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Zionist Organization of America, 1938-1939.

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

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ISRAEL MALTIN
Auditor

August 4, 1938.

TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE EXECUTIVE:

Dear Friend:

In order to discuss the present situation in Palestine with special reference to Defense and to consider the suggestion of an action to be taken by the Zionist Organization of America bearing upon defense,

A special meeting of the Executive of the Z.O.A. will be held for that purpose only, on Thursday afternoon, August 11th, 1938 at 4:00 P. M. at the Zionist Headquarters, 111 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Very cordially yours,

Louis Lipsky
Louis Lipsky.
Vice-President

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

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President

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ISRAEL MALTIN
Auditor

August 5, 1938.

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

My dear Silver:

On Thursday evening, September 15th, at the Hotel Commodore, 42nd Street and Lexington Avenue, the Zionist Organization of America will give a dinner in honor of its newly elected President, Dr. Solomon Goldman, who is now enroute to Palestine for a brief visit in order to bring to the Yishuv in its present hour of stress a message of hope and confidence from the Zionists of America, and renew his contact with the creative life in the homeland.

I am to serve as chairman of the committee to arrange this dinner, which will be an occasion not only for a cordial welcome to Dr. Goldman, but also to bring together the Zionist workers of this city in a spirit of comradeship and rededication to our task of rendering maximum service to the cause of Palestine Rebuilding.

I am inviting members of the Executive, New York members of the Administrative Committee and other friends to serve on the Dinner Committee. I await your acceptance to serve on this committee and trust that I may count upon your full cooperation in arranging this important function. Formal invitations will be sent later but meanwhile please reserve the date of September 15th for yourself and your friends.

Faithfully yours,


Stephen S. Wise

MINUTES OF Z.O.A. EXECUTIVE HELD ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 1938, 4:30 P.M. AT THE

OFFICE OF THE Z.O.A., 111 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY.

PRESENT: Messrs. Lipaky (in the Chair), Goldberg, Lewishn, Reas, Rucker, Rothenberg, Siegel, Szold, Weinberg; Dr. Harris Levine (representing Order Sons of Zion) Eleazar Lipaky and Cohen (representing youth organizations).

Excuses for absence from:- Rabbi Brickner, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Meyer Levy, A. H. Rosenberg, Judge Mack, Simon Shetzer, Elihu Stone.

PALESTINE DEFENSE FUND:

Mr. Lipaky stated that the principal item on the agenda of this meeting was the matter of the Palestine Defense Fund.

He reported on a meeting of the Palestine Defense Committee held the other day, with the participation of representatives of all the Zionist parties, including the Mizrahi, Poale Zion and Hadassah, as well as some members of this Executive Committee. The Mizrahi representatives, in particular, were exceedingly alarmed over the situation, and were launching an Emergency Campaign in the Jewish Morning Journal. It was felt at that meeting, however, that no large-scale emergency campaign throughout the United States was possible in August or early in September, but that some action be taken by all the Zionist Organizations in the line of the Mifsei Hazoni, approved by the Actions Committee, calling upon all Zionists to contribute to the Emergency Fund for Defense. It was agreed by those present at the Defense Committee meeting that the various Organizations be urged to call upon their respective memberships for contributions to this Defense Fund, and Mr. Lipaky promised the meeting that he would submit to the Executive of the ZOA the question of an appeal for individual self-taxation on the part of the ZOA membership.

Mr. Lipaky added that the Vaad Bitachon is collecting funds through individual solicitation; that Mr. Feinstein, who had been sent here by the Jewish Agency in connection with this activity, had collected over \$30,000 in cash; and that the Committee under the direction of Miss Udin is working very systematically and quietly along this line.

The following discussion ensued on the question of a direct appeal to the membership.

Mr. Rucker believed that the appeal to the membership should be for the Vaad Bitachon Fund only.

Mr. Lipaky replied that it is immaterial whether the money goes to the Emergency Fund of the Executive in Palestine or directly for the Defense Fund.

Mr. Szold was of the opinion that the letter should be sent to the Chairmen apprising them of the situation and asking them to get the local Zionists to contribute to the Defense Fund; but that the local Zionists should not be solicited directly from the National Office. Instead they should be asked by their District Officers to undertake a specific quota.

Mr. Bass stated that a letter should go to all the members with a special supplementary letter to the District Officers.

Mr. Goldberg believed that an appeal to the membership would result in small contributions for the Defense Fund. Instead, a strong appeal should be made for the Emergency Fund, with a separate letter to the District Officers asking them to earmark some of that money for the Defense Fund.

Judge Rothenberg expressed the opinion that it would be very confusing to appeal for two different funds. Instead, we should concentrate on an emergency effort, and thereafter set aside part for the Bitachon.

Mr. Bass raised the question whether we have the right, in view of our relations with the U.P.A., to send out an appeal for an emergency fund.

Judge Rothenberg replied that it would be a grave mistake to use the word "defense" publicly in the appeal, since the British Government still forbids the arming of private citizens.

Dr. Lewisohn recognized the validity of Judge Rothenberg's objection, and suggested the use of the word "security" instead of "defense".

Mr. Siegel, however, was of the opinion that the word "defense" has a definite psychological value at the present moment.

It was finally moved, seconded and carried

THAT a letter be sent out to every individual member of the Z.O.A. regarding self-taxation for the Palestine Defense Fund; that this letter be reinforced by letters or telegrams to the District Chairmen and other important District Officers, and that the letter be signed by a committee of five for the Executive.

MORDECAI S. SCHWARTZ:

Mr. Lipsky called attention to the efforts being made to secure the pardon or commutation of the death sentence of Mordecai Schwartz, who has been condemned to die next Tuesday, for the murder of an Arab policeman. He further pointed out that one of the judges who tried the case had said that there was insufficient evidence to convict Schwartz.

After some discussion, it was moved, seconded and carried

THAT a cable be sent to the Executive in London, calling attention to the fact that the decision to execute Schwartz next Tuesday is disturbing Jews here, and to ask for leniency.

POLITICAL SITUATION:

Mr. Lipsky called attention to the fact that a number of Jews here are meeting with Arabs for the purpose of exploring ways of peace, among them Rabbi Drachman, Rabbi Cardozo, Rabbi Herbert Goldstein, Dr. Gorelick, a Mr. Rothenberg and Prof. Hans Kohn.

Mr. Lipsky also called attention to the letter of Katibah in The New York Times of last Sunday, regarding a round-table discussion. He had drafted and sent a reply to The Times.

Dr. Lewisochn suggested that the organization circularize the newspapers advising them that these persons who are meeting with the Arabs do not represent us; and that a letter be sent to Dr. Wise about this.

Continuing on the political situation, Mr. Goldberg stated that this silence on the part of Dr. Weizmann is having a bad effect, since Zionists are anxiously awaiting some word of reassurance from him.

Mr. Lipky pointed out that Dr. Weizmann is ill and undergoing treatment for a throat ailment.

Dr. Lewisochn suggested that a statement be sent out to the entire American press.

Mr. Goldberg suggested that a cable be sent to Dr. Weizmann asking him for a reassuring statement for publication.

After further discussion, it was moved, seconded and carried

THAT a manifesto of all the Parties be issued to the Jews of this country, in the nature of reassuring them that our ideals will ultimately triumph in spite of our present difficulties; and that Messrs. Goldberg and Lewisochn draft such statement.

NEW PALESTINE ADVERTISING:

Mr. Hocker submitted a suggestion that had come to him for a theatrical page in The New Palestine to include reviews and advertisements and which may yield an income of about \$300.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

PRESIDENT
DAVID BERENSTEIN

TREASURER
WM. H. GOLDMAN
Chairman, Budget and Finance

GENERAL SECRETARY
ALFRED M. FLEISHMAN
Chairman, Business & Professional Group

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A. GOODMAN
Chairman, Territorial Division

GUSTAVE GILLERMAN
Chairman Culture Fund

DR. ALEX S. WOLF
Chairman, Constitution and By-Laws

JUDGE MAX G. BARON
Chairman, Palestine Affairs

SAMUEL KRANZBERG
Chairman, Congregations & Organizations

Phone Chestnut 6744

Zionist Organization of St. Louis

TITLE GUARANTY BUILDING
ST. LOUIS, MO.

August 12, 1938.

Dechman
Aug. 17

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
East 105th St. at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

After delivering so magnificent an address as you have at the last Zionist Convention, I told you that I was very anxious to have you accept an invitation to come to St. Louis to address our organization sometime during the next six months. You told me "I might".

I take this opportunity to remind you of your tentative promise anxiously hoping that you will do me a personal favor in accepting an engagement. Any date agreeable with you will be acceptable to St. Louis. However, we are inaugurating our membership campaign with the opening of the Fall activities. We expect to close the campaign about the 15th of December. We are trying to enroll an additional 1500 members so as to bring the St. Louis total up to 2500. Last June we presented Dr. Wise with 1,000 members and we would very much like to present you with a testimonial of 1500 members. Will that serve as an incentive for you to come to St. Louis?

Please let me hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

David Berenstein
President.

DB:dl

THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

cordially invites you
to attend a

DINNER

in honor of

DR. SOLOMON GOLDMAN

on the occasion of his election as President
and upon his return from Palestine

THURSDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 15, 1938

at seven o'clock

HOTEL COMMODORE

Forty-second Street and Lexington Avenue
New York, N. Y.

\$2.50 per cover

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JOSEPH BRAININ
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DR. LUDWIG LEWISOMIN
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DR. IRVING PANSLEY
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SAMUEL SCHONHOLTZ
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SAMUEL ZALES
MORRIS A. ZELDEN
MISS NELL ZIFF

MINUTES OF MEETING OF Z.O.A. EXECUTIVE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1938,
8:30 P.M., AT THE OFFICE OF THE Z. O. A., 111 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY.

PRESENT: Dr. Solomon Goldman (in the Chair); Messrs. Morris Rothenberg, Robert Szold, Stephen S. Wise, Ludwig Lewisohn, Morris Margulies, David Berenstein, Barnett R. Brickner, Charles A. Cowen, Harry M. Fisher, Harry Friedberg, A. H. Friedland, Abraham Goldberg, Abraham Goldstein, Israel Goldstein, James G. Heller, Edward L. Israel, Harris J. Levine, Israel H. Levinthal, Irving Miller, Charles Rens, A. H. Rosenberg, Carl Sherman, William I. Siegel, Elihu D. Stone, Mrs. Judith Epstein (representing Hadassah), Lawrence Cohen (representing Ayukah); by invitation: Samuel Berson, Sol Cohen, Harry P. Fierst, Abraham Krumbein, Louis Rinsky, Louis P. Rucker, Sigmund Thau, Morris Weinberg, Meyer W. Weisgal; Jacob Golub, Israel Maltin, Robert Silverman; Mrs. Jacobs and Mrs. Shulman (Hadassah).

Excuses for Non-Attendance were received from Judge Henry Ellenbogen and Meyer Levy.

REPORT OF DR. GOLDMAN:

I do not know that I ought to in the few minutes that I want to take, dwell on Poland, Austria, or even Czechoslovakia. I think I ought to proceed immediately to Palestine and to say just this: I spent seven days altogether in the country. I arrived on a Thursday and left the following Thursday. I assure you that I crowded in the seven days as much as it was humanly possible. I met individually some 60 or 70 people a day, in addition to several public assemblies, and traveling through the country. I saw the danger spots of the country. I was in Ain Hashofet, the American colony named after Justice Brandeis, as well as Hannita. I was in Tel Aviv, of course, Jerusalem, and Haifa.

As to the terror that seems to be uppermost in the minds of us all: The terror has not terrorized the Yishub. It has terrorized the Arabs much more. The Arabs are leaving Palestine by the thousands. Land can be purchased now at better prices than perhaps in a decade. Throughout the colonies the confidence of the Yishub is inspiring and is a source of hope and the conviction of ultimate victory. It is also true of large numbers in the cities, but on the whole, urban populations are not different, even in Palestine, from what they are throughout the world. Many in Tel Aviv and many in Jerusalem and many in Haifa are not as inspiring or as encouraging or as determined as the people throughout the colonies. As a matter of fact, there is another reason, besides the difference between the farm and the city. The Arabs have, to translate a phrase used so frequently in Palestine, made peace with the colonies. They have come to realize that their attacks are useless, that they have to count invariably heavy losses. In Hannita today there is a room in the central building, for receiving Arabs and for conferences with them. The Arab who sold most of the land which now belongs to Hannita expressed the hope that he would be allowed to die in the midst of the Jewish boys and girls there. He said to them: 'I know that you will take care of me in my old age.' In cities, the situation is not as easily controlled. You can shoot in Tel Aviv and in Haifa; you can throw bombs, and, as Mr. McDonald said to several representatives of the Agency: 'Not even the German Army could protect anyone of these cities completely against a terror.' The most serious phase is the mining. Mines cannot be placed, or are placed with extreme difficulty, where the roads are finished, paved. In the opinion of people with whom I discussed the matter, 60% of the Jewish casualties might have been avoided if more roads had been paved. That is particularly true of the two danger spots in the country -- Ramat Hakovesh and Ain Hashofet. I reached Ramat Hakovesh the day they finished the new road; but the boys and girls who are in Ain Hashofet are the Maccabees of the day. There is no road; there is no approach; you climb there as Jonathan did over the mountains. The Agency has given them \$2,500 to \$3,000 towards their 'k'ivish', but they need another \$4,000 or \$5,000, and those \$4,000 or \$5,000 may make a difference in saving a number of lives in Ain Hashofet.

I do not want to leave the impression that the terror is felt in the cities, that is, that the Jews in the cities are terrorized. That is not so. In Tel Aviv, and in Jerusalem and Haifa I moved about without any protection, with perfect ease, in an open car. The Tel Aviv beach was crowded, the theatre was packed, the moving picture houses were packed, so were the cafes. It was equally true of Jerusalem and of Haifa. Life is going on in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. Haifa was until just two months ago the ideal city as far as Jewish-Arab relations were concerned, until the bombing of the market. Since then there is practically no relationship between the two communities. The Arab stores are empty in the Jewish section, and the Jewish stores are empty in the Arab section. An effort is being made now to re-establish communications between the two elements. The Haifa Arab is more commercial-minded. An economic pressure is bringing him to his senses much more rapidly than in other parts of the country. I conclude this part of the report of the terror by saying that the Arabs are more terrorized (by the Arabs) than the Jews. Many Arabs are deserting Palestine, and the Jews can now buy land which they could not possibly purchase a few years ago. The gravest phase of the Palestinian situation is not the terror, but its effect on the economic life of the Yishub. The depression today is not as serious as we take it to be here. Our understanding of it is exaggerated. But if it were to continue as it is now for another half year or a year, the situation will be very serious. The remedy is not so much halting the terror as providing an Aliyah -- immigration -- into the country.

Now as to the political situation -- the political situation, as you know, is not altogether located in Palestine. It is also in London. Briefly, Dr. Weizmann, Mr. Ben Gurion, Prof. Brodetsky, Mr. Shertok, know nothing definite about the outcome of the Commission Report. They will know by the end of the month -- so they hope. And as soon as any knowledge is available, before it is even reported anywhere else, it will be reported to Dr. Wise and Mr. Lipsky and this Executive. But there are conjectures gathered in Palestine as well as in London. The Joseph Levy report, which is spread widely because of the prestige of the New York Times, is definitely a falsehood, it is a fabrication from the beginning to the end. Mr. MacDonald is authoritatively quoted as saying that only an enemy of the Jew could have been guilty of spreading such a rumor. Mr. MacDonald is also quoted authoritatively as saying that he does not know what the Commission will report. Conjectures are that partition will remain in principle, but will not be immediately implemented; that the British will define a Jewish area and into that area Jews will be able to come in accordance with the principle of absorptive capacity. But that, I say, is a conjecture. I have this from members of the Agency and I gathered it from other sources in Palestine. One particular source -- and I think the best man, who perhaps is in a better position than most of our own people -- a non-Jew -- I regret that I cannot mention his name, but a reliable source who gave me the same report -- I later discovered tallied with what I heard in London.

There is a general feeling in Palestine, as well as in London, that the Jews of the United States must now begin to play a far more important role in Zionist affairs than they have hitherto, not only with regard to the privilege we have enjoyed hitherto of raising funds, but in the political affairs of Zionism. The Agency will turn to us very shortly and ask us to establish without delay a Political Department in Washington. Details of it will come with a letter and we shall have time to discuss it when the communication reaches us.

Here then is the psychology of the terror situation, the economic, the political situation in the Yishub and generally about Palestine.

One word in conclusion: The Yishub has passed the experimental stage. It is now deeply rooted and cannot be overthrown except by an unexpected catastrophe, -- a world war that might assume proportions that we cannot foresee. There is today

in Palestine a Jewish Homeland. The Jews have established there power-houses which cannot be cut off by the Arabs. They have their own roads which cannot be shut off by the Arabs. They have their direct communications; they have their self-defense; they have the complete paraphernalia of a Jewish Homeland, and the conviction is deep that the Yishub is there to stay, to grow, maybe not as rapidly as they and we would want to have it, but it is definitely there to stay. They feel that the two and one-half years constituted the severest days that they have had to face. They have emerged thus far unbroken. They are carrying on. But they say everywhere: 'We are in the trenches; but American Jewry is the oreph, the army back of the first line.' I think we ought to remember it.

REPORT OF MR. MARGULIES:

I want to touch upon the security problem in Palestine. I knew something about it before I went to Palestine, but I was very happily surprised to learn what the real facts are. Between the British Army and the Ghaffirs we have now in Palestine a force of 22,000 men -- 12,000 British soldiers and 10,000 Ghaffirs. These Ghaffirs are integrated in the British Army. They have their own non-commissioned officers; they have about 250 corporals and about 75 sergeants. They are paid by the Government. They are supplied uniforms and rifles and ammunition by the Government. In addition to these 10,000, there are some 10,000 connected with the Haganah, who are not officially recognized, but of whom the Government is informed.

(Mr. Margulies then reported on conversations he had with British military officials while in Palestine, regarding the relationship and cooperation between the British Army and the Jewish Ghaffirs)

I would like our Executive henceforth to give some thought to a new phase in the economic life of Palestine -- to the development of industry. I was tremendously impressed by an organization called the Manufacturers Association which is composed of the leading manufacturers in Palestine. This Association is going to ask our approval of their sending a Commissioner here in connection with the Palestine Pavilion; they want to use that occasion as a means of promoting Tzereth Haetz. This Manufacturers Association, if properly supported, may prove from an industrial point of view for the development of the Yishub what the Histadruth has proven from the point of view of labor. And if the Jewish Homeland is to be enlarged, the matter of developing industry must receive our closest attention, for it is not receiving any attention from the other Zionist groups; nor is the Agency devoting much time or study to the problem.

(Mr. Margulies urged that the Executive give thought to the question of the General Zionists in Palestine.) He said: I had a number of conferences with groups in Haifa and Tel Aviv. I did not meet with any in Jerusalem, for there is not even a small organized group of General Zionists in Jerusalem. I have heard from many people who are not General Zionists that it is of the utmost importance for the successful development of the Yishub that a General Zionist Party be established in Palestine; that this was necessary even from the point of view of the Histadruth.

I was amazed to learn that the Histadruth today has to give away 37% of whatever labor is assigned to it to groups outside of the Histadruth. The Revisionists get 11%; the Miznachi get 11%; group B receives 5%; other unorganized groups receive 5%. We are the only group not included. It would appear that because Group A favors the Histadruth, it is entirely out of the picture.

(Dr. Goldman suggested that the question of the General Zionists in Palestine deserves and requires a whole meeting of the Z.O.A. Executive.)

The Chairman then called upon Mr. Henry Montor, Executive Director of the United Palestine Appeal, who reported on his observations at the Antwerp Conference, and on the situation in Palestine where he visited prior to the Antwerp Conference. He stressed the need for larger funds for defense and security in Palestine.

A protracted discussion followed.

Dr. Goldman felt that although Mr. Montor, as the man who raises the money, can rightly underscore the great need of the Yishub, nevertheless here and there he painted the picture a trifle darker than it is.

The following motion was unanimously adopted:

On the basis of reports on the Palestine situation submitted by the President and Secretary to the Executive of the Zionist Organization of America, it was resolved to recommend to the United Palestine Appeal as the fund-raising instrument of the Keren Hayesod and Keren Kayemeth to initiate an emergency conference to which all Zionist groups and Palestine fund-raising agencies would be invited for the purpose of discussing and adopting a program for enlarged fund-raising for Palestine.

CLARIFICATION ON DEFENSE FUNDS:

Rabbi Brickner asked who is responsible for the "Emergency Fund" Campaign now going on; also, what should be the attitude of disciplined Zionists toward these efforts.

Dr. Goldman stated that this emergency campaign was initiated by an organization known as the "Sons of Eretz Yisroel". The day before he (Dr. Goldman) left for Palestine a Committee of this organization called on him and urged that something be done. In view of Dr. Goldman's departure the following day, he asked Mr. Szold and Mr. Lipsky to take over this matter. Dr. Goldman added that he did not know whether the "Sons of Palestine" then called on Mr. Szold or Mr. Lipsky, or whether they went directly to the Jewish Morning Journal with their plea.

Mr. Szold stated that there were two meetings of the Z.C.A. Executive held during the summer which were devoted to the problem of defense funds. With reference to the emergency campaign which was conducted by the Morning Journal, the Zionist Organization and the Executive had nothing to do with that effort. Mr. Szold was of the opinion that that campaign was initiated under the auspices of the United Palestine Appeal with the sanction of the United Palestine Appeal, before Mr. Montor left for Europe. What Mr. Szold is more intimately familiar with is the Vaad Bitachon which is not an emergency campaign at all, but which is a Committee for the purpose of raising money for Haganah, which has been in existence since the Spring of 1937 raising money from select people, not as a campaign, but by asking individuals or groups to contribute extra money for this special activity. This matter was thoroughly explained at the meeting of the Z.O.A. Executive held on August 29, 1938. Mr. Szold added that he would be glad to go into it again, but he did not think it necessary. The Vaad Bitachon Committee has raised about \$47,000. Most of it has gone to Palestine, to Mr. Eliezer Kaplan, as Treasurer of the Jewish Agency, for Vaad Bitachon. The Committee was organized by Mr. Kaplan when he was here in the Spring of 1937. As a result of a meeting called by the Vaad Bitachon shortly before Mr. Lipsky left for Europe, in which Mr. Lipsky asked the various Zionist Organizations

to raise money for this purpose in any way they saw fit. A meeting of the Executive of the Z.O.A. was called and it was duly voted that a letter go out to each member of the Zionist Organization of America -- asking for a contribution. The vote was that a Committee of Five sign the letter which Mr. Lipsky should draft. The letter was duly drafted and Mr. Lipsky asked several people to sign it. Mr. Szold declined to sign it. Judge Rothenberg declined to sign it. Mr. Lipsky in the meantime left for Europe. Under the circumstances, Mr. Szold called a second meeting of the Executive and explained to them what happened, and at that meeting it was decided that that effort should be postponed and await the return of Dr. Goldman.

Mr. Montor pointed out that the Morning Journal Campaign was initiated at the request of the New York United Palestine Appeal. No appeal was made to anyone outside New York City. People outside New York City were told that this is an exclusively New York City campaign. When the Morning Journal was approached to raise supplementary funds in New York City, the Morning Journal consented. The other papers did not consent. A cable was sent to the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine requesting that a message be sent to the Jewish Morning Journal. The Jewish Morning Journal was as good as any other medium if we had properly cooperated. Subsequently, the Poale Zion through The Day and Forward launched a campaign for the Gewertschaften.

STATEMENT TO BE ISSUED BY PRESIDENT:

Rabbi Brickner felt that the country is anxiously waiting to hear from Dr. Goldman. He suggested, therefore, that a statement be issued embodying some of the things which are likely to be followed up through action by the Conference to be initiated by the United Palestine Appeal.

Rabbi Miller stressed the fact that all propaganda efforts at this time must lead up to a membership campaign, therefore, in addition to what Rabbi Brickner has put forth, he suggested that the President issue a manifesto to be read from the pulpits on Rosh Hashonah morning, regarding the state of affairs of the Jews of the world and as it relates to Palestine.

Dr. Lewisohn recalled that a motion to the effect that a manifesto be issued upon the return of the President was made at a previous meeting of the Executive, and as a matter of fact, such a manifesto has already been drafted by a committee which was appointed.

Rabbi Heller stated that it was the opinion of the Ohio Valley Conference that the Z.O.A. Executive should give consideration to the problem of organization; that the Z.O.A. ought to concentrate on education and membership. This has actually been done in Southern Ohio, Indiana and West Virginia, the States comprising the Ohio Valley Region. He suggested that a plan be worked out for approaching communities throughout the country in some organized fashion; we have a very fallow field in this country and we ought to begin to till it.

Rabbi Israel moved, and it was seconded and unanimously carried

THAT on the occasion of the High Holidays a statement be issued by the President of the Z.O.A. to the Jewish leaders of America; and that national radio broadcasts be arranged to discuss the present Jewish situation.

ORGANIZATION OF YEAR'S WORK:

Mr. Cowen urged the appointment of standing committees who are to report back to the Executive.

Dr. Goldman stated that there are at least two very important matters to be considered. Before he left for Europe and Palestine he had discussed the year's work with Dr. Wise and a number of members of the Executive, and to a good many members of the Executive and men and women not on the Executive he wrote, asking them to think out the problem the Z.O.A. faces in organizing the Zionist movement in the United States and to send him their suggestions and their plans and to spare no criticism; to write as frankly as they felt the situation required. When he came to his cabin on the Washington he found a great deal more than he had anticipated. As a result he has splendid memoranda prepared by members of the Executive and by Jewish leaders, publicists and educators throughout the country. He has been attempting to boil down all of these memoranda into a workable program for the year, and will be ready with it in the very near future.

Rabbi Heller stated that for quite a number of years and for a variety of causes, the membership of the Zionist Organization and the activities have been at very low ebb. It is our duty to ask 'Why?' and 'What is to be done about it?' Those questions should be asked about (1) personnel and (2) methods, and anyone who loves Zionism must face those two questions.

Z.O.A. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE -- 1938 - 39:

Mr. Elihu D. Stone called attention to the fact that an Administrative Committee has not yet been organized. He pointed out that at the last Convention, because of the lateness of the hour, the Chairman of the Nominations Committee was unable to present the names of the Administrative Committee. Inasmuch as the names were not presented to the Convention, the Convention voted to delegate its authority to the Executive, with the instruction that the new Executive at its first meeting should name the Administrative Committee. Nothing was done at the first meeting of the new Executive.

Following a lengthy discussion on the statement of Mr. Stone and the suggestion of Dr. Heller, the following motions were unanimously adopted.

1. THAT A Committee be appointed to examine the minutes of the last Convention and present its report to the next meeting of the Executive, for the purpose of confirming or disaffirming the Administrative Committee list.
2. THAT the President appoint a Committee of this body to help him bring before the next meeting of the Executive a program of organization for the coming year.

Mr. Margulies pointed out that no meetings of the Administrative Committee can be held until the Executive has approved the list.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS MARGULIES,

Secretary.

ROBERT F. WAGNER, N. Y., CHAIRMAN
CANTER GLASS, VA.
ALBEN W. BARKLEY, KY.
ROBERT J. BULKLEY, OHIO
ROBERT R. REYNOLDS, N. C.
JAMES F. BYRNES, S. C.
JOHN H. BARKHEAD, ALA.
WILLIAM SIDDS MCADOO, CALIF.
ALVA B. ADAMS, COLO.
FRANCIS T. MALONEY, CONN.
GEORGE L. RADCLIFFE, MD.
PRENTISS M. BROWN, MICH.
HERBERT E. HITCHCOCK, S. DAK.
JAMES H. FRANKS, DEL.
CLYDE L. HERRING, IOWA
WILLIAM H. SMATHERS, N. J.
PHILIP LEVY, CLERK

JOHN G. TOWNSEND, JR., DEL.
LYNN J. FRASER, N. DAK.
HENRY CABOT LODGE, JR., MASS.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY

Cleveland
October 10, 1938

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
Ansel Road Temple,
Ansel Road at East 105th St.,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:-

This will acknowledge telegram signed by you and other members of the Cleveland Jewish Council, in which is quoted telegram sent to Secretary of State Cordell Hull, requesting that he make representations to the British Government concerning Palestine.

This is a matter in which I am deeply interested and I have been glad to endorse the representations of your Council as is evidenced by the attached copy.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Bulkley

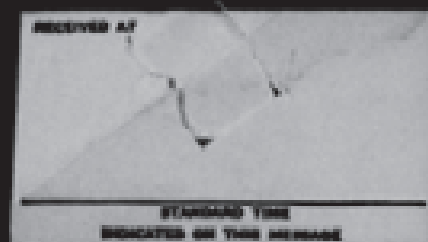
VIA: WESTERN UNION

HON CORDELL HULL
SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON D.C.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED COPY OF TELEGRAM SENT YOU YESTERDAY BY JEWISH
COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF CLEVELAND REQUESTING THAT YOU MAKE REPRESENTATIONS
TO BRITISH GOVERNMENT CONCERNING PALESTINE (STOP) I AM DEEPLY
IMPRESSED WITH REPRESENTATIONS MADE BY COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND SINCERELY
HOPE YOU WILL FIND IT CONSISTENT TO TAKE ACTION AS REQUESTED (STOP)
MAY I HEAR FROM YOU

ROBERT J BULKLEY

OFFICIAL
10/10/38



Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



Wireless
Cables

Blackout

Radio

This is a full size Telegram, Cablegram or Radiogram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.	
DL	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
DM	DAY MESSAGE
NM	NIGHT MESSAGE
LC	DEFERRED CABLE
LT	DEFERRED LETTER
DLT	DEFERRED CABLE LETTER
NLT	DEFERRED NIGHT CABLE LETTER
RD	RADIOGRAM

Form 161

1938 OCT 11 PM 11 50

CE42 365 3 EX DL RELAY LN=HR NEWYORK NY 11 405P

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

TIFERETU ISRAEL CLVD=

GRAVITY OF SITUATION AFFECTING PALESTINE OF SUCH CHARACTER AS TO DEMAND WHOLEHEARTED IMMEDIATE AND UNPRECEDENTED ACTION IF WE ARE TO SAVE JEWISH ACHIEVEMENTS IN PALESTINE AND KEEP DOORS OF PALESTINE OPEN. DECISION BY BRITISH CABINET IMMINENT WITHIN WEEK THEREFORE MUST MOBILIZE ALL FRIENDS JEWISH AND NONJEWISH ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS TO IMPRESS UPON OUR GOVERNMENT EXTENT OF OUR CONCERN. URGE YOU PERSONALLY SEND A TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND CALL UPON ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR CONGREGATION TO DO LIKEWISE. LET NO INDIVIDUAL JEW FEEL THAT HE IS TOO INSIGNIFICANT TO ADD HIS VOICE IN THIS EXTRAORDINARY CRISIS. SUGGEST TELEGRAM YOU AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF YOUR CONGREGATION SEND TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT ALONG FOLLOWING LINES QUOTE PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC WE ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED BY THE REPORTS THAT GREATBRITAIN IS PLANNING TO STOP JEWISH IMMIGRATION INTO PALESTINE AND THUS CLOSE ONE OF THE PRIMARY AVENUES FOR JEWISH REFUGEES TO ESCAPE FROM THE OPPRESSION AND SUFFERING VISITED UPON THEM IN EUROPEAN LANDS. WE EARNESTLY TRUST THAT YOU WILL USE YOUR UTMOST INFLUENCE TO AVERT AN ACTION ON THE PART OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT THAT MUST



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 symbol in the check or in the address.	
DL	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
DM	NIGHT MESSAGE
LD	DEFERRED CABLE
NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
NLT	WEEK END CABLE LETTER
	RADIOGRAM

Form 16L

1938 OCT 11 PM 11

DESTROY ALL POTENTIALITIES FOR SUCCESS OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEES WHICH WAS CREATED AT THE EVIAN CONFERENCE AND WHICH WAS BORN OUT OF YOUR HISTORIC HUMANITARIAN PROGRAM FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF THE VICTIMS OF EUROPEAN HATE. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THROUGH THE UNANIMOUS RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY CONGRESS IN 1922 EXPRESSED ITS APPROVAL OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE JEWISH NATIONAL HOME IN PALESTINE AND ALL OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVES FROM PRESIDENT WILSON WHO HELPED FRAME THE BALFOUR DECLARATION TO YOURSELF HAVE ON FREQUENT OCCASIONS EXPRESSED ADMIRATION OF JEWISH ACHIEVEMENTS IN PALESTINE AND APPROVAL OF THE EFFORT TO FIND FOR HOMELESS AND PERSECUTED JEWS A HAVEN OF REFUGE IN THE ANCIENT JEWISH HOMELAND. THE LIVES OF GREAT MASSES OF JEWS ARE BOUND UP WITH THE GREAT RECONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAM NOW UNDER WAY IN PALESTINE. WE BEG YOUR AID IN AVERTING A CALAMITY THAT MUST MAKE EVEN MORE INTOLERABLE THE BURDEN BORNE BY SUFFERING JEWS ABROAD UNQUOTE. PLEASE NOTE THAT TELEGRAMS SHOULD BE INDIVIDUAL AND NOT ONE FOR MANY INDIVIDUALS. ARRANGE WITH LOCAL TELEGRAPH OFFICE FOR SPECIAL RATES ON TELEGRAMS IN MASS= SOLOMON GOLDMAN 111 FIFTH AVENUE.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF Z.O.A. EXECUTIVE HELD ON WEDNESDAY EVENING
OCTOBER 12TH, 8:30 P.M., AT THE OFFICE OF THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF
AMERICA, 111 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

PRESENT: Dr. Solomon Goldman (in the Chair), Messrs Louis Lipsky, Morris Rothenberg, Robert Szold, William M. Lewis, Morris Margulies, Barnett R. Brickner, Charles A. Cowen, Henry Ellenbogen, A. H. Friedland, Abraham Goldberg, Israel Goldstein, James G. Heller, Edward L. Israel, Harris J. Levine, Israel H. Levinthal, Irving Miller, Charles Reiss, Louis P. Rucker, Carl Sherman, Wm. I. Siegel, Elihu D. Stone, Morris Weinberg, Eleazer Lipsky, Dr. A. K. Epstein (substituting for Judge Fisher and Col. A.H. Rosenberg of Chicago), Mesdames Epstein, Jacobs and Pool (Hadassah); Dr. S. Bernstein, Henry Montor and Wm. Z. Spiegelman.

Excuses for Non-Attendance: Received from Messrs. Abraham Goldstein, Meyer Levy and Simon Shetzer.

PALESTINE SITUATION:

Dr. Goldman stated that it was originally planned to consider the program for the year at this meeting, but the situation which now confronts us seems to make it impossible to think of anything else. Since many out-of-town members are present at this meeting, who have not been close to the situation, and also many of the members in the city whom we have not been able to reach - Dr. Goldman suggested that this meeting be devoted to a discussion of the emergency situation; to a report of what had been done in the last four or five days; what we are planning to do and what the members of the Executive feel ought to be done.

Dr. Goldman then called on the Secretary, who gave a factual report on the emergency situation. The disturbing cable that set in motion all of our activities was received from Dr. Weizmann on Thursday, October 6th. Mr. Margulies reported it was addressed to Dr. Goldman, Dr. Wise and Mr. Lipsky. It read as follows:

"SERIOUSLY APREHENSIVE RADICAL REVERSAL POLICY PALESTINE
CRYSTALLIZATION NATIONAL HOME STOPPAGE IMMIGRATION EVEN
ESTABLISHMENT ARAB STATE GRAVE DANGER STOP MUST IMMEDIATELY
MOBILIZE ALL OUR FRIENDS MAKE AMERICAN VOICE HEARD THROUGH
ADMINISTRATION AND PRESS STOP SKIPPER SHOULD INTERVENE
BRITISH AMBASSADOR WASHINGTON INSTRUCT AMERICAN AMBASSADOR
LONDON TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION MOST URGENT AMERICAN JEWRY ISSUE
STATEMENT JEWS WILL NOT SUBMIT TO FATE SYRIANS AND GIVE
UP JEWISH PALESTINE"

Subsequently another cable came from Dr. Weizmann, asking that we telephone him on Friday (October 7). Mr. Margulies then read the report of the telephone conversation, in which Dr. Weizmann urged that every pressure be exerted within the next fortnight. On Friday afternoon, following the telephone conversation, the following cable was received from Dr. Weizmann, addressed to Dr. Wise:

"SECRET HOSTILE POLITICAL FORCES VERY ACTIVE HERE WORKING
FOR ABANDONMENT NATIONAL HOME COMING FORTNIGHT CRITICAL.
NEW YORK ARAB INFLUENCE AND DANGERS ARABIAN WORLD GREATLY
EXAGGERATED. IMPOSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHMENT STATE HINTED
AT WITH NOMINAL REVERSAL MANDATE WITH SEVERELY RESTRICTED

IMMIGRATION. FOREIGN OFFICE HOSTILE PLAYING WITH ARABIAN STATE AGAINST US AND MAKING THEIR PRESSURE EXCUSE FOR POLICY. WE AND YISHUB WILL STAND FIRM BUT REQUIRE EVERY SUPPORT YOU CAN GIVE US. URGE YOU SEND INFLUENTIAL DEPUTATION BRITISH AMBASSADOR"

Mr. Margulies reported that at that time they were already feeling in London the pressure of our work over here. He reported on the meetings of the full emergency committee and the various meetings of the smaller committees, of the telegrams sent over Dr. Goldman's signature to 425 leaders throughout the United States. This was followed with material that was sent out to all of the Districts implementing the suggestions contained in the telegram.

Over 400 communities throughout the United States had been organized as a result of this first telegram, and that these communities were sending telegrams to all their Congressmen, U.S. Senators, Secretary Hull and President Roosevelt. Thousands of telegrams poured into Washington. In addition, telegrams went out to 17 national Jewish organizations. According to the responses we received here, 9 had taken action. Many of these organizations are very close to the Zionist cause, but others are not - for instance, the National Council of Jewish Women and the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

Dr. Goldman pointed out that just as the Z.O.A. had sent telegrams to its Districts, so had Hadassah, the Poale Zion, the Mizrachi, the Order Sons of Zion, the B'nai B'rith also contacted their constituencies throughout the country.

In this connection, Mr. Elihu D. Stone reported that the B'nai B'rith Lodges in New England had a conference; that they telephoned to Mr. Minsky who advised cooperation, and they immediately sent a telegram to Washington jointly signed by every Lodge in the New England region.

Mr. Lipsky stated that Mr. Minsky issued instructions in many cities that the B'nai B'rith Lodges were to act similarly to the Zionist Districts in the present situation.

Rabbi Heller said that Cincinnati was prepared to call a large mass meeting.

Continuing his report, Mr. Margulies stated that at the meeting on Friday (Oct. 7) it was decided to send a cablegram to Prime Minister Chamberlain. This cablegram was signed by the heads of all the Zionist Organizations in America. In addition, it carried the signature of Dr. Stephen S. Wise, as President of the American Jewish Congress, Mr. Henry Minsky of the B'nai B'rith, and Dr. Cyrus Adler, as a member of the Jewish Agency. In addition to that telegram the late Mr. Vladeck sent a very fine cable on behalf of 500,000 Jewish labor men. A cablegram was sent by Mr. Sol M. Strock, on behalf of the American Jewish Committee, to Dr. Weizmann, with the request that it be transmitted to Mr. Chamberlain. These telegrams were also published in the press. In addition to those referred to above, telegrams were sent to 84 leading Christian clergymen and laymen, with a draft of a cablegram to be sent to Mr. Chamberlain.

Many affirmative responses were received, the cablegram was dispatched to Mr. Chamberlain, and copies of it were sent to the London Times, the Manchester Guardian, the London Star, and The New Chronicle.- We also sent out a message to 100 intellectuals - authors, writers, publicists - throughout the United States, signed by Dr. Ludwig Lewisohn and Mr. Sholem Asch. Many favorable responses were received - one negative response coming from Mr. Walter Lippman, who stated that he has never joined in the sending of such telegrams and therefore he very regretfully had to decline. A cablegram will be sent to the Royal Society of London.

Mr. Lipsky stated that a cable was sent by William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, from Houston, Texas, to Sir Walter McLennan Citrine, General Secretary of the Trade Union Congress and President of the National Federation of Trade Unions, in London, England.

Another telegram was sent on Tuesday night (Oct. 11) by Dr. Solomon Goldman, to 300 Rabbis in this country, urging them to wire President Roosevelt and to contact their Congressmen and Senators. A message was to be sent to 500 Principals and Rabbis of Hebrew Schools and Talmud Torahs, urging them to get the children and the parents to send out individual telegrams to the President. The telegrams for the children couched in language understandable to a child would undoubtedly have a very interesting effect.

Mr. Stone called attention to the National Convention of Hebrew Torah Teachers being held on Thursday, October 13th, in New York, and suggested that a representative of the Z.O.A. Executive be present.

Dr. Goldman appointed Dr. A. H. Friedland to represent the Z.O.A. at this Convention.

Mr. Margulies reported further that following this meeting a delegation was to leave for Washington, D.C. to call upon the British Ambassador on Thursday, and to visit Secretary Hull and the French Ambassador on Friday. On Thursday night Dr. Goldman was scheduled to speak from Washington on a national broadcast. All of the Districts were notified of this broadcast and ~~was~~ received telegrams informing us whether they have been able to make the proper contacts with their local broadcasting station. In some cities, such as Cleveland and Pittsburgh an electrical transcript of the broadcast was to be reproduced the following day.

Dr. Goldman stated that it was understood from our contacts with Dr. Weizmann through cables and by telephone that what was needed was the mobilization of American public opinion, - Zionists and non-Zionists, Jewish and non-Jewish - and that we set this as our goal. We tried to reach every available avenue of public opinion. We contacted practically every Jewish community in the country. The response was amazing. Palestine is deeply rooted in the hearts of the Jews of America. If we ever had any doubt on that score, it has now been completely dispelled. The Jews were approached; they were reached - not only the Zionists, but all of the Jews of America - through their organizations, as well as individually; and we received remarkable support. We approached the non-Jewish communities, that is, the Churches, clergymen, etc. The American Legion sent a telegram to President Roosevelt couched in typically American Legion language. We reached many of the newspapers in the country, and received much editorial comment.

Judge Lewis spoke of the activity in Philadelphia in connection with the emergency situation. The Enquirer, the Ledger, the Record, and the

Bulletin were having editorials. Judge Lewis had a meeting with the Congressmen in Philadelphia, all of whom have told him that they were prepared to do everything we would ask of them. Pennsylvania's Legislature then in session was planning to adopt a Resolution. A Resolution was already introduced in the Senate by non-Jews. The Lieut. Governor made a very fine speech. Judge Lewis said he had every reason to believe that the Resolution, a very fine one, would be passed unanimously. The sponsor, a Minister from Reading, made a very warm appeal when he introduced it.

Mr. Elihu D. Stone, Rabbi Edward L. Israel, Judge Henry Ellenbogen, Dr. A. K. Epstein, spoke at length of the work being done in their respective communities, among Jews and non-Jews, Congressmen, Senators, educators, etc.

Rabbi Heller felt that both the telegrams to the Districts and the Regions, and the cablegram to Dr. Weizmann, are exceedingly vague. Dr. Heller said he understood that something is threatened, and he thought that these present ought to return to their respective communities with a much more concrete idea as to what is threatened.

Judge Rothenberg explained that the intention was to bring to bear the impact of all these extraordinary demonstrations of American public opinion upon the British Cabinet and upon the British people; they ought in some way to be made to feel what is happening in this country, in addition to all the telegrams that have come to them. They should be made aware of this outpouring of sentiment in this country.

Mr. Lipsky pointed out that the Resolution adopted by all the Jewish national organizations was reported in detail to the London Times and other papers; copies were sent to the Colonial Secretary. The fact that these things were registering in London was indicated in the New York Times and other papers.

Mr. Lipsky agreed with Dr. Goldman and Mr. Margulies that there has never been such an overwhelming response on the part of non-Jewish elements. The feeling was much more sympathetic, much more human and much more genuine than it was ever before. Contacts were established in every city. The telegrams directed to the State Department from Congressmen, Senators, etc. created unparalleled public opinion. Replying to Rabbi Heller's observation Mr. Lipsky expressed the belief that the general impression in London is that the Woodhouse Commission would bring in a report which could not be accepted by the Executive.

Dr. Goldman stated that Dr. Weizmann seemed to be of the opinion that the whole question of Palestine had been moved from the Colonial Office to Mr. Chamberlain; that what Great Britain had in mind was practically the nullification of the Balfour Declaration and the stoppage of immigration; and it seemed that they contemplated putting forth the Legislative Council. The situation was serious, Dr. Goldman added, and we here among ourselves should know and understand it. He reported that the emergency committee has discussed the question of asking the Orthodox and even the Reform Rabbinate to proclaim a fast day, but we wondered whether we would not be unduly alarming the people. Dr. Weizmann suggested that we should wait another few days before deciding on the matter of mass meetings.

After a lengthy discussion on the stringency of the situation participated in by: Mr. Lipsky, Judge Lewis, Rabbi Heller, Rabbi Israel, Abraham Goldberg, and Rabbi Heller, - Dr. Goldman stated that the questions discussed by various

members of the Executive have already been put to Dr. Weizmann, and it seems that what Dr. Weizmann wants is that public opinion in America be mobilized, which he thinks will avert danger. The British Cabinet has not yet acted; it has not yet received the Report of the Woodhouse Commission.

Mr. Lipsky stated that it will be generally agreed, he felt, that any attempt on our part to introduce into the protest movement controversial questions, questions of political principles or ideals, or political conflicts or controversies, will be fatal to the arousing of public opinion.

Dr. Goldman added that if we do so it will be difficult to get Jewish unanimity.

Mr. Lipsky continued that because of the policy we assumed, the message to the Colonial office was signed with the greatest of sympathy by Dr. Cyrus Adler. By stressing immigration we can make an impression upon public minds in America and upon the Christians; it has something to do with minority status and the Jewish position in Europe.

Dr. Goldman reported further that a delegation was to leave for Washington, following this meeting of the Executive, numbering twelve to fifteen people, divided into two groups to see the British Ambassador and Secretary of State Cordell Hull. This delegation was composed of the heads of Zionist and non-Zionist organizations, and in one or two instances of men who are not heads of organizations, like Rabbi B. L. Levinthal and Prof. Ginzberg. Before adjourning the meeting, he asked that those present offer further concrete, brief suggestions of the things that should be done, that the Emergency Committee may have overlooked. He also requested that, in addition to making such suggestions, the members of the Executive send frequent special delivery or air-mail letters conveying information directly.

The following suggestions were then offered:

- 1) That a strong press bureau be sent up.
- 2) Radio broadcasts.
- 3) Contact the Rotary, Kiwanis, and other service clubs and supply them with speakers.
- 4) The Jewish communities throughout the country to be requested to prepare for mass meetings, when the call is issued for such meetings to be held.
- 5) That Mr. Einstein of Boston be contacted; also that Mr. Einstein be asked to approach the Cardinal in Boston.
- 6) Contact the Masons.
- 7) Contact Mens. Belford of Brooklyn, N.Y.
- 8) Contact David Stern (Judge Rothenberg agreed to do so).
- 9) That a bulletin be sent to the Districts giving up-to-date information on the progress made.

Dr. Goldman called attention to the need for funds with which to finance the work of the Emergency Committee, and reported that the various organizations had been requested to contribute. He was also endeavoring to secure allocations from the Welfare Funds for the Emergency Fund.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:

Pursuant to the decision of the last meeting of the Executive, Dr. Goldman had appointed the following persons to consider the list of the Administrative Committee and report their findings to this meeting: Messrs. Charles Ress (Chairman), and Elihu D. Stone, Wm. I. Siegel, Louis P. Rucker, and Carl Sherman. Mr. Ress reported that his committee found that the list of Administrative Committee members was carefully prepared at Detroit but was not read; the motion was that the entire list be submitted to the Executive; and it was the understanding that the entire list, together with certain additions that would have to be made, would be adopted. Mr. Ress MOVED

THAT the list which appeared in The New Palestine which was the list which was formed in Detroit, together with the list of additional names that Mr. Margulies has, be considered the Administrative Committee.

The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Morris Margulies,
Secretary.

ANTHONY A. FLEGER
22nd District
CLEVELAND, OHIO

ANNE M. RADU
SECRETARY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

October 12, 1938

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
10311 Lake Shore Blvd
Cleveland Ohio

Dear Sir:

I am pleased to acknowledge your telegram, asking me to join with your organization in requesting Secretary Cordell Hull to use his influence in connection with contemplated action to be taken by the British Government regarding Jewish refugees in Palestine.

I wish to thank you for calling this matter to my attention and assure you I will be pleased to cooperate with you.

Sincerely yours,

Anthony A. Fleger
Member of Congress

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RABBI A H SILVER

THE TEMPLE

EMERGENCY COMMITTEE PALESTINE DECIDED CALL ALL COMMUNITIES
CONDUCT MASS MEETING SUNDAY AFTERNOON OCTOBER TWENTY THIRD GIVE
ADDITIONAL IMPETUS EFFORT TO COMMUNICATE GREAT BRITAIN DEEP
CONCERN FELT HERE FOR SATISFACTORY DECISION RESPECTING JEWISH
NATIONAL HOME JEWISH IMMIGRATION PALESTINE. MEETING FOR WHICH
NONJEWISH AS WELL AS JEWISH SPONSORSHIP SHOULD BE SOUGHT SHOULD
BE ADDRESSED LEADING NONJEWS PREFERABLY US SENATOR CONGRESSMAN
GOVERNOR MAYOR LEADING CLERGYMEN DESCRIBE JEWISH ACHIEVEMENTS
ASPIRATIONS PALESTINE. MUST EMPHASIZE SPEAKERS NOT REFER
DISPARAGINGLY VINDICTIVELY BRITAIN RATHER INDICATE EARNEST HOPE
LIBERAL SYMPATHETIC TRADITIONS BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL AGAIN
FIND EXPRESSION SO THAT JEWISH NEEDS MAY BE MET PRESENT CRISIS.
RESERVE BIGGEST AVAILABLE HALL. LETTER FOLLOWS. PLEASE NOTE
THERE MUST BE NO LET-UP ON INDIVIDUAL TELEGRAMS WHICH SHOULD BE
SENT TO THE PRESIDENT. URGE ALL ORGANIZATIONS CIRCULARIZE
THEIR MEMBERS TO SEND SUCH MESSAGES.

SOLOMON GOLDMAN 111 FIFTH AVENUE.

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

October 19, 1938.

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LOUIS LIFSKY
JULIAN W. MACK
MORRIS ROTHENBERG
ROBERT SPOLD
STEPHEN S. WISE
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Chairman, Admin. Comm.

LUDWIG LEWISOHN
Honorary Secretary

MORRIS MARGULIES
Secretary

MORRIS WEINBERG
Treasurer

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ABRAHAM GOLDBERG
ABRAHAM GOLDSTEIN
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN
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HARRIS J. LEVINE
ISRAEL H. LEVINTHAL
MEYER LEVY
IRVING MILLER
CHARLES RESS
LOUIS P. ROCKER
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CARL SHERMAN
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ABRAHAM SILVER
ELIUD D. STONE

Associate Members
LAWRENCE COHEN
MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN
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BOBIE MARGOLIN
ELDER MARKSON
CHARLES RESS
LOUIS RINSKY
JACOB SINGOFF
SIGMUND THAU
A. I. ULLANDER
MORRIS WEINBERG

ISRAEL MALTEN
Auditor

MONSTER PETITION TO PRESIDENT

Dear Friend:

As a second step in our program to mobilize public opinion, it has been decided by the Emergency Committee, to call upon every committee to utilize the mass meetings to be held October 23rd, or thereafter, for the compilation of a great telegraphic petition to the President of the United States. This petition is to be gotten up in this way:

Every person who attends the mass meeting should be asked to give the very small sum of five cents so that his or her name can be added to the telegram of petition to be addressed to President Roosevelt.

We hope thus to get before the President of the United States in addition to individual telegrams that have already been sent and must continue to be sent, telegrams from hundreds of communities which will carry the names of hundreds of thousands of Jews and Christians. You can make arrangements for the sending of this message and the taking of the individual names with the local branch of the Postal Telegraph and Western Union. In addition to getting help from the local telegraph offices, you can arrange with Junior Hadassah, Masada, Avukah or any other, or all youth groups to be stationed as a selected committee at the entrance of the mass meeting hall to explain the purposes of the petition and to get every person to give five cents to add his signature to the petition.

The message to the President should be brief and directed to the point of urging that the doors of Palestine be kept open for a maximum number of Jewish refugees in accordance with the economic absorptive capacity of the country. (Attached herewith is a suggested telegram to be sent to the President.) Please wire us after your meeting how many names are attached to the telegram sent to the President. We should like to have at least one million names to the petition to constitute the biggest telegram the President of the United States has ever received.

You will note that Secretary of State, Hull has issued a statement with regard to the Palestine problem and American interest therein. Our second step is to obtain from the President a public expression of sympathy with respect to the Jewish National Home policy and the opening of the gates of Palestine for a large scale immigration.

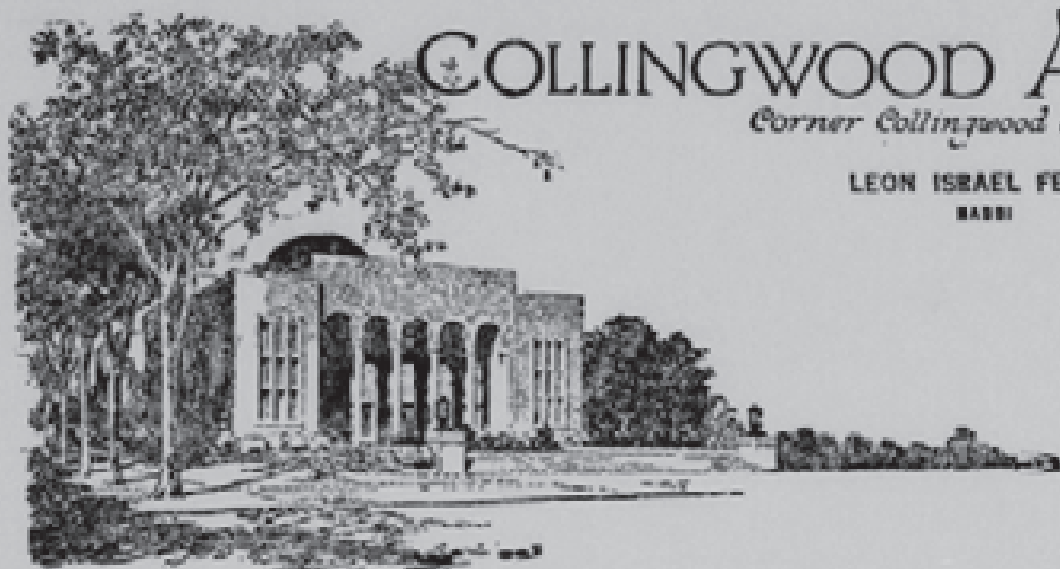
Your wholehearted cooperation in connection with this great telegraphic petition will be sincerely appreciated.

Cordially yours,

Morris Margulies
Morris Margulies
Secretary

Encl.





COLLINGWOOD AVENUE TEMPLE

Corner Collingwood and Acklin Avenues

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RABBI

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HON. VICE-PRESIDENT

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EX-OFFICIO

MRS. ROY C. DAVIS PRESIDENT OF SISTERHOOD	HAROLD S. GREEN PRESIDENT OF BROTHERHOOD
--	---

TOLEDO, OHIO

October 26, 1936

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

Dear Rabbi:

Now that the holiday rush is over, I want to begin developing the regional work, the groundwork for which was laid at the Zionist convention in Detroit. It was there provided that each district in the region should have one representative on the Executive Board of the region.

I am calling a meeting of the regional executive for Sunday, November 6th, at 2 P. M. in Toledo. Will you please nominate a representative from your district and ask him to attend this meeting. If you will give me the name of your representative, I will send him a personal invitation.

Hortense and I are hoping to be able to take a lay off and come down to Cleveland to spend with Virginia and yourself. Maybe we can play a few rounds of casino. Now that the season's activities have started, don't you wish you were back at Mooselockmeguntic?

As ever,

LIF-s



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Corner Collingwood and Acklin Avenues

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RABBI

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HON. VICE-PRESIDENT

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IRVING E. GOLDMANN	LEROY F. NEWMYER	MRS. PHILLIP S. TRIST

EX-OFFICIO

MRS. ROY C. DAVIS	HAROLD S. GREEN
PRESIDENT OF SISTERHOOD	PRESIDENT OF BROTHERHOOD

TOLEDO, OHIO

November 2, 1938

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

Dear Rabbi:

Although I have not heard from you, I am assuming that you will send a representative of the Cleveland Zionist Society to a meeting of the Executive Board of the Ohio-Michigan Region. The meeting will be held this coming Sunday, November 6th, at 2 P. M., in my study at the Collingwood Avenue Temple.

I hope that you can arrange to have someone here. At this meeting we hope to lay the groundwork for our regional work for the year.

With kindest regards, I am,

As ever,

Lm

LIF-a

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THE JEWISH VOICE
JACOB KORALSKY, Publisher
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THE ONLY ANGLO-JEWISH MAGAZINE IN CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

Established in 1922

HOME OFFICE:

1250 ECKERT AVENUE
READING, PA.

November 5, 1938

Rabbi Abbo Hillel Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Rabbi:

It is a long time since you have visited us. For your information, the City of Reading was always a Zionist Stronghold, but the past two years the Zionist Movement has weakened somewhat, and it is very important to put Reading again on the Zionist map.

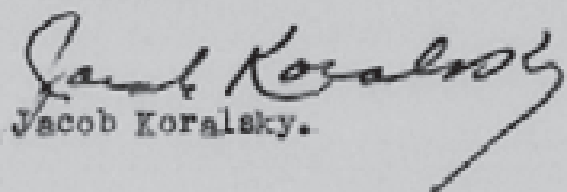
We have therefore decided that our Forum this year should dwell on Zionist subjects and, of course, we would be more than happy to have you as one of our Forum speakers.

This Forum is arranged by the Local Branch of the "Verband", a Jewish National Workers' Alliance, which is one of the most outstanding organizations in this city.

You can select the date yourself, either the First week in December or some date during the month of February. Of course, we would also like to know the price for this lecture.

Awaiting to hear from you favorably, as the schedule of the Forum must be arranged by the end of this week. I am

Sincerely yours,


Jacob Koralsky.

JK:d



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Corner Collingwood and Acklin Avenues

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RABBI

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EX-OFFICIO

MRS. ROSE C. DAVIS PRESIDENT OF SISTERHOOD	HAROLD S. GREEN PRESIDENT OF BROTHERHOOD
---	---

TOLEDO, OHIO November 12, 1938

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

Dear Rabbi:

I received this week, as president of the Jewish Community Council of Toledo, a communication over your signature. The letter seemed to indicate some sort of conflict which has already arisen or which threatens to arise between the U.P.A. and the J.D.C. as to the allocation of funds. I was not quite clear as to exactly what you had in mind that you wanted done in the situation.

As yet, there has not been the slightest indication of any difficulty or misunderstanding in this community. I doubt very seriously that anything of this nature will arise here, at least this year. The Toledo Community Council which sponsors our campaign here, will certainly resist any effort to weaken or impair our ~~welfare~~ ^{EXID} structure. Beyond protecting the interests of the United Palestine Appeal, are there any other active steps which you should like me to take.

We are now in the midst of the preparation for our campaign, which will open on Monday night, November 28th. There is every indication that the campaign will be highly successful. While I do not want to be too sanguine, I believe that we will reach somewhere close to \$50,000, which will be almost \$10,000 higher than our last year's result.

Falkman and Evans probably have informed you that we had a very fine meeting of the Executive Board of the Ohio-Michigan Region and laid the groundwork for regional activity. I am sure that they will report in full. I very much appreciate their coming to the meeting.

With kindest regards, I am,

As ever,

LIF-s

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DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER, THE TEMPLE

EAST 105 ST AT ANSEL RD CLVD

WILL BE IN CLEVELAND TOMORROW JUST FOR THE DAY TO ADDRESS HADASSAH
TEA STOP IMPERATIVE THAT I SEE YOU SOME TIME DURING MY STAY TO DISCUSS
IMPORTANT PROBLEM BROACHED BY MONTOR TO YOU BY TELEPHONE STOP WILL
CALL YOU ABOUT NINE IN THE MORNING TO MAKE APPOINTMENT FOR SOME TIME
DURING THE DAY

JUDITH G EPSTEIN HADASSAH.

TELEPHONED
FROM MAIN OFFICE

Call Wade P K Manor 711p 54- Time 7:15 M Date 11-15-38
To skt By No. 54
Ok Sample A m.

הנהלת הציוני במסע ארצות

Ohio Valley Zionist Region

PRESIDENT: RABBI JAMES G. HELLER, Cincinnati

VICE-PRESIDENTS: DANIEL FRISCH, Indianapolis PAUL J. GAISER, Dayton

TREASURER: HON. JACOB WEISS, Indianapolis

SECRETARY: DR. AZRIEL L. EISENBERG
638 Rockdale Ave., Cincinnati, O.

Dayton Zionist District
310 Keith Building

November 25, 1938

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HARRY H. FRANKEL, Cincinnati, Chairman
DR. B. W. ABRAMSON, Columbus
RABBI SOLOMON N. BAZELL, Louisville
OSCAR BERMAN, Cincinnati
HERBERT BERNSTEIN, Cincinnati
RABBI ELIAS CHABRY, Indianapolis
BEN DUBERSTEIN, Dayton
DR. EMANUEL GABORAN, Cincinnati
BEN J. GOLDMAN, Springfield
RABBI JACOB J. GITTELMAN, Louisville
ISADORE HASSAN, Fort Wayne
BEN LEVY, Lexington
SIMON MAYER, Charleston
MAX TANIS, Dayton
RABBI J. M. TAXBY, Terre Haute
RABBI IRVING A. WEINGART, Fort Wayne
WILL WILBER, South Bend
DR. A. M. WISER, Cincinnati

[LIST IS INCOMPLETE]

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
10311 Lakeshore Blvd.
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I take great privilege in writing you this letter, and I pray that you will accept our invitation to speak at a mass meeting which is being called in the near future, under the auspices of the Dayton Zionist District.

We all appreciate the fact that your time is very valuable and much occupied. However, we are certain that your appearance in Dayton will render a valuable service for our great cause.

The nature of this mass meeting is that of a membership campaign. We feel that the unfortunate prevailing conditions of our people be at least utilized for constructive work, and we find that the time is most favorable for a great increase in the Zionist membership.

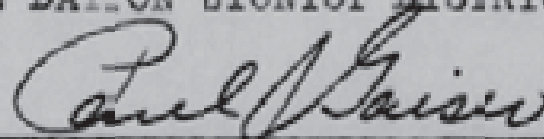
If we are privileged with your acceptance of our invitation we will immediately organize that meeting, and secure the largest available hall in Dayton which will, we have no doubt, be filled to capacity. This meeting will be called not only for the Jews of Dayton, but for the benefit of Jews and Non-Jews of Dayton and vicinity.

We plead to you to accept our invitation with utmost assurance that your visit here will not be regretted, and trusting to hear from you in the near future, we remain,

Most sincerely,

THE DAYTON ZIONIST DISTRICT

By


President

November 29, 1938

Mr. Paul Gaiser, President
Ohio Valley Zionist Region
310 Keith Building
Dayton, Ohio

My dear Mr. Gaiser:

I deeply appreciate your kind invitation to address a mass meeting which the Dayton Zionist District is to call in the near future. I wish I were free to come to you. But, as you know, I am National Chairman of the United Palestine Appeal and all the spare time which I have, I must devote to that cause. I am over burdened with work and it is quite impossible for me to tak on additional responsibilities at this time. Perhaps at some future time I may be of service to you.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BX

התאחדות הציונים הכללית
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF CHICAGO

30 NORTH DEARBORN STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

OFFICERS:

President

WILLIAM M. KATZ

Vice Presidents:

SAMUEL F. JACOBSON

CHARLES MISHKIN

MAURICE A. SMOLER

Treasurer

JOHN RISSMAN

CHARLES LEVIN

Executive Director

November 29, 1938

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

A thousand pardons for the rather crude way in which I ignored your kind invitation to meet with you after the lecture at the Washington Boulevard Temple.

For this I must blame the office staff, because I had an idea I was to meet you before the meeting and rather anxiously awaited word from you. However, when it was too late to rectify the situation, they informed me that you would meet me after the lecture.

However, I have your program, and when you come to Chicago again I would like very much for you to meet our District Presidents and myself, so we may hear from you as we are hearing from Rabbi Goldman and others, your own slant on the situation, and learn what we can do to assist our friends who are leading the Zionist movement in America, to further the needs of Palestine.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

William M. Katz

William M. Katz
President

wmk:sn

MINUTES OF Z.O.A. EXECUTIVE, THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 1st, 1938
6:30 P.M. AT THE BREVOORT HOTEL, 8TH STREET AND FIFTH AVENUE, N.Y.C.

PRESENT: Dr. Solomon Goldman (In the Chair), Messrs. David Berenstein, Barnett R. Brickner, A. H. Friedland, Abraham Goldberg, Abraham Goldstein, James G. Heller, Edward L. Israel, Harris J. Levine, Israel H. Lewinthal, Meyer Levy, Ludwig Lewisochn, Louis Lipsky, Morris Margulies, Irving Miller, Charles Rees, A. H. Rosenberg, Morris Rothenberg, Carl Sherman, Simon Shetzer, Wm. I. Siegel, Robert Szold, Morris Weinberg, Stephen S. Wise; Mrs. Shulman (representing Hadassah), Eleazer Lipsky (representing Masada), Lawrence Cohen (representing Avukah); by invitation: Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Jacob Fishman; also Dr. Simon Bernstein, Samuel Blitz, Samuel Caplan, Henry Montor, Meyer Steinglass.

Excuses for non-attendance: were received from Messrs. Charles A. Cowen, Henry Ellenbogen, Harry Friedenwald, Israel Goldstein, Wm. M. Lewis, Julian W. Mack, Elihu D. Stone.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M.; with Dr. Solomon Goldman in the Chair. Dr. Goldman called attention to the fact that the discussion of the year's program has had to be repeatedly postponed because of the emergency situation in which we found ourselves immediately following the last meeting of the Executive; He suggested therefore that this matter be taken up first, to be followed by brief reports of those who attended the Actions Committee meeting.

The Chairman then called upon Dr. Heller, Chairman of the Committee named to plan this year's organization work, to report on behalf of his Committee. In view of the fact that the Committee has not been in session, Dr. Heller was unable to present a report to this meeting of the Executive.

NEXT MEETING OF EXECUTIVE -- MEETING OR COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION:

It was decided that the next meeting of the Executive be held on Wednesday evening, December 21st; that during the day of December 21st, prior to the meeting of the Executive, a meeting be convened of the Committee on Organization.

COMMITTEE OF FIVE - (Office Committee):

The Chairman spoke of the need to have a small committee to deal with administrative details requiring attention in the interim between meetings of the Executive.

Mr. Rees MOVED

THAT the President be authorized to appoint a Committee of Five to act as an Office Committee, to take care of the affairs of the Executive between the meetings of the Executive.

Mr. Rees' motion was unanimously CARRIED.

REPORT ON ACTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

MR. ABRAHAM GOLDBERG:

We came to London with the expectation that we would have to deal with the Woodhead Report. That was actually the justification for calling this meeting so hurriedly. However, the Report was dead and buried before the Actions

Committee meeting was opened. The British Government wanted to get out of the Partition Plan and the Woodhead Commission gave them that opportunity.

We came to London; the Report was out; there was nothing to see upon. Out of the two and one-half years of chaos the Government finally came out with a plan of calling Arabs and Jews together in order to make peace. Unfortunately for us, the Government had not consulted us beforehand. It was not known to Dr. Weizmann at all. We were faced with a fait accompli, and we had to indicate whether or not we would go. All were agreed, with the exception of Hadassah - (representative Mrs. Pool), that we go. If we should refuse to go, public opinion would say that we refuse peace with the Arabs. Therefore we approved the action of the Executive.

In the meantime, there occurred the pogroms in Germany. Dr. Weizmann delivered a speech at the Actions Committee meeting which was very moving. He told us that two days before the meeting opened, he was implored by many Germans to take action. He knocked on many doors, and found all of them closed. Later, when matters became worse, American public opinion made a tremendous impression abroad.

On Saturday evening we came down to the business of the Actions Committee. In the reports America was mentioned and full credit was given, - namely, that through American intervention the idea of transforming Palestine into an Arab State was abandoned, and that immigration was to continue, although limited.

Discussions arose as to what action be taken in the matter of refugees. It was pointed out that Palestine could take in immediately 22,000 laborers.

The high light of the Actions Committee meeting was the report of Shertok. He made clear to all of us that no matter what happens there is already in Palestine a Yishub big enough and influential enough to withstand every onslaught and storm. The report of the Yishub actually encouraged us. It was told to us that the crisis in a measure strengthened the Yishub; that when it came, they were entrenched to such an extent that they were able to do certain things, such as self-defense, agricultural production, the port, the aviation field. Although we are only about 33%, we are strong, and there is no fear for Zionists as to the ultimate fate of Palestine.

The business of the meeting was: what is to be done under the circumstances. Many of the speakers pointed out mistakes that might be made. On the whole, it was interesting to note that the unity of Zionists has again been restored.

It became evident that we cannot go to the Arab Jewish Conference unless the Mandate and the Balfour Declaration are stressed. Our statements emphasized these two points, and happily Mac Donald said this is correct that we were in Palestine right and not on sufferance. For the first time, we came forward with an appeal direct to the British people. Usually we deal with the Government - stressing what actually happened to the Jews and pointing out the necessity for opening the doors of Palestine.

MacDonald's argument was that we must invite the non-Palestinians to the Arab-Jewish Conference. It was agreed that before we go, the British Government will talk to the Jews and to the Arabs and find out if there is common ground. Some were very skeptical and pessimistic about the effective-

ness of the Conference.

Dr. Mossinsohn read a resolution; which contained the four points around which the entire debate of the Actions Committee were built. The Executive was to see about the possibilities for settling large numbers of refugees and to consult with American friends. It will give us the chance to stress the idea of the possibility of using Palestine in spite of the numerous territories. Not much had been said on the question of territories. Everybody realized that the territories announced by Chamberlain cannot be considered. During the Conference many thought that there is a possibility of getting 10,000 children in Palestine. The Actions Committee closed and no reports satisfactory to us came in.

The Actions Committee meeting was productive of results. We are a democratic movement and we must take counsel with each other. We must not allow our World Executive to do things without consulting the members. Our Actions Committee meeting made us all feel that we still have the greatest opportunities in Palestine. We felt that this year up to the Congress, will not be a bad year, and America on the one hand, and the Yishub on the other doing the big thing by offering to succor 10,000 German Jewish Children; we will find a way to make Palestine the center for Jewish immigration. We have not discussed these matters. Much has to be done in this country in the mobilization of our powers and of our resources, in order to make our efforts in Palestine a success.

RABBI IRVING MILLER:

The Actions Committee met under the spell of two outstanding phenomena in Jewish life. That spell remained with the Actions Committee throughout its deliberations, and technically laid the base for any concrete program that lies before us in the near future. This was the first session of the Actions Committee since the very aggravated terror of the past two and one-half years took place in Palestine, and the remarkable stand of the Yishub in the face of that aggravated terror in the past three or four months definitely spelled the position that the Yishub had made for itself in Palestine.

The Actions Committee meeting in the wake of such a manifestation of unity in the Jewish world with regard to Palestine has never been paralleled in the past. New resources for sympathy with and understanding of Jewish life have been uncovered. The Actions Committee was uplifted despite the report of the Woodhead Commission; despite that happened in Germany. The Actions Committee was uplifted by the resistance of the Yishub and by that unity which made itself evident in this critical time of Jewish life. That is the program which must be developed and organized in Jewish life during the coming months. Palestine does have its position in Jewish life; it has already proven that it will not be disrupted; there is this unity in behalf of Jewish life that can be awakened.

The prevailing opinion was that not much is to be expected from the Conference; there appears to be some basis to believe that an understanding can now be reached between the Arabs and the Jews, but in the final analysis Great Britain will have to enunciate that policy. Above all, the note was brought home that nothing final can be hoped for within the next few months. This is a transitory period through which we are living; and we cannot expect anything of a definitive nature to be decided at this time. All we can do is to maintain the position we have and mobilize still more the resources for understanding and sympathy with Palestine that reside within the Jewish people.

DR. SOLOMON GOLDMAN:

Dr. Goldman voiced regret that Dr. Goldstein and Mr. Elihu D. Stone are not here to give their report and add their reactions to those of the previous two speakers.

He further said that Mr. Lipsky and I came towards the end of the meetings of the Actions Committee. We went at the direct request of Dr. Weizmann, and the insistence of Dr. Wise. We went to give a detailed report of what was happening in the United States during the several weeks of the emergency, and to get an insight into the situation in London, and then to return here and to see what part America is to continue to play vis-a-vis the present situation. So I shall ask Mr. Lipsky to give his report.

Dr. Goldman then called upon Mr. Lipsky to report.

MR. LOUIS LIPSKY:

Dr. Goldman and I arrived in London toward the end of the meeting of the Actions Committee. Although we were informed as to what had taken place, we were not witnesses of the proceedings. It is very important for us to have some understanding of what the position is. It may be said that the Parliamentary position, as far as the Zionist Organization is concerned, is represented by the Government with regard to the Woodhead Report. The Actions Committee was a forum that was discussing something where things were constantly in progress.

It was quite clear that the Government definitely decided to retract the Woodhead Report, had decided on making an experiment on drawing the Jews and the Arabs together. Before the round-table discussions can take place, there must be an agreement by the Government with the Arabs and an agreement with the Jews, and there must be something presented which has common acceptance. If no common acceptance is presented, the Government proposes to decide its own policy. But it is quite clear that the Government, which is unable to decide its own policy at the present time, will in all probability be in no better position to enforce any position in two months from now. In the meantime, the Zionist Organization is privileged to say that the partition question is laid aside; although the question of partition is not dead. For the time being, we are placed in exactly the same position of just drifting along with the Government in its proposals, and we have to be prepared for any eventuality that may arise out of the various steps taken by the Government.

It is the general impression in London that meeting with the Arab kings is a much more advantageous thing for us at this time than meeting with the "irregulars" that represent the Palestine Arabs. It is much easier to come to some understanding with them than with the actual representatives of the Arabs in Palestine. If such a conference is to be called, the Zionist Executive stands upon the Mandate.

In addition to the Woodhead Report which was thrown into the Actions Committee, what happened here in the United States with regard to the situation in Germany happened also in London. The outrages in Germany created as much resentment as it did here. The action of Sir Herbert Samuel was almost instantaneous. Immediately the problem of how we were going to insert Palestine into the matter of the refugees became a matter of practical political decision. It became of

the utmost importance that Palestine be injected into the matter. In the original draft of the statement issued by the Committee on Refugee Problem there was a reference to Palestine, although it was very vague. The Government became obdurate to change any item of the schedule for fear of disturbing the forthcoming conference with the Arabs.

This question of the refugees is a question that concerns us, because so far as Palestine is concerned, everybody in Palestine, everybody in London, felt that whether we say Jewish State or Jewish canton, or called it Yishub, or whatever we called it, the Jewish settlement in Palestine has become so consolidated in interest, in will and in sacrifice, that it is going to withstand any shock and any attack, and it is prepared to take steps to hold its position. They are firm and determined - these - 440,000 - by direct or indirect means to increase their strength. They are determined to do everything that is essential to expand. Every element in the population are equally of the same opinion as to what has to be done to maintain themselves.

So far as Palestine itself is concerned, there is going to be an extraordinary expansion. The discovery of unusual powers and energies, and understanding of what life is all about, physical life, social life, everything essential for the building up of a Jewish State, they are prepared to undertake. We were concerned in finding out what could be done in the United States to strengthen that foundation over there, and we were concerned greatly with how we were to organize the United Palestine Appeal for this year, and how to make that campaign successful.

We can establish all the paraphernalia of a self-sufficient and Jewish life in Palestine, even in these desperate conditions that are being created for us all around Palestine. Many Zionists feel very lax about this matter. People are inclined to go to the abstract, rather than the concrete, because it is easier.

Dr. Goldman and I saw Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Mac Donald and other people, about which we will report to the U.P.A. We have received advices from the Executive and offers of cooperation on the part of the Executive. There was a feeling in the Actions Committee that if we were to bring over to the United States young specimens of Palestine life and let them go through all the Jewish communities, it would have a tremendous effect upon the Jews of this country. It would be an object lesson on Palestine. There are many people on the other side who realize that so much depends on our success.

The question now is (1) the U.P.A., our relationship to the American Jewish communities, and (2) how we can put over the verity of the idea for which we stand. 100,000 people can be brought into Palestine next year, without any dislocation of Jewish life. There is no other place in the world that has that atmospheric accommodation which makes this not only relief, but a relief to the Jewish people. All the territories which have been designated are merely sporting devices. Anybody who suggests a colonization scheme is suggesting something which he knows very well, will turn out to be something futile. These colonization schemes are not contributing to the refugee problem. The argument has to be felt by every Zionist as being the truth, & that Tanganyika as a colonization scheme is not related to the refugee problem at all. The problem, so far as the propagandistic end of it is concerned, is a matter of the Zionist Organization; so far as the collection of funds is concerned, that is a matter to be taken up by the United Palestine Appeal.

December 2, 1938

Mr. Jacob Koralsky
The Jewish Voice
1250 Eckert Avenue
Reading, Pa.

My dear Mr. Koralsky:

Please pardon the delay in answering your kind letter. I have been away from the city a good deal of the time and my correspondence has lagged.

I deeply appreciate your kind invitation to address the Forum of the Jewish National Workers' Alliance in your city, and I wish I were free to accept it. Unfortunately my schedule is very heavy this year because of the work involved as chairman of the United Palestine Appeal. I am therefore unable, much to my regret, to accept your kind invitation.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:EK

MINUTES OF MEETING OF Z.O.A. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON
SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 3, 8:30 P.M. AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 10:30 A.M.
AT THE ASTOR HOTEL, NEW YORK.

PRESENT: Judge Wm. M. Lewis (in the Chair), and Messrs. Herman W. Bernstein, Samuel Berson, S.W. Boorstein, Samuel J. Borowsky, A.D. Braham, Israel S. Chipkin, Sol Cohen, Rabbi Abraham Dubin, Jacob Fishman, Abraham Goldberg, Israel Goldstein, Abraham Goodman, Morris Greenberg, Leo Guzik, Isaac Imber, Jacob Ish-Kishor, Samuel Judenfreund, Samuel Kanervogel, Mordecai Konowitz, Abraham Krumbein, Samuel Kuhl, Harris J. Levin, Abram Liebovitz, Louis Lipsky, S. Margoshee, Morris Margulies, Irving Miller, Harry J. Moskowitz, Samuel J. Perry, Harry Projector, Charles Rees, Menahem Ribelow, Louis Rinsky, Morris Rothenberg, Moses Robinson, Jochanan I. Rudavsky, Leon Savage, Jacob I. Scheffer, Albert D. Schanzer, Irving Schatzberg, Joseph J. Schickler, Bernard Shelvin, Abe Simell, Abraham Spicehandler, Joshua Sprayregen, Nathan Sweeiler, Harry Weinstein, Meyer H. Weisgal, Joseph Weiss, Leo Wilson, Leo Wolfson; Oscar Altshuler, Benjamin Arenstein, David Berenstein, Maurice J. Bloom, Isidore Breslau, Barnett R. Brickner, Samuel Caploe, Morris Drob, Henry Ellenbogen, David Feldman, David Frankel, A. H. Friedland, Jacob Ginsburg, Henry E. Goldberger, Joseph Helbert, Benjamin Rabelsky, Samuel Reucher, Simon Shetzer, Dewey D. Stone, Harry Z. Zwelling.

Excuses for non-attendance were received from Messrs. Ilie Berger, Morton M. Berman, Jesse B. Calmenson, Azriel L. Eisenberg, Harry P. Fierst, Harry H. Frankel, Harry Friedenwald, Daniel Frisch, Paul J. Geiser, Joseph Goldberg, Abram M. Granowitz, Isidore Harshfield, Jacob B. Hoffman, B. Horvich, Edward L. Israel, Samuel F. Jacobson, Sidney E. Jaffe, Gustave Klausner, Geo J. Klein, Max I. Kohrman, S. Krenzberg, I. Archer Levin, Israel H. Levinthal, B. A. Lichter, Julius Livingston, Julian W. Mack, Elmer Markson, David Polish, Aeron Riche, Morton J. Robbins, Henry Rosenbaum, Sam Shackman, Charles B. Spiner, Elihu D. Stone, J. Marshall Taxay, Samuel Uzensky, Stephen S. Wise and Alex S. Wolf.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 P. M., with Judge Lewis in the Chair. The Chairman pointed out that in view of the recent events in Jewish and Zionist life both here and abroad, necessitating the departure of the Zionist leaders to London, it was found impossible to convene a meeting of the Administrative Committee before this. He called upon the Secretary to present a report on the proceedings of the Z.O.A. Executive since the last Convention.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Margulies submitted the following report:

As every member of the Administrative Committee knows, immediately after the close of the Detroit Convention, world events, particularly as they reacted on the Jewish people, were such as to render almost impossible normal procedure in the conduct of the Organization. Nevertheless, the newly elected Z.O.A. Executive has held during this period six meetings.

Following is a summary of the most important decisions reached at these meetings:

At the first meeting held on Monday evening, July 11th, the Secretary submitted a report showing that the membership income on that date had exceeded last year's income as of that date by \$17,100. The total income from membership for the year was \$96,818. In connection with the budget for the next fiscal year, the Secretary pointed out that although the deficit had been reduced last year by \$20,000, there still remained a deficit of \$20,000. This together with an estimated deficit of \$15,000 for the current year, resulting from the items added by the convention added, will create a total deficit of \$35,000 for the year ending September 30, 1939. Mr. Lipsky proposed that the budget be referred to the Finance Committee, with a request that the Finance Committee bring in a report showing how it intends to apply the budget in view of the anticipated \$35,000 deficit.

Attention was called to the presence in this country of Mr. David Tannenbaum, representing the Palestine Land Development Company, who came here for the purpose of opening an American branch of the P.L.D.C. under the supervision of the Z.O.A., if that were possible. After a thorough discussion the question was referred to a subcommittee for the purpose of making a study of the P.L.D.C. and its relationship to the Jewish National Fund. The Executive also decided that in principle it agrees that some means and method be found to further the sale of privately owned land in Palestine, provided the Z.O.A. is freed from responsibility for such transactions.

Dr. Goldstein, reporting on the financial status of the Palestine Pavilion, stated that unless the sum of \$75,000 is made available between now and October 1, the Palestine Pavilion would in all likelihood never be built. After a prolonged discussion it was decided to cable to the Jewish Agency in Palestine, urging that the Agency finance the Palestine Pavilion through the Keren Hayesod, its American fiscal agent.

The meeting empowered the President to draft a message of encouragement to be addressed to Dr. Weizmann and the Yishub, in behalf of the Z.O.A.

Authorization was given to the Secretary to begin negotiations for the 1939 Convention, and arrange for the holding of a session at the World's Fair Grounds.

The proposal of the President that the Z.O.A. issue a Quarterly devoted to Zionist letters and documents of a historical and permanent character, was approved by the meeting. The tentative name of the Quarterly is to be "Zionist Affairs".

The second meeting of the Executive was held on Thursday, August 11. The principal item on the agenda was the matter of the Palestine Defense Fund. It was felt that since no large-scale emergency campaign throughout the United States was possible in August or early in September, action be taken by all Zionist organizations along the lines of the Mifdei Hazoni Fund, as approved by the Actions Committee, calling upon all Zionists for a contribution to this Fund.

The meeting also decided to cable to the Executive in London, calling attention to the fact that the Jews of this country were very much concerned over imminent execution of Mordecai Schwartz, and therefore urged that the Executive intercede in his behalf.

The third meeting took place on Monday, August 29th, and was devoted exclusively to the consideration of the question of Security and Defense Funds. It was reported that appeals were being made by (1) the Voad Bitchon, which, in a quiet way, had succeeded in raising over \$30,000, mostly from individuals. (2) The Emergency Campaign in the Jewish Morning Journal, which was originated by the Mizrachi in an effort to reach the Orthodox Jews of New York City, particularly during the High Holidays. (3) The Emergency Campaign in The Day, launched by the Poale-Zion. It was recommended that the Voad Bitchon discontinue all public, semi-public or nation-wide activities such as it had undertaken in the last few weeks, and continue along the lines originally adopted. The Poale Zion, it was reported, would definitely discontinue its campaign in The Day by the 10th of September, and that the Mizrachi campaign in the Morning Journal would end with the High Holidays. In order that the next U.P.A. campaign be not interfered with, it was decided that all emergency fund campaigns terminate as quickly as possible.

The fourth meeting of the Executive was held on Wednesday, September 14th. Dr. Goldman, Mr. Margulies and Mr. Montor reported at length on their visits to Palestine and Antwerp. The following motion was unanimously adopted: "On the basis of reports on the Palestine situation, submitted by the President and Secretary to the Executive of the Zionist Organization of America, it was resolved to recommend to the United Palestine Appeal, as the fund-raising instrument of the Keren Hayesod and Keren Kayemeth, to initiate an emergency conference to which all Zionist groups and Palestine fund-raising agencies would be invited for the purpose of discussing and adopting a program for enlarged fund-raising for Palestine."

It was decided that (1) on the occasion of the High Holidays a statement be issued by the President of the Z.O.A. to the Jewish Leaders of America; and (2) that national radio broadcasts be arranged to discuss the present Jewish situation.

Mr. Elihu D. Stone called attention to the fact that an Administrative Committee had not yet been organized. He pointed out that at the last Convention, because of the lateness of the hour, the Chairman of the Nominations Committee was unable to present the names of the Administrative Committee. Inasmuch as the names were not presented to the Convention, the Convention voted to delegate its authority to the Executive, with the instruction that the new Executive at its first meeting should name the Administrative Committee.

Following a lengthy discussion the following motions were unanimously adopted: (1) That a Committee be appointed to examine the minutes of the last Convention and present its report to the next meeting of the Executive, for the purpose of confirming or rejecting the Administrative Committee list; and (2) That the President appoint a Committee of this body to help him bring before the next meeting of the Executive a program of organization for the coming year.

(To implement the second resolution, Dr. Goldman appointed a Committee consisting of Messrs. Dr. James G. Heller, Chairman, A.H. Friedland, Robert Szold, Louis Lipsky, Dr. Elmer L. Israel, Charles Rees, and Mr. I. Siegel. However, due to the Palestine emergency situation, this Committee had not had an opportunity to meet and prepare a plan. The Committee was instructed to do so prior to the next meeting of the Executive.)

The fifth meeting held on Wednesday, October 12, was devoted almost entirely to the Palestine emergency situation. Reports were submitted by Dr. Goldman, Mr. Lipsky and Mr. Margulies on what had been done from the National Office; the out-of-town members reported on action taken by their localities.

(Subsequent to this meeting of the Executive, a number of meetings of the Emergency Committee on Palestine were held consisting of representatives of all groups and organizations in Jewish life, which Committee conducted and directed the various steps taken in connection with the prevailing emergency situation, and with which effort all are thoroughly conversant.)

The Committee which the President had appointed to consider the proposed list of Administrative Committee appointees, namely, Messrs. Charles Rees, Chairman, Elihu D. Stone, Mr. I. Siegel, Louis P. Rucker and Carl Sherman, reported that the list of Administrative Committee members was carefully prepared at Detroit, but was not read; it was therefore proposed that the entire list, together with certain additions that would have to be made, should be ratified. Mr. Rees moved that the list which appeared in The New Palestine, following the Convention, which was the list drawn up in Detroit, together with the additional names the Committee had approved, be considered the Administrative Committee. This motion was unanimously adopted.

The sixth meeting of the Executive was held on Thursday evening, December 1. Reports on the Actions Committee meeting in London were presented by Mr. Goldberg and Rabbi Miller. These reports were supplemented by Mr. Lipsky, Dr. Nahum Goldmann and Dr. Solomon Goldman with statements on meetings and conferences that were held following the adjournment of the Actions Committee.

The reports and the lengthy discussions which ensued were crystallized in the following decisions: (1) That to the next meeting of the U.P.A. Administrative Committee there be invited representatives from communities throughout the United States, whose influence may be helpful both in independent money-raising campaigns as well as Welfare Chests efforts; and that in advance of that meeting there be prepared a draft of a call to be issued to the Jews of America, outlining the service Palestine is prepared to render in the present crisis. Mr. Montor was directed to convey to Rabbi Silver, the head of the U.P.A. the sense of this resolution. (2) That the President be authorized to name a Committee of five to pass on routine organizational matters between meetings of the

Executive. (3) That the next meeting of the Executive be held on Wednesday evening, December 21st. (4) That on the morning of December 21st, prior to the meeting of the Executive, a meeting be convened of the Committee named by the President for the purpose of study, amendment, elaboration and ratification of the President's plan for organizing this year's Z.O.A. work. The Committee is to submit its report to the meeting of the Executive scheduled for that evening.

The Secretary supplemented his report on the Executive meeting with a report on membership. He stated that we had received in membership dues for the current year, that is, from October 1 to November 30, 1938, \$19,526.05. For the same period last year we received \$11,285.55 thus indicating an increase this year for that two-month period, of \$1,340.50. We have enrolled for the current fiscal year 7,836, as against 3,648 for the same period last year, showing an increase of 4,188 members. Among these 7,836 that have registered for the current year, there are 4,147 new members. The total membership, therefore, of the Z.O.A. as of November 30, 1938 is 33,146 -- the largest on record.

The Secretary further reported that in connection with an effort to overcome the \$35,000 deficit that the Z.O.A. was facing, it was decided by a group of friends, initiated by the Finance Committee, to arrange for a Goldman Fund, which was inaugurated at the dinner tendered to Dr. Goldman upon his return from Europe and Palestine, last summer. Thus far there has been pledged towards that fund \$14,980 and received in cash \$6,647. With the exception of \$890, these contributions came from New York. At a dinner in Cleveland about \$6,000 was pledged and most of it was collected; also in Chicago a dinner was tendered to Dr. Goldman where quite a large sum of money was pledged, but we have no direct reports from these two communities or other communities. A detailed report of the Goldman Fund is herewith attached.

Mr. Goldman added that a detailed report of the Emergency Fund activities will be submitted at the Sunday morning (Dec. 4) session of the Administrative Committee.

Mr. Rabalsky moved, and it was seconded and unanimously carried

THAT the report of the Secretary be accepted and adopted.

REPORTS ON ACTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING:

The Chairman called upon Dr. Israel Goldstein to present his report on the Actions Committee meeting.

DR. GOLDSTEIN'S REPORT:

Dr. Goldstein reported as follows:

The important things that stand out in retrospect are :First, the reaction to the report of the Woodhead Commission. That report was issued upon the arrival of the American members of the Actions Committee. Dr. Weizmann was very much depressed. He looked worn-down-hearted, and when asked whether he had not anticipated the contents of this report, he said while he had anticipated its gist, he had not anticipated its cold, cynical, heartless tone.

He also had not anticipated the cool reaction of the press in London. This report cannot be spoken of in the same breath as the Peel Report. It lacks the majesty and the sympathy and understanding which characterize a good deal of the Peel Report.

Both the Partionists and the anti-Partitionists in the Actions Committee were depressed and despondent, with the exception possibly of Ussishkin. We all envied him. He seemed very much relieved and not unduly troubled about the future. But we all realized, as Dr. Weizmann made clear, that the abandonment of partition by the Government in its statement upon the report was not due to the objections of the Jewish anti-Partitionists. We realize that the report was a concession not only to the Arab opposition, but -- what was even more troubling to us -- a concession to those who stood behind the Arabs-- the masters of Munich, who loathe to see the dignity and prestige which a Jewish State would bring to the Jewish People. The only consolation is the way in which the report makes clear how much the whole financial structure of Palestine depends upon the Yishub; -- that the Jews in Palestine are the only vital and economic factor. That was by implication a compliment to us. But the conclusions drawn from that were, of course, indefensible.

The question of partition of the Jewish State did not occupy a very prominent part of the Actions Committee proceedings, although it was referred to every now and then. It seemed to be lingering in the minds and in the hearts of many who were there.

The meetings of the Actions Committee were concerned chiefly with an analysis of our whole Zionist position, and with a discussion of our attitude with regard to the conference to be called by the Government. Rarely has there been a meeting of an Actions Committee so frank, realistic, self-searching and almost brutally self-sacrificing. There had been a number of very understanding speeches about the present and the future of our movement. We were impressed with the negative factors of world-wide scope, -- the fact that democracies are retreating before Fascism and therefore the position of the Jewish People cannot be any more certain than the position of the democracies themselves; -- the fact that the question of who would control the Mediterranean would have to do with what would be our position in Palestine.

Dwelling upon the unfavorable phases of the situation, the speaker said that due to the discussion of the negative points, some of us thought at the beginning that the effect of all that might be dampening and disheartening, but actually it was not so, because upon the realization that we were dealing with these problems frankly and honestly, we were in a position to receive with all the greater assurance and confidence the positive side of the picture which followed. The positive side of the picture consists of the fact that the Mandate still stands and immigration still goes on; -- of the fact that the Yishub itself is a political factor to labor against, for the very presence of 400,000 Jews is a tremendous factor which the Government cannot completely ignore in any disposition of that question; -- the fact that there are still some powerful nations that can be appealed to in the name of humanity. These positive elements helped to bring some reassurance that our cause, as the years go on, may develop as we hope it shall.

With regard to the conference of Jews and Arabs, the official stand that has been taken by the Agency and ratified by the Actions Committee is known.

Upon the proposal of these conferences, there was not very much optimism. Many doubted whether the Government would find a basis for calling such a conference between Jews and Arabs. Others doubted whether, if such a conference were held, there could be any agreement that could be a constructive step forward; and all felt the determining factor in making these conferences successful would have to be the attitude of Government itself. If the Government would take the position that it is merely a neutral chairman, to hold the scales evenly between the two sides, very little would happen, but if the Government would make clear its own attitude as an expression of the majority of those who spoke in Parliament, then the moderates among the Arabs would be able to listen to reason, and something worthwhile would come out of these conferences.

The meetings of the Actions Committee made clear to all of us where we stand with reference to our work. For the American members they had a very important purpose in bringing us into contact with the Palestinians. These men and women from Eretz Israel are absolutely remarkable, and no matter how much may be said about them, it is an under-statement. To think what they did for the Kofar Hayishub! How women helped with their wedding rings and children were ready to give up their mid-day meals, and how men and women volunteered to give up 15 and 20% of their meagre incomes! We were enthralled and at the same time ashamed of ourselves. The meetings of the Actions Committee resulted in the adoption of a budget of £5,000,000 for the coming year. It is the budget of the Keren Hayesod, and the Jewish Agency that is responsible for the maintenance of our position in these precarious times. And we were charged with the responsibility of impressing upon the American Zionists the importance of making good that budget.

For the immediate future, the general feeling was that we face a period of suspense and indecision. The arrangement of the conferences will take time-- months will elapse. Then the Government will have to adopt its policy, and that will take time. The Government, at the present moment, it was thought, has no idea what its policy is going to be after these conferences, and it may very well be that for the next twelve or eighteen months there will be a condition of suspense, during which, however, the Mandate remains, immigration goes on at its present restricted rate and may, under the pressure of the German situation, be increased.

During these months of suspense and indecision we have an opportunity of doing positive work in the consolidation of the Yishub, in the strengthening of its position, in the increase of its power for defense, in the purchase of land, which is available in large quantities. Ussischkin reported that there are vast areas throughout Palestine, from North to South, which can be acquired now by the Jewish National Fund, areas involving an outlay of \$6,000,000-- which would give us an additional 25% on our land holdings. And we left with the conviction that we have work to do and that we have an opportunity that will count in the ultimate disposition of Palestine's future. That impression we must now convey to the whole of American Jewry. This is a time for a new kind of action, far greater than anything that has preceded, and we, the American Zionists, are charged with becoming the Actions Committee -- the Committee of Action. Let us act to safeguard the future of our Homeland.

RABBI IRVING MILLER:

The Actions Committee formulated no new policies. It uttered or gave expression to no new slogan in Zionism. And yet, if ever an Actions Committee justified its sessions, this meeting in London did just that. It is well worthwhile considering that this Actions Committee meeting was convened the day after one of the greatest upheavals in Jewish life. It met two days after the publication of a report of a Commission, this time colder, more cynical, more misinformed on the relationship between Zionism and the problem of the Jewish People than any other report; and then the news broke upon us of what was transpiring in Germany and in the light of these two disturbing events, the Actions Committee met. That that group of Jews did not surrender to despair, did not engage in a spirit of defeatism, but immediately got down to business, was the most remarkable indication of the fact that the only movement that has a program in Jewish life today is the Zionist movement. That was the most significant aspect of the Actions Committee meeting. It stood the acid test. It came together at one of the turning-points in Jewish life, and it met the test by going forth with a program. The address that gave the most graphic indication of that spirit was that of Baratz. He told us four or five stories from Palestine. That was his whole speech. He spoke to us of a celebration in Kinnereth, of the men who gave the country three sons and asked what else he could do. No words made the impression on us that these words made, and no words implied a program for action as these words implied, because they said: 'The position that we have achieved in Palestine will not be disturbed; the position that we have in Palestine cannot be shaken by any reports of Governments; and above all, the position that we have achieved in Palestine is the only answer to what has happened in Germany. There in Palestine we have already prepared a home for exactly the homeless ones made homeless by what happened in Germany on November 10th.' That was the entire tone of the meeting of the Actions Committee. It spoke to the Jewish world and to the non-Jewish world, and said: 'Here we have a position; in that position we have rights that have been given to us by Great Britain, that have been recognized by the League of Nations, that have been confirmed by the United States. Those rights are the battle-front on which we are still waging our battle, and those rights are the spearhead even of the conflict between the democratic countries and the Fascist countries.' It becomes clearer to us that our rights in Palestine are in a certain measure our last safeguard for our rights in the world generally, that our status in the world and in the Diaspora is going to depend more and more upon the maintenance of our rights in Palestine. The rights that have been given to us in Palestine have not yet lost; and every day that immigration is not yet closed down in Palestine, our rights still stand.

On that note the Actions Committee concentrated throughout its sessions, and on that note it adjourned, with this appeal to the Jewish People. In the final analysis, that is our program: holding on to these rights. These rights are going to be challenged from without by the negotiations with the Arabs, by the pressure from Germany and Italy, by the indifference of Great Britain, when Palestine is prepared and eager to take in 1,000,000 Jews. But we are going to be challenged from within also, by those among us who are going to be deluded in their enthusiasm and sincere desire to do something for the refugees by turning to other quarters, by believing the propaganda that is being created in some quarters that Palestine cannot solve the refugee problem. We Zionists must understand that there, too, is our challenge in Palestine. Our program must be to hold on to these rights.

Our duty, our solemn obligation, our only justification for our Zionism and for our Judaism today is to be ready for the day when our rights for Palestine will be declared anew; that day we ought to own land in Palestine in greater measure than we have today. We must mobilize. Our mobilization takes the form of more land and more settlements in Palestine. The mobilization is in our hands until the decision will come. The Actions Committee meeting at this juncture in Jewish life, issued this call: If not now, God knows when; but this is the time when we can do it; and this is the purpose to which every Zionist must consecrate himself at this time.

MR. ABRAHAM GOLDBERG:

We went to this Actions Committee meeting knowing what to expect. We expected the Woodhead Report, but at the same time we knew that the British were not the same we left seven months ago, and that the French were not the same; that these two democracies were on the down grade. We went to the Actions Committee meeting not in the expectation of getting much. The air was filled with a great fear.

When we came there, what occurred in Germany was before our eyes. We found a great deal of sympathy, but no relief. Everybody wondered what would happen next. The sympathy of the Government was not ignited into action. When Dr. Weizmann told us he had knocked at the door of every leader, we anticipated the answer with regard to Palestine. They were afraid of the Arabs.

Soon there came about a change in the atmosphere. We found out that the English people were sympathetic towards us and as soon as we felt that England is not morally bankrupt we felt different -- the situation cleared up. We felt that the main leaders of public opinion in England were aroused and it would not be easy for them to close the doors of Palestine to Jewish refugees; we felt that the pressure from America would bring about a different attitude even on the part of Chamberlain.

I went away from this Actions Committee meeting very much satisfied; I was elated with the speeches and the atmosphere permeating the sessions. When Shertok gave us the background of the Yishuv in Palestine, we felt able to ignore the Woodhead Report.

On Saturday night we knew we had a program. At the end of the meeting certain things developed of the utmost importance, for members of Parliament had let us know that they were not going to stand by this decision and would do all in their power to bring about what we had hoped for. Other territories may be good or bad -- may be necessary or not; some say it may be a mistake that we fail to prepare some other outlet -- but at the moment there is no other country that can take in 100,000 refugees. The British Government says that we must look for other countries and should agree for the moment to a minimum of immigration. We informed them that this year we can take in 100,000 immigrants. We told them that we could definitely take in 10,000 children. This shows what preparation means.

We felt at the Actions Committee meeting that we had not lost -- that as long as we have a country, the program will come of itself. The Arabs cannot be rehabilitated without the assistance of Jews. In other words, if we help ourselves, they will be helped. Many of the Arabs are beginning to feel that they can be helped only by the Jews. Land can be purchased at very reasonable prices now.

The Arab-Jewish Conference is very important. We must go. The fact that the non-Palestinian Governments have been invited is also very important to us. They need Britain; without Britain they are at a loss; and these people want to live amicably with Great Britain. The only factor against this coming together is what happened in Palestine. Even this Conference in the long run is bound to produce good results.

We left the Actions Committee meeting with the feeling that we have an immediate program. Winterton has admitted that there is a possibility, before the conference, that the doors will be opened much wider. Pressure will come because of the fact that we want to take in 100,000. We must buy more land at this time because we have a chance to buy it. We must bring in as many immigrants into Palestine as possible. We must strengthen our defense. We must bring to the Jewish people the necessity of helping these very valient men and women and defend our position in Palestine.

This Actions Committee meeting helped us to come back with the assurance that our work continues from day to day, and if we succeed in mobilizing our people behind the Yishuv we will again have an opportunity to discuss the question of a Jewish State and with much wider boundaries than have ever been offered. We must work towards the goal that the Jewish State become a fact.

The Chairman read telegrams received from Dr. Stephen S. Wise and from Hon. Elihu D. Stone, regretting their inability to attend the meeting of the Administrative Committee.

The Chairman stated that subsequent to the closing of the Actions Committee meeting Mr. Lipsky and Ir. Goldman stayed over in London for additional conferences. He called upon Mr. Lipsky to report on what happened subsequent to the meeting of the Actions Committee and what occurred at the conferences and meetings which took place after the Actions Committee meeting.

MR. LIPSKY'S REPORT:

Dr. Goldman and I came to London practically after the meeting of the Actions Committee had taken place. We found most of the members already in the turmoil of the general discussion about the resolutions that were to be adopted. So that, for all practical purposes, he and I were not present at the Actions Committee meeting. What is important for this meeting of the Administrative Committee is not only to hear descriptions of the meetings held in London, but also to get some idea of how these things affect the work that they are called upon to do.

I was on the boat coming back from Antwerp at the time Hitler's speech was delivered in connection with Prague. We can take that as the starting point when things began to happen for us. If Prague fell, it was the general impression throughout the world that something would happen with regard to Jerusalem. If Prague fell, and the democracies abandoned that outpost, what would happen when England came to consider the Woodhead Commission's Report?

Could everything go further in the direction of Munich? Or would England draw back? That was the cause of the action taken in the United States in connection with the protest. When we were informed that the England Government was going in the direction of Munich, we launched in the United States the protest against throwing Palestine into the same waste basket in which Czechoslovakia was thrown. The members of the Actions Committee in London were all made aware of the fact. It can be said with a degree of satisfaction that the action taken in the United States in connection with that matter; the protest that was organized all through the United States, which registered the first outpouring of American sentiment with regard to the Jewish cause, helped to stimulate the later action taken in connection with Germany on the part of the American population.

The effect in London of our protest had a visible result in the position of the Government, and although the Government threw aside the Woodhead Report, and when approached, refused actual satisfaction to the Zionist representatives, nevertheless, by the issuing of the immigration schedule, indicated that it was not going in the direction of Munich, but it was considering, and in a moral confusion, decided to repeat what it had done six months before. The fact that it repeated it indicated that the English Government had stopped; it was not going further with Munich.

The repercussion from the outside had an impression on the Actions Committee meeting; -- it practically paralyzed Weizmann's speech. How could he speak of anything that had to do with Jewish affairs in the face of what was happening in Germany? His words were emotional. The Actions Committee in London, which numbers seventy by now, is almost a Congress. The Actions Committee has included in it large numbers of Jews from Palestine. With regard to their attitude, everyone of them was eager to know how we were going to act in America to help in maintaining the position of the Jews in Palestine.

It was the business of Dr. Goldman and myself to register in London on behalf of the American Committee the fact that America was substantially behind the protest, and I think we made some impression upon Mr. MacDonald, although he did not need it, because he had been receiving regular reports from Mr. Kennedy. All of England feels America today more keenly than ever before. There is nothing on this earth that has more sense and meaning to England than the friendship of America, and whatever may happen in the United States, the English Government is highly sensitized to what is going on here.

The position with regard to our own affairs is very simple. The Palestinians are beginning to think less and less of these political trickeries that are going on in the world. It never seemed more ludicrous to give a reasoned reply to any report than to the Woodhead Report. The important thing for us to do, so far as Palestine is concerned, is to provide.

We who are the workers understand the sum total of all things done at London -- with regard to the Actions Committee meeting -- the resolutions adopted -- the statements gotten out addressed to the English people, the statement addressed to the Jewish people, and other statements in Hebrew and English. We now have to consider the practical side of the situation which has to do with the United States. So far as the Yishuv is concerned, and so far as the political conditions are concerned, we ought not to be wasting much of our time in getting into complicated discussions over them. The

Conference is not going to be an Arab-Jewish Conference. The Government is going to have a conference with Arabs and then with the Jews, and they will find out what each one thinks, and then they will try to reconcile them and present a draft to each one. Then they may come to the conclusion that there is nothing in common, or that there is something in common; and by that time the Arabs may reach a way of doing things without going to 10 Downing Street. We ourselves would be greatly encouraged because many Zionists are under the impression that the Arab opposition is a very substantial affair.

So far as the Jews of Palestine are concerned, they are something we can depend upon, and their position is dependent upon us; and the very realistic thing which faces us is the situation in the United States, and probably in England, in Canada and in many other countries. How we are going to get the money here in the United States is a very serious problem. What has happened in Germany stirs us as much as it stirs anybody else. We cannot separate ourselves from that feeling. Every day more land is being occupied by Hitler; every day more land is being occupied by the Nazis. Every day the Jews of Europe find themselves in a closed wall, and we ourselves are implicated in the whole action. And what is going on in London? At the time when the representatives of British Jewry, headed by Viscount Samuel, issued a statement in regard to the refugee situation, they left out all reference to Palestine; and when Dr. Weizmann refused to sign it, they included two words: 'including Palestine'. We are in great danger of having a situation created for us whereby much of the real deep sympathy with the situation will be greatly affected by these sorts of appeals, and we have to find a way to reconcile what every Jew in the world wants to do. It is not a very easy thing here in the United States to find a place. But that place we have to find, without disturbing the unity which has been established in the United States. The Keren Hayesod requires \$5,000,000; it could use more. The National Fund requires \$5,000,000; it could use more. There is a tremendous amount of work we have to do here, in order to prove with sense and with good feeling that the building of the Jewish National Home is an essential feature of the relief. When our friends undertake to begin proposing territories to be settled; when they begin to talk of undertaking large-scale colonization; when they begin to talk of creating a counter-way to Palestine -- we can prove, without any great difficulty, that Palestine represents a less formidable obstacle in the way of our endeavors. Even the political difficulties can be overcome by a mass demonstration of Jewish resources. The very same confusion that makes it impossible for England to decide between Arabs and Jews -- not having the strength to decide -- that very same vacillation can be used by an organized American Jewish community to force the doors of Palestine open more quickly. You can feel it in the air in Palestine.

All Jewry must be united in order that that door which is being kept closed should be opened by the pressure which should be brought to bear by a humanitarian sentiment backing up the Jews in their demand for this release from their intolerable position. No one will say that if a land can be occupied by such men and women, having created in so few years what they have created, and that land is ready tomorrow -- they already have a register of homes that are prepared to take 10,000 children, immediately, and other groups will take care of many other thousands -- that is going to do any good to anybody to have the Jews scattered. Here is a place where, the stronger it becomes, the stronger Jewry becomes. This fact is represented by a community ready and

willing to build itself up, and asks only for the re-enforcement of men and women to make it strong.

Each one of us should go back to his community and make a distinction between relief and colonization -- between relief and Palestine -- for after relief there must come some settlement of the people who require relief. The J.D.C. is going to do the necessary work of taking 1,000 people finding themselves on the Czechoslovakian frontier, another thousand on another frontier; but after they give this relief they must consider what they are going to do with these victims of relief, and in that situation, it is our business for the first time really to make an earnest endeavor to put Zionism into the Jewish communities of this country.

We are in a position to say in advance, with an accountant's accuracy, with an economist's accuracy: 'Palestine can take in 100,000 Jews within twelve months'. And what stands in the way? A lot of illusions, false impressions, words with regard to the Arabs, words with regard to the Belfour Declaration -- words stand in the way of 100,000 people moving into Palestine. There is nothing in the way except these words. The English Government has swallowed many of its own words; and the Arabs use words only to make obstacles, and they can be removed. There is nothing in the way of 100,000 Jews getting into Palestine this year.

Doubt has been expressed whether the Zionists fight in the Welfare Chests; not being provided with the necessary arguments, they let things go by the board, and in many communities the prevailing sentiment controls the whole city in which there are thousands of Zionists. It is a very important thing that this Administrative Committee, having a membership representing Zionists all over the country, should become the agents at this critical time. If we do not maintain our position at this time, then we pass up a whole decade. That which was built up will become a sort of petrification, and one of the grandest efforts made by Jews will be lost. It is up to us.

In England, the Zionists are remarkably able. In South Africa, the Jews do a volume of good for the Zionist movement that puts us to shame. In this country, even where we achieved financial success, in many cases the Zionists themselves are the most remiss. This situation has to be changed, and we know from experience that the Zionists have never changed under normal conditions. This is the emergency!

The Chairman stated that we are in a situation very similar today to the one we met in Philadelphia a few years ago, when the Crimean situation took place. Here is a situation which requires of us the use of tact and of good sense, and talking to these people along the lines that have been indicated today. Mr. Lipsky is correct again -- said the Chairman -- when he said that in so many cities, particularly the Chest cities, where the Zionists who are active in the campaigns are frequently overwhelmed by the so-called non-Zionist opinion because we are not as informed as we ought to be. What we need is merely to point out the factual condition; the facts speak louder than any theorizing on the part of any Zionist or non-Zionist.

Judge Lewis then called for discussion on the reports presented.

DISCUSSION:

Rabbi Miller stated that he frequently heard remarks on the part of many members of the Administrative Committee to the effect that this Administrative Committee is not given an opportunity to do some constructive work in the Zionist Organization. He pointed out, therefore, that the Administrative Committee has the greatest opportunity that it ever had to come to the rescue of the Zionist movement at this time.

Rabbi Miller felt that we must have a program. We need a certain amount of money, and if that certain amount of money involves sixty percent or forty percent does not interest us in the slightest; we must carry through a program. The U.P.A. is not the policy-making body of the Zionist Organization; this Administrative Committee is the policy-making body in this country. What the Zionist work in this country shall be; what we shall appeal for to American Jewry, and how much money we need in the interest of Palestine is for us to decide, in connection with other Zionist bodies. The Z.O.A. Administrative Committee should at least be true to its own function, and because of the fact that we will not have another meeting of the Administrative Committee before the National Conference in Washington, we must come out with a concrete statement. We can speak of definite immigration possibilities; so far we have 12,000--1,000 a month. Surely the schools will be made broader, but so far no country has come forth with 12,000.

Rabbi Miller suggested that is the business of this Administrative Committee to appoint a committee to present for the consideration of this body, a conceived and well planned resolution that will embody the needs of Palestine, the amount that we need, the projects for which these monies will be put forth; and through this Administrative Committee issue that call to the United Palestine Appeal and to the American Jewish people. When the Administrative Committee of the U.P.A. will meet Thursday night, December 8th, it should have such a resolution before it.

The Chairman formulated Rabbi Miller's suggestion in the following motion:

THAT a Committee of seven or nine members of the Administrative Committee of the Z.O.A. be appointed to draft a resolution to be submitted to the meeting of the Administrative Committee at its Sunday morning (Dec.4) session, for the purpose of notifying or telling the United Palestine Appeal the attitude of the Z.O.A. Administrative Committee with regard to the fund-raising project which it has undertaken.

The motion was seconded.

The Chairman stated that he intends to attend the meeting of the U.P.A. Administrative Committee. Since the fund-raising project is purely a matter for the U.P.A. -- and the Z.O.A. is very well represented on the U.P.A. Administrative Committee -- he did not think the Z.O.A. Administrative Committee ought to go out of its way to handle such matters, but ought merely to direct or make its recommendations to the U.P.A.

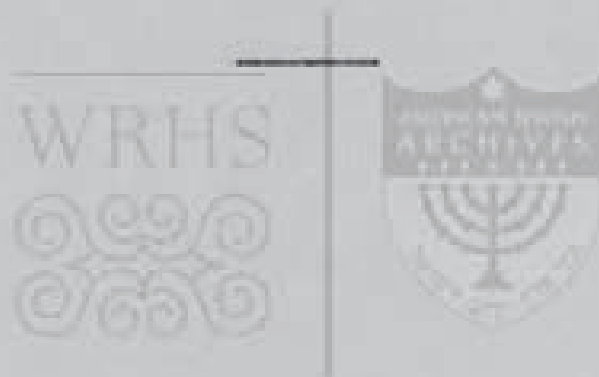
Judge Rothenberg thought it might be very helpful if a proper resolution were drawn, but he thought it is very important that the resolution, when drawn, should be one that will reflect the opinions not only of those who are present at this meeting of the Administrative Committee, but of all those who are prominent

in the leadership of the United Palestine Appeal, because these leaders are meeting with the J.D.C. Very important negotiations are now going on between the U.P.A. and the J.D.C., and what they are going to do is related to what we are going to do. Dr. Wise, Dr. Silver, and other national leaders must participate in the formulation of that resolution, otherwise it may be hurtful than beneficial.

The original motion as formulated by Judge Lewis was unanimously carried.

After a lengthy discussion as to how the resolution is to be formulated in which Judge Rothenberg, Louis Lipsky, Rabbi Miller, Simon Shetzer and Rabbi Goldstein, participated, the Chairman appointed the following Committee to deal with the matter of drafting a resolution to be presented to the Dec. 8th meeting of the U.P.A. Administrative Committee which will reflect the attitude of the J.O.A. Administrative Committee on the fund raising plan - Louis Lipsky, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Rabbi Irving Miller, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Dr. Harris J. Levine.

The meeting adjourned at 12 o'clock midnight -- until the following morning at 10:30 o'clock.



SECOND SESSION OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 4, 10:30 O'CLOCK

Judge Wm. M. Lewis, in The Chair.

The Chairman recalled that last evening a good deal of the discussion centered around the reports of the proceedings of the Actions Committee, and stated that during the discussion on those reports he got the feeling and the impression that we were talking more with reference to the U.P.A. rather than what we here, as members of the Administrative Committee, should do to strengthen the Zionist Organization, as such. In the last analysis, he pointed out, the Administrative Committee is the Zionist body which ought to have charge of things which have to do with the propagation of the Zionist idea throughout the country. At the moment, there is no more important Zionist business that the Administrative Committee can consider than that of increasing membership. He thought, therefore, that it would be well to get an expression of opinion from the floor with regard to what the Administrative Committee should do by way of issuing a call and appointing a special committee for making an appeal for Zionist members. He pointed out that at no time was the situation from the point of view of acquiring new members in the Zionist Organization as favorable as it is now. He then called upon members of the Administrative Committee from various communities to report what is being done locally and to give an expression of opinion as to what they think the Administrative Committee as such can do towards implementing the work of increasing the enrollment of the Zionist Organization.

Mr. Greenberg (of the Bronx, N.Y.) stated that while it is gratifying to hear that the Z.O.A. has todate increased its membership by 4,000, over the same period last year, nevertheless, if we do not enroll 100,000 members by the end of this fiscal year, we will be a failure as an organization. He suggested that the masses of American Jewry all over the country be appealed to and encouraged to join the organization at a special membership fee of \$1.00 or \$2.00 per annum.

Mr. Margulies stated that it would be a great mistake to allow this fine meeting to disintegrate into something that will be of no value and bring no results. He pointed out that the Z.O.A. has certain rules, regulations, a Constitution, and even precedent, and we cannot just consider ourselves as sort of a rump proposition, where we can adopt rules de nouveau. That the Chairman suggested at the beginning of this meeting was that we build the organization and not merely get in members and names from various other organizations. An opportunity will be given to Zionists to show numerical strength of that type when the Shekel Campaign is initiated for the current year. At the present, we are concerned with our members in good standing, members of the organization, members of the Districts and Regions. In order to acquire that sort of a membership the minimum fee is \$5.00; -- \$1.00 (as suggested by Mr. Greenberg) would be of no consideration whatsoever. We have to include in the membership fee the shekel of 50¢; the District get \$1.00; the Region gets \$1.00; the national organization get \$1.00; the balance covers the cost of the publication and other propaganda expenses. Mr. Margulies urged, therefore, that the discussion be confined within the realm permitted us by the Constitution of the Z.O.A.

Dr. Feldman (of Philadelphia, Pa.) felt that the main difficulty in the way of securing members for the organization lies in the lack of propaganda material or literature which indicates concretely that although a man may be a Zionist in the sense that he contributes to funds for the upbuilding of Palestine, what the Zionist Organization of America actually needs is man power, in the form of registered individual Zionists, for it is the numerical strength of the organization that is most essential in the face of a political crisis. He urged that literature of this type be prepared by the Committee on Propaganda.

Mr. David Berenstein (of St. Louis, Mo.) called attention to the fact that the St. Louis Zionist District charges \$6.00 membership dues, and has succeeded in increasing its membership from 500 to 1100 last year, and proposes to double that number this year. He pointed out that the Bnei Brith has 90,000 members at \$12.00 per annum. The Bnei Brith sells its membership proposition by speaking of the wider scope, while the wider scope is actually something entirely apart from the membership dues. On the other hand, the Zionist Organization of America has potent selling points on which to "sell" Zionism, namely, what we have built up in Palestine. Mr. Berenstein added that what he was primarily concerned about is the lack of coordination among ourselves. There are various agencies in the Zionist movement, pulling in different directions. He offered the following recommendations with a view to helping the membership situation: (1) that a Coordinating Committee be set up; (2) that the Z.O.A. be regarded as the central authority and the District heads be regarded as the central authority in their respective communities; (3) that in connection with the membership campaigns, men be engaged whose business will be nothing else but building up a strong and powerful organization.

This work must be done intensively and the District leadership should not allow themselves to be burdened with the activities of all other Zionist institutions. The Zionist Organization has been doing all the work and must now change its policy.

Judge Nathan Sweedler (Brooklyn, N.Y.) expressed his agreement with Mr. Berenstein in the matter of lack of coordination. He pointed out that there is also a lack of cooperation in some sections, and urged that the first thing the Administrative Committee should do is to administer. He called attention to the Brooklyn situation, pointing out that Brooklyn has a Jewish population of one million and the possibilities of a Zionist membership of five to ten thousand.

Mr. Dewey D. Stone (of Taunton, Mass.) stated that he makes it a point always to carry a membership receipt booklet with him. In the effort to get new members, he said, he was anxious to ascertain what arguments on behalf of Zionism proved most effective, and he found that the use of Justice Brandeis' name -- calling the attention of non-members to the fact that Justice Brandeis is an ardent Zionist -- proved most helpful. Mr. Stone suggested therefore -- although the statement issued by Justice Brandeis in 1915 is still timely -- that if a new statement could be gotten from him, it would help greatly in securing new members for the organization.

Mr. Weinstein (of Long Island) Chairman of the local Membership Committee, reported that their membership is approximately 1500 at this time and the goal set at a recent meeting was 3,000. Each District in his Region is given a quota to fill. He spoke also of the fine work being done in the Laurelton Zionist District, which he felt was due largely to the educational program adopted by that District. Through this educational program, it has recently succeeded in enrolling the entire membership of the Laurelton Jewish Center. Mr. Weinstein suggested therefore that it would be most advisable everywhere first to educate the Jewish masses in Zionism, and then to follow up that educational campaign with a campaign for membership.

Rabbi Breslau (of Washington, D.C.) reported that his District had already enrolled over 450 new members, and has a total paid-up membership at the present time of over 650, as against 100 last year. This is due to the fact that Washington has been concentrating on membership. He proposed that the Administrative Committee recommend to the Executive that a special membership committee be established, which shall devote itself entirely to membership; and that capable persons be sent out to the various sections of the country whose sole duty should be securing members for the organization. Rabbi Breslau stressed the importance of "foot-work" in getting members. He felt that members must first be drawn into the movement and then educated. Once we get a member on our roll he will read The New Palestine, and this is the beginning of our program of education.

Mr. Schanzer (Brooklyn, N.Y.) stated that possibly Judge Sweedler misunderstood the spirit and the effect of some of the alleged lack of cooperation in the Brooklyn Region. Some of the members are working as zealously to obtain new members in the Zionist Organization outside the wing as inside of it. The great difficulty he found in increasing the membership of the organization was that every time a membership drive was started, Zionist leaders told us that we have got to wait for something, and so we have been delaying these membership campaigns until we have fallen to almost a negligible total in the organization. We have got to bear in mind that we are the soul and the heart and the spirit of the movement; and that we have given rise to the other organizations that have Zionist work to do. But if we do not concentrate on our membership drive to the exclusion of all other things, we are not going to get anywhere. With the campaign that we have now going on in Boro Park, which will no doubt be emulated elsewhere -- we are going to do a fine piece of work in the Boro of Brooklyn. If we just concentrate on getting members we will considerably increase the membership of the Z.O.A.

Mr. Leo Wilson (Bronx, N.Y.) suggested that for the duration of the membership campaign no Zionist meetings be held on Sundays, but that all Zionist leaders and workers devote every Sunday to the registration of members in the Zionist Organization.

Mr. Borowsky (Boro Park) endorsed the contention of previous speakers, that membership is merely a matter of foot-work. Last year Boro Park had about 150 members; today it has already 180 paid-up members, and nearly 700 prospective members listed on the books. He believed that by January or February Boro Park will have about 1,000 members. This is simply due to the fact that Boro Park capitalized the favorable sentiment created during recent weeks and got to work.

Referring to the situation in New York, Mr. Borowsky suggested that some provision be made whereby the Regions in New York City refund to the Districts a certain amount of money in order that the Districts in turn may be able to carry on their membership work.

Mr. Borowsky said further that the Administrative Committee cannot overlook the Zionist situation in Brooklyn. The Region is actually paralyzed. One District which was the largest last year has practically withdrawn for personal reasons. Considering the fact that Brooklyn has the largest Jewish population of any city in the United States, Mr. Borowsky urged that something be done to stabilize the Brooklyn Zionist Region.

Mr. Borowsky thereupon suggested that a Committee be appointed by the Chairman to make a thorough investigation and study of the Brooklyn Zionist situation. If we work hard in Brooklyn we have a chance of quadrupling our membership this year without question, because the sentiment is there; the men are there; -- but there is a serious hindrance because of certain local factors.

Mr. Krumbein stated that Brooklyn is the largest Jewish community and it is important. In view of the criticism of the Region that has been voiced, Mr. Krumbein urged that the Committee that is to be appointed consist of people from the national office of the Z.O.A.

The Chairman formulated the following motion in connection with the Brooklyn situation:

THAT a Committee be appointed for the purpose of straightening out and adjusting the situation that has arisen in the Brooklyn Zionist Region.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. A. Liebowitz (New York) spoke of the personal successful effort he had been making to enroll members, by writing letters to his friends in various cities and sending them Shkolim. However, some of the local Zionists in these cities have criticized him, feeling that his personal effort was interfering with the local drive for members. Mr. Liebowitz did not share this attitude, and felt that if he were permitted to continue this personal appeal, he could guarantee at least 250 new members from among his out-of-town friends.

The Chairman said he did not think that any District would have any objection to Mr. Liebowitz' securing members for the organization.

Mr. Inber (New York) moved

THAT between now and the next Convention of the Z.O.A. there be held at least three more meetings of the Administrative Committee of the Z.O.A.

The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Before proceeding to the next item of business, Rabbi Breslau urged that definite action be taken on the proposals made by Mr. Berenstein, himself, and others at this meeting, in connection with the matter of an enlarged membership in the Z.O.A.

Mr. Margulies informed Rabbi Breslau that this question is being considered by the Committee on the Organization of the year's work, appointed by Dr. Goldman; and that in the plan which Dr. Goldman has worked out and which is to be presented to the next meeting of the Executive scheduled for December 21st, one of the items provides for the establishment of a membership department. Mr. Margulies pointed out, however, that in the final analysis, even if a separate department or an additional department is set up, to be devoted exclusively to the promotion of membership work, the actual results will depend, as characterized by Rabbi Breslau and others, on shoe leather. No single individual or group of individuals will be able to do this work unless they have the cooperation of the individual members. We have been doing a certain kind of work in the last few years which has been showing the trend of the membership department. We must not lose sight of the fact that only a few years ago the membership of the Zionist Organization had gone down to 8,000; that is now over 33,000. This year, with the situation that exists throughout the Jewish world, we can treble it, and we can do so only if the members present here will be as conscious of the need of a large organization as some of those who have given expression to that need at this meeting.

Mr. Margulies added that he disagreed with Mr. Wilson's proposal to devote Sundays to membership work, for it is impractical and impossible. Mr. Margulies suggested, therefore, that the week of Chanukah be designated as "Membership Week" throughout the United States. However, Mr. Margulies pointed out, that is only a matter of publicity and has nothing to do with actual work.

Mr. Margulies said further that he has had evidence during the last few weeks indicative that we will show a marked improvement this year. Last week he met with the Chairmen and keymen of the New England Region. He believed the New England Region will this year treble its membership. He had a meeting in Connecticut four or five weeks ago, where he thought similar results will be achieved. In the State of New Jersey, where we have not a functioning Region, some improvement is visible in a number of places. Atlantic City has been growing by leaps and bounds under the very able leadership of Mr. Halbert. The same situation is apparent in Passaic and Paterson. Newark is the one city with which we have been having difficulty. The situation there is even more disappointing than it is in Brooklyn.

With regard to Brooklyn, Mr. Margulies believed it was very interesting to have this discussion here. He stated that he had convened a meeting only a week ago of all the Chairmen and keymen in Brooklyn, and over fifty people were present, representing every District and group in Brooklyn. Unfortunately, Mr. Borowsky could not be present, which is to be regretted.

Mr. Margulies reported further on his visit to New England, where they are trying to enroll one Zionist member for every Jewish soldier in Palestine. This is a rule worthy of emulation by every District and every Zionist Organization in America.

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time

It is important at this/particularly that the American public should be given a visualization of what Palestine represents and the possibilities for colonization, through the Palestine Pavilion. It is incumbent upon Zionists everywhere to throw themselves into the work. This is also an emergency and this emergency is directly tied up with our business. We have here an extraordinary opportunity. The non-Jewish public do not come to our meetings, and the non-Zionists do not come to our meetings, but it is quite possible that out of the sixty or seventy million people that will go the World's Fair, many of these people will visit the Palestine Pavilion. The Palestine Pavilion in all that it will contain will give a picture of the totality of Palestine that will really be amazing. The whole exhibit of the Palestine Pavilion is being built in Palestine, and we are spending a great part of our budget in Palestine. The Palestine Pavilion is giving employment to forty or fifty families in Palestine. Only the outer shell is being built here. The building is going on now; the steel frame is almost finished. The exhibit is almost three-fourths finished in Palestine. The only thing that is not complete is the matter of money. It is therefore important that the Zionists throughout the country should undertake the little that has been asked of them. The Zionist Districts have an opportunity to replenish their own financial resources by selling the booklets distributed by the Palestine Pavilion. The President of the Z.O.A. has just sent a letter to the Districts, setting quota for the Palestine Pavilion. It is therefore important that the Zionists should get a real understanding of what is behind the Palestine Pavilion. The deficit will be as large in direct proportion to the lack of activity on the part of Zionists.

Mr. Weisgal then answered a number of questions regarding the Palestine Pavilion. He said that the capital investment -- the cost of the exhibit, etc. -- was \$250,000. The total budget is \$325,000. The difference of \$75,000 represents the cost of maintenance of the Palestine Pavilion. There is also a reserve of \$30,000 in the budget to meet any emergency that may rise in connection with putting up the building. There is a Board of Directors consisting of representatives of the Z.O.A., Hadassah, the labor group, J.N.F. and Keren Hayesod. Mr. George Becker, the non-Zionist, is the President. Dr. Israel Goldstein is the Chairman of the Board. There is also a Finance Committee. It is expected that if the Zionists will work and do their job, the whole expense of the Palestine Pavilion will be covered through the sale of the booklets. St. Louis has done very well; it will give (outside of Hadassah) \$3500 in cash. A number of other communities are doing similarly. Brooklyn expects to give \$50,000. The Palestine Pavilion received a loan from the Keren Hayesod of \$75,000 which it has to repay every month. This is included in the budget of the Pavilion. The Palestine Pavilion has to liquidate up to the extent of \$25,000 by the time the Pavilion opens. The Keren Hayesod will have to be repaid \$28,000. The Palestine Pavilion has received thus far in cash and loans, \$135,000. Mr. Jacobi and Mr. Becker have underwritten \$20,000.

The meeting adjourned at 2 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS MARGULIES

SECRETARY

Z I O N I S T O R G A N I Z A T I O N O F A M E R I C A

A D M I N S T R A T I V E F U N D

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS

NOVEMBER 30TH, 1938

- 0 -

INDIVIDUALS:

Barney Balaban	\$1,000.00	
Cong. Shaare Torah of Flatbush	60.00	
<u>Thru Sol Cohen -</u>		
Davidson Bros., New York City.	\$200.00	
Burland Printing Co., Brooklyn	25.00	
District #33, Richmond Hill.	<u>50.00</u>	275.00
Harry P. Pierst.		25.00
George I. Fox.		5.00
Glen Oaks Golf Club (Thru-I.D.Lipkowitz)		500.00
Samuel Inselbach		25.00
Boris Margolin		150.00
Louis Posner		25.00
Louis Rimsky		150.00
Robinson & Sverdlik, New York City		100.00
Louis P. Rocker.		250.00
Harry Silver		5.00
Jacob Sincoff.		100.00
Sigmund Thau		250.00
Capt. Abraham Tulin.		100.00
Abraham I. Uslander.		50.00
Dr. & Mrs. S. S. Wise.		100.00
Abraham Wouk		<u>10.00</u>

\$3,180.00

DISTRICTS:

<u>District #7 - (West Side, NYC) -</u>		
Israel Chipkin	\$ 5.00	
Dr. Israel Goldstein	10.00	
Leo Guzik.	10.00	
M. Perla	10.00	
Drs. B. & D. Sheitlis.	20.00	
Abr. A. Silberberg	<u>100.00</u>	\$ 155.00
<u>District #10 - (Wash. Hts.)</u>		50.00
<u>District #13 - (Bronx)</u>		100.00
<u>District #14 - (Eastern Pkway, Bklyn)-</u>		
Hyman Aaron.	\$ 50.00	
Boro Hall Liquor Store	10.00	
Isaac Brimberg	10.00	
Rubin Bruck.	10.00	
J. A. Fortunoff.	10.00	
Jos. A. Gottlieb	50.00	
B. H. Levine	100.00	
Irving Lurie	5.00	
M. Miller.	50.00	
David Spiegel.	<u>10.00</u>	305.00
<u>District #19 - (Bensonhurst, Bklyn) -</u>		
District Contribution.	\$ 50.00	
Samuel Kramer.	<u>25.00</u>	75.00
<u>District #30 - (Inwood, NYC)</u>		25.00

ADMINISTRATIVE FUND -

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS

- 2

District #32 - (Flatbush, Bklyn) -

Samuel Berson.	\$100.00	
Abraham Goodman.	100.00	
Jacob Goodman.	100.00	
J. J. Kanner	25.00	
Jacob Lobell	50.00	
Jacob Maze	10.00	
A. H. Oniah.	200.00	
Samuel Rothstein	10.00	
Mrs. A. Sachs.	50.00	
Simon Salwen	25.00	
Samuel Schleimer	50.00	
Simon Sverdlick.	10.00	
Isaac Wurman	50.00	\$ 780.00

Connecticut Region -

Hartford, Conn.	450.00
Bangor, Maine	5.00
Mattapan, Mass.	75.00
Ishpeming, Mich.	100.00
Shreveport, La. (No. Louisiana Dist.)	30.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	895.00

Mt. Vernon, N. Y. -

District Contribution.	\$100.00	
Harold J. Jafer	10.00	110.00

\$3,155.00

MISCELLANEOUS:

Rabbi A. E. Cohen, Cleveland, Ohio	\$ 25.00
Cong. Beth Israel, New Orleans, La.	20.00
Simon Feinberg, NYC.	10.00
Saul S. Goldman, NYC	25.00
Henry Limmer, Providence, R. I.	15.00
Louis Sobel, Brooklyn.	25.00

120.00TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE FUND:

\$6,455.00

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:Emergency Fund -

Robert Szold	\$ 200.00
Collected by - D. H. Maisel, Palisades Park, N.J.	56.00
A. Abrahamson, Iowa City, Iowa	75.00
Max Rhoads, Washington, D. C.	150.00
M. Movski, NYC	2.00
H. Klurfeld, NYC	5.35
Jos. Cohen, Brooklyn	10.00

498.35TOTAL FUNDS RECEIPTS:\$6,953.35

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF CHICAGO

220 SOUTH STATE STREET

TELEPHONE *Wabash* 1285

December 16, 1938

OFFICERS:

President
WILLIAM M. KATZ

Vice Presidents:
SAMUEL F. JACOBSON
CHARLES MISHEIN
MAURICE A. SMOLER

Treasurer
JOHN KISSMAN

Executive Director
CHARLES LEVIN

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Temple-on-the-Heights
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I notice that you are scheduled to appear at the forum of Temple Beth Israel on January 30th.

I should like to extend an invitation to you to have dinner with the officers and executive committee of the district which meets in the vicinity of Temple Beth Israel.

This district happens to be the second largest in Chicago, and your presence for the short period of the dinner will give great encouragement to these men, who are practically new to the organization, to continue the fine work they are doing.

I promise you that if you find it possible to accept this invitation it will in no way interfere with your program which is to follow.

Thanking you in advance, and with best wishes,
I am,

Sincerely yours,

Charles Levin
CHARLES LEVIN,
Executive Director

CE:VA

December 20, 1938

Mr. Charles Levin, Executive Director
Zionist Organization of Chicago
220 South State Street
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Levin:

I deeply appreciate your kind letter of December 16 but I am afraid that I am not able to accept your kind invitation to have dinner with the executive committee of the district on the occasion of my visit to Chicago on January 30th. I must have a few hours of quiet before an address. I will probably arrive late in the afternoon and the acceptance of your invitation, which is very tempting, would rush me and tire me too much. Perhaps at some future time I may be of service to you.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AJS:BX