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Zionist Organization of America, resolutions in Congress, 1945.



# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

1720 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

MICHIGAN 4480

## memorandum

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**to :** All Regional and District  
Presidents and Secretaries  
**from :** Dr. Sidney Marks

**DATE:** Tuesday Morning,  
December 18, 1945

**SUBJECT:** Report on The Congressional Resolutions

You will be happy to learn that late yesterday evening the Palestine Resolution was adopted on the floor of the U.S. Senate by a voice vote with only one single dissent - that of Senator Connally who based his objection on the fact that the Executive and State Departments have requested the postponement of the Resolution until the completion of the report by the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry.

The Resolution was adopted following warm addresses of support by Senators Wagner and Taft (co-sponsors of the Resolution), Senator Barkley and others. An amendment by Senator Thomas C. Hart of Connecticut which would have removed reference to exclusive Jewish rights in Palestine was defeated by a loud chorus of "nos." Senator Hart suggested the deletion of such phrases as "free entry" and "Jewish National Home."

The adoption of this Resolution is considered a triumph for the persistent and tireless efforts initiated by the Zionist leadership under the dynamic direction of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver.

It is of special and timely significance, in light of the recent developments, particularly with light of the appointment of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, as the adoption of the Resolution will demonstrate to both the British and American Governments the temper of the American people on this burning issue.

At the specific request of Lessing Rosenwald, head of the American Council for Judaism, the hearing on the joint Palestine Resolution was reopened before the House Foreign Affairs Committee yesterday. Rosenwald delivered a one and a half hour harangue against the Resolution raising all sorts of objections to its text. He requested the elimination of the terms "Jewish National Home" and "unrestricted Jewish immigration." The Chairman, Congressman Bloom, asked him what countries he would suggest for Jewish immigration. After giving vague answers, he finally blurted out "to Russia." This answer caused laughter among members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and one member put a direct question to Rosenwald: "Would you, Mr. Rosenwald, settle in Russia?"



Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Acting President of the Zionist Organization of America, following Rosenwald's testimony, began his rebuttal. However, due to the fact that the members of the Committee were summoned to the floor of the House to join in a farewell to the member of Virginia, the hearing was postponed until this morning at which Dr. Neumann resumed his testimony. It is needless to say that Dr. Neumann at this morning's hearing shattered Rosenwald's worn out arguments and contentions. Following Dr. Neumann's testimony, the House Committee is expected to go into Executive session to vote upon the Resolution.

The results of the vote as well as subsequent developments will be reported to you as soon as they transpire.

You will be interested to learn that Dr. Emanuel Neumann headed a delegation of the American Zionist Emergency Council which spent an extended period of time in Washington on urgent political matters connected with the Resolution.

The action taken by the Senate is a tribute to the effective cooperation rendered by all of our Regional and District leadership and key workers. The continued generation of favorable public opinion through the Zionist Organization of America remains the most potent weapon in our militant efforts on the long and arduous road that has yet to be trodden toward the ultimate realization of our common goal for the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

With kindest personal regards.

*Sidney Marks*