



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and  
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

### **MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.**

Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated.

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

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Folder

1797

Zionist Organization of America, 1941-1943.

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

10825 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106  
(216) 721-5722  
[wrhs.org](http://wrhs.org)

#### **American Jewish Archives**

3101 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220  
(513) 487-3000  
[AmericanJewishArchives.org](http://AmericanJewishArchives.org)

July 20th 1941.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

For the last two years I have been Chairman of the Membership Committee of the Rochester District and also member of the National Administrative Council. It is because I feel so strongly about the future of our cause that I feel forced to convey to you this message.

It is my conviction and the conviction of many other Zionist workers that the Movement is being undermined because of lack of harmony among our leaders. Anyone who has attended the Administrative Council meetings knows that practically at each session personal squabbles on leadership come up, and the most of the time is being taken up in personal fights instead of accomplishing well-needed Zionist work.

It is not that anyone of the veteran leaders is insincere or does not love Zion, but the fact that he fights for his own personal opinion or method on Zionism. The result is, of course, that nothing constructive is being accomplished.

As long as 20 years ago, no less a person than Lord Balfour himself uttered the prophetic warning. - -

" That perhaps the danger which besets the Jewish race is not that they lack high idealism, not that they are reluctant to sacrifice everything, even life itself, to see that ideal carried in to effect, but that they are carried away by the vehemence of their passions, the depth and strength of their convictions, and they are unwilling to do that without which , this and any other great movement must necessarily fail - - they are unwilling to give their whole-hearted trust and confidence in their chosen leaders"

He continues - -

"It becomes dangerous when these different factions insist not merely that the object should be carried out, but that it should be carried out precisely in the fashion which commends itself to them. BEWARE OF THAT DANGER; I am not sure it is not the greatest danger which may beset you in the future."



July 20th 1941.

#2 Cont'd

Dear Rabbi Silver:

What American Zionism needs today more than anything else is UNITED LEADERSHIP. All personal differences are to be forgotten and all of us are to be united in our fight for Zion.

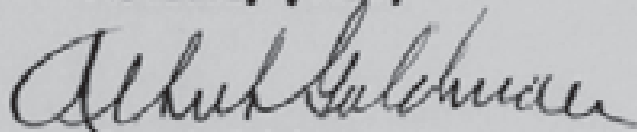
I therefore propose that a special emergency pre-convention meeting be called immediately to which the National Executive Committee and several members of the Administrative Council who feel deeply about Zionism be invited. I suggest among others -

Mr. Louis Spiegler of Washington, D.C. District  
Dr. Aaron Burman of Syracuse, N.Y. District  
Mr. Joseph Halbert of Atlantic City, N.J. District  
Mr. Morris Cohen of Rochester, N.Y. District

This meeting to be called for the purpose of bringing about unity in Zionist leadership and lay plans for a truly great and constructive Zionist Convention, so that we may have the great Zionist year in our history.

With best Zionist wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

  
Albert Goldman

August 20, 1941.

Dr. F.M. Falkman,  
14128 Superior Road,  
Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

My dear Doctor Falkman:

Mrs. Herman Stein would like to attend the Zionist Convention in Cincinnati as an alternate delegate for the Cleveland Zionist Society. Please arrange for that and notify both her and the Z.O.A. office in Washington.

Very sincerely yours,

ARS:me

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| CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED |                |
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| DAY LETTER               | URGENT         |
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# WESTERN UNION

1206-B

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J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

September 8, 1941

JUDGE LOUIS LEVINthal  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

I WAS DELIGHTED TO READ IN THE PRESS THAT YOUR NAME IS BEING PROPOSED FOR PRESIDENCY. I HOPE YOU WILL ACCEPT. I WILL SUPPORT YOU WHOLEHEARTEDLY IN THE KIND OF FORCEFUL AND NONPARTISAN SERVICE WHICH I KNOW YOU WILL RENDER.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

התאחדות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

1720 - 16<sup>TH</sup> STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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ABRAHAM GOLDSTEIN  
CECIL E. GORDON  
MURRAY I. GURFELN  
DR. JAMES G. HELLER  
DR. EDWARD L. ISRAEL  
MORDECAI KONOWITZ  
DR. HARRIS J. LEVINE  
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EZRA Z. SHAPIRO  
CARL SHERMAN  
SIMON SHETTER  
ELIHO D. STONE

## Associate Members

MRS. MORIS P. EPSTEIN  
ALFRED J. KAHN  
NATANIEL COHEN  
HARRY GRAYER

September 9th, 1941

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I can't tell you how thrilled I was when I received your telegram which was relayed to me here from Philadelphia. I felt certain that I would have your whole-hearted and enthusiastic support.

I'm sorry that you were not able to attend the Convention. I believe that it marks the beginning of an era of reconciliation and unification of all our forces.

Please let me know when you are planning to be anywhere near Philadelphia. I shall make every effort to spend some time with you.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,



Louis E. Levinthal

LEL:bg



# ONTARIO ZIONIST REGION

206 BEVERLEY STREET .. TORONTO, ONT.

Telephone Midway 6295

—\*—

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Rabbi Solomon Rivlin  
Executive Director

September 26, 1941.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,  
c/o Temple,  
105th Street East,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I want to wish you a SHANAH TOVA UM'VURACHA. May God grant you continued health and strength to carry on your sacred task of bringing inspiration, hope and courage to all of us in these critical days.

You will recall that last year I extended to you an invitation to be our guest speaker at the 10th annual Ontario Zionist Regional Conference. Unfortunately you could not accept then, but you asked me to get in touch with you some other time.

It is now my pleasure to extend to you a hearty invitation to be our guest speaker at the 11th annual Ontario Regional Conference to be held in Toronto Sunday, November 9th at the King Edward Hotel.

Last year 300 delegates from all over Ontario came to the Conference. This year we expect as many, if not more. With you as guest speaker, we will be able to fill to capacity the large Ball Room of the King Edward Hotel. Your presence in Toronto will give great impetus to our Zionist activities. I trust that you will accept our invitation this time.

Looking forward to receive a favourable reply and with Zion's greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

(Solomon Rivlin)  
Executive Director

SR/MY

October 3, 1941

Rabbi Solomon Rivlin, Executive Director  
Ontario Zionist Region  
206 Beverley St.  
Toronto, Ontario

My dear Rabbi Rivlin:

I greatly appreciate your kindness in inviting me to address your Regional Conference on November 9th. It would indeed give me great pleasure to do so if I were free. Unfortunately I cannot leave Cleveland on a Sunday. We begin our Sunday Morning Services towards the end of October. It is not possible for me to absent myself from my pulpit so soon after the season begins. I am away from Cleveland so much of the time that I feel that the weekends at least should belong to my own congregation.

With all good wishes for success, and wishing you a very happy new year, I remain

Most cordially,

ARS:BX



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# WESTERN UNION

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CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

10-10-41

Judge Louis E. Seuntthal, Pres.

B.O.A.

1720 = 16<sup>th</sup> St. N.W.

Washington, D.C.



Regret exceedingly can not accept invitation  
to speak Youngstown. Have not the time.  
Regards.

Alba Hill Silver

# CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

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J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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HW219 50 DL=CA WASHINGTON DC 9 507P

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER:

1941 OCT 9 PM 6 11

=THE TEMPLE=

WILL YOU KINDLY ACCEPT INVITATION TO ADDRESS LARGE BRANDEIS MEMORIAL AND BALFOUR ANNIVERSARY MEETING BEFORE YOUNGSTOWN ZIONIST DISTRICT ON NOVEMBER 2ND OR IF INCONVENIENT NOVEMBER 3, 4, 5, OR 6TH. SUCH MEETINGS BEING SIMULTANEOUSLY HELD THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. Z. O. A. DEDICATING ZIONIST MEMBERSHIP CURRENT YEAR TO MEMORY BRANDEIS. REGARDS==

LOUIS E LEVINthal.

.3 4 5 6 Z 0 A.

WE APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE



# Louis D. Brandeis Club

STAMFORD DISTRICT OF THE  
Zionist Organization of America

Stamford Jewish Center, Prospect Street, Stamford, Connecticut

65 South St.,  
Stamford, Conn.  
October 15, 1941.

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

Dear Rabbi Silver;

At the suggestion of Mr. Henry Montor, I am addressing you with a view to your coming to Stamford some time in late January or February.

The Brandeis Club wishes to sponsor a public address by you on some topic kindred to the Zionist philosophy. This affair is to be considered as a community undertaking, all local organizations to cooperate, and the affair to be considered as part of the educational program of the Stamford Jewish Center.

The Center's program, as you may have heard, is an extensive one and attracts distinguished men in public life together with an interested and a large series of audiences. Our organization is extremely anxious to have you speak in Stamford under our sponsorship in conjunction with the Center's planned program for 1941 - 1942.

Kindly advise if you are available and what your expense (which we will underwrite) will be.

Very truly yours,

*Isaac Lang*

# ASSOCIATED TALMUD TORAHs OF PHILADELPHIA

## *Constituent of Federation of Jewish Charities*

ROOM 407-330 SOUTH NINTH STREET  
BELL PHONE, WALNUT 5230, PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
BEN ROSEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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*Education*  
HON. JOSEPH SLOANE  
*Religious Services*  
HERMAN LANDAU

OCTOBER 20, 1941

DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
THE TEMPLE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO

DEAR DR. SILVER:


YOU MAY HAVE LEARNED THAT ON THE EVENING OF NOVEMBER 13TH, THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF PHILADELPHIA WILL TENDER A DINNER TO JUDGE LEVINthal IN HONOR OF HIS ELECTION TO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE Z.O.A. WE EXPECT AN ATTENDANCE OF UPWARD OF ONE THOUSAND GUESTS.

THE COMMITTEE WHICH IS ARRANGING THIS DINNER PLANS TO ISSUE A PROGRAM BOOKLET WHICH WILL CONTAIN GREETINGS TO JUDGE LEVINthal, APPROPRIATE FOR THE OCCASION. WE HAVE DECIDED TO LIMIT THESE GREETINGS TO FORMER PRESIDENTS OF THE Z.O.A. I AM TAKING THE LIBERTY, THEREFORE, TO ASK YOU, IN BEHALF OF OUR COMMITTEE, IF YOU WILL BE GOOD ENOUGH TO LET ME HAVE A STATEMENT, NOT EXCEEDING TWO HUNDRED WORDS IN LENGTH, WHICH MAY BE UTILIZED FOR THIS PURPOSE.

I SHALL APPRECIATE YOUR LETTING ME HAVE THIS STATEMENT, IF POSSIBLE, BY THE END OF THIS WEEK.

WITH CORDIAL GREETINGS,

SINCERELY YOURS,



BEN ROSEN

BR ER

October 22, 1941

Mr. Joshua Lang  
65 South St.  
Stamford, Conn.

My dear Mr. Lang:

I deeply appreciate your kind invitation to come to Stamford next January or February to address the community under the auspices of the Louis D. Brandeis Club. I wish I were free to come. Unfortunately I am so burdened with work in connection with the United Jewish Appeal and the United Palestine Appeal that I have been compelled to decline many invitations which normally I would be most happy to accept.

Perhaps at some future time I may be able to be of service to you. With all good wishes for success, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BX

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Form 16

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*Commercial Cables*



*All America Cables*  
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DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

1944 OCT 22 PM 2 38

THE TEMPLE EAST 105TH AND ANSEL RD=

INVITATION EXTENDED TO YOU FOR GREETINGS TO BE PUBLISHED IN  
PROGRAM BOOKLET IN HONOR OF JUDGE LEVINthal ERRONEOUSLY LISTED  
YOU AMONG EXPRESIDENTS OF ZOA STOP THE REQUEST BEING MADE OF YOU  
BY VIRTUE OF YOUR CHAIRMANSHIP OF UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL STOP  
COMMITTEE WILL BE GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR YOUR RESPONSE=

BEN ROSEN.

ל ש כ ת ה ח נ ו ך ה ע כ י

*Bureau of Jewish Education* • 653 ROCKDALE AVENUE • CINCINNATI, OHIO  
Telephone, UNIVERSITY 8060

MORDECAI HALEVI • DIRECTOR

October 23, 1941

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple,  
E. 105th St. and Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Cincinnati Jewry is arranging a city-wide Memorial Meeting in honor of our two great leaders, Justice Louis D. Brandeis and Menahem Ussishkin. It was the unanimous wish of the committee arranging this meeting that we ask you to honor us by accepting to be the principal speaker of the evening. We sincerely hope that you will find it possible to accept.

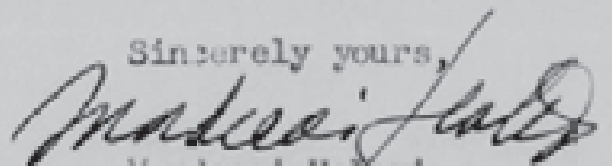
Rabbi Samuel Wohl will speak on "Ussishkin", Hon. Alfred M. Cohen on "Brandeis, the American and Jew", and it is to you that we shall look forward to hearing about "Brandeis, the Zionist."

The meeting will take place on Sunday, November 16th, 8:30 P. M. at the Avondale Synagogue.

We would appreciate an early reply.

Thanking you, and with Zion greetings, I remain,

Sincerely yours,



Mordecai Halevi  
Chairman pro-ten

mh-ar

P.S. Of course it is understood that your expenses on this trip will be taken care of by the committee.

October 27, 1941

Dr. Mordecai Halevi, Director  
Bureau of Jewish Education  
658 Rockdale Ave.  
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Dr. Halevi:

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter of October 23 and for your invitation to address a memorial meeting in honor of Brandeis and Ussishkin on Sunday, November 18. I wish I were free to come. Unfortunately I have already accepted an out of town engagement for that evening. Perhaps at some future time I may be of service to you.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BX



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Form 14

1946 OCT 29 PM 1 11

D43 50 DL= U PHILADELPHIA PENN 29 1140A  
DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER =  
: THE TEMPLE E 105TH & ANSEL =

PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER YOU ARE SENDING ME GREETINGS NOT  
EXCEEDING TWO HUNDRD WORDS FOR INCLUSION PROGRAM BOOKLET  
TO BE ISSUED IN CONJUNCTION WITH DINNER TO BE TENDERED  
BY COMMUNITY TO JUDGE LEVINTHAL STOP IMPERATIVE THAT  
COPY BE RECEIVED THREE THIRTY SOUTH NINTH STREET BY  
FRIDAY STOP THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION =  
BEN ROSEN.

October 30, 1941

Mr. Ben Rosen  
330 South Ninth St.  
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Mr. Rosen:

I am enclosing herewith greetings which you requested to be included in the program booklet to be issued in conjunction with the dinner to be tendered to Judge Levinthal.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BX



# ASSOCIATED TALMUD TORAHs OF PHILADELPHIA

*Constituent of Federation of Jewish Charities*

ROOM 407—330 SOUTH NINTH STREET  
BELL PHONE, WALNUT 5230, PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
BEN ROSEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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*Religious Services*  
HERMAN LANDAU

NOVEMBER 3, 1941

DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
THE TEMPLE  
CLEVELAND, O.

DEAR DR. SILVER:

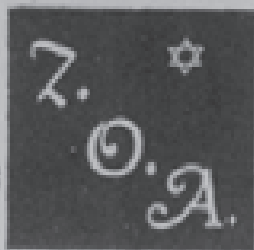
MANY THANKS FOR THE SPLENDID  
STATEMENT WHICH YOU WERE KIND ENOUGH TO SEND  
ME FOR INCLUSION IN THE PROGRAM BOOKLET TO BE  
ISSUED ON THE OCCASION OF THE DINNER OUR  
COMMUNITY IS TENDERING TO JUDGE LEVINTHAL.

SINCERELY YOURS,



BEN ROSEN

BR ER



# PITTSBURGH ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

תאגיד ציוני דפיצור

901 KEYSTONE BLDG. • COURT 0138 • PITTSBURGH, PA.

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I. G. Simon

November 16, 1941

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
E. 105 St. & Ansel Rd.  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

The Pittsburgh Zionist Organization is planning to launch an intensive Membership Campaign. Among other things, we will publish a special pamphlet, and the two local Anglo-Jewish weeklies will devote much space for Zionist articles.

I am, therefore, taking the liberty of soliciting your help. Would it be possible for you to write an article of about 250 words or more? I know that it is a  $\infty$  on my part to burden you with such a task; nevertheless, I am compelled to do so, for your message will mean a great deal to us and to the ultimate success of our Membership Campaign.

Hoping to hear from you, I remain,

With kindest personal regards,

Respectfully yours,

*Saul S. Spiro*  
Saul S. Spiro, President

SSS:dk

P. S. Please send the article to my home address, 2279 Shady Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

# SINAI TEMPLE

188 SUMNER AVENUE  
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

JUDAH CAHN  
Rabbi

November 17, 1941

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

May we have the honor of having you address a meeting of the Western Massachusetts Zionist Districts sponsored by the Springfield, Massachusetts Chapter, to be held in Springfield during the month of April? We would leave the choice of date to you.

I have been doing my utmost to build and strengthen the Zionist spirit in this section of the country and I know that your presence would be of incalculable assistance toward this end.

Would you be kind enough to inform me whether you will be able to be with us at that time and what expenditures will be necessary.

Faithfully yours,

*Judah Cahn*  
Judah Cahn

JC:IS

November 19, 1941

Rabbi Judah Cahn  
Sinai Temple  
188 Sumner Avenue  
Springfield, Mass.

My dear Rabbi Cahn:

I deeply appreciate your invitation to come to Springfield next April to address a meeting of the Western Massachusetts Zionist Districts. I wish I were free to come. Unfortunately I am so burdened with work in connection with the United Jewish Appeal and the United Palestine Appeal that I have been compelled to decline many invitations which normally I would be most happy to accept.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BX

41-42

(Not printed at Government expense)

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 77<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

## A Jewish Army for Palestine

SPEECH

OF

HON. HAMILTON FISH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

December 9, 1941

Mr. FISH. Mr. Speaker, almost 20 years ago I introduced in the House of Representatives the so-called Zionist resolution, for a homeland for the Jewish people in Palestine, in order to erect there a homeland where persecuted Jews of central Europe could find a refuge and home of their own. In the past 20 years these Jewish people, mostly from Germany, Poland, Hungary, Rumania, and Russia, through their own tireless efforts, and financial contributions made by Americans of Jewish and non-Jewish origin, have built up parts of Palestine into flourishing centers and prosperous farms.

My resolution was passed almost unanimously. It was signed by the President of the United States and became the law. It was similar to the Balfour resolution, and in reality was the American counterpart. I sponsored it in the House and Senator Henry Cabot Lodge sponsored it in the Senate. Our resolutions crossed, and mine eventually went through and was signed by the President.

I have always been proud of the fact and of my part in establishing this homeland. Since then some 400,000 Jews have found a home and place of refuge there.

Today the Jewish people in that Holy Land are asking for an army of their own, for a Jewish army to protect that homeland, to fight under British high command but as a separate unit and identity. Just as we have loaned money through lend-lease bills to the Poles and the Czechs and others, I think it is highly proper that we should furnish supplies

and arms for a Jewish army in Palestine. Let them volunteer, and let us provide them with an opportunity to fight.

These Jewish people, who have more at stake in this war than any other people in the world, who have suffered more, who have been the victims of barbarous treatment in Eastern Europe, who have been outlawed and discriminated against on account of their race and religion, who have been deprived of their economic and civic rights and by inhuman and brutal persecution by the Nazis forced back in the poverty and misery of the ghetto or into concentration camps, should have the unquestioned right to fight.

Let us give them that opportunity without delay. Let us give them some of our lend-lease money as we have given it to the Poles, the Czechs, the Free French, and the Greeks. Let them have an army in Palestine of 50,000 or even 100,000, with American lend-lease money with which to obtain equipment and guns. Let them have a Jewish military unit under their own flag, under the Star of David, and manned and officered by their own people.

The gentleman from New York (Mr. SOMMERS) has already introduced a resolution to carry this purpose into effect of providing lend-lease money and defense articles for a Jewish army in Palestine.

Mr. SACKS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. FISH. I yield.

Mr. SACKS. I want to make an observation here to the gentleman from New York. I hope the gentleman from New York does not mean Americans of Jewish extraction. We want to take our responsibility in the American Army and fight.

Mr. FISH. The gentleman is quite correct. I am glad the gentleman injected that remark, because I already discussed that with him today. The people of Jewish origin naturally will serve and are serving in our armed forces the same as all other citizens. However, the Jewish people in Palestine are in the same

category as the Czechs, Poles, and others who want to defend their own country; and I know the gentleman from Pennsylvania is in accord with that proposal.

Mr. SACKS. Yes. Will the gentleman yield further?

Mr. FISH. I yield.

Mr. SACKS. For the gentleman's information, of the million mer we now have in our Army it is reported that over 100,000 are Americans of Jewish faith. This is their land.

Mr. FISH. That is true and has always been so. Americans of Jewish origin fought gallantly in the last World War in our armed forces.

433666-21523

Mr. SACKS. But those who live in Palestine want an army of their own, and so far Britain has refused to permit such an army to be raised and equipped. That is the one the gentleman is talking about.

Mr. FISH. Precisely. That is what the gentleman is in favor of and what I am urging as the author of the Zionist resolution adopted by Congress in 1922.

Mr. SACKS. That is right.

Mr. FISH. And I think that war material should be furnished under the Lease-Lend Act to equip a Jewish army to fight in Palestine or elsewhere in the Near East.





EZRA TEUBAL  
116 Maple Street  
Summit, New Jersey

[Feb. 1942]

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th Street & Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

You are cordially invited to attend  
a luncheon in honor of Mr. Nathan Gesang, President  
of the Zionist Federation of Argentina on Wednesday,  
February 11, at 12:45 o'clock at the Hotel Sharon,  
227 West 46th Street, New York City.

Sincerely yours,



*Ezra Teubal*

EZRA TEUBAL, Chairman  
Argentina Committee of the  
Jewish Agency for Palestine

R.S.V.P.

February 5, 1942

Mr. Ezra Teubal, Chairman  
Argentina Committee of Jewish Agency for Palestine  
116 Maple Street  
Summit, N.J.

My dear Mr. Teubal:

I regret exceedingly that I will not be able to attend the luncheon which is to be given on February 11 in honor of Mr. Nathan Gesang, President of the Zionist Federation of Argentina. It will not be possible for me to leave Cleveland on that day. Please present to Mr. Gesang my warmest greetings and my best wishes for continued success in the great service which he is rendering the cause of Zionism in Argentina.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



# CLASS OF SERVICE

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# WESTERN UNION

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

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Ship Radiogram

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. G. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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HW7 28 NT 2 EXTRA=SANFRANCISCO CALIF FEB 5 1916  
RABBI ABBA HILLEO SILVER=

SANFRANCISCO ZIONIST ORGANIZATIONS MOST ANXIOUS TO  
HAVE YOU ADDRESS LARGE MASS MEETING ON YOUR FEBRUARY  
VISIT PLEASE WIRE AT OUR EXPENSE YOUR ACCEPTANCE AND  
AVAILABLE DATES=

SANFRANCISCO ZIONIST DISTRICT

RABBI ELLIOT BURSTEIN 2366 BROADWAY

2366

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

February 6, 1942

Rabbi Elliot Burstein  
2366 Broadway  
San Francisco, California

My dear Rabbi Burstein:

Thank you for your kind telegram. I shall be in San Francisco on Tuesday, February 24 for the American Association of School Administrators. I am addressing that body in the morning. I plan to leave that same night for home.

I would be free to address a meeting of the San Francisco Zionist Organization that evening providing such a meeting is properly arranged and carefully prepared. Some of my earlier experiences with San Francisco Zionists, as you probably know, have not been happy ones and I do not wish to be subjected to another chain of "unfortunate circumstances" for which nobody takes responsibility. I would also prefer that the meeting should not be held in a Temple or in a Synagogue. I have spoken twice in San Francisco in a Temple and I was not pleased with the results. If the Zionists of San Francisco wish to utilize my presence in the city for an important occasion, I shall be very happy to lend my services.

I shall also have to obtain permission from the organization under whose auspices I am coming.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:EK

February 11, 1942

Judge Joseph H. Silbert  
13803 Cornere  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Joe:

I am enclosing herewith a letter which I received this morning from the Regional Director of the Z.O.A. Please attend this meeting and see what this man has to suggest.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS: BK  
Enc.

Feb. 15, 1942

Elliott Bernstein  
San Francisco, Cal.

Will be pleased to be with you on  
Tuesday evening, subject "Palestine  
in Peace and War". Private reception  
after lecture quite satisfactory.  
Regards.

S. I. Over

Robert

# CLASS OF SERVICE

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# WESTERN UNION

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL - Day Letter

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LC - Deferred Cable

WLT - Cable Message Letter

Ship Radiogram

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

1942 FEB 17

The Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

HW71 10=SANFRANCISCO CALIF 17 824A

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

CARE THE TEMPLE 105 AND ANSEL RD=

HADASSAH AGREES MASS MEETING DESIRABLE. AM MAKING ALL  
PLANNED ARRANGEMENTS=

RABBI BURSTEIN.

# CLASS OF SERVICE

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# WESTERN UNION

1291

## SYMBOLS

DL - Day Letter

NT - Overnight Telegram

LC - Deferred Cable

NLT - Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

A. H. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. G. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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CA 12 40 NT=SAN FRANCISCO CALIF 14

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

042 FEB 15 AM 2 08

TEMPLE EAST 105 AND ANSEL RD CLEVE=

HADASSAH AND ALL ZIONIST GROUPS ARRANGING MASS MEETING AT  
SCOTTISH RITE AUDITORIUM FOR TUESDAY NIGHT 24TH PLEASE WIRE  
AFFIRMATION AND SUBJECT FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICITY WOULD YOU  
LIKE US TO ARRANGE RECEPTION AFTER LECTURE OR MEET SMALL GROUP  
IN PRIVATE HOME=

ELLIOT BURSTEIN.

248

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Feb. 17, 1942

Rabbi Elliott Burshtein  
2366 Broadway  
San Francisco, Cal.

Have learned that Haharoch is holding  
Annual Donor Luncheon noon Feb. 24.  
Do you regard it wise to hold large  
Zionist rally in evening.

Silver



Congregation Beth Israel

1839 Geary Street

San Francisco, California

Rabbi Elliot M. Burstein

March 5/42

Dear Rabbi Silver: -

Please accept the  
deepest thanks of myself and the S. J.  
Zionist Council for the gracious tendering  
of your valuable services & us at our  
Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> mass meeting. You gave us all a  
needed shot in the arm and your simple  
analysis of the Jewish problem was far more  
effective than a studied historical presentation.  
Again - our deepest thanks - and our sincere  
wishes for your continued happiness and success.

Cordially

Elliot B.



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All America Cables  
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Form 1 H. NB85 N. PA131 P. WA111 DU14W 389 DL=DU 39 WASHINGTON DC 19

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE CLEVELAND OHIO=

FIRST MEETING OF ZOA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SINCE YOUR RETURN WILL  
BE HELD SUNDAY MORNING AND AFTERNOON APRIL 26TH PENNSYLVANIA  
HOTEL NEWYORK VERY ANXIOUS TO HAVE YOU REPORT ON YOUR VISIT TO  
BRITAIN AND ALSO ON UPA CORDIAL REGARDS=

LOUIS E LEVINTHAL.

reg. 4.15.15-28.20

ZOA UPA. ALSO 26TH.

APR 19 1980 11 30

April 21, 1942

Judge Louis E. Levinthal  
Zionist Organisation of America  
1720 - 18th St., N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Judge Levinthal:

Thank you for your kind telegram. I wish I were free to attend the Executive Committee sessions of the ZOA next Sunday. I should like to have the opportunity to report to the Executive about my recent visit to England but the fact that I have been away from my Temple pulpit for more than a month makes it quite impossible for me to stay away any other Sunday for the remainder of the season. I am sure that you will understand.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ANS:BX



# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

התאחדות הציונית של ארצות הברית

## NEW ENGLAND ZIONIST REGION

600 WASHINGTON STREET

Room 710

BOSTON, MASS.

**President**

MAX KABATZNICK

**Life Honorary President**

ELIHU D. STONE

**Honorary Presidents**

RALPH F. BASS

JOSEPH GOLDBERG

**Vice Presidents**

MORTON J. ROBBINS M.D.  
First Vice-President

JUDGE SAMUEL BARNET

LOUIS E. BROWN

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CECIL R. GORDON

MYER MINSKY

MENDELL M. SELIG

DEWEY D. STONE

ELI STONE

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**Finance Committee**

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Chairman

SAMUEL CAPLOE

ISAAC GLASER

HARRY LEVINE

JACOB FROMBOIM

**Auditor**

GEORGE GOULD

April 21, 1942

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

Dear Dr. Silver:-

The New England Zionist Region will hold its Annual Convention in Boston, Massachusetts, on June 20th and 21st. In keeping with our usual customs we are going to make this gathering a very fine one that will reflect credit on our territory and the Zionist Movement.

On behalf of the Region I desire to invite you to be the guest speaker for this Convention.

Trusting that you will be able to be with us,

I am

Sincerely yours,

Max Kabatznick  
President

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Max L. Alpert  
Archie Barlowsky  
Harry B. Berman  
Emanuel Borenstein  
Dr. Frances Burnce  
Jacob Cohen  
Benjamin Cooperstein  
Dr. Robert Diamond  
Maurice Eluto  
Philip Fein  
Leonard J. Feingold  
Louis E. Feingold  
Joseph Foster  
Dr. Arthur Gladstone  
Judge Lewis Goldberg  
Harry A. Glovsky  
Isadore Goodman  
Harry A. Greenblatt  
Moses Hirsh  
Moses Hochberg  
Adolph Hubbard  
Albert Hurwitz  
Rabbi Abraham I. Jacobson  
Reuben Klainer  
Dr. George Kramer  
A. S. Kutitsky  
Louis Levine  
Dr. Moses W. Levinson-Lovi  
Leo Liberson  
Rabbi Joshua Loth Liebman  
George E. Lourie  
Howard P. Miller

Moses Mishel  
Samuel Nemzoff  
Max Nigrosh  
Benjamin Rabalsky  
M. J. Rabinovitz  
Laurence M. Ring  
Charles A. Rome  
Howard J. Rome  
Bernard D. Rosenberg  
George Rossyn  
Louis Rudnick  
Abba Sales  
Dr. Arthur I. Shain  
Rabbi Samuel N. Sherman  
Rabbi Joseph S. Shubow  
Benjamin M. Siegel  
Coleman Silbert  
Bennett Silverblatt  
Robert Silverman  
William J. Small  
Morris Stein  
Samuel Steinfield  
Dr. Aaron H. Stone  
Julius Stone  
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Rabbi Solomon Waldenberg  
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| SERIAL                   | DEFERRED         |
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| SPECIAL SERVICE          | WEEK-END PROGRAM |

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R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

April 23, 1942

Louis E. Levinthal  
1720 16th St., N.W.  
Washington, D.C.



REGRET EXCEEDINGLY PRESSURE OF WORK IN CONNECTION WITH CAMPAIGNS MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE  
FOR ME TO ACCEPT ROCHESTER DISTRICT INVITATION. REGARDS

A H SILVER

ANSWER  
EXPECTED

BY THE SENDER OF THIS  
MESSAGE. PLEASE GIVE  
IT TO THE MESSENGER  
OR TELEPHONE IT TO

WESTERN UNION

1917-9

WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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# WESTERN UNION

1201

## SYMBOLS

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Ship Radiogram

HW298 59/62 DL=VIA HB NFU=CA WASHINGTON DC 22 454P

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE TE CLEVE=

1942 APR 22 PM 7:26

WILL YOU KINDLY ACCEPT INVITATION RECEIVED FROM ROCHESTER  
ZIONIST DISTRICT TO ADDRESS DISTRICT'S ANNUAL DINNER TO BE  
HELD ANY DATE IN MAY BETWEEN 15TH AND 31ST OR EARLY PART  
OF JUNE ON WHICH YOU WILL BE FREE. ROCHESTER ONE OF BEST  
DISTRICTS IN COUNTRY I WOULD PERSONALLY GRATEFULLY  
APPRECIATE YOUR ACCEPTING INVITATION. KINDLY WIRE  
WESTERNUNION COLLECT 1720 16TH STREET NW WASHINGTON DC=

LOUIS E LEVINTHAL:

THE COMPANY WILL ACCEPTABLE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CO.

15 31 1720 16



April 24, 1942

Mr. Max Kabatznick, President  
New England Zionist Region  
600 Washington St.  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Mr. Kabatznick:

Thank you so much for your kind invitation to address the annual convention of the New England Zionists on June 20 or 21. I wish I were free to come. Unfortunately my schedule for the remainder of the season is so heavily crowded with out of town lecture engagements that I can not in justice to myself take on any additional responsibilities. I wish your convention every success.

Most cordially yours,

AUS: BK

MESSAGE BY  
PRESIDENT A. H. ROSENBERG  
to the  
43rd ANNUAL Z.O.C. CONFERENCE  
MAY 3, 1942  
Held at Congress Hotel  
Chicago, Illinois

We have reached a crucial point in Zionist progress!

Our task, never easy, has been further complicated by the problems of this war and the victory which all of us are dedicated to win.

Nevertheless, we may feel confident that the world will emerge from the present struggle more sensitive to our demands, more appreciative of the service we have rendered humanity in the course of our history, and more ready to right our wrong. Room will be made in Palestine for a Jewish Homeland, and we Zionists will have much to be thankful for and even more to do. But if we are to achieve our goal and not impede and hamper our own road to ultimate success, we must take dispassionate and realistic inventory of our situation. When this shall have been done, we will be compelled to recognize the necessity for reorientating some of our views, and for changing many of our methods. My two years in the Presidential office have convinced me that a complete reorganization of the Movement is absolutely essential!

It will perhaps become clear to you, as I proceed, that I lay aside the burden and responsibility of office not without pain and disappointment. I should ask you at the very outset, to forgive the personal vein of my remarks, because I earnestly desire to render a service and I have chosen the best way I know how.

I am an American Jew and my training and upbringing are typical of Chicago's Jewish community of half a century ago. When I was a boy, there was no Jewish school system worthy of the name; no curriculum, no text books; no class rooms, but dungeons; and the teachers, to my sorrow, impressed the boys of those days as outlandish, strange and tyrannical. Many a boy had all enthusiasm for

Judaism whipped out of him in the primitive Hadorim which then prevailed. In the community at large, there were few or perhaps no Jewish leaders with a positive message. If there were, they seldom reached our childish world. Long before I came into my teens, I said "goodbye" to Jewish education and Judaism.

What followed is easy to guess and what happened to me also happened to many thousands of Jews in this and other cities. We cast our lot, as it were, with the environment. We did not become assimilationists but we certainly ceased to be, in any positive way, Jews. We did not read the Jewish newspapers; a Jewish book never came to our attention; Jewish mass meetings did not interest us. We just drifted along. Occasionally we became interested in a philanthropic cause. We gave little or much charity here and there, and that was the end of it.

At times some of us thought of attending the Synagogue on Rosh Hashonah and Yom Kippur, and we either entered a house of worship where there was too much noise, or where an icy wind chilled the little enthusiasm which we brought to it.

What the result was for many of my friends and acquaintances, I do not know -- but, as for myself -- some thirteen years ago, I was caught up in the revival which Rabbi Goldman initiated in Chicago. After a few years elapsed, the cause of Zionism appealed deeply to my heart and drew me very close to it. Before long, I found myself moving in Zionist circles and taking a constantly increasing interest in their activities and their aspirations.

Unfortunately, as the years went by, I made a discovery that hurt me no little. I found that the older Zionists, or those who had been fortunate to acquire a smattering of Jewish education in the old world and possessed the Yiddish language, always spoke of the need of new blood, but, at the same time, always resented its intrusion when that new blood made its appearance. There was no glad hand, no hearty welcome, no attempt to guide and help the recent convert. No! Always his lack of familiarity with early ideology was thrown up to him. His experience and the environment of his childhood and adolescence were not taken into

consideration. The fact that he was seeking knowledge, studying a little of Jewish history and even experimenting with Hebrew, made no impression. A person had to be strong of heart and indeed imbued with the determination and fortitude of Herzl himself to overcome the difficulties thrown in the way of the new convert to Zionism.

This was not the only disappointment which I was to experience. The more I penetrated Zionist affairs, the more I became puzzled. From the distance, I had been under the impression that there was a coordinated Zionist Movement. Since the Zionists were few in number, the opposition to Zionism vigorous, and the environment not too friendly, I had thought that internally, at least, the Zionists had created a unity. To my sorrow, however, I learned that that was not the truth; that there wasn't one Zionist Organization but several; and that these were much more competitive than cooperative.

Upon assuming the presidency of the Chicago organization, I soon discovered that I had taken over little more than a skeleton. I am not speaking of the empty treasury and the large deficit, and the want of a real organization. I am speaking rather of the fact that the organization had long before given up all vital Zionist and Palestinian activities and remained with nothing more than an everlasting membership campaign which wearied and sickened most of the active members.

I quickly found myself working against the wind, pretty much like a squirrel in a cage, always trying to renew members -- so that there would be money from dues to renew still more members who had dropped out in the meantime. As a result there never was sufficient time or energy left to devise ways and means of building up the membership as a whole -- of getting new members -- or of stimulating and promoting the truly constructive objectives of our movement.

As President I did not have as much help as I had anticipated. Far too many of the so-called old-time Zionists made loud and voluble promises of financial and other help, but later quickly forgot both their promises and their obligations.



There were plenty of speech-makers, but very, very few workers. Consequently, much work fell upon me personally and upon a few loyal helpers. This is neither desirable nor healthy, and it is indicative, as will be explained a little later, of a deep, basic trouble in our Organization.

By extraordinary and vigorous effort we did wipe out a deficit. We had two great Hanukkah Festivals. We had numerous well-attended public meetings. We conducted a comprehensive cultural program. We had the ambition to publish a monthly Zionist Magazine, and the twelve issues of its brief life were acclaimed among Zionists throughout the country.

I believe I can point, in all humility, to the two years of my administration as among the most active in local Zionist history, but I cannot find any real satisfaction in them. The character of the organization, the lack of coordination in the movement, made any real or permanent achievement practically impossible. At the end of two years, I am sadly aware of the fact that my successor in office will have to cover again the ground over which I travelled.

Certainly a situation like this offers much reason for concern, and it is convincing evidence of the failure of the Zionist Organization as a whole to adapt its methods and procedure to the present-day needs and thinking of American Jewry.

Zionist and American ideals are so closely related that there simply is no satisfactory explanation of why the majority of American Jews cannot be enrolled as Zionist followers. Only an unpardonable failure to recognize the American trend of mind has stood in the way of making the true meaning and objectives of Zionism known and understood and subscribed to by the vast majority of American Jewry.

Is there no hope then for the movement? Far from it. I am firmly of the opinion, and the conviction is deep with me, that Zionism has enough momentum to save the Zionists.

Realistic foresight must compel us to realize that the time has come for the system behind our Movement to be re-examined and re-shaped to fit into and

coordinate with present day conditions -- for, my friends, Zionist destiny is being molded and woven by present day conditions, and not by the conditions which prevailed in Europe years ago.

An effective modernized program can and must be developed in the light of the present day situation. We must be willing to change older methods for modern ways, so that all our forces may be strengthened; so that our labors may not be frustrated; and so that the aims of Zionism may be achieved in complete fullness in our time and by this generation.

Ways and means must be found to attach to the official Zionist Movement that enormous reservoir of Palestine sentiment that exists throughout the nation among our five million Jews. Then only will the voice of American Zionism become strong and powerful. That is the only way we will be able to ensure a Jewish State in Palestine after this war.

This can never be brought about while the present wasteful, inefficient and competitive multiplicity of Zionist bodies, with all their conflicting leaderships, continues to exist. Only when this multiplicity of bodies and conflict of individuals have been eliminated will it be possible for Zionism in America to function with maximum efficiency. Then, with its activity unified and coordinated, Zionism will be able to achieve definite concreteness of meaning and purpose, and it will have appeal and interest for all American Jewry.

Zionism must be made, and it can be made, not the movement of paltry thousands, but of the whole of American Israel. The way to proceed is as follows:

1 - Eliminate all Zionist parties and divisions in

The United States. There is no room, in our land, for political parties, in Zionism. We will win our own brethren, and the sympathy of our Christian fellow-citizens, if we present Zionism to them



purely and simply as the ancient ideal of our people. Zionist parties have room in Palestine, but not in the United States.

- 2 - We should abandon the \$3.00 membership and introduce a registration fee of \$1.00 so that all Palestine sympathizers, young and old, men and women, may stand up and be counted -- as Zionists!
- 3 - We should enroll all of the Synagogues and every organization that we possibly can in our registration.
- 4 - All Zionist funds should be made an integral part of the Zionist Organization. Instead of five or six administrative bodies, one should suffice.

If these few suggestions were adopted in the Zionist program, I am confident that we would be nearer to our goal by the time the United Nations shall have achieved victory!

It is understandable that there will be those who will object to this proposal. The difficulties in the way of initiating the necessary changes will be multiplied and magnified, particularly by the persons who always are reluctant to institute any change in any system, and by those who are satisfied for one reason or another to have the present chaotic status of the Organization continue on its erratic course.

However, the need for consolidation and unified endeavor is so great and the occasion for action is so timely, that earnest and determined men, if they are sincere in their intention, can meet together and ascertain the specific steps which are required to make the Zionist movement a vital factor in American Jewish life -- and a powerful force for establishment of the Jewish State in Palestine.

We need go no further than this country for an example of how quickly a people divided can arrive at complete unity, and of how united understanding is followed immediately by concerted, resultful action.

Zionism is faced with an equally urgent emergency. Old prejudices, old differences, old ways must give way to the new way of thinking -- to the kind of thinking and doing that has distinguished America's war effort. Today, the full success of Zionism should be uppermost in the minds of Zionists!

A few men (those unprejudiced leaders of the Organization who are aware of their great responsibility and alive to today's opportunity for the Movement) should get together for intense study of the means to bring about Zionist unity and nation-wide registration of Zionist sympathy.

There is no necessity for conventions and congresses at this time for this purpose. What is required are honest conviction and genuine sincerity on the part of those leaders who undertake to solve the problem of Zionist weakness in America. Such men will find the way to proceed!

In conclusion, I urge upon all Jews a steadfast faith in the conviction that after the Axis powers are eliminated and our Victory has been won, Palestine will take its rightful place as the Jewish State among Democratic Nations.

That is the destiny of the Zionist Movement!



# The ZIONIST

VOICE OF JEWISH OPINION

Editorial and Advertising Office . . . 228 No. La Salle St., Chicago

May 15, 1942

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
246 E. 105th St.  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi:

I am taking the liberty of sending you herewith a copy of the remarks made by Mr. A. H. Rosenberg at the 43rd Annual Z. O. C. Conference, when he voluntarily retired as president of the Zionist Organization of Chicago.

By all the usual standards Mr. Rosenberg's years in office would be considered quite successful.

Yet, Mr. Rosenberg feels his work has been largely wasted, his effort futile, and he sees no substantial future for the Zionist Organization of America as it is at present constituted. He believes the Zionist Movement itself will be irreparably harmed by the decline and ultimate fall of the Organization.

His disappointment and discouragement are especially notable because of the extraordinary energy and vitality which he brought to the Movement.

These are indeed crucial times for Jewry, and never was there greater need for Zionism to rise to its great destiny. Hence, I am very much troubled by such views and sentiments, when expressed by a Zionist of Al Rosenberg's standing and ardor. For this reason I am bringing them to your attention, for I cannot help but wonder what impression they will make on you.

Hoping to have the pleasure of hearing from you in the near future, I am

Cordially yours,

*R. R. Kaufman*  
R. R. Kaufman,  
Publisher

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*Please Return*

*Congregation Beth El  
Woodward at Gladstone  
Detroit*

B. BENEDICT GLAZER, M. A., PH. D.  
RABBI

June 1, 1942

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
E. 105th Street and Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am writing to you at this time about a matter which lies very close to my heart and which I hope will engage your sympathetic cooperation.

This month, the Zionist Organization of America is celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the passage of the Palestine Resolution by the United States Senate. You may, or may not, know that my late father, Rabbi Simon Glazer, was solely responsible for the passage of this Resolution by the Senate. He laid the groundwork for this vital project and the story of how he achieved his end is a record of brilliant statesmanship. The details of his achievements may be found in a book which he wrote, entitled, "The Palestine Resolution-- A Record of its Origin", which was published in Kansas City in 1922. In my files, I have the original documents which prove my father's great contribution to the Zionist cause. Among these documents are letters of thanks from the outstanding personalities in Zionist leadership here and abroad.

A few years ago, when I visited the late Vice-President of the United States, Charles Curtis, in Washington, he told me that my father was the one man who was responsible for the passage of the Palestine Resolution. It was my father who converted Charles Curtis to Zionism. Curtis, in 1922, was the Republican whip of the United States Senate. For political reasons, he permitted Senator Lodge of Massachusetts to introduce the Resolution, rather than himself. Moreover, Curtis told me that he was at a loss to understand why the Zionist Organization of America refused, subsequently, to acknowledge my father's signal contribution to the movement.

I believe that the time has come for sincere and honest Zionists to right a great wrong. When my father passed away, there was not one word about him or his contribution to Zionism in any of the Zionist publications. Now that the 20th Anniversary of the Palestine Resolution is being celebrated, I believe that the Zionist Organization should be prepared, publicly, to make amends to the memory of my father.

If you desire further proof, I shall be glad to place copies of all documents in my possession at your disposal. In any event, I would appreciate hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Faithfully yours,

*B. Benedict Glazer.*

BEG:FK

June 2, 1942

The Hon. Judge Louis E. Levinthal, President  
Zionist Organization of America  
1720 - 18th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Judge Levinthal:

I am enclosing herewith a letter which I received from Dr. Glazer, of Detroit. If his contention is true, the wrong should be rectified, and proper acknowledgement given to Rabbi Simon Glazer. I would suggest that the matter be investigated thoroughly and promptly. It should not be difficult to establish the merits of the contention.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:EK



June 2, 1942

Rabbi B. Benedict Glazer  
Congregation Beth El  
Woodward at Gladstone  
Detroit, Michigan

My dear Glazer:

Thank you for your letter of June 1. I am sending your letter on to the President of the Zionist Organization of America and as soon as I hear from him I will communicate with you. Frankly, though I have been close to the Movement for these many years, this is the first time I have learned of the role which your dear father played in the passage of the Palestine Resolution by the U. S. Senate. It is amazing that this fact has not to this time been made known. I am sure that the matter will be carefully investigated.

With all good wishes to you, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BX



MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE Z. O. A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY,  
JUNE 9TH, 1948, AT 5:00 P. M., AT THE PENNSYLVANIA HOTEL, NEW YORK CITY.

PRESENT: Judge Louis E. Levinthal, presiding; Robert M. Bernstein, Rabbi Isadore Breslau, Daniel Frisch, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Edmund I. Kaufmann, Mordecai Konowitz, Rabbi Israel E. Levinthal, Louis Lipsky, Rabbi Irving Miller, Emanuel Neumann, Dewey D. Stone, Robert S. Gold, and Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

PRESENT BY INVITATION: Dr. Shlomo Bardin, Lawrence Crohn, Mendel N. Fisher, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, and Herman Weisman.

MEMBERS OF THE STAFF: Zvi Levavy, Hyman A. Schulson, and Simon Shetser.

EXCUSES FOR ABSENCE WERE RECEIVED FROM: Philip Barron, Maurice M. Bokstein, Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner, A. K. Epstein, Judge Harry M. Fisher, Jacob Fishman, Dr. Harry Friedenwald, Rabbi Solomon Goldman, Abraham Goldstein, Cecil R. Gordon, Harry Grayer, Murray I. Gurfein, Dr. James G. Heller, Dr. Harris J. Levine, Irving D. Lipkowitz, Judge Julian W. Mack, Seymour Mellman, Mrs. D. de Sola Pool, Louis P. Rucker, Chas. J. Rosenbloom, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Bernard G. Rudolph, Hon. Ezra Z. Shapiro, Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Louis E. Spiegler, Hon. Elimelech D. Stone, and Harry Takiff.

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 P. M.

I. TRIBUTE TO ABRAHAM GOLDBERG:

Judge Levinthal opened the meeting by stating: "Before we proceed with the regular order of business, it is only fitting that we record our sense of grief at the sudden and untimely passing of our colleague Mr. Abraham Goldberg." He then called upon Mr. Louis Lipsky to pay tribute to the memory of Mr. Goldberg.

Mr. Lipsky read a resolution, which he asked be sent to the family, as follows:

"Abraham Goldberg, who passed away suddenly in the fullness of his powers on June 5th, 1948, was a distinguished servant of the Zionist movement for over forty years. He was a brilliant and persuasive speaker who was heard in hundreds of American-Jewish communities, large and small, time and time again. He contributed to the discussion of Zionist problems at conventions, conferences and committee meetings. He greatly influenced the Zionist movement in every critical period of its development. He aided in the organization of the many auxiliary Zionist agencies created in the United States -- the Order Sons of Zion, the Histadruth Ivrit, the Keren Hayesod and the Jewish National Fund. He was an able writer in Yiddish and Hebrew; was the editorial writer for Das Yiddish Folk for almost thirty years; was one of the editors of Hatoreh, a contributor of Hadoar and for many years was a contributor to the editorial pages of the Jewish Morning Journal. Both as writer and as speaker, he revealed himself to a large circle of friends and admirers as a personality of great charm, as an exponent of the best in Jewish culture and as a carrier of the Yiddish and Hebrew tradition.

Nor was his influence limited to the American Jewish community. He was a familiar figure in international Zionist conferences, a frequent sojourner in the Jewish Homeland and a contributor to the European Yiddish and Hebrew press.

For thirty years, he was associated with the administration of the Zionist Organization of America as editor of its official Yiddish journal, Das Yiddish Folk; as its representative on the committees devoted to the promotion of Hebraic culture; as its representative on kindred Jewish organizations like the American Jewish Congress; and for over eighteen years, a representative of the Zionist Organization of America on the Zionist Actions Committee. For over twenty years, he was the official propagandist of the Zionist Organization of America among the Jewish masses over whom he exercised a large intellectual and spiritual influence.

His devotion to Zionism was not handicapped or limited by concern for his personal well being. He was wholly absorbed in the life and interests and ideals of his people. He brought into Zionism not only exceptional zeal but learning, geniality, vision, an unlimited affection for persons and an unswerving loyalty to the interests of the Zionist Organization of America.

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Judge Levinthal instructed the Secretary to forward a copy of the Goldberg resolution to the widow and family of Mr. Abraham Goldberg.

## II. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

MR. SHETZER reported on the present status of the organization as follows:

"Membership on May 31st was just a trifle over last year's figure. We were 330 members ahead at the beginning of the month, but we lost most of this gain by the end of the month. There are still, at this date, some 16,000 members who have not yet renewed their dues. I have reason to believe that the next sixty days will see a considerable up-surge. There are two major campaigns in progress -- one in Chicago and one in Philadelphia. In Cleveland there is going to be a joint campaign of the District and the Temple Heights groups and there is even a possibility of the Cleveland Zionist Society's joining in that campaign. There was a splendid gathering held in Providence, which was addressed by Judge Levinthal and Mr. Kaufmann at which 35 President's Chapter memberships were pledged."

In answer to a question put by MR. SZOLD, Mr. Shetzer replied that there were 395 members in the President's Chapter as of the first of the month.

MR. SHETZER then continued: "We are sending notices to all the Districts advising them that the membership rolls will be closed on July 31st to be used as the basis for the election of delegates to the convention. These notices are being accompanied by a record of their unrenewed membership."

Reporting on the deficit MR. SHETZER said: "The Executive Committee will be glad to learn that during the month of May the deficit has been reduced by \$2,500 and at the present time is \$20,000 less than it was a year ago. This was made possible through contributions totaling approximately \$3,000, which were specifically ear-marked for this purpose."

MR. SHETZER reported further that "Our staff in Washington, particularly Mr. Schulson, gave practically all of last month to arranging the American Palestine Committee dinner."

I learned today that Rabbi Abraham Haselkorn of Poughkeepsie, President of the Empire State Region, who has been serving as a field director in the Empire State and Western New York Regions, is entering the army as Chaplain with rank of Lieutenant and that two other members of our staff are leaving for military service."

MR. SHETZER also reported that there was a plan under consideration to borrow some money from the U.P.A. to carry us over the summer months, the loan to be charged to next year's allotment.

JUDGE LEVINTHAL explained that the question of borrowing money would be under the authority of the Finance Committee and that they will do so.

MR. BERNSTEIN felt that the matter is also the concern of the Executive and that the Executive should go on record as approving the loan. He therefore MOVED, and it was seconded, that the officers, upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee, be authorized to borrow not to exceed \$15,000 from the U.P.A. The motion was unanimously carried.

DR. WISE thought that additional mention should be made of the fact that Mr. Schulson worked very hard, very diligently, and very successfully on the American Palestine Committee dinner and wished to express his personal gratitude.

JUDGE LEVINTHAL told the Executive Committee that the Emergency Committee had directed him to send a letter of thanks to Mr. Schulson, which was being done.

III. REPORT OF THE KEREN HAYESOD: by Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt

"During the first five months of the year the financial report was more than satisfactory. We started with a bank balance of \$53,370 and now have a balance of \$52,000. We received from the United Palestine Appeal \$770,000 and remitted directly to Palestine \$710,000 during that period. In addition, we paid out for the Jewish Agency in this country, on their order, \$13,349. The expense of the Keren Hayesod, for Latin-American activities as ordered from Jerusalem, including the trip of Dr. Silver to England, amounted to \$21,245. Our own expenses for the maintenance of headquarters here amounted to \$5,023, which includes the expenses in connection with the Archives as well as some incidental expenses of the Keren Hayesod in connection with Latin-American activities. We also made available upwards of \$20,000 to the Emergency Committee on account of the allotment made to it for 1942.

"Perhaps the most important duty placed upon us was in connection with the coordination resolution, passed at the Cincinnati Convention. We had worked out a complete agreement with practically all groups, including Poale Zion, when we were suddenly advised that the Poale Zion had held a separate meeting and decided that they would not join in Keren Hayesod work if the agreed solution were adopted--and Mizrahi agreed with them. Accordingly, we decided to postpone the Administrative Committee meeting which was to have acted on the amendment to the by-laws, to see whether we could get together. The decision of that conference was not entirely satisfactory, but only glossed over differences for another year. It practically amounts to this: the By-Laws Committee had suggested that out of the 125 directors of Keren Hayesod, approximately half was to be designated by the Z.O.A., eight by Hadassah, seven by Order Sons of Zion; twelve by Poale Zion; eleven by Mizrahi; the balance of 25 were to be chosen at the annual meeting by those already designated. That seemed agreeable to all parties and groups, at first, but when objection was raised, it was finally agreed not to put into force any amendment of by-laws at the present time, but instead have a gentleman's agreement that for next year we would proceed on the basis of the present allotment, which provides more than 63 for the ZOA. The net result is that the majority of directors of the Keren Hayesod will be members of the ZOA and responsible to the ZOA. Mr. Weisman, Chairman of the By-laws Committee, will undoubtedly report more fully.

"At a meeting of the Keren Hayesod and the Keren Kayemeth there was set up one joint committee to represent both organizations in connection with certain matters that they have in common. That Committee has acted on three propositions (1) allocating \$15,000 to the Hebrew University - \$7,500 by the Keren Hayesod and the Keren Kayemeth and it was understood that the Joint Distribution Committee would contribute \$15,000 on the basis of our contribution. We also subventioned the Independent Jewish Press Service in the sum of \$750 subject to further review, and finally agreed to close the Palestine Pavilion account, and liquidate its affairs generally. We have been paying \$150 a month for storage for things that could hardly be useful. The Committee appointed by the Joint KH-KK committee will make a study of the situation to see how best to dispose of the material in storage, and thus save the \$150 storage bill.

"In connection with the Latin-American activities, we had a serious problem from the beginning. Mr. Lipsky has been particularly helpful in insisting that people who have been sent by the Keren Hayesod office in Jerusalem must be subject to our approval. We have, I hope, arrived at an amicable solution of the whole problem. We have set up a committee composed of Mr. Nalitch, Kurt Blumenfeld and Dr. Rosenbluth, together with four members of the Board of the Keren Hayesod, as a control Board, subject to further review by the Administrative Committee of the Keren Hayesod, so that any authorization for expenditures must still come from headquarters in America. We cannot offhand abolish the present office, because there is a serious problem with Mr. Kurt Blumenfeld, who is ill and cannot return to Palestine. To a certain extent that also applies to Miss Eisner. They have rendered service in the past which would entitle them to a pension, even if they were not attached to the New York office. They are now actively rendering service in connection with Latin-American activities. They have arranged for a trip by Leib Jaffe to Brazil and they are in constant touch with people who have been sent from Jerusalem to contact communities in South America. Latin-American income last year was double that of the previous year. Any matters in connection with England or Canada are now being handled by the New York office, and only Latin-American activities are handled by this new committee of seven, under the supervision of the Keren Hayesod Board.



"Perhaps I should say one word on Hechalutz. Mr. Konowitz will be able to provide further details. We had a meeting of the Administrative Committee and looked into the report fully. We decided that subject to their raising at least five thousand dollars from individual friends, the Keren Hayesod will give them a subvention of \$20,000 in order to keep their two farms in New Jersey in operation, if the matter is approved by a special committee set up to investigate the whole matter.

"On Zionist Archives and Library, we can report that more and more our facilities are being used not only by Zionists but by research workers generally. About two hundred persons use the Zionist Archives and Library every month. It is very well handled, at a cost of approximately \$500 a month, and we have complete control over it.

In answer to Mr. Kaufmann's question, Judge Rosenblatt explained:

"We pay Mr. Blumenfeld \$300 a month for maintenance and \$100 a month against the salary that he draws in Palestine; \$225 to Rosenbluth and \$200 a month for Miss Eisner. The expense involved in Mr. Leib Jaffe's work in South America was estimated at \$2,500. We pay \$300 a month to Mr. Mibashan, whom the Keren Hayesod of Jerusalem appointed for work in South America. One can ask why expenses are not paid by the local people. It comes with much better grace, if the representative does not collect his salary and expenses from the local people. The campaign expenses are, of course, met by the communities during the course of the campaign. I will be glad to send Mr. Kaufmann a complete statement which breaks down the expenses."

MR. SZOLD thought that the Executive Committee ought to indicate its views on the stand taken by the two parties - Poale Zion and Mizrachi - that there be no constitutional amendments such as were wanted by the Z.O.A. which would stipulate the number of directors that each of the four organizations would be entitled to, and that for this year there be a general agreement that at the next annual meeting of the Keren Hayesod there be 125 directors elected -- that the Poale Zion would nominate exactly the same number they have this year, (12); that Mizrachi would also nominate the same number, -- 12; that Hadasah would have three; that the non-Zionists would have two, and that all the balance would be nominated by Z.O.A. Mr. Szold stated it was unnecessary to go into arguments they made in their objections to the constitutional amendments at this time. We ought to take action as to whether we are satisfied with that, or if not, what comments we have to make or what modifications. I would like to make one modification if the proposal is accepted in principle and that is this: That we only have a number of one hundred that would be elected from the Zionists and in the proportions that now govern; that the Mizrachi and Poale Zion would have some lesser amount, as would the Z.O.A., and that twenty-five be used for the purpose of drawing in non-Zionists, persons not identified with any Zionist Organization. I would suggest that if we are inclined to accept that proposal we ask the Parties to go along on that modification."

MR. FRISCH expressed his views by saying: "I cannot understand why we should finance the gentlemen from abroad. I also object to \$500 being paid for office expense for the foreign Keren Hayesod."

JUDGE ROSENBLATT: "We have objected to any office outside of the 42nd Street office. Beyond June every item of expense, with the exception of salaries, will be okayed by the headquarters here. Miss Eisner is in active charge of the South American activities, with such advice and help from Mr. Blumenfeld and Dr. Rosenbluth as may be necessary."

MR. WEISMAN, who was on the Committee mentioned by Mr. Rosenblatt, stated: "I would like as the Secretary of the Keren Hayesod, to touch briefly on a couple of underlying situations: It is the premise that the K. H. must carry out instructions of the K. H. office in Jerusalem in connection with funds; any funds not being sent directly to Palestine may be spent by the Jerusalem office. I must arrive at a modification of that premise, namely, that where the direction involved an expenditure of funds in America, the American organization, before doing as they are told, have the right to inquire why and wherefore. The war complicates the question to the degree that it becomes necessary for us to find out what the instructions are of this Executive body. In the absence of instructions, we have to do the best we can. Who besides the office in Jerusalem can give directions with regard to the disposition of funds that do not go to Palestine?"

MR. WEISMAN further said: "About the constitution and by-laws, Mr. Wertheim of the Peale Zion was very cooperative. I thought I made a good deal in that 62, 8, 12, or 11 proposition. I thought it was a fixed and a fair deal. The by-laws that had been criticized before this organization implemented its coordination resolution are just as fair. We went about the business of trying to correct the by-laws. We thought it would be a good plan by naming organizations and allocating representatives on the board. Now they say they prefer the status quo. Actually we may be in a position to force a change in the by-laws, and if this body wants the change they ought to say so, so that we can go about doing it."

MR. LIPSKY considered it very important to take note of the implications of the report made by Judge Rosenblatt. He said: "I was under the impression that this administration had fixed ideas with regard to certain matters, but as a matter of fact, when it comes to application it seems to dissolve into a policy of appeasement. With regard to one question there would not be any difference of opinion; I refer to the question stated by Mr. Weisman with regard to the right of any Zionist party at a time like this to establish operating agencies in the City of New York to run parallel with other bodies. There was established a Jerusalem Keren Hayesod office towards which there gravitated certain Zionist personalities. This activity had to do with a person who was particularly important. There was established in New York a Jerusalem K. H. which, as is the practice, grew by almost invisible sources; there was established a secretary who undoubtedly is entitled to consideration because that secretary served about twenty years; and there was added to that arrangement Dr. Rosenbluth. Any office in the city of New York can establish activity. All they have to do is to have telephone, an office, etc. It is a matter of principle whether it was the right thing, in view of the circumstances, to establish in New York something new - i. e. the Jerusalem Keren Hayesod making arrangements who should go to different places; that seemed to me an incongruity. The expenditure to direct the Keren Hayesod work of South America is a wasted one. It is not a reflection on the work of Miss Eisner. One girl can do all the work concerned with South American trips, etc. It is not healthy to have on a committee three men who know all about a thing and four men who know nothing about it and expect to have a majority. One does not put oneself in a position where a bureau is maintained only by good will and commonsense. This matter should be looked into and fixed, because if it is not, when the war is over, the problem will still be there."



DR. NAHUM GOLDMANN did not fully agree with Mr. Lipsky. He contended that "The K. H. in Jerusalem is responsible for the contact work in different countries. If not for the war regulations about currency, this whole question would not have arisen. The K. H. office for Jerusalem is necessary. The K. H. office in New York cannot do that type of work, for people who have experience with foreigners can do much more about it than people in America, and therefore it is quite understandable that some people have to be entrusted with this work. I was never in favor of Miss Eisner's coming here, but it was necessary to have a secretary, in addition to Miss Behrman who is doing the American work. From the \$21,000 you pay the salary of Dr. Blumenfeld which even in Jerusalem you paid; Leib Jaffe's expenses, which is really only a bookkeeping matter. We should not get excited about this matter, as all of this expense is being paid by Jerusalem."

MR. BERNSTEIN felt that the expenses should be supervised by the New York office.

DR. GOLDMANN informed Mr. Bernstein that Jerusalem does this. He continued: "I agree Zionists in this country cannot allow things to go on as they have; there should be a joint committee working together, but we must stick to the agreement made. I think we must make necessary concessions. We do not have any person to direct this work; we are getting much more money than we got before and we need people. We have come to a very good agreement -- and have a committee of good men to direct affairs."

DR. GOLDSTEIN expressed his views as follows: "The war emergency helps us to accomplish things that are worthwhile in and for itself, regardless of the war. If it is worthwhile gradually to draw as much authority as possible to the American scene in regard to administration of these funds, and I think it is, then perhaps we ought to use this emergency in order to bring in a certain method of procedure which will be helpful when the war is over. I have been the first one to insist that Jerusalem is the authority and I shall continue to do so as long as there is understanding. Nevertheless, I think it is worthwhile to bring about a change now, and one way to do it is that the K. H. should take into its hands a larger share of the direction of the funds. I think these people are in as good a position to judge what is needed as any body can be at the present time. I think we ought, step by step, to bring into our own the administration of the K. H. I would favor any suggestion which would bring about that end."

After discussion, JUDGE ROSENBLATT continued: "Mr. Lipsky is mistaken on the resolution of appeasement. I never knew there was such a thing as the Keren Hayesod of Jerusalem maintaining an office here until I came to the office. But I am perfectly willing to go through with the resolution on coordination. Mr. Lipsky is perfectly right -- that this office of the Jerusalem K. H. sort of grew up; nobody knows exactly how it came, but it came very gradually. Yet the whole question revolves around a sum of about \$16,000. I certainly do not want to see a dollar of K. H. money wasted, and as Mr. Lipsky points out -- and correctly so -- that so far as Mr. Blumenfeld is concerned, we have to pay that sum, even as a pension. Miss Eisner worked fifteen years with Dr. Hantke, and we have to pay her a pension, if we did not employ her. Thus, out of the \$16,000 you will find that at least \$10,000 would have been spent by us anyhow. As far as Dr. Rosenbluth is concerned, we pay him \$225 a month, which is only part of his salary, the other part being paid by the UPA. The question might be asked why the UPA pays him a

6/9/42

salary. I think Dr. Rosenbluth can be made to render useful service. I think we shall cut down to at least 50% - the other expenses, for cables, rent, telephone, etc. and yet we have to have someone take care of affairs in South America. All expenditure of money in the future must first be passed by the Finance Committee. Any other procedure would mean a possible conflict with Jerusalem, and it would not be worthwhile. As a matter of fact, Jerusalem had authorized all their expenditures last year, and when the new Board took office this year, we received a cable authorizing the same procedure as last year.

"I should like to say, finally, that in this connection, the Administrative Committee feels that we have made considerable improvements in the situation, and we hope to continue along these lines."

MR. SZOLD in making a motion stated: "As Mr. Lipsky was making his statement about outsiders in this country and the business of South America, I found myself in complete agreement and I MOVE that this body go on record, as a matter of policy, and express its views that the work in South America should be curtailed, and abolished if possible; secondly, that there should not be sent from Jerusalem to America representatives of the K.H. as long as the K.H. in America is in operation."

MR. LIPSKY felt that the work of carrying on K. H. activities in South America and elsewhere, points which cannot be reached by Jerusalem office, should be conducted by a Committee set up by the American K.H. and which should exercise complete control.

No vote was taken on the motion, but Mr. Szold stated after further discussion that the formulation of policy should be left to a later meeting of the Executive Committee.

#### IV. REPORT OF THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND:

MR. MENDEL N. FISHER reported on the American J.N.F. situation. He read from a prepared report, herewith attached, as Appendix "A". In addition, he acknowledged the wonderful work done by Daniel Frisch in securing seventy inscriptions to the J.N.F. Golden Book in Indianapolis. He also spoke of the 40th anniversary celebration in Philadelphia at which 1100 people were present and where over \$10,000 was raised, and announced that Dr. Weizmann has agreed to address the closing affair in the City of Chicago, June 21st. Rabbi Morton Berman is Chairman of this Committee.

On the matter of the J.N.F. loan, Mr. Fisher stated: "The loan of three million dollars has been found feasible instead of Dr. Weizmann's plan. Dr. Weizmann is in sympathy with this loan we want to launch. We have been in consultation with the A.E.C. and Mr. Guzik and Mr. Sincoff will head the Committee. It will take a few months to draw up the details and pay off the previous loan. I am sure the J.N.F. will have the blessings of the Executive in furthering this loan. The official press in Palestine announced 6,000 dunams of land for sale, advertising this item with the consent of the government. The war has not affected the income of the J.N.F. Representatives of the Z.O.A. are working very conscientiously.

The Chairman added that Mr. A. H. Cohem is very much concerned with the work of the J.I.F. With regard to the loan, he said that the Emergency Committee adopted a resolution approving this loan and authorized the appointment of a special committee to take up the matter with Drs. Goldstein and Silver.

RABBI MILLER wanted to know, from a public relations view point and the war situation whether the loan is considered feasible and advisable at this time?

RABBI GOLDSTEIN explained that they felt that at a time when war bonds were being sold at the rate of fifteen million a day, the floating of this loan would not be considered as an interference.

JUDGE LEVINTHAL also informed the Executive that he understood that the matter was discussed with certain people in Washington.

RABBI GOLDSTEIN further reported that Mr. Boukstein has gone into the legal phase of the loan.

He went on to say "Based on my observation in Indianapolis, Indianapolis happens to be one community where the Z.O.A. is not only predominant, but almost exclusive -- I do not believe they have Mizrahi or Poale Zion groups which amounts to anything there -- this achievement might be said to be purely Z.O.A. I suggest therefore, when Mr. Shetzer finds situations of that nature, that he call the matter to the J.I.F. attention so that Z.O.A. can get proper credit."

RABBI GOLDSTEIN in reply to a question of Mr. Kaufmann said: "That the details of the loan were not finally fixed. He asked for the best advice of the members of the Executive.

MR. KAUFMANN felt that three and a half percent would be a good return at the present time and that the loan would go over.

#### V. REPORT ON THE U.P.A.

JUDGE LEVINTHAL called attention to the fact that a meeting of the Allotment Committee of the U.P.A. was being held today, and therefore no representative of the U.P.A. was present. He reported that five or six hundred thousand dollars was to be distributed in addition to the \$11,600,000 already distributed in 1941 campaign. The U.P.A. is putting in a strong claim for all of that money. They have just reasons and Judge Levinthal had no doubt that they would get all of that money.

#### VI. THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION:

MR. DANIEL FRISCH, Chairman presented the report, which is attached hereto as Appendix "B"

The Chairman then invited Mr. Lawrence Crohn of Detroit, a member of the Constitutional Revision Committee, to supplement Mr. Frisch's report.

MR. CROHN: "I want to address myself for a few moments to the matter of group membership. I have been struck for years by one of the major problems facing us. The Z.O.A. is taken seriously; there is little anti-Zionism in the country and notwithstanding that, we have not been successful in getting tachlis. Logically, therefore, I must say there is something wrong with our method. Instead of pressing the old method we have thought up this matter of group membership, which, of course, is not entirely new. I say to you that we can get to Jewish organizations, synagogues, clubs, lodges, which is the set-up of American Jewish life, and in order to accomplish our purposes, we have to fall in line with the natural set-up. Take the community synagogue which is very susceptible. One has only to refer to prayer book for argument; we can say to them this is the ideal for which you stand; we ask that you subscribe to the Basle program. Once members of congregation have subscribed to this, automatically every bill should include Zionist dues. We can make provisions for those who wish to join Mizrahi or Poale Zion. Instead of running around the country making fine speeches and entertaining people. — we ought to focus our energy to get synagogue membership; we have the possibilities of tremendous accomplishments. One example, in the whole Yorkville District of New York we do not have as many members as we can secure from one synagogue in that section. In one populous region in New York, one schul that would vote to come into the organization would give us more membership than we have in the entire district. There is, however, the problem of lowering the dues. I would suggest non-voting and voting membership in order to make possible the bringing of larger groups. The voting membership would be the regular five dollar member; who would continue to pay their dues. In certain synagogues where \$5. would represent insurmountable difficulties, I would suggest a \$3.00 membership. That is the plan in some detail. I think it can be done. I have talked to a number of people who are interested in synagogues and no one I spoke to thinks it is entirely inadvisable. It would mean making preparations for this plan. I want to say I do not envisage at this point the abolishment of districts." Mr. Crohn's prepared statement is attached as Appendix "C".

DR. WISE reported that Dr. Solomon Goldman once got his entire congregation to enter the Z.C.A. as did Rabbi Rudolph Rosenthal of Cleveland. "It seems to me there is so much in this matter, that I MOVE that copies of this report, supplemented by Mr. Crohn's memorandum, be sent to the members of the Executive and a special date be fixed for discussion of this matter. We should devote an entire meeting to this matter only. Copies should also be sent to the Administrative Council," Dr. Wise said.

RABBI GOLDSSTEIN proposed that copies be sent to the Administrative Council together with the reaction of the Executive Committee after the special meeting takes place.

JUDGE LEVINthal disclosed that about two months ago, not through the solicitation of the Z.O.A., the secretary of one large fraternal organization, with a male membership of 12,500, wrote to him to inquire whether it is possible to enroll them in group membership, telling the Z.O.A. in the letter that the Brith Shalom adopted the Basle Program and they would like to implement it. Judge Levinthal inquired of Mr. Shetzer and found that the Z.O.A. has no constitutional provisions along that line. The only arrangements the Z.O.A. has is with the Order Sons of Zion, who have only about 2,300 members who are not direct members of the Z.C.A.



JUDGE LEVINTHAL said that he had personally discussed the subject of synagogue affiliation with Rabbi Solomon Goldman and Rabbi Simon Greenberg of Philadelphia. They have good Zionist congregations and both said that it was utterly impossible; they felt that to force members of congregations to join the Z.O.A. would stir up anti-Zionism.

MR. LIPSKY expressed his views as follows: "There are many things in what Mr. Frisch says that have been said before, but one point is important that ought to be given consideration by Z.O.A. -- the suggestion that there is a difference between what is called voting member or member of Herzl Club or members who join groups. If we can establish in the Z.O.A. a clear-cut distinction of those who are Zionists and others who come in as members of congregations, etc. we would have the beginning of a strong Zionist movement. There ought to be a group in the Z.O.A. membership of active and loyal Zionists of whom everything should be asked, and another membership with limited responsibility."

MR. CROHN replied that that is exactly the set-up he had in mind.

RABBI MILLER stated that he was not aware that such was the implication of Mr. Frisch's memorandum, but with the elaboration as offered by Mr. Lipsky, he disagreed. He continued: "I disagree on only one basis and that is the pure basis of principle involved. What Mr. Lipsky would create as a result of this would be a Jewish agency within the Z.O.A. Instead of having our trouble as we are having all these years, we would now have a Zionist Organization which would have within it the Zionists, and the non-Zionists in the form of sympathizers. I am against any kind of membership scheme in the Z.O.A. which divides members into voting and non-voting classes. Every man should be treated the same. It is what I understand as democracy. I am for a mass membership that will bring every Jew into the Z.O.A.; I am for synagogue and group membership. Any Rabbi who says to me I am afraid to put up such resolution before his congregation is not facing the issue. I am for group membership; I am for bringing masses of Jews into the movement; I am for the shekel which is the basis of the World Zionist Organization; there are no distinctions in the W.Z.O. We should build up a sponsors group, a Presidents Chapter; build up a group who in a public spirited fashion will make contributions towards the larger program of Z.O.A."

MR. FRISCH said "I propose a maximum dues of \$200, and a minimum of \$1.00, according to the means of the person. I visualize this group as a group of people sold on the Herzlian view of Zionism. In the Herzl group proposed no man will be asked to belong unless he affirms his allegiance to the Herzlian view of Zionism. If we cannot have such a Herzl group in America, rather than maintain an organization only to collect dues, let us represent to the British Government that all persons, who give money to the U.P.A. are for Palestine and, therefore, are members of the Z.O.A."

MR. CROHN said further "I think Rabbi Miller is setting up something that does not exist. We are not pressing the dissolution of Zionist forces; we are presenting a plan to get larger groups to enlarge our membership, and for this reason we are vitally interested in setting up clubs; it will not give them any special privileges, except that they will give more to Zionism. The Club will be open to all to join."

RABBI GOLDSTEIN wanted to know, in connection with the report of the Committee, whether it would be within the province of the Executive Committee to consider other aspects to strengthen the Z.O.A. i. e., not by means of different membership, but hegemony in the Z.O.A. "There is a feeling of dissatisfaction" Dr. Goldstein said, "among the Zionists over the fact that the Z.O.A. is not building up a membership which they think it ought to be able to build up in the American Zionist scene, and while they have done much to bring order into the Zionist household, there is still a feeling that there is something lacking and that the Z.O.A. does not stand out in the picture. I wonder whether it would be within the province of this committee to give thought to this."

MR. SZOLD asked the Committee whether they would consider dues of \$1. instead of two or three for this group membership and what they thought about it.

MR. FRISCH said only \$2.00 was mentioned. They did not consider the money angle, but just suggested a nominal figure.

MR. SZOLD thereupon asked if the Committee had considered the proposal submitted by the Emergency Committee at one time of general registration.

DR. WISE'S motion that Mr. Crohn's and Mr. Frisch's reports be submitted to the Executive Committee and then circulated to the Administrative Council was seconded and unanimously carried.

The meeting adjourned for dinner at 7:30 P. M.

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The meeting reconvened at 8:45 P. M.

PRESENT: Judge Louis E. Levinthal, presiding; Robert Bernstein, Rabbi Isadore Breslau, Daniel Frisch, Harry Grayer, Mordecai Koncwitz, Dr. Harris J. Levin, Emanuel Neumann, and Robert Szold.

BY INVITATION: Mr. Mendel N. Fisher

MEMBERS OF STAFF: Zvi Levavy, H. A. Schulson, and Mr. Simon Shetzer.

MR. BERNSTEIN felt that on account of the skeleton attendance, important matters should not be taken up at this time.

RABBI BRESLAU commenting on the poor attendance said: "There has been a great deal said about the necessity of having the meetings in New York City. I have discovered from the past several meetings held in New York that the men of New York are not here. I respectfully submit, in view of the situation, that the meetings may just as well be held in Washington. I notice particularly the absence of a number of men on the Executive who were formerly regular in their attendance and I have not seen them here lately - I refer to Drs. Bridgner, Goldman, and Heller, Ezra Shapiro and others. I am wondering whether a note should be sent to them."



VII. REPORT ON THE AMERICAN PALESTINE FUND:

JUDGE LEVINTHAL "I want to report that at the last meeting of the Executive Committee a special committee was authorized to take the matter up with Dr. Silver of the U.P.A., and, if he approved, the Committee was given authority to agree to have members of the Z.O.A. to the extent of fifty percent of the total number serve on the A.P.F. provided the name was changed and provided other conditions were met. Dr. Wise and I did speak to Dr. Silver about the American Palestine Fund. Dr. Silver approved the American Palestine Fund sponsorship by us to the extent that the conditions adopted at the last meeting were met. Subsequent to discussion with Dr. Silver, Mr. Norman submitted a list of names of Zionists to be added to the Board of Directors. I sent that list to Mr. Shetzer and had him check it to make sure that they were members in good standing of the Z.O.A. I was informed that all of them, with the possible exception of one, were members in good standing. The matter will now be taken up with Mr. Norman to make sure that the list is a satisfactory one and that the conditions which we originally stipulated are met. At that time, a public announcement will be made to the effect that the American Palestine Fund was reorganized with the approval of the Z.O.A.."

MR. KONOWITZ suggested that the name be changed to "American Fund for Palestine Institutions."

THE CHAIRMAN informed Mr. Konowitz that the name will have to meet with the approval of the U.P.A.

Asked by Mr. Frisch whether any protest had been received from the U.P.A. because of the Z.O.A. endorsement of this Committee. JUDGE LEVINTHAL informed the Executive that Dr. Wise and he discussed the matter with Dr. Silver and obtained his approval.

Asked by Mr. Grayer whether the American Palestine Fund included the Red Mogan Dovid. MR. FRISCH said that Eleazer Lipsky informed him that the Red Mogan Dovid was not ready to enter into the American Palestine Fund.

MR. KONOWITZ informed the Executive that the whole question of what institutions are to be considered is still open.

VIII. THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL BUDGET:

Mr. Shetzer was called upon to report on the matter of the sub-committees appointed to take up the U.P.A. budget question. He said: "At the February meeting of our Executive Committee, the President was authorized to appoint a Committee to meet with the Budget Committee of the U.P.A. to examine the U.P.A. budget, with a view to determining whether any functions now being performed by U.P.A. ought not more properly be performed by the Z.O.A."

"We met on April 29th. The Z.O.A. was represented by Judge Levinthal, Rabbi Breslau, Messrs. Abraham Goodman, Irving Lipkowitz, Zvi Levavy and Simon Shetzer. The U.P.A. was represented by Mr. Charles Resenbloem, who presided over the joint meeting, and Messrs Charles Ress, Henry Montor and Mendel Fisher.

At one point in the discussion Mr. Rosenbloom took umbrage at the whole proceedings and questioned the right of the Z.O.A. even to ask such questions of the U.P.A. At another point Mr. Ress challenged the whole proceedings, saying that our Committee had apparently come there to liquidate the U.P.A., which, of course we denied.

The principal point raised in the discussion and the approach made by our Committee are contained in a letter which I subsequently addressed to Mr. Montor and from which I quote:

"The U.J.A. is likely to continue for many years to come; at least, for the duration of the war and for the reconstruction years thereafter. As a partner in the U.J.A., the U.P.A. is not directly engaged in the raising of funds, the purpose for which it was originally established. It may even be said that the National U.J.A. itself is not in the fund-raising business. The largest share of the funds raised, outside of New York, comes from Federation and Welfare Fund communities. In New York City, itself, up to this year, such monies were raised by a U.J.A. organization created ad hoc.

The U.P.A., as such, does not directly engage in the raising of funds. It receives funds from the U.J.A. and transmits them to the Keren Hayesod and the Keren Kayemeth. Its principal raison d'être under these circumstances is to enter into a contractual arrangement once each year with the J.D.C. as partner and with the National Refugee Service as beneficiary. Subsequently, the U.P.A. is called upon to furnish material to the Allotment Committee to serve as a basis for distribution of funds in excess of the initial allocations. For this purpose, the U.P.A., most assuredly, must maintain a research department with adequate budget.

The field service activities, the publicity and educational activities, do not directly contribute to the raising of funds, for the U.P.A., as such, does not come before an Allocation or Budget Committee of a Federation or Welfare Fund. It is the U.J.A. which makes the application.

While it is urged that the U.P.A. must engage in these various activities to maintain the equity in its name and to act as a "transmission belt" or "front" organization for the purpose of enlisting on behalf of Palestine, support which is not generally labelled as Zionist, it cannot be argued that this increases the allocation to the U.J.A. by the various local Welfare Funds. It is defended primarily on the ground that it has enlisted the support and good will of persons outside the Zionist ranks upon whom the U.P.A. can rely in the event that the U.J.A. should be terminated and the U.P.A. should be compelled to conduct an independent approach to the various communities. Experience in connection with the referendum on national budgeting as well as the experience involving independent U.P.A. approaches to Federations and Welfare Funds, demonstrates that, when the U.P.A. requires its special interests and position to be protected and defended, it must depend upon organized, disciplined Zionists. U.P.A. "fellow-travellers", with perhaps very limited exceptions, are not U.P.A. protagonists, under these circumstances.

It follows then, that the most dependable sources of strength for the U. P. A. are the members of the Z.O.A. in their respective communities. It follows, too, that a substantial portion of the U.P.A. budget, designed to protect the position of the U.P.A. against the day when it may have to conduct an independent appeal, is an expensive luxury which we can ill-afford these days, in the light of the great improbability of an independent U.P.A. campaign at any time in the near future. Even on the present budget, approximately half a million dollars might be saved for Palestine in a five year period if the U.P.A. recognized that many of the functions in which it is engaged are no longer required by reasons of the new realities of fund-raising.

The question involved is not whether a specific item in the U.P.A. administrative budget is excessive or not. The question is whether the function originally performed in relation to a specific fund-raising program must still be continued, even though the original purpose for which it was designed no longer obtains.

General Zionist education, the promotion of an interest in Palestine and the marshalling of manpower on behalf of all Palestine interests and projects, whether fund-raising, political, or economic, are the specific tasks of the Z.O.A. When these tasks are performed both by the U.P.A. and the Z.O.A. through parallel periodicals and publications, State and Regional Conferences, and field services, there is bound to be duplication and waste, both financially and of human resources.

The whole inquiry should be approached in the light of the above observations."

The session lasted about 4 hours. It terminated with an examination of the latest Administrative Budget of the U.P.A. of April 1st, 1942. It was generally agreed that the Research department of the U.P.A. required to provide the basis for urgent action of the annual agreement with the J.D.O. and to prepare the necessary material for the Allotment Committee of the U. J. A., is certainly a proper functional activity of the U.P.A.

As the other functions of the U.P.A., the members of our Committee felt that the amounts budgeted were generally not excessive in the light of the explanation given by Mr. Montor of the need for the respective activities. We urged, however, that the various budgetary provisions depend ultimately upon the validity of the major premise; namely, that the U.P.A. must continue to engage in those activities which were originally designed to implement its fund-raising program notwithstanding, it no longer operates directly as a fund-raising agency.

RABBI BRESLAU stated that the discussions at the meeting with the U.P.A. were substantially as Mr. Shetser reported them. He said: "Mr. Montor prepared the minutes of that meeting to be sent to Mr. Shetser. I read those minutes. They can be interpreted in one or two ways. The minutes, as sent to Mr. Shetser, reported only that point of view which stipulated Montor's position and did not represent entirely the point of view represented by the Z.O.A. members of that committee. About the middle of the discussion I began to press a particular question which I wanted Mr. Montor to answer. I wanted to know what the function

was, in his judgment, of the U.P.A.; whose duty it was to perform the necessary things in the U.P.A. Mr. Montor then explained in some detail that the general function was to maintain U.P.A. for a future date and, therefore, it had to maintain a propaganda department, field service, etc. I believe if the functions outlined by Mr. Montor are to be done properly they have to have a budget of one half million dollars, not \$130,000. A further function was that it had to be in a position to make an annual contract with the J.D.C. and U.J.A. and that for that purpose had to gather data and submit certain surveys, etc. That reason is quite proper. But I do not believe that the other matters are within the province of the U.P.A. I maintained that it is our people who should carry on the educational work and that the budget of the U.P.A. should be only of such character as to cover the cost of the committee that has to enter into negotiations with U.J.A. — in other words, the research department. Only for that function should it require and receive funds. Our policy should be to instruct our members on the Administrative Committee of the U.P.A. to vote accordingly.

A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED to instruct the Z.O.A. members on the Administrative Committee of the U.P.A. to vote along the lines discussed by Rabbi Breslau.

It was decided to take this matter up again at a larger meeting of the Executive Committee, for there were not sufficient members present.

MR. KONOWITZ wanted to know what part of the budget was allocated for research work

MR. SHETZER read the various items listed in the latest U.P.A. budget, which is attached hereto as Appendix "D". The U.P.A. is now operating on an annual budget of \$130,546.40.

MR. SZOLD wanted to know whether it was true that the U.P.A. does no fund-raising in any place in the United States.

It was pointed out by Mr. Shetzer that 85% of the money raised outside of New York City comes from Welfare funds. The U.P.A. as such does not raise these funds.

MR. NEUMANN felt that one argument the Z.O.A. will meet in the U.P.A. and which he felt has some force, is that to a great extent this heavy expenditure is forced upon it as a matter of competition by the kind of thing which the J.D.C. does. The J.D.C. apparently has even less concern about the amount of money that they spend. "I have no doubt that there is much less critical analysis in that camp than there is in ours, so that the J.D.C. goes in for heavy expense for the purpose of maintaining its position. The U.P.A. has proposed to the J.D.C. to have an all around reduction of propaganda, but the J.D.C. declined. It does not meet every argument to say the Z.O.A. can do that work for the U.P.A. It is also true, of course, that that money is covered by the U.J.A. The net result is that three fund raising organizations have double expense because of competition.

MR. SHETZER supplemented his remarks by saying "I have a feeling that in the last year or two the Z.O.A. stands higher with the Federations and Welfare Funds than it has in previous years. I have the conviction that if we Zionists were prepared to cut down the U.P.A. budget to a size commensurate with the size of its real functions at this time, then Federations and Welfare Funds would exercise a similar pressure on the J.D.C. and N.R.S."



Because of the war conditions, MR. FRISCH thought the Z.O.A. should approach Hadassah regarding the lowering of the representation at both conventions. Instead of the usual procedure of one delegate for each fifty members in good standing, he felt that -- if Hadassah agrees -- the ratio should be one delegate for each hundred members. But he felt that both organizations should agree to this cut, so that one does not outshine the other in attendance. He continued: I absolutely believe that as an American and as a matter of common sense, as well as in the question of principle, it is a luxury, not justified, to bring so many people to a convention during the present situation."

JUDGE LEVINTHAL believed that the Convention Committee should consider this question very carefully. "In fact," he said: "it may be impossible by October to hold the convention at all because of the recent statements in the newspapers regarding the traveling situation."

MR. FRISCH felt that there was a two-fold reason in reducing the attendance, first, it was a matter of loyalty, and, secondly if we cut down the delegates to one-half the number, we might be able to find a city outside of New York City, where the convention can be held -- somewhere like Buffalo or one of those cities. He asked that the matter be given serious consideration, especially in view of the fact that the holding of a convention in New York City is not conducive to maximum publicity, etc.

MR. SZOLD agreed wholeheartedly with Mr. Frisch and went on to say: "I think we ought to give serious consideration to not having any convention at all for reasons Mr. Frisch mentioned and others. I think that the negotiations on the part of Hadassah and Z.O.A. were not received too enthusiastically; neither had too much enthusiasm for a joint convention. Also, I believe that a convention in October would not be well attended and a convention in New York is subject to other difficulties, discord, etc. I look with some apprehension on the business of having a joint convention with Hadassah and I feel that Hadassah would be relieved, too, if we took the onus in this regard."

JUDGE LEVINTHAL read the following excerpt from a letter he received from Leon B. Sager of Chicago. ". . . . It is my studied opinion that no Convention ought to be held by either the Zionist Organization or Hadassah at this time for the following reasons: 1. To tie in with the government's desire to conserve the use of the railroads and avoid conventions. 2. To save the time of the members of the organization for war work. 3. To save the hundred thousand dollars that would be spent by 2,000 delegates and which could be made as a donation to the National Fund."

MR. NEUMANN remarked: "Since Mr. Szold spoke up I am losing my shyness on the subject. I think I voted against the proposal at the very beginning. I must say that I never could understand this proposal, especially since I understand that on Hadassah's side there is a lukewarmness on the whole matter. I do not see what the great "metziya" is of having a joint convention. We just had a big conference with some 1200 people; I do not think we want a repetition of such sort of thing. If we have a small convention -- a couple of hundred of delegates -- it can be a very good one and produce results. I believe the matter ought to be reconsidered."

MR. SHETZKE informed the Committee that he was one of the first to propose this idea of concurrent conventions. "I agree", he said, "that there may not be tremendous enthusiasm on the part of the Hadassah National Board or the Z.O.A. Executive in this connection. However, I am of the opinion that the rank and file

throughout the country like this idea. There is a close relationship between the Hadassah and the Z.O.A. in communities throughout the United States, as I know to exist in Detroit and as I now find in Washington. This is the kind of thing that these people — people who work in these communities — think is inevitable.

MR. FRISCH explained that he is in favor of a joint convention, but is not in favor of having two thousand people meet in convention. He strongly advocated the cutting down the number of delegates, and also have Hadassah do the same.

RABBI BRESLAU reported that some two months ago he raised the question of cutting out the convention this year, with Mr. Shetzer, but as long as a convention is taking place, he was in favor of a joint one. He stated: "As to a joint convention, I agree with Mr. Shetzer that if you would canvass the rank and file you would find that they are for a joint convention. In local communities where it has been tried, both the Hadassah and the Z.O.A. benefitted and profited, so, as an idea I like joint conventions, but I think we ought to propose because of the war situation that the Z.O.A. should find another medium than a convention — either a limited convention, as such, or giving authority to the Administrative Council to act instead."

JUDGE LEVINthal announced that at a special meeting which should be called within the next four weeks, the convention committee should report back.

MR. FRISCH MOVED that if the Committee decided to recommend the holding of the convention jointly with Hadassah, that the representation be limited on the basis of the present emergency.

MR. KONOWITZ suggested that the Committee consider the possibility of holding an extraordinary conference of the Administrative Council rather than go to the expense and trouble of electing 150 delegates. He claimed that the Administrative Council is a true representation of the districts, for they named the members of the Council, and therefore, they can serve and a meeting of that body can take the place of the convention.

MR. KONOWITZ thereupon MOVED that a Committee be appointed to look into the convention matter.

DR. LEVINE'S views were along the same lines as that of Mr. Frisch and Mr. Konowitz and felt that as long as the original purpose behind the Hadassah-Z.O.A. Shidach was not practical, — that is, to hold a large gathering and demonstration — then there was no need for a convention.

MR. FRISCH'S MOTION was then worded as follows: "A Committee be appointed to consider the possibility of not holding a convention this year, bearing in mind that if it is the wish of the Administrative Council that a convention be held, then the delegates should be elected on the basis of one delegate for every hundred members in good standing."

MR. KONOWITZ made a substitute MOTION as follows: "That a committee be appointed to consider the possibility of postponing the convention for next year and in the interim calling a meeting of the Administrative Council in September to act instead."

This MOTION was seconded and carried.

MR. SHETZER pointed out that in case a convention is held, we have to have a committee to prepare the budget for the ensuing year.

A MOTION was thereupon made and seconded that a Budget Committee to prepare the budget for the ensuing year, be appointed. Motion carried.



## XI THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS:

THE CHAIRMAN announced that he had received a request from Dr. Stephen S. Wise, President of the American Jewish Congress, asking the Z.O.A. to name two representatives to the Governing Council of the American Jewish Congress. "I informed Dr. Wise, "Judge Levinthal said "that the matter would be submitted to the Executive Committee for I do not feel that I am authorized to make my own decision in the matter."

MR. FRISCH MOVED that this matter be postponed to the next Executive Committee meeting.

JUDGE LEVINTHAL felt that Mr. Shetzer ought to get information from our records as to what resolutions have ever been adopted by the Z.O.A. at conventions, Administrative Council or Executive Committee meetings dealing with the American Jewish Congress. When, if ever, was the Zionist Organization of America officially represented on the governing boards of the American Jewish Congress.

MR. SHETZER supplemented the Chairman's remarks by reading another letter from the American Jewish Congress, dated June 10, 1942 (attached hereto as Appendix E) inviting the Z.O.A. to become one of the sponsors of the United Jewish War Effort.

MR. FRISCH again MOVED that action be postponed to the next meeting of the Executive and that we advise the Congress immediately that they should not use our name among sponsors of Conference until we so indicate.

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MR. GRAYER wished to have the position of the Z.O.A. clarified with respect to the American Jewish Congress.

JUDGE LEVINTHAL pointed out that that is one of the purposes of the Committee which he suggested should be appointed.

MR. GRAYER felt that the Z.O.A. should not lose time to clarify our position with respect to this matter.

THE CHAIRMAN informed the Executive Committee members that no time had been allotted to the Z.O.A. at the last conference of the American Jewish Congress.

## XII AMPAL:

JUDGE LEVINTHAL reporting on Ampal said: "Mr. Dickenstein approached me regarding a corporation known as Ampal and he requested that the Executive Committee of the Z.O.A. give its endorsement of this corporation. I told him that what I thought should be done is to have a committee appointed to look into the matter generally and report back to the Executive Committee. I think we owe it to Mr. Dickenstein to look into this matter."

MR. SZOLD, commenting on the Ampal said: "Mr. Dickenstein is a good salesman and he has organized a corporation which promises to pay 4% in dollars on preferred stock. I am very much interested in the economic development of Pal-

estine, but before the Z.O.A. could put itself in a position of endorsing one such organization, it must consider a large number of corporations in Palestine that are doing pretty fair work and I think Mr. Dickenstein's corporation is not the only one that will continue to do good work. We had experience with the American Zion Commonwealth. There was also the Achuzza Aleph. There have been other corporations. I do not think the Z.O.A. can single out Mr. Dickenstein's corporation, particularly because Mr. Dickenstein's corporation, if it has any stamp at all, has the stamp of the Histadruth. It would not be for us to put a stamp on the Histadruth even though he gets his money from general Zionists. When Mr. Dickenstein made his speech the other day, he indicated that Ampal may be the vehicle through which fifty million can be raised after the war. If we look at Ampal from this point of view, it seems to me that we cannot ignore the Palestine Economic Corporation which has a record of years of constructive service in Palestine, and which makes no claim of being able to pay four percent in dollars in this country but which has done many constructive services and which has a distinguished Board of Directors. These things must be kept in mind before any action can be taken in recommending Mr. Dickenstein's corporation."

MR. FRISCH reported that Mr. Kaufmann, after a conversation with Mr. Dickenstein, subscribed to \$10,000 worth of stock. He said: "I told Mr. Kaufmann I am loathe to build up the power of the Histadruth. I would like to know, before anything is done, who is to control the Ampal, etc. Mr. Dickenstein was to meet with me and discuss the situation, but he never did so. I am very reluctant to endorse any corporation until all details are obtained and I feel that we ought not to endorse an organization unless these organizations are controlled by people of our own point of view. I concur with the statement made by Mr. Szold. We ought to wish Mr. Dickenstein good luck, but we should not give our endorsement."

JUDGE LEVINTHAL thought that a committee should be appointed to meet with Mr. Dickenstein.

MR. SZOLD MOVED that a Committee be appointed and instructed to look into the Palestine Economic Corporation as well as the Ampal. Both motions were unanimously adopted.

#### XIII. THE BRANDEIS BOOK:

JUDGE LEVINTHAL: "As you know, we are going to publish the collection of public utterances of Justice Brandeis. Justice Frankfurter promised me that he would prepare the introduction. I received a letter from him saying that due to his court work it would be impossible to do it prior to the adjournment of court, and he told me that the introduction will be a brief one. I have had numerous meetings with commercial publishers asking their advice as to whether it would be better to have the volume published under the imprint of one of the publishers or whether it would be best for the Z.O.A. to print it. The three all agreed that it would be useless to have a commercial publisher's imprint. One happened to be the publisher of The Henrietta Szold book -- the Viking Press. The problem we have to decide is whether we should like it to be done under the imprint of a commercial company or the Z.O.A. They feel that a book on Brandeis or by Brandeis would have a limited public and that public would be Zionists. The publishers would not advertise it at their own expense. I have about come to the conclusion that we ought to publish it under the imprint of the Z.O.A. We can get it done much more cheaply -- about one third of the price. It would

consist of 175 or 180 pages. The other question is one which I have to decide and I would like to get your help. The Jewish Day and the Jewish Morning Journal, hearing about the publication of this book, both asked for the right to translate the book and to publish the translation in Yiddish in their papers. The Jewish Morning Journal felt that they are doing us a favor by publishing this. I took it up with The Day and Mr. Weinberg offered a very nominal sum of \$10 per installment and it may consist of from thirty to fifty installments. When the J.M.J. heard about this they renewed negotiations and offered more money. Is it wise for us to sell it to either one of them?"

MR. FISHER felt that for such a small sum it would not be right to sell it to either one of the papers.

JUDGE LEVINTHAL wanted to know whether the matter should be left to the Finance Committee. He said that the Day offered free advertising for the book. The book would cost forty-five cents per copy to print and we can sell it for \$1. and make a profit, but Judge Levinthal felt that it ought to be sold for \$2.00 and use the money for advertising purposes.

MR. NEUMANN thought it would be best to advertise the book in the Anglo-Jewish press.

JUDGE LEVINTHAL said: "The last question with regard to the book is this: All the publishers say it would be unwise to publish this book in mid-summer, for we would not get reviews. I think, therefore, it might be a good idea to time the publication with the Brandeis Jahrzeit."

MR. NEUMANN considered it a good idea to have it come out in connection with the Convention in October, and Judge Levinthal informed Mr. Neumann that the Jahrzeit comes at about the same time as the convention.

MR. SHETZER suggested that we might try to sell the book at an advance sale at \$2.00 per copy, offering as a special inducement the imprint of the purchaser's name in gold letters.

MR. SZOLE: "I think that this has been an important meeting for what it has done and what it has not done. I am very much impressed with the agenda. We considered some time ago to coordinate and make the central body, the authoritative body, the thinking body and responsible body, the Executive of the ZOA. Today we had an excellent report from the Executive Director and reports from the funds. These things were prepared. We did not take action where we might have taken action; we have had a report from the Committee on constitutional revision; Mr. Neumann's report was worked out. I am distressed by the fact that people did not come back to the meeting. I wonder if it is not partly due to the present administration. Perhaps by a little bit more attention on the part of Mr. Shetzer, we could get meetings that do not peter out this way. It is discouraging to have such meetings. Perhaps the hour is wrong, or perhaps the day. I would like to see the progress shown here today carried forward and the next meeting, if possible, arranged so that a longer time is given and the agenda sent out in advance as far as possible and Z.O.A. guided along these lines. We hear finance reports of how smoothly the organization is running, etc. I earnestly ask the office if some mechanical way cannot be found to get people to attend these Executive Committee meetings; these are most important meetings and the members should be privileged to attend."

Someone referred to a report I made at the Emergency Committee on the economic affairs. I would like to tell those here in a couple of words what we are working on; we are trying to build up, in brief, a miniature Detroit in Palestine. I think Palestine has great possibilities in the near future of furnishing auxiliary service to the war effort to such an extent that not only will skilled and trained men in industrial and mechanical enterprises be needed, but we will find such a shortage that additional agencies will come to Palestine to take advantage of the situation. It is something that may be very significant.

Now I would like to add one other thought and that is the feeling that I have found in speaking to ordinary people during the last few weeks and months. They feel our time is at hand and great things are ahead for the Jews. This is before the speeches to which Mr. Neumann referred. Mr. Neumann did not refer to the bringing forward of the common man and I think it is of greatest importance. I think that conception will put Palestine in its place along with the international policing force and what will follow. We should look to Palestine as part of a larger concept and think of the Jew as part of larger sovereignty and how he fits into the whole order of Democracy and into the problems of minorities and majorities. With what is emerging, we are going to come into our own. We have a period of great challenge ahead of us and the Executive Committee should make most of it."

RABBI BRESLAU MOVED that the next meeting of the Executive be held in Atlantic City or Philadelphia.

JUDGE LEVINTHAL told Mr. Skold that the Z.O.A. did try to get a good attendance, but that the members simply will not attend.

MR. NEUMANN called to the attention of the Executive members an article appearing in the Collier's magazine by Professor Renner, professor of Geography, Columbia, in which he assumes that there will be a strong Jewish commonwealth in Palestine.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Simon Shetzer



REPORT BY MENDEL N. FISHER TO THE EXECUTIVE OF THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA  
HOTEL PENNSYLVANIA, JUNE 9TH, 1942

INTRODUCTION:

We submitted a report on behalf of the Jewish National Fund Administration to the last meeting of the Executive. Unfortunately, due to the long agenda, we were not able to submit the report orally. A copy of it was made available to the members of the Executive and I hope that you have had an opportunity to read it.

The purpose of the last report in the main was to summarize the interesting report which was received from the Keren Hayemeth LeIsrael in Jerusalem reviewing our work since the outbreak of World War II. The same report reviewed the activities of the Keren Kayemeth over a period of forty years since we are now observing four decades of JNF work throughout the world.

OUR 8-MONTHS OPERATIONS:

We are in a position to report today for a period of 8-months from October 1, 1941 to May 31, 1942. We have been able to maintain steady progress in our own traditional collections. We have not only been able to maintain our own but the income for the period under review shows an increase of 20.7% over the corresponding period of last year. The total amount collected from our own traditional collections was \$499,196.70 which compares with \$413,584.04 for the same period of last year.

Our share of the income from the U.P.A. for the same period was \$716,814.51 compared with \$432,953.19 for the corresponding period of last year. This makes a total of \$1,216,011.21 which we have received for the 8-month period from both the traditional collections and U.P.A. compared with \$846,537.23 for the same period of 1940-41, or an increase of 43.7% including all of the collections.

We have remitted to Eretz Israel \$1,049,558.61 compared with \$665,011.49 for the same period of last year or an increase of 57.8%.

40TH ANNIVERSARY:

The 40th Anniversary has served to focus wider attention on the work of the Keren Kayemeth. Celebrations have been held in the principal centers in America. These dinners and celebrations have served to bring together not only Zionists but members in the community generally whom we have made familiar with our work and thus we have been able to bring into the Zionist orbit people who normally do not attend Zionist functions. These celebrations have taken place throughout the year and will culminate with a dinner to be held in Chicago on June 21st.

Special mention should be made at this meeting of the outstanding achievements of the Indianapolis Zionist District under the leadership of Mr. Daniel Frisch, who is with us here this afternoon. Approximately 70 inscriptions in the Golden Book have been received. This has been done without the necessity of a campaign. It proves what can be achieved where there is a will and the leadership. Among the other communities that have already held their 40th Anniversary Celebrations are: Philadelphia, where we had a great evening last Sunday addressed by Mr. Ben-Gurion and Senator Pepper; our esteemed President, Judge Levinthal participated in the



program; similar celebrations have taken place in St. Paul, Minneapolis, Cincinnati, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Birmingham, etc. If all of the communities in this country would have responded, our income would have been even larger. We hope to exceed by a very substantial margin the amount that we had originally anticipated as income from our 40th Anniversary effort.

#### DR. WEIZMANN'S VISIT TO CHICAGO:

We are pleased to announce that for the first time, our leader, Dr. Chaim Weizmann, will participate as the guest of honor in a dinner which is to be held in Chicago on June 21st. This will be one of the largest J.N.F. functions in the country. Rabbi Morton M. Berman, who is a member of the Executive of the Z.O.A. is the President of the J.N.F. Council of Chicago. Under his magnificent leadership, we hope that the Chicago dinner will serve as an opportunity to the Midwestern Jewish communities to hear Dr. Weizmann's authentic word on the present situation. This will be Dr. Weizmann's first public appearance under J.N.F. auspices.

#### THE JNF LOAN:

The President of the Jewish National Fund of America, Dr. Israel Goldstein, has been giving a great deal of time not only to the administrative details of our operations but in addition to the visitations that he has personally made recently to St. Louis, Indianapolis, Rochester and Cincinnati, he has discussed with Dr. Weizmann the larger problems requiring our fullest consideration. Dr. Weizmann as some of us know has decided to devote much of his present visit to the United States to the work of the Keren Kayemeth in addition to the important political work in which he is now engaged. He has come over with a number of plans which have been carefully gone into by the JNF administration. In the opinion of Dr. Weizmann, it is necessary to acquire large areas of land in Palestine. The reasons I am sure must be obvious to all of us. To those of us who are familiar with the political situation, it is hardly necessary to emphasize that land buying is an important political action in and of itself. We must acquire land in strategic areas. We must be prepared for the peace that is to come and in that preparation, land acquisition must play a most important part. We dare not come to the Peace Conference unprepared. We may be told that the leaders of democracy are in sympathy with our aims. They want to help us but to provide for the settlement of millions of Jews, there must be land. It is, therefore, Dr. Weizmann's wish that we should consider some larger program to make available the means for the immediate acquisition of large areas of land.

Dr. Goldstein in his address to the Extraordinary Conference spoke of a large program. The Board of Directors of the Jewish National Fund appointed a committee headed by Mr. Leo Guzik, which has been studying the situation carefully. We have come to the conclusion that the only practical way of securing the larger resources is to float another loan. We have talked of a loan in the sum of about 3 million dollars. The Board of Directors has decided the matter in principle. The details will be carefully worked out by the committee headed by Mr. Guzik in cooperation with Mr. Maurice Boukstein who is giving us valuable advice and counsel. The Emergency Committee has already had the matter under consideration and our discussion will go forward with Dr. Silver, Chairman of the U.P.A. and with others concerned. We feel that the American Zionists would respond to such a loan. The Jewish National Fund has met all of its obligations promptly both as to amortization and interest in the first loan that it launched a few years ago. Whatever needs to be done legally will of course be taken care of in meeting our outstanding obligations on the first loan.

It should be of some encouragement to all of us that Mr. Frederick W. Gehle, who is Vice-President of the Chase National Bank in speaking at the JNF Dinner in Philadelphia said the following:

"The Chase National Bank of which I have the honor to be the Vice-President was the registrar for your last bond issue of one million dollars and I understand that every obligation concerning this bond was met promptly."

This is perhaps the best testimony that can be said by anyone insofar as meeting our obligations under the first loan is concerned. It is our hope that the Executive of the Z.O.A. will not only give us its blessings but will take an active part in realizing whatever goal we decide on for ourselves in the forthcoming loan.

THE WAR TEMPO:

We were all concerned after Pearl Harbor as to the response our cause would evoke among the Jews of America. Our fellow Zionists have met the acid test of loyalty and devotion to our cause. The general interest manifested in all circles throughout the country in the work for the Keren Kayemeth is the best testimony of the faith that is ours in the great work for the redemption of our land. It speaks volumes for the intelligence and the understanding of the American Jews. The Jewish National Fund educates as it raises money. In addition to meeting our obligations as Americans, the Jews of America will understand more and more the importance of maintaining our position in Palestine. It is up to us to lead them. It is by the confidence that we have in ourselves and in our Movement that we can generate that enthusiasm which must become contagious so that the American Jewish community may achieve greater results for Zionism and for those institutions which are the instrumentalities of our Movement including the Jewish National Fund.

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JEWISH NATIONAL FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS FOR 8 MONTH PERIOD  
October 1, 1941 - May 31, 1942

|          | <u>TRADITIONAL</u> |                  | <u>U.P.A.</u>     |                 | <u>TOTALS</u>     |                  |
|----------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
|          | <u>1941-42</u>     | <u>1940-41</u>   | <u>1941-42</u>    | <u>1940-41</u>  | <u>1941-42</u>    | <u>1940-41</u>   |
| OCTOBER  | \$ 12,655.87       | \$ 28,777.18     | \$ 120,000.00     | \$ 100,000.00   | \$ 132,655.87     | \$ 128,777.18    |
| NOVEMBER | 54,699.80          | 35,490.76        | 80,000.00         | 33,252.86       | 134,699.80        | 68,743.62        |
| DECEMBER | 96,169.26          | 61,817.07        | 31,198.31         | 31,695.60       | 127,367.57        | 93,512.67        |
| JANUARY  | 57,121.84          | 51,287.75        | 160,754.48        | 21,801.40       | 217,876.32        | 73,089.15        |
| FEBRUARY | 46,189.50          | 27,204.47        | 5,628.69          | 113,006.30      | 51,818.19         | 140,210.77       |
| MARCH    | 87,933.79          | 91,266.50        | 38,280.38         | 84,203.93       | 126,214.17        | 175,470.43       |
| APRIL    | 40,430.70          | 54,965.70        | 48,399.08         | 42,073.25       | 88,829.78         | 97,038.95        |
| MAY      | <u>103,995.94</u>  | <u>62,774.61</u> | <u>232,553.57</u> | <u>6,919.85</u> | <u>336,549.51</u> | <u>69,694.46</u> |
|          | \$ 499,196.70      | \$ 413,584.04    | \$ 716,814.51     | \$ 432,953.19   | \$ 1,216,011.21   | \$ 846,537.23    |

|          | <u>REMITTANCES TO PALESTINE</u> |                 |
|----------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
|          | <u>1941-42</u>                  | <u>1940-41</u>  |
| OCTOBER  | \$ 41,212.82                    | \$ 126,875.16   |
| NOVEMBER | 161,017.95                      | 3,850.23        |
| DECEMBER | 10,513.17                       | 122,281.63      |
| JANUARY  | 250,993.21                      | 114,792.98      |
| FEBRUARY | 240,689.05                      | 139,141.28      |
| MARCH    | 75,270.97                       | 72,102.68       |
| APRIL    | 119,459.87                      | 84,050.18       |
| MAY      | <u>150,401.57</u>               | <u>1,517.35</u> |
|          | \$ 1,049,558.61                 | \$ 665,011.49   |

MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

By  
DANIEL FRISCH, CHAIRMAN

The Zionist Organization of America, in my opinion and in the opinion of many who have been closely concerned with the Organization, is facing of late one organization crises after another.

Basic changes are necessary if the organization is to continue to serve our ideal and to function as a vital factor in the American Jewish scene. Furthermore, it is my considered opinion that these changes need be effected soon.

In considering the problem and contemplating changes, we should bear in mind not only the philosophy of the movement and certain desiderata, but also to face realistically the American Jewish scene of today, whether we approve of it or not. What are the facts? The Z.O.A. is now divorced from the fund-raising efforts on behalf of Palestine. The Jewish Welfare Fund is the communally accepted agency which discharges this function in the American Jewish community, an agency which is growing in strength daily.

The Palestinian funds having been divorced from the Z.O.A., the organization now becomes merely a potential agency for enlisting the mass endorsement of American Jewry. Even we of the Zionist ideology begin to look to the Zionist Organization of America solely for leadership in the mobilizing of the American Jewish community to make our political demands articulate in Washington, London and other influential circles. We seem to forget that Zionism is something more than even "Palestine" itself and that it has a message of inner salvation for the Jew who will remain outside of the Jewish Commonwealth, just as it embodies both physical as well as spiritual redemption for the Jew who would settle in Palestine.

In view of the situation, we should be compelled to re-examine the position we find ourselves in and to make such changes as the examination will indicate as essential for the immediate benefits to the cause.



To large numbers, very large numbers of American Jews, certain aspects of our organizational set-up are neither acceptable nor understandable. Whether the fault is ours or theirs, or inherent in circumstances of life, matters little. After having given the matter months of thinking, I honestly believe that we cannot reach, and shall probably never reach, through our present so-called District form of organization, numbers of Jews in excess of our present or thereabouts membership. The District is lifeless and unpromising. The present policy of securing members, not to speak of converts, is to my point of view a complete failure. This situation, as well as realistic foresight, should compel us therefore to re-shape our organization so that it would become more effective to meet the crying Zionist need for mass support, as well as to reach large numbers of Jews with our message, with the urgency of our ideal which constitutes the most promising approach to the answer of the tried Jewish problem.

I have therefore submitted to the Executive, certain changes which are to serve as a basis for the opening of a discussion.

Thereupon the president of the Z.O.A. appointed a committee of five, of which I was asked and have accepted to serve as chairman. The initial changes which I suggested, and which deal with improvement of administrative form, if we are to continue in the present set-up, are as follows:

1. That the committee on committees at our convention be elected by the regions and, perhaps, very large districts, on the basis of about one for every thousand members. The president to appoint five members at large.
2. That the committee on committees select its own chairman.
3. This said committee on committees constitute itself as a nominating committee.
4. That an Executive Committee be elected on a three years rotation on staggered basis consisting of 21 members, 7 should serve for three years, 7 for two years and 7 for one year.



5. That past presidents, when elected to the Executive, shall be in addition to the 21 regularly elected members and automatically counted as elected for three years.

6. That any Executive member should serve no longer than a maximum period of six consecutive years.

7. That no officer of the organization, including the president, should serve longer than two consecutive years in the same office.

8. That three vice-presidents be elected who should be charged with definite responsibilities. One should assume the office of Membership and Organization chairman, the second to serve as chairman of the Finance Committee, and the third to be in charge of Cultural work. The candidates for this office should be considered on the basis of their responsibilities, willingness to serve, and their location which should enable them to do so.

What is of much greater importance, as I see it, is the need for a longer range program, leading first to an immediate and most compelling drive to enroll synagogues, temples, and other types of organizations of Jews, in group membership, within the Z.O.A.

I would further suggest that we prepare the revision of our by-laws so that we make place for the representation of these organizations in the different governing bodies of the Zionist Organization of America, and that same be formulated on the basis of true democratic procedure. While on the subject, I would also suggest that we should revise our by-laws, though I do not know how, so as to remove once and forever the possibility of small groups or influential individuals controlling our conventions, executive, etc., as it unfortunately was the case sometimes in the past.

Second: I visualize the abandonment of the district form which is cumbersome, devitalized and mechanical. We shall replace it by creating group membership instead. At the same time we should build up a so-called true Zionist 'elite

membership' which will most likely not exceed the 15,000 mark. The pre-requisite of being accepted in this "cell" membership should be based: A) On adherence to Herzlian Zionism, B) On the willingness of submitting to dues assessment which should be based on the ability of the member to pay with a maximum, let us say, of \$100 dues per annum. I am convinced that such membership is both available and obtainable. It would recapture the evangelistic fervor which all parties in Zionism, except the General Zionists, seem to possess. Besides it being the back-bone of our cause, such inner Zionist circle would also furnish means necessary to provide the cultural and propaganda materials in order to educate and inspire the organization group membership which will become affiliated with the Z.O.A. on basis of about \$2.00 per annum per person.

The plan does not necessarily envisage that group membership of any of the organizations should be compulsory, but is, to begin with, only for those individuals in the group who would indicate their willingness and interest, as well as desire to be organized within their respective organizations. At any rate, it would be up to the respective organizations to decide how to handle the matter, just as broad policy of procedure would be left to local leadership in the matter of how to implement the organization of the inner circles of Zionists.

It goes without saying that this memo contemplates nothing more than to bring these matters up for discussion before this committee and thereafter before the Executive and Administrative committees.

I am firmly convinced that the task is pressing, that the continuation for one reason or another of the present stagnant form of our organization is dangerous to our cause in this most crucial hour when in the not too distant horizon we can already get a glimpse of the realization of many of our dreams.\*

MEMORANDUM ON GROUP MEMBERSHIP IN THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

by  
LAWRENCE CROHN

The problem of Zionist membership gets no nearer to solution under the present method. Consequently, our total membership is no indication of Zionist sympathies in America, and it behooves us to examine other methods and techniques.

Jewish organizational life in this country has been developed along certain traditional lines. We have the Synagogue, the lodge, club and the community center, all of which retain strong allegiances. Yet it is because of Zionist influence that our Jewish institutions have been able to function in the present day world. Without Zionism, for instance, the Conservative Synagogue would be lifeless and without any real philosophy. All of Jewish life is more meaningful because of Zionism. We may be sure that the claims of Zionism upon these Jewish institutions are very real, and the time has come to demand from them official support.

Take the case of the Synagogue; from the prayer book and from the pulpit the doctrine is preached that Judaism apart from the Jewish people is inconceivable. It follows that the revival of Jewish life in Palestine is a concomitant of the revival of Judaism in the Diaspora. Every Zionist knows this. Therefore, such an institution must give more than lip service to Zionism. Their entire membership must be inducted into the Zionist Organization. Certainly, we may expect a religious institution to demand adherence from its members to the principles and ideals which are the basis of its teachings. This is true of other Jewish groups in more or less degree, including the Temples, Landsmanshaften, Lodges, Fraternities, Young Peoples Societies and professional groups.

Therefore it is proposed that the basis of Zionist membership be changed to include entire groups as well as the present individual membership. Zionist leaders will be called upon to visit various institutions, and with the aid of local leaders, will attempt to accomplish this result. It will be possible to reduce Zionist dues to \$3.00 or even less. A wide program of publicity must be given to this group

membership idea, and as Synagogues and other groups come in, the task will gradually become easier. The possibilities under this plan are almost unlimited. In some of our most populous districts there are not now as many Zionist members as there are members in one of the smaller Synagogues.

There will be the argument that members gained in this manner will not develop strong Zionist feelings. The truth of the matter is that our present method is worse, as anyone will tell you who has been through the ordeal of "button-holing" their friends. All of these new members will immediately receive publications and be invited to meetings, etc. There will be a gradual infiltration of Zionist ideology and practice into these institutions.

When large numbers have accepted group membership into the Zionist Organization, it is foreseen that a smaller and more active group will be needed in each community to carry on the work and lead the Zionist forces. At such a time Herzl Societies should be organized to which will be invited those real and ardent Zionists who even now do the work in the various Districts. Membership in these Herzl Societies will give no prerogatives to the members nor will they have any rights which all other Zionist members do not have. Furthermore, any Zionist member will be eligible for membership in these smaller units. The idea behind these Herzl Societies is to create cells in each community which will attempt to recapture some of the old fervor and determination of early Zionism. They will be the breeding grounds for Zionist leadership.

Until the group membership plan is entirely successful the present district set-up can be retained. Only at some future time, when, because of this new group plan, there are many more paid members, will it be advisable to organize the smaller Herzl Societies. These societies will then supersede the present district organizations, and carry out the task of education and publicity. Certain changes in the organizational set-up of the national organization will become necessary, but these need not be discussed at this time.

This is no time for inaction. New plans, however bold, must be considered with a view to prompt decisions. It is hoped that the foregoing suggestions will lead to such changes in our organization as will make it possible for a revitalized membership, numerically as well as in effectiveness.





APPENDIX

SAMPLE BILL

Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Dues \_\_\_\_\_

This Congregation subscribes to the Basle Program and every member is thereby a member of the Zionist Organization of America. Your bill includes the membership fee of \_\_\_\_\_ which entitles you to all the privileges of membership in the Zionist Organization.

If you prefer membership in any other Zionist party, please indicate below:

Mizrachi \_\_\_\_\_ Dues \_\_\_\_\_

Poale Zion \_\_\_\_\_ Dues \_\_\_\_\_

Hadassah \_\_\_\_\_ Dues \_\_\_\_\_

Corrected bill will be sent you on request.

Institutions will be expected to remit each month for those members whose dues have been paid.

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA  
1720—16TH STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Please address reply to  
Room 608, City Hall  
Philadelphia, Pa.

June 11, 1942

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
East 105th Street at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver,

First, let me tell you again how thrilled I was  
by your address at the Weizmann Dinner last night.

We have just concluded a meeting of the Z.O.A.  
Sub-Committee with Edward A. Norman of the American Palestine  
Fund. As you know, the Executive Committee approved of the  
proposed re-organization of this Agency provided you gave  
your assent to the new name and to the general plan. You  
will recall that Dr. Wise and I discussed this matter with  
you several weeks ago and, subject to the conditions which we  
mentioned, you approved of the re-organization.

It is proposed that the name be changed to  
AMERICAN FUND FOR PALESTINIAN INSTITUTIONS, INC.

As to the officers, the following suggestions  
have been made:

|                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mrs. Felix M. Warburg,    | Honorary Chairman        |
| Dr. Harry Friedenwald )   |                          |
| Judge Julian W. Mack )    |                          |
| Justice Horace S. Stern ) | Honorary Vice Presidents |
| Dr. Abba Hillel Silver )  |                          |
| Dr. Stephen S. Wise )     |                          |
| Edward A. Norman          | President                |
| Judge Louis E. Levinthal  | Vice-President           |
| Alan M. Stroock           | Secretary                |
| Maurice B. Hexter         | Treasurer                |

(continued  
on page two

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA  
1720—16TH STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Abta Hillel Silver  
June 11, 1942

(page two)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Maurice Boukstein  
Israel E. Brodie  
Mrs. Edward Jacobs  
Mordecai Konowitz  
Mrs. David DeSola Pool  
Bernard Rosenblatt  
Judge Morris Rothenberg  
Nathan Straus  
Robert Szold  
Morris D. Waldman  
Edward M. M. Warburg

BOARD OF DIRECTORS to include the officers, members of the  
Board of Trustees, plus the following:

Harold K. Guinsburg  
Mrs. Adele Levy  
Carl J. Austrian  
Jacob Blaustein  
Arthur Brin  
Alfred J. Friedlander  
Donald Kaffenburgh  
Milton W. King  
Charles W. Morris  
Adolph Rosenberg  
A. L. Saltzstein  
Mendel Silberberg  
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Harry Levine  
Henry Monsky  
Dr. Israel Goldstein  
Charles Rosenbloom  
Joseph Schlossberg  
Robert Bernstein

An ADVISORY BOARD will be selected by the Board of Trustees.

It is agreed that aggressive anti-Zionists will not be included. This will eliminate men like Rabbi Lazaron or Rabbi Gerstenfeld from being included among the sponsors of the Agency.

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA  
1720—16TH STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
Page Three

The meeting of the Board of Directors to effectuate this re-organization is to be held in the very near future.

I personally feel that this offers an opportunity for cooperation between non-Zionists and Zionists.

With kind personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,

*Louis*

*Levinthal*

Louis E. Levinthal

June 15, 1942

Rabbi B. Benedict Glazer  
Temple Beth El  
Woodward at Gladstone  
Detroit, Michigan

My dear Glazer:

I am enclosing herewith a letter which I received from Judge Levinthal, President of the Zionist Organization of America. As you see, they are closely following up the matter which you brought to my attention.

With all good wishes and hoping that you will have a pleasant summer, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ARS:BX



June 15, 1942

The Honorable Judge Louis E. Levinthal  
Room 608, Cith Hall  
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Judge Levinthal:

Thank you for your letter of June 11 with reference to the organization of the American Fund for Palestinian Institutions. I am glad that you have succeeded in working out a satisfactory solution of the problem. The set of officers and the Board of Trustees look all right. The Board of Directors seems to be too weighted with non-Zionist members. However I am sure that you are watching the situation. I hope that you are making provision to protect the Zionist interests in the future by insisting that all future additions to the Board of Trustees and Board of Directors should be approved by both groups. Are the Honorary Vice-Presidents voting members on the Board of Trustees? You realize, of course, that the Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Stroeck and Mr. Hexter, who hold the key positions in this set-up, are not friends of the Jewish Agency. It would have been desirable to have more neutral people in those key posts.

Some of the agencies for whom the American Fund for Palestine Institutions is collecting money are also recipients of direct contributions from Jewish Welfare Funds, and others have set up independent membership organizations throughout the United States. It is important that a formula be adopted to which all beneficiaries of this Fund shall subscribe, namely, if they are to receive contributions from this Fund, they must not make any other appeals in the communities either directly through their Welfare Funds, or indirectly through independent activity.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

*Congregation Beth El*  
*Woodward at Gladstone*  
*Detroit*

B. BENEDICT GLAZER, M. A., PH. D.  
RABBI

June  
18  
1942

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I want to thank you for sending me  
Judge Levinthal's letter and for your kind interest  
in the matter which I have brought to your attention.

With best wishes to you and your  
dear ones for a pleasant summer, I am,

Faithfully yours,



BEG:FK

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA  
1720—16TH STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 18, 1942.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Many thanks for your letter of the 15th with reference to the American Fund for Palestinian Institutions. Let me assure you that the interests of the Zionist movement will be adequately safeguarded. I am confident that Mr. Norman is a sincere friend of the cause and that we can count on his wholehearted cooperation.

With all good wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

*David E. Lunt*

Charge to the account of

| CARD OF SERVICE DESIRED |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| DOMESTIC                | CABLE          |
| TELEGRAM                | ORDINARY       |
| DAY LETTER              | URGENT RATE    |
| SERIAL                  | DEFERRED       |
| OVERNIGHT TELEGRAM      | NIGHT LETTER   |
| SPECIAL SERVICE         | YOUR RADIOGRAM |

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary radiogram.

# WESTERN UNION

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R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

6-22-42

THE HONORABLE LOUIS E. LEVINthal  
608 City Hall  
Philadelphia, Pa.

LETTER RECEIVED THIS MORNING FROM EDWARD NORMAN INVITES ME TO BECOME HONORARY VHAIRMAN OF AMERICAN PALESTINE FUND. THROUGHOUT LETTER NO MENTION IS MADE OF CHANGE OF NAME AS SUGGESTED IN YOUR LETTER JUNE 11. MY CONSENT WAS PREDICATED ON NEW NAME BEING ADOPTED. SUGGEST YOU CONTACT NORMAN AT ONCE. HIS LETTER QUOTES YOU AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF ZOA AS APPROVING AMERICANPALESTINE FUND.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



1720 - 16TH STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

July 7th, 1942

JUDGE LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL  
*President*

DR. HARRY FRIEDENWALD  
JUDGE JULIAN W. MACK  
*Hon. Vice-Presidents*

DR. SOLOMON GOLDMAN  
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JUDGE MORRIS ROTHENBERG  
DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
ROBERT SIOLO  
DR. STEPHEN S. WISE  
*Vice-Presidents*

DR. JAMES G. HELLER  
*Chairman, Nat'l Admin. Council*

LOUIS P. ROCKER  
*Treasurer*

SIMON SHETZER  
*Executive Director*

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JUDGE HARRY M. FISHER  
JACOB FISHERMAN  
DANIEL FRISCH  
ABRAHAM GOLDBERG  
ABRAHAM GOLDSTEIN  
CECIL R. GORDON  
HARRY GRAYEY  
MURRAY I. GURFELN  
MOISSEY KONOVTZ  
RABBI ISRAEL H. LEVINTHAL  
RABBI IRVING MILLER  
EMANUEL NEUMANN  
CHARLES J. ROSENBLUM  
BERNARD C. RUDOLPH  
EZRA Z. SHAPIRO  
LOUIS E. SPIGLER  
DEWEY D. STONE  
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PHILIP BARRON  
DR. HARRIS J. LEVINE  
SEYMOUR MELMAN  
MRS. TAMAR DE SOLA POOL  
HARRY TARIFF

## TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dear Friend:

Please note change of meeting place for the July 14th meeting of the Executive Committee. We shall meet at JUDGE LEVINTHAL'S AIR CONDITIONED CHAMBERS in ROOM 608, CITY HALL, Philadelphia, instead of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel.

We enclose herewith copy of the proposed agenda for this meeting. The number of items noted are not many but these are all matters which will require thorough discussion. It is, therefore, important that we have a full attendance and participation. There has been a noticeable slipping off of attendance at recent meetings of the Executive which was particularly evident at our last meeting when many decisions had to be postponed by reason of inadequate attendance.

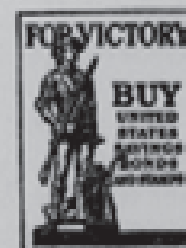
Please make every effort to be with us on Tuesday, July 14th at 5:00 o'clock in Judge Levinthal's Chambers. If you have not already sent in your card advising us that you will attend, please do so today.

With kind regards and Zien's greetings,

Faithfully yours,

*Simon Shetzer*  
Simon Shetzer

ss:bg-1  
encl.





July 13, 1942

Dr. B. Benedict Glazer  
Temple Beth El  
Detroit, Michigan

My dear Glazer:

You may be interested in the enclosed statement which I received this morning from the Zionist Organization of America. Evidently the organization is now resolved to inform the public of the role which your father played in the events leading up to the passage of the joint resolution on Palestine in 1922.

With all good wishes, and hoping that you will have a pleasant summer, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BN  
Enc.

# Z. O. A. NEWS-LETTER

Issued by ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

1720 Sixteenth Street Northwest

Michigan 4490

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Vol. 1. No. 6

July 20, 1942

TOWARD VICTORY ON THE 1942 Z. O. A. MEMBERSHIP FRONT

VICTORY, in the military sense, can be attained only by the earnest and coordinated effort of a large, well disciplined body of men, intent on a common purpose and prepared to make any sacrifice for the final attainment of their goal. VICTORY in our cause will be reached if we apply these principles to our movement. The Zionist Organization of America must become increasingly great and powerful, preparing for the day when our voice will be raised at the peace table, demanding a permanent, just solution to the Jewish problem by the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine. We can achieve that strength and attain VICTORY only to the extent that our workers in the field are on the job. In the long run the best test of a Zionist is a strong WILL to attain VICTORY

...—

First announcement has already been made of the 45th annual EARN ANOTHER DELEGATE TO THE CONVENTION. Z.O.A. Convention, which will be held on October 15th through 18th at the Hotel New Yorker, New York City. It should be emphasized at the outset that delegates to the convention may be elected according to constitutional provision, on the basis of one for every fifty members in good standing. All districts should complete their membership enrollment during this month, close their books, and make final report to the national office.

Please make sure that the names of all your members who are in military service are reported to the national office. Though their dues are waived for the duration, they are still recognized as members in good standing, and their number will bring up your total and perhaps help qualify an additional delegate.

Perhaps the best source of Zionist membership is among those who have, at one time or another, been members of the Organization, but have, usually due to careless solicitation, permitted their memberships to lapse. Intensive and diligent effort in this direction will succeed in re-enrolling most of these persons. Each district should EARN its full complement of delegates, and make it possible to send a full quota of representatives to the Convention.

There is every indication, at the present writing, that we shall come into our Convention with the highest enrolled membership in the history of the Z. O. A., but the margin of excess is not sufficient. In these cataclysmic times we ought to rise to the occasion, and mobilize a mighty Zionist membership of 100,000 -- of 200 or even 300,000 members. These are not impossible astronomical figures. Indeed, they would more accurately represent Zionist sentiment in America than does our present membership total.

The days are passing quickly. NOW is the time to make the last push. Let's all work together -- and BOOST THAT MEMBERSHIP TOTAL.

To Pottsville, Pa., goes the honor of being the first 100% ZIONIST SYNAGOGUE Zionist community this BECOMES Z. O. A. year, as the entire DISTRICT. membership of the Ohab Zedek Synagogue unanimously decided to join the Z. O. A. en masse. The action was taken at a general membership meeting of the congregation, addressed by Mr. Simon Shetzer and Mr. Sidney Marks, Z. O. A. field director for the area. The combined Zionist district and synagogue membership is 152.

It was pointed out that the plan documents the intimate affiliation of the synagogue with the Zionist cause, creates a unified and integrated Jewish community, prevents duplication of organizational activities, saves wear and tear on the leadership of the community, and adds strength to organized Jewish life. There is but one joint payment of dues.

The plan is one which might very well be adopted in numerous other communities. In Laurelton, L. I., it has worked out with great success. A modified version is in effect at the Cleveland Temple on the Heights. The point is that both the synagogue and the Zionist Organization are working for the survival of the Jews as Jews -- and should pull together.

How about sounding out the board of directors of your own congregation on the matter? Your national office will be glad to help develop the negotiations. Make yours a full-fledged Zionist congregation -- en masse.

\* \* \*

All district chairmen have received a brochure containing historical background material on the passage by both Houses of Congress of the Joint Resolution on Palestine in 1922. Inasmuch as the Z. C. A. and its members were entirely responsible for the passage of this historic resolution, it is only fitting that Z. O. A. districts today make appropriate celebration of the anniversary.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION.

Your Congressman or Senator, who is doubtless a member of the American Palestine Committee, could be invited to address a public meeting arranged for this occasion, and suitable publicity obtained, all designed to reiterate the interest of the United States government and of the American people in the cause of the establishment of the Jewish National Home in Palestine. The meeting can also be made a patriotic demonstration, stressing our whole-hearted participation in the war effort, and identifying the Zionist cause with the cause of the United Nations.

Please keep us informed of your plans in this regard -- and do not hesitate to ask for specific suggestions and help from headquarters. United States Senators Greene of Rhode Island and Meade of New York recently delivered radio addresses on the subject of the anniversary; copies of their addresses are available upon request to this office.

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WRHS

Thousands of American Jews who have never

EXPERIMENTAL MAIL  
CAMPAIGN FOR  
MEMBERS.

been members of the Zionist Organization, perhaps some of your neighbors among them, will, in the coming

weeks, be the recipients of special letters addressed to them by Judge Louis E. Levinthal, soliciting their affiliation with our organization. This is perhaps the first time that a national mail campaign has been conducted for Zionist membership, addressed to a selected list of persons who have indicated their interest in Jewish causes, though not necessarily Zionism.

The entire campaign is in the nature of an experiment, and is based on the fact that thousands of prospective members are never solicited by our districts. The direct mail campaign will reach these people, present the Zionist case simply, directly, forthrightly, and urge them to join with us. Your cooperation locally may result in adding many more members to your own district rolls. Please keep us informed of any reactions to the mail campaign which come to your attention.

Proper Zionist public relations calls for constant and effective use of all media of public information to spread news of Zionist activities, on the local, national and international scene. Yet there is another aspect of public relations which is not yet sufficiently appreciated by our districts, Mr. Ernest Barbarash, national Z. O. A. publicity director declares.

ANTI-ZIONIST PROPAGANDA  
MUST BE ANSWERED.

Pointing out that anti-Zionist propaganda, stemming from both Arab and certain Jewish quarters has increased in the past few months, Mr. Barbarash states that districts must be on the alert for any news items appearing in the local press, letters to the editor, editorials, or other reports which question the validity of the Zionist solution, or seek to attack the movement.

Very often anti-Zionist material is published in all innocence by editors who receive the news in the daily run of their dispatches. A visit from a local Zionist leader may often correct the situation tactfully. Dignified but strong letters to the editor can be utilized to correct misstatements or express disagreement with anti-Zionist matter appearing elsewhere in the columns of the paper.

In every instance, it is clear, Zionists must be on the alert, and must not neglect taking prompt action. Where joint Zionist public relations committees exist, act through these groups. Elsewhere, our own districts must assume the responsibility. In every instance, communicate with your national office at once so that such additional effective action as may be required, may be taken from Washington. There is no doubt that the anti-Zionists are waging a determined campaign to sabotage the movement; we must be equally as determined in our vigilance.

\*

\*

\*



The American Council on Public Affairs located in Washington, NEW BOOK ISSUED ON D.C., has just issued BRITISH POLICY IN a volume by Paul L. PALESTINE Hanna, entitled, "British Policy in Palestine". It provides an admirable historic background of the wartime commitments, the re-interpretations to which the Balfour Declaration and the mandate have been subjected, the various White Papers, and current wartime problems.

For further details see the leaflet enclosed. Copies may be ordered through the Z.O.A. or directly from the Council.

\* \* \*

Portsmouth, N. H., where the Zionist district numbers 93 men out of a total of about 100 Jewish families, has developed a device to encourage attendance at meetings which is said to be working wonders. Benjamin A. Tober, district president, has drawn up an artistic postcard which is mailed to all district members who fail to show up at a meeting. In verse form, and suited to the melody of a popular song, the card begins: "We regret.....'s absence at the meeting the other night; It is hoped that this missive will find him to be quite all right; But we ask that he make it a personal point to attend-- Future Zionist meetings, on this our success does depend!"

The heading runs: "The Tune is the Same -- Just Fill in the Name". Mr. Tober tells us that any similar "home-made" rhyme can be used, and the cards printed at a most reasonable cost.

It's quite an idea!

\* \* \*

As we indicated, the list of Zionists serving as commissioned officers in the MORE Z. O. A. MEN AS COMMISSIONED OFFICERS armed forces of the United States, as published in the last number of the News-Letter, was far from complete. We are confident that there are many additional

members of the Z. O. A., of whom we have no record, who are holding positions of similar responsibility on the military front. Please notify us of the names and ranks of all in your district, who should be listed on our patriotic roll of honor.

Additions this month are:

Capt. Samuel H. Cass, Seattle, Wash.  
Lt. Robert Efroymsen, Indianapolis  
Lt. Paul Gorin, Chicago, Ill.  
Lt. Abraham Haselkorn, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.  
Capt. Robert J. Kassa, Newburgh, N. Y.  
Lt. David H. Klein, Yonkers, N. Y.  
Lt. Julius Mark, Nashville, Tenn.  
Major Leon S. Medalia, Brookline, Mass.  
Lt. Philip Pincus, Albuquerque, N. M.  
Lt-Col. Clarence Richmond, Chelsea, Mass.  
Lt. Samson A. Shain, Sunnyside, L. I.  
Lt. Samuel S. Sherman, Newton, Mass.  
Lt. Norman Siegel, Monticello, N. Y.  
Capt. Sidney Vernon, Willimantic, Conn.  
(missing in action at Corregidor)

\* \* \*

On the next page we publish once again the honor list of districts whose membership standing as of June 30 had already exceeded their total at convention time last year.

Special mention should be made, however, of the activity in Long Island which, as a region, has broken its own last year's record. The nineteen districts in the region, located for the most part in small communities, already have a total of 2,689 members, as against the final 1941 figures of 2,536. This achievement was made possible by the totals of eleven individual districts which have carried their membership drives over the top. The other eight districts are in almost every instance but four or five or six members behind -- and perhaps have passed the mark by the time this News-Letter is received.

Which will be the next region--as an entire region-- to surpass its last year's total?



THIS MONTH'S HONOR ROLL OF ZIONIST DISTRICTS

|                          |     | Standing on<br><u>June 30, 1942</u> | Total end of<br><u>last season</u> |      |      | Standing on<br><u>June 30, 1942</u> | Total end of<br><u>last season</u> |
|--------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------|------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Astoria, L. I.           | 103 | 70                                  | Newport, R. I.                     | 57   | 41   |                                     |                                    |
| Atlantic City, N. J.     | 759 | 755                                 | Newport News, Va.                  | 21   | 1    |                                     |                                    |
| Bayonne, N. J.           | 123 | 79                                  | New Rochelle, N.Y.                 | 129  | 117  |                                     |                                    |
| Beaumont, Texas          | 104 | 93                                  | New York City                      |      |      |                                     |                                    |
| Beaver Valley, Pa.       | 37  | 35                                  | #7 - West Side                     | 1065 | 783  |                                     |                                    |
| Bergen County, N.J.      | 55  | 36                                  | Igal                               | 65   | --   |                                     |                                    |
| Boston-Herzl Zion. Dist. | 28  | 25                                  | Manhattan Zion. Club               | 26   | 8    |                                     |                                    |
| Camden, N.J.             | 85  | 61                                  | Cramerey Park                      | 31   | --   |                                     |                                    |
| Carbondale, Pa.          | 34  | 29                                  | Washington Square                  | 14   | --   |                                     |                                    |
| Catskill, N. Y.          | 21  | --                                  | Bronx                              |      |      |                                     |                                    |
| Champaign, Ill.          | 25  | --                                  | #9 Moshulu Parkway                 | 105  | 101  |                                     |                                    |
| Charlotte, N. C.         | 41  | 37                                  | #11 and #16 Polham                 |      |      |                                     |                                    |
| Chelsea, Mass            | 301 | 251                                 | Parkway                            | 97   | 88   |                                     |                                    |
| Colchester, Conn         | 89  | 21                                  | #21 Northeast                      | 66   | 63   |                                     |                                    |
| Columbus, Ohio           | 218 | 216                                 | Kingsbridge                        | 64   | --   |                                     |                                    |
| Corpus Christi, Texas    | 85  | 57                                  | Parkchester                        | 12   | --   |                                     |                                    |
| Corsicana, Texas         | 26  | 18                                  | Brooklyn                           |      |      |                                     |                                    |
| Des Moines, Ia.          | 254 | 209                                 | #23 Parkside                       | 43   | 26   |                                     |                                    |
| Duluth, Minn.            | 63  | 51                                  | Prospect Park                      | 42   | 27   |                                     |                                    |
| E. Liverpool, Ohio       | 23  | 11                                  | #34 Manhattan Beach                | 156  | 141  |                                     |                                    |
| Elizabeth, N. J.         | 104 | 101                                 | #37 Rugby                          | 39   | 38   |                                     |                                    |
| Ellenville, N.Y.         | 22  | 19                                  | Norwich, Conn.                     | 170  | 151  |                                     |                                    |
| Fall River, Mass.        | 102 | 60                                  | Omaha, Nebraska                    | 163  | 132  |                                     |                                    |
| Fayetteville, N.C.       | 35  | 19                                  | Patchogue, L.I.                    | 77   | 52   |                                     |                                    |
| Flint, Mich.             | 91  | 71                                  | Philadelphia, Pa.                  | 2279 | 1407 |                                     |                                    |
| Forest Hills, L.I.       | 100 | 82                                  | Phoenix, Ariz.                     | 69   | 29   |                                     |                                    |
| Fort Wayne, Ind.         | 110 | 102                                 | Pittsburgh, Pa.                    | 2040 | 1890 |                                     |                                    |
| Grand Rapids, Mich       | 22  | 1                                   | Portchester, N.T.                  | 81   | 65   |                                     |                                    |
| Great Neck, L.I.         | 131 | 100                                 | Portsmouth, N. H.                  | 93   | 76   |                                     |                                    |
| Greenfield, Mass         | 42  | 37                                  | Racine, Wisc.                      | 62   | 46   |                                     |                                    |
| Harrisburg, Pa.          | 172 | 155                                 | Richmond, Va.                      | 68   | 39   |                                     |                                    |
| Hartford, Conn.          | 648 | 633                                 | Roanoke, Va.                       | 20   | 15   |                                     |                                    |
| Hempstead, L. I.         | 98  | 96                                  | St. Louis Maccabaon                |      |      |                                     |                                    |
| Holyoke, Mass.           | 106 | 71                                  | Club                               | 113  | 101  |                                     |                                    |
| Huntington, L.I.         | 58  | 55                                  | Savannah, Ga.                      | 236  | 166  |                                     |                                    |
| Iowa City, Iowa          | 11  | 1                                   | Schenectady, N.Y.                  | 108  | 101  |                                     |                                    |
| Jackson Heights, L. I.   | 84  | 82                                  | Seranton, Pa.                      | 149  | 13   |                                     |                                    |
| Jacksonville, Fla.       | 123 | 89                                  | Seattle, Wash.                     | 76   | 64   |                                     |                                    |
| Jamaica, L. I.           | 195 | 176                                 | Sheboygan, Wisc.                   | 46   | 5    |                                     |                                    |
| Kenosha, Wisc.           | 42  | 29                                  | South Shore, L. I.                 | 157  | 128  |                                     |                                    |
| Lafayette, Ind.          | 65  | 58                                  | Syracuse, N. Y.                    | 522  | 469  |                                     |                                    |
| Laurel, Miss.            | 12  | --                                  | Trenton, N.J.                      | 171  | 133  |                                     |                                    |
| Laurelton, L.I.          | 348 | 258                                 | Tri City, Ill.                     | 136  | 122  |                                     |                                    |
| Los Angeles, Calif.      | 745 | 603                                 | Troy, N.Y.                         | 82   | 81   |                                     |                                    |
| Lynn, Mass.              | 83  | 74                                  | Tulsa, Okla.                       | 54   | 14   |                                     |                                    |
| Martinsburg, W. Va.      | 22  | 18                                  | Tyler, Texas                       | 80   | 50   |                                     |                                    |
| Mimosa, N.C.             | 27  | 16                                  | Uniontown, Pa.                     | 161  | 154  |                                     |                                    |
| Minneapolis, Minn.       | 173 | 142                                 | Waco, Texas                        | 62   | 44   |                                     |                                    |
| New Bedford, Mass.       | 243 | 241                                 | Waterloo, Ia.                      | 64   | 50   |                                     |                                    |
| New Castle, Pa.          | 125 | 115                                 | Waterville, Me.                    | 30   | 27   |                                     |                                    |
| New Kensington, Pa.      | 51  | 48                                  | Willimantic, Conn                  | 41   | 39   |                                     |                                    |
|                          |     |                                     | Wilmington, Del.                   | 177  | 169  |                                     |                                    |
|                          |     |                                     | Worcester, Mass.                   | 428  | 396  |                                     |                                    |



Congregation Beth El  
Woodward at Gladstone  
Detroit

B. BENEDICT GLAZER, M. A., PH. D.  
RABBI

July 20, 1942

Dear Dr. Silver,

I want to thank you most sincerely for sending me the latest memorandum of the J.O.A. on the origin of the Palestine Resolution. It is a step in the right direction. However, I have incontrovertible proof that the main and definitive work was done by my late father. After leaving my father out of the picture entirely (the J.O.A. should be asked, "why this glaring and unjust omission?") Levinthal waters down his principal role to that of one of many who rendered assistance.

I wrote to Levinthal some time ago but received no response. As the one who raised the question of my father's contribution to Zionism & because of my own position, don't you think that Levinthal should have granted me the courtesy of sending me a copy of the latest report on the Palestine Resolution? There is a falsehood somewhere in the handling.

Again, my warmest appreciation to you for your friendly interest. With best wishes to you & your dear ones for a pleasant summer. As ever,  
B.G.

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA  
1720—16TH STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

41 East 42nd Street  
New York City

July 21, 1942

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

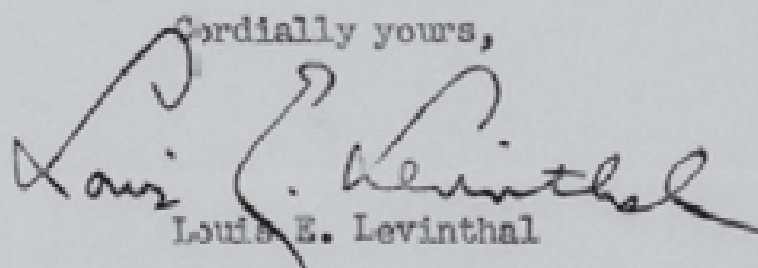
Dear Dr. Silver,

Enclosed herewith is copy of a Memorandum  
which I have submitted to the Emergency Committee.

I assume that you are planning to attend  
the Executive meeting of the U.J.A. on Friday and that  
an earlier meeting that day would suit your convenience.

With kind personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,

  
Louis E. Levinthal



July 29th, 1942

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman  
Cleveland Zionist Society  
The Temple - Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

Sections 8 and 9 of Article IX of the Constitution of the Zionist Organization of America provide as follows:

"Section 8. The Administrative Council shall consist of the officers, members of the Executive, the Regional Chairmen, and such additional number of members, not exceeding one hundred and twenty, as the Convention shall prescribe, of whom no more than half shall reside in the city of New York.

"Section 9. The Administrative Council shall be elected as follows:  
(a) 20 at the Convention.  
(b) 100 by the regions (having due regard to representation of districts and societies) on the basis of the numerical strength of each region in the Zionist Organization of America...."

In accordance with these provisions and on the basis of your membership enrollment to date, your District is entitled to name 1 member of the Administrative Council. The final determination of the number cannot, however, be made until we have the complete membership record. If the total national membership should show a substantial increase, which is not unlikely, there will have to be a slight readjustment in some instances. I suggest, therefore, that you proceed at once with the selection of your representative on the Council.

It will be in your interest as well as in the larger interest of our organization that you utilize to the full the time remaining of the current membership year to increase even further your present membership enrollment.

Please advise us as quickly as possible the name and address of your National Administrative Council designee.

With kindest personal regards and anticipating your prompt attention to this important matter, I am,

Faithfully yours,

SS:bg

Simon Shetser



August 4, 1942.

Rabbi A. Hillel Silver

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter  
I sent to Mr. Y. Ben Ami, a very resourceful  
and self-sacrificing leader of the Committee  
for a Jewish Army, 535 Fifth Avenue, New  
York City. I am certain its contents will  
interest you.

Very respectfully yours,

*Philip Moskowitz*

c/o Mrs. E. Moskovitz  
6516 N. Park Ave.  
Philadelphia, Pa.

August 4, 1942

Dear Mr. Ben Ami,

I have the honor to inform you that I have been inducted into the United States Army. Before leaving for Fort Dix tomorrow, I must unburden my mind to you. There is so much I want to tell you. You had often expressed yourself as puzzled that I had removed myself from participation in Zionist activities since 1936 when I was secretary of the Philadelphia Zionist-Revisionist Organization.

It is my belief that the Zionist movement of our generation is doomed to failure due to the status of the World Zionist Organization as the Jewish Agency on Palestine matters. In particular, I disagree with the Zionist-Revisionist attempts to appease the World Zionist Organization in seeking unity with it. I am convinced that the World Zionist Organization is a monstrosity that must be destroyed in its entirety. It is not the organization of Theodor Herzl whose program was the open and vigorous espousal of the Jewish State.

One by one, the worthiest of Herzl's disciples were edged out from the movement.

Remember Max Nordau, Herzl's logical successor, who lamented that his plan for the mass immigration into Palestine at once of 500,000 Jews, at a time when the British were agreeable to it, was thwarted by the newly elected president of the World Zionist Organization, Chaim Weizman. Weizman declared for a restricted and selected Jewish immigration into Palestine and for an Arab-Jewish State instead of Herzl's Jewish State plan. This subsequently became the British policy.

Remember Louis D. Brandeis, whose plan for an accelerated development of Palestine clashed with Weizman's idea of slow progress along socialistic lines. Weizman crossed the ocean to remove Brandeis from leadership of the then very powerful Zionist Organization of America. Under Louis Lipsky, Z.O.A. decay set in. Paid membership fell from about 150,000 to 8,000. Jewish National Fund and Keren Kayemeth money was diverted (they called it loans) to help pay off the debts created by the reckless Louis Lipsky.

Remember Israel Zangwill who bolted from the World Zionist Organization with the declaration that the Zionist movement under Weizman's leadership was a sham.

Remember Felix Frankfurter, now Justice in the United States Supreme Court, who bolted from the movement with the statement that the Zionist leadership then in the saddle was repulsive to him.

Remember Vladimir Jabotinsky who so vigorously and uncompromisingly spoke for a Jewish State that it alarmed Weizman to the extent of barring any declaration for a Jewish State from the halls of the Zionist Congresses for many years. The reason given was that any demand for a Jewish State might displease the British and inflame the Arabs. Jabotinsky died in the United States, as you know, while initiating the organization now known as the Committee for a Jewish Army. He had preached that the Jewish State in Palestine must earn its nationhood out of the pains of war and the sacrifice of Jewish blood. He visioned a Jewish Army, under its own banner, of not less than 100,000 and over 200,000 is attainable. You know how the Zionist Organization of America, under Louis B. Levinthal's unfortunate leadership, had set aside a secret fund to fight the Committee for a Jewish Army, and had sabotaged its every effort through a shamefully false propaganda campaign.

Remember how Jacob De Haas, Herzl's secretary and closest associate, passionately protested the anti-Herzlian policies of the World Zionist Organization.

Remember how Mayer Dizengoff throttled Zbarsky's attempt to introduce a law before the Tel Aviv Council which had for its objective the suppression of the Revisionists. Dizengoff stated that Zbarsky could tell his stories to his party followers but he could not fool the members of the Council; they knew the true facts.

And there are a number of other things to remember.

Let us not forget the disgraceful Trade Treaty, better known as the Transfer Agreement, made by the World Zionist Organization with the Nazis. Under its provisions German Jews were to bring their wealth into Palestine in the form of German manufactured goods. After liquidation in Palestine, the cash proceeds were divided equally between the Nazi Government and the World Zionist Organization with the exception of 10 Per cent which was turned over to the rightful owner. These scandalous conditions of liquidation continued until an exposure at a Zionist Congress resulted in a correction. Finally, the British, alarmed by the flood in Palestine of German goods, exerted pressure for the discontinuance of this mockery.

Let us not forget the Arlosoroff Blood Libel. The Histadrut, the now governing party of the World Zionist Organization, pointed an accusing finger at the Revisionists. The long drawn-out trial ended when the accused Revisionists were exonerated. In the meantime, on the basis of this blood libel, the Histadrut marched to the Zionist Congress and seized complete control of the machinery of the World Zionist Organization. In this procedure they had the support of Chaim Weizman.

Let us not forget the successful and unsuccessful partitions of Palestine. Remember how Weizman tricked the Zionist Executive into agreeing to the partition of Transjordan from that part of Palestine west of the Jordan. This issue resulted in the organization of the opposition party by Vladimir Jabotinsky. Remember the more recent role of Britain as King Solomon; the Zionists, under Weizman, favored the bisection of western Palestine, while the Revisionists wanted it remain whole. The American Zionists under the leadership of Rabbi A. Hillel Silver and Stephen S. Wise went to the World Zionist Congress like roaring lions to fight the Partition Plan. At the Congress they were told to hush up in the interests of "unity". The lions were tamed. The British Colonial Office finally refused to receive Weizman on the matter of "Partition" though they were conferring with the Arabs at the time. The Arabs won the fight against partition.

Let us not forget the case of the Jewish Daily Bulletin. A number of years ago, a Jewish daily newspaper in English began publication in New York City. It published all Jewish news, including Zionist news submitted by the World Zionist Organization and Zionist news submitted by the Zionist-Revisionists. The Jewish Daily Bulletin was sent a warning by Louis Lipsky, the then president of the Zionist Organization of America, that unless they published only such Zionist news as is submitted by the World Zionist Organization the Zionist Organization would initiate an immediate boycott against it. The newspaper immediately suspended publication.

The brother of our mutual friend, Joseph Pincus, told me of an incident he had personally witnessed in Palestine, which is representative of many others: He was admiring the construction of an attractive building in Palestine when the builder was approached by representatives of the Histadrut. A demand was presented that the many Revisionist workers on the project be discharged and replaced with Histadrut workers. The ultimatum was rejected. The structure was razed to the ground by fire the following day by the rebuffed Histadrut sadists. And, of course, you know of the invasion of the many private Zionist-Revisionist meetings in Palestine by Histadrut hooligans with heavy clubs and iron bars. Yet, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, President of the Zionist Organization of America, was often heard to state that he would have no dealings with Revisionist "murderers and



terrorists". I think he really believes the stories being turned out by his vile propaganda machine in the same way that Hitler believes his own propaganda.

I wonder how long the Zionists will permit the rank deception being perpetrated by that "fake" Jewish statesman, Chaim Weizman. I consider him the outstanding anti-Zionist. We shall remember him for his notorious efforts to junk the Jewish State plan in favor of his pet Arab-Jewish State scheme.

It is needless for me to go on. This recital has made me heart-sick. But I could not go away without unburdening my thoughts to you. I hope that when I come back after the war, the World Zionist Organization will have been just a bad dream ~~and I shall find it no longer existed to corrode~~ and strangle the Jewish State Plan.

Best of luck to you.



Philip Moskowitz.





ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



1720 - 16TH STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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HARRY TARRIFF

August 18th, 1942

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

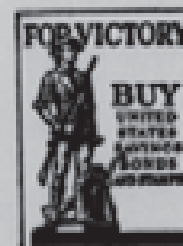
May I refer to my letter to you of August 2nd in which I solicited a statement from you on the problems confronting our forthcoming annual convention in New York City?

I am anxious to release your statement on the convention as soon as possible in view of the rapid approach of the convention date. The publication of such a statement by you will, undoubtedly, evoke a wide interest among American Zionists.

Faithfully yours,

E. Barbarash, Director  
Publicity Department

EB:bg



DAVID DIAMOND

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR

Prudential Building  
BUFFALO, NEW YORK

Cleveland 3180

August 26th, 1942.

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
The Temple  
CLEVELAND, OHIO.

Dear Doctor Silver:

On Sunday, October 25th, the Zionist District of Buffalo contemplates holding a very large dinner meeting, to inaugurate the opening of a very active Zionist season. Over five hundred persons are expected. Could you possibly come as the guest speaker?

I know how busy you must be and how many invitations to speak you must decline. But the district has wanted you for several years and you have not been able to come. Our district has succeeded in obtaining a great deal of new enthusiasm to revive some of us tired veterans. It would be a tremendous boost to the morale of the new workers to have the benefit of your presence.

Can you possibly come?

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

*David Diamond.*

DD:L

August 27, 1942

Mr. David Diamond  
Prudential Building  
Buffalo, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Diamond:

Thank you so much for your letter of August 26 and for your invitation to address a meeting of the Buffalo Zionist District. I wish I were free to come. But as you know, I am devoting all my spare time to the work of the United Jewish Appeal and the United Palestine Appeal, and that work has become increasingly onerous and exacting in the last few years. I am therefore compelled to forego many invitations which I would normally be very happy to accept.

With all good wishes for success, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BX

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PM 5 2A

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

SEP 3 PM 5 2A

THE TEMPLE (CLEVENAND OHIO)

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ZOA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL BE  
HLD TUESDAY SEPTEMBER EIGHTH SEVEN OCLOCK AT THE HOTEL  
NEWYORKER EIGHTH AVENUE AND THIRTY FOURTH STREET TO DISCUSS  
ZIONIST PEACE AIMS PLEASE INFORM ZOA OFFICE WHETHER YOU  
WILL ATTEND=

SIMON SHETZER.

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RABBI A H SILVER=

THE TEMPLE ANSEL RD E 105TH =

WRHS  
ADDITIONAL MEMBERS FROM YOUR DISTRICT WILL ENABLE US COME  
TO CONVENTION WITH LARGEST MEMBERSHIP ROSTER IN HISTORY  
PLEASE REMIT IMMEDIATELY ALL MEMBERSHIP MONIES ON HAND FOR  
CREDITING BEFORE AUGUST 31 MIDDLE EAST WAR DEVELOPMENTS MAKE  
IMPERATIVE HOLDING WIDELY REPRESENTATIVE CONVENTION  
URGENT YOU FILE ELECTION RETURNS BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15=  
LOUIS E LEVINthal SIMON SHETZER.

ROSTER 31

15



THIRTY-TWO COURT STREET

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

September 9th  
1942

Dear Rabbi Silver,

The Brooklyn Zionist Region will hold its annual conference at the Hotel St. George in Brooklyn, on Sunday, October 11th. This will be an all day conference and is convoked to consider Zionist problems in the light of the present situation.

We are very anxious to make this an outstanding and notable occasion, and one which may be productive of an increased enrollment in the membership in the Brooklyn District. Our committee feels that your presence at this conference as a speaker, would help along this purpose materially, and through your exposition of Zionism and the role it may properly play at the present time, new enthusiasm and new interest will be generated.

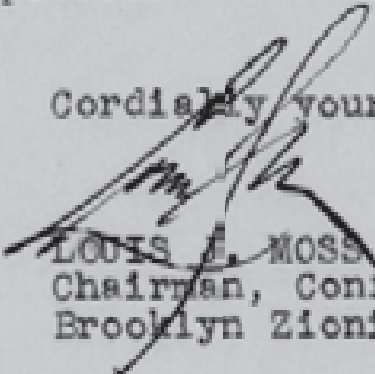
As Chairman of the Conference Committee, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to invite you to be the principal speaker at the conference. Two occasions at the conference will present themselves for your address, one at the luncheon to be held at 1:00, and the other to conclude the program of the day at about 5:00 P.M. You may choose either of these times as the one best suiting your convenience.

I do hope that you will find it possible to accept this invitation. I can assure you that your presence will measurably increase interest in the conference, and greatly promote the attendance and enthusiasm thereof.

Anticipating the pleasure of a favorable response, I am,

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
Cleveland, Ohio

Cordially yours,

  
LOUIS E. MOSS  
Chairman, Conference Committee  
Brooklyn Zionist Region

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September 10th, 1942

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman  
Cleveland Zionist Society  
The Temple - Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio;

My dear Dr. Silver:

On July 29th we sent you a letter with regard to the election of your representative upon the National Administrative Council. In case you have overlooked this important matter or mislaid the original communication, we herewith enclose a copy.

The Convention is rapidly approaching. The Administrative Council list must be completed immediately. Your prompt cooperation will be greatly appreciated as it will facilitate the tremendous amount of work which is involved in preparation for the Convention. May we please have the name of your Administrative Council representative by return mail or an indication when we may expect same?

With kindest personal regards and with all good wishes for the New Year,

Faithfully yours,

Simon Shetzer

SS:bg  
encl.



September 10, 1942

Mr. Louis J. Moss  
32 Court Street  
Brooklyn, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Moss:

Thank you for your kind letter of September 9. I wish I could comply with your request to be guest speaker at the annual conference of the Brooklyn Zionist Region on Sunday, October 11. As it happens I am opening my Sunday Morning Services on October 11 and it will be impossible for me to leave the city on that day. My program as you may well imagine is very crowded what with many duties at The Temple and other duties in connection with the United Jewish Appeal and the United Palestine Appeal. I must, therefore, forego many invitations which under normal conditions I would be most happy to accept.

With all good wishes for a very happy new year,  
I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BX

September 16, 1942

Mr. Simon Shetzer  
Zionist Organization of America  
1720 - 16th St., N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Shetzer:

In reply to your letter of September 10 requesting the name of a representative of the Cleveland Zionist Society on the National Administrative Council for the coming year, our representative will be Mr. A. M. Lantz, Hanna Building, Cleveland.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ANS:EK

September 28, 1942

Mr. Simon Shetzer, Executive Director  
Zionist Organization of America  
1720-18th St., N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Shetzer:

Dr. Falkman, the secretary of The Cleveland Zionist Society, has called to my attention this morning that it may not be possible for our newly appointed member on the National Administrative Council of the ZOA to attend the first day or two of the Convention. He requested me to write to you that until Mr. Luntz arrives, the present member of the Council, Dr. Falkman, will act for the Society -- if that is not contrary to the established procedure.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:RKC



התאחדות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



1720 - 16TH STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

October 1st, 1942

Judge Louis E. Levinthal  
*President*

Dear Fellow Zionist:

Dr. Harry Friedenwald  
Judge Julian W. Mack  
*Hon. Vice-Presidents*

Dr. Solomon Goldman  
Dr. Israel Goldstein  
Edmund I. Kaufmann  
Louis Lipsky  
Judge Morris Rottenberg  
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
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Jacob Fishman  
Daniel Frisch  
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Mordecai Konowitz  
Rabbi Israel H. Levinthal  
Rabbi Irving Miller  
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Philip Barron  
Dr. Harris J. Levine  
Seymour Melman  
Mrs. Tamar de Sola Pool  
Harry Tariff

I am pleased to enclose herewith your credential to the 45th Annual Convention of the Zionist Organization of America, to be held at the Hotel New Yorker, 8th Avenue and 34th Street, New York City, beginning Thursday morning, October 15th and continuing through Sunday evening, October 18th. Our convention is meeting concurrently with Hadassah which will convene and have headquarters of their own at the Pennsylvania Hotel.

The formal opening of our convention sessions will be preceded by a meeting of the National Administrative Council on Wednesday evening, October 14th, to which only members of the Council will be admitted.

The Annual Z.O.A. Convention dinner will be held jointly with Hadassah on Friday evening at the Manhattan Center, and will be addressed by outstanding national figures. Please return the enclosed dinner reservation card at once.

On Friday morning, there will be a breakfast honoring our president, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, to which all delegates are invited.

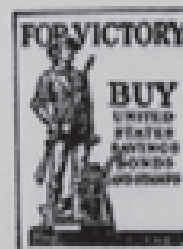
There is also enclosed herewith a general information memo for the delegates, and your hotel reservation card. In order to assure yourself a choice room, it is important that you mail your reservation card to the Hotel New Yorker, without delay. In doing so, please indicate that you are attending the convention of the Zionist Organization of America.

This 45th Annual Convention of the Zionist Organization of America, the first since America's entry into the war, will be of historic significance. The war-time program and the peace objectives of the Zionist movement will occupy the exclusive attention of the delegates. Plans for the coming year, designed to strengthen the Z. O. A., as the major instrumentality in America for the establishment of Palestine as the Jewish Commonwealth, will be presented and discussed. We trust that you are making your plans now to attend all the sessions beginning Thursday morning, October 15th.

Anticipating the pleasure of seeing you at the convention, I am, with kind regards and Zion's greetings,

Faithfully yours,

Simon Shetzer



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 EMANUEL NEUMANN

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10-8-42

Emanuel Neumann  
41 E. 42<sup>nd</sup> St.  
New York

Regret exceedingly cannot come to N.Y. on  
Nov. 1. Have weddings scheduled here for that  
evening and must open War Chest campaign  
Detroit Room, Nov. 2. Wish you every  
Success

A. H. Silver

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RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE TEMPLE EAST 105 ST AND ANSEL RD CLEVE

SENATORS WAGNER, McNARY, COCHAIRMAN AMERICAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE, HAVE INVITED US SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN TO SIGN STATEMENT RECORDING CONTINUED INTEREST IN POLICY REESTABLISHMENT NATIONAL JEWISH HOME IN PALESTINE. STATEMENT INTENDED FOR PRESENTATION TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND PRESS USE ON 25TH ANNIVERSARY BALFOUR DECLARATION NOVEMBER 2ND. URGE YOU CONSULT WITH OTHER ZIONIST LEADERS YOUR COMMUNITY AND VICINITY ON BEST MEANS SECURING SIGNATURES SENATORS, REPRESENTATIVES FROM YOUR STATE TO STATEMENT OF WHICH COPY IN THEIR HANDS. PLEASE ADVISE ME IMMEDIATELY RESULTS YOUR ACTION.

JUDGE LOUIS E LEVINthal, PRESIDENT ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, 1120 16TH STREET NW WASHINGTON DC.

TELEPHONE NO.

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Form 18

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N.ZA192 74 15 EX DL=TD DETROIT MICH 27 1112A  
RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=CARE HENRY MONTOR  
41 EAST 42 ST (NEWYORK NY)=

WE ARE VERY ANXIOUS TO HAVE YOU STAY OVER NEXT MONDAY NIGHT FOR  
BALFOUR ANNIVERSARY MEETING COMBINE HADASSAH AND ZIONIST  
ORGANIZATION. YOU HAVE NOT ADDRESSED A PURELY ZIONIST MEETING  
HERE FOR YEARS AND WE THEREFORE EARNESTLY REQUEST THAT YOU  
CONSENT TO SPEAK TO A LARGE ZIONIST GATHERING NOV 2ND BALFOUR  
DAY. PLEASE WIRE ANSWER TODAY SO THAT WE CAN ARRANGE PUBLICITY  
=ABRAHAM COOPER PRESIDENT DETROIT ZIONIST DISTRICT  
MRS J E GOULD PRESIDENT DETROIT HADASSHA  
1044 PENOBSCOT BLDG.



CLASS OF SERVICE

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2 AM 5

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

# WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

1201

## SYMBOLS

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1942 NOV 2 AM 4 36

DR A H SILVER, CARE TEMPLE=

EAST 105 ST AND ANGEL RD CLEVE=

AS CHAIRMAN RICHMOND COMMITTEE FOR BALFOUR ANNIVERSARY  
OBSERVANCE I BEG YOU TO HONOR US AS GUEST SPEAKER COMMUNITY  
MASS MEETING SUGGEST NOVEMBER 22 OR 29 OR SUIT CONVENIENCE  
PALESTINE CAUSE WOULD BE IMMEASURABLY STRENGTHENED HERE BY  
YOUR PRESENCE HOPING FOR KIND ACCEPTANCE WIRE OR WRITE WOULD  
BE LIKEWISE PERSONAL FAVOR-

RABBI NATHAN KOLLIN.

22 29.

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| CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED |                |
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# WESTERN UNION

H. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. D. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

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

collect.

10-28-42

R. B. Cooper  
Penobscot Co.  
Detroit, Mich.

Regret exceedingly can not be with you  
for evening meeting Nov. 2. Must return  
to Cleveland for important engagement here.  
Kindest regards.

A. H. Silver

TELEGRAM

11-3-42

RABBI NATHAN KOLLIN  
Richmond Virginia

DEEPLY APPRECIATE YOUR KIND INVITATION. REGRET EXCEEDINGLY CAN  
NOT COME FOR YOUR BALFOUR ANNIVERSARY. AM HEAVILY BOOKED FOR THE  
MONTHS OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER. KINDEST REGARDS.

~~RABBI NATHAN KOLLIN~~

Abba H. Silver

collect

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



1720 - 16TH STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

JUDGE LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL  
*President*

November 5th, 1942

DR. HARRY FRIEDENWALD  
JUDGE JULIAN W. MACK  
*Hon. Vice-Presidents*

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DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN  
EDMUND I. KAUFFMANN  
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ROBERT STOLD  
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*Vice-Presidents*

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*Chairman, Nat'l Admin. Council*

LOUIS P. ROCKER  
*Treasurer*

SIMON SHETZER  
*Executive Director*

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JUDGE HARRY M. FISHER  
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MRS. TAMAR DE SOLA POOL  
HARRY TARKOFF

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

I am very happy to advise you officially that at our recent 45th Annual Convention, you were unanimously re-elected as Vice President of the Zionist Organization of America. I look forward to the pleasure of our continuing association in the leadership of the Z.O.A. for the ensuing year.

The first meeting of our Executive Committee will be held Monday evening, November 16th at 7:30 o'clock at the Pennsylvania Hotel, New York City. A number of very important matters referred to the Executive by the convention require our careful consideration.

Under separate cover, you will receive copies of the two statements prepared by the American Zionist Youth Commission and the Avukah respectively. This is one of the matters to be noted upon the agenda for the next Executive meeting.

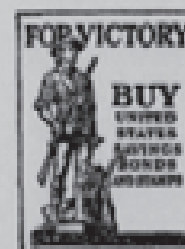
Please make every effort to be with us on November 15th and advise us upon the enclosed return card that we may expect you.

With kindest personal regards,

Faithfully yours,

Louis E. Levinthal

LEL:bg  
encl.



Charles Rubiner

Attorney and Counselor

Penobscot Building

Detroit

(CADILLAC 5040)

November 7, 1942

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

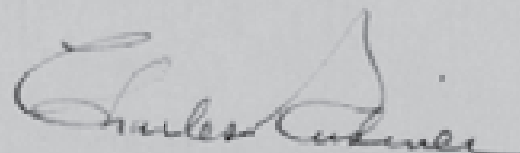
Dear Rabbi Silver:

Several of us from the Zionist District of Detroit tried to reach you after your address to the War Chest luncheon the other day, but were unsuccessful.

We are very anxious to have you address a joint meeting with Hadassah here, any time after the first of the year. In fact, knowing how crowded your schedule is, we should be content to have you name your own date. It is a long time since you have spoken in Detroit on a purely Zionist theme. In our anxiety to support the U J A adequately, we have had to sacrifice much in the way of promulgation of Zionist ideology.

Our membership campaigns and general Zionist work need the inspiration which comes from hearing addresses on real Zionist philosophy. We earnestly hope that you will find it possible to accept our invitation.

Cordially yours,



CR:rw

Charles Rubiner



November 23, 1942

Mr. Charles Rubiner  
Penobscot Building  
Detroit, Michigan

My dear Mr. Rubiner:

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 wish I were free to come to you to address a joint meeting of the Zionist District and of Hadassah. But I am sure that you must know how very busy I am with the work which I have already undertaken and that I must decline many invitations which otherwise I would be most happy to accept. The work of the United Jewish Appeal and the United Palestine Appeal consumes all the time which I can spare from my very crowded schedule here in Cleveland.

Please convey my best wishes to all my good friends in Detroit.

Very cordially yours,

AMS:EK

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



1720 - 16TH STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

December 1, 1942

JUDGE LOUIS E. LEVENTHAL  
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JUDGE JULIAN W. MACK  
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## Associate Members

PHILIP BARRON  
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SEYMOUR MELMAN  
MRS. TAMAR DE SOLA POOL  
HARRY TARRIF

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

This department is preparing for release to the press as well as for compilation as a brochure, a series of statements by Zionist leaders on the significance of a large Zionist membership in equipping our organization for the day when our claims will be submitted to the peace table.

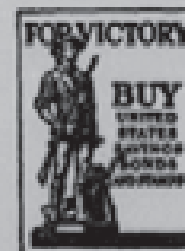
I shall, therefore, be grateful if you will kindly let me have at your earliest convenience a statement on the importance of joining the Zionist ranks in the present critical hour, for publication in the press as well as inclusion in our membership brochure. The statement should cover from two to three typewritten pages.

With kind regards and best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

  
E. Barbarash  
Director, Publicity Department

EB:dh



# The New Palestine

*The American Zionist Fortnightly Devoted to Jewish Affairs*

1720 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 2, 1942

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

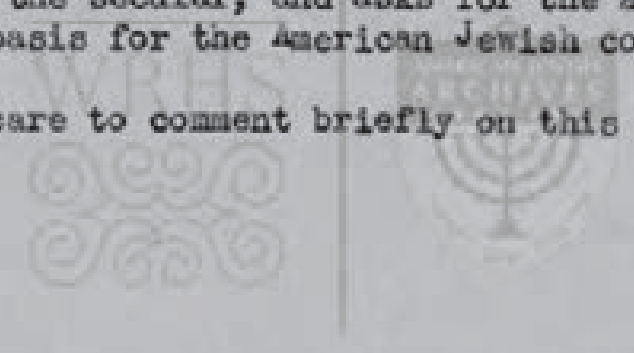
Dear Dr. Silver:

Just a brief note...

I wish you would read Rabbi Samuel Blumenfeld's challenging article in the current number of *The New Palestine*, in which he rejects the secular, and asks for the acceptance of a religious basis for the American Jewish community.

Would you care to comment briefly on this article for my next issue?

Sincerely yours,

  
*Carl Alpert*  
Carl Alpert

CA:eg

# Pearl Harbor and American Jewry

ON DECEMBER 7th the American people will pause to take stock of the happenings, failures, achievements and problems facing this country as a result of the historic afternoon on December 7th, 1941, when the first flash of the attack on Pearl Harbor reached our shores. Disbelief during the first few hours that such an assault was possible soon gave way to pain and raging anger at the duplicity of an unscrupulous foe; and this, in turn, was followed by a remarkable record of grim resolution and feverish war activity unique in the annals of American history.

With all other Americans, we can look back with pride and satisfaction at the Herculean efforts and achievements of a virile and creative people at a time of crisis. Laws and regulations, customs and practices—which only some weeks ago seemed immutable and beyond reach of human change—have been brushed aside when greater interests and more compelling needs called for new rules, other procedures and different practices!

It is but natural that a people on the march should not feel satisfied until the goal has been reached; there is therefore still much criticism and fault-finding in our midst but deep in the heart of America there is a growing sense of satisfaction in the knowledge that democracy has withstood the great test and that we can look forward with confidence to a people consecrated to the cause of winning the war and, following it, also the peace.

On this momentous anniversary it is proper that we, as Jews, also take stock of the effects of Pearl Harbor upon the life of Jewry of this country and its destiny in the future. To be sure for the Jews this historic event was only one in a chain of similar events preceding it. The Jews of America experienced their Pearl Harbor long before December 7th, 1941; indeed, even before the outbreak of the second World War. While America at large was slumbering comfortably under the false security of two oceans, and while many sections of the United States, even as late as a year ago, were still tossing in the nightmare of isolationism, European Jewry—and with it the Jews the world over—were already veteran commandos in the bitter struggle against a fiendish enemy whom America is just meeting in the battlefield.

If the people of Malta deserve the King George medal for the courage and endurance they have shown during the innumerable attacks upon their little island, world Jewry, too, may claim such distinction, for it had been subjected to merciless attacks before any other people had yet felt the sting of Germany's "blitzkrieg" that stunned and subdued stronger and more

## *What Is Happening to the American Jewish Community as a Result of the War?*

By SAMUEL M. BLUMENFIELD

numerous peoples than the Jews.

### Significant Changes

But while nothing spectacular has happened in American Jewry immediately following Pearl Harbor, many changes have

taken place in the course of the year which have already affected, and will continue to affect even more, the economic, social and spiritual life of American Jewry. We are too close to current events to be able to appraise and evaluate these changes and their effects upon the future; but even cursory observations reveal significant happenings which are bound to exercise great influence upon the life and fortunes of American Jewry.

Within the few short months since America entered the war, there has already taken place a great change in the mood and temper of the Jews of this country. One has to look but one year back to recall how Jewish organizations and institutions harped hysterically on the theme of anti-Semitism and the need of counteracting or forestalling the spread of this malignant disease in the United States. It mattered little whether the appeal was for a local charity or the J.D.C., for Palestine or the synagogue—the refrain was the same, for every skilled campaigner sensed the jittery state of mind of the Jew and felt justified in playing on this emotion in order to achieve what he thought was a worthy end. Anti-Semitism, indeed, became the most powerful motivating force in the Judengass; and many an organization, and for that matter many an individual, built their strength and influence in recent years upon the threatening force of this evil.

Organizations and institutions do not readily depart from established routines or forsake vested interests. However, many of them are already submerging the motif of fear to other appeals and different interests. Together with other Americans, Jews are sharing in the heavy burdens of the war; but with that there has also come a sense of relief in the knowledge that "We are not alone," and that many of the tasks which were carried hitherto by them only as Jews they shoulder today as Americans and as members of the United Nations.

With this sobering change from a mood of uncertainty to that of confidence, there have come forth more articulate expressions in behalf of positive and creative content in American Jewish life.

### Wider Interest In Judaism

American Jewry of today may have lost some of the depth of Jewish conviction and feeling of a generation ago; however, there is evidence of a more widespread interest in Judaism and Jewry than before. There are



many indications of a greater awareness on the part of American Jews as a whole of their identity, and a greater consciousness of their Jewish destiny than a generation ago. There are definite signs of growth and development of the Jewish synagogue. There is an increasing realization on the part of many communities and institutions of the woeful neglect of Jewish education in the last quarter of a century and the urgent need for bringing back Jewish learning and culture in our midst.

Jewish organizations, which in the past were concerned exclusively with adults, their donors and supporters, are today opening departments of youth education, and Zionist and philanthropic groups which prided themselves that their funds were used only for needs abroad, today engage in a program of publications covering not only their immediate fields, but also subjects of general Jewish interest. Practically all the national Jewish defense organizations conduct "institutes," the purpose of which is to obtain more reliable information and achieve a better understanding of present-day Jewish life and problems. From available evidence, Jewish youth in the armed forces, far from reneging and denying their Jewishness, are eagerly seeking out their fellow Jews and those institutions and organizations that minister to Jewish social and spiritual needs. These thousands of young Jews may not be well informed of their religio-cultural heritage, but they show fine loyalties; they certainly are not as rebellious as the Jewish youth of a generation ago in Eastern Europe, nor do they suffer from the crippling self-hate of their contemporaries in Western Europe.

To be sure, not all these signs are reflections of genuine interest in positive Judaism. One has reason to be wary of the large number of "institutes" conducted by organizations whose very *raison d'être* in the past was based upon action rather than study and research. One wonders whether this suddenly acquired interest in knowledge is not another way of evading responsibility for active leadership. But, granted that much of this inflated concern about Jewish information and education is a cloak for lack of an aggressive program in behalf of Jewry, the very fact that "institutes" can be used for such a cloak is an indication of an important change in the mood of American Jews.

What is particularly encouraging about these signs of revival and renewed interest in things Jewish is that they are neither an expression of protest against hostile environment as was the case of the Russian Jewish intelligentsia following the pogroms of the eighties, nor the result of the disillusionment in Westernism of the school of Martin Buber. Far from disappointment and dissatisfaction with the outside world about them, the Jews are fervently at one with the American people and its government in the pursuit of war and peace, as well as in domestic affairs and policies.

Similar zeal for the people among whom they dwell, and the same devotion to its cause and government, are not unknown in other countries in modern Jewish history. There is, however, this significant difference: that whereas since the French Revolution patriotism and love of newly acquired cultures were used to disparage Judaism

and minimize Jewishness, *the Jews of this country, with but rare exceptions, use their love of American civilization as the very reason for strengthening their own Jewish religious and cultural communal life.* (A perusal of Jewish education campaign literature of recent years will amply illustrate this point.) This is a new experience in modern Jewish history, and opens new vistas for Jewish diaspora life in the future.

### Social and Economic Changes

Changes which have not yet been sufficiently noticed, but which will prove of far-reaching importance in the years to come, are to be found in the economic life of the American Jew.

In an era of surplus production it was but natural that the Jew should be pressed even further into the position of the middle man to find new markets and provide wider channels of distribution. With American economic life undergoing truly revolutionary transformations from an economy of abundance to that of scarcity, the very foundation of Jewish economic existence is being shaken. Thousands of Jewish homes already experience great difficulties which have resulted from the breakdown of the functions of the salesman, advertiser, small merchant and distributor. Under the pressure of an evolving new economic setup, and with the wider opportunities for labor offered by American industry, thousands of Jews will be compelled to change old pursuits and occupations for more lucrative fields hitherto denied to them. Both the nature of the new work and the probable shift from larger Jewish centers to smaller communities where many new industries are located are bound to have their effect not only upon the standard of living, but also upon the social and spiritual wellbeing of the Jews during and following the war. Indeed, deeper insight and more earnest reflection upon the fortunes of Jewry in a new post-war economic world call for a "reevaluation of values" in the whole structure of the present American Jewish community.

The Jews throughout their history in the diaspora have known two kinds of authorities: the spiritual authority of the Jewish scholar or pietist, and the outside authority of church or government of the land in which they resided. The strength and character of these authorities varied in different times under different circumstances and conditions, but both were always in evidence.

With the weakening of the inner Jewish religious authority in modern times, there was still left governmental control over the Jewish community in varying degrees (full restriction in Czarist Russia, moderate control through the Consistoire in France and the Gemeinde in Germany, and considerable influence through the Chief Rabbinate in Great Britain), coupled with the authority of Jews of means whose number has grown and power considerably strengthened with the rise of Capitalism.

In America, where the separation of the state and church has been more real than in any other country, there has never been governmental authority in Jewish life. The only influence that made itself felt in the Jewish community of this country until our own days has



been that of Jewish wealth used for philanthropic and spiritual needs, moderated now and then by the personality of a dynamic religious leader or by the pressure of the Jewish masses.

### The Leadership of Wealth

Whatever one may think of the character of an authority rooted in financial power, it cannot be denied that much good has been achieved for American Jewry by the resources of men of wealth in behalf of the synagogue, social service, recreation, Palestine, and to some extent even Jewish education. To say the least, this authority of Jewish wealth constituted an identity, an address known and recognized, even if not always followed, by the Jews and non-Jews as well.

Unless all signs are misleading, it is not likely that in a world of four freedoms and Atlantic Charters there will be room in the future for the accumulation of great wealth on the part of a few individuals as was the case during the heyday of Capitalism. Present realities and trend of events forecast a greater distribution of material resources, with a consequent lowering of the top, and rise of the bottom of the economic ladder. Already today there is no longer a recognized authority of the wealth of the type of Jacob Schiff, Felix Warburg or Julius Rosenwald that guided Jewish community interests for half a century.

Whatever power the philanthropists still exercise today has to be bolstered by their combined forces in the form of Federations of Charities and Welfare Funds. There is, however, no reason to believe that they will continue to maintain it once their own financial resources are weakened and their contributions to Jewish causes are lessened. One does not have to be a Jeremiah to foresee that we are about to witness the breakdown of the old more or less functioning Jewish communal framework without a new one to take its place in sight. Yet to this day there has not come forth a Jewish Wallace or Willkie to forecast the end of the era of philanthropism and project some new program for the century of the common Jew.

Indeed, one cannot recall in American history a Jewish leadership as inert and static as that of our days. There seems to be a conspiracy of evasion wherever Jewish leaders meet these days. Despite the persistent and fervent appeals for a united Jewish Front since the rise of Hitlerism, our so-called national defense organizations have to this day failed to honor the appeal. A more recent spectacular effort in the form of "a little Zionist Congress" to achieve some unity at least within Zionist ranks resulted in the same failure and inaction.

One senses in American Jewish leadership the same bewilderment and impotence that characterized the last days of Weimar Germany and later the democracies in the days of Munich. It is this kind of indecision and paralysis of will in a period of transition, when the old is not out and the new has not yet come, that inevitably leads to catastrophe.

Failure on the part of thinking Jews to project in time a community program compatible with new Jewish reali-

ties, is bound to lead either to demagoguery (witness the sudden rise of the Revisionists in America because of lack of active leadership on the question of the Jewish Army), as was the case in Germany, or to chaos and confusion, as in the case of Western democracies.

### The Post-War Community

Before projecting a Jewish community framework that would meet the new conditions of a post-war government-controlled economy, one must reconsider the program of the American Jewish Congress, which for years has challenged the power of money in Jewish life and advocated the electoral method to achieve representative Jewish leadership.

As Americans, steeped in the tenets of democracy and accustomed to the ballot procedure, it is only natural that many of us should wish for a representative democratically chosen leadership to become the heir to the outgoing authority of the philanthropists. However, candor requires of a student of the American Jewish scene to take cognizance of the fact that despite a quarter of a century of earnest and at times inspired labors to build such a democratic Jewish organization, the effort has received little support and less recognition on the part of American Jews. In fact, the American Jewish Congress, which has advanced the election procedure as the ideal method of achieving democracy in Jewish life, has itself failed to make use of this procedure effectively except once in the twenty-five years of its existence.

It would be puerile to ascribe this failure merely to the shortcomings of some individuals in the Congress movement or to the inadequacy of certain methods. During the same period there have come to the fore successful Jewish organizations and institutions whose leadership has been as mediocre as it has been unnoticed, and whose methods have not departed in the least from conventional organizational routine. The inability of the American Jewish Congress movement to achieve its worthy ends lies much deeper, and no new scheme of Jewish communal life can be envisioned without an understanding of the underlying reasons for this failure.

I submit that the purely secular electoral form of community organization has no roots in Jewish history, tradition or experience and that this, more than anything else, accounts for the lack of progress of the Congress movement. The few attempts at building Jewish communities by the electoral method in Eastern Europe following the Russian Revolution and the first World War were short-lived and cannot serve as a valid example of Jewish electoral democracy in action. As far as Jewish community experience is concerned, it is known to every student of Jewish history that while Judaism is rooted in the ideals of democracy, the methods used to achieve these ideals have been different from those used in the Western world.

### The New Democracy

Indeed, many of the staunchest believers in democracy are questioning today some of the methods and pro-

cedures used in modern times. There is an ever growing conviction among those who are in earnest about the welfare of democracy that between unbridled totalitarianism and irresponsible laissez-faire, which has frequently passed for democracy, we must evolve a system of government which is not only elected *by the people*, but actually governs *for the people*.

Tragic experience of the last quarter of a century has taught us the failures of government that "governs least." There is, therefore, a tendency in the more virile democracies like the United States, Great Britain and others to seek greater controls and more active participation of government in the affairs of the community than we had hitherto.

Thomas Mann, one of the foremost spokesmen of democracy of our age, has this to say on the causes of democracy's failure of our time:

Real democracy, as we understand it, can never dispense with aristocratic attributes, if the word aristocratic is used not in the sense of birth or any sort of privilege, but in a spiritual sense. In a democracy which does not respect the intellectual life and is not guided by it, demagoguery has free play, and the level of national life is depressed to that of the ignorant and uncultivated.

The Jewish people have for centuries upheld a conception of democracy which calls for the expression and active participation of the people with the help of the intellectual guidance and spiritual leadership of the Jewish scholar, Rabbi and pietist. Leadership in a voluntaristic society is the equivalent of government, and in the future it will have to be more active and direct to avoid the tragic consequences of a leadership that does not lead.

With the authority of Jewish wealth on the decline, there is left the only known and historically proven valid framework of Jewish group life—namely, the Jewish religious community. It is significant that without any premeditated philosophy or directed ideology, Jewish life in America, by the force of historic inertia, has by itself gradually come to a greater recognition of the religio-spiritual authority in Jewish life. This is all the more remarkable considering that ours has been a doubting generation that sucked materialism at its mother's breast.

### Religious Leadership

In the last quarter of a century there has crystallized an articulate religious leadership representing the views of various religious schools of thought. So well organized have become these different religious bodies, that they have been able to make common cause through the united Synagogue Council, an organization worth watching in the years to come. What is even more significant is that the two Rabbinical organizations representing the conservative and reform wings are about to deliberate jointly at their forthcoming annual meeting; ample proof of the sense of confidence of these

organizations in their own strength, as well as the maturing realization of the greater role they are to play in the destinies of American Jewry in the future.

The Rabbi in America wields a greater influence in Jewish communal life than ever before. (The heads of the U.P.A., the J.D.C. and the American Jewish Congress are Rabbis, and in most local communities no move of any consequence in Jewish life is being made without the Rabbi.) The non-Jewish world in America, too, although accustomed to the electoral method of representation in its daily life, recognizes the Rabbi and Jewish religious representative more readily and willingly than any lay spokesman—regardless of how many ballots he may represent. It is worthy of note that when President Roosevelt sought some form of representation of the American Jewish community, he chose to designate not the spokesman of a large Jewish lay organization, but the head of a Jewish Theological Seminary, who would be acceptable to all Jewish religious factions. It is also significant that in more recent days, even in political matters, the Zionist movement saw fit to have a Rabbinical delegation rather than a lay group make its presentation to the State Department on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Balfour Declaration.

It is quite evident that age-long historic forces and traditions are not read out or forgotten by temporary vogues or appealing clichés. The Jewish community has been, and for a long time to come will continue to be, recognized primarily as a religious one, and therefore its framework will have to be religious if it is to command the loyalty of Jewry and the recognition of the non-Jewish world. This does not imply that American Jewry is to seek its leadership in a religious hierarchy or a central Jewish church. Jewish religious authority since the decline of the priesthood has known the need and the value of active lay participation and guidance. "There must be no legislation that the community cannot bear," is an old Rabbinic dictum indicating that Jewish religious leadership seeks the consent of those to be led and in some instances seeks guidance in the experience and the wisdom of the people.

In this sense the Jewish community achieved, in the course of its history, the most practical conception of



Jewish soldiers at a military field day in Tel Aviv.

democratic government, namely, government with the consent of the governed. Moreover, Jewish religion, which is historic-cultural in character and not only a credal system, calls for a social cultural content that springs from and is intended for the Jews as a whole without any distinction between the religious teacher and the laity.

Indeed, Jewish laity constitutes one of the main pillars in the Jewish credal triad of God, Israel and the Torah. We can, therefore, assume that in the future, too, the Jewish religious community will seek to meet the needs, interests and participation of the Jewish laity, such participation being not merely a concession to a less privileged element, but as an inherent right of every Jew, for Judaism grants its spiritual leaders the privilege of teachers but not the status of the superiority of priests. American Jewry is fortunate in having accumulated a considerable amount of knowledge and experience in lay organization and participation. It would be, therefore, an act of wisdom to bring together the available knowledge, material resources, and manpower of the present functioning Jewish philanthropic and organizational laity with the religious leadership that is about to emerge.

The writer has no illusions about the ease or simplicity of such an undertaking. Granted that much can be gained by following in principle the old pattern of the Jewish religious community in the Diaspora, more can be achieved by incorporating in such a community program the best features of the Kehillah of Eastern Europe, the Consistoire and Gemeinde of Western Europe, and

the electoral-representative form of America. The immediate purpose of this paper, however, is not so much to outline the details of the structure as to call attention to the need of revising our views on the character of the American Jewish community in the future as a result of events in Pearl Harbor. If four national Jewish organizations see the wisdom of conducting institutes about the fortunes of world Jewry in a post-war world, would it not be just as wise for them to give some thought and consideration to the Jewish community in America?

The issues, tendencies and problems raised in this paper are not all the direct outcome of Pearl Harbor. They have grown and developed in the course of the last two decades. But, just as in American life December 7th precipitated events with lightning speed and energy, so will the historic afternoon of Pearl Harbor serve as a quickening force in the process of dissolution of the old and the building of the new in American Jewry. Under normal conditions and circumstances the growth of a new Jewish community organization could be left to the gradual process of historic development; however, ours is a blitzkrieg age, which will not suffer the slow pace of evolutionary change.

In revolutionary days, to use the French adage, "He who does not march forward goes backward." It will, therefore, be well for the Jews of America to hasten the process of reconstruction by following the admonition of their fellow citizens and "Remember Pearl Harbor," for the sake of Jewry as well as for the good of America.

## From an Old Notebook

By MARTIN ROSENBLUTH

It was one of those dreary, rainy evenings when, for lack of anything better to do, I turned to an accumulated mass of documents and determined once and for all to set them in order. Some of these papers were mere scribbled notes which I had carried around with me for years, from home to home, and across the seas.

And as I turned the yellowed, frayed sheets, memories came crowding in on me—memories of another day and another land—and yet memories strangely significant to our own times.

How some of those wealthy Jews in Europe had laughed when we first launched the Keren Hayesod with its admittedly ambitious aim of obtaining from each Jew a *maaser*, a tithe, as a form of moral obligation. They laughed, and as a result, instead of the 25 million pounds in five years, which we had envisaged, the Keren Hayesod obtained only 10 million pounds in all its 20 years of existence.

Yet those 25 million pounds are but a fraction, far less than the *maaser*, of what German Jewry alone left in the hands of the Nazis during recent years.

### Conspiracy of Silence

I remember the first Zionist meetings in Germany, when anti-Zionists tried to kill our efforts, not by intelligent,

logical opposition, but by a conspiracy of silence. In many cities the Jews did not attend our meetings at all, or if curiosity led them to attend, they refrained from taking any part in the discussion. In order to cope with this situation, our headquarters would send, together with the Zionist speaker, another fellow, whose only task was to play the role of anti-Zionist, criticise the speaker, and thus bring about a discussion.

However, we soon had to abandon this method. At one meeting—I think it was in Silesia—one of our men played his part a little too realistically. When he launched a rather personal attack on Dr. Herzl, the temperamental chairman, who had not been taken in on our secret, became so excited that he interrupted the speaker, and told him to behave. Then, as the fellow, unperturbed by the admonition, continued his attack, the chairman sprang upon him like a tiger and simply threw him off the dais. Our friend, having suffered some bruises in the melee, refused to play his role any further.

### Those Audiences

What stupid questions they would ask! The queries were rather embarrassing after what we thought had been splendid and inspiring speeches. I jotted down some of those questions.

Zionist Organization of America  
1720 - 16th Street N. W.  
Washington, D.C.

December 18th, 1942

## INSIDE PALESTINE

### VOL. II No. IV

#### Palestine's Contributions to the War Effort of the United Nations:

Washington (ZOA) - The following up-to-date summary of Palestine's contributions to the war effort of the United Nations is contained in a new Manual on Palestine and Zionism published by the Zionist Organization of America here:

1. Out of a Jewish population of 584,000 - 135,000 men and women have registered for service in all branches of military and civilian defense. More than 27,000 have volunteered and are now serving with the British armies and supernumerary police. An additional 20,000 are serving in the Home Guard, Settlement Police and in other civilian war services. In addition 36,000 Jewish workers are engaged in war industries, in military construction work, communications, and other industrial war projects.
2. Agriculture and food production has been expanded to an extent that Palestine now constitutes a major source of supply for military and civilian needs in the entire Middle East. Agricultural settlements have increased to 276, of which 21 were established since the outbreak of the war.
3. Palestine now numbers 2,050 Jewish industrial establishments in which more than 45,000 workers are employed. An indication of the growth of Palestine industry is the fact that the consumption of electric power has increased from 2,344,000 Kilowatt hours in 1926 to 100,000,000 Kwh. in 1941.
4. The Jewish community of Palestine is rendering substantial assistance to the war effort in the economic, scientific and technical fields. The war has given great impetus particularly to the pharmaceutical industry, the engineering fields, to the production of chemical and optical apparatus, mechanical equipment, war time tools, and to the establishment of new metal, electrical, textile and timber plants. In the field of industrial diamond cutting 30 new establishments are already in existence employing over 3,000 workers.
5. War orders filled by Jewish factories in Palestine in 1941 amounted to \$16,000,000. It is estimated that in 1942 the value of war supplies and equipments manufactured by Jewish factories will reach a total of \$42,000,000.
6. In the battles of Greece, Crete, Libya, Ethiopia and Egypt, Palestine Jewish soldiers played a heroic part. Thousands have fallen on the battlefield and many hundreds more have been cited and decorated for heroism by their commanding officers.
7. The Hebrew University, the Hadassah Hospital and Medical School on Mt. Scopus, Jerusalem, the Haifa Technicum, the Daniel Sieff Research Institute at Rehoboth, have placed their entire services and facilities at the disposal of the United Nations, serving as a vital center of scientific research for the military in the Middle East.



ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



1720 - 16TH STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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December 21st, 1942

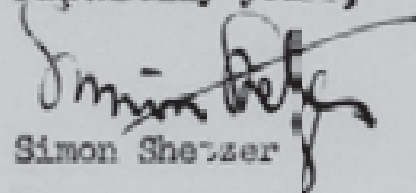
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I am informed by our New England field representative that you are scheduled to speak in Boston sometime in February. Will it be possible for you to address a Zionist gathering during your visit there? Our Zionists in Greater Boston are most anxious to arrange a special event for you. Will you please let me know by return mail the date when you will be in Boston and what arrangements we can make for you to meet with our people?

With warmest personal regards,

Faithfully yours,

  
Simon Shetzer

SS:bg





December 24, 1942

Mr. Simon Shetzer, Executive Director  
Zionist Organization of America  
1720-16th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Shetzer:

Thank you so much for your kind letter of December 21. I wish I were free to address a meeting under Zionist auspices while I am in Boston. One group has already written to me, and I regretfully was compelled to decline the invitation. I am completely booked up for the two and a half days that I will be at Harvard and in Boston.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BX

[1942]

INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

45TH ANNUAL CONVENTION - ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS - HOTEL NEW YORKER

8th Avenue & 34th Street  
New York City

I

Registration of delegates and alternates to the convention will commence Wednesday evening, October 14th at 6:00 o'clock, at the convention headquarters, in the Hotel New Yorker.

Upon presenting the enclosed card at the registration desk and payment of the registration fee, your official credential will be issued to you, together with your official badge, convention program and literature, annual reports, etc.

All sessions except those scheduled jointly with Hadassah will be held in the Hotel New Yorker. The Friday night dinner and the Sunday afternoon session will be held in the Manhattan Center, adjoining the Hotel New Yorker on 34th Street. The Saturday afternoon Oneg Shabbat and the Saturday night session will be held at the Pennsylvania Hotel.

II

Delegates are requested to make reservations for breakfast and luncheon meetings immediately after registering. Your prompt attention to these reservations will facilitate our efforts to make all necessary arrangements for your convenience and comfort.

In addition to the Friday morning breakfast honoring Judge Levinthal and the Friday night dinner, there will be a J. N. F. luncheon session Friday noon dedicated to the "Acquisition and Defense of the Land of Palestine," which all delegates are expected to attend. There will be a luncheon session on Thursday on Adult Zionist Education which is being arranged by the National Advisory Educational Council, to which all delegates are cordially invited.

Arrangements have been made for Sabbath Services at the Hotel New Yorker.

III

Special arrangements have been made with the Hotel New Yorker to accommodate all delegates and alternates. Room reservations should be made directly with the hotel upon the enclosed card. Make your reservations early and when registering at the hotel, please state that you are attending the Zionist Convention.

IV

We suggest that you make your transportation arrangements immediately in order to assure your attendance at the opening session of the convention on Thursday morning. Delegates arriving at the Pennsylvania Station can enter the Hotel New Yorker directly through the underground passage and elevator.

| CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED  |              |
|---|--------------|
| DOMESTIC  | CABLE        |
| TELEGRAM  | ORDINARY     |
| DAY LETTER  | URGENT       |
| SERIAL  | DEFERRED     |
| CURRENT TELEGRAM  | NIGHT LETTER |
| SPECIAL DELIVERY  | STOP         |
| Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram. |              |

# WESTERN UNION

1207

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. G. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

|    |                        |
|----|------------------------|
| \$ | CHECK                  |
| \$ | ACCOUNTING INFORMATION |
| F  | TIME FILED             |

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

To Louis D. Brandeis
Cleveland, Ohio Jan. 5 1943

Care of or Apt. No. Washington, D. C.

Street and No.

COLLECT

Place

REGRET EXCEEDINGLY CANNOT ACCEPT YOUR KIND INVITATION FOR JANUARY TWENTY-SIXTH

WISH YOUR MEETING EVERY SUCCESS

ABBA HILLEL SILVER, ~~WAS.~~

AHS:BW

## WANT A REPLY?

"Answer by WESTERN UNION"  
or similar phrases may be  
included without charge.

Sender's address  
for reference

Sender's telephone  
number

# CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

A. H. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

# WESTERN UNION (12)

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NT = Overnight Telegram

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

WA74 45 DL=WASHINGTON DC 4 9 49A

1943 JAN 4 AM 10 17

ABBA HILLET SILVER=

1105 + 1125L RD.

THE TEMPLE CLEVE=

ZIONIST BODIES WASHINGTON JOINING LOUIS D BRANDEIS DISTRICT  
FOR SPECIAL MEETING THURSDAY JANUARY 26TH ON NEW COUNCIL  
AMERICAN JUDAISM. WE FEEL WASHINGTON ESPECIALLY SUITED  
MAJOR STATEMENT THIS ISSUE-ALL JOIN INVITING YOU-SPEAKER  
THAT EVENING IF AT ALL POSSIBLE PLEASE ACCEPT WIRE-ACCEPTANCE  
OUR EXPENSE=

LOUIS E SPIEGLER.

26 JUDAISM.

LOCATE OF TELEPHONED TELEGRAM

La 0158 a 1126 a

## CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
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(24)

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CC15 62 DL 3 EXTRA=CHICAGO ILL 4 445P 1943 MAY 4 PM 6 27

RABBI ABBE HILLEL SILVER=

SUPPLIES OF TEL

CLEVE=

*The Temple*

*Rabbi Silver*  
*OK 8:30 med*  
*may 5*

CHICAGO ZIONIST ORGANIZATION IS PLANNING TO HOLD ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE SUNDAY MAY 30TH AT DRAKE HOTEL BECAUSE OF PRESENT  
TRYING TIMES IN THE LIVE OF JEWRY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WE  
WOULD DESIRE TO HAVE YOU AS OUR MAIN SPEAKER AT PUBLIC  
SESSION EIGHT PM WE FEEL THAT YOU HAVE A MESSAGE OF GREAT

IMPORTANCE FOR CHICAGO PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR ACCEPTANCE=

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF CHICAGO JEROME J GREENBERG  
CHAIRMAN CONFERENCE COMMITTEE.

*OK 3740*

*WC sa*  
*741P 7:31L*

*Rabbi Silver*  
*OK 8:30 med*  
*may 5*

30.

BQC 15