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Zionist Organization of America, Administrative Council, minutes,
1945-1946.

ZIONISM

NEW ENGLAND ZIONIST REGION

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November 21, 1945

D. Dewey Stone
53 Arlington St.
Brockton, Mass.

Dear Dewey:

I shall greatly appreciate your requesting Dr. Silver to appoint Louis E. Brown, 19 Wales St., Dorchester, Mass., to the National Administrative Council. I have made a similar request to Elihu D. Stone and to Dr. Silver. Your immediate attention to this will be greatly appreciated.

Kindest regards.

Cordially yours

Sam

Samuel Caploe
President

SC:FM

CC: Louis E. Brown

Dear Emanuel: If possible I would greatly welcome this appointment. Also Joe Goldberg to Executive Committee -

Sincerely
[Signature]

PHILADELPHIA BRANCH

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

LARGEST DISTRICT IN THE UNITED STATES

1410 NORTH AMERICAN BUILDING :: PHILADELPHIA 7, PA.

Officers

JUDGE LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL
Honorary Chairman

JOSEPH KOHN
President

WILLIAM H. SYLK
Vice-President

RABBI ELIAS CHARRY
Vice-President

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Vice-President

BERNARD WEINBERG
Corresponding Secretary

A. B. WALDBAUM
Financial Secretary

MICHAEL EGNAL
Recording Secretary

MILTON L. HOFKIN
Treasurer

Dr. Emanuel Neumann
National Vice President
Zionist Organization of America
41 E. 42nd Street
New York, 17, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Neumann:

For your information, I am enclosing a copy of a letter which I sent to Mr. Daniel Frisch today.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Rose I. Bender

MRS. ROSE I. BENDER
Executive Director

MRIB:TH
ENC.

11/27
Recommend Joseph Kohn to exec.

November 26, 1945

Nothing like done - before letter return
will be asked you by A.C. Glad
I have



C O P Y

November 23, 1945

Mr. Daniel Frisch, Chairman
National Administrative Council
Zionist Organization of America
41 E. 42nd Street
New York, 17, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Frisch:

For your information, I am submitting the following:

(1) At a meeting of the Executive Board of the Philadelphia Zionist Organization held Tuesday evening, November 13, 1945, at 1410 North American Building, the following motion was passed, with one dissenting vote:

"In the event that an additional member be named from Philadelphia for membership on the National Executive Committee - it is the recommendation of this Board that the name of Joseph Kohn, the President of the Philadelphia Zionist Organization be submitted for this place."

(2) At a breakfast meeting of the Philadelphia Delegates to the National Convention held Sunday morning, November 18, 1945, at the Breakers Hotel, the following motion was passed:

"In the event that the National Administrative Council should decide to elect additional members to the Executive Committee of the Zionist Organization of America and should see fit to name a Philadelphian, the delegates present, representing the Zionist Organization of Philadelphia, hereby urge the National Administrative Council to elect Joseph Kohn, the President of the Philadelphia Zionist Organization, as a member of the National Executive."

In order to enable those who may have other candidates to indicate their preferences, it was proposed that a secret ballot be taken on this motion. The result of this ballot was as follows: 28 for Joseph Kohn, 3 for Jacob S. Richman.

Cordially yours,

Copy to Dr. Emanuel Neumann

MRS. ROSE I. BENDER
Executive Director

File
December 3, 1945

Mrs. Rose I. Bender, Executive Director
Philadelphia Branch, Z. O. A.
1410 North American Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Mrs. Bender:

I am delighted to acknowledge receipt of the recommendation by the Philadelphia District of Mr. Joseph Kohn for election to the National Executive Committee. I regret that nothing can be done with reference to this matter before the return of Dr. Silver from Palestine.

Your recommendation is also being referred to the Administrative Council for any further action which they may decide to take.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Emanuel Neumann
Acting President

en:grk

4-4
December 5, 1945

Mr. D. Dewey Stone
53 Arlington Street
Brockton, Massachusetts

Dear Dewey:

Dr. Neumann had to rush off to Washington and asked me to remind you of the next meeting of the Inner Committee which is being held on Wednesday, December 12th, at four o'clock, at the New York office. He is anxious to have you present at this meeting, a preliminary outline of your plans with regard to the Expansion Fund.

Dr. Neumann has also appointed a committee consisting of Rabbi Irving Miller, Joseph Greenleaf and yourself, to discuss with a committee of the Histadrut Ivrit their request for additional funds. We are planning to hold a meeting on this matter possibly on Monday, December 10th, at the New York office. Would it be convenient for you to participate in these discussions? If this date is not suitable, we shall do our utmost to call this meeting at a more convenient time.

Dr. Neumann has also asked me to acknowledge on his behalf, your recommendations with regard to the appointment of Joseph Goldberg to the Executive Committee and Louis E. Brown to the National Administrative Council. Such appointments must await the consideration of Dr. Silver and will be brought to his attention upon his return from Palestine.

I look forward to seeing you in New York next week.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Yale Goldberg

yg:rk



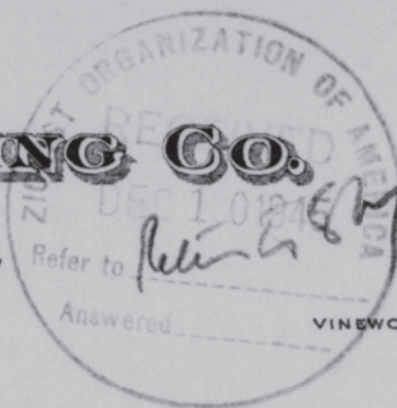
KEYSTONE OIL REFINING CO.

REFINERS OF

High Grade Lubricants

12800 NORTHAMPTON AVENUE

DETROIT, MICH.



December 7, 1945

Mr. Emanuel Neumann
Zionist Organization of America
1720 Sixteenth Street N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Neumann:

Heartiest Congratulations on your successful effort to bring Dr. Silver to the leadership of the Zionist Organization of America. Let us hope that under his and your leadership, we will come nearer to the realization of our hopes and dreams.

As I understand it, Dr. Silver has the right to appoint five members to the new Executive Committee of the ZOA. I would very strongly urge you to recommend to Dr. Silver that Philip Slomovitz of Detroit be appointed as one of the five. I am sure that you are aware of the services Phil is rendering to the Zionist Cause in the State of Michigan. The truth of the matter is that Phil has the very best connections of any Zionist, or to be more correct, of any Jew in the State of Michigan, with the Michigan Members of the House of Representatives and the United States Senate. I am quite certain that Phil's membership on the Executive Committee would be a great asset and would unquestionably strengthen Phil's position in our community in the field of Zionist Work.

Please let me know your reaction to this matter.

Yours very truly,

Leon Kay
Leon Kay

JF

December 12, 1945

Mr. Leon Kay
Keystone Oil Refining Co.
12800 Northampton Ave.
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Mr. Kay:

Many thanks for your letter dated December 7th
addressed to Dr. Neumann. AMERICAN JEWELRY ARCHIVES

No action has been taken as yet on the Committee
appointments. I will bring your letter to the attention
of Dr. Silver upon his return from Palestine.

Accept my sincere thanks for your interest.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Sidney Marks
Executive Director

SM:dh

Memo for Rabbi Silver

January 6, 1946

Suggestions for Additional Members to the
National Executive Committee

1. Dr. Henry Ellenbogen of Pittsburgh
2. Mr. Turover of Washington, D. C.
3. Marcus Abramson, Bronx, N. Y.

Additional Members to National Adminis-
trative Council

1. Archibald Silverman of Rhode Island

N A T I O N A L A D M I N I S T R A T I V E C O U N C I LZ O A

Murray Hill Hotel, New York City
January 13, 1946

The meeting was opened at 2:30 p.m. by Mr. Daniel Frisch, Chairman, National Administrative Council.

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Sidney Marks, Executive Director, presented a report of the activities of the organization (See Minutes, Executive Committee, January 12 for summary).

Necrology

Mr. Frisch paid warm tribute to the memories of Isadore Silver, president of the Yorkville District, a devoted and loyal Zionist, and David Podolsky, a veteran in the movement and B'nai Zion leader, who recently passed away. Resolutions voicing the deep sense of sorrow of American Zionists at the loss to their families and to Zionism were ordered spread upon the minutes.

Morgan Incident

Mr. Frisch assailed the sentiments expressed by General Morgan as one of the most brazen accusations ever made against the Jewish people and the Zionist movement. He pointed out that on this very day the Yishuv was in solemn protest against the stoppage of immigration into Palestine, and was dedicating itself to a consideration of ways and means of defeating this attempt at strangulation of the Jewish people and the Zionist movement. Mr. Frisch felt that every self-respecting Jew stood behind the Yishuv, identified himself with its hopes and aspirations, and that no power on earth will be able to frustrate, defeat, or even delay the bringing about, as speedily as possible, the Jewish Commonwealth of Palestine.

Report by Dr. Neumann

Dr. Emanuel Neumann described the events leading to the almost unanimous adoption of the Palestine Resolution by both the House of Representatives and the Senate, and called it a great triumph for the Zionist cause. He told of the obstacles which seemed continually to rise in the path of its adoption; the sudden reversal of the Executive stand in the matter; the conferences over the wording of the resolution, and the suspense of waiting for the final decision. As it was finally passed, Dr. Neumann stated, substantially the resolution represents recognition by the U. S. Congress of Zionist aims, the first Congressional pronouncement since 1922.

The Inquiry Commission

Remarking that the passage of the Resolution was now history, Dr. Neumann turned to the consideration of the hearings of the Anglo-American Joint Inquiry

Committee. It was not known, he pointed out, that hearings would be held on this side of the Atlantic until December 24th, when Zionist organizations received invitations to appear and to file briefs by January 3rd.

Preparatory work was undertaken by a committee of five, headed by Dr. Neumann, and in the short time available it directed the preparation of written material and oral testimony, contacted other Zionist organizations, and at the same time tried to keep something of a check on what was being done by the opposition.

The material filed included the volume of official documents compiled under the direction of Capt. Tulin and Dr. Akzin. The chairmen of the Committee complimented the care and competence with which the material had been prepared.

Dr. Neumann called the council's attention to the fact that the decision to appear before the committee was taken in spite of resentment of the proceedings in an effort to forestall any harm to the cause.

Aims Analyzed

Dr. Neumann analyzed the aims of the Committee as being two-fold: the first being to gain time, the second the bringing in of the United States as a partner in British policy, to relieve American pressure upon the British in the Palestine question. The attitude of the British members of the committee seemed to be based upon a defense of British policy; the Americans seemed on the whole open-minded.

The hearings were so arranged, Dr. Neumann went on, that the need for Jewish immigration to Palestine was treated first; then the Zionist case was heard; the non-Zionist and anti-Zionist case was then presented; Arab representatives were heard last. On the first question, he stated, Dr. Joseph Schwartz of the Joint Distribution Committee made an outstanding contribution; his testimony could have left no doubt in the minds of the committee as to the need and desire of European Jewry to go to Palestine.

Zionist Case Presented

The Zionist case was introduced by Mr. Henry Monsky of the American Jewish Conference, who was followed by Dr. Wise "at his best, at his noblest, in his most eloquent, most dignified and most expressive form."

Dr. Neumann himself then presented the political aspects of the Zionist case. He was followed by Mrs. Judith Epstein of Hadassah, who gave a moving account of Hadassah's work among the children. Mr. Szold discussed the economic and financial contributions to Palestine of American Jewry; Dr. Raphael Gold gave the religious approach. Rabbi Irving Miller, appearing for the American Jewish Congress, made a most effective presentation of the Zionist Case.

The Zionist presentation, Dr. Neumann felt, was excellent. The Arab opposition showed up badly under questioning, and, in the judgment of disinterested observers, did the Zionist cause little harm and its own little good.

Opposition Weak

Jewish anti-Zionist groups, he said, fell into two categories: the Proskauer and Rosenwald positions. Judge Proskauer favored the removal of the British as the Mandatory Power, and the placing of Palestine under the trusteeship of the United Nations Organizations. He argued for the immediate granting of 100,000 immigration certificates, but against a Jewish state. Rosenwald fared badly before the committee.

Of Einstein's testimony, Dr. Neumann said that it was possible that his expressed opposition to a Jewish state, or, in fact, to any form of state, might have an unfavorable effect on the public. The question which elicited Einstein's answer, he felt, was probably the whole point of his appearance before the committee, since his coming had been arranged by them.

In response to a question, Dr. Neumann said that he had not heard Chaim Greenberg's statement for Poale Zion, but that he understood that it was most effective.

Engineers' Report

The morning-long exposition of Palestine's enormous potentialities for agricultural and industrial development by Dr. Lowdermilk, Professor Abel Wolman, Mr. James B. Hayes and Commissioner of Reclamation Shaw, Dr. Neumann declared, constituted an impressive session of the hearings.

Conclusions

Dr. Neumann concluded his report with an analysis of the possible outcome of the inquiry. His feeling of resentment against the whole thing had not changed, he said. He still found it impossible to determine just what President Truman's stand was. He feared that the Interim Report of the Commission would recommend the admission of a substantial number of immigrants, on condition that Zionist aims be abandoned, or that a ceiling would be placed on immigration, in effect reaffirming the White Paper policy. There was danger that, once away from this country, the American members would be more likely to yield to British pressure.

It was, however, clearly brought out at the hearings that Zionist propaganda had been tremendously effective in winning the American public over to our side.

There were two factors with regard to the future upon which Zionists could reply. One was the actual and potential strength of the Yishuv. The other was the sympathy of the American public. Efforts to hold and to increase that sympathy must not be relaxed for a single instant.

Membership Report

Mr. Joseph Goldberg, national chairman of membership, briefly outlined the plans of his committee to spur the membership drive. They plan this year, he stated, to concentrate the campaign in large urban centers of Jewish population. To stimulate activity it is planned to bring to this country from Palestine

Brigadier General Benjamin, head of the Jewish Brigade, to speak before interested groups. Recordings of Dr. Silver's speech will be made for the same purpose. The committee plans to present a membership class of 100,000 to Dr. Silver. Each city will be allotted a membership quota, upon the achievement of which the new group will be presented to the ZOA president as a part of the class.

Dr. Goldberg further informed the Council that, upon mature deliberation, his committee had come to the conclusion that World War II veterans should be invited to join the Zionist Organization upon payment of an initial fee of \$1.00, the regular \$5.00 fee to become effective next year. He asked that this decision be implemented immediately, to enable districts to proceed immediately with membership enrollment among veterans.

Dr. Silver pointed out that this same suggestion had been voted down, together with others of the same nature, after exhaustive discussion, in the Executive. He suggested that since there was insufficient time for full discussion, action should not be rushed. A motion to table Mr. Goldberg's suggestion was made, seconded and carried.

Financial Report

Chairman Frisch then called for the report of Mr. Milton Pollack, chairman of the finance committee. Mr. Pollack explained that the committee had been broken down into subcommittees, each charged with the thorough investigation of one of the various operations of the organization. Each of these subcommittees was to familiarize itself with the proper functioning of the department assigned to it, to facilitate budgeting and financing of its needs.

His committee, Mr. Pollack continued, had also undertaken a radical revision of the system of accounting for the entire organization, with a view to simplification. They hoped to have a detailed report ready at the next meeting of the Council.

Shekel Campaign

Mr. Jacques Torczyner spoke on the Shekel campaign. Fifty cents of the annual dues, he said, is for the shekel, the dues to the World Zionist Organization. The enrollment of many new members will, of course, increase the number of shekolim purchased through the ZOA. However, the plan is to sell 1,000,000 shekolim to General Zionists before elections are held for the World Zionist Congress this summer.

Mr. Torczyner emphasized the importance of a large General Zionist vote to maintain the balance of power in the World Zionist Organization. He also declared that a large and united American Zionist delegation would prove that the World Zionist movement is what Herzl intended it to be: the Jewish State on the march.

American Jewish Conference

Chairman Frisch then asked Dr. Israel Goldstein to present to the Council the views of the ZOA Executive with regard to the American Jewish Conference. Dr. Goldstein reminded the Council that the Conference had been most helpful at

Metropolitan Bureau - Z.O.A.
41 E. 42nd Street - N.Y.

M E M O R A N D U M

To : Dr. A. H. Silver

From : Sidney Marks

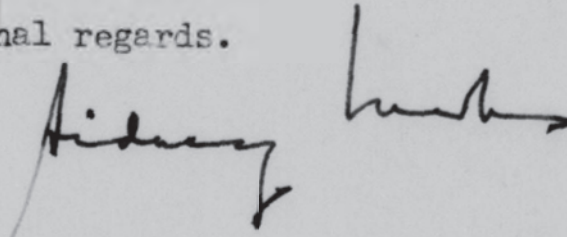
Date: January 15, 1946

Subject: Address at Administrative Council Meeting

I had requested the stenographer at the sessions of the National Administrative Council to prepare a special transcript of your remarks. I have made copies of the Expansion Fund, National Budgeting and Membership portions of that speech. It was my intention to have these items edited by Mr. Barbarash and used in connection with the respective campaigns. I related this to Yale Goldberg who advised me that he had in turn spoken to you of this idea. Mr. Israeli spoke to me this afternoon and indicated that he had been in communication with you and had requested that the transcript be forwarded to you for correction and amendment. I, in turn, have given this transcript to Mr. Israeli for transmission.

If you should find that your remarks with reference to the aforementioned items require correction or addition, I would appreciate your courtesy in returning these minutes to Mr. Israeli and indicating to him, in your memorandum to him, what changes are to be made in these respects.

Accept my kindest personal regards.



sm:rk

Metropolitan Bureau - Z.O.A.
41 E. 42nd Street - N.Y.

M E M O R A N D U M

To : Dr. A. H. Silver

From : Sidney Marks

Date: January 15, 1946

Subject: West Coast

which

I am in receipt of a letter/was sent directly to you by Rabbi John Zucker, together with a communication from Mr. David Krinsky of Oakland, California. I understand that a copy of the Zucker letter was sent to you and is in your possession.

We have a rather interesting situation on the West Coast. The membership in that area at the end of the last fiscal period was 5,885 members. This gave us an income at the rate of \$1 per member of \$5,885. The annual budget for this fiscal year is \$8,620, or approximately \$2,735 of deficit operations. The estimated operations for the months of October and November was in the sum of \$1,436. The actual expenses incurred were in the sum of \$1,542.14, or a 7% excess of expenses over the budget. I believe that this excess will be far greater for the months of December and January and we are endeavoring to curb any such further deficit operations.

We have received many glowing reports with reference to the possibilities of the West Coast. I do not discount this factor. Mr. Spiro, my predecessor, hired a Mr. Maurice Kessner for that area as Regional Director who proved to be a somewhat sorry case. We finally dispensed with his services. Dr. Harry May, our Mid-West Regional Director, was sent out to the West Coast and has undertaken the organization of that entire area. Concededly, it is a vast area. On the other hand, it is no larger than our Mid-West area and some of our other large territories. The West Coast, at various times, has made requests for a full-time director in the Los Angeles area, the San Francisco area, and the state of Washington area. They have actually sought to hire men at salaries which are not compatible with our wage scale and which, in turn, were fantastic. If another man were assigned to that entire area, there would be no question of benefits accruing to us. On the other hand, what they want is a director in every large city in California who would do the work which is normally undertaken by voluntary personnel of our districts.

I give you this picture as a background for the letter which was addressed to you by Rabbi Zucker. He previously communicated with us for a job in the Mid-West area. Who he is and whether he has the capabilities of handling this job, I must frankly confess is a moot question to me. All I have to judge with is a number of communications from him. I am not very impressed with activity in the

Dr. A. H. Silver

January 15, 1946

state of Nevada which is the least populated of our states. I frankly am not impressed with his approach. It may be, of course, that he is a very able fellow but the problem goes beyond that. We are faced with the question of whether we want to invest additional funds in this area for the purpose of promotion. It is a matter of policy which I believe should be resolved either by yourself or by our Inner Committee in conjunction with our Finance Committee. Secondly, I question whether another man assigned to the West Coast would particularly satisfy all of the communities who are clamoring for their own individual director.

I am writing to you somewhat at length because of the rather unusual approach of Rabbi Zucker, and by reason of the general situation which exists on the Coast.

I eagerly await your advices.

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Henry Mark

sm:rk

February 7, 1946

(Memo for Rabbi Silver)

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEMBERS ON THE ZIONIST EXECUTIVE

1. Philip Slomovitz, Detroit. Recommended by Leon Kay.
2. Joseph Goldberg. Recommended by Dewey Stone.
3. Joseph Kohn, Philadelphia. Recommended by the Philadelphia district.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

1. Louis E. Brown, Dorchester, Mass. Recommended by Samuel Caploe, President New England Zionist Region.

MINUTES OF ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Sunday March 31, 1946

Hotel Commodore, New York, at 1:30 P. M.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Daniel Frisch, Chairman

In his introductory remarks, the Chairman stated that the agenda had been arranged to afford an opportunity for full discussion from the floor. He urged the members to devote their deliberations to the shekel campaign and the problems confronting the forthcoming World Zionist Congress. The successful sale of shekolim and the election of ZOA delegates to the Congress will have far-reaching implications for the future of the movement and should take precedence over all other Zionist activities at this time.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Dr. Sidney Marks, Executive Director, reported membership activities were at their peak. The present membership of 121,202, which includes 33,886 new members, were dedicated to the vital issues involved in a successful shekel campaign and election. Membership efforts were greatly enhanced by the cooperation of the Public Relations Department headed by Ernest E. Barbarash and the national membership director, Yale Goldberg.

Headquarters:

The national headquarters have been transferred to New York from Washington and the organization's many activities are being advantageously accelerated as a result. Dr. Marks paid tribute to the foresight and vision of Mr. Milton Pollack and the Finance Committee, and the cooperation of Isadore Cooperman and the staff who handled all details of the moving. Revisions of the fiscal and organizational structure are continuing with the aid of the Inner and Finance Committees.

Mr. Zvi Levavy has resumed his functions as Comptroller, after an absence in the armed forces. Mr. Levavy reports the organization is in a sound financial condition and that the changes initiated by the Finance Committee will net the organization a saving of approximately \$25,000 annually.

Inner Committee:

The day by day operations of the Organization are supervised by Rabbi Irving Miller, acting chairman of the Inner Committee in the absence of Dr. Emanuel Neumann.

Public Relations:

Dr. Marks reported that the Public Relations Department was utilizing every device to circularize the country in a coordinated effort to implement membership, expansion fund and other Zionist projects.

Radio:

Our radio program continues to serve a growing audience and is meeting with fine response. More than 100% stations from coast-to-coast are broadcasting the ZOA program which will run for 26 weeks.

Committee on Unity for Palestine:

The Committee on Unity for Palestine, headed by Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld, is intensifying its efforts in a two-fold activity of publicity and personal contact to counteract the propaganda of the American Council for Judaism and the growing propaganda of the Arab office. Rabbi Jerome Unger has been engaged as field director. Dr. Marks reported that in the last three months, 37 communities were visited and new Unity Committees have been established, notably in Philadelphia and Birmingham. A Chaplain's Committee has been organized and launched a powerful offensive against the Council. The West Coast was visited by Rabbi Lelyveld recently and over 150,000 pieces of literature have been distributed nation-wide.

Landsmannschaften:

Dr. Marks reported that a Landsmannschaften and fraternal unit of our membership department has been set up under Mr. Oscar Leonard which will endeavor to enlist mass membership enrollment and obtain support in the ZOA shekel campaign. Exploratory negotiations are under way with Brith Sholom of Philadelphia, Independent Order Brith Abraham, and Brith Sholom of Baltimore, as well as a number of Landsmannschaften.

Palestine Bureau:

The Palestine Bureau and Immigration Service headed by Dr. Simon Bernstein, continues to serve hundreds of applicants. 850 applications on behalf of relatives of American Jews in Europe for transfer to Palestine have been processed as well as applications for 25 students under the G. I. Bill of Rights, and 30 American chalutzim. The Bureau is collaborating with the Palestine Economic Bureau in its proposed flight of business men to Palestine and has established a cordial relationship with the British Passport Control Office.

Other Activities:

Book Department sales are increasing. The Speakers' Bureau has arranged 44 tours and 666 speaking engagements. The Education Department has published suitable program material for use by districts. All departments are putting forth every effort to achieve the successful growth of the Z. O. A. in all its manifold activities.

Upon motion of Judge Reit, Dr. Mark's report was adopted as read.

EXPANSION FUND:

Mr. Dewey Stone, national chairman of the Expansion Fund, reported that sums totaling \$71,000 are still outstanding in the district treasuries. He urged that all such funds be transmitted immediately to the national office.

He paid tribute to Many Posy, Expansion Fund director, and felt hopeful that the balance required to meet the actual budgetary commitments of the ZOA would be forthcoming if those responsible would continue their efforts.

PALESTINE ECONOMIC BUREAU:

Dr. David Tannenbaum, Director of the Palestine Economic Bureau, reported that 30 business men from America and Canada, would leave on April 25th on the inaugural flight of the Trans World Airways for Palestine. This tour is under the auspices of the Bureau. The Jewish Agency has arranged a thirty day itinerary to include all sections of Palestine which will give the visitors full opportunity to study in detail Palestine's development and economic possibilities. It is hoped this tour will foster trade between USA and Palestine and increase American investment. Dr. Tannenbaum suggested the advisability of having all areas of the country represented and asked that potential prospects be referred to him immediately.

NEW JERSEY STATE REGION:

The Secretary reported he had received a group of petitions representing the majority of districts in New Jersey, making application for recognition as a ZOA region. On motion of Judge Reit, amended by Sol Cohen, it was unanimously agreed that the petition be approved subject to the favorable action of the ZOA Executive to which it was referred.

VETERANS:

Major Herschel Auerbach of the ZOA Veterans Planning Committee, presented his report in which he recommended the integration of the campaign for veteran membership with the shekel campaign. He stated half a million Jewish veterans were potential members and would be an invaluable asset, particularly those who had witnessed Jewish conditions in Europe and/or been to Palestine. The veteran who cannot afford to pay his membership dues is a prospective member through the purchase of a shekel. The sale of shekolim by veterans will provide an important activity for district veterans' committees. Major Auerbach urged that district and regional committees be set up immediately to make this program effective.

A lengthy discussion followed in which the role of Masada was discussed in relation to the veteran. Many of the veterans do not want to be classified as "youths" and prefer to belong either to the ZOA district or form a group of their own within the district. It was suggested that the function of Masada be reinterpreted in light of this situation. The question was also raised as to whether the Veterans' Committee was utilizing the existence of the reorganized Intercollegiate Zionist Federation to enlist the membership of the veteran on the campus.

Mr. Ettinger of Indianapolis stated that in his community, individuals had advanced dues for veterans, and Dr. Shane of Boston recommended that veterans who bought a shekel receive the privileges of ZOA membership for one year.

The Chairman believed that the method of integrating the veteran into Zionist ranks should be left to the discretion of the local districts rather than to the formulation of a set policy by the ZOA, provided however, local procedure was not in contradiction of decisions taken by the Z. O. A.

Mr. Albert Schanzer, co-chairman of the ZOA Veterans' Committee, clarified the position of the ZOA vis-a-vis the Jewish War Veterans Associations. When the Veterans' Committee was created, he discussed entire questions with the National Commander of the J.W.V. Mr. Schanzer felt we had every reason to expect definite cooperation in most of the communities from the J.W.V. Several of the speakers who followed pointed out that there had been instances of cooperation between their districts and the JWV.

Major Auerbach summarized the discussion. He advocated close cooperation with the JWV because primarily, it was a Jewish organization and therefore a man who joined has evinced an interest in Jewish life and was therefore a prospective Zionist member. He suggested that ZOA districts provide speakers for JWV posts whenever the opportunity presented itself.

The speaker also felt that the answer to the many problems raised could best be handled by setting up district and regional veterans' committees. His own experience had proved that the great majority of veterans prefer to join the ZOA and become active members of the districts. Masada however, was making an attempt to get the veteran and in many instances, had been successful. The Interim Committee had under advisement the question of making special arrangements regarding veterans' dues.

A veterans' group could serve in a public relations capacity in approaching Jewish and non-Jewish organizations to support our aims. Major Auerbach advocated specific projects for veterans in relation to Palestine itself and the training here of men with special skills to go to Palestine either on a temporary or permanent basis. Social activity and a sense of comradeship also played an important part in the civilian life of the veteran and should be developed. The speaker urged that no time be lost in establishing veterans' committees throughout the country so that effective action could be initiated without delay.

Those participating in the discussion were Shoolen Ettinger, Abo Cohen, Dewey Stone, David Spiegel, Ralph Bass, Dr. Shano, Marcus Abramson, Elihu Stone, Alex Lowenthal, Joseph Goldberg, and others.

FUNDS FOR GENERAL ZIONIST WORK IN PALESTINE:

Dr. Israel Goldstein, Chairman of the Joint ZOA-Hadassah General Zionist Committee urged approval of the request for an allocation from the U. P. A. from funds of the Keren Hayesod and Jewish National Fund for General Zionist colonization and work in Palestine. The World Confederation of General Zionist with which the American General Zionist are affiliated, should be supported not only because of the approaching World Zionist Congress when General Zionist must play a significant role, but because there is a definite need for General Zionists to strengthen their position in Palestine. Dr. Goldstein explained that a certain proportion of work is carried on in Palestine by the several constituent parties of the World Zionist Organization. In line with this principle, the General Zionists, who raise the bulk of the money for the upbuilding of Palestine, have requested this appropriation so that they too may be in a position to further those ideals and activities which General Zionism represented. Dr. Goldstein stated that the strengthening of General Zionism at this time would be a great contribution to the Zionist movement as a whole. A resolution had been adopted by the ZOA Executive approving this request; the Keren Hayesod had also approved its share of the appropriation and the Jewish National Fund Council was expected to act on the matter shortly.

After a brief discussion in which Dr. Wise, Dr. Silver, Alex Lowenthal and Dr. Epstein took part, Mr. Elihu Stone made a motion that the Administrative Council ratify the action of the ZOA Executive and that the ZOA members of the Boards of the Funds guide themselves accordingly. The motion was adopted unanimously.

SHEKEL CAMPAIGN:

Mr. Jacques Torczyner, chairman of the ZOA Shekel Committee, outlined the plans for an intensive shekel campaign for which a goal of 1,000,000 shekel payers has been set and for bringing out the vote for election of ZOA delegates to the Congress. The purchase of 1,000,000 shekolim would indicate to the world the registration of American Jewry in favor of a Jewish Commonwealth. A victory for the General Zionist slate would strengthen the World Zionist Congress. April and May have been set aside for an intensive shekel campaign. Voting will take place the middle of June. Mr. Torczyner advocated that the importance of voting the ZOA should be emphasized simultaneously with the sale of the shekel.

Mr. Abraham Tannenbaum, secretary of the United States Central Shekel Board, urged that local shekel and election boards be set up immediately. Mr. Torczyner pleaded that every device be used to ensure a successful shekel campaign and to get out the ZOA vote.

In the ensuing discussion, recommendations were offered as to how the shekel campaign and the voting could be effectively implemented and suggestions were made to translate the interest of the masses into positive action. Those participating in the discussion were: Mr. Oscar Robins, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Max Levy, Jacob Goodman, Dr. Eugene Kohn, Dr. A. Shain, S. Ettinger, Dr. F. M. Falkman, Jacob Richman, David Spiegel, Elihu D. Stone, Philip Lassar, Judge Jacob Schwolsky, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Mendel Fisher, Frank Berson, and Ralph Bass. (Full text on file)

Participation of Hadassah:

Dr. Silver reported negotiations were under way with Hadassah to have them join the ZOA in a united campaign and in one united slate. An offer has been made by the ZOA of absolute parity in the number of delegates and it was hoped that there would be agreement on the part of Hadassah.

Platform:

The text of the ZOA Platform calling for a united front was read and approved.

Congress in U. S. A.

Mr. Abraham Goodman presented a resolution calling upon the World Zionist Executive to hold the Congress in the United States instead of Palestine. The motion declared that in view of the decisive role which American public opinion will play in determining the status of Palestine, the holding of the forthcoming Congress in this country will serve the best interests of the movement. The motion continued: "The probable recommendations of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry and meeting of UN here may make the change of locale even more imperative. In the light of these and other circumstances, America is the only logical place as the site of the Congress."

Dr. Silver stated there had been a growing conviction here and in Palestine that the Congress should be held here. He suggested that the text of the resolution be cabled to the World Zionist Executive in Jerusalem.

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

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The meeting closed with the singing of Hatikvah at 5:15 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sidney Marks
Executive Director

Memo for Rabbi Silver

January 6, 1946

Suggestions for Additional Members to the
National Executive Committee

1. Dr. Henry Ellenbogen of Pittsburgh
2. Mr. Turover of Washington, D. C.
3. Marcus Abramson, Bronx, N. Y.

Additional Members to National Adminis-
trative Council

1. Archibald Silverman of Rhode Island