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Zionist Organization of America, 1936-1937.

PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE
FOR THE
REELECTION OF MORRIS ROTHENBERG
PRESIDENT OF THE ZOA
1450 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N. Y.
SUITE 2600

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*

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. Rucker, 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

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 Hess, 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

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DR. WISE AGREES TO BE CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF Z.O.A. -- 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 Lipaky, 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. Baldwin 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 Hess, 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. Draham, 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; Sigmund Thau and Abraham Krumbeln, 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. Svarts, 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 Cower
M. Maldwin Fertig
Jacob Fishmar
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

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~~
effort and loyalty in behalf our ~~great~~ ^{sacred}
cause - Only united & ~~determined~~ ^{resolute}
world Jewry can insure ^{continued} progress of
Yishuv - Congratulate you on splendid
years service & achievements. ~~Hope~~
for your continued leadership of ZOA

Silver

[June 23, 1936]

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 Hazolton, 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, Markowich, Margulies, Inber.

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 Sondervorband, 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. Rucker. 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 Mizrahi, 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 Freibergor, 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 Shekel 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 NOT LONDON RELATIVE STOPS HERE THEN INSTRUCT
US STOP SEE ATHERTON RE BINGHAM STOP RIFKIND 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. Kracmer 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. Finley 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

NYLT ZIONISTS NEW YORK

FOLLOWING TEXT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL GORE STATEMENT YESTERDAY
PARLIAMENT INDEX PRESENT CRITICAL SITUATION DESPITE VALIANT
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 REVIEW 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 RISKING 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. Kracmer 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. Kracmer 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. Krasner 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 BENCURION 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. Weismann, 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. Golistein 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. Levine 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-Palestine 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. Rottenberg recalled that the following allocations had been tentatively proposed:

Z.O.A.	\$1,000.
Peale Zion	500
Mizrachi	500
Hadassah	250

Mr. Hamlin pointed out that the Peale-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 \$350 out of the annual allocation to the ZOA of \$7500. In this connection, Mr. Cowan 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, Mizrahi and tentatively Hadassah.

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

ZOA will advance	\$500	immediately
Poale Zion	250	"
Mizrahi	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

החברות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE
President

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

MORRIS ROTHENBERG
Chairman, Administrative Committee

A. J. RONY
Chairman, National Council

MORRIS WEINBERG
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IRVING MILLER
LOUIS P. ROCKEF

Associate Members
ZELIG HARRIS
ISAAC INBER

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 1936

BRN 105 CBN 1726

LONDON

MLT WISE ZIONISTS NEWYORK

CABLEING TODAY FELIX QUOTE AM GRATIFIED SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION ADMINISTRATIVE
COMMITTEE DOUBTLESS HERTER KARPT 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

WEIZMAN

התאחדות 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

MORRIS ROTHENBERG
Chairman, Administrative Committee

A. J. RANBY
Chairman, National Council

MORRIS WEINBERG
HARRY P. FRIEDY
Treasurers

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CHARLES A. COWEN
ABRAHAM GOLDBERG
EDWARD L. ISRAEL
I. H. LEVINTHAL
LOUIS LIPSKY
SAMUEL MARKENWICH
IRVING MILLER
LOUIS P. ROCKER

Associate Members
ZELIG HARRIS
ISAAC IMBER

September 8, 1933

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.

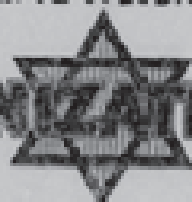
With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Morris Margulies
Secretary

התאחדות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE
President

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SOLOMON GOLDMAN
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SAMUEL MARKOWICH
IRVING MILLER
LOUIS P. ROCKEFELLER

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.

התאחדות הציונים של אמריקה

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 Habitzoren (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 Judenfrend, Dr. Leon R. Levinson, Harry J. Moskowitz, Louis Myers, Hon. Hyman J. Reit, Charles Ross, Menahem Ribalow, Bernard G. Richards, Samuel Rothstein, Moses Robinson, Jochanon I. Radavsky, 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 Umanaky, William M. Katz, Dr. Frances Burnce, Max Cohen, Col. Benjamin F. Everts, 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. Spinner, 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

"not 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 count 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."

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 \$5 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 Shkol; 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. Everts 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 BAKSTANSKY :

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 kibbutzim 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 mere 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 Bitzeron, 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. STEVEN 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 Yisrael, 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 Yisrael. 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, 'Bruchin 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.

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 Than; 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 bears 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 Yishuv 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-Chairmen 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 there 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. BenAvi, 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. BenAvi 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 MARZULIS,

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

התאחדות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

ELECTION OF DISTRICT OFFICERS

September 25, 1936.

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

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MORRIS ROTHENBERG
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SIGMUND THAU
MORRIS WEINBERG

ISRAEL MALTIN
AUDITOR

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

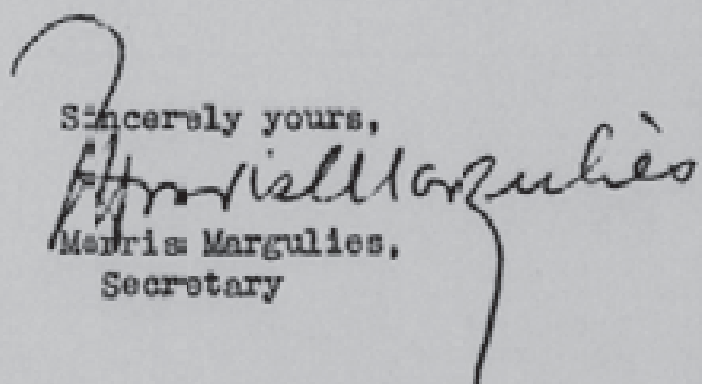
1. According to the constitution for the government of Zionist Districts, elections of District officers are to be held during the month of October. We, therefore, urge you to arrange for a meeting of your members at an early date for this purpose. We have also found it most helpful in the efficient 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

החברות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



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ISRAEL MALTIN
AUDITOR

September 27, 1936

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
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.Y. 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,

AMS:BX

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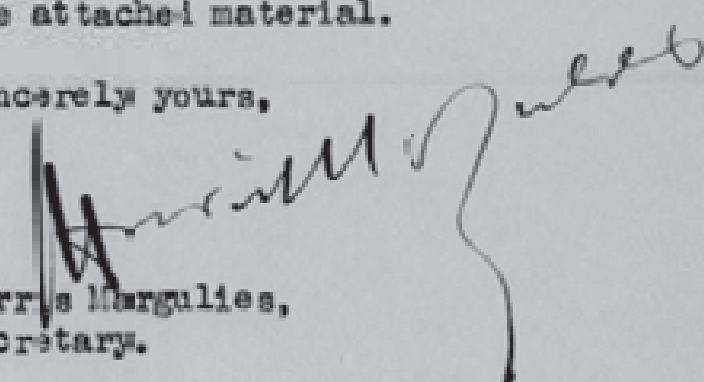
September 29, 1936.

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 co-operating 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	\$14,500
Subvention to Hadvar & Hanoar	1,000
Direct subvention to Youth Orgs.	9,500
Total	\$ 25,000

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	\$5,000

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

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



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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 30th, Radensky wired:

"LUNCHEON BEN AVI AGREABLE 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.

התאחדות הציונים של ארצות הברית

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ISAAC IMBER
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November 1, 1936

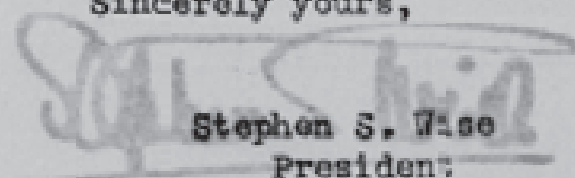
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
EXECUTIVE OF THE ZOA;

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 PALSTINE 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"

3.

"LONDON OCTOBER 28 1936

(a) WISE ZIONISTS NEWYORK

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

(b)

"NEWYORK NOVEMBER 1, 1936

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 Ethica 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. Bongy 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, Inber, Levinthal, Lipsky, Margulies, Miller, Rucker, Ross, 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

JEWAGENCY JERUSALEM

WHILE SHARING VICTORY 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 Mizrahi, 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 Gen Chain 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.

was

In response to this suggestion of Mr. Cowen, Dr. Wise/ 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. Ross 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 activized 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 Eedassah be secured, in addition to the signature of Mr. Lipsky for the Keren Hayesod and Dr. Goldstein for the Keren Kayemeth.

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. Rensselaer and Mrs. Samuel Schulsinger as its representatives on any inter-Party committees to be appointed.

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

It was decided to refer to the UPA the communication from Mr. Martin Rosenbluth 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 Mizrahi 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 Mizrahi 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 MARJULIES
Secretary

החברות הציוניות 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 KRAMER
WILLIAM M. LEWIS
MAX SHULMAN
ABRAHAM SILVER
ELIHU D. STONE
NATHAN STRAUS
Vice-Presidents

MORRIS ROTHENBERG
Chairman, Administrative Committee

A. J. RANBY
Chairman, National Council

MORRIS WEINBERG
HARRY P. FISKE
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MORRIS MARGULIES
Secretary

EXECUTIVE

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I. M. LEVINTHAL
LOUIS LIPSKY
SAMUEL MARKIEWICH
IRVING MILLER
CHARLES RESS
LOUIS P. ROCKEF
ROBERT SEID

Associate Members
ISAAC IMBER
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

November 25, 1936.

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. Benzion Mossinsohn, 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. Pierst, Dr. Gabriel A. Lowenstein, Elias Proiss, 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 Judenfreund, Samuel Kanarvogel, Harry J. Moskowitz, Menahem Ribelow, 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. Ewerts, 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 Yishuv 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 dinarim 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 Freiss 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. Uransky, 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 contribution 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. Rongr 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. Aba 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. Becker 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 these 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 Hayemeth 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. Bension 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 Mizrahi 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. Hirschfield 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 of \$1,400,000.00		<u>28,000.00</u>

TOTAL ESTIMATED INCOME:

\$ 88,425.00

Necessary to Balance		<u>82,646.00</u>
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T O T A L:

\$171,071.00

STATUS OF DEFICIT END OF PERIOD

<u>PRESENT DEFICIT - SEPTEMBER 30th, 1936:</u>	\$ 59,419.64
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Payments in accordance with the Budget	<u>28,983.00</u>
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ESTIMATED DEFICIT END OF PERIOD:

<u>SEPTEMBER 30th, 1937</u>	<u>\$ 30,436.64</u>
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- 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 Budget	Actual Exp. 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 (net).	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	\$
Hobrow - 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

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

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President

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ROBERT SGOLO

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:

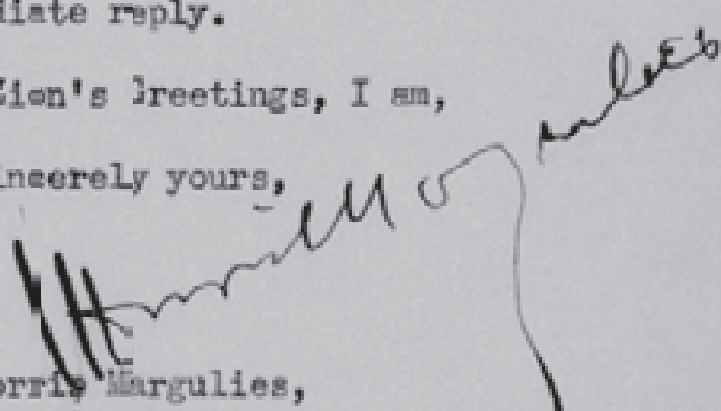
"May we ask you to please advise us what financial aid is being extended by the Zionist Organisation or any of its affiliates to the American Committee for the Hechalutz and the Histadruth Ivrit. Will you please indicate in your reply, if financial aid is being given, in what amounts and for that periods? 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:EK