to assume the Chairmanship of the Political Committee, and hereby authorizes him to appoint such other members of the Committee as he sees fit.

Honorary Secretary: Dr. Wise said he would like to ask "a friend of many of us, to serve as Honorary Secretary of the Zionist Organization of America. The term 'Honorary' will mean that he is to receive no compensation. He is not to be a day by day worker, but to be consulted in order to have the benefit of his literary judgment in matters of editing, etc." Dr. Wise said he would like to invite Dr. Ludwig Lewisohn to become the Honorary Secretary of the Zionist Organization of America, and that he had every reason to believe that Dr. Lewisohn would accept the call. Dr. Wise added that this is a post which does not come within the normal purview of the Executive.

Mr. Lipsky thereupon moved, and it was unanimously carried:

THAT Dr. Stephen S. Wise invite Dr. Ludwig Lewisohn to become the Honorary Secretary of the Zionist Organization of America.



Coopting of Messrs. Ress and Szold on Executive:

Upon the suggestion of the President, Messrs. Charles Ress and Robert Szold were coopted as members of the Z.O.A. Executive, with unanimous approval.

Election of Secretary:

Mr. Lipsky proposed, and was seconded, that Morris Margulies be unanimously elected Secretary of the Zionist Organization of America.

Dr. Wise moved an amendment that the duties of the Secretary include those of office executive and head of the organization department.

Dr. Israel Goldstein suggested that the amendment be left for the discussion of the Executive Committee.

Dr. Wise agreed to withdraw the amendment.

Dr. Epstein regretted that the Administrative Committee did not take time to consider a number of important matters but referred them to the Executive Committee.

The following motion was unanimously carried:

THAT Mr. Morris Margulies be elected Secretary of the Zionist Organization of America, and that the Executive of the Z.O.A. be empowered to define his duties.

Convention Resolutions:

With reference to the Convention resolutions referred to the incoming Administration and on which action is pending, Mr. Cowen moved, and it was seconded and carried unanimously:

THAT these resolutions be referred for consideration and recommendation to the Executive, and that the Executive, through the President, report these recommendations to the next meeting of the Administrative Committee.

Report on U.P.A. and J.N.F.:

The Chairman then called upon Dr. Israel Goldstein to report on the United Palestine Appeal and the Jewish National Fund. Dr. Goldstein stated:

"It ought to be noted that while the Appeal is not more than seven months in actual operation, embracing the troublesome period in Palestine, I am happy to report that the communities throughout the country have responded to the U.P.A., during these seven months, just as effectively as before. Just as the morale of the Yishub itself has not been broken by the attacks upon it, so the morale of American Jewry and American Zionists, in particular, remained intact during these months of disturbances.

"Campaigns have been conducted in more than 600 cities since January 1st, which was the official opening date, though actually they did not commence until February 15th, following the Washington Conference.

"The income up to September 1st, including cash and pledges, amounted to \$1,457,413 of which \$822,971 was in cash. If a special attempt will be made, as it should be made, during the next two or three months to convert the remaining pledges into cash, we shall be in an excellent position to inaugurate the U.P.A. in 1937. We must see to it that 1937 pledges are not used against 1936 obligations.

"I should also like to state that more than one-half of the U.P.A. income has been derived from communities where Community Chests have made allocations or where there were joint campaigns between the U.P.A. and the J.D.C. It is important to note that fact in estimating the strength of the Zionists throughout the country. That strength reflects itself very often in the proportions that we get from community chest allotments or joint campaigns. And many of us who are here responsible for the conduct of the Appeal, at the national headquarters, feel that if the Zionists would be a little more persistent, a little bit less ready to compromise in their localities, the results reflecting themselves in those proportions would be somewhat more favorable than they have been in some cases. Some of us have the feeling that perhaps Zionist leaders in local communities become overawed unduly, and perhaps if they really tested their strength, their numerical strength, and what is more, their moral strength, and the strength of the Palestine Appeal on its own merits, the communities would respond more to Palestine.

"With regard to New York City, which accounts for a substantial portion of the national results -- New York produced in pledges and cash the sum of \$510,696, of which the cash amounted to \$385,308. For that achievement credit belongs to Mr. Nathan Straus who heads the Campaign, and his associates in New York."

Dr. Goldstein then referred to the plans for the "Night of Stars" undertaking, to be held on October 28th, at Madison Square Garden, of which the major proceeds will go for Palestine.

"Between now and the end of the year, a number of campaigns still remain to be conducted. There are several large cities in which these campaigns will have to be conducted, and it is estimated that the amount of approximately \$200,000 can yet be realized from these sources.

"I should like to say a word, in closing, expressing our appreciation once more to the one who has headed our efforts, Dr. Stephen S. Wise. During Dr. Wise's absence abroad, those of us who remained here did our best to carry on the work, and I should like to extend my personal vote of appreciation, which I know reflects yours, to the Co-Chairman of the Campaign -- Mr. Morris Rothenberg, Mr. Louis Lipsky, Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, and Judge William M. Lewis and Mr. Maurice Levin."

Jewish National Fund: "For the past eleven months, from October 1st to September 1st, the income of the J.N.F. in this country has been the highest that it has ever been, not even excepting the prosperity period of '28 - '29. We have derived revenues -- this includes our portion of the U.P.A., as well as our own collections -- amounting to \$519,622. I should say that more than half of that sum represents regular income of the J.N.F. -- Flower Day and Flag Day, Boxes, Golden Book inscriptions, and all the other things that represent the J.N.F. calendar. That is cause for satisfaction, and we hope that that trend will increase. We owe you our acknowledgment, because it is the Zionist leadership, and especially the leadership of the Z.O.A. throughout the country, which has been the major factor in the achievement of this result.



"There is also the introduction of a new item in J.N.F. collections -- The Sefer Ha-Yeled -- the children's register, where for a donation of \$10, it is possible to inscribe the name of a child.

"In the matter of bequests, we have received very friendly cooperation from lawyers, Rabbis, lay-leaders, and we urge you at all times to remind your communities that the one way to tie up a life with a living memorial with Eretz Israel, for the Jewish People, is through bequests for the benefit of the Jewish National Fund.

"Just now we are engaged, and have been in the past few months, in a special tree campaign for the purpose of replacing the trees that have been murdered.

"We have been apprised by our own friends in labor circles, that here is a large untapped resource among Jewish working people who heretofore had been benevolently neutral or entirely estranged, so far as Palestine and Zionism were concerned. Our Administrative Committee and Board of Directors weighed the possibilities, and decided that the experiment was worthwhile, and so we have opened a special department to contact labor groups. It has already resulted in the initiation of a project to plant a forest in memory of Abraham Shiplacoff. This project gives promise of success."

In conclusion, Dr. Goldstein pointed to the special urgency at the present time to strengthen the Jewish National Fund, thereby increasing the Jewish land area in Palestine.

Mr. Rothenberg stated that the Palestine Funds this year will almost equal the aggregate collections of the J.D.C. and the Palestine Funds of last year.

REMARKS OF MR. ITTAMAR BEN AVI:

The Chairman then called upon Mr. Ben-Avi, whom he characterized as one of the most colorful leaders of the Yishub in Palestine, who is at present on a visit to this country.

Mr. Ben-Avi at the outset explained that he will not under any circumstances make propaganda in this country for the cantonization of Palestine, a project which has been distorted in England. At this moment, there should be no partisan opinions. There should be one united people. He then rendered a report of the events in Palestine, emphasizing the remarkable self-restraint of the Yishub in the present crisis. He said: "We are all disciplined workers. You know my previous opinions, nevertheless, today an order from Ben-Gurion is an order; an order from Dr. Weizmann is an order; an order from Shertok to me (who is my junior and whom I used to beat in sports) is an order from my superior. One thing more: I promised my father that I would never make a single speech in English which I would not conclude with a few words in Hebrew, and so I beg of you to listen to these few words -- that is my only claim for your attention."

(This was followed by some remarks in Hebrew).

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS MARGULIES,

Secretary.



September 24, 1936

Mr. Morris Margulies, Secretary,  
Zionist Organization of America,  
111 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Margulies:

I understand that Ettamar Ben Avi is in the country at present on a lecture tour. Would you get in touch with him for me and find out whether he is free to come to the Cleveland Zionist Society for a lecture on Tuesday evening, October 6? We shall be pleased to pay him an honorarium.

With best wishes for a happy new year, I remain

Cordially yours,

AHS:BK

החסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

ELECTION OF DISTRICT OFFICERS

September 25, 1936.

LOUIS LIPSKY  
HON. PRESIDENT

MORRIS ROTHENBERG  
PRESIDENT

HARRY FRIEDBERG  
H. RAPHAEL GOLD  
SOLOMON GOLDMAN  
WILLIAM M. LEWIS  
MAX SHULMAN  
ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
ELIHU D. STONE  
NATHAN STRAUS, Jr.  
VICE-PRESIDENTS

A. J. RONGY  
CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE

MORRIS MARGULIES  
SECRETARY

## GOVERNING COUNCIL

CHARLES A. COWEN  
ABRAHAM GOLDBERG  
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN  
S. MARGOSHES  
STEPHEN S. WISE  
LEO WOLFSON

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

LOUIS P. ROCKER  
CHAIRMAN

HARRY P. FIERST  
TREASURER

ISIDOR GOLDBERG  
ABRAHAM KRUMBEIN  
ABRAHAM LIEBOVITZ  
ELDAR MARKSON  
LOUIS RIMSKY  
SIGMUND THAU  
MORRIS WEINBERG

ISRAEL MALTIN  
AUDITOR

TO THE CHAIRMEN AND SECRETARIES  
OF ZIONIST DISTRICTS:

Dear Fellow-Zionists:

May I first extend to you hearty New Year greetings and best wishes for another year of devoted service and loyalty to the Zionist Cause. Just as we turn a new page in our lives with the passing of the old year, so do we resolve to rededicate ourselves with even greater energy to the work of the upbuilding of Eretz Israel.

In view of the mounting crisis in Jewish life everywhere, and particularly in view of the steadily increasing importance of Palestine as a haven for the victims of oppression in Germany, Poland and other countries, this must be a year of intensified Zionist effort. We must strengthen the hand of the builders of Zion and widen the circle of active Zionist supporters in the United States.

The present disturbed situation in Palestine has demonstrated (1) that the Jewish community of 400,000 is soundly established on a permanent basis (2) that American Zionists hold the balance of power in swaying and winning over influential public and official opinion.

The former is eloquently illustrated in the fact that Palestine's extraordinary progress continues unretarded, that the flow of Jewish immigration continues its record pace. The latter is dramatically evidenced in the historic service which Dr. Stephen S. Wise rendered as President of the Zionist Organization of America at the moment when suspension of Jewish immigration was seriously threatened.

Because the Zionists of America occupy so pivotal a position in the rebuilding of the Homeland, it is of the utmost importance that you as leaders of local Zionist groups pledge yourselves to undertake a concrete program of activity during the coming Fall and Winter Season, so that the Zionist Organization may face the vital problems

CHAIRMEN AND SECRETARIES  
OF ZIONIST DISTRICTS

-2-

relating to Palestine with new strength.

In this connection, I should like to urge you to give your earnest consideration to the questions touched upon in our earlier communication. Have you already taken steps for the election of your representatives in the National Council? Have you carefully looked into the suggestions for inviting Maurice Samuel, the noted author and lecturer; Elias Newman, the prominent Palestinian artist; Sarah Osnath-Halevy, the Palestinian disease, to enhance your cultural programs? If you have not done so, please give your attention to these matters as soon as possible and let me know without delay what your decision is.

In order to enter upon your new year's activities in the most effective manner, may I suggest that you take note of the following two points:

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

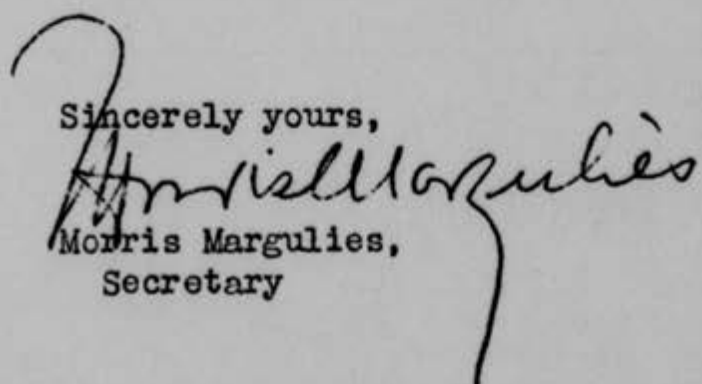
1. According to the constitution for the government of Zionist Districts, elections of District officers are to be held during the month of October. We, therefore, urge you to arrange for a meeting of your members at an early date for this purpose. We have also found it most helpful in the efficient conduct of the affairs of Zionist Districts that they set aside a definite date and place for meetings and scrupulously adhere to the plan for regular and frequent meetings. This action should be taken at the same meeting when elections are held and thus inaugurate the new year's program in a spirit of determination to carry on in a systematic and successful way.

MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING

2. The month of October marks the beginning of the Zionist fiscal year. Preparations should be made immediately not only for the re-enrollment of your present membership but also for the enlistment of new members. Only an organization founded on the support and collaboration of a large membership can best deal with the problems of concrete Zionist effort which now face the Zionists of America.

With L'Shona Tovah Greetings,

Sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies,  
Secretary



החסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

LOUIS LIPSKY  
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NATHAN STRAUS, JR.  
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CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE

MORRIS MARGULIES  
SECRETARY

September 27, 1936

## GOVERNING COUNCIL

CHARLES A. COWEN  
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S. MARGOSHES  
STEPHEN S. WISE  
LEO WOLFSON

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

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SIGMUND THAU  
MORRIS WEINBERG

ISRAEL MALTIN  
AUDITOR

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
E. 105th St. et Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

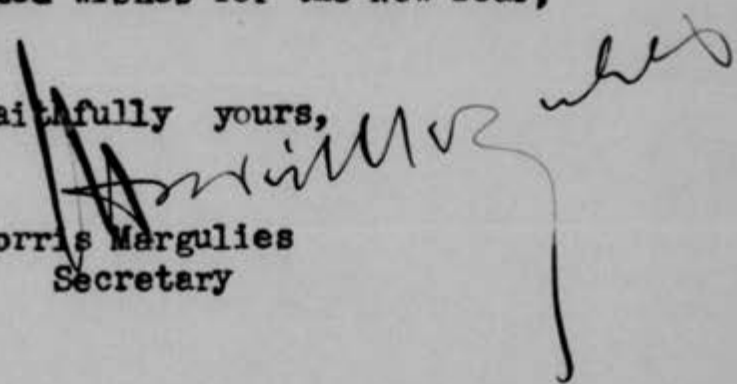
My dear Rabbi Silver:

Ben-Avi is speaking exclusively under the auspices of the J.N.F. and the U.P.A. He cannot, therefore, accept any private lectures, and the matter of an honorarium is not to be considered. Right now all of his bookings are confined to the J.N.F. Tree Campaign.

Immediately upon receipt of your note, I got in touch with Rudensky, who is in charge of Ben-Avi's itinerary, and learned that Ben-Avi will be in Cleveland on October 5th where he will speak under the auspices of the J.N.F. Council, but it will be impossible for him to remain over, as he is booked to speak in New York on the 6th before a similar gathering.

With sincere thanks for your good wishes for the New Year, which I heartily return, I am

Faithfully yours,

  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM:BP

September 29, 1936

Mr. Morris Margulies, Secretary,  
Zionist Organization of America,  
111 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Margulies:

Let me thank you for your letter of September 27.  
I note what you say about Mr. Ben Avi that all his  
bookings are confined to the J.N.F. Tree Campaign and  
that therefore he cannot accept any private lectures  
from a Zionist society. You must be in error as the  
enclosed clipping from the local Jewish paper will  
indicate.

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

החברת הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



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A. J. RONGY  
*Chairman, National Council*

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I. H. LEVINthal  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
SAMUEL MARKIEWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
LOUIS P. ROCKER

*Associate Members*  
ZELIG HARRIS  
ISAAC IMBER

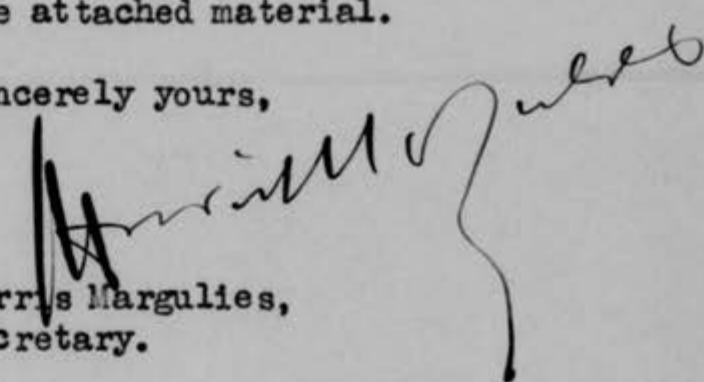
September 29, 1936.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We received today for you from the  
World Zionist Organization the attached material.

Sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies,  
Secretary.

Encl.



## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND EDUCATION

This Committee was appointed to give consideration to the youth and educational activities of the Zionist Organization of America with a view to recommending the measures to be taken for putting into effect the resolutions on such activities, passed at the last Zionist Convention.

We desire to urge immediate action on the recommendations herein.

It is the judgment of the Committee that better results could be secured by placing all organization, both youth and adult under the supervision of the department of organization, and all education, both youth and adult under the supervision of a department of education to be established.

We believe it would be advisable to substitute a program of Zionist education giving the background of the Zionist movement, its aims and problems, through the spoken and printed word, for much of the unsystematic propaganda that has hitherto been carried on.

We believe further that it is possible to reach large numbers of the Jewish youth through a systematic campaign of education, instead of the more or less haphazard methods that have hitherto prevailed. Thousands of young people in Jewish Centers, clubs, schools and colleges have indicated their sympathy with Zionist aims, but the initiative must come from the Zionist Organization.

This Committee accordingly makes the following recommendations:

1. That organization activities affecting the youth be placed under the supervision of the Committee on Organization in charge of general organization matters.
2. That there be appointed a Committee on Education to supervise adult and youth educational activities.
3. That there be established a Department of Education, under the supervision of the Committee on Education, headed by an Educational Director who shall take active and direct charge of all educational activities.
4. That the functions of the Department of Education shall be:
  - a) The educational guidance of the Zionist youth and adult organizations, especially those affiliated with the Zionist Organization of America;
  - b) The preparation, publication and spread of essential Zionist education literature for the respective youth and adult groups;
  - c) The spread of information among Jewish Schools and Jewish centers and similar agencies concerning Palestine; and the stimulation of Zionist activities among their affiliated members;
  - d) The presence of opportunity for the intellectual discussion of Zionism among thoughtful men and women.

5. COOPERATION WITH HADASSAH: Both the Senior and Junior Organizations of Hadassah shall be invited to appoint representatives for the purpose of cooperating with the Committees on Education and Organization.

6. COOPERATION WITH JEWISH NATIONAL FUND: That the Youth Department of the Jewish National Fund be invited to cooperate with the above Committees in their educational and organization activities.

7. DISTRICTS, REGIONS, etc.: That all regions, districts and other Zionist units and groups be called upon to cooperate with and assist Zionist youth groups.

8. It is recommended that there be coordination between the youth organizations and the Zionist Organization of America to bring about the entrance of members of Young Judaea upon reaching the age limit into the senior youth organizations, and the entrance of the members of the senior youth organizations into the Zionist Organization of America and Hadassah.

In communities where mixed Masada groups exist, members of Young Judaea, both young men and women, upon reaching the age limit should be entitled to enter Masada.

Members of Avukah upon leaving the campus before attaining the age of 25 will be expected to join Masada.

BUDGET: We recommend that the sum of \$25,000, voted for youth and education at the last Zionist Convention be allocated as follows:

|                                     |                  |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Director.....                       | \$5,000          |
| Secretary.....                      | 1,200            |
| Literature (writing... and printing | 2,500            |
| Postage, stationery, etc.           | 1,000            |
| Subventions to Youth Publications   | 1,000            |
| Lectures, traveling expenses, etc.  | 2,500            |
| Miscellaneous for Education         | 1,300            |
| Total                               | <u>\$14,500</u>  |
| Subvention to Hadar & Hanoar        | 1,000            |
| Direct subvention to Youth Orgs.    | 9,500            |
| Total                               | <u>\$ 25,000</u> |

Against the above allocations should be credited membership dues in Youth Organizations at one dollar per annum, including shekel, and sale of literature estimated as follows:

|                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Dues, Masada       | \$1,000        |
| Dues, Avukah       | 1,500          |
| Sale of literature | 2,500          |
| Total              | <u>\$5,000</u> |

The estimated net total would be \$20,000.

In addition consideration should be given that the lectures, etc. conducted by the Department of Education would relieve the department of propaganda of a substantial sum, otherwise chargeable to it.

-----

In conclusion I desire to express appreciation of the cooperation of most of the members of my Committee in giving consideration to the above matters and in formulating these recommendations. The recommendations are unanimous.

Respectfully submitted

CHARLES A. COWEN

Chairman



ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

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ELDAR MARKSON  
LOUIS RIMSKY  
SIGMUND THAU  
MORRIS WEINBERG

ISRAEL MALTIN  
AUDITOR

October 6, 1936.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Due to the Zionist Offices being moved I was obliged to delay sending an earlier response to your letter of September 29th. I have checked back with the Jewish National Fund concerning Ben Avi's visit to Cleveland and find that, as you undoubtedly know, Ben Avi was booked for one day in Cleveland under the auspices of the local Jewish National Fund Council. On September 16th, the National Fund received the following telegram:

"ZIONIST DISTRICT WANTS TO ARRANGE NOON LUNCHEON WITH BEN AVI MONDAY OCTOBER FIFTH FOR BENEFIT OF NATIONAL FUND PROJECT WIRE ACCEPTANCE AT ONCE"

Under date of September 20th, Rudensky wired:

"LUNCHEON BEN AVI AGREEABLE BEFORE PROCEEDING ARRANGEMENTS ADVISABLE CONSULT ISMACH GREETINGS"

That explains how the luncheon came to be tendered to Ben Avi.

With personal regards and Zion's Greetings,

Sincerely yours,

Morris Margulies,  
Secretary.

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

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*Honorary Secretary*

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IRVING MILLER  
CHARLES RESS  
LOUIS P. ROCKER  
ROBERT SZOLD

*Associate Members*  
ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

November 1, 1936

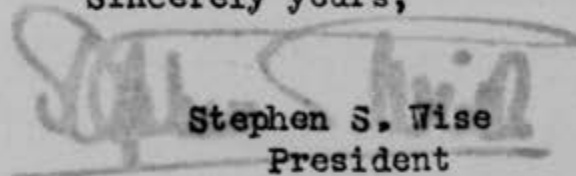
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE  
EXECUTIVE OF THE ZOA:

Dear Friend:

A meeting of the Executive of the ZOA will  
be held on Friday, November 6, at 2:45 P.M., at the  
Hotel Astor, following the luncheon to Senators Copeland,  
Austin and Hastings.

In view of the important matters that the meet-  
ing will have to take up, will you be good enough to make  
arrangements to remain for about two hours following the  
luncheon.

Sincerely yours,

  
Stephen S. Wise  
President

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE Z.O.A. HELD FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1936,  
3 P.M. -- HOTEL ASTOR, NEW YORK

PRESENT: Dr. Wise (in the Chair), Messrs. Cowen, Goldberg, Goldstein, Harris, Imber, Margulies, Rongy, Rothenberg, Weinberg.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Exchange of Cables Re Tourist Visas: The Secretary read the following:

"NEW YORK OCTOBER 23 1936

(a) JEVAGENCY  
JERUSALEM

CONSUL INFORMED US OCTOBER TWENTYFIRST INSTRUCTED  
WITHHOLD TOURISTS VISAS PALESTINE TRANSJORDAN WHILE  
DISORDERS CONTINUE RULING UNAFFECTING IMMIGRANTS  
GOVERNMENT INSTRUCTIONS DATED OCTOBER SIXTH STOP  
PROSPECTIVE TOURISTS ALARMED URGENT RULING REVERSED  
CABLE

WISE LIPSKY"

"JERUSALEM OCTOBER 25 1936

(b) ZIONISTS NEWYORK

INTERVENING HERE AND LONDON REGARDING CIRCULAR LETTER  
TOURISTS WHICH APPARENTLY ELABORATED DURING DISTURBANCES  
JEVAGENCY SENATOR"

2. Cable Re Resolution of Council of German Jewry:

"LONDON OCTOBER 19, 1936

WISE LIPSKY ZIONISTS NEWYORK

HAVE CABLED ROTHENBERG RESOLUTION COUNCIL GERMAN JEWRY  
PROMIFAL BIZARON FOR JOINT MEETING  
JEVAGENCY EXECUTIVE"

"LONDON OCTOBER 28 1936

3.  
(a) WISE ZIONISTS NEWYORK

HAVE YOU ANY AMENDMENTS INTERIM REPORT STOP DESIRE  
PUBLISH WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY PLEASE WIRE IMMEDIATELY  
MIGRATE LONDON"

"NEWYORK NOVEMBER 1, 1936

(b)  
MIGRATE  
LONDON

NO AMENDMENTS

WISE ROTHENBERG"



4. SALE OF MIZRACHI BANK SHARES:

A communication was read from Rabbi Berlin requesting endorsement of the sale of Mizrachi Bank shares in this country.

Dr. Rongy moved that this matter be referred to the Finance Committee for information as to the policy of the ZOA with regard to banking operations in Palestine. He suggested also that the Finance Committee look into the possibilities of establishing an independent American-Palestine bank in this country.

Mr. Goldberg was of the opinion that this matter was not within the purview of the Finance Committee, as it is a question of policy to be decided by the Executive.

Dr. Wise inquired whether the ZOA had taken any action with regard to the sale of shares of the Labor Bank, to which the reply was in the negative.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT a communication be sent to the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem inquiring as to its attitude with regard to participation in the distribution of bank shares, whether these be Anglo-Palestine Bank, Jewish Colonial Trust, Labor Bank, Mizrachi Bank, and also as to the possibilities of establishing an American-Palestine Bank.

It was moved also that in the meantime the Finance Committee pursue an investigation of the financial status of the Mizrachi Bank.

LUNCHEON TO SENATORS:

The Executive expressed satisfaction with the Luncheon to the Senators preceding this meeting, and with the addresses of Senators Copeland and Austin.

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT transcribed copies of their addresses be sent to the Senators for correction and then made available to London and Jerusalem; also for general distribution in this country.

REQUEST OF MR. KATZ FOR COOPERATION BY NATIONAL OFFICE:

Dr. Goldstein reported that Mr. Katz, President of the Chicago Zionist Organization, has been complaining of the lack of cooperation by the Z.O.A. and U.P.A. and urging that something be done to remedy this situation. Dr. Goldstein added that the letter is addressed to him as Co-Chairman of the U.P.A., but as a matter of policy this is for the attention of the Z.O.A. He suggested therefore that this Executive appoint a small committee to consult with a committee of the U.P.A., with power to arrive at an arrangement for co-operation.

Attention was called to the fact that the U.P.A. had voted to make

a subsidy of \$5500 a year for the purpose of opening an office in Chicago representative of all groups including the Poale Zion and Mizrachi, in addition to the cost of a director to supervise the work of the U.P.A.

Mr. Margulies agreed with Dr. Goldstein with regard to the appointment of a small committee of the Z.O.A. to confer with the U.P.A. He pointed out that insofar as the Z.O.A. is concerned there is little more that we could do, because all we received in the way of dues for the 900 members enrolled was \$1350. Of this \$350 was in cash and \$1,000 in notes. Actually, however, we received only \$900 because the sum of \$450 had to be paid out for Shekolim.

Dr. Wise raised the question of subsidizing the Chicago Office by the Z.O.A. in order that we may exercise adequate control.

Mr. Rothenberg pointed out that the total subvention would be about \$10,000, exclusive of the regional director, which obviously the Z.O.A. was not in a position to appropriate. If, however, some arrangement could be effected whereby the Z.O.A. could make some contribution toward that subsidy, it could exercise this control.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT a committee of three members of the Organization Committee of the Z.O.A. be designated to confer with representatives of the U.P.A. with a view to determining the methods under which this branch in Chicago should be established; moreover, that Dr. Wise take up this matter when he visits Chicago next week.

#### REPORT ON EMERGENCY FUND CAMPAIGN:

Mr. Rothenberg reported on behalf of his sub-committee consisting of Messrs. Goldstein, Lipsky and himself, on a conference yesterday had with Mr. Warburg and the other non-Zionist representatives on the Jewish Agency. Mr. Warburg and his associates were prepared to go forward with the Mifal Ha-Bitzaron, on condition that an attempt be made to raise the sum of \$250,000 quietly without extensive publicity; that the non-Zionists join in this effort, that the Zionists may approach individuals; further, that an itemized budget be forthcoming from Jerusalem explaining the purposes to which this fund is to be applied since it was felt that there is insufficient information here to warrant Welfare Funds making appropriations; that both groups report to their respective bodies. The non-Zionists also objected to Lady Reading's coming here in behalf of the Mifal Ha-Bitzaron.

Dr. Goldstein added that there appeared to be agreement with regard to the proposal to have some publicity in the Yiddish press, Anglo-Jewish papers, and to have the constituencies of the Zionist parties proceed to send in their contributions as a registration of the sympathy with the efforts and support of the Jewish position in Palestine. It was agreed also that a Committee of Ten should be named -- five on each side -- to conduct this effort, and that tentatively, Dr. Solomon Lowenstein should be Chairman of that Committee, and the Treasurer should be one of the non-Zionists which would facilitate the approach to community chests.

It was pointed out that this Fund of \$250,000 would be inclusive of the



\$35,000 secured by Dr. Wise privately, the proceeds of "The Night of Stars" amounting to \$65,000, also the \$10,000 made available by Enica for housing. It was estimated that \$50,000 could be expected from Community Chests outside of Chicago where it was thought that a special fund of \$50,000 might be gotten by joint approach out of certain unallocated funds there.

Dr. Wise turned over the Chair to Mr. Rothenberg and then proceeded to state his objections to the above proposals, for the following reasons:

1. The \$65,000 from the "Night of Stars" is practically all ours.
2. The \$35,000 which Dr. Wise secured from an individual is already in Palestine and should not be included in this campaign.
3. The objection to Lady Reading's visit to America. The prestige of her name is immensely important as a preliminary to next year's U.P.A. campaign.
4. That the lack of publicity would be a serious loss of opportunity to the creation of sentiment.

Dr. Wise then moved the rejection of this report and that the U.P.A. be instructed to consider what should be done, and that a cable be sent to London and Jerusalem embodying the terms of this agreement and asking for their rejection or adoption.

Dr. Rongy and Mr. Cowen agreed with Dr. Wise, adding that we have no right to accept this proposition in view of the fact that this emergency affects the very life of the Yishub.

Dr. Goldstein pointed out that there was no objection to raising more than \$250,000, but in view of the difficulties inherent in the situation, it was estimated that this was the sum which could be realized.

Mr. Goldberg suggested that before we pass this matter on to the U.P.A., in view of the fact that it was submitted to us, Dr. Wise should write a letter to the negotiating committee telling them that while we are happy that they agree with us, we cannot favor these proposals, first because the sum of \$150,000 has already been raised toward the proposed \$250,000, and secondly it is not necessary to request the Executive in Palestine to send an itemized budget.

Dr. Wise stated that if this Executive accepts the above report, he has the moral right to demand of Mr. Rothenberg that he call a meeting of the Administrative Committee where the entire matter will be submitted.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried as follows:

THAT it is the sense of this meeting that the terms reported above are not acceptable, and that therefore this Executive instructs its representatives on the U.P.A. to which this report is to be made, not to vote for its adoption, but to ask for a reconsideration of the problem.



PROTEST AGAINST GRANT OF 1800 CERTIFICATES:

Mr. Imber called attention to the fact that the youth organizations propose to arrange a formal protest demonstration through the picketing of the British Consulate against the granting only of 1800 certificates on the labor schedule, and that Masada wished to participate in such protest. The methods of such protest, outlined by Mr. Imber, were disapproved.

Dr. Wise while deploring the small number of certificates, pointed out that under the present circumstances, this grant represented a great moral victory. He suggested that a cable be sent to Jerusalem asking for further information on the subject and stating that we reserve the right of independent action. This was seconded and carried.

NEXT MEETING OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the next meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Z.O.A. take place on Saturday evening, November 28th and Sunday morning, November 29th, at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, in view of the fact that a meeting of the National Council of the U.P.A. is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, November 29th, at the same hotel.

ADJOURNMENT, 5 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS MARGULIES,

Secretary.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE Z.O.A.

HELD THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1936 - 4:30 P.M., 111 FIFTH AVE.

PRESENT: Messrs. Wise (in the chair) Cowen, Goldberg, Goldstein, Imber, Levinthal, Lipsky, Margulies, Miller, Rucker, Ress, Schwartz.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Correspondence with Mr. Brandeis: The Chairman reported the following exchange of correspondence with Justice Brandeis:

"November 10, 1936

(a) "Dear Justice Brandeis:

In celebration of your approaching birthday, which is an occasion for genuine rejoicing throughout the Jewish community, the Zionist Organization of America would like to mark the occasion by dedicating to you its 1936-37 membership and indicating this testimonial by an appropriate inscription together with your photograph on all membership cards issued.

Dr. Wise and the other officers of our Organization desire me to convey to you their feelings of profound satisfaction if you would concur in this suggestion and permit us to carry it through. I know that the Zionists of America would be deeply grateful for the opportunity of expressing their humble tribute in the manner indicated.

With high esteem

Very respectfully yours,  
MORRIS MARGULIES  
Secretary

(b)

"Washington, D.C., November 12, 1936

Dear Mr. Margulies:

1. Re yours of 10th, I am content to leave this matter to Dr. Wise's good judgment.

2. Re yours of 3rd, a photograph will be sent for the office.

Please convey to your associates my appreciation of the good wishes.

Cordially  
(Signed) LOUIS D. BRANDEIS"

2. CABLES:

Dr. Wise read the following cables:

"NEWYORK NOVEMBER 6 1936

JEVAGENCY JERUSALEM

WHILE SHARING VIEWPOINT EXECUTIVE NO STOPPAGE REPRESENTS VICTORY LIMITATION  
SCHEDULE REGARDED HERE BREACH PRINCIPLE ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY AND PRESAGES ROYAL  
ROYAL COMMISSION CONCESSIONS ARABS ADVISE WISE LIPSKY"

(b) "JERUSALEM NOVEMBER 9 1936  
WISE LIPSKY ZIONISTS NEWYORK

CONSIDER VINDICATION PRINCIPLE NONINTERRUPTION  
OVERSHADOWING QUESTION SIZE

JEVAGENCY"

(c) "NEWYORK OCTOBER 30 1936

ZIONIBURO LONDON

VARIOUS AMERICAN FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES INSTITUTIONS  
OPERATING IN PALESTINE TALK OF SPECIAL AMERICAN REPRESENT-  
ATIVE BEFORE ROYAL COMMISSION URGING ALL THEIR INVESTMENTS  
PHILANTHROPIES ETCETERA IN PALESTINE WERE MADE UPON BASIS  
ASSURANCES GIVEN BY MANDATE AND TREATY ARRANGEMENTS WITH  
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT STOP SUCH INSTITUTIONS ARE HADASSAH  
PALESTINE ECONOMIC CORPORATION AMERICAN JEWISH PHYSICIANS  
COMMITTEE GAN CHAIM CORPORATION WOMENS LEAGUE FOR PALESTINE  
AMERICAN CONTRIBUTORS KERJESSOD AMERICAN CONTRIBUTORS  
KEREN KAYEMETH STOP SHOULD ALL INTERESTS COMBINE OR APPEAR  
SEPARATELY WHAT IS PROCEDURE ADVISE

LIPSKY"

(a) "LONDON NOVEMBER 5 1936  
LIPSKY ZIONISTS NEWYORK

PROBLEM RAISED YOUR CABLE THIRTIETH ONE OF GREAT DELICACY  
MUCH WOULD DEPEND CAREFUL CHOICE RIGHT REPRESENTATIVE  
STOP IF YOU CONSIDER SUCH REPRESENTATION ESSENTIAL SHOULD  
CHOOSE ONE SPOKESMAN GIVE EVIDENCE ON BEHALF ALL ORGANIZA-  
TIONS AND NOTIFY SECRETARY COMMISSION IN PALESTINE OF WISH  
TO APPEAR GIVING NAME\$ WITNESS AND BRIEF SUMMARY ARGUMENT  
HIS EVIDENCE REGARDS

WEIZMANN"

In connection with the investigations of the Royal Commission, Mr. Margulies called attention to the fact that Mr. Leon Gellman, President of the Mizrachi, had come to see him today, urging that a statement in the name of all the Zionist Organizations in America be sent to the Royal Commission as soon as possible.

Mr. Lipsky pointed out that the suggestion in his cable of October 30th had to do with American property interests in Palestine, and that he had taken the matter up with Mr. Shoolman of Boston, and Mr. Brodie of the Palestine Economic Corporation.

Dr. Wise reported that the Palestine Economic Corporation had prepared a statement, with the help of a number of distinguished persons, for presentation to the Royal Commission, and suggested that this document be signed by Mr. Lipsky as head of the Keren Hayesod, himself as head of the ZOA, Dr. Goldstein as President of the JNF, and also if possible, by Mr. Warburg and Mr. Rothenberg for the American Representatives of the Jewish



Agency. Dr. Wise added that this statement would be signed also by Mrs. Jacobs as President of Hadassah, and Mr. Max Shoolman for the Gan Chaim Corp.

In this connection Dr. Wise pointed out that when he was in London, he had suggested to Dr. Weizmann that an outstanding American Zionist appear before the Royal Commission, but that Prof. Frankfurter had expressed the opinion that this might furnish grounds for the Arabs bringing in representatives from other Arab countries. Nevertheless, in view of subsequent developments, and the status of America in world affairs, it seemed to him to be a mistake not to insist that the Jewish Agency name a representative from America to speak not only for American interests or investments but for the largest Jewry in the world, with a great stake in Palestine.

Mr. Cowen suggested that consideration be given to the fact that there exists a treaty between the United States and Great Britain with regard to Palestine, and that it is the duty of the State Department of the United States to look after the property and interests of American citizens in Palestine, and that therefore consideration be given to the idea of the American Government intervening in behalf of American interests.

In response to this suggestion of Mr. Cowen, Dr. Wise <sup>was</sup> of the opinion that it would be a mistake to stand up our Government against England at this time, and that the United States Government, if it is to intervene at all, intervene later, after the Royal Commission makes its report.

Mr. Goldberg referred to the fact that Senator Austin had stated in his address at the luncheon tendered him recently, that America had contributed to the possibility of England becoming the Mandatory Power over Palestine. Mr. Goldberg urged that the Executive keep abreast of the day-to-day developments of the investigations of the Royal Commission. He further suggested that the Pro-Palestine Federation be in communication with the Royal Commission, that there should be a Pro-Palestine group in the United States Congress, besides expressions of opinion from eminent clergymen and the press. With the backing of such public opinion, the Government would be able to state that the American public is vitally interested. He therefore moved that the Political Committee, recently appointed by Dr. Wise should meet daily, while the investigations of the Royal Commission were being conducted.

Rabbi Miller pointed out that two important issues were being confused; viz '1) whether there should be a representative of all American Zionist bodies, before the Royal Commission; (2) whether there should be intervention on the part of the American Government. He was of the opinion that this Executive address itself to the problem whether it should recommend to all Zionist bodies that negotiations be started with London, that an American representative appear before the Royal Commission, in view of the indications that the Royal Commission's deliberations are on wider grounds than it was originally intended. He added that in view of the fact that these investigations are to continue for months, it would still not be too late to send such American representative who could arrive in Palestine in three weeks.

Mr. Lipsky agreed with Rabbi Miller and added that the Executive should inform the Jewish Agency that it considers this policy of not utilizing American Zionism in handling political problems is wrong, especially since the Arabs are utilizing all their forces, while we continue to rely exclusively upon England and England's trusteeship without invoking those united influences referred to, to help our cause.

Dr. Goldstein expressed the opinion that an American representative of the non-Zionist and non-Jewish groups would be more impressive than merely having a Zionist representative. He agreed with Dr. Wise that United States Government intervention should be invoked after the report of the Royal Commission but that in the meantime he urged that immediate steps be taken to organize non-Jewish public opinion and therefore the Pro-Palestine Federation should proceed at once toward these objectives.

Mr. Röss believed that the non-Jewish representative should not be substituted for the representation of American Jewry which is such an important factor and should be represented by an outstanding person.

Dr. Goldstein added that the Pro-Palestine Federation could be helpful also in sending letters to the London Times regarding the proposed immigration restriction formula.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried:

1. THAT the Political Committee be activated and meet frequently in order to carry on active propaganda in connection with the sittings of the Royal Commission.
2. THAT Dr. Wise, as President of the ZOA, be authorized to append his signature to the document drawn up by the Palestine Economic Corporation, for presentation to the Royal Commission; also that the President be authorized to ask Mr. Rothenberg and Mr. Warburg to sign this in behalf of the American members of the Jewish Agency, and also that the signatures of the heads of the Poale Zion, Mizrachi and Hadassah be secured, in addition to the signature of Mr. Lipsky for the Keren Hayesod and Dr. Goldstein for the Keren Kayometh.

3. CABLE RE MIFAL HABITZARON :

The Chairman read the following cable from Jerusalem:

"JERUSALEM NOVEMBER 9 1936

ZIONISTS LIPSKY KARPf NEWYORK

BITZARON BUDGET DOES NOT INCLUDE PALCOR STOP MUCH WORRIED  
OVER PROTRACTION NEGOTIATIONS STOP CONSIDERABLE SUMS NEEDED  
IMMEDIATELY AND REQUIRABLE NEAR FUTURE CABLE APPROXIMATE  
AMERICAN PARTICIPATION BITZARON BUDGET

KAPLAN"



4. Letter from Hebrew Writers re Financial Assistance: Dr. Wise presented a communication signed by Mr. Ribalow and Mr. Chipkin regarding an appeal for a minimum of \$1,000 to aid Hebrew writers in Palestine, and advising that at a meeting of Hebrew writers and educators in New York, the sum of \$500 was pledged toward this appeal.

After some discussion, it was decided to table this request.

5. Letter from Hadassah re Representation on Inter-Party Committees: The Chairman reported that a letter had been received from Hadassah, advising that the recent Hadassah Convention designated Mrs. Samuel J. Rosensohn and Mrs. Samuel Schulsinger as its representatives on any inter-Party committees to be appointed.

6. Letter from Martin Rosenblueth re Funds for Council of German Jewry:

It was decided to refer to the UPA the communication from Mr. Martin Rosenblueth regarding his request for funds for the Council of German Jewry.

#### CHICAGO SITUATION:

Reporting on his recent visit to Chicago, Dr. Wise stated that the meetings there were very fine, 14,000 persons having been present at the meeting in the Coliseum, and the interest evinced in Zionism was most encouraging. Dr. Wise reported further that the Chicago Committee awaited the approval of the ZOA for the forming of a Chicago-Midwest Region and the details and terms for the set up of such Regional Bureau. He added that he would be in Chicago again on Monday and would have a further conference on this matter.

Mr. Goldberg inquired as to the sum involved in this connection, to which Dr. Goldstein replied that the UPA had recommended an appropriation of \$5,000 exclusive of the salary of the director which would amount to an additional sum of \$5,000. It was understood, however, that this Regional Bureau would not be limited to the ZOA but would be a trans-party organization -- including Mizrachi and Poale Zion.

Dr. Levinthal pointed out that it is essential to come to a decision on the policy involved in this matter, and that as a matter of fact, the representatives of the Brooklyn Zionist Region of which he is Chairman, who were waiting outside, had come to see the Executive about a similar proposal. Heretofore the Brooklyn Zionist Region had been supported by the ZOA, but it is now proposed to have this serve as a centre for the UPA and the JNF also, with a full time director all year round, and naturally the greater part of the funds required to maintain such Bureau would have to come from the UPA.

Mr. Lipsky pointed out that the ZOA operates within the framework of the UPA. He added that the Executive should approve the authorization of the establishment of the proposed Mid-West Region.

Mr. Margulies called attention to the fact that the Chicago Office had been retaining a considerable proportion of ZOA membership dues and that therefore the ZOA is entitled to service by such Regional Bureau. On the other hand, the Mizrachi and Poale Zion were contributing nothing toward the maintenance of the Bureau.



Mr. Ross stated that he had given this question of Regions considerable thought and suggested that a committee of this Executive should work out the general principles and then cooperate with the Regions in working out the functions in the respective locality.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT the President be empowered to approve the proposal made by Chicago, in principle, and that the details in connection therewith be referred to the Committee on Organization; moreover that all questions of Regions be referred to that Committee.

Incidentally Dr. Wise pointed out that there was very great enthusiasm for Zionism in the country and the ZOA should take the maximum advantage of it.

#### ZOA BUDGET FOR CURRENT YEAR :

It was decided to call a special meeting of the Executive for next Tuesday evening, November 24, at 8:30 P.M., at this office, to be devoted to a discussion of the budget of the ZOA for the current year.

#### BROOKLYN ZIONIST REGION :

A committee consisting of Messrs. Schleimer, Rothstein, Rudavsky, Elkin, appeared before the Executive. Mr. Schleimer, the spokesman of the Committee, reported that the Region is anxious to establish a permanent all-year-round Regional Bureau to function in behalf of the ZOA, the UPA and JNF, and to coordinate all activities. This would avoid duplication and secure maximum results. He urged therefore that the Executive recognize the Brooklyn Zionist Region as an autonomous organization as provided by the Constitution.

After some discussion, it was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT having recognized the Brooklyn Zionist Region, and that Region having been successfully active for a year, the Executive endorses the request of the representatives of the Brooklyn Zionist Region for a Regional Bureau to be maintained in Brooklyn, throughout the year, for all Zionist activities.

#### PRO-PALESTINE FEDERATION :

Mr. Cowen reported that the Conference being arranged by the Pro-Palestine Federation would take place on December 19th, that prominent speakers had already been secured, and that this Conference was being sponsored by outstanding Christians throughout the country.

In this connection Mr. Lipsky pointed out that the appropriation of \$1500 was the maximum which the Pro-Palestine Federation could expect for this

Conference. Mr. Cowen replied that that is understood by the Federation, and that as a matter of fact, some members of the Federation were prepared to cover the deficit, if any.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING :

With further reference to the meeting of the Administrative Committee, it was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the next meeting of the Administrative Committee should be limited to Saturday evening, November 28th, the Committee to be in session as late as necessary, but that no session should be held on Sunday morning, November 29th.

It was decided also that the agenda for the Administrative Committee meeting should be referred to Messrs. Rothenberg and Margulies.

#### MIFAL HA-BITZARON :

With further reference to the campaign for the Mifal Ha-Bitzaron, the Chairman stated that at the last meeting of the Keren Hayesod a report on this matter was made, similar to the report submitted to this Executive at its last meeting. Since we have nothing to gain by such arrangement, the present plan is to inform the non-Zionist members of the Administrative Committee of the Jewish Agency, that inasmuch as this matter has dragged on for two months, and in view of the fact that it is too late for Dr. Weizmann to come here for the Fall appeal of the Emergency Fund, and that Lady Reading can no longer come here as originally proposed by her; and in view of the fact also that it is now too late to organize a special campaign; it is therefore proposed by us that the sum of \$500,000 accepted as the amount to be contributed by this country to the Mifal Ha-Bitzaron, exclusive of the proceeds of the Night of Stars, amounting to \$65,000, and the private contribution secured by Dr. Wise of \$35,000 (which is already in Palestine) become a first charge against the 1937 UPA Campaign.

Mr. Lipsky stated that he agreed with Dr. Wise, that at this time, due to the delay, it would be inadvisable to proceed with a partnership with the non-Zionists for a campaign for the Mifal Ha-Bitzaron and Bitachon, but believed that we made a mistake in not availing ourselves of that opportunity which would have been afforded thereby for enabling us to present the situation of Palestine before the Jews of this country. He suggested therefore that we make the most of the proposal to conduct an independent campaign, and that this Executive urge upon the UPA to endeavor on its own account to collect the funds for the Mifal Ha-Bitzaron with or without the cooperation of the non-Zionists.

#### PROF. JACOB G. LIPMAN :

Dr. Wise reported that last summer Dr. Weizmann had suggested that an invitation be extended to Dr. Jacob G. Lipman, Dean and Director of the State of New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, to come to Palestine and assist in the preparation of our case before the Royal Commission. It

appears that Dr. Weizmann had renewed this invitation to Dr. Lipman who is prepared to proceed to Palestine. Dr. Lipman advises that whereas he will charge nothing for his services, he is obliged to ask that his travelling expenses be provided, and suggests also that he be accompanied by a technician who would have to have his salary and travelling expenses furnished to him.

It was decided to have Dr. Wise cable to the Jewish Agency, inquiring whether they would be prepared to pay the expense involved in this matter.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND EDUCATION :

Mr. Cowen submitted a report in behalf of the Committee on Youth and Education, as per attached:

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the report of Mr. Cowen be accepted, and the Executive approve the proposal for the placing of all organization, both youth and adult under the supervision of the Department of Organization, and all education under the supervision of the Department of Education; also that Mr. Cowen's report be mimeographed and circulated among the members of the Executive, the budget involved to be considered by the Finance Committee, and that both the Organization Committee and Education Committees work out the details referred to them in this report.

Meeting adjourned 7 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

MORRIS MARGULIES  
Secretary



החברות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

November 25, 1936.

STEPHEN S. WISE  
*President*

HARRY FRIEDBERG  
SOLOMON GOLDMAN  
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN  
GUSTAVE KLAUSNER  
JOSEPH KRAEMER  
WILLIAM M. LEWIS  
MAX SHULMAN  
ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
ELIHU D. STONE  
NATHAN STRAUS  
*Vice-Presidents*

MORRIS ROTHENBERG  
*Chairman, Administrative Committee*

A. J. RONGY  
*Chairman, National Council*

MORRIS WEINBERG  
HARRY P. FIERST  
*Treasurers*

LUDWIG LEWISOHN  
*Honorary Secretary*

MORRIS MARGULIES  
*Secretary*

## EXECUTIVE

CHARLES A. COWEN  
ABRAHAM GOLDBERG  
EDWARD L. ISRAEL  
I. H. LEVINthal  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
SAMUEL MARKEWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
CHARLES RESS  
LOUIS P. ROCKER  
ROBERT SZOLD

*Associate Members*  
ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:

Dear Friend:

This is to remind you of the next Administrative Committee meeting called for Saturday evening, November 28, at eight o'clock, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, 50th Street and Park Avenue, New York City.

Due to the U.P.A. Conference convened for the following day, the Sunday morning Administrative Committee session has been cancelled. There will therefore be only one session -- that of SATURDAY EVENING.

The following is the agenda for the meeting:

- 1 - Report on Political Situation
- 2 - Proclamation of Brandeis Membership Campaign
- 3 - Reports of U.P.A. and J.N.F.
- 4 - Submission -- Adoption of Budget for Current Year
- 5 - Address by Dr. Ben Zion Mossinson, of Tel Aviv

With Zion's Greetings, I am,

Sincerely yours,

*Morris Margulies*  
Morris Margulies,  
Secretary.

Encl.

P.S. -- Herewith enclosed you will please find the minutes of the Administrative Committee meeting of September 20, 1936.

To the Members of the Z.O.A. Executive: Herewith are also attached the minutes of the Executive meetings of November 6 and November 19.

MINUTES OF Z.O.A. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE, HELD ON SATURDAY EVENING,  
NOVEMBER 28, 1936, 8:00 P.M., AT THE HOTEL RITZ-CARLTON, NEW YORK CITY.

PRESENT: Morris Rothenberg (in the chair), Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Morris Margulies, Rabbi Israel Goldstein, Prof. Gustave Klausner, Judge William M. Lewis, Elihu D. Stone, Dr. A. J. Rongy, Charles A. Cowen, Abraham Goldberg, Rabbi Irving Miller, Isaac Imber, Louis P. Rocker, Harry P. Fierst, Dr. Gabriel A. Lowenstein, Elias Preiss, Louis Rimsky, Sigmund Thau, Isaac Allen, Rabbi Morton W. Berman, Herman W. Bernstein, Dr. Samuel W. Boorstein, A. D. Braham, Israel S. Chipkin, Sol Cohen, Jacob Fishman, Leo Guzik, Rabbi A. M. Heller, Arnold K. Isreeli, Samuel Judenfrend, Samuel Kanarvogel, Harry J. Moskowitz, Menahem Ribalow, Bernard G. Richards, Samuel Rothstein, Moses Robinson, Jochanon I. Rudavsky, Dr. Leo B. Schwartz, Bernard Shelvin, Abraham Spicehandler, Leo Wolfson; Abraham Goldstein, Charles Rosengarten, Samuel Umansky, Dr. Ilie Berger, Col. Benjamin F. Evarts, Jacob Rabinowitz (Boston), Jacob S. Rabinowitz (Providence), Dr. Morton J. Robbins, Rabbi Joseph S. Shubow, Joseph Goldstein, Mrs. Mabel Fisher, A. B. Cohen, Dr. David Feldman, Jacob Ginsburg, Jacob B. Hoffman, Isidore Hershfield; by invitation: Dr. Benzion Mossinsohn.

Excuses for Non-Attendance were received from Dr. B. W. Abramson, Cantor Myro Glass, Jonah J. Goldstein, B. Horwich, Rabbi Edward L. Israel, Pincus Juran, Eliot L. Kaplan, Max I. Kohrman, Rabbi I. H. Levinthal, Rabbi Felix A. Levy, I. Lewin, Dr. S. Margoshes, Simon Shetzer, Charles S. Spinner, and Dr. Alex S. Wolf.

Mr. Rothenberg stated that in fixing the time of this meeting it was thought best to have it coincide with that of the National Council of the U.P.A. in order to enable those who were members of both bodies to attend both meetings. At the suggestion of The Executive an effort will be made to conclude the business this evening, in order that the National Council tomorrow may convene promptly and adjourn at an early hour because of the tribute being paid to Mr. Lipsky at a Dinner in the evening.

Political Situation:

Mr. Rothenberg then spoke briefly of the present situation. He said that when we last met the violence and terror in Palestine were still in progress. Happily these have come to an end. At that time the danger that of a temporary cessation of immigration into Palestine during the period of the inquiry of the Royal Commission was still lurking. But on November 5th the Secretary for the Colonies stated in the House of Commons that there would be no cessation of immigration, pending the result of the investigation. Simultaneously there was an announcement of the granting of a Schedule for the next six months. While the number of certificates granted is cause for disappointment, it is noteworthy that the principle of immigration into Palestine based on the absorptive capacity of the land has been reaffirmed, and what is more important, there has been no yielding to Arab terror and violence. And so we may



at least regard what has occurred since the last meeting as a partial victory for our cause, although we must not delude ourselves in the belief that the danger is past. The Commission is now at work in Palestine. Dr. Weizmann, in what will go down as a historic address, presented the Jewish cause, and from all reports, made a very deep impression upon the Commission. The Arabs continue to pursue a negative policy by threatening to boycott the Commission. Although they may not appear officially before the Commission it is unlikely that they will in some way see to it that the Arab case be brought before the Commission. And so we enter upon what may be the most crucial stage in the history of Zionism. The ultimate outcome of the present crisis may largely depend upon the attitude and the conduct of the Zionists of the world; particularly that of American Zionists and American Jewry.

Mr. Rothenberg then called upon the President of the Z.O.A. to render a report on the political situation. Dr. Stephen S. Wise has been in constant touch with world leaders, and Mr. Rothenberg said he had had occasion to refer at the first meeting of the Administrative Committee to the distinguished part which Dr. Wise played in bringing about such results as we attained. He was therefore best qualified to present such a report.

Dr. Wise's Report:

"I really do not think it necessary for me to supplement the succinct statement made by Mr. Rothenberg. All of us are familiar with the situation. Every Jew with a political instinct knows what is happening. Regarding Dr. Weizmann's testimony, I had some knowledge of what was coming because that testimony was being prepared as early as last August, when we reached the wise and inevitable decision not to boycott the Commission. Without immigration in suspension we could do nothing else. Dr. Weizmann in presenting the Jewish case rose to the height of a great occasion. I have no doubt that Dr. Weizmann made himself so persuasively clear in his meaning that any comment upon what he said is unjust at this moment excepting the comment of unreserved laudation.

"I do not want to speak in tones of forebodings tonight; but I think we ought to be prepared for certain eventualities. I do not think we ought to take it for granted -- "Well, Dr. Weizmann testified most convincingly and most effectively, and our cause is made". Alas, even if the Arabs do not say a word their case is pleaded for them by many English officials. Mr. Ormsby-Gore said to me that we shall have the report of the Commission as a Christmas present. Well, I don't think we will get it much before Purim. When the real difficulty will come we will be on our guard. It must be borne in mind, that if ever the Zionist Organization needed the help of American Zionism, it is at this hour. There is nothing that the Jewish Agency may ask of us which we shall be free to deny. We cannot do impossible things, but after all, we do know that our own Government is understanding, sympathetic, and in line with the American tradition, entirely favorable to our position.

Reviewing the developments during the last few months, Dr. Wise said that we have every reason in the world to be more than satisfied with and be deeply grateful for the quality of national discipline and the spirit of national cohesion which held the Yishub together during the days of trial and which proved that we are ready for every emergency.



"Zionists all over the country know, said Dr. Wise, that serious attempt is being made to limit Jewish immigration into Palestine. If I have any capacity for evaluating the judgment of others, I tell you that if we move with directness and courage with American Jews, we will have today such a response as we did not have since the days of the Balfour Declaration. I see it everywhere. Jews are awakening, Jews are aroused. American Jews know that with the doors of Palestine closed, all hope for Jews in Eastern Europe and Germany is gone.

"I say to you tonight, Mr. Chairman, men and women, that we preserve our faith, that our faith be equal to the courage and the faith of the men, women and children of the Yishub; that we will let them trust us with as much confidence as we were able to trust them - that we must contribute our full share towards the fund of £ 300,000 voted by the Jewish Agency, which is a beggarly sum for world Jewry, -- in order to overcome the effects of the six months of war. This is our solemn obligation.

"The World Zionist leadership must have from us not blind allegiance, but faithful, absolute, and loyal compliance with its will.

"It is useless to discuss political eventualities, unless we are prepared to do - and at once - anything we are called upon to do and anything we are asked to do. As the head of the Zionist Organization of America, I deem it my duty to say to you: Let us concern ourselves with tachliss, as this is what the Jewish Agency in Palestine needs from us. I am not asking you to put your confidence blindly in the present leadership of the Z.O.A., or the World Zionist Organization, or the Jewish Agency, but after all, remember that if you had followed our advice, if our fellow Jews for thirty years had done what we asked them to do, there might have been six, or seven, or eight hundred thousand Jews in Palestine, and then we would had a simpler problem to face today and tomorrow.

"We are urging you again to build up the Zionist Organization. Numbers are coming to mean something. We cannot claim to represent the Jews of the United States unless we have 100,000 members. Including Hadassah, we now number 75,000. The difference can be made up if we make the effort. Give me your loyal help and I guarantee that there will be 100,000 enrolled Zionists to the next Convention of the Z.O.A.

Brandeis Membership:

"All of you have read in The New Palestine - everybody finds The New Palestine worthwhile reading - the proclamation of the Brandeis membership. What does it mean? -- that Justice Brandeis is a member of the Z.O.A.? - he has been a member since 1911. There has never been a year that Justice Brandeis has not remitted his dues regularly. The admirable suggestion came to me from Mr. Margulies, whose very happy idea it was, that we, this year name our membership in honor of that great American, that great Jew, that great Zionist -- Mr. Brandeis - and the entire membership, both paid-up and new - the current year of 1936-37 - be dedicated to Mr. Justice Brandeis on the occasion of his 80th birthday. I think it is a fitting tribute, and I can say to you - I think I know Mr. Brandeis well enough - that there isn't anything he covets more next to Eretz Israel within its rightful historic boundaries and 1,000,000 dunam for the Keren Kayemeth, than membership in the Z.O.A.

Mr. Brandeis considers our numerical strength inadequate and it would refresh his heart, if before the end of the year - his next birthday - we were to pile up a membership of 100,000.

"I have departed from my political text, and am now dealing with the membership of the Z.O.A. Two things are no unrelated. Give us 100,000 or 200,000 members, then when we go to Washington, London, or Jerusalem, we can speak in a different vein. Zionist membership in America should be proportionate to the numbers of the Jewish population. If we had a half million shekel-paying Zionists in America, we could sing a different tune, and would not any longer have to beg hat in hand. We could then speak with authority and dignity, whether it be to our Government or the British Government. There ought to be no crisis that might arise with us or against us that will find us unready. Here we are the greatest single Jewish settlement in the world. We have numbers, we have substance, we need the will and the devotion -- and I think we have the will to devote ourselves to the thrice-sacred cause of Eretz Israel."

The Chairman asked if anyone wished the floor to discuss the matters that had been presented.

Dr. Wise asked that the following paragraph from the Brandeis Membership Call be read:

"The eight days of Chanukah (December 9th to 16th) have been set aside and designated as Zionist Membership Week, in commemoration of the eightieth birthday of Justice Brandeis. It is the Maccabean Festival. Let it also be a Zionist Festival in honor of the great Maccabean of our time, Louis D. Brandeis."

Mrs. Mabel Fisher of Cleveland said that her group hoped to show an increase from 100 to 150 new members.

Mr. Elias Preiss of District #7 said that his District which now numbers 350 hoped to raise the membership to 1,000.

Mr. Abraham Goldstein of Hartford pledged that his District will increase the membership to 500.

Mr. Rothstein, in behalf of the Brooklyn Zionist Region, said that as a result of Judge Lewis's recent address at their conference, one of the members present pledged to raise personally 2,000 members for the Brooklyn Zionist Region. The Region pledged itself to raise 5,000 members this year.

Mr. Joseph Goldstein of Rochester, N. Y., said that the Zionists in Rochester and in all Western New York realized the gravity of the situation. He expressed the conviction that before the season is over those cities will present an increased membership that will be a source of satisfaction to the Zionist Organization.

The Chairman called upon Prof. Gustave Klausner of St. Louis, whom he said that it was a very unusual pleasure to have at a meeting of the Administrative Committee.



Dr. Klausner said that even before the announcement of the Brandeis Membership Campaign, the St. Louis Zionists started a campaign for an enlarged membership. St. Louis has always maintained a very satisfactory membership, and he had already turned over to Mr. Margulies a check for one-half of the membership renewals for the current year. Dr. Klausner urged the need of sending propagandists in the Southwestern Region, if a really substantial membership is to be attained. This is particularly true in the smaller communities where the Jews must be educated and won over to the Zionist cause before they can be enrolled as members.

Colonel Everts, President of the New England Zionist Region, said that his Region had already launched its membership campaign and hoped to double the membership of last year.

Mr. Margulies reported that the Districts that had been apprised of the Brandeis Membership Campaign have responded very favorably. With regard to speakers, he said he realized the difficulties involved. However, unlike our friends of the left - where all activities are merged - whether it be Poale Zion or Gewerkshafte or National Workers Alliance - the same speakers and the activities are coordinated. But the Z.O.A. is not enjoying a similar status. The U.P.A. and the Jewish National Fund are separate and apart in this respect and we do not have this same interchange of activity. These are the facts. But I would like to point out that we did succeed thus far this year in booking Maurice Samuel in some fifty-five communities. Before he returns to Palestine, he will have visited cities from Maine to San Francisco and as far north as Seattle and Oregon. The Zionist Organization made a special arrangement with Maurice Samuel, who had agreed to speak for us at a smaller fee than he ordinarily charges. A similar arrangement was made with Dr. Ludwig Lewisohn. Other speakers have been sent on tours. The size of the community must be borne in mind, as well as the availability of the speakers. Every District wants Dr. Wise. Whether it is a small community in Long Island, or Chicago, the small community feels offended if we cannot deliver to them Dr. Wise.

Due to the enormous tasks requiring the presence of Dr. Wise in New York, he can visit only such communities as will present him with large membership. Mr. Umansky, an able speaker himself, comes from Meriden which has twenty-one Jewish families. There are a number of other eloquent speakers right in the midst of Connecticut, and these ought to be utilized, as is being done in New England, where they have developed a Speakers Bureau along the lines reported by Mrs. Fisher of Cleveland. In New York about ten or fifteen speakers are available to us. They do not charge for their services, but each one has also to attend to his own personal business affairs; nevertheless they are at the disposal of the Z.O.A. It is our desire to use these people for the best interests of the Zionist Organization, that is, to utilize them in those communities where we will get the best results, because in final analysis we do not judge by the size of any community, but rather by the membership of the Zionist Organization. If we view the matter from that point of view we will be able to render a great deal more service than we have in the past.

Mr. Maltin reported for the Bronx Zionist Region which has already begun the Brandeis Membership Campaign and hopes to enroll 2,000 new members.



Referring to Mr. Margulies' remarks, Prof. Klausner said he did regret that Dr. Wise went to Chicago and not St. Louis. St. Louis had already turned over to the National Office 25% of its membership for the current fiscal year, and expects to fulfill its goal. With regard to speakers, he is constantly being urged by the communities in the South Western Region to send speakers. It is true that the Region has capable men who can speak. Sometimes they cannot speak effectively on Zionism in their own pulpits, but they can speak effectively on that subject in other communities. However, money is needed to send them around to these communities. Prof. Klausner felt that this proposition ought to be considered by the Administrative Committee when it considers the budget. Something must be done because we must awaken the communities to the need of enrolling a larger membership. Prof. Klausner then spoke of the conference of Welfare Funds he had attended three weeks ago, at which there were present quite a few delegates who were Zionists. Prof. Klausner summoned them to a meeting one afternoon. They asked: Why do we need membership? They did not think it necessary. After Prof. Klausner had spoken to them of the events in Palestine and the need for a strong Zionist Organization in America, they all returned to their homes determined to go to the top in the Zionist membership campaigns in their own towns. This proves the necessity of more propaganda. Therefore, in considering the budget for the coming year, it is urgent that the question of propaganda be given thought.

Mr. Isidore Hershfield of Washington, D. C., then reported on behalf of his District, which has an enrolled membership of about 300. In the last joint campaign of the J.D.C. and U.P.A. Washington had about 2600 subscribers, and it was a cash campaign, too. Of the 2600 contributors, at least 2300 were Zionists, although not enrolled members. Many of them are under the impression that their contribution to a U.P.A. Campaign also makes them members of the Zionist Organization. While they do not trouble to attend meetings, they are interested in Palestine. Their contributions to the Campaign is an evidence of their interest in Palestine. We must have a larger enrollment for the Z.O.A. which is the spring-board of every U.P.A. Campaign throughout the country. Mr. Hershfield thought that a larger enrollment could be attained if every contribution to the U.P.A. of \$25 and over would include a membership enrollment. This would automatically make Z.O.A. members of every contributor to the United Palestine Appeal. It might, of course, reduce the total of the U.P.A. collection by that amount, but it is worthwhile, Mr. Hershfield thought. Without a Z.O.A. we would not have a U.P.A.

The Chairman recalled that the suggestion offered by Mr. Hershfield had been considered from time to time and there were always found obstacles to carrying the idea into practice, but it might be well for the Organization Committee to consider it again.

Dr. Rongy stated that it is obvious that in order for American Zionists to deal effectively with any eventualities in Palestine, it is essential to make a success of the Brandeis Membership Campaign. He was of the opinion that it is necessary to appoint a special committee for this campaign, and also that a meeting of the National Council, with all District Chairmen, be called within a month or so, in connection with this special effort. It is also imperative to make each member responsible for securing a membership quota.

Mr. Goldstein of Hartford said that the question of speakers raised by Mr. Umansky should be solved. Mr. Goldstein advocated the wider use of local leaders including the local Rabbis and the formation of a "Speakers Exchange Bureau".

Mr. Robinson suggested that each member be asked to canvass their friends for membership in the Organization.

ZOA BUDGET FOR THE CURRENT YEAR:

The Chairman called upon Mr. Louis P. Rucker, Chairman of the Finance Committee, to present the budget of the Z.O.A. for the current year, as adopted and submitted by the Executive.

Mr. Rucker stated that in conformity with the general policy the Finance Committee has prepared a budget to cover the enlarged activities contemplated, including a Department of Education, as well as subventions to youth totalling \$25,000 as voted by the last Convention. In fact, Mr. Rucker added, the budget provides for even a larger sum for youth activities within the Zionist Organization in order that they can be retained in the movement.

Mr. Rucker then submitted the budget as per attached.

A discussion ensued as follows:

Mr. Elihu Stone pointed out the inadequacy of the amount allotted heretofore to propaganda and asked whether the budget provided for a Yiddish publication. The Chairman replied that at the last meeting of the Executive a committee was appointed to look into the advisability of a weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly Yiddish publication, and to report back to The Executive.

Mr. Cowen explained some of the items in connection with the provisions for Youth and Education. He stated that Dr. Wise had appointed a temporary committee to go into this whole question for the purpose of making recommendations to The Executive, and the actual subventions to the youth organizations recommended by that committee are incorporated in other forms in this budget. He pointed out that this special committee decided that all organization activities, both youth and adult, would come under the Organization Department, and all education, both youth and adult, under the Education Department. It is also proposed that an educational director be in charge, and to cooperate with the youth organizations, without in any way interfering with their autonomy.

Mr. Abn Goldberg pointed out that a movement is created by the spoken word; an organization by the written word. It is essential therefore for the Z.O.A. to provide for more literature, as is done by the other Parties. In addition it is essential to promote the dissemination of Hebrew culture, to provide for political activities, as well as appropriate subvention for Pro-Palestine activities among non-Jews.

Mr. Hershfield suggested that an arrangement be made whereby part of the larger contributions to the U.P.A. be designated for membership dues in the Z.O.A.



Mr. Herman W. Bernstein of District #7 asked to what extent the Convention resolution is being carried out to the effect that no member of The Executive was to be a salaried person.

Mr. Abraham Goldstein of Hartford inquired regarding the item of \$10,000 for Young Judaea.

Mr. Jacob Hoffman of Philadelphia thought the members present might have been able to discuss this budget more diligently if it had been mailed to every member of the Administrative Committee prior to the meeting. He inquired as to what had been done to carry out the Convention resolution with respect to Regional Offices. He thought the budget should have made provision for that. Also, he pointed out the necessity of providing for a national Zionist forum which would reach more people than all the meetings that could possibly be arranged throughout the country.

Mr. Sol Cohen inquired as to the numerical strength of the three youth Organizations: Young Judaea, Masada, and Avukah.

Rabbi Irving Miller said he did not believe that it will serve the interests of the three youth Organizations to enter into any prolonged discussion of the relative merits of these three Organizations. He then moved

THAT the distribution of the sum of \$15,000 to be allotted as subventions to the three youth Organizations be left to the Organization Committee, in conjunction with The Executive and the Committee on Youth and Education.

Mr. Rucker said that it must be understood that the item is not \$15,000 because in addition the sum of \$1,000 has been allotted for youth publications, making a total of \$16,000. This year the Finance Committee of the Z.O.A. considered the problem of youth and education very carefully, in conjunction with the sub-committee that was appointed. This budget was presented to The Executive who passed upon it. In response to the query regarding the \$10,000 allocation to Young Judaea, Mr. Rucker expressed the opinion that the cornerstone for the future structure of Zionism in America is Young Judaea. It is the Young Judaea graduates who later become members of Masada and of Junior Hadassah. Young Judaea is composed of boys and girls in the ages of eight to eighteen years of age, and it is absolutely impossible to expect such an organization to support itself. Young Judaea's budget in previous years ran as high as \$50,000, and then subventions slipped down to \$3,000 or \$1,000 a year. Young Judaea has thus been hampered. There are at present 25,000 children in Young Judaea, and it is possible to increase that number to 300,000.

With regard to the question of Regional Organizations, Mr. Rucker said that matter will be duly considered by the Committee on Organization.

Mr. Hershfield of Washington, D. C. inquired whether there was not leeway within the budget for the maintenance of the Region.

Mr. Rucker said he was confident that the Finance Committee had prepared the question of income very, very conservatively, and he felt that the actual income will greatly exceed the figure estimated in the budget.



With a Finance Committee meeting practically every week, and watching the developments in the Z.O.A., we will do all in our power to aid all work that will benefit the Zionist Organization. The question of Regional Organization will surely be given due consideration.

Mr. Imber spoke on Rabbi Miller's motion. He felt, too, that the entire question of youth subventions had not been given adequate consideration, and that Mr. Cowen's report was not fully considered by The Executive Committee. The question of the actual division of the total allocation should have been considered by the Finance Committee in conjunction with the entire plenary group of the Committee on Youth and Education, of which Mr. Cowen is Chairman. Mr. Imber urged that Rabbi Miller's motion be considered very seriously as it will give The Executive and the Finance Committee an opportunity to arrive at some equitable solution of this question.

Mr. Richards thought the budget contemplated doing things on a larger scale, but that the various items had not been thought out carefully, especially the youth item.

The question was called for.

The Chairman said he thought it was fair to comment on Mr. Richards' remarks, that it is usually the procedure not to present in the budget a detailed plan of the activities of each Department. The budget merely contemplates a fixed sum for all the activities and then the Committees charged with the various activities should work out a detailed plan. The Chairman said he assumed, of course, that that would be done. With regard to the matter of Regional Organization throughout the country, Mr. Rothenberg said that letters had been received from Rabbi Edward Israel, President of the Seaboard Zionist Region, from Chicago, from St. Louis, and elsewhere, clamoring for a decision to make all subventions to the Regions in connection with the plan on reorganization of the Regions, and asking for effective action along the lines adopted at the last Convention. Hence, if the budget here submitted is fixed and all the funds available have been allocated, it would seem that the possibility of any action on the question of Regional Organization is practically foreclosed.

The Chairman called for a vote on Rabbi Miller's motion, to wit:

THAT the distribution of the sum allotted for Youth and Education be referred with power to The Executive of the Z.O.A., in conjunction with the Organization, Finance, and Education and Youth Committees.

The motion was unanimously carried.

With further reference to the question of Regional Organization, Rabbi Miller pointed out that this question is inextricably bound up with the U.P.A. and J.N.F., that no adequate regional scheme can be set up independently by the Z.O.A., without taking into consideration the U.P.A. and J.N.F., because it stands to reason that the most important item in any regional plan is the collection of funds for both the U.P.A. and the J.N.F. The Executive took up this matter in connection with the Chicago Region and also the Brooklyn

Region, and in both instances The Executive definitely approved the recommendations and instructed the Committee on Organization to get in touch with the U.P.A. and the J.N.F. It is a question that has to be studied independently of the budget. As Chairman of the Committee on Organization, Rabbi Miller said that his Committee is definitely addressing itself to the question of Regional Organization. His Committee feels, as does The Executive of the Z.O.A., that it is highly important and imperative that the Regional set-up be extended throughout the country, and will make every effort within the next two weeks to come into contact with the fund-raising institutions to pave the way for a solution of this problem.

The Chairman commented that Rabbi Miller was quite correct in his statement.

Dr. Wise moved:

THAT this budget as submitted by the Chairman of the Finance Committee be adopted with the proviso that its adoption shall not go into effect until after the question of the establishment of Regional Organizations shall have been duly considered and discussed again with The Executive of the Z.O.A.

Dr. Wise referring to his recent visit to Chicago said that a really heartening Regional meeting took place. There were present delegates from five States, namely, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Iowa. Dr. Wise felt that the establishment of the Midwest Region would result not only in a large increase in membership, but in a revitalization of the entire Zionist work of that Region.

Mr. Spicchandler called attention to the fact that the proposed budget is based on the old membership income and that the item of new membership had been overlooked. He felt that there will be quite a substantial increase in membership during the current fiscal year.

Mr. Rucker explained that this is an elastic budget. He thought it was a conservative budget as regards income. There are several sources of possible income that have not been included, and if one or two items are added they will be taken care of by the Finance Committee which meets regularly every week.

The Chairman suggested an amendment to Dr. Wise's motion, as follows:

THAT the budget as presented by the Chairman of the Finance Committee and recommended by the Executive, be adopted, subject to the action taken with respect to the youth allocations and subject to any adjustment which may become necessary by virtue of a decision reached on the subject of Reorganization of Regional Organizations.

Dr. Wise accepted the amendment and the motion was unanimously carried.



REPORT ON UPA AND JNF

The Chairman called upon Dr. Israel Goldstein to report both on the United Palestine Appeal and the Jewish National Fund.

Dr. Goldstein reported that up to the present time approximately \$1,600,000 had been raised by the UPA. Of that sum, he believed about 80% was in cash in the case of New York and 50% in cash outside of New York. However in view of the fact that those pledges are in large measure from community chests, they may be regarded as equivalent to cash, and it is expected that all but 5% of the pledges will be paid up.

Dr. Goldstein added that the sum raised exceeds the expectations conservatively estimated a year ago, but the result is not commensurate either with the obligation of American Jews or the needs of Palestine. On the contrary it is woefully inadequate in both directions, and does not justify any great jubilation on our part but rather a determination to make up in 1937 for the inadequacies of 1936.

As for the Jewish National Fund's part in that report, Dr. Goldstein was glad to be able to state that the last annual audit covering the period from October 1, 1935 to September 30, 1936, shows an income for the Jewish National Fund of \$480,000, which is in excess of any collections heretofore. It is noteworthy, Dr. Goldstein added, that of this total, the sum of \$307,000, or two-thirds of the entire amount, was collected by the National Fund through its own resources and traditional methods, which indicates that Zionists are not remiss in their duty every day in the week both in contributing to the UPA and the JNF.

Dr. Goldstein made special mention of the Tree Campaign which has been conducted by the JNF during the past few months. Every attempt was made to time this effort so as not to interfere with any UPA activity, and since there have been few protests, it may be assumed that this has been the case and that the monies collected in this Tree Campaign represent additional resources apart from the regular campaign collections. The sum of \$36,000 was thus far been raised towards the Tree Campaign, which will continue for some time to come. It is expected that at least \$50,000 will be collected for this activity.

Dr. Goldstein added that a more detailed report of the activities of the UPA and the JNF will be submitted to the UPA Conference Sunday. However, it should be pointed out that now when 1936 is drawing to a close, we are beginning the work for 1937; that the agreement between the Keren Hayesod and Keren Kayemeth for the 1937 Appeal has been adopted in its essentials and that before very long there will be a definite plan and program for the inauguration of the 1937 campaign. There is a possibility that two distinguished visitors -- Dr. Weizmann and Lord Melchett -- will come here in the beginning of 1937 in connection with the new campaign -- and if this expectation is fulfilled, Dr. Goldstein believed we can all look forward to a campaign that will be of greater success than that of 1936, and which coupled with the economic improvement of the country as a whole, will perhaps for the first time in many years place the work for Palestine on the level which it deserves to hold in this country.



Mr. Rothenberg called attention to the meeting of the National Council of the United Palestine Appeal to be held on the following day, beginning at 2 o'clock. Every member of the Administrative Committee of the Z.O.A. is invited to attend. It is essential that that meeting be opened promptly at 2 o'clock, because it must close at an early hour, since a function will take place in the evening in tribute to Mr. Louis Lipsky on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday. Some of us have occasion, from time to time in the course of our activity in the Zionist movement, to differ or even to have conflict with one another, differences which for the most part, are on an intellectual plane. All of us, however, can join in felicitating Mr. Louis Lipsky on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday and to wish him well in the years to come. His has been a life of single-minded devotion and service to the Zionist cause and to the Jewish People. Mr. Rothenberg said he hoped that every member of the Administrative Committee of the Z.O.A. will attend the testimonial dinner to Mr. Lipsky.

Mr. Robert Silverman supplemented Dr. Goldstein's report with regard to the Keren Hayesod. He reported that the Keren Hayesod had collected in cash over \$600,000, of which \$550,000 had been remitted to Palestine. The balance is in the treasury of the Keren Hayesod.

REMARKS OF DR. BENZION MOSSINSOHN:

The Chairman introduced Dr. Benzion Mossinsohn of Tel Aviv, who said in part: "Tonight, I am not going to speak on Palestine in general - I may have the opportunity to do so tomorrow at the meeting of the National Council of the United Palestine Appeal - but to say a few words on General Zionism. I came to America in two capacities: As a representative of the Palestine Executive in fund-raising and as a representative of the General Zionists, to speak to American General Zionists on the aims of General Zionism and its work in Palestine. First of all, I want to say to you that I was very glad to hear the words of Dr. Wise about the effort to enlarge the membership of the Z.O.A. It is of political importance today whether in America you number tens of thousands or in the hundreds of thousands when you demand the protection of our rights in Palestine".

Stressing the necessity of building up a strong General Zionist body in the interest of Palestine, Dr. Mossinsohn said:

"General Zionism needs its own strength and has a purpose of its own. After the War, Jews in the Galuth believed they had to solve their problem and were willing to help rebuild Palestine. The youth went to Palestine, and the entire structure of our work in Palestine took such a form that mostly the youth could come in and take part in it. It is true that there were General Zionist achievements in Palestine, along educational lines, etc., but we did not create an accounting for ourselves. We could not say: This is what we created and what belongs to the General Zionists. The Left Wing created an organized labor force and it was marked down to their credit. And what we created was also credited to them".

Speaking of the difficulties encountered by General Zionist settlers in adapting themselves to conditions, Dr. Mossinsohn stated:

"The General Zionists now have the task of creating a possibility for the average Jew who comes to Palestine, to be able to participate in the building up of Palestine. This is an urgent necessity. We must at all cost strengthen the General Zionist Organization.

"During the last seven or eight years there grew up a General Zionist youth movement which is far larger than can be imagined. I was very glad to hear of the youth movement in America. I have seen the youth movement in European countries -- in Poland, in Galicia, even in Austria, Belgium and other countries. We have now 60,000 organized General Zionists in youth organizations and in Chalutz organizations. They are clamoring to sail for Palestine, and they are in a bad position. They are in a worse position than Left Wing Chalutzim, than Mizrachi Chalutzim, even than Revisionist Chalutzim, because those organizations have prepared the possibility for the absorption of their members. We General Zionists have given to the other parties, but we have not paid attention to our own young people who are General Zionists. It was due to the spirit of the times that a General Zionist youth movement grew up in America. Young Jews began to suffer; they felt that they were out of line because they were Jews. And they forgot all the divisions and returned to General Zionism as an answer to the general Jewish question. They followed again the flag of General Zionism".

Dwelling upon the ideological differences between the various youth sections in Palestine and the obstacles strewn in the path of the General Zionist, the speaker said that "if we will not try to see that these people (General Zionists) find their proper place in Palestine, the General Zionists will diminish, and we will be a negligible factor".

Dr. Mossisohn concluded by urging that steps be taken by the General Zionists to remedy the situation so that General Zionism assume its rightful position.

Rabbi Shubow suggested that from time to time the Organization and the Administrative Committee should ask the viewpoint, and opinion, and experience of those living outside of New York, so that there be a proper exchange of views and mutual encouragement.

Mr. Margulies called attention to the fact that at this meeting there were speakers representing numerous communities outside New York, including St. Louis, Washington, Cleveland, Rochester, Philadelphia, Holyoke, Hartford, Providence, Boston, Meriden, etc.

Rabbi Shubow then urged that there be an item on the agenda permitting reports from representatives of the various regions on their activities, and that the meetings of the Administrative Committee be held more frequently than once in two months, and that instead the Committee meet monthly.

Mr. Guzik stated that the Administrative Committee should be more than a formal gathering, saying that with the exception of the political report, no report of the activities of The Executive has been made to the Administrative Committee. He therefore proposed

THAT at every meeting of the Administrative Committee a report be rendered by the Executive as to its activities; and that any member of this Administrative Committee has the right to present a motion on any business connected with the activities of the Zionist Organization of America.



Mr. Goldberg called attention to the fact that the report of The Executive is given through its committees, but since these committees had only recently been appointed, they are not yet ready to report, but that in the future such reports will be submitted by the chairmen of the various committees.

Dr. Wise approved of Mr. Guzik's suggestion, but believed it would serve the purpose better if the report of the activities of The Executive is presented by the chairmen of the various committees as proposed by Mr. Goldberg. He advised the Administrative Committee that in the future the agenda will include brief summary reports of the work in process under the various committees.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT the sense of the President's suggestions with respect to the Agenda be approved.

Mr. Hirshfield then suggested that future meetings of the Administrative Committee be held in various cities outside of New York.

The Chairman observed that this proposal was embodied in a resolution of the last Convention, and that the Executive should give attention to the proposal.

Meeting adjourned at Midnight.

Respectfully submitted

MORRIS MARGULIES  
Secretary



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

ESTIMATE OF INCOME

OCTOBER 1st, 1936 - SEPTEMBER 30th, 1937

ESTIMATE OF INCOME:

Membership:

|                            |                  |              |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| 6,000 at \$6.00 . . . . .  | \$ 36,000.00     |              |
| 15,000 at \$3.00 . . . . . | <u>45,000.00</u> | \$ 81,000.00 |

Less:

|                                |                  |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Refunds to Districts . . . . . | \$ 13,500.00     |                  |
| " " Regions . . . . .          | <u>13,500.00</u> | <u>27,000.00</u> |
|                                |                  | \$ 54,000.00     |

|                              |                 |                  |
|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Hadassah . . . . .           | \$ 7,500.00     |                  |
| Order Sons of Zion . . . . . | <u>2,500.00</u> | <u>10,000.00</u> |
|                              |                 | \$ 64,000.00     |

|   |  |                  |
|---|--|------------------|
| <u>Less: Shekel - ZOA and OSZ . . . . .</u> |  | <u>10,575.00</u> |
|   |  | \$ 53,425.00     |

|  |  |                  |
|--|--|------------------|
| Miscellaneous Income . . . . .   |  | 1,000.00         |
| New Palestine - Adver. & Subscr. . . . .                                       |  | 6,000.00         |
| Balance due ZOA from UPA on an estimated income<br>of \$1,400,000.00 . . . . . |  | <u>28,000.00</u> |

|                                |  |              |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------|
| <u>TOTAL ESTIMATED INCOME:</u> |  | \$ 88,425.00 |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------|

|                                |  |                  |
|--------------------------------|--|------------------|
| Necessary to Balance . . . . . |  | <u>82,646.00</u> |
|--------------------------------|--|------------------|

|                   |  |              |
|-------------------|--|--------------|
| <u>T O T A L:</u> |  | \$171,071.00 |
|-------------------|--|--------------|

STATUS OF DEFICIT END OF PERIOD

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <u>PRESENT DEFICIT - SEPTEMBER 30th, 1936:</u> | \$ 59,419.64 |
|--|--------------|

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Payments in accordance with the Budget . . . . . | <u>28,983.00</u> |
|--|------------------|

ESTIMATED DEFICIT END OF PERIOD:

|                                       |                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <u>SEPTEMBER 30th, 1937 . . . . .</u> | <u>\$ 30,436.64</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|

- a. The total payroll is \$47,600.00, divided in three parts -  
1) General; 2) New Palestine; and 3) Palestine Bureau.
- b. The net expense for rent, light and telephone is the amount  
expended by the ZOA after the payments of the JNF and the  
Hadassah were deducted.
- c. The question of a Yiddish periodical is being taken up by a  
special committee.

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

## SUMMARY OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR TWELVE MONTHS 1936-7 AND COMPARATIVE EXPENDITURES FOR TWELVE MONTHS 1935-6

|   | Proposed<br>Budget | Actual Exp.<br>1935-6 |
|---|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. <u>DISCHARGE OF DEBTS</u> . . . . .      | \$ 28,983.00       | \$ 9,547.62           |
| 2. <u>EXPENDITURES - GENERAL:</u>           |                    |                       |
| a. Payroll - General. . . . .               | \$ 33,432.00       | \$ 41,476.94          |
| Traveling and Speakers Fees. . . . .        | 10,000.00          | 8,544.97              |
| b. Rent, Light and Telephone (not). . . . . | 8,000.00           | 6,822.19              |
| Postage. . . . .                            | 3,000.00           | 2,249.23              |
| Cables and Telegrams . . . . .              | 1,000.00           | 556.29                |
| Convention . . . . .                        | 2,500.00           | 2,700.89              |
| Meetings and Celebrations. . . . .          | 2,000.00           | 1,481.08              |
| Literature, Printing, Stationery . . . . .  | 5,000.00           | 3,722.65              |
| Miscellaneous Expense. . . . .              | 1,000.00           | 562.84                |
| Depreciation and Bad Debts . . . . .        | 1,000.00           | 1,224.37              |
| Interest . . . . .                          | 800.00             | 1,027.47              |
| Congress Traveling . . . . .                |                    | 1,659.64              |
| Insurance and Audit. . . . .                | 600.00             | 503.12                |
|   | \$ 68,332.00       | \$ 72,541.68          |
| 3. <u>PUBLICATIONS:</u>                     |                    |                       |
| New Palestine. . . . .                      | \$ 22,756.00       | \$ 19,898.58          |
| c. Yiddish Page . . . . .                   |                    | 2,036.67              |
| Hadoar Subvention. . . . .                  | 4,000.00           | 3,018.45              |
|   | \$ 26,756.00       | \$ 24,953.70          |
| 4. <u>PALESTINE BUREAU</u> . . . . .        | \$ 7,500.00        | \$ 7,345.54           |
| 5. <u>SUBVENTIONS:</u>                      |                    |                       |
| <u>Youth Organizations-(Excl. Rent) -</u>   |                    |                       |
| Masada . . . . .                            | \$ 3,000.00        | \$ 3,099.26           |
| Young Judaea . . . . .                      | 10,000.00          | 2,160.79              |
| Avukah . . . . .                            | 2,000.00           | 497.40                |
| Miscellaneous. . . . .                      |                    | 57.41                 |
|   | \$ 15,000.00       | \$ 5,814.86           |
| <u>Youth Magazines -</u>                    |                    |                       |
| Avukah and Masada. . . . .                  | \$ 1,000.00        | \$                    |
| Hobrew - Hanoar. . . . .                    | 1,000.00           | 500.00                |
|   | \$ 2,000.00        | \$ 500.00             |
| 6. <u>DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:</u>          |                    |                       |
| Director and Secretary . . . . .            | \$ 6,200.00        | \$                    |
| Literature . . . . .                        | 2,500.00           |                       |
| Traveling, Fees and Literature . . . . .    | 2,500.00           |                       |
| Postage, Stationery and Miscel. . . . .     | 1,300.00           |                       |
|   | \$ 12,500.00       | \$                    |
| 7. <u>POLITICAL:</u>                        |                    |                       |
| Propaganda Among Non-Jews. . . . .          | \$ 3,500.00        | \$                    |
| Political Committee. . . . .                | 4,000.00           |                       |
| Contingent . . . . .                        | 2,500.00           |                       |
|   | \$ 10,000.00       | \$                    |
| <u>TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND PAYMENTS ON</u>   |                    |                       |
| <u>ACCOUNT OF DEBTS.</u> . . . . .          | \$171,071.00       | \$120,703.40          |

החסתדרות הציונית של ארצות חברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE  
*President*

HARRY FRIEDBERG  
SOLOMON GOLDMAN  
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN  
GUSTAVE KLAUSNER  
JOSEPH KRAEMER  
WILLIAM M. LEWIS  
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ELIHU D. STONE  
NATHAN STRAUS  
*Vice-Presidents*

MORRIS ROTHENBERG  
*Chairman, Administrative Committee*

A. J. RONGY  
*Chairman, National Council*

MORRIS WEINBERG  
HARRY P. FIERST  
*Treasurers*

LUDWIG LEWISOHN  
*Honorary Secretary*

MORRIS MARGULIES  
*Secretary*

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ABRAHAM GOLDBERG  
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I. H. LEVINthal  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
SAMUEL MARKEWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
CHARLES RESS  
LOUIS P. ROCKER  
ROBERT SZOLD

## Associate Members

ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

November 30, 1936.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Received this morning the following letter from the  
Jewish Welfare Federation of Cleveland:

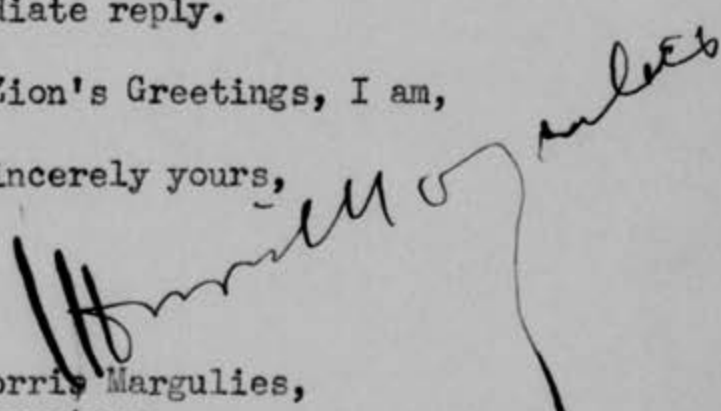
"May we ask you to please advise us what financial aid is being extended by the Zionist Organization or any of its affiliates to the American Committee for the Hechalutz and the Histadruth Ivrit. Will you please indicate in your reply, if financial aid is being given, in what amounts and for that periods? We should like to have this information as promptly as possible."

Will it be O.K. to write to them (1) that the Histadruth Ivrit receives from the Z.O.A. a subsidy of \$5,000 per year; (2) that thus far we have made no grant to the Hechalutz. Their application, however, is now being considered by a sub-committee which may in all likelihood vote them a subsidy.

I would appreciate an immediate reply.

With personal regards and Zion's Greetings, I am,

Sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies,  
Secretary.



December 3, 1936

Mr. Morris Margulies, Secretary,  
Zionist Organization of America,  
111 Fifth Ave.,  
Ohio.

My dear Mr. Margulies:

In reply to your letter of  
November 30, permit me to say that the answers  
which you suggest to the questions put by the  
Jewish Welfare Federation are O.K.

Very sincerely yours,

AHS: BK

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE ZOA

HELD THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1936 - 40 West 68th Street.

PRESENT: Dr. Wise (in the chair) Messrs. Cowen, Fierst, Goldberg, Goldstein, Lipsky, Margulies, Miller, Rocker, Rothenberg, Szold; Imber, Schwartz-associate members; Caplan - by invitation.

Excuses for Absence from - Judge Lewis and Rabbi Levinthal.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING :

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as circulated.

COMMUNICATIONS :

1. Cable from Mr. Eliezar Kaplan re Dr. Weizmann's arrival here, as follows:

"JERUSALEM DECEMBER 17 1936

WISE ZIONISTS NEWYORK

FULLY APPRECIATE YOUR POSITION WEIZMANN MOST ANXIOUS FALL IN YOUR PLANS BUT COMPELLED WARN THAT COMMISSIONS PROCEEDINGS MAY BE PROLONGED BEYOND EXPECTATIONS AND NECESSITATE HIS PRESENCE STOP AS WEIZMANN EXPECTS AGAIN GIVE EVIDENCE NEXT DAYS HOPES SUBSEQUENTLY STATE WHETHER APPEARANCE FINAL SHALL THEN CABLE.

KAPLAN"

It was decided to refer this matter to the UPA.

2. Cable to Jerusalem re Memorandum for Royal Commission:

"NEWYORK DECEMBER 16 1936

JEVAGENCY  
WEIZMANN BENGURION  
JERUSALEM

UNANIMOUSLY AGREED INCLUDING CHATHAM THAT AMERICAN CASE MEMORANDUM SHOULD BE PROMPTLY PRESENTED ROYAL COMMISSION STOP HAVE FORWARDED COPIES COLONIAL OFFICE.

WISE"

3. Letter from Order Sons of Zion Re Request for Share in UPA Allotment to ZOA:

Mr. Margulies read the following letter from Dr. Harris J. Levin in behalf of the Order Sons of Zion:

"December 10, 1936

Dear Mr. Margulies:

On November 29th, 1935, we wrote you regarding the matter of the distribution of the 10% fund from the United Palestine Appeal, to which we have not as yet received a reply.

The Order, as an affiliate of the Zionist Organization of America, deems it the proper course to submit its request for consideration through the Z.O.A. and makes the request that our position in the matter be presented by the Z.O.A. Should the Z.O.A. see fit to disregard the request or find itself in a position where it cannot present the Order's viewpoint in the matter, we must perforce act in our own behalf.

We are advised that a new allocation of funds is now being arranged. Among the recipients will be the Mizrachi and the Poale Zion - Ziure Zion. There is no intention of making comparisons, but we feel justified in the statement that the principle which entitles these organizations to participate in service charges for propaganda, also entitles the Order to take part in the allocation. We serve the UPA and particularly the JNF with a diligence and a zeal at least equal to that of any other organization in this country. We, therefore, request that the Order's demands be submitted through the Z.O.A.; and if the Z.O.A. cannot do so, we reserve the right to make the submission ourselves.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) HARRIS J. LEVINE"

Mr. Margulies explained that the above referred to the UPA allocation to the ZOA.

Mr. Lipsky stated that if the Order had any concrete claims against the 6% allocation of the UPA to the ZOA, it should present such claim.

Dr. Wise observed that this 6% allotment by the UPA to the ZOA represented payment for services rendered by the ZOA.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT consideration of the request of the Order Sons of Zion be postponed until the arrival of Mr. Kraemer, the Nasi of the Order, at this meeting, or till a future meeting.



#### 4. Hechalutz :

Mr. Margulies read a communication from Mr. B. Halpern of the Hechalutz, calling attention to the fact that it is now some months since the ZOA had appointed a committee to consider the relations between the ZOA and the Hechalutz and no action seems to have been taken. Mr. Halpern pointed out further that the Hechalutz was faced with a serious emergency in providing for travelling expenses of members of their group who are ready to go to Palestine and that immediate action was required.

Rabbi Miller in behalf of the subcommittee which had been appointed to deal with this matter, reported that due to the absence of Dr. Sereni, no satisfactory meetings could be held for a discussion of this matter but that he and Mr. Cowen expected to have an interview with Dr. Sereni within a day or two.

Rabbi Miller stated that the problem is twofold: one, the general relations between Hechalutz and the ZOA and the claim that the ZOA had done nothing to advance or support the cause of Chaluziuth in America, whereas they had received contributions from the Poale Zion, Hashomer Hatzair, etc. The Hechalutz Organization requested that a study of Chalutziuth in America be made by a joint committee representing the ZOA and the other Zionist bodies, and that a comprehensive plan be worked out for the creation of a Vaad Hechalutz of all Zionist groups, and that all groups contribute to its financial support.

Secondly, Rabbi Miller pointed out, there was the emergency situation of the 36 young men and women who have undergone from one to two years of Hachshara and were ready to leave for Palestine. It appears that the sum of \$7,000 set aside for their travelling expenses to Palestine had been utilized in connection with their training farms, and now there was no money available for sending this group to Palestine. Rabbi Miller added that not all of these 36 chaluzim have to go to Palestine at once, but it is essential to secure the necessary funds, at the rate of about \$170 per person, to enable them to proceed to Palestine during the next five months.

Mr. Cowen explained that this had been done with the consent of the Kibbutz Aliyah whose funds were borrowed for the purchase of the farms.

The Chairman asked what would be the recommendation of Rabbi Miller who replied that a larger committee ought to be appointed to study the Chaluziuth movement in this country, and that a Vaad Hechalutz should subsequently be appointed, composed of the various Zionist parties and authorized to call a conference regarding this matter. Moreover a comprehensive budget be worked out totalling \$10,000 a year against which there would be a probable income of \$4,000 from various sources. With regard to the emergency situation of the 36 chalutzim, Rabbi Miller was of the opinion that this should be referred to the UPA, since chaluziuth is part of the program of the Keren Hayesod, with the request that they pay the travelling expenses of these 36 chalutzim to enable them to proceed to Palestine.

Mr. Goldberg suggested that the ZOA should consider the organization of its own Chalutz organization.

Mr. Lipsky advocated the appointment of a committee which should be instructed to look into the question of how an inter-party

Hechalutz may be established in the United States.

Mr. Goldberg added that this inter-party Hechalutz should be created in such manner that no one Zionist party or ideology should dominate.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT a Committee of Five be appointed to study the problem of Chalutzim in this country and bring back a report to the Executive, and that this Committee together with the President, be given full power to deal with the emergency in connection with the transportation to Palestine of the 36 Chalutzim.

Mr. Rothenberg thought the Committee appointed should consider the subject as a whole, and Mr. Goldberg's point of view should be represented on the Committee.

#### 5. American Jewish Congress assessment of Organizations :

Mr. Margulies read a communication from the American Jewish Congress advising that an assessment will be levied upon affiliated national organizations, of \$150 per annum for every 5,000 members, this assessment to be paid in quarterly instalments, and that since it is estimated that the ZOA has 25,000 members, it is called upon to pay the sum of \$750.

Mr. Margulies believed that the Executive should favor this assessment on the actual membership of the Organization. He called attention, however, to the fact that some time ago the American Jewish Congress had considered the question of individual membership to which he had objected since that would create competition with the ZOA. It had therefore been decided by the Congress to create a federation of Jewish national organizations but not on the basis of individual membership. However in recent weeks complaints have been received from various sections of the country that the Congress is again attempting to secure individual membership which will compete with the enrollment of members in the ZOA, and that since the ZOA is a constituent body of the American Jewish Congress, Mr. Margulies is calling this matter to the attention of the Executive.

Mr. Lipsky explained that the Congress is not embarking on an individual membership campaign but is endeavoring to secure subscribers to the Congress Bulletin and contributors toward its budget of \$140,000. The latter effort will have to be continued until the Jewish national organizations pay their assessment to cover this budget.

Mr. Goldberg stated that with representation there must be taxation. He therefore favored the payment by the ZOA of this assessment tax. He suggested further that at every meeting of the Executive there be a report of the activities of the Congress.



It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the Executive recommend to the Administrative Committee the payment by the ZOA of its obligation involved in the organization assessment by the American Jewish Congress, and

THAT the agenda of the Executive should include a report of the activities of the Congress.

6. Inclusion of Icor in American Jewish Congress Council of St. Paul: Mr. Margulies reported the receipt of a communication from Mr. Louis Gordon, Secretary of the St. Paul Zionist District, advising that the Icor had applied for membership in the local American Jewish Congress Council. Mr. Gordon pointed out that many members of the District objected to the inclusion of the Icor because it was regarded as a communist body, and asked what should be the attitude of the St. Paul Zionist District in the matter.

A protracted discussion ensued.

Mr. Lipsky pointed out that originally the American Jewish Congress had voted to exclude the Communist Party on the theory that they have supported the communists of Palestine in the recent disturbances. However when a local society applies for membership, it is necessary to adopt a principle. Therefore the American Jewish Congress informed the Council in St. Paul that any organization may be admitted to membership in the local Council of the American Jewish Congress, provided such organization formally approves the program and principles of the American Jewish Congress which include support of the Jewish National Home in Palestine, and such formal approval must be submitted in writing.

Mr. Rothenberg suggested that the form gotten up for these organizations to sign should include as one of the objectives of the Congress, the establishment of the Jewish National Home.

The discussion then continued as to the reply to Mr. Gordon, especially in view of the fact that it was pointed out that the Poale Zion had refused to join the St. Paul Council if the Icor was included.

Mr. Schwartz suggested that before replying to Mr. Gordon, the ZOA should confer with the Poale Zion on the matter. To this Mr. Lipsky replied that the Poale Zion was opposed to the inclusion of the Icor purely from the partisan labor viewpoint and not from the standpoint of American Jewish Congress principles.

Mr. Cowen asked for further time for the consideration of the matter.

It was finally decided that action be deferred till the next meeting of the Executive.



### AMERICAN CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE :

Mr. Cowen stated that the American-Christian conference held on Tuesday, December 15th under the auspices of the Pro-Palestine Federation, did not exceed the budget allotted for the purpose. He reported that 2,000 invitations were issued to which there were 350 affirmative responses. Of this number, 250 attended. Addresses were delivered by Bishop Francis J. McConnell who presided, Dr. Ralph W. Sockman, Charles Edward Russell, Norman Hapgood, Dr. Christian F. Reisner, Dr. Henry Leiper, Hon. Carroll Hayes and Pierre van Paassen. There were present a number of representatives of various Universities, as well as representatives of outstanding churches. Announcement was made that there would be a membership drive and an endeavor to raise funds for the Pro-Palestine Federation. In addition a resolution was adopted, to be cabled to Prime Minister Baldwin and the British press.

### ARTICLE ON PALESTINE IN "THE NATION" BY ALBERT VITON :

Dr. Goldstein called attention to the current issue of The Nation containing an article by Mr. Albert Viton on Palestine, together with editorial comment. In view of the fact that this is the first of a series of articles, and the fact also that The Nation is one of the most important Liberal journals in this country, and the difficulty in making American Liberal public opinion understand Zionist policy in Palestine, Dr. Goldstein stated that it is important that some of our friends in the Pro-Palestine Federation, as well as Zionist leaders, send letters to The Nation on this subject.

It was decided to empower Dr. Wise to communicate with the editorial Board of the Nation regarding a luncheon conference for the purpose of further discussing the articles on Palestine to appear in The Nation.

Mr. Caplan suggested that an article to The Nation be sent by Mr. Pierre van Paassen.

### PUBLICATION OF "DOS YIDDISH FOIK" BY THE ZOA :

Mr. Lipsky reported that at the meeting of the Committee on Propaganda held on December 7th, it was decided that it was desirable for the ZOA to become responsible for the publication of a bi-weekly in Yiddish. The cost of this publication, taking into account that among the members of the present staff of the ZOA there are persons competent to edit and conduct this paper, would be not more than \$5,000 per year, on account of which receipts of \$1,000 for subscriptions and advertisements are expected.

Mr. Fierst called attention to the fact that without this publication the budget already amounts to \$171,000.

A protracted discussion ensued in which Messrs. Rothenberg, Weinberg, Lipsky, Goldberg, Szold, Rocker, Cowen, Miller participated. Dr. Goldstein, the last speaker and who presided in the absence of Dr. Wise (who was obliged to leave the meeting because of ill health) said that what the ZOA is doing for its English-speaking members through The "New Palestine and the Hebrew-speaking members through Hadoar, it proposes to do once more for its Yiddish clientele.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT the proposal for a bi-weekly publication in Yiddish be approved.

It was decided also to approve the names of Mr. Abraham Goldberg as editor, and Dr. Simon Bernstein as Associate Editor, and the Publications Committee was given authority to proceed with the publication of the paper.

APPOINTMENT OF DR. JACOB S. GOLUB AS EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR:

Mr. Cowen in behalf of the Committee on Education asked that immediate action be taken by the Executive to authorize the Committee to obtain the services of Dr. Jacob S. Golub as educational director, at the salary provided in the budget.

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT Dr. Jacob Golub be engaged as Director of the Education Department of the ZOA, commencing January 2, 1937, at a salary of \$5,000 a year.

Meeting adjourned 11:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

MORRIS MARGULIES

Secretary

החברות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



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SAMUEL MARKEWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
CHARLES RESS  
LOUIS P. ROCKER  
ROBERT SZOLD

Associate Members  
ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

December 22, 1936

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

From the call sent out by our President Dr. Stephen S. Wise, you are aware that the Zionist Organization of America has decided to dedicate its membership this year to Mr. Justice Louis D. Brandeis on the occasion of his Eightieth Birthday.

In connection with this effort we have arranged for Mr. Charles A. Cowen to visit Cleveland on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, January 8th, 9th and 10th. The reason I have assigned three days to Cleveland is because I have in mind the fact that there are two groups in your city and I feel that both would want to avail themselves of Mr. Cowen's visit.

I have written to Judge Drucker about this matter and have asked him to telephone to you and ascertain from you whether you are going to use Cowen and if so what date you would prefer.

With kind regards and Zion's greetings,

Sincerely yours,

*M. Margulies*  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM:RG

*Congratulations on the  
impressive Chanukah  
celebration!*



December 24, 1936

Mr. Morris Margulies, Secretary,  
Zionist Organization of America,  
111 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Margulies:

Let me thank you for your letter of December 22 in which you inform me of the coming of Mr. Charles A. Cowen to Cleveland from January 8-10. The general meeting of the Cleveland Zionist Society has already been scheduled for Thursday evening, December 7 at which Mr. Marvin Lowenthal will be the guest speaker. We are, therefore, in no position to arrange any other meeting. If Mr. Cowen can come in time for our meeting on the 7, we shall be pleased to set aside a brief period in our program, not exceeding fifteen minutes, at which time Mr. Cowen will have an opportunity to tell the story of the membership campaign which you have launched. As far as we are concerned, we have just completed an effort in behalf of new members which has netted us close on to one hundred and twenty new members. We are, therefore, not particularly interested in continuing talk on membership at this time.

May I also suggest that in the future it would be advisable for you to consult the local organization before you schedule the speakers to come to Cleveland. We might have some helpful suggestions to make.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

החמדתרות הציונית של ארצות חברית

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CHARLES RESS  
LOUIS P. ROCKER  
ROBERT SZOLD

*Associate Members*  
ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

December 28, 1936

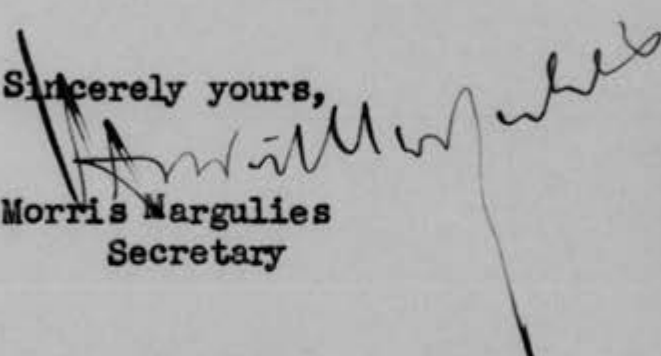
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
E. 105th Street at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

In view of the fact that you have a speaker scheduled for the 7th, and above all, considering the membership progress the Society has already made, I agree with you that there would be no point in having Mr. Cowen come to Cleveland.

Your suggestion about consulting the local organization before scheduling speakers is well taken. That is exactly what I do. However, in this specific instance, it so happens that Mr. Cowen has an engagement at Detroit and I wanted to utilize his presence in that part of the country in the interest of the membership.

With personal regards,

Sincerely yours,  
  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM:BP

החמדתרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

*Dr. Wise*  
**ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA**

111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE  
*President*

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SOLOMON GOLDMAN  
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN  
GUSTAVE KLAUSNER  
JOSEPH KRAEMER  
WILLIAM M. LEWIS  
MAX SHULMAN  
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ROBERT SZOLD

*Associate Members*

ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

January 26, 1937

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Dr. Wise asked me to send you a copy  
of the enclosed letter which you will be good  
enough to regard as strictly confidential.

Dr. Wise would be grateful for any  
judgment that you may wish to offer in the  
matter.

Sincerely yours,

*Florence Eitelberg*

Secretary to Dr. Wise

E:CS



New Delhi. India .  
1st January 1937.

Dear Sir,

I feel much pleasure in addressing this letter on the most useful suggestion of Dr. Speelman of South Africa. The matter which I wish to discuss here is most important and deserves immediate attention.

Sometime ago I was asked by a journalist friend of mine to write something on the Palestine problem, and I wrote two articles. One of them appeared in the Jewish Chronicle London and both of them appeared in the Israel's Messenger, Shanghai China with editorial comments. Mr. Ezra, in the course of his comments gave a hint that there is a great necessity of creating friendship between Indians and Jews and he hoped that we shall be the friends. Mr. Ezra wrote to me several letters in the course of time and in one of them he desired me to introduce to him some of the leading Indians whom he could send his most esteemed journal direct.

After giving my full consideration to the whole matter I wrote two letters by air mail one to Mr. N.E. B. Ezra and the other to Dr. Speelman, of South Africa. In the course of these letters I simply suggested the extreme necessity of pro-Jewish propaganda in India through a non-Jewish paper. The conditions in India are such that people do not understand such of this sort of problems. They simply rely on the press publicity and the statements of the leaders of the calibre of Pandit J. L. Nehru, the Congress President. I need not remind you that some time ago India observed Palestine Day under the orders of the Congress President in favour of Arab. Thereafter a Muslim member of the Indian Legislative Assembly issued a public statement calling upon the Muslim community to join Congress for the sole purpose of securing their support in the Palestine question. Thereafter certain Congress papers gave their full support to the Palestine affair.

The address delivered by Pandit J. L. Nehru as the president of the Faizpur session of the Indian National Congress also contained a full reference to the Palestine problem observing that the Arab was fighting against the imperialism and that the Jews were siding imperialism.

All these things have created an impression in the minds of the Indian public that the Arab is right and the Jew is wrong in Palestine. Funny side of the speeches of congress leaders in India is that they stand for non-violence in India but they approve and sympathize with those who are murderers and violent.

You are fully aware that there are as many as eight scores of human beings who are denied the right of association by the Hindus. They have decided to change their faith and religion. Some of them have already joined the Sikhs and others are still under a dilemma. Much useful work may be done in India if the Jews start their work of propagating their religion. But the immediate need is to start publicity work to counteract the misleading and mischievous propaganda against the Jews aspirations. The simple reason of congress siding the Arab is that they wish to win over the Arab and the Muslims in India and thus strengthen their forces.



The Sikh world was started last year with the full support of Indian leaders and politicians. It has got the backing of all and is a pro-government paper. I am fully prepared to reserve a certain number of pages of the Sikh World for the Jewish propaganda in India. I have no terms to dictate and nothing to bargain. My simple suggestion to Dr. Speelman was that the Jews should give me at least one thousand subscribers so that I may justify my position before my community in doing publicity work for the Jews in my paper. Even if it is not possible at present I do not mind much. But I would most earnestly suggest that you should issue circular letters to all the prominent Jews all over the world and Jewish organizations to keep my paper in touch with all their activities of public usefulness so that I may give them full publicity in India. This I would do without any obligation on your part. Let me be more clear on the point that my sympathies with the Jewish cause are for the reason that the case of the Sikhs in India and that of Jews in Palestine is identical.

Dr. Speelman, in one of his letters to a friend in New Delhi had suggested that he and his friends should go to England for starting a journal in favour of Jews. When I was shown that correspondence I wrote to Dr. Speelman that in England they have a large number of journals and journalists who can do very useful work there. The immediate need was to have a journal in India in favour of Jews. I suggest a non-Jews paper on several grounds.

I also wish you to arrange some well known Jewish Journalist who can write articles for the Sikh World and send them by air mail every week. I am prepared to make payment for these contributions.

Under a separate cover I am sending you a copy of the Sikh World wherein you will find something of your interest and you will be in a better position to understand the entire policy of the journal.

I request you therefore to give your full consideration to the desirability of securing a non-Jewish paper for Jewish propaganda in India and favour me with a reply as early as possible.

Yours very sincerely,

Editor.  
The Sikh World.  
New Delhi, India

Reverend Dr. Stephen S. Wise  
New York  
U. S. of America

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RABBI ABBA SILVER SS NORMANDIE WCC

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE ZOA

HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1937 - 5 P.M. - 111 FIFTH AVE.

PRESENT: Messrs. Lipsky (in the chair) Cowen, Fierst, Markewich, Margulies, Miller, Ress; Imber, Schwartz (representing the youth organizations); Eleazar Kaplan, Ben Elias, Golub, Silverman (by invitation).

Excuses for Absence - from: Messrs. Rothenberg, Goldstein and Rongy.

Mr. Margulies reported that Dr. Wise was unable to be present as he was leaving town.

TELEGRAM FROM CHICAGO:

The Secretary read the following telegram from Chicago:

"ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE LAST NIGHT DECIDED TO DIS-  
CONTINUE ALL ACTIVITIES AND MAKE NO FURTHER COMMITMENTS  
OR PLANS UNTIL BUDGET ARRANGED STOP VAN PAASEN MEETING  
CANCELLED.

WILLIAM M. KATZ"

Mr. Lipsky pointed out that this involves a matter in which the UPA is primarily concerned, and the ZOA therefore is not in a position to take action.

It was decided to write to Mr. Katz to that effect.

LETTER FROM MR. THAU RE DOS YIDDISHE FOLK:

The following communication was read from Mr. Sigmund Thau:

"I have just taken particular notice of the fact that a new Jewish newspaper has been inaugurated, known as the Yiddishe Folk".

"At this time in my opinion I believe it is an absolute waste of money to print a newspaper, probably reaching 5,000 people or 10,000 at the maximum, when the entire Jewish press is Zionistic and reaches the attention of all the Jewish people in America, reading English and Jewish alike.

"I call this to your attention merely because I feel it unfair to waste public money, and being a member of the Finance Committee, I feel I have a certain responsibility for this, and may be criticised later by the public for this action.

"I therefore go on record to direct this matter at this time to you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,  
(Signed) S. THAU

Decided that since the matter referred to in Mr. Thau's letter deals with a fait accompli, no action be taken, and the letter be placed on file.

LORD MELCHETT'S BOOK -- "THY NEIGHBOR":

Mr. Margulies reported that the publisher of Lord Melchett's book, "Thy Neighbor" was willing to furnish the ZOA with 500 copies at 85¢ each, the regular price being \$2, and that Dr. Wise believed that the ZOA should accept this offer, since these copies could be disposed of at a profit to the Organization.

After some discussion, it was moved, seconded and carried

THAT an effort be made to make the best commercial arrangement for the sale of the book, and that the Book Department be authorized and directed to sell and advertise it, without any obligation to the ZOA.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE:

It was decided to request the Finance Committee to submit a report to every meeting of the Executive.

Mr. Margulies called attention to the fact that the Finance Committee meets regularly and that the meetings are very well attended. Moreover at the request of the Finance Committee, Dr. Wise had assigned a member of that Committee on every standing committee of the Organization, so that the Finance Committee may be kept informed of all activities involving financial commitments.

REPORT OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Mr. Cowen reported the following activities of the Education Department.

1. The tentative Education Program was submitted to the Committee on Education, at which representatives of all the youth organizations were present, and the program was adopted by the Committee. Copies will be sent to all the members of the Executive.
2. Arrangements have been made for the writing of a number of brochures on fundamental Zionist problems. For the most part the writing of these 21 brochures will not involve any considerable cost, since the majority of the writers have volunteered their services and a number of the pamphlets are reprints and translations from Hebrew and German. Moreover the printing expense will be kept within the budget.
3. A number of articles dealing with subjects on which Zionists ought to be informed, have been mimeographed and are ready for distribution to the Districts, to be read and discussed at meetings.
4. Arrangements have been made for the holding of a Zionist Forum in New York, beginning March 14th, (probably in the auditorium of the S.A.J.) on important Zionist problems including "Jews and Arabs" (Mr. Louis Lipsky; Prof. Haim Fineman); "Near East in European Policy" (Prof. Hans Kohn); "Pal



estine's Absorptive Capacity" (A. Revusky); "British Foreign Policy" (speaker to be secured).

5. With the help of Mr. Margulies, arrangements have been made for a meeting of New York City District and Cultural Chairmen, to take place next Monday evening, at which the program of the Education Committee will be explained and the cooperation of the Districts invited especially with regard to the attendance at the Forum.

6. Material is being gathered for detailed cultural programs of the Districts and the celebration of Passover by the Districts and the youth organizations, in addition to a Purim program for Young Judaea.

7. The Education Committee recommends that immediate action be taken regarding the organization of the Bureau of Archives which is to be under the supervision of the Department of Education but which is to serve all departments of the ZOA, and also the UPA. This is in accord with the recommendation of Mr. Lipsky as Chairman of the Committee on Propaganda.

Rabbi Levinthal, Mr. Imber and others urged that the Forum be held in a place more centrally located than the S.A.J., such as a midtown hotel, high school or the Hebrew Technical School.

Mr. Lipsky asked for the purpose of the Forum, to which Mr. Cowen replied that through this Forum it is hoped to bring to the attention of the Zionists, fundamental Zionist problems, to be discussed by experts. These lectures are to be printed and subsequently distributed.

Mr. Imber urged that these lectures should not be limited to Zionists.

Rabbi Miller moved, and it was seconded and carried

THAT the report of Mr. Cowen, with the exception of the item regarding the Bureau of Archives, be accepted.

In connection with the Bureau of Archives, Mr. Cowen submitted the following specific proposals recommended by the Committee on Propaganda (and embodied in a letter which he had written to Mr. Lipsky:

1. That the actual organization of the Bureau be placed in charge of Mr. Adolph Hubbard who will work with the assistance of Mr. Aaron Giat. (No one man can do the job because a knowledge of English, German, French, Hebrew, Arabic, Yiddish and perhaps Polish and Russian are needed). It will be Mr. Hubbard's job under the supervision of Dr. Golub to see that the material is read and translated. Mr. Giat has the necessary library experience and an intimate knowledge of both Hebrew and Arabic. Mr. Hubbard will see that the translations will make good English. We have conferred with a number of people and we have a list of persons who will cooperate with us in the translations from other languages.

2. The proposed budget would be as follows: \$35 per week to Mr. Hubbard, and \$25 to Mr. Giat; \$25 per week to cover stenography, type-writing, translations and subscriptions to periodicals, and for purchase of

books not otherwise available -- in all \$85 a week. The UPA should pay at least one-half of the cost."

It was the consensus of opinion that while a Bureau of Archives was necessary, the above proposals were too elaborate and expensive, and should be started on a much more modest scale. It was decided therefore to refer this matter back to the Propaganda Committee.

#### HISTADRUTH HANOAR :

Mr. Margulies submitted the request of the Histadruth Ivrit in behalf of the Histadruth Hanoar, for the sum of \$100 needed immediately in connection with the performance of "Amcha" (in Hebrew) on Saturday night by "Pargod".

Mr. Harry Fierst volunteered to secure this sum, and the Executive extended a vote of thanks to Mr. Fierst.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION :

Rabbi Miller presented a report in behalf of the Organization Committee, and urged that a special meeting of the Executive be called for the discussion of the report of his Committee and its recommendations.

It was decided to request Rabbi Miller to elaborate his report and to circulate it among the members of the Executive in advance of the next meeting, for further consideration.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM GENERAL ZIONIST YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF PALESTINE TO MASADA :

Mr. Imber reported the receipt of a communication from the General Zionist Youth organization of Palestine, regarding their desire to send emissaries to this country for the effective stimulation of General Zionist Chalutzim in America.

It was decided to refer this matter to the Committee on Chalutzim.

In this connection, Mr. Margulies called attention to the fact that a similar communication received directly by the ZOA had been referred to the Committee on Chalutzim at the last meeting of the Executive.

#### PRO-PALESTINE FEDERATION - AND ACTIVITIES OF ARABS IN U.S. :

The Chairman called upon Mr. Ben Elias who had been invited to this meeting at the suggestion of Dr. Wise.

Mr. Ben Elias referred to the organized activities of the Arab League in this country, including the pamphlet, "Whither Palestine", giving the Arab viewpoint, and a projected series of lectures throughout the country by Antonius, under the auspices of the Foreign Policy Association. Mr. Ben Elias urged that immediate action be taken to offset these activities and suggested that the most effective medium would be the Pro-Palestine Federation consisting of outstanding Christians. This activity, however, would have to be financed by the ZOA. He suggested also that the resolution recently adopted by the American-Christian



Conference could be made effective if it were presented by a Christian delegation to the President, the British Ambassador and perhaps also the Colonial Office and the House of Lords.

Mr. Lipsky was of the opinion that this matter should properly come up before the Political Committee which should be called together as soon as possible.

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the Secretary be requested to convene a meeting of the Political Committee, at a time and place convenient to the members at which the matters presented by Mr. Ben Elias and other relevant subjects be submitted.

It was decided also that the members of the Executive who are not members of the Political Committee, be invited to attend that meeting, and an invitation also extended to Mr. Eleazar Kaplan.

#### STATEMENT OF MR. ELEAZAR KAPLAN :

The Chairman then called upon Mr. Eleazar Kaplan, Treasurer of the Jewish Agency.

Mr. Kaplan stated that he would be very glad to attend the meeting of the Political Committee and discuss this particular as well as the general political situation.

Mr. Kaplan then referred to the Zionist Congress to be held this summer at the end of July or early in August, and the necessity of rallying the support of the Jewish masses so that the Congress should truly be representative of world Jewry. He pointed out also that this year only 9,000 shekolim had been sold by the ZOA (since October 1) on account of which only 2,500 shekolim had been remitted (exclusive of Hadassah). He estimated that in the normal course, the ZOA would provide 25,000 shekolim, Hadassah (together with Junior Hadassah) 50,000 and the Poale Zion and Mizrachi about 25,000 making a total of 100,000 from America. The Executive feels, however, that in view of the present situation, it is absolutely essential that 500,000 Jews should be represented at the Congress, and that therefore mass action must be undertaken by the Zionists of this country, in order that an effective appeal may be made before the Mandatory Government, the League of Nations and world opinion.

Mr. Lipsky pointed out that there is no authority in the United States to compel Zionists to obey the mandate of the Executive with regard to shekolim, each organization settling the matter for itself.

Mr. Markewich called attention to the fact that the Mizrachi and Poale Zion sell shekolim only during Congress years.

Mr. Lipsky added that he was in full agreement with Mr. Kaplan regarding the paramount necessity this year of having an effective shekel campaign.

Mr. Kaplan suggested that Mr. Kaplan meet with the representatives of the other parties and then have the decision regarding shekolim implemented by a subcommittee of the ZOA Executive.



It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT Mr. Kaplan should first meet with the representatives of the various Parties, and then the ZOA is to appoint a planning committee for the sale of shekolim and mass action as proposed by Mr. Kaplan.

NEXT MEETING OF EXECUTIVE :

Decided that the next meeting of the Executive take place on Thursday, February 18th, at 4:30 P.M.

Meeting adjourned 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

MORRIS MARGULIES

Secretary

החסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

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*Associate Members*  
ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

February 16th, 1937

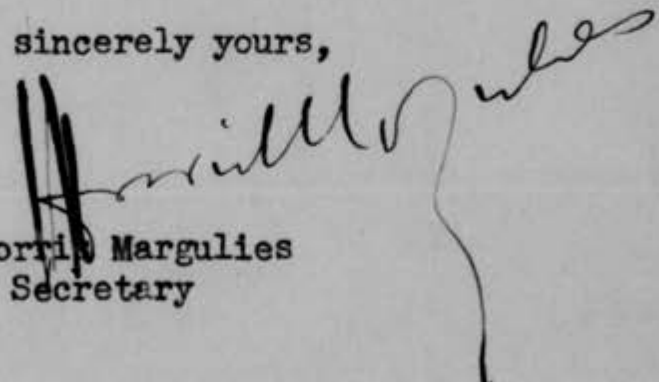
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
% The Temple  
105 Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Allow me to inform you that through the efforts of Mr. J. Spielman a Yiddish-speaking Zionist group has been organized in Cleveland, which is to be known as the Achduth Habonim.

Every possible cooperation that the Cleveland Zionist Society can extend to this new group will be greatly appreciated by

Very sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM:HG

החמדתרות הציונית של ארצות חברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

February 19, 1937

STEPHEN S. WISE  
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*Secretary*

## EXECUTIVE

CHARLES A. COWEN  
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EDWARD L. ISRAEL  
I. H. LEVINthal  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
SAMUEL MARKEWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
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*Associate Members*  
ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio.

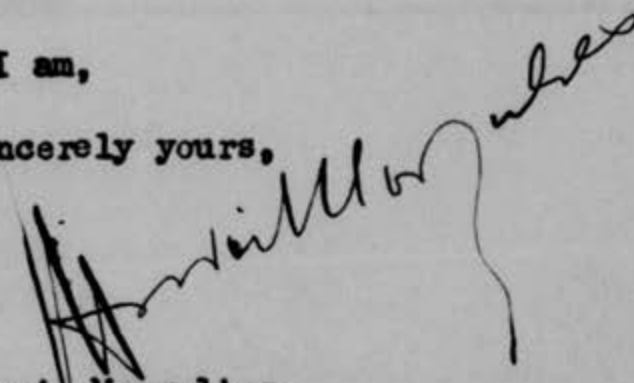
Dear Dr. Silver:

In the absence of Dr. Wise, who is away for a fortnight recuperating from a severe case of the grippe, which was aggravated through his labors at the Washington Conference, I beg to send a reply to your letter of February 11th.

When Dr. Wise returns, your letter will be brought to his attention. I doubt, however, whether it will be before February 26th, which leads me to believe that he may be unable to keep the Cleveland engagement.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM: E



MINUTES OF MEETING OF Z.O.A. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1:30 P.M., AT THE ASTOR HOTEL, NEW YORK, N. Y.

PRESENT: Messrs. Morris Rothenberg (in the Chair), Israel Goldstein, Morris Margulies, Dr. A. J. Ronzy, Charles A. Cowen, Louis Lipsky, Irving Miller, Charles Ress, Isaac Imber, Dr. Jacob S. Golub, Elias Preiss, Louis Rimsky, Heinrich Abramowitz, Isaac Allen, Dr. S. Boorstein, A. D. Braham, Hon. M. Maldwin Fertig, Leo Guzik, Arnold K. Israeli, Samuel Judenfreund, Dr. Samuel Margoshes, Harry J. Moskowitz, Louis Myers, Menahem Pibalow, Samuel Rothstein, Moses Robinson, Jochanon I. Rudavsky, Samuel Schleimer, Dr. Leo B. Schwartz, Bernard Shelvin, Abraham Spicehandler, Judge Nathan J. Sweedler, Meyer W. Weisgal, Leo Wilson, Charles Rosenzarten, Samuel Umansky, Ralph Bass, Dr. Frances Burnce, Col. Benjamin F. Everts, Mrs. Mabel Fisher, Jacob Ginsburg, Leo Wolfson; by invitation: Eliezer Kaplan.

Excuses for non-attendance were received from Rabbi Joel S. Geffen, Cantor Myro Glass, Prof. Gustave Klausner, Dr. Leon R. Levinson, Aaron Levinstone, Louis E. Levinthal, Judge Wm. M. Lewis, Jacob Rabinowitz, Bennett Silverblatt.

The meeting was called to order at 2:20 P. M., with Mr. Rothenberg in the Chair. The Chairman, in opening, expressed regret that Dr. Wise was not with us. The many burdens that Dr. Wise has had to carry have forced him to take a much needed rest. Mr. Rothenberg said that he undoubtedly was voicing the desire of the meeting in suggesting that a message be sent to Dr. Wise, sending him the greetings of the Committee and its hope for his speedy recovery. The Chairman dispatched the following message:

"Dr. Stephen S. Wise  
Atlantic City, N. J.

"ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING TODAY EXTENDS  
YOU WARM GREETINGS AND PROFOUND HOPE YOU WILL  
BE SPEEDILY RESTORED TO HEALTH AND BE ENABLED  
TO CONTINUE YOUR GREAT LABORS

"(Signed) Morris Rothenberg  
Chairman

AGENDA:

The Chairman read the agenda for this meeting, as follows:

1. Address by Eliezer Kaplan, Treasurer of the Jewish Agency
2. Reports by Louis Lipsky, Chairman, Publications Committee
3. " " Rabbi Irving Miller, Chairman, Organization Committee
4. " " Dr. Israel Goldstein, on United Palestine Appeal  
and Jewish National Fund
5. " " Charles A. Cowen, Chairman, Education Committee
6. " " Louis P. Rocker, Chairman, Finance Committee
7. " " Hon. M. Maldwin Fertiz, Chairman, Constitution Comm.
8. " " Secretary of Z. O. A.

COOPTATION OF MEMBERS ON ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:

The Chairman called attention to the fact that shortly after the Convention the Executive of the Z. O. A. discussed the advisability of coopting a number of additional members on the Committee. At that time the Executive approved the suggestion that the President, in cooperation with the Chairman of the Administrative Committee, should recommend a list of those to be coopted. The following names were accordingly submitted:

Ben Dov Waldman, Bronx, N. Y.  
Aaron Riche, Los Angeles, Calif.  
Herman Gessner, Escanaba, Mich.  
David Frankel, Trenton, N. J.  
Henry Rosenbaum, Plainfield, N. J.  
John Rissman, Chicago, Ill.  
Rabbi Benjamin Friedman, Syracuse, N. Y.  
Simon H. Rifkind, New York City  
Rabbi Henry R. Goldberger, Altoona, Pa.

Mr. Wolfson moved

That the names read by the Chairman be coopted as members of the Administrative Committee.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

Mr. Umansky suggested that henceforth it would be advisable for the Z.O.A. and the fund-raising organization to consult with the respective Regions with regard to representation on the Administrative Committee, the National Council, etc., etc. Because this procedure was not followed, there now exists in Connecticut a situation whereby some cities have three or four members on the National Council of the U. P. A., while other cities have no representation at all.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Margulies reported that the number of Zionist Districts has now reached 330, located in 270 cities, covering 43 states. Twenty Districts have been organized since October 1st, with five new Districts in the process of formation. The total membership of the Zionist Organization of America as of February 15th, 1937 was 25,279. This includes 4,964 new members who have joined since October 1st, the beginning of the Zionist fiscal year. This number does not include the membership of the Z. O. A. affiliates,-- the Order Sons of Zion, Avukah and Masada. The period under review was also marked by a program of Zionist propaganda on a large and gratifying scale. The National Office has supplied speakers for 245 meetings held both in New York City and out of town. That the Districts are now stronger in every respect is proven by the fact that we were enabled to arrange 55 lectures by Mr. Maurice Samuel, in 42 cities covering 21 states, with each one of these lectures, as well as transportation involved, being paid for by the local groups. On the same basis, 69 lectures have been arranged for Pierre van Paassen in 67 cities and 33 states. 20 of these have already been held in 18 cities and 9 states, and 49 are scheduled as far ahead as the end of May. There were also arranged



a number of paid lectures by Dr. Ludwig Lewisohn, Dr. Cecil Roth and the Palestinian artist, Elias Newman. The income from membership also shows a gratifying improvement. From October 1st up to February 15th, we received in membership dues, \$34,113, as compared with \$24,420 for the corresponding period last year--an increase of \$10,000. These vividly reflect not only a revival of Zionist sentiment but an increased measure of responsibility on the part of every one of the Zionist groups. The goal of 10,000 new members set by Dr. Wise for the current year is within our reach. Moreover, these will not simply represent members gotten together in a drive, but members who will be integrated into a well functioning Organization.

ELIEZER KAPLAN:

The Chairman then called upon Mr. Eliezer Kaplan, Treasurer of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, who is visiting on an important mission. The Chairman further stated that while he is charged with administering the finances, he is also thoroughly versed with the activities of the other departments of the Executive and has a most intimate knowledge of the present political situation. Mr. Kaplan, through his resourcefulness and ability, has been largely instrumental in placing the finances of the Zionist Executive and of the Jewish Agency on a sound basis. For many years the financial problems of the Zionist movement were matters of great anxiety. Mr. Kaplan has succeeded in solving a major part of these problems.

REPORT OF MR. ELIEZER KAPLAN:

Reviewing the latest events in Palestine, especially the outbreaks in Tiberias, Mr. Kaplan, who spoke in Yiddish, stated:

"We in Palestine know that we are between two dangers. First the external political danger -- the Royal Commission's report; secondly, the internal insecurity.

"The majority of the Jews in Palestine are not alarmed about their personal safety.

"It is essential that before the issuance of the Commission's report we undertake an extraordinary political activity. The executive is doing everything possible in Palestine, London and Geneva to mobilize friends and explain the situation as it really is. But this is not enough. We must not depend only upon the work of the Executive. We must undertake increased political activity in every country, mobilize our friends and public opinion.

"Because of many factors, it is impossible to foresee what the report of the Commission will actually be. However during the past few days there seems to be an indication that the Arabs fear that the report of the Commission will not be greatly in their favor.

"We must, however, not lose sight of the fact that the Commission which was not desired by us, may be motivated by the idea to make compromises with the Arabs in the hope to satisfy both Arabs and



Jews. Naturally this was not in the official proclamation concerning the Commission, but that is what we inferred -- the object being to pacify the Arabs and to show them that they will get a fair hearing, and calm their fears."

Stating that the question linked with the political situation is that of Jewish immigration, Mr. Kaplan said that if we were given the possibility to utilize in full the economic absorptive capacity, many more tens of thousands of Jews could be absorbed annually.

Mr. Kaplan then stated that economic capacity of Palestine, due to Jewish initiative and Jewish creative abilities, has proven the success of Zionism, -- thus the Arab insistence that immigration be based upon political capacity instead of economic absorptive capacity.

Declaring that the Arab extremists in Palestine are in the minority and are trying by brute force to have the majority fall in line, Mr. Kaplan referred to the visit to Palestine of a delegate of the Independent Labor Party of England.

"The representatives of the I. L. P. conferred with everyone -- representatives of the Government, Jews and Arabs. They visited our colonies and every other part of the country. They arrived at the conclusion that even among the Arabs there are those who while they are not pro-Zionist, have a great deal in common with us, and realize the great benefits Jewish immigration has brought to the Arabs of Palestine and the surrounding countries. Moreover, if the Arabs knew that the Government had a definite policy, they would come to an understanding with us.

"At present it is of the utmost importance that you do not cease your efforts. Do not be discouraged.

"The most serious danger, and at the same time the source of our strength, lies in ourselves. If we will not be frightened by the events in Palestine and if we realize that Palestine represents a great hope to world Jewry -- and even to the Arabs -- we will overcome these dangers.

"We must mobilize all our forces. We in Palestine have managed to hold our own in the face of great difficulties and have acted like a people. We are organized, disciplined, and with our ideals and high morale, we have proven that the foundations of our structure are deep and strong."

Mr. Kaplan called for an increased effort on the part of American Jewry.

"You are that section of Jewry upon whom at this hour the major responsibility must fall. You are destined to play the decisive role in this historic hour."

The speaker then dwelt upon the financial and economic aspects of the situation. Referring to the new positions acquired during the period of

unrest, as the building of the Tel Aviv harbor, Mr. Kaplan said:

"There is no extensive unemployment, as only about 6% of the working population is unemployed. True, as a result of outbreaks there were crises in some industries, for instance the building industry was reduced to half its former proportions, but we placed thousands of workers engaged in this industry, in other undertakings. Although we can conscientiously say that we have weathered the storm, we are desperately in need of financial assistance.

"We must intensify our colonization and our activities. We must enlarge industry and agriculture for which we need large sums of money.

"I repeat, we must have mass demonstration of all Jewish people and mobilize our entire strength. How can we proceed to do this? It is not so simple, but there is one way that is familiar to all of us -- the way of the shekel.

"We are on the eve of a Zionist Congress. We must have one this year, because who can help us carry the responsibility at this hour besides the Zionist Congress? I am not referring to our internal affairs -- party problems. The Zionist Congress must deal with Palestine and the structure we are building there, and how representative will be the vote that decides that. It is not a question of sporadic meetings or articles in newspapers. We must have mass action and mass mobilization, because the Palestine question involves our very existence. Therefore, we must have the greatest possible representation of Jewry at this Congress.

"We do not think it is too much to expect America to give 500,000 shekolim. I heard you report that you have 26,000 members. I am not minimizing your achievements, but what I am now asking of you is altogether along different lines. We must have mass response on the part of American Jewry.

"You must help and participate in this important task."

At the conclusion of Mr. Kaplan's report, the Chairman stated that Mr. Kaplan would be glad to answer questions.

Mr. Braham asked what has been done by the Jewish Agency in the way of rapprochement between Jews and Arabs.

Mr. Ribalow inquired as to what should be our program and what must be done in order to maintain our position.

Mr. Kaplan replied that with regard to rapprochement, efforts in this direction have been made since 1929, and that during the past eight months there have been negotiations not only with Arab leaders in Palestine but outside of Palestine.

As to our future program, Mr. Kaplan replied that he is convinced that if we stand firm and peacefully pursue our great task, we will achieve



the peace and security we want. All we ask is the opportunity for Jews to go to Palestine and build up the country with our own ability and means.

REPORT OF DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN:

Dr. Goldstein reported briefly on behalf of the United Palestine Appeal and the Jewish National Fund. He stated that the U. P. A. had arrived at a more cordial form of cooperation with the J. D. C. than has heretofore been obtained and a cooperating committee representing the J. D. C. and the U. P. A. is beginning to function for the purpose of joining in certain efforts which will benefit both the U. P. A. and the J. D. C. One of the functions of this coordinating committee will be to impress the importance of the U. P. A. and the J. D. C. upon the local charities. Nearly 40% of the U. P. A. income has been derived from the Community Chests. One of the outstanding leaders of the J. D. C. has given his consent to more active cooperation with our Campaign this year than ever before. Mr. Felix M. Warburg has consented to serve as the Honorary Chairman of our appeal, and others of their leaders will cooperate this year. Having heard Mr. Kaplan and realizing as we all do the actual situation in Palestine, we are convinced that at this particular time, it becomes all the more urgent for us to pour the maximum public funds into the upbuilding of the Yishub. We can say with great pride and satisfaction that the investments we have made in the past are the best investments which have been made,-- the same applies to the land which has been purchased through the Jewish National Fund and the colonies that have been established through the Keren Hayesod and the man-power that has been integrated in those enterprises. In those investments we have the greatest strength of the present and greatest security for the future.

REPORT OF RABBI IRVING MILLER:

Rabbi Miller reported on behalf of the Committee on Organization. He stated that the Organization Committee took up its work under a Mandate given to it by the last Convention of the Z. O. A., which instructed the Z. O. A. to proceed to set up Regions throughout the country for the purpose of carrying on a more intensive program of Zionist activities that will include not only membership but cultural work, pro-Palestine activities, and also fund-raising, such as the U. P. A. and J. N. F. After an intensive study of the organizational situation throughout the country, he felt that it is necessary to have more decentralization within the Organization as in those territories where there are functioning Regions, the result has been more active Districts. Accordingly, a relationship between some central authority and our Districts was set up which resulted in tremendous benefit to these Districts.

Mr. Miller then urged that the Districts be entrusted with direct responsibility of raising definite sums for the U. P. A. and for the J. N. F. Having been absolved from such a responsibility the Districts hitherto have failed to function adequately in these communities. Therefore the Z. O. A. must proceed to energize and activate our Districts by formulating a comprehensive program of Zionist activities for every District, and by placing direct responsibility upon each of them for the carrying out of that comprehensive program of activities. This program should



also embrace political work among the non-Jews of every single community, to create a stimmung, fostering the cultural activities, and the function of raising funds for Palestine.

The Organization Committee suggests that the Zionist Organization of America adopt this proposal and that the Districts be asked to bring in any forces that they deem necessary for the carrying out of that program so that it be done under the auspices of the District. The Organization Committee further proposes that the Z. O. A. be in a position to place its own Directors at the disposal of the U. P. A. and the J. N. F. for fund-raising, with the understanding that these are Directors of the Zionist Organization charged with the execution of a comprehensive Zionist program twelve months during the year, and that eventually, as the result of such renewed activity on the part of such Districts, there will be created throughout the country, Regions.

The Organization Committee is fully convinced that the best interests of the Z. O. A. will be served by the formation of a chain of Regions throughout the country, each one charged with the full responsibility of maintaining a full Zionist program, including fund-raising. The Organization Committee asks Mandate from the Executive to proceed with its work in this direction.

#### DISCUSSION ON REPORT OF RABBI MILLER:

Mr. Shelvin stated that since a regional plan had been submitted to the Providence Convention and subsequently adopted and referred to the Organization Committee, it is surprising that the Organization Committee should come before this meeting with no plan except the theory of districts which was proven years ago as not being the ideal form of organization. Mr. Shelvin suggested that pending a discussion on the report of the Constitution Committee it would be futile for the Administrative Committee to adopt any definite resolution thereon.

Mr. Robert Silverman pointed out that for seventeen years Zionists have been complaining that the Zionist Organization has been converted into a fund-raising machine, and now Rabbi Miller emphasizes the fact that fund-raising should be an integral part of the District function. He stated further that it is impossible to charge the Zionist District as such/<sup>with</sup> complete responsibility for fund-raising because the A. P. C. included other Zionist groups; viz, the Poale Zion and Mizrachi. With regard to the question of regions, Mr. Silverman stated that the resolution on the subject adopted at the last Convention created very much confusion. The principle of regions may be a good one, but to date it has resulted only in lack of cooperation with the National Office.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION:

Mr. Maldwin Fertig, Chairman of the Constitution Committee, reported that agreement has been reached on major points of the proposed Constitution. The objective is to have a Constitution that will meet with the opinion of the majority of the Zionists and will be lived up to. The text will shortly be published in the New Palestine so that members of the A. C.

and Zionists at large will have opportunity to study it.

Mr. Fertig then read some of the features of the proposed Constitution which will be submitted for approval to the Convention:

1. The Z. O. A. shall have jurisdiction of all Zionist funds, Keren Kayemeth, Keren Hayesod, Shekolim, etc.  
The Z. O. A. shall recognize the parties and groups within the Zionist movement as they are now constituted or as they may hereafter be constituted under the Statutes of the World Zionist Organization. The parties and groups shall be autonomous in their party activity, may maintain party or group organizations but shall be subject to rules of the Z. O. A.
2. It provides that the Regional plan of organization shall become basic in the Z. O. A.; that the country be divided into geographical regions comprising one or more contiguous States, excepting the City of New York. Each Region shall have responsibility for carrying on all Zionist activities and fund raising. Every District, Society, Group, or other organization within the territorial limits of the Region, shall become affiliated with it.
3. Members of the Z. O. A. may associate themselves in social, religious, educational, economic, insurance Palestine welfare or other units and when chartered by the Z. O. A., shall be deemed registered societies and function as Districts or become part of the District in the Region in which they are located.
4. The Hadassah Women's Zionist Organization, The Order Sons of Zion, and other Jewish National organizations engaged in certain activities, may become members of the Z. O. A. upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the National Administration and the Executive of the Z. O. A.
5. The Avukah, Masada and Young Judaea are subsidiary organizations of the Z. O. A. and shall function under its supervision.
6. The officers of the Z. O. A. shall consist of a President, three to five Vice-Presidents, the Chairman of the Administrative Council (old Administrative Committee) Chairman of the National Council and Treasurer. The Chairman of each Region shall serve as Regional Vice-President of the Z. O. A. The Secretary shall be appointed by the Administrative Council. The President may not hold office for more than two consecutive terms. The election of officers of the Z. O. A. shall be held at the afternoon session of the second day of the Convention and shall have precedence over all other business until the elections have been completed.  
The Administrative Council shall consist of the officers, the Regional Vice-Presidents, the elected Chairman and sixty members of whom no more than thirty shall be residents of the City of New York. The Convention may elect no more than five members at large.

The National Council shall consist of two hundred fifty members to be chosen by the Region and District organizations, in such manner as may be provided by the rules of the Administrative Council.



Mr. Wolfson, who is a member of the Constitution Committee, pointed out that it is intended to create a possibility for the others to come in to a Territorial Organization and at the same time allow us to function as the Zionist Organization of America until that time will come.

DISCUSSION:

Col. Everts suggested that both reports -- that of the Committee on Organization and that of the Committee on Constitution -- be discussed simultaneously.

Mr. Lipsky pointed out that it is entirely out of order for an administrative body to discuss something that does not appear in concrete form so that a decision could be made either for or against it. Mr. Lipsky suggested therefore that the whole matter be referred back to the Committees and to the Executive, with instructions to bring in as soon as possible definite instructions on the matters which have been submitted.

The Chairman suggested that perhaps the better way would be to listen to all the reports insofar as they are ready and then have them distributed in writing to the members of the Administrative Committee so that we can at the next meeting act upon them.

Mr. Guzik asked the Chairman to rule that any discussion on the question is out of order and that the Committee's reports should be limited to a definite plan to carry out the Regional plan of Organization.

Mr. Spicehandler suggested ruling on Mr. Guzik's point of order.

The Chairman recalled that the last Convention adopted a resolution calling upon the Committee on Organization to work out the details for a plan of Regional Organization, which the Convention adopted.

Mr. Lipsky said that Rabbi Miller's statement embodied an idea that has been set forth a number of times. However, since that idea was in another proposal pertaining to Regions, the matter became confused. For example, what Rabbi Miller had in mind was to preserve the integrity of the Zionist Organization through imposing upon Zionist Districts an obligation to raise funds for the Keren Hayesod and the National Funds, exactly as Hadassah imposes obligations upon Hadassah Chapters. That does not mean that the U. P. A. or the National Fund goes out of existence, but that we should try to recover the fund-raising ability or capacity of the Zionist Districts so that when we come into a certain city the Zionist District should feel a direct obligation to the Z. O. A. to raise certain funds for national purposes. Mr. Lipsky suggested to Rabbi Miller, in view of the misunderstanding on the subject, to withdraw the proposition until the Executive itself will present a formula.

REPORT OF MR. LIPSKY ON PUBLICATIONS:

Mr. Lipsky then reported as Chairman of the Committee on Publications and Propaganda that a Committee had been set up composed of all those connected with the issuing of publications of the Zionist Organization or any of its affiliated bodies, including the Editors of Hadoar, of



Dos Yiddish Folk, the Masada Journal, the Hadassah Bulletin, the Avukah Journal, and of the New Palestine. He said it was found that the various Zionist Organizations and groups in America get out a surprisingly large amount of publications. In addition to the New Palestine, the Hadoar, and Dos Yiddish Folk, there are issued a number of commendable publications by Masada, Avukah, Hechalutz, Hadassah, Poale Zion, and under the auspices of the League for Labor Palestine, including the Jewish Frontier. There are any number of excellent publications which are gotten out in mimeographed form. The Committee on Publications and Propaganda had the task at the very beginning to look over this field and to try to bring about some sort of cooperation between those publications over which we have a personal and direct control, so that there may be some consensus of opinion formed among the editors of the publications and thus, so far as the Z. O. A. is concerned, there should be some sort of intelligent interchange of opinion between the papers and the periodicals.

With regard to the matter of Dos Yiddish Folk, Mr. Lipsky said that the decision to publish Dos Yiddish Folk was a decision of the Executive of the Z. O. A. taken in full meeting with a very thorough discussion of the whole matter.

Mr. Lipsky reported further that the Committee has had in mind the organization of a seminar for speakers with the object of inculcating a unified understanding on fundamental Zionist questions. There should be some understanding of the principles involved, so that our speakers, who appear as official Zionists, should be in a position to speak accurately and persuasively on these questions. It is the intention of the Committee, with the assistance of the Organization Department, to organize a series of meetings to take place over a period of eight weeks in which all those in New York who enroll as potential speakers will be asked to join.

There is a great distinction, Mr. Lipsky pointed out, between the propaganda carried on for fund-raising and the propaganda conducted for the purpose of furthering Zionism. At this time when our propaganda has much to do with fund-raising and is dependent on our ability to impress people with regard to our ideas, it is very important that our Zionists become the vanguard of a propaganda which is to win all Jewry of the United States and that this propaganda be maintained on the level of thorough understanding of the ideals and principles for which we stand.

Mr. Lipsky reported further that Dr. Lewisohn proposed the organization of a publication society similar to the one organized by Mr. Shoken in Palestine which issues little books without covers periodically. Many Zionists would be interested in subscribing for these books which would deal with fundamental Zionist questions. The idea is to issue five books a year, serving as a basis for a valuable cultural propaganda among the Zionists. The cost of these books would be 30¢ each or \$1.50 for the five books for the year. Certain people have undertaken to subscribe for as many as 100 sets, so that 5,000 copies of these books could be subscribed for in advance. Dr. Lewisohn is now drawing up a list of suggested titles and we will have to give some consideration to this prospect before the summer sets in.

REPORT OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Mr. Cowen reported on the activities of the newly organized Education Department of the Z. O. A. stating that it was under the direction of Dr. Jacob S. Golub.

The Committee on Education at a number of meetings adopted the program for the work of the Department. The Committee includes representatives of all the General Zionist Youth Organizations.

It is planned to convene a conference of educators at which various problems of Zionist education will be presented by the Department of Education.

The Districts have been asked to appoint committees on education and to notify the National Office regarding the appointment of their cultural chairmen so that the Education Department may cooperate with them.

The scope of activities of the Department includes:

1. The preparation of pamphlets on important problems confronting the Zionist movement today. Twenty-two brochures are in the process of writing, including a statement on General Zionism by Mr. Lipsky. The cost of these brochures will be moderate, as most of the writers are volunteers, and the cost of the printing will be well within the budget of the Education Dep't.
2. A number of articles have been mimeographed and are being distributed among the districts.
3. A Forum will be inaugurated on March 21st, in New York, on outstanding Zionist problems. The lectures will take place at the Society for Advancement of Judaism, and the schedule is as follows:

March 21 - "Jews and Arabs - Louis Lipsky; Haim Fineman

March 28 - "The Near East in European Politics" - Prof.  
Hans Kohn

April 11 - "The Cultural Influence of Palestine on the  
Diaspora" - Ludwig Lewisochn; A. H. Friedland

April 25 - "Palestine's Absorptive Capacity" - A. Revusky

May 9 - "British Policy in the Near East" - Waldo E. Stevens  
Abraham Ben-Shalom

These lectures will subsequently be published and distributed at a very nominal charge.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE AT ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Mr. Guzik moved, and it was seconded and carried

THAT the Executive be requested to make a report at each meeting of the Administrative Committee, including the activities of the standing committees; and also that the reports of the standing committees be sent to the members of the A. C. in advance of A. C. Meetings.



MEETINGS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:

It was moved, seconded and carried

that the next meeting of the Administrative Committee be held on Sunday, March 21st, and that thereafter the Administrative Committee meet on the fourth Sunday of each month.

DEATH OF GABRIEL H. MAYER:

Mr. Lipsky called attention to the passing of Mr. Gabriel H. Mayer of Philadelphia. Mr. Mayer was at one time Vice-President of the Federation of American Zionists, Chairman of the Finance Committee, and for a number of years was responsible, partly, for maintaining the Maccabean Magazine.

Decided that a resolution be adopted and copy of the resolution be forwarded to the family of Mr. Mayer.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE:

In the absence of Mr. Louis P. Rucker, Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr. I. Maltin read the report.

"When we adopted our current budget we contemplated reducing our deficit this year by \$22,000. There is no doubt that this will be done. The income from the present membership campaign is favorable. The percentage of \$6 members is being gradually reduced and the \$3 membership is consequently being increased. Last year the percentage was for \$6 membership - 33% and for \$3 membership - 67%, whereas this year it is 30% and 70%. Our Shekel account has been paid up to date beginning with October 1, 1936. The average income per member, after paying the Shekel and the refund to the Districts is \$2.25. Our net income to date is \$32,000 whereas last year this time it was \$27,000. In other words, we have \$5,000 net income on the first of February, 1937. Our other income is from the United Palestine Appeal. We have received \$47,000 against last year's \$32,500. Our total income from all sources was \$84,000 from July 1st up to date. Our expenses amounted to \$78,000, leaving a surplus of \$5,000. We expect to have a \$22,000 surplus by the time of the Convention, and our book deficit will not exceed \$35,000. We have expended about \$2,500 to fix up the new offices of the Z.O.A. The payroll has been paid up to date.

Report approved.

A resolution of thanks to the Finance Committee for its labors was moved and adopted.

Meeting adjourned at 6 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS MARGULIES  
Secretary



ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
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STEPHEN S. WISE  
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WILLIAM M. LEWIS  
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*Vice-Presidents*

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*Chairman, Admin. Committee*

A. J. RONGY  
*Chairman, National Council*

LUDWIG LEWISOHN  
*Honorary Secretary*

MORRIS MARGULIES  
*Secretary*

## EXECUTIVE

CHARLES A. COWEN  
ABRAHAM GOLDBERG  
EDWARD L. ISRAEL  
I. H. LEVINthal  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
SAMUEL MARKEWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
CHARLES RESS  
ROBERT SZOLD

## Associate Members

ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

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*Chairman*

MORRIS WEINBERG  
HARRY P. FIERST  
*Treasurers*

ABRAHAM KRUMBEIN  
ABRAHAM LIEBOVITZ  
GABRIEL A. LOWENSTEIN  
ELIAS PREISS  
LOUIS RIMSKY  
SIGMUND THAU

ISRAEL MALTIN  
*Auditor*

March 3, 1937.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The Zionist Organization of America is one of the bulwarks in the United Palestine Appeal of 1937. It regards the success of the United Palestine Appeal drive as one of the paramount objectives of Zionist work in America during the coming year.

It is essential that this spirit translate itself into the activities of individual Zionist units in every community. Zionist workers must regard themselves as the mainstay of the work and aims of the United Palestine Appeal.

In cities where fund-raising for overseas work is included in the local Welfare Fund, Zionists must be zealous in protecting the interests of the United Palestine Appeal so that its \$4,500,000 quota may receive adequate recognition. In communities where there is a combination of the United Palestine Appeal with other overseas campaigns, the Zionist forces must see to it that Palestine receives at least parity in the allocation of funds. Wherever possible, Zionists must endeavor to obtain more than fifty percent of the funds in order to make up for the lesser allocations that may be made in cities not fully appreciating what Palestine has done and can do in increasing measure to solve the problem of Jewish homelessness.

Cities which raise funds for Palestine through separate campaigns for the United Palestine Appeal must have immediately impressed upon them the urgency of a generous and quick response. There must be emphasized the fact that the \$4,500,000 quota of the United Palestine Appeal can be obtained only if there is a redoubling of the activity of previous years and an enlargement of the contributions normally made, both by the community as a whole and by the individual donors.

It will be a source of strength to the Zionist Organization of America and of encouragement to me if your district will report to me from time to time on the status of the United Palestine Appeal Campaign in your district and if you will indicate what measures you have taken to initiate a drive in your city and what steps have been taken to protect the interests of the United Palestine Appeal in a combined campaign or in the Welfare Fund.

There is no need for me to elaborate upon the need for an accelerated tempo in the upbuilding of Palestine. We must safeguard what we have. We must extend the absorptive capacity so that additional thousands and tens of thousands may find a home and hope in the Jewish National Home.

To accomplish this, it is imperative that the United Palestine Appeal obtain its quota of \$4,500,000 in 1937. The extent of your cooperation and of your assumption of leadership will determine the measure of that success.

Faithfully yours,

  
President



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ZOA EXECUTIVE

HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1937

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PRESENT: Messrs. Wise (in the chair) Cowen, Goldstein, Fierst, Kraemer, Lipsky, Margulies, Miller, Ress, Rucker, Rothenberg; by invitation - Messrs. Eliezer Kaplan, Sam Caplan, Dr. Jacob Golub; representatives of youth organizations - Messrs. Imber and Schwartz.

ZOA BUDGET AND ACTION OF UPA:

Dr. Wise called upon Mr. Lipsky to make a statement on recent deliberations of the UPA Finance Committee.

Mr. Lipsky stated that the Executive should be made aware of the fact that there has been pending a radical change in the financial relations between the UPA and the ZOA.

The UPA at the beginning of this year faced certain conditions in connection with the campaign in New York and in relation to the cooperation of the non-Zionists in the campaign, which required steps to be taken for the formation of a new Finance Committee which should have greater influence on the Campaign than heretofore. This new Finance Committee has been appointed, and at the first meeting held this week, it became apparent that the Committee would demand a change in the relationship of the UPA to the Regional Offices that have been established, and that the UPA would not continue to support such regional divisions. Furthermore there seems to be a strong feeling that the subvention to the Zionist Organization should be revised.

Dr. Wise inquired whether such revision would be operative immediately.

Mr. Lipsky replied that there is to be another meeting of the Finance Committee next Tuesday night, but before that there is to be a meeting of the UPA Administrative Committee and the Keren Hayesod Administrative Committee. Mr. Lipsky did not know whether the Finance Committee would finally settle this matter at its meeting next week. He added that it was not the intention of the Finance Committee to embarrass the ZOA by abruptly terminating action, but to give the ZOA the opportunity to adjust itself to the prospective changes. Moreover that Mr. Harold Jacobi (the chairman) had stated that while he did not think such items belong to the budget of the UPA, he was interested in Zionist propaganda and was prepared to organize a committee to raise funds for the ZOA. A committee has been appointed by the Finance Committee to look over certain items of the budget, personnel, etc.

Mr. Lipsky further stated that it was agreed that in view of the fact that the subvention to Palcor was raising a controversy, it was considered desirable to delete this item from the budget.

He thought that if the Finance Committee would operate as a Committee and refrain from delegating its full power to one person, it would function properly, and that it was obvious that the UPA would not be drawn into long range propaganda.



Dr. Wise then made the following statement for the record:

"However painful this process of amputation, the Chair wishes to say that he thinks nothing wholesomer or healthfuller could happen to the ZOA than once again to be removed from the 'land of plenty' and placed on its own feet. We broke up the United Jewish Appeal in order to stand on our feet, in order that work for Eretz Israel should not be dominated by the spirit of 'charity'. It will be hard for a time -- very hard. We may have to cut to the bone, but I am ready to go to the Convention and to the Zionists and say: 'either you will run the Zionist Organization in America or it will be run by some rich non-Zionists because they are supporting it and not we'. I am opposed to the continuation of the policy of dependence upon people who work for Palestine because of the desire to 'do tzdakah' and not because of the privilege of building up the Zionist movement. We must stand on our own feet. The members of the ZOA should raise the budget of the ZOA. A new day must begin for the Zionist Organization of America, and new ways and means must be devised."

Mr. Lipsky recalled that in the councils of the ZOA, he urged at the very beginning that we should avoid the impression that we get a commission for raising the funds, but proof of our service and getting paid for the service we render, concretely and practically from the business point of view.

Mr. Rucker stated that we must reconcile ourselves to the every day life and needs of the Zionist Organization, and if we review the history of the ZOA, we will find that the same position prevailed during the period of the Palestine Restoration Fund.

Mr. Cowen recalled that the expenses of the Zionist Organization of America, and education and propaganda were included in the Palestine Restoration Fund, since the building up of the Zionist Organization and the restoration of Palestine were regarded as one task.

Mr. Lipsky replied that when the Palestine Restoration Fund was started the idea was to get a fund to build up the Zionist movement so that it could serve a very useful purpose at the end of the war.

on Mr. Cowen then pointed out that the Mizrachi and Poale Zion are carrying/campaigns parallel to the UPA for their own purposes, while at the same time receiving subventions from the UPA. We must either be allowed to do this, at the sacrifice of our work for the UPA, or receive a subvention

Mr. Ress recalled that he alone voted against the subvention to the ZOA by the UPA because of self-respect, despite severe criticism. He was of the opinion that the ZOA should have its own campaign for funds.

Mr. Fierst called attention to the fact that the present budget of the ZOA is subject to revision on March 31st and therefore in the light of these developments, the ZOA Finance Committee will have to guide its procedure accordingly.

Mr. Rucker took it for granted that for 1937 the UPA will not change what is already in the form of a contract, and therefore he did not see the necessity of having a committee at the present time investigating something to be changed perhaps after the Convention or at the end of 1937. Moreover he took issue with the statement of the Chairman on the necessity for eliminating the subsidy or service charge from the UPA. He added that the facts of the sit-

uation speak for themselves. The present budget of the ZOA is \$170,000 and from all sources, excluding the UPA, we will probably receive about \$70,000 to \$80,000. Therefore we shall be forced either to go out and raise \$90,000 or \$100,000 or receive it from other sources, or drastically cut down our expenses to the level of 1932. This would mean strangulation for the UPA, and the UPA would suffer immeasurably because Zionists would divert their attention and funds from the UPA to the necessity of maintaining the ZOA. While no one wants to hurt the UPA, no one should do anything to hurt the important activities begun by the ZOA in 1936; namely, assistance to the youth organizations, creation of an Education Department, improving and extending propaganda, etc. Moreover in asking the subvention from the UPA it was felt that a larger subvention to the ZOA would increase the effectiveness of the UPA. Therefore if such subsidy is withdrawn it will redound to the disadvantage of the UPA. This problem, Mr. Rocker stated, did not require the appointment of a special committee but should be handled by the Finance Committee.

Mr. Eliezer Kaplan believed that the UPA Finance Committee would not abruptly terminate the subsidy to the ZOA which will be given time to adjust itself, but as Mr. Lipsky proposed, the ZOA should not wait until the end of 1937 but take immediate steps to reorganize its finances. He pointed out also that if the general public were aware of the fact that \$90,000 out of the UPA is utilized as a subvention to the ZOA instead of being sent to Palestine, it would create a bad impression. He felt that while the ZOA was entitled to such subsidy, the public would resent it especially at this time when money is needed for emergency purposes in Palestine. He added also that changes will have to be made in connection with the subsidies to the Mizrachi & Poale Zion, especially since these are not given for services rendered as in the case of the ZOA, but only for purposes of goodwill. This situation must be altered as quickly as possible.

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT on the basis of the statement made by Mr. Lipsky and the Chair, a committee of 5 be named by the Chairman to report at the earliest possible moment on the structure and set-up of the ZOA, and that this committee shall meet together with the Finance Committee and prepare a report for the Executive.

#### PRO-PALESTINE FEDERATION PETITION :

The resolution of the Pro-Palestine Federation, adopted by the American Christian Conference on December 15, 1936 was placed before the meeting.

The Executive was informed by the Secretary that the Pro-Palestine Federation is considering the submission of this resolution to the President of the United States and the British Ambassador.

Mr. Cowen thought it was the function of the Pro-Palestine Federation to do this but that we should advise them as to the best and most effective way of presenting this resolution.

Dr. Wise agreed with Mr. Cowen and proposed the following motion which was seconded and carried:



THAT the Chairman be authorized to appoint a committee of three including Mr. Cowen, to deal with the resolution of the American-Christian Conference, in conjunction with the Political Committee.

#### POLITICAL COMMITTEE :

At this juncture, Mr. Lipsky called attention to the fact that certain decisions were made by the Executive during the absence of the President; namely that he be asked to organize the Political Committee in order to deal with the work of the Pro-Palestine Federation and other political matters. Moreover in view of the fact that there had been no meeting of the Political Committee for some months, that an attempt to be made to reorganize the Committee be made, so that it will function.

The Chairman accepted the suggestion of Mr. Lipsky and stated that as a matter of fact, the Political Committee will have to be continuously active.

#### SHEKEL CAMPAIGN :

Mr. Margulies reported that yesterday afternoon a meeting took place of the heads of the various parties together with Mr. Eliezer Kaplan to discuss the 1937 shekel effort. A proposal was submitted in behalf of the Z.O.A. that it would be more effective, instead of merely selling shekolim, to have the sale of tickets, tied up with a petition, or declaration, similar to the Roll Call, the signatories testifying to their endorsement of the Basle Program. Only through a large scale effort can we hope to realize Mr. Kaplan's objective of 500,000 shekel-payers in the United States. It is proposed to charge \$1, of which 50¢ would go for the payment of the shekel, 25¢ for the local organization engaged in the work of selling shekolim, and 25¢ to the national organization, to cover the overhead expenses involved. It is not unreasonable to expect that the Z.O.A. alone could enroll 250,000 such shekel-payers, since the present membership is about 25,000 and each member would be charged with the responsibility of selling ten shekolim. In view of the present situation in Palestine and the report of the Royal Commission it is essential to have an impressive registration of Zionist strength. It is proposed to launch this effort at a mass meeting in Madison Square Garden and to undertake this year's shekel campaign on a scale never heretofore attempted.

In this connection, Mr. Lipsky called attention to a cable from the Executive in Palestine, announcing the issuing of a call to Zionists the world over for a shekel Campaign during the month of Nissan. At the meeting of the representatives of the various Zionist Organizations held yesterday, it was decided to summon immediately the National Shekel Boards and get in touch with all communities throughout the United States to have local shekel boards set up. The National Shekel Board has already begun considering plans for a National Shekel Campaign.

Rabbi Miller inquired whether this is to be an independent shekel campaign by the Z.O.A. or one unified shekel campaign by all parties. Should the latter be the case, the campaign cannot be conducted along the lines suggested by Mr. Margulies.



Mr. Lipsky stated that if the Executive

Mr. Lipsky stated that if the Executive approves of Mr. Margulies' proposal, it should be submitted to the Shekel Board which should be urged to adopt it if possible; furthermore, that an independent Z.O.A. campaign would be better, provided the rules of the Shekel activity permitted this.

Mr. Kaplan believed that this could be arranged to conform with the rules.

Mr. Lipsky pointed that among the difficulties would be the fact that Hadassah does not conduct any shekel campaign and that the Poale Zion was strongly opposed to increasing the price of the Shekel.

Dr. Wise inquired when the Shekel Board would meet again, to which Mr. Lipsky replied that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday.

Dr. Goldstein stated that it is within our province to determine what we can do as the Z.O.A., and the Shekel Board can have no objection to maximum effort on the part of the Z.O.A. This question links up in a way with the question discussed before in connection with the action of the U.P.A., and the necessity of the Z.O.A. to exercise ourselves as the Z.O.A. and to strengthen our ranks. Dr. Goldstein therefore recommended that we determine today on a maximum effort for the Shekel, and that we communicate to the Shekel Board the fact that we have determined to undertake our own effort, and that we proceed immediately with our plans to have our own shekel campaign.

Mr. Ress said that it is advisable to have our own shekel effort, but that the campaigns of the other parties should take place simultaneously in order that the Shekel Board could plan accordingly.

Dr. Wise pointed out that the entire shekel activity would be limited to April and May.

Mr. Lipsky called attention to the fact that the Executive was losing sight of the suggestion of Mr. Margulies, which should be proposed to the Shekel Board for adoption. If the Shekel Board rejects it, efforts must be made to secure agreement; if such agreement cannot be secured, then the Z.O.A. proceed independently.

Dr. Goldstein added that if we can succeed in having the other parties adopt the same idea of the \$1 petition-shekel, it would be very fine, but our approach should be the approach of competition on equal terms if possible, and for the Zionist movement as a whole. Speaking as a General Zionist, he reminded the Executive that in previous years the Poale Zion sold shekolim and we did not.

Mr. Lipsky corrected the statement of Dr. Goldstein and said that the Z.O.A. sold more shekolim than the Poale Zion but only a very small proportion of General Zionist shekel payers took the trouble to vote for delegates to the last Zionist Congress, whereas the Poale Zion turned out in full force.

Dr. Wise stated that the Mizrachi and the Poale Zion have the same interest as the Z.O.A. in showing great numerical strength before the British Government.

Mr. Lipsky added that if general agreement to the petition proposal can be secured, regardless of the price of the shekel, something worthwhile can be achieved so far as a demonstration of Zionist strength is concerned.

Mr. Kaplan stated (a) that the shekel campaign could be used as a political weapon for Palestine in relation to the Mandatory Power; (b) that a proposal be made to the Shekel Board to find a common form for this activity and a unified price; (c) if the Shekel Board can not agree as to the method and amount, then the Executive should decide the amount; (d) every party must put forth all its strength in this activity, whether united, or as "competitive coordination."

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT Mr. Margulies' plan for a "petition" or demonstration form of Shekel campaign be approved in general and be referred back to the members of the Shekel Board, in the hope that this will result in a unified effort; THAT the launching of such shekel effort at a large demonstration meeting be referred to a Committee on United Effort.

#### AGENDA FOR MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON MARCH 21st. :

It was decided to propose the following agenda for the meeting of the Administrative Committee on Sunday afternoon, March 21st:

- 1-Report of Political Committee
- 2-Shekel Effort
- 3-U.P.A.
- 4-Reports of Standing Committees
- 5-Report of Executive
- 6-Time and Place of Convention

#### NEXT MEETING OF EXECUTIVE:

It was decided that the Executive meet next Wednesday, March 17th, at 4:30 p.m. for the purpose of preparing its report to the Administrative Committee.

#### LETTER FROM BROOKLYN ZIONIST REGION:

It was decided to defer action on the letter from the Brooklyn Zionist Region.

#### TIME AND PLACE OF CONVENTION:

Dr. Wise urged that the Convention should not take place over the 4th of July week-end as last year, but beginning Sunday, June 27th.

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the Convention should take place from Sunday, June 27th to Tuesday, June 29th.

With regard to the place of the Convention, Dr. Wise at first proposed that it should be held in Chicago since several consecutive Conventions have been held in the East.

Mr. Margulies pointed out that it has been the practice of the Z.O.A. to alternate each year between the East and the middlewest, but in view of the fact that the last three Conventions have been held in the East, Zionists in other sections are strongly complaining that they are being isolated. Therefore he would recommend that the 1937 Convention be held in the middlewest.

Mr. Rocker was strongly in favor of holding the Convention in New York City.

It was finally decided that the Executive conduct a referendum with regard to the place of the Convention the choice being; New York, Chicago, or such other cities as may be favored.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

MORRIS MARGULIES

Secretary



Since the last meeting of the Administrative Committee, February 21st, the Executive met on February 26, March 11, and March 17. 1937

The February 26 meeting was primarily devoted to a consideration of the political situation as it affects our work here. During the discussion it was brought out that of late the Arabs resident in America have been very active, circularizing many clergymen and leading Americans with their pamphlet "Whither Palestine?", also addressing letters to every United States Senator and Congressman. In view of the general political situation and the Arab activity, it was decided that our Political Committee become more active and adopt effective measures not only with a view of aiding the political work of the World Zionist Organization, but also of combatting the anti-Zionist activities carried on here by the Arabs.

\* \* \* \* \*

The March 11th meeting, among other matters, dealt with the situation that has arisen as a result of the action taken by the Finance Committee of the UPA, looking toward a reduction of the budget, calling for the revision of the subvention to the Zionist Organization and the discontinuance of the subsidies to the Regional Bureaus. It was decided (a) that Dr. Wise and Mr. Lipsky meet with a subcommittee of the UPA Finance Committee to discuss this matter; (b) that the Chairman be authorized to name a subcommittee which should at the earliest possible moment consider the ZOA structure as it will be affected by the possible financial revision contemplated by the UPA.

It was also decided that a committee of three be named to confer as to the best way of effectively utilizing the resolution adopted by the American-Christian Conference of December 15th, 1936.

This meeting also decided to adopt in principle the proposal made by the Secretary, that the Shekel effort this year be made in the form of a petition or declaration, and the Shekel campaign should take cognizance of the impending Royal Commission report which will have to be dealt with by the next World Zionist Congress. Therefore, this effort should be launched on a scale heretofore not attempted in this country. The goal is to be for 500,000 Shekel-payers. Of these the ZOA should attempt to secure 250,000. In view of the fact that our membership is now over 25,000, every member should be held responsible for a "minyan" Shekel-payers.

The matter of the next Convention came up and it was decided that a referendum be held among the Districts in an endeavor to ascertain whether New York or Chicago is preferred. Opportunity should also be given to Districts to suggest any other city. The date of the Convention was set for Sunday, June 27 to June 29. The results of the referendum are to be submitted to the Administrative Committee for final decision. This meeting also prepared the agenda for the March 21 meeting of the Administrative Committee.

Both meetings -- that of February 26 and March 11 -- had the benefit of the presence of Mr. Eliezer Kaplan, Treasurer of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem, who participated in the discussions.

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The March 17 meeting dealt with a review of the activities of a number of standing committees, devoting the major part of the meeting to a discussion of the launching of the Shekel Campaign. Mr. Markewich for the Shekel Board reported that the suggestion of a petition or declaration form of Shekel Campaign was adopted, but that the second half of Mr. Margulies' proposal calling for a dollar enrollment, of which 50¢ was to go for the Shekel, 25¢ for local expenses, and 25¢ for national expenses, was not accepted. The Shekel Board

decided that the enrollment be on a 50¢ basis.

In connection with the Shekel effort the Secretary read the following cable from Mr. David Ben Gurion:

"THE SHEKEL CAMPAIGN THIS YEAR IS OF THE UTMOST POLITICAL URGENCY STOP THE CONGRESS IS FACED BY DECISIVE PROBLEMS AND PERHAPS BY QUESTIONS INVOLVING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH MANDATORY POWER STOP OUR MAIN SUPPORT IS AMERICAN JEWRY STOP ONLY BY LARGE REPRESENTATION OF AMERICAN JEWS IN ZIONIST CONGRESS WILL IT SHOW POLITICAL STRENGTH AND PRESTIGE STOP WE CALL UPON ALL PARTIES TO INAUGURATE IMMEDIATELY HUGE SHEKEL DRIVE WITH MINIMUM QUOTA OF 500,000.

This meeting had the benefit of the presence of the noted Zionist, Dr. Joachim Irlitz of Germany who is here for a brief visit.

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The Organization Committee of which Rabbi Irving Miller is the Chairman had one meeting since the committee last reported to the Administrative Committee. At that meeting of the Organization Committee a further discussion took place with regard to the regional plan submitted to the last meeting of the Administrative Committee, but no definite decision was taken pending the final readjustment of the UPA budget.

The Finance Committee of which Mr. Louis P. Rucker is the Chairman has continued its bi-weekly meetings. The Committee reported that the subsidies granted by the ZOA, beginning with the present fiscal year, as of October 1, 1936 to March 15, 1937 were: Young Judaea (exclusive of rent) \$4,596, Masada (exclusive of rent) \$3,552, Avukah (exclusive of rent) \$836, Hadar (exclusive of rent) \$3,973, and for political work, beginning with July 1st, the sum of \$5,897 was spent.

The Education Committee of which Mr. Charles A. Cowen is the Chairman, met once during the period under review, at which further action was taken with regard to brochures which the Committee contemplates issuing, as reported to the last meeting of the Administrative Committee, as well as the Forum instituted by the Committee, to begin Sunday, March 21st, and continuing on March 28th, April 11th, April 25th and May 9th. The Committee also issued a Passover Book for the use of the Zionist Districts.

A report of the Political Committee which met on Thursday, March 18th, will be submitted to the Administrative Committee by the Chairman, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

The Publications Committee of which Mr. Louis Lipsky is the Chairman, and the Constitution Committee, of which Mr. M. Maldwin Fertig is the Chairman, had no meetings during the last four weeks.

Respectfully submitted  
MORRIS MARGULIES  
Secretary



MINUTES OF MEETING OF Z.O.A. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON  
SUNDAY, MARCH 21st, 1:30 P.M., AT THE ASTOR HOTEL, NEW YORK CITY

PRESENT: Messrs. Morris Rothenberg (in the Chair), Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Dr. A. J. Longy, Harry P. Fierst, Morris Margulies, Charles A. Cowen, Rabbi Irving Miller, Charles Ress, Isaac Imber, Dr. Jacob S. Golub, Elias Preiss, Louis Rinsky, Henrich Abramowitz, Isaac Allen, Rabbi Morton M. Berman, Herman W. Bernstein, Israel S. Chipkin, Sol Cohen, Harry Grayer, Leo Guzik, Rabbi A. M. Heller, Arnold K. Isreeli, Rabbi Arthur E. Neulander, Hon. Hyman J. Zeit, Menahem Ribalow, Bernard G. Richards, Jochanon I. Rudavsky, Dr. Leo B. Schwartz, Bernard Shelvin, Carl Sherman, Hon. William I. Siegel, Abraham Spicehandler, Ben Dov Waldman, Leo Wolfson, Morris Mallove, Charles Rosengarten, Samuel Uman-sky, Col. Benjamin Evarts, Rabbi Harry Z. Zwelling, David Frankel, Henry Rosenbaum, Rabbi Abraham I. Jacobson, Jacob Ginsburg, Mrs. John Safer.

Excuses for Non-Attendance were received from Dr. B. W. Abramson, Dr. Samuel W. Boorstein, Dr. Frances Burnce, Morris Catchman, J. H. Cohodes, Jos. H. Ehrlich, David Friedman, Daniel Frisch, Rabbi Joel S. Geffen, Cantor Myro Glass, Joseph Goldberg, Rabbi Henry R. Goldberger, Rabbi Solomon Goldman, Isidore Hershfield, Jacob B. Hoffman, B. Horwich, Rabbi Edward L. Israel, Pincus Juran, Eliot L. Kaplan, Rev. A. Kaplan, Dr. Lazarus Karp, Prof. Gustave Klausner, Max F. Kohrman, Rabbi Israel E. Levinthal, Rabbi Felix A. Levy, Israel Lewin, Judge Wm. M. Lewis, Dr. M. B. Lichtenstein, Jacob Rabinowitz, Aaron Riche, Samuel Rothstein, Simon Shetzer, Max Shulman, Bennett Silverblatt, M. J. Slonim, Elihu D. Stone, Morris Weinberg, Dr. Alexander S. Wolf.

DR. LEON E. LEVINSON:

The Chairman paid a tribute to the memory of Dr. Leon E. Levinson, a member of the Administrative Committee, who passed away last week. He referred to the devotion of the deceased to the Zionist cause with which his whole life was bound up. He then called upon Mr. A. K. Isreeli to deliver the eulogy.

Mr. Isreeli characterised Dr. Levinson as one of those figures who are gradually passing away without being replaced. He was of the old type Yeshivah student, the son of a Rabbi. While still in Russia he became a very ardent Chovevei Zion, working for the realization of the Zionist ideal. He became associated with the Zionist movement from the first day of his arrival to this country. Zionism was his sole interest, the only one in his life. Very few of his type remain amongst us. He contributed to the growth of the Zionist Organization of America, rendering invaluable services to the movement in New York. His passing will be deeply mourned by every Zionist.

The members present rose in silent tribute to the memory of Dr. Levinson.

DECIDED to convey the sense of this meeting to the members of Dr. Levinson's family.



REPORT OF Z.O.A. EXECUTIVE:

The Secretary read the report of the Executive which had previously been circulated among the members of the Administrative Committee. Copy of the report is attached hereto.

Mr. Imber said that the figure of \$3,552, listed as the subsidy granted by the Z. O. A. to Masada from October 1, 1936 to March 15, 1937, was inaccurate. On this basis, Masada would have received \$600 monthly, whereas the actual subvention received was \$300 monthly.

The Chairman suggested that this item be referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Wolfson moved, and it was seconded and carried

THAT the report of the Executive as submitted by the Secretary be adopted.

SHEKEL:

Mr. Wolfson reported that the Shekel Board is being organized as elections for delegates to the Congress will have to be held some time in June. He pointed out that under a rule of the Election Board, until the new names are entered, the party or group that is first to file a list becomes entitled to the first place on the ballot. At the last meeting of the Shekel Committee Hadassah stated that it was ready to file its list so as to be designated Ticket No. 1 on the ballot. Two years ago we submitted a nomination list not paying due regard to the order of the names. We had 80 or 90 nominees. Under the rules of the Congress, the first in the order named come into consideration. If the first 20 are elected, the next 20 on the list are alternates. In other words, No. 41 on the list would not be able to become either a delegate or an alternate unless all of the others fall out. Two years ago a situation had arisen where Nos. 49 to 61 withdrew in order to entitle Rabbi Silver to be a delegate. Such a situation is unpleasant and is not conducive to harmony. Mr. Wolfson suggested that the Executive of the Z. O. A. be directed to devise immediately a method of rectifying the situation affecting the order of the names listed. Unless the Executive deals with this matter promptly, the Z. O. A. will find itself last on the list, instead of No. 1, where it should be. The solution is that the Executive should be given authority by the Administrative Committee to take steps for the nomination of the delegates in the order in which it is desired that they serve, and to nominate the alternates in the same manner. He moved

THAT the Executive of the Z. O. A. be authorized to devise a suitable method of nominating delegates to the World Zionist Congress.

Mr. Caplan stated that despite the fact that the Z. O. A. figured as list No. 1 on the ballot in two previous Congress elections, its ticket did not meet with success at the ballot box. To be placed first on the ballot does not imply a greater drawing card. What we have to discuss

is how we can get out the vote. We ought to pay serious attention to this object so that every supporter of our ticket shall not fail to cast his vote this year.

Mr. Spicehandler asked if Mr. Wolfson intended that the Executive of the Z. O. A. assume the function of a Nominating Committee for the Congress delegates.

The Chairman pointed out that to adopt a procedure as suggested by Mr. Wolfson would be in violation of the statutes of the World Zionist Organization. According to the Statutes, any group of 200 Shokol-payers is entitled to submit a nomination list. Even as an Organization our right to nominate a list derives from the fact that we are a Shokol group. Consideration must be given to the fact that Zionists throughout the country wish to have a voice in the nominations, before a list of nominees and the order of the names is definitely arranged. For this purpose we have submitted our lists of nominees for approval to the membership of the Zionist Organization.

Mr. Margulies pointed out that the Z. O. A. was as yet the only Organization that followed democratic procedure in connection with the Congress elections, while the other parties and organizations have this year apparently proceeded on the theory that was suggested by Mr. Wolfson -- to have a small committee sit down and present a full list of names as the candidates of their party. The Z. O. A. was the only Organization to consult its constituency on the composition of its nomination list. It is more important for us to retain the democratic principle, to ascertain from our constituency as to who really our delegates should be, and be third or fourth on the Ticket, than to have the power delegated to the Executive as suggested by Mr. Wolfson. Even at the risk of being placed second or third on the list we should not forego the democratic principle we have acquired in the last four years.

Mr. Guzik offered an amendment to Mr. Wolfson's motion to the effect that a Committee be appointed, democratic in form, with a view to the adoption of a method of nominations and elections which will secure our rights as far as possible.

Mr. Rosenbaum suggested that the democratic campaign this year be started early, and all necessary preparations made in time so that we are lined up to do the work at the right moment.

Mr. Wolfson withdrew his motion and the following motion was offered by the Chairman:

THAT we refer this matter to the Executive with instructions to give this problem their immediate attention.

This motion was unanimously carried.

The Chairman reiterated his belief that Dr. Wise take this matter up with the Hadasah before they file their petition.



Mr. Wolfson pointed out that it is permissible to submit a petition with the delegates and thereafter to file an amended petition.

With regard to the reports of the standing committees, Mr. Margulies said that, as referred to in the report of the Executive, the Organization Committee is not ready to report to this meeting the final readjustment of the UPA budget as it affected the Z. O. A. allotment and the maintenance of the regional bureaus. Also, report of the Education Committee was included in the Executive report. He called particular attention to the Forum inaugurated by the Education Department.

Mr. Ribalow inquired as to the plans of the Education Committee for the promotion of Hebrew culture.

Mr. Cowen replied that steps had been taken to further the introduction of Hebrew in the high schools which had been inaugurated by Mr. Chipkin and had the support of Dr. Wise and others. In addition the Committee contemplated the publication of some books in Hebrew as soon as the financial status was clarified. Mr. Cowen then referred to the problem of distributing the material prepared by the Education Department since the distribution will be based upon the measure of the demand for this material.

Mr. Imber stated that in his opinion, one of the primary purposes for the creation of the Education Department was to prepare material -- not so much factual, as containing a program for the various youth organizations. Pending such program Masada had suspended its cultural activities since it expected to receive impetus in this direction from the Education Department. He therefore inquired what the Education Department had done to provide such material.

Mr. Cowen replied that the immediate object of the Education Department was to provide the Zionist Districts with material and when that is done, the Educational Director and the Committee would turn their attention to the needs of Masada and the other youth organizations.

Mr. Richards stated that as a member of the Education Committee, it was his opinion that the Organization jumped into this educational activity without much thought or planning, without analyzing the situation and what the needs are. As a result, the material sent out by the Department is too profuse and repetitious.

Rabbi Berman said that the Committee on Education meets frequently and is prepared to receive any suggestion and criticisms.

It was decided that all matters affecting problems of education be referred to the Committee on Education.

#### POLITICAL COMMITTEE REPORT:

Dr. Wise called attention to the decision taken at the last meeting of the Executive held during his absence from New York, pertaining to the



activities of the Political Committee. Dr. Wise pointed out that frequently the most important political work is done without any public notice and without any public reference. He then rendered a confidential report on the political situation in Palestine and in London.

Pointing out the occasional necessity of making decisions independent of London and Jerusalem, Dr. Wise recalled that the cable he dispatched to America from London in August, 1936, in protest against the threatened action of the British Government, prepared the way for the action later taken by the American Government. Although he told Dr. Weizmann exactly what he was going to do he did not ask for approval, because he (Dr. Wise) wanted to be free to act, and to leave Dr. Weizmann free. Subsequent developments led London and Jerusalem to ask us to do what had already been asked by Dr. Wise four weeks earlier.

Dr. Wise further stated that it is the opinion of the Political Committee that being in accord with the Zionist Organization in London, and while believing that Dr. Weizmann and Ben Gurion are rendering effective service in protecting and strengthening Zionist interest, we as representing the largest single Jewish community in the world must remain free to take political action considered best in the premises, independent of what London and Jerusalem will say in the matter later. The more vigorously and independently our action will be, the stronger will be the endorsement of London and Jerusalem in three or four months later when the issue will be decided.

Finally Dr. Wise asked that the Political Committee receive authorization from the Administrative Committee to act in this connection. He therefore proposed the following resolution:

THAT we herewith reaffirm the statement made a few days ago by the Executive of the Jewish Agency demanding such changes in the Administration as will bring a restoration of order, and secondly the right of self-defense for the Yishub.

We are glad to note that a small beginning has been made in re-enlisting the Jewish supernumeraries and their re-arming as part of the program of the government.

Dr. Wise then read the following cable:

TEL AVIV MARCH 20 1937

"WISE MOSSINSON  
NEW YORK

"THE BLOODY DEEDS AND THE ANARCHY IN THE COUNTRY CONTINUING STOP THE GOVERNMENT ABSOLUTELY PARALYZED DOES NOT PAY ATTENTION TO OUR DEMANDS AND PROTESTS STOP THE REQUESTS OF OUR INSTITUTIONS FOR A CHANGE OF METHODS AND REGIME REJECTED STOP WE ARE DELIVERED TO ASSASSINS FROM

AMBUSH STOP THERE IS A GREAT DANGER TO THE MORALE OF THE YISHUB AND TO ITS ECONOMIC POSITIONS STOP WE DEMAND YOUR HELP STOP AROUSE PUBLIC OPINION OF INFLUENTIAL POLITICAL CIRCLES STOP IT IS NECESSARY TO GIVE THE YISHUB THE RIGHT OF AN ARMED SELFDEFENSE AND TO PROCLAIM MARTIAL LAW IN THE WILD NORTH STOP IN CONNECTION WITH THIS SITUATION NECESSARY TO CABLE IMMEDIATELY MINIMUM 200 POUNDS FOR ENFORCEMENT OF OUR KILLETZIM"

"GLUCKSON ETTINGER"

Dr. Wise then stated that in view of the present situation, he had discussed with members of the Political Committee the advisability of adopting a resolution today urging the Executive of the Jewish Agency to convene the Zionist Congress this summer in the United States, and also to ask Dr. Weizman to come here immediately after Pesach for a week or 10 days in connection with our political action. The proposal to hold the Congress in America would constitute a solemn if not effective warning to the Mandatory Government that American Jewry is concerned at the outcome of the Royal Commission's finding.

Dr. Wise asked for a rising vote reaffirming the decision.

Mr. Rothenberg offered the following amendment to Dr. Wise's resolution:

1. THAT we in America, although it is our utmost desire to have full faith in the good intentions of the British Government, nevertheless feel that, especially in view of the extra police and military force that is going into Palestine as part of the program of the Government, we herewith wish to reaffirm the statement made a few days ago by the Executive of the Jewish Agency to demand all the necessary changes in Administration for a restoration of order, and secondly, the complete right of self-defense. We are glad to note that a small beginning has been made in re-enlisting the Jewish supernumeraries and re-arming as part of the program of the Government.

The resolution was unanimously carried.

The Chairman then called for a vote on the following question:

SHALL we ask that the next World Zionist Congress take place in America?

Mr. William Siegel suggested that before the Administrative Committee puts itself definitely and affirmatively on record as desiring to have the next Congress in America, the Political Committee consult those people in whom we have confidence.

The Chairman re-stated the motion as follows:

THAT we refer the matter to the Political Committee with power, after we have expressed our opinion.



He called for discussion on the motion.

Mr. Spicehandler agreed with Dr. Wise that the Congress should meet in America. The political position in Europe is such that every country in Europe is looking towards America for guidance. Since the Palestine situation will be presented at the Congress, its effect in this country and abroad can only redound to the benefit of our movement.

Rabbi Miller felt that the problem of holding the Zionist Congress in America is bound up with other problems involving finances, technical obstacles, etc. which may make the holding of the Congress here physically impossible. He expressed the thought that Dr. Wise's chief interest lay in the effect the invitation coming from America will have upon political sentiment in Great Britain. Even if it will be found later to be impossible to hold the Congress in America, the very issuance of an invitation to the Zionist Executive, in view of public opinion the world over, will in itself have the desired political effect on Great Britain and the League of Nations. For the purpose of such effect, Rabbi Miller suggested that the Zionist Organization of America take the initiative in summoning an extraordinary conference of all Zionist bodies for the express purpose of issuing an invitation to the Zionist Executive to hold the Congress in America this year, and that such a conference be given the widest publicity.

Mr. Shelvin stated that in the main he agreed with Rabbi Miller, but there are important economic considerations involved in holding the Congress here, especially since the majority of the delegates come from Poland, Roumania, Palestine, etc. and unless we are prepared to finance their trip they would not be able to make the voyage to America. He suggested instead that a conference of world Zionist leaders be held here to discuss various important problems confronting the movement.

The following proposal of Rabbi Miller was seconded and carried:

THAT a conference be called of all Zionist bodies to consider the question of extending an invitation to the Executive to hold the 20th World Zionist Congress in America; our representatives to be given power to recommend this as the invitation of the Administrative Committee.

It was also moved and carried

THAT the Administrative Committee invite Dr. Weizmann to come to America at the earliest possible moment for action with regard to the situation in Palestine.

Mr. Spicehandler moved

THAT in view of the report of Dr. Wise, the time has come for an opportunity to be given to the Jewish masses to express their sentiments in the matter; that a large



mass meeting be held, at which our speakers will present the situation in Palestine and appropriate resolutions will be adopted.

Dr. Wise amended Mr. Spicchandler's motion as follows:

THAT this matter be referred to the Political Committee of the Zionist Organization of America.

The motion as amended was unanimously carried.

RABBI JOACHIM PRINZ:

The Chairman introduced Rabbi Joachim Prinz, who recently arrived from Germany.

CONVENTION CITY:

Mr. Margulies reported that a referendum is being conducted among the Zionist Districts throughout the country as to the Convention City and that the responses thus far received indicate the following:

For the Atlantic Seaboard Districts:

|    |       |               |
|----|-------|---------------|
| 41 | favor | New York City |
| 8  | "     | Atlantic City |
| 5  | "     | Chicago       |
| 2  | "     | Asbury Park   |
| 1  | "     | Cleveland     |
| 1  | "     | Pittsburgh    |
| 1  | "     | Philadelphia  |
| 1  | "     | Boston        |

For the Western Districts:

|    |       |          |
|----|-------|----------|
| 12 | favor | Chicago  |
| 4  | "     | New York |

For the Eastern Districts: 5 favor Chicago

For the Western Districts: 4 favor New York

Mr. Margulies read a communication he had received from Mr. Max Shulman, Chairman of the Midwest Zionist Region and a Vice-President of the Zionist Organization of America, in reply to the inquiry regarding the Convention City, as follows:

"As to your inquiry about the Convention City, I do not believe that the Convention this year should be either in New York or Chicago. New York is altogether too far removed from attracting a large delegation from all over the country, and Chicago is not prepared to have a successful convention. I would suggest that your Committee

should decide on some centrally located city, either Detroit, Cleveland or Pittsburgh. Detroit or Cleveland preferable. Both cities are easily accessible to all communities and should draw a large delegation."

Mr. Margulies suggested that in view of the fact that the report is incomplete, that the date of the Convention be reaffirmed and the question of the city be left to the Executive of the Z. O. A.

Mr. Umansky, Chairman of the Connecticut State Zionist Region, suggested that the Convention be held in Philadelphia.

Mr. Spicandler favored Chicago or some other Midwestern city.

Mr. Rudavsky moved

THAT the Convention be held in Atlantic City.

Mr. Rosenbaum seconded Mr. Rudavsky's motion.

It was thereupon duly moved, seconded and carried

THAT the final decision in the matter of the Convention City be left to the Executive of the Z. O. A., with the recommendation that Atlantic City be given consideration.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS MARGULIES  
Secretary

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE  
*President*

HARRY FRIEDBERG  
SOLOMON GOLDMAN  
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN  
GUSTAVE KLAUSNER  
JOSEPH KRAEMER  
WILLIAM M. LEWIS  
MAX SHULMAN  
ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
ELIHU D. STONE  
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*Vice-Presidents*

MORRIS ROTHENBERG  
*Chairman, Admin. Committee*

A. J. RONGY  
*Chairman, National Council*

LUDWIG LEWISOHN  
*Honorary Secretary*

MORRIS MARGULIES  
*Secretary*

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ABRAHAM GOLDBERG  
EDWARD L. ISRAEL  
I. H. LEVINthal  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
SAMUEL MARKEWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
CHARLES RESS  
ROBERT SZOLD

## Associate Members

ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

LOUIS P. ROCKER  
*Chairman*

MORRIS WEINBERG  
HARRY P. FIERST  
*Treasurers*

ABRAHAM KRUMBEIN  
ABRAHAM LIEBOVITZ  
GABRIEL A. LOWENSTEIN  
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ISRAEL MALTIN  
*Auditor*

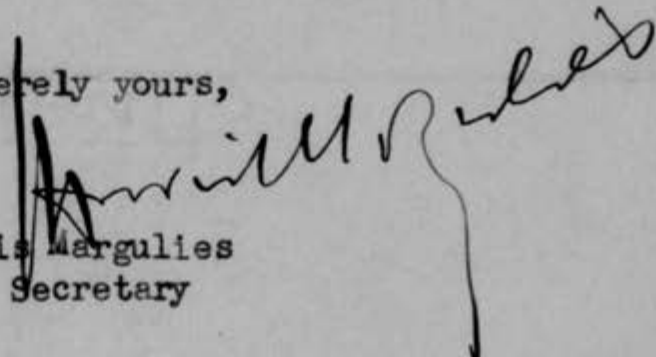
April 6, 1937

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Under separate cover we have sent you a copy of the March issue of "Foreign Agriculture", which contains an article on Palestine. The Palestine article was published with the cooperation of the Zionist Organization of America. The U.S. Department of Agriculture was good enough to supply the Z.O.A. with 500 copies of this publication.

Sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM:BP



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ZOA EXECUTIVE

HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1937 - 4:30 P.M., - 111 FIFTH AVE.

PRESENT : Messrs. Wise (in the chair) Cowen, Fierst, Goldstein, Kraemer, Lipsky, Margulies, Miller, Rothenberg, Stone; Imber and Schwartz (representing Youth Organizations) Golub, Montor, Silverman (by invitation).

Excuses for absence received from Rabbi I. H. Levinthal.

COMMUNICATION TO NEW PALESTINE RE DR. GOLDSTEIN'S SERMON :

Dr. Wise reported on a communication received by The New Palestine, from Boro Park Zionist District commenting on a recent sermon by Dr. Israel Goldstein. He stated he proposed to reply that the matter did not come within the purview of the Executive, or that such communication should be published in an official organ of the Z.O.A.

Proposal approved.

COMMUNICATION FROM MR. SZOLD RE ZOA PARTICIPATION IN EXPENSE OF REPORT TO ROYAL COMMISSION :

A letter has been received from Mr. Szold advising that the expense of distributing the copies of the memorandum filed with the Royal Commission, the Colonial Office and the U.S. State Department, on "American Interest in the Administration of the Palestine Mandate", amounted to over \$1300. Mr. Szold stated also that Mr. Rocker had mentioned a ZOA participation of \$500, and that in the former's opinion the ZOA should pay at least that amount plus additional copies to be printed.

It was the consensus of opinion that the ZOA as one of the 5 or 6 signatories to the memorandum, should pay only a proportionate share of the initial expense of \$1300.

SECRETARY'S REPORT :

Mr. Margulies reported that as of March 31, there were renewals of membership amounting to 16,408 members as against 11,222 last year, representing an improvement of 5,184. The total membership is 27,106 which includes 6,698 new members. There is reason to expect that by the Convention the total number of new members will reach 10,000, the goal set by Dr. Wise for this year. The increase in membership is primarily reflected in the gains outside of New York, which amount to 46% as against 26% in New York. A conference of New York District Chairmen took place this week, at which assurances were given that every effort will be made between now and the Convention to improve the New York membership situation.

The income from membership dues on March 31st was \$48,881 as against \$33,172 last year. This sum of \$48,881 does not include \$2,260 due from Chicago.

Beginning this week, in order to intensify membership activities and the UPA campaign now in progress, and facilitate the launching of the Shekel effort, the New Palestine will be mailed to 35,000 people, covering both \$6 and \$3 members, and some 7,000 UPA contributors.

as to

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Lipsky/who authorized the sending of The New Palestine to the \$3 members, Mr. Margulies replied that this is being done in accordance with a decision of the Finance Committee.

Mr. Margulies reported also that Dos Yiddishe Folk is being printed in 3,000 copies and mailed out to 2500 persons including 335 direct subscribers. A few hundred copies are placed on sale at news stands.

#### CONVENTION :

With further reference to the plebiscite on the place of the Convention, Mr. Margulies reported that of the 220 Districts in the East, 71 Districts responded as follows: 48 favored New York, 8 Atlantic City, 7 Chicago, 2 Asbury Park, 1 Cleveland, 2 Pittsburgh, 2 Philadelphia, 1 Boston. 22 replies were received from the 110 Districts in the Middlewest and West. Of these 17 proposed Chicago, 4 New York, 1 Detroit.

Mr. Margulies added that recent correspondence revealed a desire on the part of a considerable number of persons to hold the Convention in Buffalo.

Mr. Elihu Stone urged that Buffalo be designated as the next Convention city.

Mr. Rothenberg expressed a preference for Atlantic City.

Mr. Lipsky was opposed to having the Convention in New York or Atlantic City, proposing Buffalo or Pittsburgh.

It was finally decided to defer action on this matter till the next meeting. In the meantime, however, the Secretary was directed to make inquiries from Buffalo, Detroit, Pittsburgh and Atlantic City.

#### FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF ADOPTION OF PALESTINE RESOLUTION BY CONGRESS :

Mr. Stone called attention to the fact that July 1937 will mark the 15th anniversary of the adoption of the Lodge-Fish resolution on Palestine by the Congress of the United States, and that this occasion might be utilized to good advantage in connection with arousing public sentiment in support of Zionist aims. He suggested that a committee be appointed to arrange celebrations throughout the country and if possible also a large demonstration in Washington.

PROPOSAL TO CONVENE WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS IN THE UNITED STATES :

Dr. Wise reported that in accordance with the resolution of the Administrative Committee, he had written to Dr. Weizmann urging him to come here soon if only for a fortnight, and also that for political considerations the 20th Zionist Congress be convened in the United States this year.

The Chairman proposed that the following cable be sent to Mr. Ussishkin:

"ZOA EARNESTLY INVITES ACTIONSCOM CALL ZIONICONGRESS  
AMERICA STOP BELIEVE MOST IMPORTANT POLITICAL GROUNDS HAVE  
CONGRESS USA STOP FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES NOT INSURMOUNTABLE  
WILL COOPERATE UTMOST MINIMIZE DIFFICULTIES  
WISE"

Dr. Wise was authorized to send the above cable.

SHEKEL RALLY ON LAG B'OMER :

The Secretary proposed that in connection with the launching of this year's shekel campaign, a Shekel Rally be arranged by the ZOA on Lag B'Omer (April 28 or 29).

Mr. Imber reported that at the meeting of the Shekel Board held earlier in the day, it was decided that all shekolim should be accounted for by the 28th of May. Therefore in his opinion, the inauguration of the ZOA shekel campaign on April 29th would not allow sufficient time for an effective sale of shekolim.

Mr. Margulies replied that the Shekel Board should set to work immediately and mail out shekolim, but as far as the ZOA is concerned the active campaign cannot be started for another three weeks as this time is required for membership activities. On April 29th the shekel campaign could be launched on a large scale with a meeting at Carnegie Hall.

It was decided to refer the matter of the Rally to a special Committee to be appointed by the Chairman.

CONFERENCE WITH NATIONAL BOARD OF HADASSAH :

Dr. Wise reported on a conference with the members of the National Board of Hadassah, regarding the enrollment in the ZOA of male relatives of Hadassah members. Hadassah, Dr. Wise stated, is prepared to let the ZOA have the necessary lists since they recognize the importance of increasing the ranks of the ZOA. They are to appoint a committee to cooperate with the ZOA in this matter.

Dr. Wise added that the method of procedure will have to be worked out, as to whether this effort should be undertaken from New York or by local key people, the latter method being more advisable.



It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the chairman appoint a Committee to work out the procedure, and that this committee should also discuss with Hadassah all matters in connection with Congress elections.

FINANCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN UPA AND ZOA :

Dr. Wise stated that the matter of the financial relations between the UPA and the ZOA is still in flux and there is as yet nothing definite to report.

Mr. Lipsky stated that in view of the probability that the appropriation of the UPA to the ZOA is likely to be reduced from the estimated figure of \$90,000 to \$50,000, he would suggest that the Finance Committee together with a representative of the Executive consider the matter of adjusting the ZOA budget so as to conform with its income.

Mr. Fierst pointed out that the ZOA budget was subject to review on March 31st and that the Finance Committee is working on the final figures. It is essential therefore that the subcommittee of the ZOA which is working this matter out with the UPA, should meet with the Finance Committee.

Dr. Goldstein stated that from the standpoint of a business administration it is essential that immediate steps be taken for cutting down the running expenses to meet the reduced budget.

Mr. Kraemer pointed out that the expenditures were fixed months ago and it is not fair to alter the budget now.

Mr. Lipsky agreed with Dr. Goldstein that immediate action should be taken, but he pointed out that up to July 1st the ZOA will not suffer any loss in income. The difficulties will be experienced during the last three months of the fiscal year. It is therefore desirable that the revision of the subject

be not delayed.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT the subcommittee that was named to deal with the UPA in this matter meet with the Finance Committee to examine each item in the budget.

PROPALESTINE HERALD DISTRIBUTED TO SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN :

The Secretary reported that copies of the January, February and March issues of the Pro-Palestine Herald, containing a reply to the Arab pamphlet, "Whither Palestine?", had been sent to every U.S. Senator and Congressman.

Meeting adjourned at 6 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS MARGULIES

Secretary

April 16, 1937

Mr. Morris Margulies, Secretary,  
Zionist Organization of America,  
111 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Margulies:

I understand that Lord Melchett is coming to the United States in connection with the United Palestine Appeal on May 12th. We would have been delighted to use him in connection with our local campaign which, however, closes on May 12th. Do you plan to have him attend other than campaign meetings? If so, we will be pleased to arrange a meeting for him in Cleveland. Please let me know.

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE ZOA

HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1937 - 4:30 P.M., 111 FIFTH AVE.

PRESENT : Messrs. Wise (in the chair) Cowen, Goldberg, Levinthal, Margulies, Miller, Ress, Rongy, Stone, Weinberg; Elias Preiss (Acting Chairman of Finance Committee); Imber and Schwartz (representing the Youth organizations) Dr. Golub (by invitation).

Excuses for absence received from Dr. Goldstein and Prof. Klausner.

COMMUNICATIONS :

1. Mizrachi: The Secretary reported an invitation from the Mizrachi Organization to the ZOA to be represented at the forthcoming Mizrachi Convention on Sunday, May 9, at the Breakers Hotel, in Atlantic City.

Decided to ask Mr. Morris Rothenberg to represent the Organization on this occasion.

2. Dr. M. Rosenbleuth re "Intria": The Secretary read a letter from Dr. Rosenbleuth of London, regarding the use of "Haavera-Marks" for philanthropic purposes in Germany, as per attached.

Decided to refer this matter to Dr. Wise for further investigation.

PLACE OF NEXT ZOA CONVENTION:

A discussion took place with further reference to the place of the next Convention, the choice being among Buffalo, Detroit, Pittsburgh and Atlantic City.

In this connection a telegram was read from Rabbi Lichter of Pittsburgh urging that the Convention be held in that city.

It was the consensus of opinion that it would be too hot at the end of June to have the Convention in Pittsburgh. On the other hand, if it were held in Atlantic City, the Mid-western Districts would feel that they were being discriminated against by having the Convention in the East again.

It was therefore finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT the next annual Convention of the ZOA be held in Buffalo, in order to make the Convention city as accessible as possible to the Middlewest.

REPORT ON CONFERENCE AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH HADASSAH :

Rabbi Miller reported that at the request of Dr. Wise, a committee consisting of Mr. Bess, Mr. Margulies and himself met with Mrs. Epstein and Mrs. Shulman of Hadassah, concerning the matter of closer cooperation between Hadassah and the ZOA in securing the enrollment of male relatives of Hadassah as members of the ZOA.

This Committee recommended to Hadassah, and Hadassah accepted the proposal, that the National Office of Hadassah communicate with all Chapter Presidents, asking them to forward lists of male relatives of members, not affiliated with the ZOA, as well as the names of key people in various communities who could be enlisted in behalf of this membership effort.

Rabbi Miller further reported that the Committee made the specific request that Hadassah ask its Chapters to hold their May meetings in the evening, to enable the husbands of their members to be present, and also that a ZOA speaker be permitted to solicit members for the ZOA at such meetings. This request was granted and acted upon by Hadassah.

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the report of Rabbi Miller be accepted  
with appreciation.

Mr. Margulies pointed out that he was already in communication with the Executive Secretary of Hadassah in connection with this matter.

REPORT BY MR. ELIAS PREISS, ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE :

1. Communication from Women's League for Palestine: Mr. Preiss submitted the following communication:

"The Women's League for Palestine, an organization of American Jewish women vitally interested in the development of Palestine as a Jewish Homeland, has assumed the important task of constructing centers in the cities of Palestine for the social and economic adjustment of immigrant refugee girls.

" In 1932, the League completed its first Beth Hachalutzoth in Haifa. Immediately upon its opening it was recognized by the Jewish Agency as a vital factor in the placement of young girls who could not be absorbed in the various agricultural settlements. In 1936, a similar home was opened by us in Tel Aviv.

"The Jewish Agency and the Central Bureau for the Settlement of German Jews in Palestine have contributed considerable sums of money for the training of girls in the cooperative workshops maintained by us in both these homes. We have now launched a drive for a building fund to erect a Beth Hachalutzoth in Jerusalem.

"Heretofore, we have worked as an independent group without any political affiliation in America. We feel that at this crucial period in Zionist history it is most important that all Zionist

forces stand united.

"It is, therefore, the earnest wish of the Women's League for Palestine to affiliate with the Zionist Organization of America. It is most important that we are advised immediately in what manner this can be accomplished. Our members have already voted to participate in the shekolim campaign. Your prompt decision will determine the agency through which we as an organization will obtain the shekolim.

"Our Committee is ready to confer with your Administrative Board at the earliest possible opportunity."

Sincerely yours,  
WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR PALESTINE  
Mrs. William Prince, President  
Mrs. David L. Isaac, Chairman, Pal. Com.

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT this matter be referred for further consideration and study, to the Committee on Organization, and that the Committee take this matter up as soon as possible in order that the League may be enlisted in the Shekel campaign.

2. ALBERT LOEB - RIFKA ARONSON TRUST FUND: Mr. Preiss submitted the following:

"On May 19, 1920 the Zionist Organization of America received in trust from Albert H. Loeb of Chicago the sum of \$25,000, the accrued interest on which was to be paid to Miss Rifka Aronsohn during her lifetime. At her death, the principal and all accumulated interest at the time were to revert to the Zionist Organization of America which is to devote this fund in the furtherance of agricultural development of Palestine.

This money is on deposit in the Anglo-Palestine Bank in the name of the Zionist Organization of America, and on the 12th of November, 1933 amounted to £ 5,217.

The Zionist Organization of America is indebted to the Jewish National Fund of America to the extent of \$7500.

At a recent meeting of the ZOA Finance Committee it was proposed that the ZOA submit to the JNF the following proposal: that upon an additional payment on the part of the JNF of \$7500 to the ZOA, the Trust Fund of Mr. Albert Loeb be transferred to the Jewish National Fund.

On Monday, April 26, 1937 a subcommittee of the ZOA Finance Committee and the JNF met, and it was agreed to accept the suggestion of the ZOA Finance Committee, subject (a) to approval by the ZOA Executive, and (b) the Jerusalem head office of the JNF."



It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the Finance Committee be authorized to proceed along the lines recommended regarding the payment by the JNF of the sum of \$7500 to the ZOA in consideration of the transfer of this Trust Fund to the JNF.

3. INDEBTEDNESS OF ZOA TO JEWISH COLONIAL TRUST: Mr. Preiss recommended further that out of the \$7500 which the ZOA is to receive from the JNF in connection with the Albert Loeb - Rifka Aronson Trust Fund, arrangements be made by the ZOA to pay off its indebtedness to the Jewish Colonial Trust.

This was authorized by the Executive.

UPA REMITTANCE TO ZOA:

Mr. Margulies reported that the ZOA has received \$92,000 thus far for the balance of 1936 and part of 1937, but no funds have been allotted under the new arrangement which, however, has not yet been ratified.

Dr. Wise pointed out that under the proposed new arrangement, the ZOA was to receive \$50,000 for 1937, two-thirds payable during the first six months, and one-third during the second half of the year. In the meantime this arrangement has been modified, the Mizrachi having advised the UPA that it could not get along on the allotment of \$7,000 and in response to its demand, has been allotted #9800. The Poale Zion thereupon advised the UPA that they would have accepted the original allotment, but if the Mizrachi is to receive more money, they would demand equal treatment. Under the circumstances the question has been raised whether on this basis the ZOA should not receive \$55,000 instead of the original allotment of \$50,000.

Dr. Wise felt that this was a matter for the Executive to decide, but that in his opinion the ZOA should not ask for the additional \$5,000 but abide by the original arrangement. Moreover Dr. Wise called attention to the fact that Mr. Harold Jacobi was sympathetic to the needs of the ZOA, and realizing that it could not conduct effective work with a reduced allotment by the UPA, had virtually promised to help raise funds for the ZOA.

After some discussion, it was decided that the ZOA should not ask for any additional allocation from the UPA, as has been demanded by the Mizrachi and Poale Zion, but to stand by the present arrangement.

REPORT OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Mr. Cowen stated that this was the first intimation he had that he was to report to the Executive today and therefore he is not prepared to make a formal report. He stated, however, that the Department of Education is pursuing its activities, among them being the Forum which has been very successful. Four lectures have already been given, and the 5th and last would take place on May 9th. They have been very well attended, interesting and stimulating, and the results most gratifying. The lectures will shortly be pub-

lished. In addition, a number of brochures have already been written, including a paper by Rabbi Ira Eisenstein on "What Is The Jewish Problem?"

Mr. Cowen reported also that a conference of New York City District and Cultural Chairmen was held on Sunday, April 18th, at which a number of problems were discussed with special reference to the educational needs of the Districts and the proper distribution of the material issued by the Education Department. In addition, Dr. Golub met with the Alumni of the Jewish Institute of Religion, many of the members of which have agreed to prepare syllabi and lectures for the use of the Districts. Similar arrangements will be made with other groups. Dr. Golub has translated the address of Mr. Ben Gurion before the Histadruth, a summary of which will be issued by the Education Department. A portfolio of papers on Palestine and Zionism is being prepared for the delegates to the Zionist Congress. Dr. Golub is also cooperating with Young Judaea in the preparation of Holiday programs, including Lag B'Omer and Shevuoth.

Dr. Rongy praised the work of the Education Department.

#### REPORT OF ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE :

On behalf of the Organization Committee, Rabbi Irvin Miller recommended the following: that the Executive bring before the next Convention of the ZOA the proposal that the dues of the Organization be definitely set at the uniform rate of \$5 a year, including The New Palestine. Rabbi Miller added that this problem is always left to the last session of the Convention and never properly handled.

A protracted discussion ensued.

Dr. Rongy pointed out that the Constitution Committee had practically completed its work and was ready to submit the draft of the new constitution, including the provision with regard to dues, to the National Council for ratification.

Rabbi Miller called attention to the fact that of the present \$6 and \$3 dues, the Organization receives an average of \$2.25, whereas of the \$5 dues, it would receive \$2.50.

Mr. Ress asked whether a uniform dues of \$5 would not result in losing a substantial number of the \$3 members. This might be a serious loss especially from the point of numerical strength.

Mr. Margulies replied that undoubtedly this would be the case. Moreover there will also be a loss of some \$6,000 to \$7,000 on the present \$6 membership, but it is essential to adopt a uniform due. Mr. Margulies thought the membership increase would offset the loss and added that it is proposed also to offset this loss further by having contributing members at \$10 and sustaining members at \$25.



Mr. Margulies pointed out also that the present \$3 membership since it does not receive The New Palestine is for the most part an uninformed membership and not a great asset to the Organization. He added that of the proposed dues of \$5, the Districts would receive \$1, the Region would receive \$1.00; fifty cents would go for the shekel, and the balance of \$2.50 to the National Office.

Mr. Stone believed that there should be a uniform due of \$6 in keeping with the dignity of membership in the ZOA, especially since the dues of other Jewish organizations are much higher.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT the Executive recommend to the Convention the adoption of a uniform dues of \$5 for ZOA membership.

2. Rabbi Miller reported also that the Committee on Organization recommends that the basis of representation to the Convention of the ZOA, by the Order Sons of Zion, Masada and Avukah be changed. He pointed out, for instance, that the Order has been represented exactly in the same proportion as Zionist Districts which pay three times as much to the National Office; the Districts being accorded one representative for every fifty members, and the Order the same representation, although the latter pays the ZOA only \$1 per member. Therefore the Organization Committee felt that representation should be on a more equitable basis; namely, one representative for every 100 members of the Order. Rabbi Miller added, however, that the Executive should vote on this proposal at another meeting when Mr. Joseph Kraemer would be present.

As for Masada and Avukah, the Organization Committee proposes that they be allowed 5 delegates-at-large to the ZOA Convention, instead of one for every 50 members as in the case of Zionist Districts.

Mr. Imber expressed the opinion that this proposal destroys one of the most fundamental conceptions of membership in Masada; namely, that a member of Masada is at the same time a member of the ZOA, and that this will be a serious blow to a large section of young people whom Masada is endeavoring to identify more closely with the Organization than in the past, for Masada hopes to double its membership this year and have about 1400 members.

Mr. Cowen pointed out that the members of Masada and Avukah are adults and should be members of the ZOA on the same basis as the other members and not expect special privileges. He believed that the whole basis of organization was wrong. In this connection he called attention to the fact that Junior Hadassah which, in addition to its membership dues of \$1, raises \$75,000 a year for Palestine, thus relieving Senior Hadassah of that burden, receives no representation at Senior Hadassah Conventions.

Mr. Goldberg felt that the youth should be encouraged and that both Masada and Avukah be given every opportunity to attract as large a membership as possible. He therefore objected to any change in their representation at the ZOA Convention, particularly on any basis of money consideration.



Mr. Margulies believed that this was the ideal time to institute reforms and make changes with regard to dues, representation, etc., especially since this Convention will not be faced with any internal political issues. He stressed the fact that the members of the Order Sons of Zion have their own Convention, and when they come to the ZOA Convention they vote as a unit instead of acting as individual delegates.

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the discussion of the problem of representation at Conventions, to be accorded to the Order Sons of Zion, Masada and Avukah be postponed and continued at the next meeting.

#### MEETING OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE AND NATIONAL COUNCIL:

Dr. Rongy pointed out that the new Constitution, the question of dues and other problems must be submitted to the National Council for approval before the Convention. He proposed therefore that a meeting of the Administrative Committee take place on Saturday night, May 22nd and a meeting of the National Council on Sunday, May 23rd.

This was so moved, seconded and carried.

It was moved, seconded and carried also

THAT copies of the proposed new Constitution be sent first to the members of the Executive and then to the members of the Administrative Committee, in order that they may be duly prepared to make recommendations.

#### COMMITTEE ON CONVENTION PROGRAM :

Decided to authorize the President to appoint a Committee on Convention Program.

#### COMMITTEES ON CONGRESS PLATFORM AND ELECTION TECHNIQUE :

Decided that the President appoint a Committee on the Preparation of a Program or Platform by the ZOA in connection with the forthcoming Congress elections.

Mr. Goldberg urged that the question of Congress elections be discussed as the first item on the agenda of the next meeting of the Executive.

Decided also that the President appoint a Committee on Election Technique.

EFFORTS TO HAVE 20TH ZIONIST CONGRESS IN AMERICA :

Dr. Wise reported on the vigorous efforts he is making to make the leaders of the World Zionist Organization see that the next World Zionist Congress must be held in America and not in Basle. He realized of course the greater financial outlay that would be involved, but he believed that the American Organization would be in a position to contribute \$50,000 toward expenses, since the proceeds of one session at Madison Square Garden could net that amount. In view of the forthcoming report of the Royal Commission and the necessary political measures to be taken it would be most effective to have the Congress here and the \$50,000 would be well spent.

Dr. Wise added that Zionism is no longer a movement to be shunted to Basle; that it is no longer merely an East European Jewish movement, but a world movement. Moreover Switzerland is nothing in world politics, whereas America has a paramount place among world powers, and the decision with regard to the report of the Royal Commission might be affected if it were decided to have the Congress in America.

It was unanimously moved, seconded and carried

THAT the efforts of the President to have the next Congress in America be fully approved, and the President was requested to bring about a conference between the Mizrachi and Poale Zion regarding pressure on their part in this effort.

It was understood that a plan would be worked out to indicate the feasibility of having the Congress here.

Meeting adjourned 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

MORRIS MARGULIES  
Secretary

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE  
Central Bureau for the Settlement of German Jews

77, Great Russell Street  
London, W.C.1.  
April 9, 1937

To the Zionist Federations!

Gentlemen:

Reports have recently appeared in the press, especially in American papers, about an agreement which the Haavara, or its London representative, "Intria", has made with the German authorities and with Germany's so-called "Stand-still-Creditors" in regard to the use of Haavara-Marks for philanthropic purposes in Germany. As these reports are incorrect and misleading I take the liberty of communicating to you the actual facts as follows:

Since 1933 numerous remittances of money for relief purposes have been sent by individuals from all countries in the world to their relatives living in Germany. Such relief remittances can be bought up to the maximum of 200 Marks per month as so-called "registered Marks" in foreign countries, the buyer receiving today about 22 to 24 Marks for £1. A year ago the idea occurred to utilize the amounts accumulated at the Paltreu-Haavara-Office in Berlin, waiting for transfer to Palestine, instead of the registered Marks for the relief of family-dependents in Germany, so far as they were Jews. After protracted negotiations with the German authorities and with Germany's "Stand-still-Creditors", to whom the proceeds of the registered Marks are handed, the conference of the "Stand-still-Creditors" held in Berlin in February passed the following resolution:

"It was agreed that Haavara-Marks should be permitted to be used for the purpose of benevolent remittances from Jewish individuals or organizations for the benefit of Jewish people living in Germany within the limitations imposed by the existing regulations of the Reichsbank in respect of registered Marks."

In future, therefore, foreign Jews who wish to support their relatives in Germany financially will have the possibility of buying Haavara-Marks instead of Registered Marks. The payment of the money in Marks to the relatives living in Germany will be carried out by the Paltreu-Haavara in Berlin, while the foreign exchange paid in foreign countries for the purchase of the Haavara-Marks will go to Palestine and thus help to accelerate the clearing arrangements of the Haavara, by means of which German Jewish families can emigrate to Palestine under the Capitalist category.

As soon as the preliminary steps of organization have been carried out and it is possible for an announcement to be issued, a communication will be made to the Jewish public in various countries, whose cooperation is relied upon in enlisting support for the use of the Haavara-Marks as benevolent marks. The Haavara-Marks will be sold for benevolent purposes at a rate corresponding to the rate of the registered marks used for benevolent purposes.

I would be obliged if you would be good enough to acknowledge the receipt of this letter.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) DR. M. ROSENBLUTH.



# Zionist Organization of America

111 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Office of the President

May 10, 1937.

Dear Fellow-Zionist:

Today, coincident with the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Zionist Organization by Theodor Herzl, the Jewish National Home in Palestine is faced by a crisis that has arisen not because of its weakness, but paradoxically out of its very strength. An attempt is being made to halt the rapid march of Zionism towards the attainment of the goal, as expounded at the First Zionist Congress forty years ago, by a reported plan of the Royal Commission to partition Palestine into Jewish and Arab States.

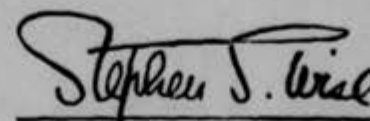
The forthcoming 20th World Zionist Congress, speaking in behalf of World Jewry, will act upon this or any other proposal to be made by the Royal Commission. Mere rejection of any plan for restrictions upon a Jewish Palestine is not enough. Behind that rejection there must be registered the will and the determination of the united Jewish people to resist any violation of its fundamental rights in Palestine and to let nothing stand in the way of the continued upbuilding of the National Home.

The mobilization of Jewish strength in support of the Jewish National Home is now our primary task. That is the significance of the Shekel enrollment, by which it is intended to register the maximum support of the effort to protect the Jewish position in Palestine.

Half a million Shekel payers here in the world's largest and freest Jewish community is a minimum goal which can easily be achieved, if each Zionist will make himself personally responsible for at least ten enrollments. A Declaration form has already been sent to you which provides for ten signatures. Please act without delay to complete this Declaration, which is to be reported to this office, together with the collected Shekel fees, not later than May 28th.

The very existence of the Jewish National Home, the results of years of labor, sacrifice and heroic efforts of our pioneers, the realization of the strivings of the Jewish people, depend upon the action taken by American Jewry at this crucial hour. Delay may spell disaster and frustration of the hopes of millions of persecuted Jews. For the sake of a Rebuilt Zion, I depend upon you to act immediately.

Faithfully yours,



President

## Two Dates to Remember:

MAY 28th—Final Date for Sale of Shekolim

JUNE 20th—Congress Election. Vote for the Z. O. A. Ticket

May 24, 1937

Mr. Morris Margulies, Secretary,  
Zionist Organization of America,  
111 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Margulies:

On or about May 7th Rabbi Silver received a list of names of members of the Cleveland Zionist Society who had not paid their dues for the current year. Since that time a check in payment of dues was sent to your office. Will you, at the very earliest possible moment kindly send Rabbi Silver a corrected list?

Thanking you in advance for your courtesy, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
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*Auditor*

May 26, 1937

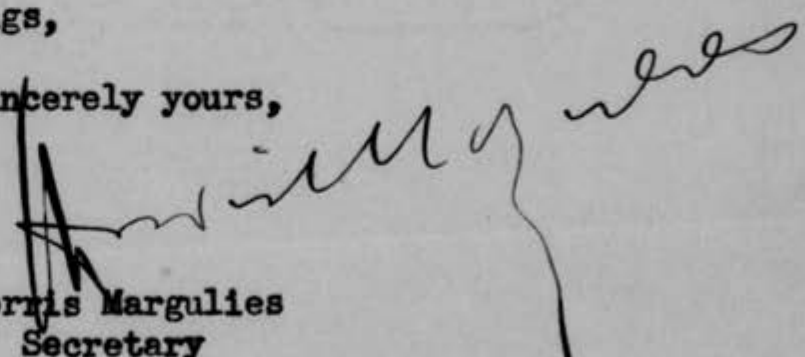
Miss Bessie Kline  
The Emple  
E. 105th St. at Ansel Rd.  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Miss Kline:

As requested in your letter of May 24th  
we are attaching herewith a corrected list of the  
1936 unpaid members of the Cleveland Zionist  
Society. I trust that this list conforms with  
your records.

With Zion's Greetings,

Sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM:HG



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| NLT | NIGHT CABLE LETTER |
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# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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ISRAEL MALTIN  
*Auditor*

June 3, 1937

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
% The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

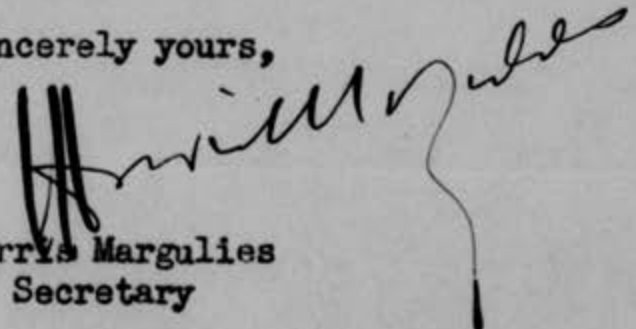
As I informed you by telegraph earlier today, I have succeeded in securing Bernard A. Rosenblatt, who has just returned from a trip to Palestine, to address your meeting to be held on June 15th.

Enclosed herewith is a biographical sketch of Mr. Rosenblatt.

Will you kindly have your Secretary fill out the enclosed meeting schedule blank and return it to this office, so that we may supply Mr. Rosenblatt with the necessary information concerning the meeting.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM:HG

June 4, 1937

Mr. Morris Margulies, Secretary,  
Zionist Organization of America,  
111 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Margulies:

I am very happy to learn that Mr. Bernard Rosenblatt will be with us on June 15. We are proceeding with the publicity at once. I would appreciate if you would procure for me a gloss or a photograph of Mr. Rosenblatt which we may use in the newspapers.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

P.S. I do not know where to reach Mr. Rosenblatt.  
Will you please send me his address?



June 4, 1937

Mr. Morris Margulies, Secretary,  
Zionist Organization of America,  
111 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Margulies:

Enclosed herewith is the schedule blank  
which you asked me to return to your office properly  
filled in.

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.

החסתדרות הציונית של ארצות חברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

111 FIFTH AVENUE  
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ELIAS PERISS  
LOUIS RIMSKY  
SIGMUND THAU

ISRAEL MALTIN  
*Auditor*

June 8th, 1937

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
E. 105th St. and Ansel Rd.  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

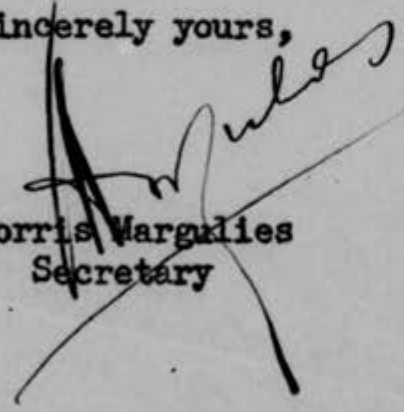
As requested in your letter of June 4th,

I am enclosing herewith a photograph of Bernard  
Rosenblatt.

Mr. Rosenblatt's address is 27 William  
Street, New York City.

With Zion's Greetings,

Sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM: HG

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| NLT | NIGHT CABLE LETTER |
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MEMORANDUM

June 9, 1937

TO

L.D.B.  
F.F.  
J.E.H.  
R.S.  
Bernard Flexner  
I. B. Brodie  
Leon Gellman  
Dr. Israel Goldstein  
Hon. W. M. Lewis  
Lobis Lipsky  
Morris Rothenberg  
✓ Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
David Wertheim  
Hon. Elihu D. Stone

FROM

SSW

I beg to send you herewith two communications, one being a letter under date of June 8th from Dr. Maurice J. Karpf; the other, under date of June 7th, being a copy of a communication sent by Dr. Karpf to Mr. Ben Gurion in London.

Since receiving these communications I have had a talk over the telephone with Dr. Karpf and have urged him that nothing could at this time excuse any such action as would serve the British government and the Arabs at one and the same time.

Dr. Karpf in reply urges if we desire the American non-Zionists to be represented in the Council, action must be taken at once on our part.

May I hope to hear from you at an early moment.

COPY

June 8, 1937

Dr. Stephen S. Wise  
40 West 68 Street  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Wise:

I am leaving instructions with my secretary to send you a copy of my letter to Mr. Ben Gurion, in which I outline the dangers in the stand of the Zionist Executive with respect to Non-Zionist representation on the Executive. I have tried to be very reserved in my statement. I have not exaggerated in the slightest degree the possible effects of their intransigent attitude. While I do not expect that you and some of your fellow-Zionists will agree with everything that I have said, I ask you for the sake of Palestine, which I know means so much to you, to accept my conclusions for I know whereof I speak.

If you agree with my analysis of the situation I think it highly desirable that this matter be discussed, perhaps at a meeting of the Z.O.A. or the U.P.A. next Thursday, and that a vigorous statement be sent to the Zionist Executive urging them to yield on this matter. In many ways I think this is the most important issue before us at the moment, for it will no doubt influence the stand and action regarding the forthcoming Royal Commission Report.

I am leaving for Albany but shall be back Wednesday morning. Please call me at my home before nine o'clock or at my office as early Wednesday as possible so that this letter may go off with the Queen Mary for London and Palestine.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) M. J. Karpf



COPY

June 7, 1937

Mr. David Ben Gurion  
Jewish Agency for Palestine  
London, England

Dear Mr. Ben Gurion:

Ever since May 14th, when Mr. Lipsky sent me a copy of the long cable signed "Zioniburo" containing the amendment to the Constitution of the Agency, proposed by one Podrushnik, to the effect that the Zionists are to have the majority on the Executive, I have been debating with myself whether to write you and the other members of the Executive regarding the seriousness of this step. Several things which have occurred subsequently, seem to leave no alternative but to write to you very frankly, even though you may react to this letter no more favorably than you did to the one regarding Palcor.

Among these things the following are the most important:

1. Receipt of a number of letters from Non-Zionists in this country and abroad indicating deep resentment against this action by the Zionists and asking whether it does not nullify the efforts at the conferences in London and make them appear ludicrous.
2. Receipt of the minute of the first meeting of the Committee of Four, which was to find ways and means for "normalizing" the Zionist and Non-Zionist relationship in the Agency, and which does not augur well for the success of their efforts because of the attitude of the Zionist members.
3. A cable from Dr. Lauterbach stating that the Council of the Agency is to meet on August 18; that plans are being made for election of the Non-Zionist members in the different countries; and asking what our plans are in this country.
4. Personal conversations with some important Non-Zionists in this country who indicate that their patience is at an end; that they have abandoned all hope of bringing about a satisfactory relationship between Zionists and Non-Zionists in the Agency. Some of them feel that although they are in no way effective in Agency policy and procedure, their membership in the Agency is being used to support a program with which they are out of sympathy and which they consider inimical to the best interests of Palestine. Some have accused me of being responsible, in part at least, for the Agency's continuation and make no secret of their view that in working for its continuation as at present constituted, I am rendering a disservice to the best interests of Palestine and the Jewish people.

These and other considerations have made me feel that I have an obligation to place before you, our colleagues on the Executive, and others who are actively interested in the Agency, the possible consequences of your step. While you and your Zionist colleagues may choose to do nothing about it, I shall have the satisfaction of having done my duty and shall have a clear conscience about the consequences which may flow from your action.

On May 21 Dr. Wise and Mr. Lipsky sent you the following cable:



"PROPOSED AGENCY AMENDMENT MOST INOPPORTUNE AND DISCONCERTING VIEW  
IMPERATIVE NECESSITY UNITED AGENCY FRONT NOW STOP PLEASE EXPLAIN  
SITUATION WHICH IS MISUNDERSTOOD HERE."

This must have made clear to you the reaction of the two leading American Zion-  
ists to the proposed amendment, its untimeliness, and the manner in which it was  
done. You replied as follows:

"AMENDMENT PROPOSED NOT BY EXECUTIVE BUT PRIVATE MEMBER ENABLE COUNCIL  
DEAL WITH MATTER AS THREE MONTHS NOTICE FORMALLY NECESSARY FOR CON-  
SIDERATION JEVAGENCY CONSTITUTION BY COUNCIL STOP THIS MADE NECESSARY  
BY LONDON CONFERENCE WEIZMANN WARBURG WHERE WARBURG INSISTED RESTORATION  
FIFTY FIFTY AS REQUIRED PRESENT CONSTITUTION STOP THEY AGREED WITHOUT  
COMMITTING ZIONIST ORGANIZATION NECESSITY NORMALIZE POSITION STOP THREE  
POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES FIRST IMPLEMENT FIFTY FIFTY PRINCIPLE WHICH CONGRESS  
UNLIKELY ACCEPT SECOND FORMALLY ABOLISH SAME THIRD COMPOSE EXECUTIVE  
BY AGREEMENT IRRESPECTIVE FORMAL POSITION AS PRESENT STOP EXECUTIVE  
FAVORS THIRD SOLUTION AS IT ALSO CONSIDERS UNITED FRONT NECESSARY"

You will forgive me for saying that your explanation is rather disingenuous. It  
is inconceivable to anyone who has any acquaintance with the workings of "Zioni-  
buro" that so long a cable would be sent merely on the request of a person who is  
so unimportant that neither Zionists nor Non-Zionists in this country have ever  
heard of him. Moreover, no such person would take it upon himself to propose  
such an amendment and "Zioniburo" would not act upon it if he did. Such matters  
are not accidents. They are carefully planned and "Zioniburo" is unquestionably  
behind this move.

Were it merely to facilitate amending the constitution at the meeting of the  
Council this could have been brought about in other ways which would not have  
caused the irritation and resentment which this cable did. There is also the  
consideration that the amendment was proposed before the Committee of Four  
had an opportunity to meet. In a sense it prejudiced the deliberations and action  
of this committee. Your three proposals in your cable to Dr. Wise clearly in-  
dicate that the Zionist members of the Executive have no intention of bringing  
about an amicable adjustment of the difficulty except on their own terms, which  
include majorizing the Zionists, all protestations in London to the contrary  
notwithstanding.

Before Mr. Warburg and his party left for London the American Non-Zionist  
members of the Administrative Committee drafted a letter in which they made  
clear that they were unwilling to continue in the Agency under the present ar-  
rangement. Mr. Warburg and his colleagues in the discussions in London left no  
doubt about this matter. Your unwillingness to recognize this seems to indicate  
that there is no way out from the present difficulties except to break up the  
Agency. Since the difficulties are due to a violation of a constitutional  
agreement on the part of the Zionists, and their unwillingness to correct this  
violation, the Zionists will have to assume full responsibility for this  
break.

It would be an under-estimate of the intelligence and perspicacity of those to whom



this letter is addressed were I to assume that they are unaware of the effect which a dissolution of the Agency might have at this time. Those who participated in the conferences in London gave ample evidence that they fully recognize the significance of such a step. Mr. Brodetsky said that it would be a major political tragedy. Dr. Weizmann, Mr. Kaplan, Mr. Shertok expressed themselves similarly. We, on the Non-Zionist side, did not and do not minimize the dangers of such a step. It was in fact this recognition and our desire to avoid a break-up that prompted us to go to London in an endeavor to adjust the difficulties. But since our efforts there seem about to be nullified, I feel it my duty to point out some of the possible consequences so that you and your Zionist colleagues will not be unwarned.

The political consequences vis-a-vis the British government, the Mandatory government in Palestine, the League of Nations, the Arabs, and general world opinion, you probably know better than I. But to me they seem nothing less than tragic. I fear very much that their effect may be disastrous upon the future of Palestine from the political standpoint.

You have no doubt also considered the possible effects of a dissolution of the Agency on the income of the Keren Hayesod. I know that the Zionists have criticized the Non-Zionists for not doing more than they do in a financial way for Palestine. But as I have told you and others from time to time, studies which have been made in this country leave no doubt that at least 70 to 80% of the money which has gone to the Keren Hayesod from the United States has come from Non-Zionist sources. There are many influential persons here who have been opposed to giving this money to the Agency because of the inadequate representation which Non-Zionists have had on the Executive. But so long as the Agency continued they had to go along. I have every reason to believe that there would be drastic reductions in the money contributed to the Keren Hayesod by Jewish communities and individuals in this country were the Agency to be dissolved. From conversations with representatives of European countries I am convinced that the situation in those countries is no different and that the result there would be the same.

You should also bear in mind that the Non-Zionists in America and elsewhere who would withdraw from the Agency, would not abandon their interest in or activity for Palestine, and would seek other ways of being effective there. Two alternatives have been receiving consideration. The first is that there be created in Palestine a Council of all enterprises and organizations which are functioning along economic lines and which are controlled partly or wholly by Non-Zionists. Since economics and politics are frequently closely related, it would not be very long before such an economic Council would be obliged to take a stand on political questions. Assuming that the Zionist Organization would become the "new Agency" and would continue its political activities, there would be two world-wide Jewish bodies in Palestine and London both active in the political sphere. The confusion resulting from such an economic Council, made up of the organizations and resources which the Non-Zionists could bring into such a Council, as well as the prestige and influence of those behind it, would in a short space of time become much more influential in government circles than the "new Agency" could be.

The Non-Zionists would also continue their interest in the social and cultural aspects of Palestine upbuilding. You know, of course, that there was a time when the Joint Distribution Committee spent large sums in Palestine. If the Non-Zionists withdraw



from the Agency it would not be difficult for the JDC to resume its activities in Palestine. If it were to go out to the communities in this country with a declaration that it will take up anew its work in Palestine there can be no doubt that the major portion of the funds now contributed to the Keren Hayesod and other Palestinian organizations through the Agency would be diverted to the JDC for its Palestinian work. This would fit in very well with existing attitudes on the part of influential people in many communities, who hold that in contributing large sums to the Agency they are in reality sponsoring and supporting the Zionist program with which they may not be in sympathy and over which they have no control. The effect upon the Agency of such a reduction in income will be obvious to you. Again you must remember that the same thing might happen in other countries.

The Joint Distribution Committee could undertake work in Palestine through affiliated agencies and organizations already in existence with very little additional administrative cost. It would undertake programs of work in immigration and immigrant adjustment, health, education, and other activities, which are close to the interests of Non-Zionists and which the Jewish Agency has thus far neglected for reasons which we need not go into here. The program outlined above would meet these interests and would be most acceptable to some of the most influential people in the different communities.

There is yet one more important consideration. Purely Zionist organizations, enterprises, and activities in this country have profited substantially in the last few years from the funds which were made available to the Jewish Agency. They have used some of these funds for propaganda, some of which was directed against Non-Zionists and the activities which they sponsor. Although there is a good deal of resentment against this, little was done about it. The drastic reduction of funds to the Jewish Agency which would no doubt follow from the program outlined above would seriously affect the activities of these organizations. Zionist propaganda would be seriously handicapped. Whether Palestine would gain or lose from this is an open question, to be answered on the basis of one's philosophy of Zionism and its value or danger to Palestine and the Jewish people. I mention it here only because it seems to me that you have to take this into consideration.

There are other consequences, more or less serious depending upon one's point of view, which would follow the dissolution of the Agency. But if the considerations named above are not sufficiently weighty for you to modify your position, enumeration of others will hardly serve any useful purpose. But, as a friend of Palestine and as one who is genuinely interested in the Agency and eager to see it continue, I would urge upon you and your Zionist colleagues to modify your stand before it is too late. I hope that in this instance you will have the wisdom and statesmanship to recognize a situation where retreat from an assumed position is unavoidable and is the better part of valor.

Your statement in your cable to Dr. Wise, quoted above, that the Zionist Congress is unlikely to accept the implementation of the fifty-fifty principle, leaves one entirely unconvinced. If the Zionist Executive would recognize the dangers in the dissolution of the Agency and were to take a definite stand on this matter before the Congress, even to the point of resigning on this issue, if necessary, there can be little doubt that the Congress would agree. That they would be justified in such a stand, follows, in my opinion, from what was said above. I would go further and say that they are duty bound to take this position. To do



otherwise would be to sacrifice the future for an extremely doubtful immediate gain.

You and your colleagues must reckon with the fact that the Non-Zionists in the United States have no intention of being represented at the forthcoming meeting of the Council or the Administrative Committee in Zurich unless they have their rightful representation on the Executive. This was made clear in London and no doubt also in Jerusalem by the Non-Zionist members of the Committee of Four. On June 2, I sent the following cable to Dr. Lauterbach:

"ABSENCE FROM OFFICE DELAYED REPLYING YOUR CABLE. SEE MY LETTER APRIL NINTH UNABLE FACILITATE ELECTIONS HERE UNTIL JERUSALEM COMMITTEE REACHES SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENT ON ADMINCOM AND EXECUTIVE. RECENT LONDON CABLE PROPOSING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT WITH ZIONIST MAJORITY EXECUTIVE COMPLICATED MATTERS ENORMOUSLY. DEEP RESENTMENT HERE AND EUROPE. ALL INTERPRET IT BREACHED GOOD FAITH AND SABOTAGES RECENT LONDON CONFERENCE. FEAR NO AMERICAN PARTICIPATION NEXT COUNCIL ADMINCOM UNLESS MATTERS SPEEDILY ADJUSTED DESPITE REALIZATION IMPORTANCE UNITED FRONT. PLANNING INFORM EUROPEAN NONZIONISTS ACCORDINGLY. PLEASE SHOW ALL MEMBERS EXECUTIVE ESPECIALLY HESTER SENATOR"

As you no doubt know, if the Americans refuse to participate in the Agency it is automatically dissolved in accordance with the constitutional provision for dissolution. Hence if the Agency is to continue and our participation is wanted, there is no time to be lost. For unless we take immediate action on the elections for the Council the summer will be upon us, when it will be too late. As it is I doubt very much whether there is enough time for us to be able to get any worthwhile representation even though we desired it.

I am sending copies of this letter to the other members of the Executive, Dr. Weismann, and leading Zionists and Non-Zionists in the United States and other countries, so that all may be informed of the situation as it exists.

Sincerely yours,

MJK:MW

(Signed) M. J. Karpf

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BY NEWYORK NY 14

RABBI A H SILVER

THE TEMPLE CLVD

ELECTION WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS DELEGATES NEXT SUNDAY COMPELS  
IMMEDIATE MOBILIZATION OUR FORCES TO ENSURE ELECTION ZOA TICKET  
NUMBER ONE STOP ZOA EFFORTS TO AVOID INTERPARTY STRUGGLE AT THIS  
CRUCIAL JUNCTURE FAILED STOP OTHER PARTIES WORKING STRENUOUSLY STOP  
HONOR AND PRESTIGE ZOA ALSO IMPORTANT POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS AT STAKE  
STOP WE LOOK TO YOU FOR MAXIMUM COOPERATION TOWARD VICTORIOUS ZOA



C O P Y

H A D A S S A H

1860 Broadway

New York.

June 28, 1937.

Dr. Stephen S. Wise  
40 West 68th Street,  
New York City.

Dear Dr. Wise:

From the report of the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal brought to us by Mrs. Epstein, we gather that there is considerable discussion regarding a proposed change in the proportion of representation between Zionists and non-Zionists on the Jewish Agency.

We appreciate how far-reaching are the complications that have been brought about by the very formation of the Jewish Agency, yet since that structure has been created, it seems to many of us that any action which might lead to its dissolution would be fraught with grave danger to the cause of Palestine. Further, it might lead to serious divisions in our Jewish communities and act as a harmful influence not only on the morale that comes from Jewish unity but to the financial interests of Palestine. I have been requested by the National Board of Hadasah to plead with you to do everything in your power to avoid a disruption of the forces that serve Palestine.

We understand that the whole question will be discussed at a forthcoming meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Zionist Organization of America. We would like very much to be permitted to have one of our representatives attend this meeting. Will you let us hear from you?

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Rose G. Jacobs.  
President.



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DEFENSE ACTION WHO SHOULD HAVE THE UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT OF EVERY  
AMERICAN ZIONIST SUNDAY JUNE TWENTIETH AT THE ELECTION OF DELEGATES  
TO THE WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS STOP IT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE  
THAT THE ZOA LEADERSHIP SHOULD BE GIVEN NATIONWIDE ENDORSEMENT STOP  
WE MAKE A SPECIAL APPEAL TO HADASSAH WOMEN NOT TO ALLOW HADASSAH  
ALLEGIANCE TO INTERFERE WITH THEIR PRIMARY ZIONIST DUTY UNQUOTE  
URGE YOU COMMUNICATE THIS APPEAL TO ALL HADASSAH LEADERS

MORRIS MARGUILES.

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RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE TEMPLE CLVD

MRS REBEKAH KOHUT MRS SOL ROSENBLOOM AND MRS ISRAEL SHAPIRO ISSUED  
FOLLOWING APPEAL TO HADASSAH MEMBERSHIP QUOTE HAVING REGARD TO THE  
CRITICAL AND URGENT POLITICAL PROBLEMS FACING WORLD ZIONISM TODAY AND  
THE NEED FOR THE STRONGEST AMERICAN DEFENSE OF OUR POSITION WE URGE  
AMERICAN ZIONISTS IRRESPECTIVE OF PARTY OR GROUP TO SUPPORT TICKET  
NUMBER ONE HEADED BY DR STEPHEN S WISE THE LEADER OF AMERICAN ZIONIST

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Morris Margulis  
111 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
n. y.

(Collect)

June 22, 1937

Will be pleased to participate round  
table discussion June 28<sup>th</sup>

A. H. Silver



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RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

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THE TEMPLE CLVD

IMPERATIVE TEXT YOUR ADDRESS MONDAYS BROADCAST REACH US  
LATEST FRIDAY

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TELEPHONED  
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=COLUMBIA CHAIN BROADCASTING ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION ROYAL  
COMMISSION MONDAY JUNE TWENTY EIGHTH AT SIX FIFTEEN PM STOP  
SUGGESTED YOU WISE LIPSKY PARTICIPATE PLEASE WIRE ACCEPTANCE  
STOP YOUR NAME ADDED TO SUNDAYS NIGHTS SYMPOSIUM=  
=MORRIS MARGUILIES.

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