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Zionist Organization of America, 1936-1937.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE ZOA

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

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

Excuses for absence from - Judge Lewis and Rabbi Levinthal.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING :

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as circulated.

COMMUNICATIONS :

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

"JERUSALEM DECEMBER 17 1936

WISE ZIONISTS NEWYORK

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

KAPLAN"

It was decided to refer this matter to the UPA.

2. Cable to Jerusalem re Memorandum for Royal Commission:

"NEWYORK DECEMBER 16 1936

JEWAGENCY  
WEIZMANN BENGURION  
JERUSALEM

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

WISE"



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

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

"December 10, 1936

Dear Mr. Margulies:

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

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

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

Very truly yours,

(Signed) HARRIS J. LEVINE"

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

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

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

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

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

#### 4. Hechalutz:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hechalutz may be established in the United States.

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

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



It was moved, seconded and carried

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

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

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

A protracted discussion ensued.

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

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

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

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

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

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

### AMERICAN CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE :

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

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

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

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

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

It was moved, seconded and carried

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

Meeting adjourned 11:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

MORRIS MARGULIES

Secretary

התאחדות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE  
*President*

December 22, 1936

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

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
Cleveland, Ohio

MORRIS ROTHENBERG  
*Chairman, Administrative Committee*

Dear Rabbi Silver:

A. J. RONEY  
*Chairman, National Council*

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

MORRIS WEINBERG  
HARRY P. FIERST  
*Treasurers*

LUDWIG LEWISOHN  
*Honorary Secretary*

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

MORRIS MARGULIES  
*Secretary*

EXECUTIVE  
CHARLES A. COWEN  
ABRAHAM GOLDBERG  
EDWARD L. ISRAEL  
I. H. LEVINTHAL  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
SAMUEL MARKIEWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
CHARLES REES  
LOUIS P. ROSEN  
ROBERT SIOLO

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

*Associate Members*  
ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

With kind regards and Zion's greetings,

Sincerely yours,

*M. Margulies*  
MORRIS MARGULIES  
Secretary

MM:EG

*Congratulations on the  
impressive Chanukah  
celebration!*



December 24, 1936

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

My dear Mr. Margulies:

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

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

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BX

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ALBANY 4-1234

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החברות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

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*President*

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HARRY P. FISCH  
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LOUIS LIPSKY  
SAMUEL MARKOWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
CHARLES ROSS  
LOUIS P. ROCKER  
ROBERT SZOLD

*Associate Members*  
ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

December 28, 1936

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

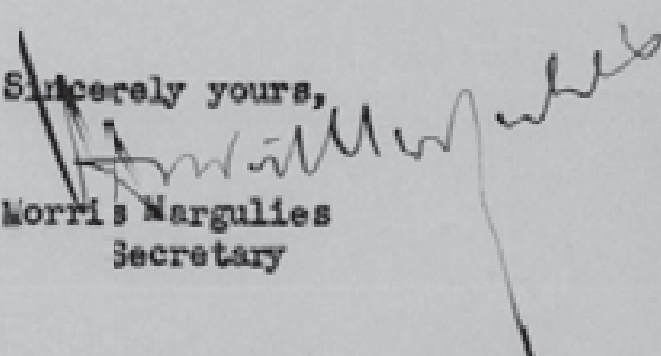
Dear Rabbi Silver:

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

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

With personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM:BP

התאחדות הציונית של ארצות הברית

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



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

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*President*

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MAX SHULMAN  
ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
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*Honorary Secretary*

MOSES MAROULIER  
*Secretary*

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ABRAHAM GOLDBERG  
EDWARD L. ISRAEL  
I. M. LEVINTHAL  
LOUIS LEFINKY  
SAMUEL MARKEWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
CHARLES REIS  
LOUIS P. RUCKER  
ROBERT SIOLO

*Associate Members*

ISAAC INGER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

January 26, 1937

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

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

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

Sincerely yours,

*Florence Eitelberg*  
Secretary to Dr. Wise

E:CS

New Delhi, India.  
1st January 1937.

Dear Sir,

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

Yours very sincerely,

Editor.  
The Sikh World.  
New Delhi, India

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

# RADIOTÉLÉGRAMME



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RABBI ABBA SILVER SS NORMANDIE VCC

ALL URGE YOU GO LONDON FIRST SEE WEIZMANN COMMUNICATE CONVENTIONS  
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LACK WISE LIPSKY

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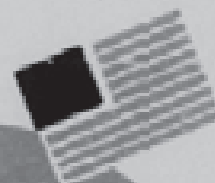
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE ZOA

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

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

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

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

TELEGRAM FROM CHICAGO:

The Secretary read the following telegram from Chicago:

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

WILLIAM M. KATZ"

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

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

LETTER FROM MR. THAU RE DOS YIDDISHE FOLK:

The following communication was read from Mr. Sigmond Thau:

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

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,  
(Signed) S. THAU

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

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

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

After some discussion, it was moved, seconded and carried

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

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE:

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

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

REPORT OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

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

1. The tentative Education Program was submitted to the Committee on Education, at which representatives of all the youth organizations were present, and the program was adopted by the Committee. Copies will be sent to all the members of the Executive.

2. Arrangements have been made for the writing of a number of brochures on fundamental Zionist problems. For the most part the writing of these 21 brochures will not involve any considerable cost, since the majority of the writers have volunteered their services and a number of the pamphlets are reprints and translations from Hebrew and German. Moreover the printing expense will be kept within the budget.

3. A number of articles dealing with subjects on which Zionists ought to be informed, have been mimeographed and are ready for distribution to the Districts, to be read and discussed at meetings.

4. Arrangements have been made for the holding of a Zionist Forum in New York, beginning March 14th, (probably in the auditorium of the S.A.J.) on important Zionist problems including "Jews and Arabs" (Mr. Louis Lipsky; Prof. Haim Fineman); "Near East in European Policy" (Prof. Hans Eichen); "Pol

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rabbi Miller moved, and it was seconded and carried

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### HISTADRUTH HANOAR :

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

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

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION :

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

It was moved, seconded and carried

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

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

#### STATEMENT OF MR. ELEAZAR KAPLAN :

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

It was moved, seconded and carried

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

NEXT MEETING OF EXECUTIVE :

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

Meeting adjourned 6:30 P.M.



Respectfully submitted

MORRIS MARGULIES

Secretary

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 KLAUENBERG  
JOSEPH KRAEMER  
WILLIAM M. LEWIS  
MAX SHULMAN  
ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
ELIHU D. STONE  
NATHAN STRAUS  
*Vice-Presidents*

MORRIS ROTHENBERG  
*Chairman, Administrative Committee*

A. J. RONEY  
*Chairman, National Council*

MORRIS WEINBERG  
HARRY P. FINEST  
*Treasurers*

LUDWIG LEWISOWITZ  
*Honorary Secretary*

MORRIS MARGULIES  
*Secretary*

EXECUTIVE  
CHARLES A. COWEN  
ABRAHAM GOLDBERG  
EDWARD L. ISRAEL  
I. H. LEVINTHAL  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
SAMUEL MARKOWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
CHARLES RESS  
LOUIS P. ROCHER  
ROBERT SGOLO

*Associate Members*  
ISAAC IMMER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

February 16th, 1937

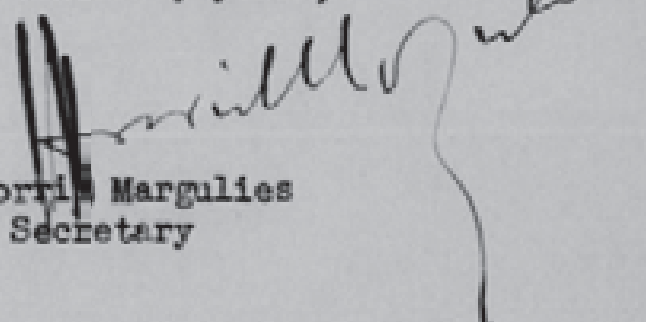
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
% The Temple  
105 Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

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

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

Very sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM:HG



ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות תברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

February 19, 1937

STEPHEN S. WISE  
*President*

HARRY FRIEDBERG  
SOLOMON GOLDMAN  
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN  
GUSTAVE KLAUENER  
JOSEPH KRAEMER  
WILLIAM M. LEWIS  
MAX SHULMAN  
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HARRY P. FISKE  
*Treasurers*

LUDWIG LEWISOHN  
*Honorary Secretary*

MORRIS MARGULIES  
*Secretary*

## EXECUTIVE

CHARLES A. COWEN  
ABRAHAM GOLDBERG  
EDWARD L. ISRAEL  
I. H. LEVINTHAL  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
SAMUEL MARKIEWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
CHARLES REES  
LOUIS P. ROCKER  
ROBERT SCHOE

*Associate Members*  
ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

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

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

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM: E

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

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

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

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

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

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

"(Signed) Morris Rothenberg  
Chairman

AGENDA:

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

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

COOPTATION OF MEMBERS ON ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:

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

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

Mr. Wolfson moved

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

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

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

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

ELIEZER KAPLAN:

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

REPORT OF MR. ELIEZER KAPLAN:

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

REPORT OF DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN:

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

REPORT OF RABBI IRVING MILLER:

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

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



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

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

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

#### DISCUSSION ON REPORT OF RABBI MILLER:

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

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

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION:

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

and Zionists at large will have opportunity to study it.

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

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

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

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

#### DISCUSSION:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### REPORT OF MR. LIPSKY ON PUBLICATIONS:

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



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

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

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

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

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



REPORT OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

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

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

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

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

The scope of activities of the Department includes:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE AT ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Mr. Guzik moved, and it was seconded and carried

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

MEETINGS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:

It was moved, seconded and carried

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

DEATH OF GABRIEL H. MAYER:

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

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

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE:

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

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

Report approved.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS MARGULIES  
Secretary

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  
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*Vice-Presidents*

MORRIS ROTHENBERG  
*Chairman, Admin. Committee*

A. J. ROSEN  
*Chairman, National Council*

LUDWIG LEWISohn  
*Honorary Secretary*

MORRIS MARCULIER  
*Secretary*

## EXECUTIVE

CHARLES A. COWEN  
ABRAHAM GOLDBERG  
EDWARD L. ISRAEL  
I. H. LEVINTHAL  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
SAMUEL MARKENWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
CHARLES RESS  
ROBERT SEID

*Associate Members*  
ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

LOUIS F. ROCKER  
*Chairman*

MORRIS WEINBERG  
HARRY P. FISHER  
*Treasurers*

ABRAHAM KRAMER  
ABRAHAM LIEBOVITZ  
GABRIEL A. LOWENSTEIN  
ELIAS PRESS  
LOUIS RIMSKY  
SIGMUND TRAU

ISRAEL MALVIN  
*Auditor*

March 3, 1937.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

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

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

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

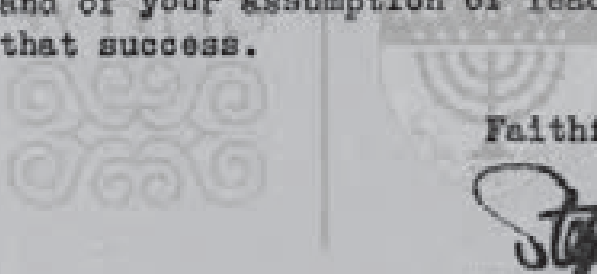
Cities which raise funds for Palestine through separate campaigns for the United Palestine Appeal must have immediately impressed upon them the urgency of a generous and quick response. There must be emphasized the fact that the \$4,500,000 quota of the United Palestine Appeal can be obtained only if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

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

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

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

Faithfully yours,

  
Stephen S. Tans  
President



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ZOA EXECUTIVE

HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1937

Subudy to  
23 A

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

ZOA BUDGET AND ACTION OF UPA:

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

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

The UPA at the beginning of this year faced certain conditions in connection with the campaign in New York and in relation to the cooperation of the non-Zionists in the campaign, which required steps to be taken for the formation of a new Finance Committee which should have greater influence on the Campaign than heretofore. This new Finance Committee has been appointed, and at the first meeting held this week, it became apparent that the Committee would demand a change in the relationship of the UPA to the Regional Offices that have been established, and that the UPA would not continue to support such regional divisions. Furthermore there seems to be a strong feeling that the subvention to the Zionist Organization should be revised.

Dr. Wise inquired whether such revision would be operative immediately.

Mr. Lipsky replied that there is to be another meeting of the Finance Committee next Tuesday night, but before that there is to be a meeting of the UPA Administrative Committee and the Keren Hayesod Administrative Committee. Mr. Lipsky did not know whether the Finance Committee would finally settle this matter at its meeting next week. He added that it was not the intention of the Finance Committee to embarrass the ZOA by abruptly terminating action, but to give the ZOA the opportunity to adjust itself to the prospective changes. Moreover that Mr. Harold Jacobi (the chairman) had stated that while he did not think such items belong to the budget of the UPA, he was interested in Zionist propaganda and was prepared to organize a committee to raise funds for the ZOA. A committee has been appointed by the Finance Committee to look over certain items of the budget, personnel, etc.

Mr. Lipsky further stated that it was agreed that in view of the fact that the subvention to Palcor was raising a controversy, it was considered desirable to delete this item from the budget.

He thought that if the Finance Committee would operate as a Committee and refrain from delegating its full power to one person, it would function properly, and that it was obvious that the UPA would not be drawn into long range propaganda.

Dr. Wise then made the following statement for the record:

"However painful this process of amputation, the Chair wishes to say that he thinks nothing wholesomer or healthfuller could happen to the ZOA than once again to be removed from the 'land of plenty' and placed on its own feet. We broke up the United Jewish Appeal in order to stand on our feet, in order that work for Eretz Israel should not be dominated by the spirit of 'charity'. It will be hard for a time -- very hard. We may have to cut to the bone, but I am ready to go to the Convention and to the Zionists and say: 'either you will run the Zionist Organization in America or it will be run by some rich non-Zionists because they are supporting it and not we'. I am opposed to the continuation of the policy of dependence upon people who work for Palestine because of the desire to 'do tzdakah' and not because of the privilege of building up the Zionist movement. We must stand on our own feet. The members of the ZOA should raise the budget of the ZOA. A new day must begin for the Zionist Organization of America, and new ways and means must be devised."

Mr. Lipsky recalled that in the councils of the ZOA, he urged at the very beginning that we should avoid the impression that we get a commission for raising the funds, but proof of our service and getting paid for the service we render, concretely and practically from the business point of view.

Mr. Rucker stated that we must reconcile ourselves to the every day life and needs of the Zionist Organization, and if we review the history of the ZOA, we will find that the same position prevailed during the period of the Palestine Restoration Fund.

Mr. Cowen recalled that the expenses of the Zionist Organization of America, and education and propaganda were included in the Palestine Restoration Fund, since the building up of the Zionist Organization and the restoration of Palestine were regarded as one task.

Mr. Lipsky replied that when the Palestine Restoration Fund was started the idea was to get a fund to build up the Zionist movement so that it could serve a very useful purpose at the end of the war.

on Mr. Cowen then pointed out that the Mizrschi and Poale Zion are carrying/campaigns parallel to the UPA for their own purposes, while at the same time receiving subventions from the UPA. We must either be allowed to do this, at the sacrifice of our work for the UPA, or receive a subvention

Mr. Hess recalled that he alone voted against the subvention to the ZOA by the UPA because of self-respect, despite severe criticism. He was of the opinion that the ZOA should have its own campaign for funds.

Mr. Fierst called attention to the fact that the present budget of the ZOA is subject to revision on March 31st and therefore in the light of these developments, the ZOA Finance Committee will have to guide its procedure accordingly.

Mr. Rucker took it for granted that for 1937 the UPA will not change what is already in the form of a contract, and therefore he did not see the necessity of having a committee at the present time investigating something to be changed perhaps after the Convention or at the end of 1937. Moreover he took issue with the statement of the Chairman on the necessity for eliminating the subsidy or service charge from the UPA. He added that the facts of the sit-

uation speak for themselves. The present budget of the ZOA is \$170,000 and from all sources, excluding the UPA, we will probably receive about \$70,000 to \$80,000. Therefore we shall be forced either to go out and raise \$90,000 or \$100,000 or receive it from other sources, or drastically cut down our expenses to the level of 1932. This would mean strangulation for the UPA, and the UPA would suffer immeasurably because Zionists would divert their attention and funds from the UPA to the necessity of maintaining the ZOA. While no one wants to hurt the UPA, no one should do anything to hurt the important activities begun by the ZOA in 1936; namely, assistance to the youth organizations, creation of an Education Department, improving and extending propaganda, etc. Moreover in asking the subvention from the UPA it was felt that a larger subvention to the ZOA would increase the effectiveness of the UPA. Therefore if such subsidy is withdrawn it will redound to the disadvantage of the UPA. This problem, Mr. Rucker stated, did not require the appointment of a special committee but should be handled by the Finance Committee.

Mr. Eliezer Kaplan believed that the UPA Finance Committee would not abruptly terminate the subsidy to the ZOA which will be given time to adjust itself, but as Mr. Lipsky proposed, the ZOA should not wait until the end of 1937 but take immediate steps to reorganize its finances. He pointed out also that if the general public were aware of the fact that \$90,000 out of the UPA is utilized as a subvention to the ZOA instead of being sent to Palestine, it would create a bad impression. He felt that while the ZOA was entitled to such subsidy, the public would resent it especially at this time when money is needed for emergency purposes in Palestine. He added also that changes will have to be made in connection with the subsidies to the Mizrahi & Poale Zion, especially since these are not given for services rendered as in the case of the ZOA, but only for purposes of goodwill. This situation must be altered as quickly as possible.

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT on the basis of the statement made by Mr. Lipsky and the Chair, a committee of 5 be named by the Chairman to report at the earliest possible moment on the structure and set-up of the ZOA, and that this committee shall meet together with the Finance Committee and prepare a report for the Executive.

#### PRO-PALESTINE FEDERATION PETITION :

The resolution of the Pro-Palestine Federation, adopted by the American Christian Conference on December 15, 1936 was placed before the meeting.

The Executive was informed by the Secretary that the Pro-Palestine Federation is considering the submission of this resolution to the President of the United States and the British Ambassador.

Mr. Cowen thought it was the function of the Pro-Palestine Federation to do this but that we should advise them as to the best and most effective way of presenting this resolution.

Dr. Wise agreed with Mr. Cowen and proposed the following motion which was seconded and carried:



THAT the Chairman be authorized to appoint a committee of three including Mr. Coven, to deal with the resolution of the American-Christian Conference, in conjunction with the Political Committee.

#### POLITICAL COMMITTEE :

At this juncture, Mr. Lipsky called attention to the fact that certain decisions were made by the Executive during the absence of the President; namely that he be asked to organize the Political Committee in order to deal with the work of the Pro-Palestine Federation and other political matters. Moreover in view of the fact that there had been no meeting of the Political Committee for some months, that an attempt to be made to reorganize the Committee be made, so that it will function.

The Chairman accepted the suggestion of Mr. Lipsky and stated that as a matter of fact, the Political Committee will have to be continuously active.

#### SHEKEL CAMPAIGN :

Mr. Margulies reported that yesterday afternoon a meeting took place of the heads of the various parties together with Mr. Elieser Kaplan to discuss the 1937 shekel effort. A proposal was submitted in behalf of the Z.O.A. that it would be more effective, instead of merely selling shekolim, to have the sale of tickets, tied up with a petition, or declaration, similar to the Roll Call, the signatories testifying to their endorsement of the Basle Program. Only through a large scale effort can we hope to realize Mr. Kaplan's objective of 500,000 shekel-payers in the United States. It is proposed to charge \$1, of which 50¢ would go for the payment of the shekel, 25¢ for the local organization engaged in the work of selling shekolim, and 25¢ to the national organization, to cover the overhead expenses involved. It is not unreasonable to expect that the Z.O.A. alone could enroll 250,000 such shekel-payers, since the present membership is about 25,000 and each member would be charged with the responsibility of selling ten shekolim. In view of the present situation in Palestine and the report of the Royal Commission it is essential to have an impressive registration of Zionist strength. It is proposed to launch this effort at a mass meeting in Madison Square Garden and to undertake this year's shekel campaign on a scale never heretofore attempted.

In this connection, Mr. Lipsky called attention to a cable from the Executive in Palestine, announcing the issuing of a call to Zionists the world over for a shekel Campaign during the month of Nissan. At the meeting of the representatives of the various Zionist Organizations held yesterday, it was decided to summon immediately the National Shekel Boards and get in touch with all communities throughout the United States to have local shekel boards set up. The National Shekel Board has already begun considering plans for a National Shekel Campaign.

Rabbi Miller inquired whether this is to be an independent shekel campaign by the Z.O.A. or one unified shekel campaign by all parties. Should the latter be the case, the campaign cannot be conducted along the lines suggested by Mr. Margulies.



Mr. Lipsky stated that if the Executive

Mr. Lipsky stated that if the Executive approves of Mr. Margulies' proposal, it should be submitted to the Shekel Board which should be urged to adopt it if possible; furthermore, that an independent Z.O.A. campaign would be better, provided the rules of the Shekel activity permitted this.

Mr. Kaplan believed that this could be arranged to conform with the rules.

Mr. Lipsky pointed that among the difficulties would be the fact that Hadassah does not conduct any shekel campaign and that the Poale Zion was strongly opposed to increasing the price of the Shekel.

Dr. Wise inquired when the Shekel Board would meet again, to which Mr. Lipsky replied that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday.

Dr. Goldstein stated that it is within our province to determine what we can do as the Z.O.A., and the Shekel Board can have no objection to maximum effort on the part of the Z.O.A. This question links up in a way with the question discussed before in connection with the action of the U.P.A., and the necessity of the Z.O.A. to exercise ourselves as the Z.O.A. and to strengthen our ranks. Dr. Goldstein therefore recommended that we determine today on a maximum effort for the Shekel, and that we communicate to the Shekel Board the fact that we have determined to undertake our own effort, and that we proceed immediately with our plans to have our own shekel campaign.

Mr. Ress said that it is advisable to have our own shekel effort, but that the campaigns of the other parties should take place simultaneously in order that the Shekel Board could plan accordingly.

Dr. Wise pointed out that the entire shekel activity would be limited to April and May.

Mr. Lipsky called attention to the fact that the Executive was losing sight of the suggestion of Mr. Margulies, which should be proposed to the Shekel Board for adoption. If the Shekel Board rejects it, efforts must be made to secure agreement; if such agreement cannot be secured, then the Z.O.A. proceed independently.

Dr. Goldstein added that if we can succeed in having the other parties adopt the same idea of the \$1 petition-shekel, it would be very fine, but our approach should be the approach of competition on equal terms if possible, and for the Zionist movement as a whole. Speaking as a General Zionist, he reminded the Executive that in previous years the Poale Zion sold shekolim and we did not.

Mr. Lipsky corrected the statement of Dr. Goldstein and said that the Z.O.A. sold more shekolim than the Poale Zion but only a very small proportion of General Zionist shekel payers took the trouble to vote for delegates to the last Zionist Congress, whereas the Poale Zion turned out in full force.

Dr. Wise stated that the Mizrahi and the Poale Zion have the same interest as the Z.O.A. in showing great numerical strength before the British Government.

Mr. Lipsky added that if general agreement to the petition proposal can be secured, regardless of the price of the shekel, something worthwhile can be achieved so far as a demonstration of Zionist strength is concerned.

Mr. Kaplan stated (a) that the shekel campaign could be used as a political weapon for Palestine in relation to the Mandatory Power; (b) that a proposal be made to the Shekel Board to find a common form for this activity and a unified price; (c) if the Shekel Board can not agree as to the method and amount, then the Executive should decide the amount; (d) every party must put forth all its strength in this activity, whether united, or as "competitive coordination."

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT Mr. Margulies' plan for a "petition" or demonstration form of Shekel campaign be approved in general and be referred back to the members of the Shekel Board, in the hope that this will result in a unified effort; THAT the launching of such shekel effort at a large demonstration meeting be referred to a Committee on United Effort.

#### AGENDA FOR MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON MARCH 21st. :

It was decided to propose the following agenda for the meeting of the Administrative Committee on Sunday afternoon, March 21st:

- 1-Report of Political Committee
- 2-Shekel Effort
- 3-U.P.A.
- 4-Reports of Standing Committees
- 5-Report of Executive
- 6-Time and Place of Convention

#### NEXT MEETING OF EXECUTIVE:

It was decided that the Executive meet next Wednesday, March 17th, at 4:30 p.m. for the purpose of preparing its report to the Administrative Committee.

#### LETTER FROM BROOKLYN ZIONIST REGION:

It was decided to defer action on the letter from the Brooklyn Zionist Region.

#### TIME AND PLACE OF CONVENTION:

Dr. Wise urged that the Convention should not take place over the 4th of July week-end as last year, but beginning Sunday, June 27th.

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the Convention should take place from Sunday, June 27th to Tuesday, June 29th.

With regard to the place of the Convention, Dr. Wise at first proposed that it should be held in Chicago since several consecutive Conventions have been held in the East.

Mr. Margulies pointed out that it has been the practice of the Z.O.A. to alternate each year between the East and the midwest, but in view of the fact that the last three Conventions have been held in the East, Zionists in other sections are strongly complaining that they are being isolated. Therefore he would recommend that the 1937 Convention be held in the midwest.

Mr. Rosker was strongly in favor of holding the Convention in New York City.

It was finally decided that the Executive conduct a referendum with regard to the place of the Convention the choice being New York, Chicago, or such other cities as may be favored.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

MORRIS MARGULIES

Secretary



Since the last meeting of the Administrative Committee, February 21st, the Executive met on February 26, March 11, and March 17. 1937

The February 26 meeting was primarily devoted to a consideration of the political situation as it affects our work here. During the discussion it was brought out that of late the Arabs resident in America have been very active, circularizing many clergymen and leading Americans with their pamphlet "Whither Palestine?", also addressing letters to every United States Senator and Congressman. In view of the general political situation and the Arab activity, it was decided that our Political Committee become more active and adopt effective measures not only with a view of aiding the political work of the World Zionist Organization, but also of combatting the anti-Zionist activities carried on here by the Arabs.

\* \* \* \* \*

The March 11th meeting, among other matters, dealt with the situation that has arisen as a result of the action taken by the Finance Committee of the UPA, looking toward a reduction of the budget, calling for the revision of the subvention to the Zionist Organization and the discontinuance of the subsidies to the Regional Bureaus. It was decided (a) that Dr. Wise and Mr. Lipsky meet with a subcommittee of the UPA Finance Committee to discuss this matter; (b) that the Chairman be authorized to name a subcommittee which should at the earliest possible moment consider the ZOA structure as it will be affected by the possible financial revision contemplated by the UPA.

It was also decided that a committee of three be named to confer as to the best way of effectively utilizing the resolution adopted by the American-Christian Conference of December 15th, 1936.

This meeting also decided to adopt in principle the proposal made by the Secretary, that the Shekel effort this year be made in the form of a petition or declaration, and the Shekel campaign should take cognizance of the impending Royal Commission report which will have to be dealt with by the next World Zionist Congress. Therefore, this effort should be launched on a scale heretofore not attempted in this country. The goal is to be for 500,000 Shekel-payers. Of these the ZOA should attempt to secure 250,000. In view of the fact that our membership is now over 25,000, every member should be held responsible for a "minyan" Shekel-payers.

The matter of the next Convention came up and it was decided that a referendum be held among the Districts in an endeavor to ascertain whether New York or Chicago is preferred. Opportunity should also be given to Districts to suggest any other city. The date of the Convention was set for Sunday, June 27 to June 29. The results of the referendum are to be submitted to the Administrative Committee for final decision. This meeting also prepared the agenda for the March 21 meeting of the Administrative Committee.

Both meetings -- that of February 26 and March 11 -- had the benefit of the presence of Mr. Eliezer Kaplan, Treasurer of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem, who participated in the discussions.

\* \* \* \* \*

The March 17 meeting dealt with a review of the activities of a number of standing committees, devoting the major part of the meeting to a discussion of the launching of the Shekel Campaign. Mr. Markewich for the Shekel Board reported that the suggestion of a petition or declaration form of Shekel Campaign was adopted, but that the second half of Mr. Margulies' proposal calling for a dollar enrollment, of which 50¢ was to go for the Shekel, 25¢ for local expenses, and 25¢ for national expenses, was not accepted. The Shekel Board



decided that the enrollment be on a 50¢ basis.

In connection with the Shekel effort the Secretary read the following cable from Mr. David Ben Gurion:

"THE SHEKEL CAMPAIGN THIS YEAR IS OF THE UTMOST POLITICAL URGENCY STOP THE CONGRESS IS FACED BY DECISIVE PROBLEMS AND PERHAPS BY QUESTIONS INVOLVING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH MANDATORY POWER STOP OUR MAIN SUPPORT IS AMERICAN JEWRY STOP ONLY BY LARGE REPRESENTATION OF AMERICAN JEWS IN ZIONIST CONGRESS WILL IT SHOW POLITICAL STRENGTH AND PRESTIGE STOP WE CALL UPON ALL PARTIES TO INAUGURATE IMMEDIATELY HUGE SHEKEL DRIVE WITH MINIMUM QUOTA OF 500,000.

This meeting had the benefit of the presence of the noted Zionist, Dr. Joachim Prinz of Germany who is here for a brief visit.

- - - - -

The Organization Committee of which Rabbi Irving Miller is the Chairman had one meeting since the committee last reported to the Administrative Committee. At that meeting of the Organization Committee a further discussion took place with regard to the regional plan submitted to the last meeting of the Administrative Committee, but no definite decision was taken pending the final readjustment of the UPA budget.

The Finance Committee of which Mr. Louis P. Rucker is the Chairman has continued its bi-weekly meetings. The Committee reported that the subsidies granted by the ZOA, beginning with the present fiscal year, as of October 1, 1936 to March 15, 1937 were: Young Judaea (exclusive of rent) \$4,596, Masada (exclusive of rent) \$3,552, Avukah (exclusive of rent) \$836, Hadar (exclusive of rent) \$3,973, and for political work, beginning with July 1st, the sum of \$5,897 was spent.

The Education Committee of which Mr. Charles A. Cowen is the Chairman, met once during the period under review, at which further action was taken with regard to brochures which the Committee contemplates issuing, as reported to the last meeting of the Administrative Committee, as well as the Forum instituted by the Committee, to begin Sunday, March 21st, and continuing on March 28th, April 11th, April 25th and May 9th. The Committee also issued a Passover Book for the use of the Zionist Districts.

A report of the Political Committee which met on Thursday, March 18th, will be submitted to the Administrative Committee by the Chairman, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

The Publications Committee of which Mr. Louis Lipsky is the Chairman, and the Constitution Committee, of which Mr. M. Maldwin Fertig is the Chairman, had no meetings during the last four weeks.

Respectfully submitted  
MORRIS MARGULIES  
Secretary

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

PRESENT: Messrs. Morris Rothenberg (in the Chair), Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Dr. A. J. Longy, Harry P. Fierst, Morris Margulies, Charles A. Cowen, Rabbi Irving Miller, Charles Reiss, Isaac Imber, Dr. Jacob S. Golub, Elias Preiss, Louis Rinsky, Henrich Abramowitz, Isaac Allen, Rabbi Morton M. Berman, Herman W. Bernstein, Israel S. Chipkin, Sol Cohen, Harry Grayer, Leo Guzik, Rabbi A. M. Heller, Arnold K. Isreeli, Rabbi Arthur E. Neulander, Hon. Hyman J. Zeit, Menahem Ribalow, Bernard G. Richards, Jochanon I. Rudavsky, Dr. Leo B. Schwartz, Bernard Shelvin, Carl Sherman, Hon. William I. Siegel, Abraham Spicehandler, Ben Dov Waldman, Leo Wolfson, Morris Mallove, Charles Rosengarten, Samuel Uman-sky, Col. Benjamin Everts, Rabbi Harry Z. Zwelling, David Frankel, Henry Rosenbaum, Rabbi Abraham I. Jacobson, Jacob Ginsburg, Mrs. John Safer.

Excuses for Non-Attendance were received from Dr. B. W. Abramson, Dr. Samuel W. Boorstein, Dr. Frances Burnce, Morris Catchman, J. H. Cohodes, Jos. H. Ehrlich, David Friedman, Daniel Frisch, Rabbi Joel S. Goffen, Cantor Myro Glass, Joseph Goldberg, Rabbi Henry R. Goldberger, Rabbi Solomon Goldman, Isidore Hershfield, Jacob B. Hoffman, B. Horwich, Rabbi Edward L. Israel, Pincus Juran, Eliot L. Kaplan, Rev. R. Kaplan, Dr. Lazarus Karp, Prof. Gustave Klausner, Max F. Kohnman, Rabbi Israel E. Levinthal, Rabbi Felix A. Levy, Israel Lewin, Judge Wm. M. Lewis, Dr. M. B. Lichtenstein, Jacob Rabinowitz, Aaron Riche, Samuel Rothstein, Simon Shetzer, Max Shulman, Bennett Silverblatt, M. J. Slonim, Elihu D. Stone, Morris Weinberg, Dr. Alexander S. Wolf.

DR. LEON E. LEVINSON:

The Chairman paid a tribute to the memory of Dr. Leon E. Levinson, a member of the Administrative Committee, who passed away last week. He referred to the devotion of the deceased to the Zionist cause with which his whole life was bound up. He then called upon Mr. A. K. Isreeli to deliver the eulogy.

Mr. Isreeli characterized Dr. Levinson as one of those figures who are gradually passing away without being replaced. He was of the old type Yeshivah student, the son of a Rabbi. While still in Russia he became a very ardent Chovevei Zion, working for the realization of the Zionist ideal. He became associated with the Zionist movement from the first day of his arrival to this country. Zionism was his sole interest, the only one in his life. Very few of his type remain amongst us. He contributed to the growth of the Zionist Organization of America, rendering invaluable services to the movement in New York. His passing will be deeply mourned by every Zionist.

The members present rose in silent tribute to the memory of Dr. Levinson.

DECIDED to convey the sense of this meeting to the members of Dr. Levinson's family.

REPORT OF Z.O.A. EXECUTIVE:

The Secretary read the report of the Executive which had previously been circulated among the members of the Administrative Committee. Copy of the report is attached hereto.

Mr. Imber said that the figure of \$3,552, listed as the subsidy granted by the Z. O. A. to Masada from October 1, 1936 to March 15, 1937, was inaccurate. On this basis, Masada would have received \$600 monthly, whereas the actual subvention received was \$300 monthly.

The Chairman suggested that this item be referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Wolfson moved, and it was seconded and carried

THAT the report of the Executive as  
submitted by the Secretary be adopted.

SHEKEL:

Mr. Wolfson reported that the Shekel Board is being organized as elections for delegates to the Congress will have to be held some time in June. He pointed out that under a rule of the Election Board, until the new names are entered, the party or group that is first to file a list becomes entitled to the first place on the ballot. At the last meeting of the Shekel Committee Kadnessah stated that it was ready to file its list so as to be designated Ticket No. 1 on the ballot. Two years ago we submitted a nomination list not paying due regard to the order of the names. We had 80 or 90 nominees. Under the rules of the Congress, the first in the order named come into consideration. If the first 20 are elected, the next 20 on the list are alternates. In other words, No. 41 on the list would not be able to become either a delegate or an alternate unless all of the others fall out. Two years ago a situation had arisen where Nos. 49 to 61 withdrew in order to entitle Rabbi Silver to be a delegate. Such a situation is unpleasant and is not conducive to harmony. Mr. Wolfson suggested that the Executive of the Z. O. A. be directed to devise immediately a method of rectifying the situation affecting the order of the names listed. Unless the Executive deals with this matter promptly, the Z. O. A. will find itself last on the list, instead of No. 1, where it should be. The solution is that the Executive should be given authority by the Administrative Committee to take steps for the nomination of the delegates in the order in which it is desired that they serve, and to nominate the alternates in the same manner. He moved

THAT the Executive of the Z. O. A. be authorized  
to devise a suitable method of nominating delegates  
to the World Zionist Congress.

Mr. Caplan stated that despite the fact that the Z. O. A. figured as list No. 1 on the ballot in two previous Congress elections, its ticket did not meet with success at the ballot box. To be placed first on the ballot does not imply a greater drawing card. What we have to discuss



is how we can get out the vote. We ought to pay serious attention to this object so that every supporter of our ticket shall not fail to cast his vote this year.

Mr. Spicchandler asked if Mr. Wolfson intended that the Executive of the Z. O. A. assume the function of a Nominating Committee for the Congress delegates.

The Chairman pointed out that to adopt a procedure as suggested by Mr. Wolfson would be in violation of the statutes of the World Zionist Organization. According to the Statutes, any group of 200 Shekel-payers is entitled to submit a nomination list. Even as an Organization our right to nominate a list derives from the fact that we are a Shekel group. Consideration must be given to the fact that Zionists throughout the country wish to have a voice in the nominations, before a list of nominees and the order of the names is definitely arranged. For this purpose we have submitted our lists of nominees for approval to the membership of the Zionist Organization.

Mr. Margulies pointed out that the Z. O. A. was as yet the only Organization that followed democratic procedure in connection with the Congress elections, while the other parties and organizations have this year apparently proceeded on the theory that was suggested by Mr. Wolfson -- to have a small committee sit down and present a full list of names as the candidates of their party. The Z. O. A. was the only Organization to consult its constituency on the composition of its nomination list. It is more important for us to retain the democratic principle, to ascertain from our constituency as to who really our delegates should be, and be third or fourth on the Ticket, than to have the power delegated to the Executive as suggested by Mr. Wolfson. Even at the risk of being placed second or third on the list we should not forego the democratic principle we have acquired in the last four years.

Mr. Guzik offered an amendment to Mr. Wolfson's motion to the effect that a Committee be appointed, democratic in form, with a view to the adoption of a method of nominations and elections which will secure our rights as far as possible.

Mr. Rosenbaum suggested that the democratic campaign this year be started early, and all necessary preparations made in time so that we are lined up to do the work at the right moment.

Mr. Wolfson withdrew his motion and the following motion was offered by the Chairman:

THAT we refer this matter to the Executive with instructions to give this problem their immediate attention.

This motion was unanimously carried.

The Chairman reiterated his belief that Dr. Wise take this matter up with the Endassah before they file their petition.



Mr. Wolfson pointed out that it is permissible to submit a petition with the delegates and thereafter to file an amended petition.

With regard to the reports of the standing committees, Mr. Margulies said that, as referred to in the report of the Executive, the Organization Committee is not ready to report to this meeting the final readjustment of the UPA budget as it affected the Z. O. A. allotment and the maintenance of the regional bureaus. Also, report of the Education Committee was included in the Executive report. He called particular attention to the Forum inaugurated by the Education Department.

Mr. Ribalow inquired as to the plans of the Education Committee for the promotion of Hebrew culture.

Mr. Cowen replied that steps had been taken to further the introduction of Hebrew in the high schools which had been inaugurated by Mr. Chipkin and had the support of Dr. Wise and others. In addition the Committee contemplated the publication of some books in Hebrew as soon as the financial status was clarified. Mr. Cowen then referred to the problem of distributing the material prepared by the Education Department since the distribution will be based upon the measure of the demand for this material.

Mr. Imber stated that in his opinion, one of the primary purposes for the creation of the Education Department was to prepare material -- not so much factual, as containing a program for the various youth organizations. Pending such program Masada had suspended its cultural activities since it expected to receive impetus in this direction from the Education Department. He therefore inquired what the Education Department had done to provide such material.

Mr. Cowen replied that the immediate object of the Education Department was to provide the Zionist Districts with material and when that is done, the Educational Director and the Committee would turn their attention to the needs of Masada and the other youth organizations.

Mr. Richards stated that as a member of the Education Committee, it was his opinion that the Organization jumped into this educational activity without much thought or planning, without analyzing the situation and what the needs are. As a result, the material sent out by the Department is too profuse and repetitious.

Rabbi Berman said that the Committee on Education meets frequently and is prepared to receive any suggestion and criticisms.

It was decided that all matters affecting problems of education be referred to the Committee on Education.

#### POLITICAL COMMITTEE REPORT:

Dr. Wise called attention to the decision taken at the last meeting of the Executive held during his absence from New York, pertaining to the

activities of the Political Committee. Dr. Wise pointed out that frequently the most important political work is done without any public notice and without any public reference. He then rendered a confidential report on the political situation in Palestine and in London.

Pointing out the occasional necessity of making decisions independent of London and Jerusalem, Dr. Wise recalled that the cable he dispatched to America from London in August, 1936, in protest against the threatened action of the British Government, prepared the way for the action later taken by the American Government. Although he told Dr. Weizmann exactly what he was going to do he did not ask for approval, because he (Dr. Wise) wanted to be free to act, and to leave Dr. Weizmann free. Subsequent developments led London and Jerusalem to ask us to do what had already been asked by Dr. Wise four weeks earlier.

Dr. Wise further stated that it is the opinion of the Political Committee that being in accord with the Zionist Organization in London, and while believing that Dr. Weizmann and Ben Gurion are rendering effective service in protecting and strengthening Zionist interest, we as representing the largest single Jewish community in the world must remain free to take political action considered best in the premises, independent of what London and Jerusalem will say in the matter later. The more vigorously and independently our action will be, the stronger will be the endorsement of London and Jerusalem in three or four months later when the issue will be decided.

Finally Dr. Wise asked that the Political Committee receive authorization from the Administrative Committee to act in this connection. He therefore proposed the following resolution:

THAT we herewith reaffirm the statement made a few days ago by the Executive of the Jewish Agency demanding such changes in the Administration as will bring a restoration of order, and secondly the right of self-defense for the Yishuv.

We are glad to note that a small beginning has been made in re-enlisting the Jewish supernumeraries and their re-arming as part of the program of the government.

Dr. Wise then read the following cable:

TEL AVIV MARCH 20 1937

"WISE MOSSIMSON  
NEW YORK

"THE BLOODY DEEDS AND THE ANARCHY IN THE COUNTRY CONTINUING STOP THE GOVERNMENT ABSOLUTELY PARALYZED DOES NOT PAY ATTENTION TO OUR DEMANDS AND PROTESTS STOP THE REQUESTS OF OUR INSTITUTIONS FOR A CHANGE OF METHODS AND REGIME REJECTED STOP WE ARE DELIVERED TO ASSASSINS FROM

AMBUSH STOP THERE IS A GREAT DANGER TO THE MORALE OF THE YISHUE AND TO ITS ECONOMIC POSITIONS STOP WE DEMAND YOUR HELP STOP AROUSE PUBLIC OPINION OF INFLUENTIAL POLITICAL CIRCLES STOP IT IS NECESSARY TO GIVE THE YISHUE THE RIGHT OF AN ARMED SELFDEFENSE AND TO PROCLAIM MARTIAL LAW IN THE WILD NORTH STOP IN CONNECTION WITH THIS SITUATION NECESSARY TO CABLE IMMEDIATELY MINIMUM 200 POUNDS FOR REINFORCEMENT OF OUR KILATZIM"

"GLUCKSON EFFINGER"

Dr. Wise then stated that in view of the present situation, he had discussed with members of the Political Committee the advisability of adopting a resolution today urging the Executive of the Jewish Agency to convene the Zionist Congress this summer in the United States, and also to ask Dr. Weizmann to come here immediately after Pesach for a week or 10 days in connection with our political action. The proposal to hold the Congress in America would constitute a solemn if not effective warning to the Mandatory Government that American Jewry is concerned at the outcome of the Royal Commission's finding.

Dr. Wise asked for a rising vote reaffirming the decision.

Mr. Rothenberg offered the following amendment to Dr. Wise's resolution:

1. THAT we in America, although it is our utmost desire to have full faith in the good intentions of the British Government, nevertheless feel that, especially in view of the extra police and military force that is going into Palestine as part of the program of the Government, we herewith wish to reaffirm the statement made a few days ago by the Executive of the Jewish Agency to demand all the necessary changes in Administration for a restoration of order, and secondly, the complete right of self-defense. We are glad to note that a small beginning has been made in re-enlisting the Jewish supernumeraries and re-arming as part of the program of the Government.

The resolution was unanimously carried.

The Chairman then called for a vote on the following question:

SHALL we ask that the next World Zionist Congress take place in America?

Mr. William Siegel suggested that before the Administrative Committee puts itself definitely and affirmatively on record as desiring to have the next Congress in America, the Political Committee consult those people in whom we have confidence.

The Chairman re-stated the motion as follows:

THAT we refer the matter to the Political Committee with power, after we have expressed our opinion.



He called for discussion on the motion.

Mr. Spicehandler agreed with Dr. Wise that the Congress should meet in America. The political position in Europe is such that every country in Europe is looking towards America for guidance. Since the Palestine situation will be presented at the Congress, its effect in this country and abroad can only redound to the benefit of our movement.

Rabbi Miller felt that the problem of holding the Zionist Congress in America is bound up with other problems involving finances, technical obstacles, etc. which may make the holding of the Congress here physically impossible. He expressed the thought that Dr. Wise's chief interest lay in the effect the invitation coming from America will have upon political sentiment in Great Britain. Even if it will be found later to be impossible to hold the Congress in America, the very issuance of an invitation to the Zionist Executive, in view of public opinion the world over, will in itself have the desired political effect on Great Britain and the League of Nations. For the purpose of such effect, Rabbi Miller suggested that the Zionist Organization of America take the initiative in summoning an extraordinary conference of all Zionist bodies for the express purpose of issuing an invitation to the Zionist Executive to hold the Congress in America this year, and that such a conference be given the widest publicity.

Mr. Shelvin stated that in the main he agreed with Rabbi Miller, but there are important economic considerations involved in holding the Congress here, especially since the majority of the delegates come from Poland, Rumania, Palestine, etc. and unless we are prepared to finance their trip they would not be able to make the voyage to America. He suggested instead that a conference of world Zionist leaders be held here to discuss various important problems confronting the movement.

The following proposal of Rabbi Miller was seconded and carried:

THAT a conference be called of all Zionist bodies to consider the question of extending an invitation to the Executive to hold the 20th World Zionist Congress in America; our representatives to be given power to recommend this as the invitation of the Administrative Committee.

It was also moved and carried

THAT the Administrative Committee invite Dr. Weizmann to come to America at the earliest possible moment for action with regard to the situation in Palestine.

Mr. Spicehandler moved

THAT in view of the report of Dr. Wise, the time has come for an opportunity to be given to the Jewish masses to express their sentiments in the matter; that a large



mass meeting be held, at which our speakers will present the situation in Palestine and appropriate resolutions will be adopted.

Dr. Wise amended Mr. Spicchandler's motion as follows:

THAT this matter be referred to the Political Committee of the Zionist Organization of America.

The motion as amended was unanimously carried.

RABBI JOACHIM PRINZ:

The Chairman introduced Rabbi Joachim Prinz, who recently arrived from Germany.

CONVENTION CITY:

Mr. Margulies reported that a referendum is being conducted among the Zionist Districts throughout the country as to the Convention City and that the responses thus far received indicate the following:

For the Atlantic Seaboard Districts:

|    |       |               |
|----|-------|---------------|
| 41 | favor | New York City |
| 8  | "     | Atlantic City |
| 5  | "     | Chicago       |
| 2  | "     | Asbury Park   |
| 1  | "     | Cleveland     |
| 1  | "     | Pittsburgh    |
| 1  | "     | Philadelphia  |
| 1  | "     | Boston        |

For the Western Districts:

|    |       |          |
|----|-------|----------|
| 12 | favor | Chicago  |
| 4  | "     | New York |

For the Eastern Districts: 5 favor Chicago

For the Western Districts: 4 favor New York

Mr. Margulies read a communication he had received from Mr. Max Shulman, Chairman of the Midwest Zionist Region and a Vice-President of the Zionist Organization of America, in reply to the inquiry regarding the Convention City, as follows:

"As to your inquiry about the Convention City, I do not believe that the Convention this year should be either in New York or Chicago. New York is altogether too far removed from attracting a large delegation from all over the country, and Chicago is not prepared to have a successful convention. I would suggest that your Committee

should decide on some centrally located city, either Detroit, Cleveland or Pittsburgh. Detroit or Cleveland preferable. Both cities are easily accessible to all communities and should draw a large delegation."

Mr. Margulies suggested that in view of the fact that the report is incomplete, that the date of the Convention be reaffirmed and the question of the city be left to the Executive of the Z. O. A.

Mr. Umansky, Chairman of the Connecticut State Zionist Region, suggested that the Convention be held in Philadelphia.

Mr. Spieshandler favored Chicago or some other Midwestern city.

Mr. Rudavsky moved

THAT the Convention be held in Atlantic City.

Mr. Rosenbaum seconded Mr. Rudavsky's motion.

It was thereupon duly moved, seconded and carried

THAT the final decision in the matter of the Convention City be left to the Executive of the Z. O. A., with the recommendation that Atlantic City be given consideration.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS MARGULIES  
Secretary

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 KLAUMER  
JOSEPH KRAEMER  
WILLIAM M. LEWIS  
MAX SHULMAN  
ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
ELIHU D. STONE  
NATHAN STRAUSS  
*Vice-Presidents*

MORRIS ROTHENBERG  
*Chairman, Admin. Committee*

A. J. RANCY  
*Chairman, National Council*

LUDWIG LEWISCHIN  
*Honorary Secretary*

MORRIS MARGULIES  
*Secretary*

## EXECUTIVE

CHARLES A. COWEN  
ABRAHAM GOLDBERG  
EDWARD L. ISRAEL  
I. H. LEVINTHAL  
LOUIS LEFKY  
SAMUEL MARKIEWICH  
IRVING MILLER  
CHARLES RESS  
ROBERT SEID

## Associate Members

ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

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*Chairman*

MORRIS WEINBERG  
HARRY P. FIERST  
*Treasurers*

ABRAHAM KREMER  
ABRAHAM LISBOVITZ  
GABRIEL A. LOWENSTEIN  
ELIAS FREISS  
LOUIS RIMSKY  
SIGMUND THAU

ISRAEL MALTIN  
*Auditor*

April 6, 1937

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Under separate cover we have sent you a copy of the March issue of "Foreign Agriculture", which contains an article on Palestine. The Palestine article was published with the cooperation of the Zionist Organization of America. The U.S. Department of Agriculture was good enough to supply the Z.O.A. with 500 copies of this publication.

Sincerely yours,

Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM:BP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ZOA EXECUTIVE

HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1937 - 4:30 P.M., - 111 FIFTH AVE.

PRESENT: Messrs. Wise (in the chair) Cowen, Fierst, Goldstein, Kraemer, Lipsky, Margulies, Miller, Rothenberg, Stone; Imber and Schwartz (representing Youth Organizations) Golub, Montor, Silverman (by invitation).

Excuses for absence received from Rabbi I. H. Levinthal.

COMMUNICATION TO NEW PALESTINE RE DR. GOLDSTEIN'S SERMON:

Dr. Wise reported on a communication received by The New Palestine, from Boro Park Zionist District commenting on a recent sermon by Dr. Israel Goldstein. He stated he proposed to reply that the matter did not come within the purview of the Executive, or that such communication should be published in an official organ of the Z.O.A.

Proposal approved.

COMMUNICATION FROM MR. SZOLD RE ZOA PARTICIPATION IN EXPENSE OF REPORT TO ROYAL COMMISSION:

A letter has been received from Mr. Szold advising that the expense of distributing the copies of the memorandum filed with the Royal Commission, the Colonial Office and the U.S. State Department, on "American Interest in the Administration of the Palestine Mandate", amounted to over \$1300. Mr. Szold stated also that Mr. Rucker had mentioned a ZOA participation of \$500, and that in the former's opinion the ZOA should pay at least that amount plus additional copies to be printed.

It was the consensus of opinion that the ZOA as one of the 5 or 6 signatories to the memorandum, should pay only a proportionate share of the initial expense of \$1300.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Margulies reported that as of March 31, there were renewals of membership amounting to 16,408 members as against 11,222 last year, representing an improvement of 5,184. The total membership is 27,106 which includes 6,698 new members. There is reason to expect that by the Convention the total number of new members will reach 10,000, the goal set by Dr. Wise for this year. The increase in membership is primarily reflected in the gains outside of New York, which amount to 46% as against 26% in New York. A conference of New York District Chairmen took place this week, at which assurances were given that every effort will be made between now and the Convention to improve the New York membership situation.



The income from membership dues on March 31st was \$48,881 as against \$33,172 last year. This sum of \$48,881 does not include \$2,260 due from Chicago.

Beginning this week, in order to intensify membership activities and the UPA campaign now in progress, and facilitate the launching of the Shekel effort, the New Palestine will be mailed to 35,000 people, covering both \$6 and \$3 members, and some 7,000 UPA contributors.

as to

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Lipsky/who authorized the sending of The New Palestine to the \$3 members, Mr. Margulies replied that this is being done in accordance with a decision of the Finance Committee.

Mr. Margulies reported also that Dos Yiddishe Folk is being printed in 3,000 copies and mailed out to 2500 persons including 335 direct subscribers. A few hundred copies are placed on sale at news stands.

#### CONVENTION :

With further reference to the plebiscite on the place of the Convention, Mr. Margulies reported that of the 220 Districts in the East, 71 Districts responded as follows: 48 favored New York, 8 Atlantic City, 7 Chicago, 2 Asbury Park, 1 Cleveland, 2 Pittsburgh, 2 Philadelphia, 1 Boston. 22 replies were received from the 110 Districts in the Middlewest and West. Of these 17 proposed Chicago, 4 New York, 1 Detroit.

Mr. Margulies added that recent correspondence revealed a desire on the part of a considerable number of persons to hold the Convention in Buffalo.

Mr. Eliza Stone urged that Buffalo be designated as the next Convention city.

Mr. Rothenberg expressed a preference for Atlantic City.

Mr. Lipsky was opposed to having the Convention in New York or Atlantic City, proposing Buffalo or Pittsburgh.

It was finally decided to defer action on this matter till the next meeting. In the meantime, however, the Secretary was directed to make inquiries from Buffalo, Detroit, Pittsburgh and Atlantic City.

#### FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF ADOPTION OF PALESTINE RESOLUTION BY CONGRESS :

Mr. Stone called attention to the fact that July 1937 will mark the 15th anniversary of the adoption of the Lodge-Fish resolution on Palestine by the Congress of the United States, and that this occasion might be utilized to good advantage in connection with arousing public sentiment in support of Zionist aims. He suggested that a committee be appointed to arrange celebrations throughout the country and if possible also a large demonstration in Washington.

PROPOSAL TO CONVENE WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS IN THE UNITED STATES :

Dr. Wise reported that in accordance with the resolution of the Administrative Committee, he had written to Dr. Weizmann urging him to come here soon if only for a fortnight, and also that for political considerations the 20th Zionist Congress be convened in the United States this year.

The Chairman proposed that the following cable be sent to Mr. Ussishkin:

"ZOA EARNESTLY INVITES ACTION\$COM CALL ZIONICONGRESS\$  
AMERICA STOP BELIEVE MOST IMPORTANT POLITICAL GROUNDS HAVE  
CONGRESS USA STOP FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES NOT INSURMOUNTABLE  
WILL COOPERATE UTMOST MINIMIZE DIFFICULTIES

WISE"

Dr. Wise was authorized to send the above cable.

SHEKEL RALLY ON LAG B'OMER :

The Secretary proposed that in connection with the launching of this year's shekel campaign, a Shekel Rally be arranged by the ZOA on Lag B'omer (April 28 or 29).

Mr. Imber reported that at the meeting of the Shekel Board held earlier in the day, it was decided that all shekolim should be accounted for by the 28th of May. Therefore in his opinion, the inauguration of the ZOA shekel campaign on April 29th would not allow sufficient time for an effective sale of shekolim.

Mr. Margulies replied that the Shekel Board should set to work immediately and mail out shekolim, but as far as the ZOA is concerned the active campaign cannot be started for another three weeks as this time is required for membership activities. On April 29th the shekel campaign could be launched on a large scale with a meeting at Carnegie Hall.

It was decided to refer the matter of the Rally to a special Committee to be appointed by the Chairman.

CONFERENCE WITH NATIONAL BOARD OF HADASSAH :

Dr. Wise reported on a conference with the members of the National Board of Hadassah, regarding the enrollment in the ZOA of male relatives of Hadassah members. Hadassah, Dr. Wise stated, is prepared to let the ZOA have the necessary lists since they recognize the importance of increasing the ranks of the ZOA. They are to appoint a committee to cooperate with the ZOA in this matter.

Dr. Wise added that the method of procedure will have to be worked out, as to whether this effort should be undertaken from New York or by local key people, the latter method being more advisable.

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the chairman appoint a Committee to work out the procedure, and that this committee should also discuss with Hadassah all matters in connection with Congress elections.

FINANCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN UPA AND ZOA :

Dr. Wise stated that the matter of the financial relations between the UPA and the ZOA is still in flux and there is as yet nothing definite to report.

Mr. Lipsky stated that in view of the probability that the appropriation of the UPA to the ZOA is likely to be reduced from the estimated figure of \$90,000 to \$50,000, he would suggest that the Finance Committee together with a representative of the Executive consider the matter of adjusting the ZOA budget so as to conform with its income.

Mr. Fierst pointed out that the ZOA budget was subject to review on March 31st and that the Finance Committee is working on the final figures. It is essential therefore that the subcommittee of the ZOA which is working this matter out with the UPA, should meet with the Finance Committee.

Dr. Goldstein stated that from the standpoint of a business administration it is essential that immediate steps be taken for cutting down the running expenses to meet the reduced budget.

Mr. Kraemer pointed out that the expenditures were fixed months ago and it is not fair to alter the budget now.

Mr. Lipsky agreed with Dr. Goldstein that immediate action should be taken, but he pointed out that up to July 1st the ZOA will not suffer any loss in income. The difficulties will be experienced during the last three months of the fiscal year. It is therefore desirable that the revision of the subject

be not delayed.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT the subcommittee that was named to deal with the UPA in this matter meet with the Finance Committee to examine each item in the budget.

PROPALESTINE HERALD DISTRIBUTED TO SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN :

The Secretary reported that copies of the January, February and March issues of the Pro-Palestine Herald, containing a reply to the Arab pamphlet, "Whither Palestine?", had been sent to every U.S. Senator and Congressman.

Meeting adjourned at 6 P.M.



Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS MARGULIES

Secretary



April 16, 1937

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

My dear Mr. Margulies:

I understand that Lord Melchett is coming to the United States in connection with the United Palestine Appeal on May 12th. We would have been delighted to use him in connection with our local campaign which, however, closes on May 12th. Do you plan to have him attend other than campaign meetings? If so, we will be pleased to arrange a meeting for him in Cleveland. Please let me know.

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE ZOA

HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1937 - 4:30 P.M., 111 FIFTH AVE.

PRESENT: Messrs. Wise (in the chair) Cowen, Goldberg, Levinthal, Margulies, Miller, Bess, Rongy, Stone, Weinberg; Elias Preiss (Acting Chairman of Finance Committee); Imber and Schwartz (representing the Youth organizations) Dr. Golub (by invitation).

Excuses for absence received from Dr. Goldstein and Prof. Klausner.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Mizrachi: The Secretary reported an invitation from the Mizrachi Organization to the ZOA to be represented at the forthcoming Mizrachi Convention on Sunday, May 9, at the Breakers Hotel, in Atlantic City.

Decided to ask Mr. Morris Rothenberg to represent the Organization on this occasion.

2. Dr. M. Rosenbleuth re "Intrix": The Secretary read a letter from Dr. Rosenbleuth of London, regarding the use of "Haavara-Marks" for philanthropic purposes in Germany, as per attached.

Decided to refer this matter to Dr. Wise for further investigation.

PLACE OF NEXT ZOA CONVENTION:

A discussion took place with further reference to the place of the next Convention, the choice being among Buffalo, Detroit, Pittsburgh and Atlantic City.

In this connection a telegram was read from Rabbi Lichter of Pittsburgh urging that the Convention be held in that city.

It was the consensus of opinion that it would be too hot at the end of June to have the Convention in Pittsburgh. On the other hand, if it were held in Atlantic City, the Mid-western Districts would feel that they were being discriminated against by having the Convention in the East again.

It was therefore finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT the next annual Convention of the ZOA be held in Buffalo, in order to make the Convention city as accessible as possible to the Midwest.

REPORT ON CONFERENCE AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH HADASSAH ;

Rabbi Miller reported that at the request of Dr. Wise, a committee consisting of Mr. Boss, Mr. Margulies and himself met with Mrs. Epstein and Mrs. Shulman of Hadassah, concerning the matter of closer cooperation between Hadassah and the ZOA in securing the enrollment of male relatives of Hadassah as members of the ZOA.

This Committee recommended to Hadassah, and Hadassah accepted the proposal, that the National Office of Hadassah communicate with all Chapter Presidents, asking them to forward lists of male relatives of members, not affiliated with the ZOA, as well as the names of key people in various communities who could be enlisted in behalf of this membership effort.

Rabbi Miller further reported that the Committee made the specific request that Hadassah ask its Chapters to hold their May meetings in the evening, to enable the husbands of their members to be present, and also that a ZOA speaker be permitted to solicit members for the ZOA at such meetings. This request was granted and acted upon by Hadassah.

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the report of Rabbi Miller be accepted with appreciation.

Mr. Margulies pointed out that he was already in communication with the Executive Secretary of Hadassah in connection with this matter.

REPORT BY MR. ELIAS PREISS, ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE :

1. Communication from Women's League for Palestine: Mr. Preiss submitted the following communication:

"The Women's League for Palestine, an organization of American Jewish women vitally interested in the development of Palestine as a Jewish Homeland, has assumed the important task of constructing centers in the cities of Palestine for the social and economic adjustment of immigrant refugee girls.

' In 1932, the League completed its first Beth Hachalutzoth in Haifa. Immediately upon its opening it was recognized by the Jewish Agency as a vital factor in the placement of young girls who could not be absorbed in the various agricultural settlements. In 1936, a similar home was opened by us in Tel Aviv.

"The Jewish Agency and the Central Bureau for the Settlement of German Jews in Palestine have contributed considerable sums of money for the training of girls in the cooperative workshops maintained by us in both these homes. We have now launched a drive for a building fund to erect a Beth Hachalutzoth in Jerusalem.

"Heretofore, we have worked as an independent group without any political affiliation in America. We feel that at this crucial period in Zionist history it is most important that all Zionist

forces stand united.

"It is, therefore, the earnest wish of the Women's League for Palestine to affiliate with the Zionist Organization of America. It is most important that we are advised immediately in what manner this can be accomplished. Our members have already voted to participate in the shekolim campaign. Your prompt decision will determine the agency through which we as an organization will obtain the shekolim.

"Our Committee is ready to confer with your Administrative Board at the earliest possible opportunity."

Sincerely yours,  
 WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR PALESTINE  
 Mrs. William Prince, President  
 Mrs. David L. Isaac, Chairman, Pal. Com.

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT this matter be referred for further consideration and study, to the Committee on Organization, and that the Committee take this matter up as soon as possible in order that the League may be enlisted in the Shekel campaign.

2. ALBERT LOEB - RIFKA ARONSON TRUST FUND: Mr. Preiss submitted the following:

"On May 19, 1920 the Zionist Organization of America received in trust from Albert H. Loeb of Chicago the sum of \$25,000, the accrued interest on which was to be paid to Miss Rifka Aronson during her lifetime. At her death, the principal and all accumulated interest at the time were to revert to the Zionist Organization of America which is to devote this fund in the furtherance of agricultural development of Palestine.

This money is on deposit in the Anglo-Palestine Bank in the name of the Zionist Organization of America, and on the 12th of November, 1933 amounted to £ 5,217.

The Zionist Organization of America is indebted to the Jewish National Fund of America to the extent of \$7500.

At a recent meeting of the ZOA Finance Committee it was proposed that the ZOA submit to the JNF the following proposal: that upon an additional payment on the part of the JNF of \$7500 to the ZOA, the Trust Fund of Mr. Albert Loeb be transferred to the Jewish National Fund.

On Monday, April 26, 1937 a subcommittee of the ZOA Finance Committee and the JNF met, and it was agreed to accept the suggestion of the ZOA Finance Committee, subject (a) to approval by the ZOA Executive, and (b) the Jerusalem head office of the JNF."



It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the Finance Committee be authorized to proceed along the lines recommended regarding the payment by the JNF of the sum of \$7500 to the ZOA in consideration of the transfer of this Trust Fund to the JNF.

3. INDEBTEDNESS OF ZOA TO JEWISH COLONIAL TRUST: Mr. Preiss recommended further that out of the \$7500 which the ZOA is to receive from the JNF in connection with the Albert Loeb - Rifka Aronson Trust Fund, arrangements be made by the ZOA to pay off its indebtedness to the Jewish Colonial Trust.

This was authorized by the Executive.

UPA REMITTANCE TO ZOA:

Mr. Margulies reported that the ZOA has received \$92,000 thus far for the balance of 1936 and part of 1937, but no funds have been allotted under the new arrangement which, however, has not yet been ratified.

Dr. Wise pointed out that under the proposed new arrangement, the ZOA was to receive \$50,000 for 1937, two-thirds payable during the first six months, and one-third during the second half of the year. In the meantime this arrangement has been modified, the Mizrahi having advised the UPA that it could not get along on the allotment of \$7,000 and in response to its demand, has been allotted \$9800. The Poale Zion thereupon advised the UPA that they would have accepted the original allotment, but if the Mizrahi is to receive more money, they would demand equal treatment. Under the circumstances the question has been raised whether on this basis the ZOA should not receive \$55,000 instead of the original allotment of \$50,000.

Dr. Wise felt that this was a matter for the Executive to decide, but that in his opinion the ZOA should not ask for the additional \$5,000 but abide by the original arrangement. Moreover Dr. Wise called attention to the fact that Mr. Harold Jacobi was sympathetic to the needs of the ZOA, and realizing that it could not conduct effective work with a reduced allotment by the UPA, had virtually promised to help raise funds for the ZOA.

After some discussion, it was decided that the ZOA should not ask for any additional allocation from the UPA, as has been demanded by the Mizrahi and Poale Zion, but to stand by the present arrangement.

REPORT OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Mr. Cowen stated that this was the first intimation he had that he was to report to the Executive today and therefore he is not prepared to make a formal report. He stated, however, that the Department of Education is pursuing its activities, among them being the Forum which has been very successful. Four lectures have already been given, and the 5th and last would take place on May 9th. They have been very well attended, interesting and stimulating, and the results most gratifying. The lectures will shortly be pub-

lished. In addition, a number of brochures have already been written, including a paper by Rabbi Ira Eisenstein on "What Is The Jewish Problem?"

Mr. Cowen reported also that a conference of New York City District and Cultural Chairmen was held on Sunday, April 18th, at which a number of problems were discussed with special reference to the educational needs of the Districts and the proper distribution of the material issued by the Education Department. In addition, Dr. Golub met with the Alumni of the Jewish Institute of Religion, many of the members of which have agreed to prepare syllabi and lectures for the use of the Districts. Similar arrangements will be made with other groups. Dr. Golub has translated the address of Mr. Ben Gurion before the Histadruth, a summary of which will be issued by the Education Department. A portfolio of papers on Palestine and Zionism is being prepared for the delegates to the Zionist Congress. Dr. Golub is also cooperating with Young Judaea in the preparation of Holiday programs, including Lag B'Omer and Shavuoth.

Dr. Rongy praised the work of the Education Department.

#### REPORT OF ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE:

On behalf of the Organization Committee, Rabbi Irvin Miller recommended the following: that the Executive bring before the next Convention of the ZOA the proposal that the dues of the Organization be definitely set at the uniform rate of \$5 a year, including The New Palestine. Rabbi Miller added that this problem is always left to the last session of the Convention and never properly handled.

A protracted discussion ensued.

Dr. Rongy pointed out that the Constitution Committee had practically completed its work and was ready to submit the draft of the new constitution, including the provision with regard to dues, to the National Council for ratification.

Rabbi Miller called attention to the fact that of the present \$6 and \$3 dues, the Organization receives an average of \$2.25, whereas of the \$5 dues, it would receive \$2.50.

Mr. Ress asked whether a uniform dues of \$5 would not result in losing a substantial number of the \$3 members. This might be a serious loss especially from the point of numerical strength.

Mr. Margulies replied that undoubtedly this would be the case. Moreover there will also be a loss of some \$6,000 to \$7,000 on the present \$6 membership, but it is essential to adopt a uniform due. Mr. Margulies thought the membership increase would offset the loss and added that it is proposed also to offset this loss further by having contributing members at \$10 and sustaining members at \$25.

Mr. Margulies pointed out also that the present \$3 membership since it does not receive The New Palestine is for the most part an uninformed membership and not a great asset to the Organization. He added that of the proposed dues of \$5, the Districts would receive \$1, the Region would receive \$1.00; fifty cents would go for the shekel, and the balance of \$2.50 to the National Office.

Mr. Stone believed that there should be a uniform due of \$6 in keeping with the dignity of membership in the ZOA, especially since the dues of other Jewish organizations are much higher.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT the Executive recommend to the Convention the adoption of a uniform dues of \$5 for ZOA membership.

2. Rabbi Miller reported also that the Committee on Organization recommends that the basis of representation to the Convention of the ZOA, by the Order Sons of Zion, Masada and Avukah be changed. He pointed out, for instance, that the Order has been represented exactly in the same proportion as Zionist Districts which pay three times as much to the National Office; the Districts being accorded one representative for every fifty members, and the Order the same representation, although the latter pays the ZOA only \$1 per member. Therefore the Organization Committee felt that representation should be on a more equitable basis; namely, one representative for every 100 members of the Order. Rabbi Miller added, however, that the Executive should vote on this proposal at another meeting when Mr. Joseph Krasner would be present.

As for Masada and Avukah, the Organization Committee proposes that they be allowed 5 delegates-at-large to the ZOA Convention, instead of one for every 50 members as in the case of Zionist Districts.

Mr. Imber expressed the opinion that this proposal destroys one of the most fundamental conceptions of membership in Masada; namely, that a member of Masada is at the same time a member of the ZOA, and that this will be a serious blow to a large section of young people whom Masada is endeavoring to identify more closely with the Organization than in the past, for Masada hopes to double its membership this year and have about 1400 members.

Mr. Cowen pointed out that the members of Masada and Avukah are adults and should be members of the ZOA on the same basis as the other members and not expect special privileges. He believed that the whole basis of organization was wrong. In this connection he called attention to the fact that Junior Hadassah which, in addition to its membership dues of \$1, raises \$75,000 a year for Palestine, thus relieving Senior Hadassah of that burden, receives no representation at Senior Hadassah Conventions.

Mr. Goldberg felt that the youth should be encouraged and that both Masada and Avukah be given every opportunity to attract as large a membership as possible. He therefore objected to any change in their representation at the ZOA Convention, particularly on any basis of money consideration.



Mr. Margulies believed that this was the ideal time to institute reforms and make changes with regard to dues, representation, etc., especially since this Convention will not be faced with any internal political issues. He stressed the fact that the members of the Order Sons of Zion have their own Convention, and when they come to the ZOA Convention they vote as a unit instead of acting as individual delegates.

It was moved, seconded and carried

THAT the discussion of the problem of representation at Conventions, to be accorded to the Order Sons of Zion, Masada and Avukah be postponed and continued at the next meeting.

#### MEETING OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE AND NATIONAL COUNCIL:

Dr. Romy pointed out that the new Constitution, the question of dues and other problems must be submitted to the National Council for approval before the Convention. He proposed therefore that a meeting of the Administrative Committee take place on Saturday night, May 22nd and a meeting of the National Council on Sunday, May 23rd.

This was so moved, seconded and carried.

It was moved, seconded and carried also

THAT copies of the proposed new Constitution be sent first to the members of the Executive and then to the members of the Administrative Committee, in order that they may be duly prepared to make recommendations.

#### COMMITTEE ON CONVENTION PROGRAM :

Decided to authorize the President to appoint a Committee on Convention Program.

#### COMMITTEES ON CONGRESS PLATFORM AND ELECTION TECHNIQUE :

Decided that the President appoint a Committee on the Preparation of a Program or Platform by the ZOA in connection with the forthcoming Congress elections.

Mr. Goldberg urged that the question of Congress elections be discussed as the first item on the agenda of the next meeting of the Executive.

Decided also that the President appoint a Committee on Election Technique.



EFFORTS TO HAVE 20TH ZIONIST CONGRESS IN AMERICA :

Dr. Wise reported on the vigorous efforts he is making to make the leaders of the World Zionist Organization see that the next World Zionist Congress must be held in America and not in Basle. He realized of course the greater financial outlay that would be involved, but he believed that the American Organization would be in a position to contribute \$50,000 toward expenses, since the proceeds of one session at Madison Square Garden could net that amount. In view of the forthcoming report of the Royal Commission and the necessary political measures to be taken it would be most effective to have the Congress here and the \$50,000 would be well spent.

Dr. Wise added that Zionism is no longer a movement to be stunted to Basle; that it is no longer merely an East European Jewish movement, but a world movement. Moreover Switzerland is nothing in world politics, whereas America has a paramount place among world powers, and the decision with regard to the report of the Royal Commission might be affected if it were decided to have the Congress in America.

It was unanimously moved, seconded and carried

THAT the efforts of the President to have the next Congress in America be fully approved, and the President was requested to bring about a conference between the Mizrahi and Poale Zion regarding pressure on their part in this effort.

It was understood that a plan would be worked out to indicate the feasibility of having the Congress here.

Meeting adjourned 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

MORRIS MARGULIES  
Secretary

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE  
Central Bureau for the Settlement of German Jews

77, Great Russell Street  
London, W.C.1.  
April 9, 1937

To the Zionist Federations!

Gentlemen:

Reports have recently appeared in the press, especially in American papers, about an agreement which the Haavara, or its London representative, "Intra", has made with the German authorities and with Germany's so-called "Stand-still-Creditors" in regard to the use of Haavara-Marks for philanthropic purposes in Germany. As these reports are incorrect and misleading I take the liberty of communicating to you the actual facts as follows:

Since 1933 numerous remittances of money for relief purposes have been sent by individuals from all countries in the world to their relatives living in Germany. Such relief remittances can be bought up to the maximum of 200 Marks per month as so-called "registered Marks" in foreign countries, the buyer receiving today about 22 to 24 Marks for £1. A year ago the idea occurred to utilize the amounts accumulated at the Paltrou-Haavara-Office in Berlin, waiting for transfer to Palestine, instead of the registered Marks for the relief of family-dependents in Germany, so far as they were Jews. After protracted negotiations with the German authorities and with Germany's "Stand-still-Creditors", to whom the proceeds of the registered Marks are handed, the conference of the "Stand-still-Creditors" held in Berlin in February passed the following resolution:

"It was agreed that Haavara-Marks should be permitted to be used for the purpose of benevolent remittances from Jewish individuals or organizations for the benefit of Jewish people living in Germany within the limitations imposed by the existing regulations of the Reichsbank in respect of registered Marks."

In future, therefore, foreign Jews who wish to support their relatives in Germany financially will have the possibility of buying Haavara-Marks instead of Registered Marks. The payment of the money in Marks to the relatives living in Germany will be carried out by the Paltrou-Haavara in Berlin, while the foreign exchange paid in foreign countries for the purchase of the Haavara-Marks will go to Palestine and thus help to accelerate the clearing arrangements of the Haavara, by means of which German Jewish families can emigrate to Palestine under the Capitalist category.

As soon as the preliminary steps of organization have been carried out and it is possible for an announcement to be issued, a communication will be made to the Jewish public in various countries, whose cooperation is relied upon in enlisting support for the use of the Haavara-Marks as benevolent marks. The Haavara-Marks will be sold for benevolent purposes at a rate corresponding to the rate of the registered marks used for benevolent purposes.

I would be obliged if you would be good enough to acknowledge the receipt of this letter.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) DR. M. ROSENBLUTH.

# Zionist Organization of America

111 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Office of the President

May 10, 1937.

Dear Fellow-Zionist:

Today, coincident with the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Zionist Organization by Theodor Herzl, the Jewish National Home in Palestine is faced by a crisis that has arisen not because of its weakness but paradoxically out of its very strength. An attempt is being made to halt the rapid march of Zionism towards the attainment of the goal, as expounded at the First Zionist Congress forty years ago, by a reported plan of the Royal Commission to partition Palestine into Jewish and Arab States.

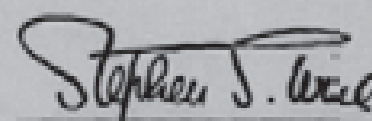
The forthcoming 30th World Zionist Congress, speaking in behalf of World Jewry, will act upon this or any other proposal to be made by the Royal Commission. Mere rejection of any plan for restrictions upon a Jewish Palestine is not enough. Behind that rejection there must be registered the will and the determination of the united Jewish people to resist any violation of its fundamental rights in Palestine and to let nothing stand in the way of the continued upbuilding of the National Home.

The mobilization of Jewish strength in support of the Jewish National Home is now our primary task. That is the significance of the Shekel enrollment, by which it is intended to register the maximum support of the effort to protect the Jewish position in Palestine.

Half a million Shekel payers here in the world's largest and freest Jewish community is a minimum goal which can easily be achieved, if each Zionist will make himself personally responsible for at least ten enrollments. A Declaration form has already been sent to you which provides for ten signatures. Please act without delay to complete this Declaration, which is to be reported to this office, together with the collected Shekel fees, not later than May 28th.

The very existence of the Jewish National Home, the results of years of labor, sacrifice and heroic efforts of our pioneers, the realization of the strivings of the Jewish people, depend upon the action taken by American Jewry at this crucial hour. Delay may spell disaster and frustration of the hopes of millions of persecuted Jews. For the sake of a Rebuilt Zion, I depend upon you to act immediately.

Faithfully yours,



President

## Two Dates to Remember:

MAY 28th—Final Date for Sale of Shekolim

JUNE 20th—Congress Election. Vote for the Z. O. A. Ticket



May 24, 1937

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

My dear Mr. Margulies:

On or about May 7th Rabbi Silver received a list of names of members of the Cleveland Zionist Society who had not paid their dues for the current year. Since that time a check in payment of dues was sent to your office. Will you, at the very earliest possible moment kindly send Rabbi Silver a corrected list?

Thanking you in advance for your courtesy, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.



ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE  
*President*

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SOLOMON GOLDMAN  
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN  
GUSTAVE KLAUSNER  
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*Chairman, National Council*

LUDWIG LEWISohn  
*Honorary Secretary*

MORRIS MARGULIES  
*Secretary*

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SAMUEL MARKOWICH  
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ROBERT SEID

*Associate Members*  
ISAAC IMBER  
ADRIAN SCHWARTZ

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*Chairman*

MORRIS WEINBERG  
HARRY P. FIRST  
*Treasurers*

ABRAHAM KRUMBEIN  
ABRAHAM LOBOVITZ  
GABRIEL A. LOWENSTEIN  
ELIAS FREISS  
LOUIS RIMSKY  
RICHARD TRAU

ISRAEL MALIN  
*Auditor*

May 26, 1937

Miss Bessie Kline  
The Emple  
E. 105th St. at Ansel Rd.  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Miss Kline:

As requested in your letter of May 24th  
we are attaching herewith a corrected list of the  
1936 unpaid members of the Cleveland Zionist  
Society. I trust that this list conforms with  
your records.

With Zion's Greetings,

Sincerely yours,

Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM:HC

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# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

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ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN  
GUSTAVE KLAUSNER  
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WILLIAM M. LEWIS  
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*Secretary*

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SIGMUND TRAU

ISRAEL MALVIN  
*Auditor*

June 3, 1937

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
% The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

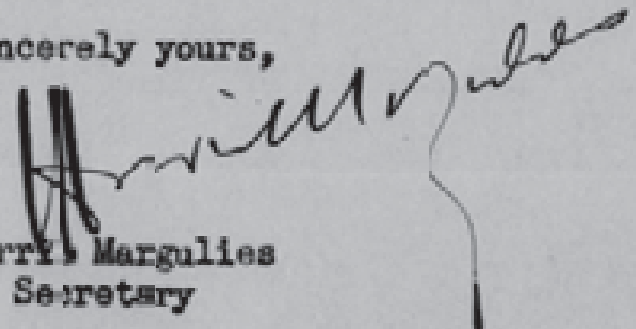
As I informed you by telegraph earlier today, I have succeeded in securing Bernard A. Rosenblatt, who has just returned from a trip to Palestine, to address your meeting to be held on June 15th.

Enclosed herewith is a biographical sketch of Mr. Rosenblatt.

Will you kindly have your Secretary fill out the enclosed meeting schedule blank and return it to this office, so that we may supply Mr. Rosenblatt with the necessary information concerning the meeting.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM:HG

June 4, 1937

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

My dear Mr. Margulies:

I am very happy to learn that Mr. Bernard Rosenblatt will be with us on June 15. We are proceeding with the publicity at once. I would appreciate if you would procure for me a gloss or a photograph of Mr. Rosenblatt which we may use in the newspapers.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

P.S. I do not know where to reach Mr. Rosenblatt.  
Will you please send me his address?



June 4, 1937

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

My dear Mr. Margulies:

Enclosed herewith is the schedule blank  
which you asked me to return to your office properly  
filled in.

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BX

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



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ELIAS PERISS  
LOUIS RIMSKY  
SIGMUND TRAU

ISRAEL MALTIN  
*Auditor*

June 8th, 1937

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
E. 105th St. and Ansel Rd.  
Cleveland, Ohio

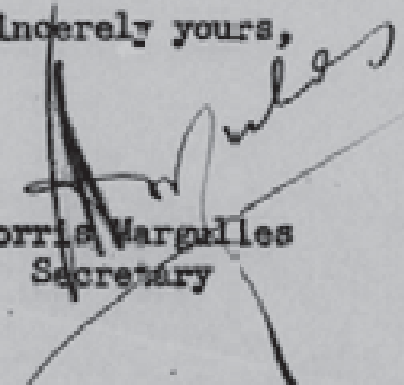
Dear Rabbi Silver:

As requested in your letter of June 4th,  
I am enclosing herewith a photograph of Bernard  
Rosenblatt.

Mr. Rosenblatt's address is 27 William  
Street, New York City.

With Zion's Greetings,

Sincerely yours,

  
Morris Margulies  
Secretary

MM: HG

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EXCERPTS YOUR ADDRESS=

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MEMORANDUM

June 9, 1937

TO

L.D.E.  
F.F.  
J.C.M.  
R.S.  
Bernard Flanner  
I. B. Krodie  
Leon Gellman  
Dr. Israel Goldstein  
Hon. Dr. M. Lewis  
Lottie Lipsky  
Morris Rothenberg  
✓ Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
David Wertheim  
Hon. Elihu D. Stone

FROM

SSW

I beg to send you herewith two communications, one being a letter under date of June 8th from Dr. Maurice J. Karpf; the other, under date of June 7th, being a copy of a communication sent by Dr. Karpf to Mr. Ben Curion in London.

Since receiving these communications I have had a talk over the telephone with Dr. Karpf and have urged him that nothing could at this time excuse any such action as would serve the British government and the Arabs at one and the same time.

Dr. Karpf in reply urges if we desire the American non-Zionists to be represented in the Council, action must be taken at once on our part.

May I hope to hear from you at an early moment.



COPY

June 8, 1937

Dr. Stephen S. Wise  
40 West 68 Street  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Wise:

I am leaving instructions with my secretary to send you a copy of my letter to Mr. Ben Gurdon, in which I outline the dangers in the stand of the Zionist Executive with respect to Non-Zionist representation on the Executive. I have tried to be very reserved in my statement. I have not exaggerated in the slightest degree the possible effects of their intransigent attitude. While I do not expect that you and some of your fellow-Zionists will agree with everything that I have said, I ask you for the sake of Palestine, which I know means so much to you, to accept my conclusions for I know whereof I speak.

If you agree with my analysis of the situation I think it highly desirable that this matter be discussed, perhaps at a meeting of the Z.O.A. or the U.P.A. next Thursday, and that a vigorous statement be sent to the Zionist Executive urging them to yield on this matter. In many ways I think this is the most important issue before us at the moment, for it will no doubt influence the stand and action regarding the forthcoming Royal Commission Report.

I am leaving for Albany but shall be back Wednesday morning. Please call me at my home before nine o'clock or at my office as early Wednesday as possible so that this letter may go off with the Queen Mary for London and Palestine.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) M. J. Karpf

COPY

June 7, 1937

Mr. David Ben Gurion  
Jewish Agency for Palestine  
London, England

Dear Mr. Ben Gurion:

Ever since May 14th, when Mr. Lipsky sent me a copy of the long cable signed "Zioniburo" containing the amendment to the Constitution of the Agency, proposed by one Podrushnik, to the effect that the Zionists are to have the majority on the Executive, I have been debating with myself whether to write you and the other members of the Executive regarding the seriousness of this step. Several things which have occurred subsequently, seem to leave no alternative but to write to you very frankly, even though you may react to this letter no more favorably than you did to the one regarding Palcor.

Among these things the following are the most important:

1. Receipt of a number of letters from Non-Zionists in this country and abroad indicating deep resentment against this action by the Zionists and asking whether it does not nullify the efforts at the conferences in London and make them appear ludicrous.
2. Receipt of the minute of the first meeting of the Committee of Four, which was to find ways and means for "normalizing" the Zionist and Non-Zionist relationship in the Agency, and which does not augur well for the success of their efforts because of the attitude of the Zionist members.
3. A cable from Dr. Lauterbach stating that the Council of the Agency is to meet on August 18; that plans are being made for election of the Non-Zionist members in the different countries; and asking what our plans are in this country.
4. Personal conversations with some important Non-Zionists in this country who indicate that their patience is at an end; that they have abandoned all hope of bringing about a satisfactory relationship between Zionists and Non-Zionists in the Agency. Some of them feel that although they are in no way effective in Agency policy and procedure, their membership in the Agency is being used to support a program with which they are out of sympathy and which they consider inimical to the best interests of Palestine. Some have accused me of being responsible, in part at least, for the Agency's continuation and make no secret of their view that in working for its continuation as at present constituted, I am rendering a disservice to the best interests of Palestine and the Jewish people.

These and other considerations have made me feel that I have an obligation to place before you, our colleagues on the Executive, and others who are actively interested in the Agency, the possible consequences of your step. While you and your Zionist colleagues may choose to do nothing about it, I shall have the satisfaction of having done my duty and shall have a clear conscience about the consequences which may flow from your action.

On May 21 Dr. Wise and Mr. Lipsky sent you the following cable:

"PROPOSED AGENCY AMENDMENT MOST INOPPORTUNE AND DISCONCERTING VIEW  
IMPERATIVE NECESSITY UNITED AGENCY FRONT NOW STOP PLEASE EXPLAIN  
SITUATION WHICH IS MISUNDERSTOOD HERE."

This must have made clear to you the reaction of the two leading American Zion-  
ists to the proposed amendment, its untimeliness, and the manner in which it was  
done. You replied as follows:

"AMENDMENT PROPOSED NOT BY EXECUTIVE BUT PRIVATE MEMBER ENABLE COUNCIL  
DEAL WITH MATTER AS THREE MONTHS NOTICE FORMALLY NECESSARY FOR CON-  
SIDERATION JEVAGENCY CONSTITUTION BY COUNCIL STOP THIS MADE NECESSARY  
BY LONDON CONFERENCE WEIZMANN WARBURG WHERE WARBURG INSISTED RESTORATION  
FIFTY FIFTY AS REQUIRED PRESENT CONSTITUTION STOP THEY AGREED WITHOUT  
COMMITTING ZIONIST ORGANIZATION NECESSITY NORMALIZE POSITION STOP THREE  
POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES FIRST IMPLEMENT FIFTY FIFTY PRINCIPLE WHICH CONGRESS  
UNLIKELY ACCEPT SECOND FORMALLY ABOLISH SAME THIRD COMPOSE EXECUTIVE  
BY AGREEMENT IRRESPECTIVE FORMAL POSITION AS PRESENT STOP EXECUTIVE  
FAVORS THIRD SOLUTION AS IT ALSO CONSIDERS UNITED FRONT NECESSARY"

You will forgive me for saying that your explanation is rather disingenuous. It  
is inconceivable to anyone who has any acquaintance with the workings of "Zioni-  
buro" that so long a cable would be sent merely on the request of a person who is  
so unimportant that neither Zionists nor Non-Zionists in this country have ever  
heard of him. Moreover, no such person would take it upon himself to propose  
such an amendment and "Zioniburo" would not act upon it if he did. Such matters  
are not accidents. They are carefully planned and "Zioniburo" is unquestionably  
behind this move.

Were it merely to facilitate amending the constitution at the meeting of the  
Council this could have been brought about in other ways which would not have  
caused the irritation and resentment which this cable did. There is also the  
consideration that the amendment was proposed before the Committee of Four  
had an opportunity to meet. In a sense it prejudiced the deliberations and action  
of this committee. Your three proposals in your cable to Dr. Wise clearly in-  
dicate that the Zionist members of the Executive have no intention of bringing  
about an amicable adjustment of the difficulty except on their own terms, which  
include majorizing the Zionists, all protestations in London to the contrary  
notwithstanding.

Before Mr. Warburg and his party left for London the American Non-Zionist  
members of the Administrative Committee drafted a letter in which they made  
clear that they were unwilling to continue in the Agency under the present ar-  
rangement. Mr. Warburg and his colleagues in the discussions in London left no  
doubt about this matter. Your unwillingness to recognize this seems to indicate  
that there is no way out from the present difficulties except to break up the  
Agency. Since the difficulties are due to a violation of a constitutional  
agreement on the part of the Zionists, and their unwillingness to correct this  
violation, the Zionists will have to assume full responsibility for this  
break.

It would be an under-estimate of the intelligence and perspicacity of those to whom



this letter is addressed were I to assume that they are unaware of the effect which a dissolution of the Agency might have at this time. Those who participated in the conferences in London gave ample evidence that they fully recognize the significance of such a step. Mr. Brodetsky said that it would be a major political tragedy. Dr. Weizmann, Mr. Kaplan, Mr. Shertok expressed themselves similarly. We, on the Non-Zionist side, did not and do not minimize the dangers of such a step. It was in fact this recognition and our desire to avoid a break-up that prompted us to go to London in an endeavor to adjust the difficulties. But since our efforts there seem about to be nullified, I feel it my duty to point out some of the possible consequences so that you and your Zionist colleagues will not be warned.

The political consequences vis-a-vis the British government, the Mandatory government in Palestine, the League of Nations, the Arabs, and general world opinion, you probably know better than I. But to me they seem nothing less than tragic. I fear very much that their effect may be disastrous upon the future of Palestine from the political standpoint.

You have no doubt also considered the possible effects of a dissolution of the Agency on the income of the Keren Hayesod. I know that the Zionists have criticized the Non-Zionists for not doing more than they do in a financial way for Palestine. But as I have told you and others from time to time, studies which have been made in this country leave no doubt that at least 70 to 80% of the money which has gone to the Keren Hayesod from the United States has come from Non-Zionist sources. There are many influential persons here who have been opposed to giving this money to the Agency because of the inadequate representation which Non-Zionists have had on the Executive. But so long as the Agency continued they had to go along. I have every reason to believe that there would be drastic reductions in the money contributed to the Keren Hayesod by Jewish communities and individuals in this country were the Agency to be dissolved. From conversations with representatives of European countries I am convinced that the situation in those countries is no different and that the result there would be the same.

You should also bear in mind that the Non-Zionists in America and elsewhere who would withdraw from the Agency, would not abandon their interest in or activity for Palestine, and would seek other ways of being effective there. Two alternatives have been receiving consideration. The first is that there be created in Palestine a Council of all enterprises and organizations which are functioning along economic lines and which are controlled partly or wholly by Non-Zionists. Since economics and politics are frequently closely related, it would not be very long before such an economic Council would be obliged to take a stand on political questions. Assuming that the Zionist Organization would become the "new Agency" and would continue its political activities, there would be two world-wide Jewish bodies in Palestine and London both active in the political sphere. The confusion resulting from such an economic Council, made up of the organizations and resources which the Non-Zionists could bring into such a Council, as well as the prestige and influence of those behind it, would in a short space of time become much more influential in government circles than the "new Agency" could be.

The Non-Zionists would also continue their interest in the social and cultural aspects of Palestine upbuilding. You know, of course, that there was a time when the Joint Distribution Committee spent large sums in Palestine. If the Non-Zionists withdraw



from the Agency it would not be difficult for the JDC to resume its activities in Palestine. If it were to go out to the communities in this country with a declaration that it will take up anew its work in Palestine there can be no doubt that the major portion of the funds now contributed to the Keren Hayesod and other Palestinian organizations through the Agency would be diverted to the JDC for its Palestinian work. This would fit in very well with existing attitudes on the part of influential people in many communities, who hold that in contributing large sums to the Agency they are in reality sponsoring and supporting the Zionist program with which they may not be in sympathy and over which they have no control. The effect upon the Agency of such a reduction in income will be obvious to you. Again you must remember that the same thing might happen in other countries.

The Joint Distribution Committee could undertake work in Palestine through affiliated agencies and organizations already in existence with very little additional administrative cost. It would undertake programs of work in immigration and immigrant adjustment, health, education, and other activities, which are close to the interests of Non-Zionists and which the Jewish Agency has thus far neglected for reasons which we need not go into here. The program outlined above would meet these interests and would be most acceptable to some of the most influential people in the different communities.

There is yet one more important consideration. Purely Zionist organizations, enterprises, and activities in this country have profited substantially in the last few years from the funds which were made available to the Jewish Agency. They have used some of these funds for propaganda, some of which was directed against Non-Zionists and the activities which they sponsor. Although there is a good deal of resentment against this, little was done about it. The drastic reduction of funds to the Jewish Agency which would no doubt follow from the program outlined above would seriously affect the activities of these organizations. Zionist propaganda would be seriously handicapped. Whether Palestine would gain or lose from this is an open question, to be answered on the basis of one's philosophy of Zionism and its value or danger to Palestine and the Jewish people. I mention it here only because it seems to me that you have to take this into consideration.

There are other consequences, more or less serious depending upon one's point of view, which would follow the dissolution of the Agency. But if the considerations named above are not sufficiently weighty for you to modify your position, enumeration of others will hardly serve any useful purpose. But, as a friend of Palestine and as one who is genuinely interested in the Agency and eager to see it continue, I would urge upon you and your Zionist colleagues to modify your stand before it is too late. I hope that in this instance you will have the wisdom and statesmanship to recognize a situation where retreat from an assumed position is unavoidable and is the better part of valor.

Your statement in your cable to Dr. Wise, quoted above, that the Zionist Congress is unlikely to accept the implementation of the fifty-fifty principle, leaves one entirely unconvinced. If the Zionist Executive would recognize the dangers in the dissolution of the Agency and were to take a definite stand on this matter before the Congress, even to the point of resigning on this issue, if necessary, there can be little doubt that the Congress would agree. That they would be justified in such a stand, follows, in my opinion, from what was said above. I would go further and say that they are duty bound to take this position. To do

otherwise would be to sacrifice the future for an extremely doubtful immediate gain.

You and your colleagues must reckon with the fact that the Non-Zionists in the United States have no intention of being represented at the forthcoming meeting of the Council or the Administrative Committee in Zurich unless they have their rightful representation on the Executive. This was made clear in London and no doubt also in Jerusalem by the Non-Zionist members of the Committee of Four. On June 2, I sent the following cable to Dr. Lauterbach:

"ABSENCE FROM OFFICE DELAYED REPLYING YOUR CABLE. SEE MY LETTER APRIL NINTH UNABLE FACILITATE ELECTIONS HERE UNTIL JERUSALEM COMMITTEE REACHES SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENT ON ADMINCOM AND EXECUTIVE. RECENT LONDON CABLE PROPOSING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT WITH ZIONIST MAJORITY EXECUTIVE COMPLICATED MATTERS ENORMOUSLY. DEEP RESENTMENT HERE AND EUROPE. ALL INTERPRET IT BREACHED GOOD FAITH AND SABOTAGES RECENT LONDON CONFERENCE. FEAR NO AMERICAN PARTICIPATION NEXT COUNCIL ADMINCOM UNLESS MATTERS SPEEDILY ADJUSTED DESPITE REALIZATION IMPORTANCE UNITED FRONT. PLANNING INFORM EUROPEAN NONZIONISTS ACCORDINGLY. PLEASE SHOW ALL MEMBERS EXECUTIVE ESPECIALLY HESTER SENATOR"

As you no doubt know, if the Americans refuse to participate in the Agency it is automatically dissolved in accordance with the constitutional provision for dissolution. Hence if the Agency is to continue and our participation is wanted, there is no time to be lost. For unless we take immediate action on the elections for the Council the summer will be upon us, when it will be too late. As it is I doubt very much whether there is enough time for us to be able to get any worthwhile representation even though we desired it.

I am sending copies of this letter to the other members of the Executive, Dr. Weismann, and leading Zionists and Non-Zionists in the United States and other countries, so that all may be informed of the situation as it exists.

Sincerely yours,

MJK:MN

(Signed) M. J. Karpf

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|     | RADIOGRAM          |

NB27 115 NL

57 JUN 15 AM 6 13

BY NEWYORK NY 14

RABBI A H SILVER

THE TEMPLE CLVD

ELECTION WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS DELEGATES NEXT SUNDAY COMPELS  
IMMEDIATE MOBILIZATION OUR FORCES TO ENSURE ELECTION ZOA TICKET  
NUMBER ONE STOP ZOA EFFORTS TO AVOID INTERPARTY STRLGGLE AT THIS  
CRUCIAL JUNCTURE FAILED STOP OTHER PARTIES WORKING STRENUOUSLY STOP  
HONOR AND PRESTIGE ZOA ALSO IMPORTANT POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS AT STAKE  
STOP WE LOOK TO YOU FOR MAXIMUM COOPERATION TOWARD VICTORIOUS ZOA

C O P Y

H A D A S S A H

1860 Broadway

New York.

June 28, 1937.

Dr. Stephen S. Wise  
40 West 68th Street,  
New York City.

Dear Dr. Wise:

From the report of the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal brought to us by Mrs. Epstein, we gather that there is considerable discussion regarding a proposed change in the proportion of representation between Zionists and non-Zionists on the Jewish Agency.

We appreciate how far-reaching are the complications that have been brought about by the very formation of the Jewish Agency, yet since that structure has been created, it seems to many of us that any action which might lead to its dissolution would be fraught with grave danger to the cause of Palestine. Further, it might lead to serious divisions in our Jewish communities and act as a harmful influence not only on the morale that comes from Jewish unity but to the financial interests of Palestine. I have been requested by the National Board of Hadassah to plead with you to do everything in your power to avoid a disruption of the forces that serve Palestine.

We understand that the whole question will be discussed at a forthcoming meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Zionist Organization of America. We would like very much to be permitted to have one of our representatives attend this meeting. Will you let us hear from you?

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Rose G. Jacobs,  
President.



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57 JUN 13 AM 3 38

DEFENSE ACTION WHO SHOULD HAVE THE UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT OF EVERY  
AMERICAN ZIONIST SUNDAY JUNE TWENTIETH AT THE ELECTION OF DELEGATES  
TO THE WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS STOP IT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE  
THAT THE ZOA LEADERSHIP SHOULD BE GIVEN NATIONWIDE ENDORSEMENT STOP  
WE MAKE A SPECIAL APPEAL TO HADASSAH WOMEN NOT TO ALLOW HADASSAH  
ALLEGIANCE TO INTERFERE WITH THEIR PRIMARY ZIONIST DUTY UNQUOTE  
URGE YOU COMMUNICATE THIS APPEAL TO ALL HADASSAH LEADERS

MORRIS MARGUILLES.

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| NLT | NIGHT CABLE LETTER |
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NB45 138 NL

57 JUN 18 AM 3 38

HR NEWYORK NY 17

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE TEMPLE CLVD

MRS REBEKAH KOHUT MRS SOL ROSENBLUM AND MRS ISRAEL SHAPIRO ISSUED  
FOLLOWING APPEAL TO HADASSAH MEMBERSHIP QUOTE HAVING REGARD TO THE  
CRITICAL AND URGENT POLITICAL PROBLEMS FACING WORLD ZIONISM TODAY AND  
THE NEED FOR THE STRONGEST AMERICAN DEFENSE OF OUR POSITION WE URGE  
AMERICAN ZIONISTS IRRESPECTIVE OF PARTY OR GROUP TO SUPPORT TICKET  
NUMBER ONE HEADED BY DR STEPHEN S WISE THE LEADER OF AMERICAN ZIONIST

| CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| DOMESTIC                 | CABLE          |
| TELEGRAM                 | FULL RATE      |
| DAY LETTER               | DEFERRED       |
| NIGHT MESSAGE            | NIGHT LETTER   |
| NIGHT LETTER             | SHIP RADIOGRAM |

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

# WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

|               |
|---------------|
| CHECK         |
| ACCT'G INFMN. |
| TIME FILED    |

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Morris Margulis  
111 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
N. Y.

(Collect)

June 22, 1937

Will be pleased to participate round  
table discussion June 28<sup>th</sup>

F. H. Silver

RECEIVED AT

# Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial  
Cables



All America  
Cables

Mackay

Radio

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

|     |                    |
|-----|--------------------|
| DL  | DAY LETTER         |
| NL  | NIGHT LETTER       |
| NM  | NIGHT MESSAGE      |
| LCO | DEFERRED CABLE     |
| NLT | NIGHT CABLE LETTER |
|     | RADIOGRAM          |

STANDARD TIME  
INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

RXNB405 10

HR NEWYORK NY 23 156P

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE TEMPLE CLVD

IMPERATIVE TEXT YOUR ADDRESS MONDAYS BROADCAST REACH US

LATEST FRIDAY

MORRIS MARGULIES.

*Pa 0150*

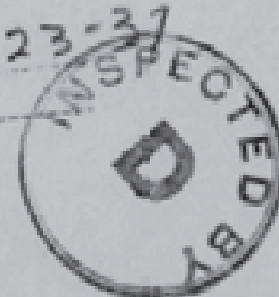
TELEPHONED  
FROM MAIN OFFICE

Time

To

BY No.

*Mail*





RECEIVED AT

# Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial  
Cables



All America  
Cables

Blackout

Radio

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

|     |                    |
|-----|--------------------|
| DL  | DAY LETTER         |
| NL  | NIGHT LETTER       |
| NM  | NIGHT MESSAGE      |
| LOC | DEFERRED CABLE     |
| NLT | NIGHT CABLE LETTER |
|     | RADIOGRAM          |

STANDARD TIME

INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

Form  
16

TX31 33 DL=HR NEWYORK NY 22 138P

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER/0311 LAKE SHORE 1937 JUN 22 PM 3 05

(CORRECTED DUPLICATE)=THE TEMPLE 10311 LAKESHORE BLVD=



=COLUMBIA CHAIN BROADCASTING ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION ROYAL  
COMMISSION MONDAY JUNE TWENTY EIGHTH AT SIX FIFTEEN PM STOP  
SUGGESTED YOU WISE LIPSKY PARTICIPATE PLEASE WIRE ACCEPTANCE  
STOP YOUR NAME ADDED TO SUNDAYS NIGHTS SYMPOSIUM=  
=MORRIS MARGUILIES.

Telephone Your Telegrams to **Postal Telegraph**

RECEIVED AT

10514 EUCLID  
GA. 5044

STANDARD TIME  
INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

# Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial  
Cables



All America  
Cables

Blackout

Radio

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

|     |                    |
|-----|--------------------|
| DL  | DAY LETTER         |
| NL  | NIGHT LETTER       |
| NM  | NIGHT MESSAGE      |
| LD  | DEFERRED CABLE     |
| NLY | NIGHT CABLE LETTER |
|     | RADIOGRAM          |

For  
C87 10= HR NEWYORK NY 30 253P

RABBI A H SILVER=

CR THE TEMPLE 105 ANSEL RD=

[1937]

JEVAGENCY CABLES INFORM SILVER MEETING ADMINCOM LONDON

CANCELLED UNQUOTE REGARDS=

MORRIS MARGULIES.

Telephone Your Telegrams to *Postal Telegraph*