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Zionist Organization of America, Executive Committee, 1947.

# הנהלת ההסתדרות הציונית

## THE EXECUTIVE OF THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION

המחלקה הארגונית  
ORGANISATION DEPARTMENT

Ref. No. מספר :

י' סיון תש"ז  
29.5.47

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לכבוד  
ד"ר אבא הלל סילבר  
קליבלנד.

אדון נכבד מאד,

לקראת יובל החמשים של הקונגרס הציוני הראשון וההסתדרות הציונית העולמית שיחול בראש חודש אלול תש"ז (17 לאוגוסט 1947), בדעתנו לפרסם בעתונות בעולם כולו מאמרים של המנהיגים הציונים, של טובי הסופרים וותיקי התנועה מוקדשים למאורע חשוב זה.

אנו פונים לכב' מבקשה, שיסכים לכתוב מאמר על נושא הקשור עם היוגל. אנו מבינים, שרצוי יהיה שהמאמרים יוקדשו לביסוס רעיון הציונות כפתרון בעית היהודים, להעלאת זכרונות מימי בראשית של התנועה והתפתחותה, ולהארת חזון הציונות וזרכי הגשמתו.

בכוונתנו לתרגם את המאמרים לשפות שונות ולשלוח אותם בזמן המתאים לארצות השונות ע"מ שישמשו חומר לעתונות היהודית והלא-יהודית.

בקשתנו, שכתב-היד שלו יגיע לידינו לפני 10 ביולי והרינו מרשים לעצמנו להעיר, שרצוי שכל מאמר לא יכלול יותר מ-2000 מלים.

אנו תקווה שכב' יואיל למלא את בקשתנו ולתרום את תרומתו להצלחת מפעל היוגל.

בכבוד רב ובב"צ  
הנהלת ההסתדרות הציונית

המחלקה הארגונית



MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 1947 AT THE HOTEL COMMODORE, NEW YORK, AT 6 P.M.

PRESIDING: Dr. Emanuel Neumann, President

PRESENT: Rev. Martin Adolf, Sol Cohen, Benjamin Doft, Rabbi Leon Feuer, John J. Fox, Joseph Goldberg, Abraham Goldstein, I. R. Goodman, Benjamin Gordon, Judge Kalodner, Edmund Koblenz, Dr. Harris J. Levine, Boris Margolin, Rabbi Irving Miller, David Moskowitz, Abraham Redelheim, Judge Hyman Reit, Charles Ress, Dr. Morton Robbins, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, Jechanon Rudovsky, Mendell Selig, Dr. Hyman Silver, Rudolf Sonneborn, Elihu D. Stone, Mark Sugarman, William Sylk, Jacques Torczyner, I.S. Turover, Herman Weisman, and Dr. Sidney Marks, Executive Director.

Guests: Charles Wolok, Belle Elband, Mendel Fisher, Harry Shapiro, Joseph Sternstein and Mr. Wigdor.

Staff: Carl Alpert, Herschel Auerbach, Yale Goldberg, I. Karpman, Dr. Ludwig Lewisohn, Henry Stern and Many Posy.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Marks reported extensive plans for the coming year covering all major projects, were in the course of preparation. Many aspects of the work had been benefitted by the early convention this year. Despite the summer season, activities were continuing unabated in all parts of the country with encouraging results.

The Chairman stated he had conferred with department heads and was well satisfied that the coming year's program was being carried forward vigorously. He added that the present financial situation of the organization was satisfactory despite the usual slack summer season. Steps are being taken to find a suitable building to house the ZOA.

CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions which were not presented to the convention but referred to the Executive, were discussed.

Unity Committee: The question of expansion of the Committee's activities and an increased budget, were referred to the chairman, co-chairman and executive director of the Unity Committee for their recommendations and further consideration by the Executive.

Youth Activities - Brandeis Camp Institute: A resolution calling for additional field directors, the training of youth leaders by ZOA regions and districts, and intensified cooperation with the Brandeis Camp Institutes, was approved. Regions and districts are to be so advised.

Masada - Action was postponed on a resolution requesting statistical recognition of Masada members to the credit of local districts in computing the number of delegates to national and regional conventions, without infringing on the autonomy of Masada.

IZFA - A resolution recommending an increase in the budget to \$60,000 for an all-party budget, and requesting the Youth Commission to submit within sixty days, a memorandum clarifying the exact nature of the relationship of General Zionists to IZFA, was discussed at length.



In the ensuing discussion, it was pointed out by several speakers, that while approximately the greatest part of the present IZFA budget is provided by General Zionists, a large percentage of IZFA groups was not affiliated with the ZOA. Our influence has not been exerted in proportion to our financial support and interest with the result that other Zionist parties were more dominant. IZFA represents a valuable reservoir of General Zionist strength from which future leaders will be drawn, and greater effort should be made to draw the campus youth into the General Zionist orbit. The recommendation that local Zionist Youth Commissions cooperate more fully with IZFA groups was approved, and further consideration will be given to this matter following the report of the American Zionist Youth Commission.

Public Relations: Recommendations contained in a resolution for specific additional activities, were referred to the Inner Committee.

New Palestine News Reporter: The problems related to the conversion of the News Reporter into a weekly publication are being studied and will be reported to the Executive.

Budget: The budget of \$1,477,000 as drawn up by the Budget and Finance Committee of the convention, and approved in global form, was referred to the Administrative Council for detailed analysis and adoption. The Chairman expressed the hope that as far as possible, the budget would be based on the income of the current fiscal year, and suggested that this recommendation be brought to the attention of the Finance Committee.

Other Resolutions: Resolutions dealing with education, chalutzit, Histadrut Ivrit, etc. which indicate lines of activity in the educational field, were referred to the Committee on Education to be organized shortly. All other resolutions dealing with budgetary items were referred to the Finance Committee and Administrative Council.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Rabbi Miller, chairman, reported that the first meeting would be held in New York, Saturday night and all day Sunday, September 20th and 21st. If found satisfactory, the two-day session would be adopted as a regular procedure to provide ample time for full discussion and more active participation by all members. Future dates will be announced shortly and efforts will be made to hold some meetings elsewhere than New York.

#### REPORT OF MURRAY GURFEIN

The Chairman introduced Mr. Gurfein of New York, a former member of the National Executive, who has just returned from Palestine. He had been invited by the American Section of the Jewish Agency to undertake certain legal and political work in connection with the UN. Mr. Gurfein went to Palestine and served as legal advisor to the Agency during the UN hearings there.

Mr. Gurfein outlined the activities of the UN committee, the general trend of their discussions and the reaction of the Yishuv. The UN members recognized the Yishuv as a growing, powerful organization and that a great deal of time, effort and loyalty had gone into the upbuilding of the land. This did not necessarily signal a political victory. There was a feeling on their part that Palestine represented an insoluble problem, particularly that of immigration, and in this respect, British propaganda has been effective. The Committee was divided in its sympathies and tendencies; their deliberations would necessarily be influenced by the attitude of their respective governments.



The speaker believed that a majority were in favor of some form of partition; others tended toward a bi-national state or some type of federalization, either the Morrison plan or some adaptation of it. The question of area involved had not been seriously discussed yet. No formula has been arrived at for the transition period in the event partition is recommended, and the question of whether the British will remain in the country to maintain order in the interim presented an unanswerable problem. Security, Arab riots, and terrorist activities played an important part in the Committee's thinking. Most of the members believed the mandate was unworkable and that some other solution must be found.

The question of terrorist activity had become more acute in the last few weeks.

Summarizing his impressions of the UN Committee, Mr. Gurfein believed a good deal of good will had been evidenced in trying to work out a solution. The difficulties were whether they can agree unanimously or by a strong majority, on partition or some makeshift, as the solution. While area involved was not seriously discussed, the Committee was impressed with the potentialities of the Negev and Galilee.

Reaction of Yishuv: There was a mixed reaction, some being cynical and others extremely enthusiastic. Because of recent happenings, internal problems have taken on a more important aspect than even that of the UN investigation. The Yishuv deplors the terrorist activities. However, they are not afraid and their mood is a fighting one. Their main hope is that the U.S. and American Jewry will stand behind them in their struggle, and give them moral and political support. Mr. Gurfein described Palestine as a 100% police state with the British extending rather than curtailing their illegal activities. He felt the British were deliberately inciting trouble by their actions and were fully aware of the consequences of their provocations.

Mr. Gurfein believed the crux of the problem would be British action in the event of a UN recommendation acceptable to Zionists. He indicated they may use the present troubled situation as an excuse not to accept the recommendation and remain in Palestine. This constitutes a serious problem which must be met with an immediate program of propaganda to overcome the attitude of the British Foreign Office and Palestine Administration, and influence public opinion in favor of the Zionist program.

In reply to questions from the floor from Messrs. Weismann, Stone, Moskowitz, Auerbach, Fisher, the chairman, and others, Mr. Gurfein brought out that the British military was in Palestine not to suppress violence but for other strategic reasons; that the Irgun has political aims opposed to the Jewish Agency and that the schism was not too wide to allow for cooperation, and that the calibre of the UN Committee was not up to that of the Anglo-American Committee.

#### REPORT OF PRESIDENT

Dr. Neumann gave a detailed report on the present political situation as well as problems confronting the forthcoming meeting of the Actions Committee. Supplementing Mr. Gurfein's comments on the UN Committee, Dr. Neumann emphasized that its members represented governments and were not acting as individuals; therefore international questions of policy were involved. A primary consideration was the grouping of the western powers versus the Soviet and satellite states. Many countries represented in the UN Committee were disposed to favor the western bloc, with Great Britain representing such a power in the Middle East. The speaker pointed out that Britain ardently desired to remain in Palestine on the pretext of keeping order, particularly if other world powers requested her to remain there.



Dr. Neumann gave assurance that every possible step had been taken in connection with the UN hearings. On the American scene, the Emergency Council has been active throughout the country in an extensive program of education. Preparations are being made for the September session of the UN, including the preparation of an effective statement signed by many governors. All efforts to get the State Department to declare its position on Palestine have so far been unsuccessful. Dr. Neumann felt that this neutral attitude need not necessarily be construed as unfavorable, but might be tactical.

Dr. Neumann reiterated his belief that as a matter of strategy, the British were not too strongly opposed to terrorist activities inasmuch as they provided them with an excuse for repressive measures, the consequences of which they understood and for which they must assume responsibility. Their recent actions clearly indicated a desire to provoke incidents.

Actions Committee Meeting - Dr. Neumann presented some of the internal problems facing the session of the Actions Committee to be held in Zurich, Switzerland, on August 24th. The ZOA will be represented by its full complement of eight delegates and alternates, all of whom are bound by the convention resolutions.

Discussion - A lengthy discussion ensued on the part Zionists must play in influencing the government's attitude and creating favorable public opinion, prior to the UN meeting in September. There was general agreement that an intensive campaign of education must be initiated immediately to acquaint the American public and the Jewish people with the underlying issues resulting in the present troubled situation in Palestine.

Rabbi Miller strongly advocated arousing public sentiment along anti-British lines, through newspaper ads in leading cities, British boycotts, etc. The British Foreign Office was particularly sensitive at this time to any unfavorable reaction in America which might jeopardize American-British relations. The speaker felt this would be more effective than emphasizing terrorist activities or trying to get an expression of policy from the US Government at this time.

Declaring that it is the Jewish masses who are confused and troubled, Abraham Goldstein urged that we devote our effort to winning their support and understanding.

Other speakers, including Dr. Robbins, Elihu Stone, Herman Weisman, Judge Kolodner, Louis Falk, Rabbi Feuer, Jacques Torczyner, I. R. Goodman and Joseph Goldberg pointed out that in smaller communities in particular, the press as well as the general and Jewish public, had reacted unfavorably to the hanging of the British soldiers by the Irgun. Much good-will which had been carefully built up had been lost and it was imperative to initiate an intensive campaign of education without delay.

Judge Kolodner recommended that the ZOA or Emergency Council employ a public relations counsel to prepare such a newspaper and radio campaign, expressing condemnation of terrorism, disavowing acts of the Irgun, and appealing to the British people and their sense of fair play by portraying Palestine as a police state without civil rights, etc.

Mr. Shapiro of the Emergency Council reported that Dr. Silver's latest statement "In Focus" had been sent to all Emergency Councils for reprint. It was suggested that the ZOA also contact the districts.

Rabbi Feuer expressed agreement with Rabbi Miller's point-of-view, stating that the best defense was a strong attack. He urged an immediate campaign which would



concentrate on about twenty-five centers of population; and the appointment of a special committee by the Emergency Council to decide what is feasible. He suggested the calling of a small conference by the Emergency Council of representatives of those cities in which the campaign would be centered, to acquaint them with the steps to be taken for its implementation. Mr. Torczyner believed we must mobilize our members and trust them with this task--experts were not needed. To do this, it was necessary to have a clear-cut program and policy. Dr. Lewisohn felt our error was in the angle of propaganda; that we are too forensic. We should appeal to more basic emotions and if necessary, go underground and send schlichim to communities from the Emergency Council. Dramatic techniques, such as closing of shops as a protest would be effective. Sacrificial acts were necessary to reach the lower levels of consciousness.

Summary of Discussion: In recapitulating, the chairman stated that most of the suggestions should be referred to the Emergency Council for consideration and action. A small committee from the Executive should be designated to serve as an advisory committee to act with the Emergency Council, to plan the steps to be taken in a concentrated campaign in twenty to thirty centers. This small group should not have official status. Dr. Neumann emphasized the need for all members of the Executive to do more thinking and undertake more action. This was expressed in the form of a motion duly seconded and adopted.

#### AMERICAN FRIENDS OF HAGANAH

The chairman reported negotiations for the reconstitution of this group have been undertaken but not completed. ZOA representatives met and a parity basis was offered which would give the ZOA two representatives out of fifteen. This was considered unsatisfactory and rejected. There will be a renewal of negotiations after the Actions Committee meeting. Meanwhile, the American Section of the Jewish Agency has assumed jurisdiction with the understanding that a final decision on the future of this group will be decided subsequently. A technical committee has been constituted consisting of the representatives of the ZOA, Emergency Council and the Jewish Agency, to handle the interim period.

#### YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Brandeis Camp Institute - It was necessary to have a definite plan in writing to regulate the relations of the ZOA with the Institute. Abraham Goodman has a definite agreement with the BCI with respect to the ownership of the camp. It is vested in three parties, the ZOA, Hadassah and the Abraham and Millie Goodman Charitable Foundation. An inquiry is to be made whether this agreement is being implemented.

Plugat Aliyah - It was decided to postpone deliberation of this question to a later meeting.

#### COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Interim Committee - During the absence of most of the ZOA officials at the Actions Committee, it was decided to appoint an interim committee. This was made in the form of a motion, duly seconded and adopted.

National Committee Chairmen: The Chairmen announced the appointment of national committee chairmen as follows:



NATIONAL CHAIRMEN

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

Mr. Horman Weisman

VETERAN'S COMMITTEE:

William Kapelman, Chairman  
Albert D. Schanzer, Co-Chairman

THE AMERICAN ZIONIST FUND:

Mandel Selig, Chairman  
Dewey D. Stone, Hon. Chairman

Sol Benamy) Co-  
I.J. Caplan) Chairmen  
Willy Nordwind)

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND:

Dr. Harris J. Levine, Chairman

COMMITTEE ON UNITY FOR PALESTINE:

Dr. David Polish) Co-Chairmen  
Dr. Felix Levy )  
  
Rabbi Arthur Lelyveld) Vice-Chairmen  
Nathan Straus III )

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP:

Joseph Goldberg, Chairman  
Charles Auerbach) Vice-Chairmen  
Philip Lassar )  
David Moskowitz )

NATIONAL LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

Willy Nordwind, Chairman  
Julius Livingston, Co-Chairman

CHALUTZIUT:

Louis Schwefel, Chairman

EDUCATION:

Dr. Robert Gordis, Chairman  
Rabbi Simon Greenberg) Vice-Chairmen  
Dr. Azrael Eisenberg )

BOOKS:

Rabbi Theodore Lewis, Chairman

Z.O.A. HEBREW UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS:

Rabbi Armond. Cohen, Chairman



NATIONAL SHEKEL:

Jacques Torczynor, Chairman  
Louis Falk, Co-Chairman

COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL INFORMATION:

Harry Torczynor, Chairman

COMMITTEE ON DISTINGUISHED GUESTS:

Commander Joshua Goldberg

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director





MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT  
THE HOTEL COMMODORE ON AUGUST 7, 1947 AT 6:00 P.M.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On the eve of the departure of our President, Dr. Neumann, and many of his colleagues on this Committee to the meeting of the Actions Committee at Zurich, Switzerland, I do believe that a note of encouragement is quite in order.

The Summer weather has not abated our activity and our departing officers leave with the assurance that the organization is in fine running order, with plans for next year's operations in the course of preparation, with membership, Expansion Fund, and cultural activity in high gear at this time.

Our paid membership to-date is 137,000. We are in the midst of renewal campaigns in every part of the country. It is no sporadic effort. Every community is being prodded and reports indicate that a relatively small number will remain unrenewed at the conclusion of this year. Joseph Goldberg is visiting major cities and the mass of membership correspondence which is being received as a result of our constant inquiry, in person, by phone, and by mail, buttresses our estimate that we will end this year with a membership considerably more than 200,000.

Our Expansion Fund collections to-date are \$430,955.48 with an additional \$92,000. already collected by the district or allocations voted to us by Welfare Funds. We have had many of our Regional Directors in Metropolitan areas covering mid-western communities. The West Coast is engaged in Expansion Fund activity at this time, having had the impetus of Mendel Selig who made a flying trip to activate them. The picture is most encouraging.

The Membership and Expansion Fund Departments are preparing techniques and materials which will be ready for the opening of our Fall work.

Our Public Relations work continues to be exemplary. With press conferences getting excellent space for us, with the "News Reporter" providing topnotch coverage of the current scene, with faster news-relay projected for the next year to our Districts and Regions, with materials and ideas being furnished for all functional departments, this important arm of our work is on the job.

I might add, in passing, that we are providing the fullest cooperation to the American Zionist Emergency Council, in their political implementation, mass meetings or any other chore my esteemed colleague, Mr. Harry Shapiro, requests us to execute.

Our Educational work has hit its stride in the capable hands of Mr. Alpert. Our program work, our pamphleteering, the new directions which the department is taking deserves some exploration. Among these are: a National Education Conference, a play-writing competition to encourage the production and use of Zionist themes, a travelling pictorial exhibition, a series of syllabi for study circles, the formation of a National Educator's Advisory Council, and our other vivid media - films, radio, books and other things dependent upon the success of our fund-raising through the American Zionist Fund.



The load carried by our Palestine Bureau is large, and the events in Eretz Israel are no deterrents to the tourists and the many who seek to emigrate to Palestine to share in its upbuilding.

Our Unity work, our Youth activity, our Plugat Aliyah activity, the technical aspects of our operations, which accelerate during the summer, are all in full operation.

My friend, Mr. Mendel Fisher, has been conferring with me regarding Jewish National Fund work and our plans for the coming year are practically completed.

The many aspects of our work will be benefited by the early Convention. The forthcoming shekel campaign will find us fully prepared.

We will continue to be alert in our operations, Mr. President. We know that you and your colleagues will express to the Actions Committee those sentiments of solidarity and unity of purpose which were accorded to you and your administration so overwhelmingly at the Convention. Bon Voyage and come back safely.



Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director





MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF THE  
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA HELD ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH AND  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST, 1947 AT THE HOTEL NEW YORKER, NEW YORK CITY.

EVENING SESSION

Saturday, September 20, 1947, 9 P.M.

The meeting was opened by Rabbi Irving Miller, Chairman of the National Administrative Council, who paid tribute to his predecessor, Mr. Daniel Frisch, and welcomed the returning ZOA delegates to the Actions Committee.

He announced a new schedule for meetings of the Administrative Council which hereafter shall take place in two sessions at previously announced dates every three months.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Dr. Sidney Marks, Executive Director, presented the attached report.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER:

Mr. Mark Sugarman, Treasurer of the Zionist Organization of America, outlined the general financial position and prospects for the coming year, reporting the organization as solvent at the beginning of the fiscal year. This condition was achieved through the painstaking curtailment of departmental budgets because Expansion Fund returns, while praiseworthy, fell short of full budgetary expectations, and membership renewals lagged.

He cautioned that, since the Convention denied the request for an increase in membership dues and still adopted a full over-all budget, that the Administrative Council reach certain decisions to insure fulfillment of Expansion Fund goals and stimulation of membership enrollment to bear the increased burden of the forthcoming shekel campaign.

REPORTS OF ZOA INTERIM COMMITTEE:

Mr. Jacques Torczyner, reporting on the activities of this committee which functioned as a combined policy-making and administrative body as the officers attended the Actions Committee sessions in Zurich, expressed pride in the continued operation of the organization without interruption. He announced preparations for the forthcoming membership, Expansion Fund and shekel campaigns for which the entire organization was being geared to continue as the leading Zionist organization in the world.

REPORTS OF ZOA REPRESENTATIVES TO THE ACTIONS COMMITTEE:

Rabbi Miller in introducing these reports of the ten-day session beginning on August 24th, pointed out the significance of the last two days which coincided with the publication of the UNSCOP report, and hailed the coalition Executive and the role of American Zionists in maintaining unity.

Dr. Israel Goldstein: Dr. Goldstein spoke of the role of the World Confederation of General Zionists at the Actions Committee sessions and the final achievement of a compromise solution which united opposing factions within the Confederation on the question of dissident groups, later serving as a basis for subsequent unanimity in the Executive and the Actions Committee.



He predicted growing strength and influence for General Zionism, pointing out the appointment of a General Zionist comptroller and Keren Kayemeth board member, Mr. Oster.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann: After a rising tribute and prolonged applause, Dr. Neumann thanked those of the organization who conducted the activities uninterrupted during the absence of the leadership. Commenting on the prestige which the ZOA and General Zionism gained by virtue of their standing as the largest and leading delegation at Zurich, he cautioned against undue concern about attacks against the American delegation, characterizing such attacks as manifestations of inter-party relations engendered by resentment on the part of Mapai, which found itself supplanted by us as the dominant party.

He revealed that the incontestable position of the General Zionist bloc by virtue of the largest representation in the last Congress made it imperative that the coalition survive if the movement were to continue.

The UNSCOP report, he said, had much to do with our emergence from the Actions Committee more unified and stronger than ever.

Dr. Neumann revealed highlights of the behind-the-scenes work which played a great part in the issuance of the favorable majority report of UNSCOP and lauded the report as a conscientious and statesmanlike effort to reach a solution. He reminded his hearers, however, that nine of the twelve million dunams proposed for the Jewish state consisted of Negev wasteland, for which great parts of western Galilee were sacrificed in return. Warning against optimism, he asked that vigilance be maintained lest even this concession be pared down. He cautioned further against the reservation on the part of Great Britain on the implementation of any decision by the Assembly. He stated that the official Zionist program against partition until reasonable proposals were put forth by governments, not fellow Zionists, was vindicated. One great hope in spite of some of the weaknesses of our position, he pointed out, was the economic weakness of the adversary, Great Britain, which would ultimately strengthen our position.

In closing, he reiterated that the United States held the key to a favorable decision by the United Nations, without whom no support could be sustained.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION

September 21st - 3 P.M.

Chairman Miller opened the meeting and called for a vote on the recommendation of Dr. Sidney Marks that 31 districts within the Eastern Pennsylvania area be constituted as a region, hereafter to be known as the Eastern Pennsylvania Region. The motion was passed without opposition and so ordered.

#### REPORT OF ORGANIZATION DEPARTMENT. WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

Dr. Karl Lauterbach

As head of this branch of the WZO, numbering over two million Zionists throughout the world, Dr. Lauterbach asked the ZOA whose quarter million members constitute its largest bloc, to lend its influence towards the strengthening of the world movement, promising in return the cooperation of his department in the strengthening of the ZOA external program.



RESOLUTION ON THE PASSING OF THE HON. FIORELLO H. LAGUARDIA

After rising in respect of the memory of this friend of the cause, the session authorized the preparation of a resolution to be conveyed to the family of the deceased.

CHICAGO ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

Motion was passed to refer the petition of the Chicago Zionist Organization numbering fifteen groups to be hereafter recognized as the Chicago Zionist District, to the Executive for report to the next Administrative Council Session.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

JNF - Dr. Harris J. Levine

Dr. Levine introduced, for implementation by the body, resolutions authorizing the ZOA National Chairman on JNF to appoint a national committee and district chairmen to carry out the ZOA Fiftieth Jubilee year tract of 50,000 dunams of land in Palestine to be redeemed within two years for General Zionist settlements.

He presented to Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Rabbi Irving Miller and Dr. Sidney Marks JNF Golden Jubilee pins in honor of their services in this connection. Silver pins were awarded to each member of the Administrative Council, in confidence of their participation in the ZOA redemption project.

Questioned by Mr. Herman Weisman for assurances that all such monies be specially earmarked to be forever identified with the ZOA, Dr. Levine replied that this would be the case.

Dr. Levine's report was unanimously carried.

Cultural and Education - Mr. Leon A. Kohn, reporting for his Committee, introduced the following resolutions which were adopted:

RESOLUTION ON STUDY OF ZIONIST FUNCTIONS

In view of the fact that the establishment of a Jewish State is now on the agenda of the United Nations -

Be it resolved by this National Administrative Council of the Zionist Organization of America that a commission be appointed to study the further developments and intensification changes in policy and function of the Zionist movement in this country.

Without limiting the terms of reference, the Administrative Council recommends to the Commission that it consider the following thoughts, among others: That permanent Zionist aims have always included the revival of the Jewish spirit everywhere and its integration with the Jewish renaissance in Eretz Yisrael: That cultural work in the United States will therefore be a permanent task of the Zionist Organization: and that cultural and educational activity will always be central to the program and purpose of the movement.

RESOLUTION ON SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

In view of the preceding resolution, the National Administrative Council of the Zionist Organization of America makes the following recommendations as desirable cultural activities for the present and immediate future:



1. That every Zionist meeting shall sound some cultural note, such as the singing of Palestinian songs and the reading of appropriate passages from the Bible or from the Zionist classics.
2. That fostering of a knowledge of Hebrew is the function of the Zionist Organization, and we therefore favor continuance of the subvention to the Histadruth Ivrit to the extent financially possible; and that we further recommend that the Zionist Organization of America demand greater participation in the affairs of the Histadruth Ivrit, so that its work may be aimed more effectively at the larger Zionist public.
3. That Hebrew education is primarily the work of congregations, Talmud Torahs, Yeshivas, Rabbinical Schools, Teachers Institutes and Jewish Centers endowed and organized for that purpose. We recommend that Zionists in all localities influence these institutions and agencies in their Zionist orientation by active association with their management and direction.
4. That we encourage exhibition of the cultural achievements of Palestine in America by presenting to the American public such organizations as the Palestine Philharmonic Orchestra, the Habima Players, and by exhibiting Palestinian works of art in the cities of this country.
5. That the Hebrew Arts Committee be encouraged in its work.
6. That the Organization use its best efforts to place Jewish books in English in every Jewish home.

#### RESOLUTION ON THE PRESENT EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The National Administrative Council commends the Education Department of the Zionist Organization of America and its Director, Carl Alpert, on the rich and full program of activity which has been planned for the coming year, including the establishment of an English language Zionist theatre in this country, and we urge that full budgetary provisions be made for this and all other cultural activities of the organization.

#### Political - Mr. Milton Silberman

A political resolution in two parts was introduced for approval by the body. The first, recording full support of the leadership of Dr. Emanuel Neumann and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, and of the role of ZOA leadership in the Actions Committee in bringing about a united front, was unanimously carried.

The second portion noted with satisfaction the UNSCOP majority report, and asked the government of the United States to carry out its traditional policy on Palestine through vigorous action in the United Nations. The latter, following the terminology of the Actions Committee resolution on the UNSCOP report, was, after considerable discussion unanimously carried as the best means of expressing our stand without an endangering commitment which would hamper negotiations in the United Nations.

#### Budget and Finance - Mr. Milton Pollack

In a report adhering with some modifications to the financial report



presented to the Fiftieth Annual Convention, Mr. Pollack estimated a total expected income of \$1,200,000, \$550,000 estimated from membership income, an estimated \$550,000 derived from Expansion Fund receipts and miscellaneous income of \$107,000, which includes a \$54,000 grant from the UPA.

Estimated expenses were set at \$1,455,000, leaving a deficit of \$250,000. Recommending cuts in unallocated subventions of \$25,000, of the Committee on Unity another \$25,000 and a series of reductions in established subventions amounting to \$115,000, he asked that the resulting deficit of \$67,000 be allowed to stand until actual experiences determine future budgetary action.

The budget was adopted with minor revisions.

#### Organization - Mr. Sam Caploe

Announcing the division of the committee's activities into three phases -- Expansion Fund, Shekel, and Membership -- Mr. Caploe called upon Mr. I. J. Caplan, National Co-Chairman of the Expansion Fund. He presented a resolution calling for the continuance of the Expansion Fund now known as the American Zionist Fund, as that fiscal means which supports the organization's activities over and above membership funds. A goal of \$1,000,000 was proposed and accepted.

A further resolution was passed giving national sanction only to American Zionist Fund, United Jewish Appeal and Jewish National Fund campaigns in the districts, with other drives to be cleared individually by the national office. (copies attached)

A report by the Shekel Committee was deferred until a future date.

In keeping with the increased importance of membership during the United Nations discussions of Palestine and to celebrate the Fiftieth Anniversary of the ZOA, the committee on membership moved the proclamation of an unprecedented membership campaign to be known as Roll Call for the Jewish State, coupled with the re-enrollment of the maximum of the present membership. The motion was carried, and so ordered. (Resolution attached)

Sunday, November 2, 1947 was designated by the body as Balfour Day, in commemoration of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the issuance of the Balfour Declaration. All districts and regions were urged to mark the observance with special membership breakfasts, public meetings and mass rallies designed to gain maximum support for the movement.

# # # # #



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - NAT'L ADM. COUNCIL MEETING - 9/20/47

This first meeting of the National Administrative Council is an occasion for reflection and evaluation. Your delegates have just returned from the Zurich discussions and their reports to you will contain the substance of these important deliberations. I do feel it incumbent to render my own brief observation on the part taken by your delegates and several who were in consultation with them.

It is my considered opinion that our President, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, was the leading architect of these difficult sessions. With outstanding statesmanship, he welded the various fractions and provided the political formulas which found such widespread and general acceptance among conflicting viewpoints. We are honored by his leadership.

Dr. Silver provided the committee with a searching analysis of the American Political scene and ably lent his talents to the deliberations of the Jewish Agency Executive.

Dr. Israel Goldstein made a historical contribution to our movement by his sterling and eminently fair chairmanship of the Political Committee. He coupled this work with a determined building of the World Confederation of General Zionists.

Rabbi Miller delivered one of the outstanding expositions at the sessions. His recital of the contributions made by the Zionist Organization of America was thrilling. I might add that his rebuttal of several untrue statements made at the sessions literally whittled the makers thereof to pygmy size.

Daniel Frisch --- well --- all of the delegates --- did a grand job. They were in every committee --- not just placid onlookers but working, debating, making constructive suggestions and offering business-like criticism. Abe Krumbein was drafted by the Budget Committee as adviser. They needed our help and it was given freely and with humility.

I want to close these brief remarks on Zurich by saying that you should be very proud of your delegates. They were there to do a job - and they did it - hardworking and as a team. Our relations with Hadassah were excellent.

The respect accorded by all parties to our representatives and the distinguished service they rendered for you is a decided compliment to the Z.O.A.

While many of your officers were in Switzerland, the task of providing interim administration was placed into the hands of a committee under the Chairmanship of Jacques Torczyner, consisting of Joseph Greenleaf, Charles Ress, Herman Weisman, Milton Pollack and Mark Sugarman. These men devotedly applied themselves to their chores. My advice is that Jacques Torczyner provided direction and outstanding administrative ability to his office and he and his Committee deserve the plaudits and commendation of the Organization.

The operation of the Zionist Organization of America on the professional level is, at best, a difficult, nerve-racking undertaking. My colleagues are highly trained and eminently competent executives. It was therefore with a feeling of security that the operations of our organization were entrusted to them. Ernest E. Barbarash with the aid of Manuel Posy and Miss Jennie Michaels gave distinguished application to the duties which are normally within my



province. The work of Herschel Auerbach, Carl Alpert, Henry Stern and Rabbi Unger together with our other executives and our clerical staff during this period proved the merits of teamwork, mutual consultation and iron-clad friendship. I want to express my deep thanks to them. I am privileged to be associated with them.

We are now coming to the close of our fiscal year and the beginning of the new year. In many respects, it has been encouraging but in others there has been marked measure of disappointment. Our membership as of September 12 is 182,177, of which 46,070 are new members, renewals number 128,053, Masada and B'nai Zion are 8,054. Campaigns are still under way for renewals which are lagging badly and are a matter of real concern to all of us. There is something definitely wrong when an aroused Jewry fails to respond to the needs of the moment. As members of this highest body in our organization, you must review in your own minds where your regions and districts have been derelict in this important political undertaking.

Mr. Herschel Auerbach has been assigned to the Directorship of Membership and this Council in committee will discuss the ambitious and imaginative plans which are being suggested by the National Chairman, Mr. Joseph Goldberg, and Mr. Auerbach. The strength of this organization, its impact upon the American Political Scene, the National and International Zionist Scene and on World Jewry stems, in large part, from our numerical strength - a political weapon of the greatest magnitude. Campaigns, materials, ideas are of no avail unless you leaders will implement them. You have the choice of providing the substance of membership for an effective instrument of disintegrating the greatest Jewish organization in the world which was built through your own effort. It is your problem and you must face it.

Our Expansion Fund efforts to date have brought us \$454,249.20. Mr. Manuel Posy tells us that we are working on the collection of numerous outstanding accounts. Many districts are displaying the same pattern of conduct as in previous years. They withhold transmission of funds until the last moment. We are in need of these funds at this transitional period from one fiscal year to the other and you are urged to send in these outstanding accounts immediately.

Campaigning in Membership and Expansion Fund for the New Year has already been launched by many regions and districts. The Metropolitan Zionist Fund, Long Island, Southwest, New England, Chicago, Bronx, Baltimore, which picked up approximately 1000 new members in a single excursion are well on their way. Quotas will be adopted by this Council for both of these branches of our work and we can expect your cooperation in this crucial period.

Mr. Seymour Leibman has been assigned to the post of Supervising Regional Director and he will supplement and coordinate the work of your Regional Executive throughout the country.

Mr. Carl Alpert, our Educational Director, tells me of the plans for a National Education Conference which will be discussed by your committee. His plans include a Traveling Pictorial Exhibition, a National Competition of District Bulletins and a special edition of the latest Palestinian songs. These are all beyond the normal educational functions undertaken by that department.

Our Palestine Bureau under Dr. Bernstein, our Committee on Unity under Rabbi Unger, are in fine shape.



Milton Pollack, Mark Sugarman, Bernard Singer, Henry Stern and the Finance Committee are the guarantees of sound fiscal operation. The next year will be problematical - the elements of economic cycle, your own membership and Expansion Fund efforts, the decisions taken by the United Nations and other facets provide sufficient problems in themselves. With your cooperation, these can be surmounted and a strong financial position can be assured.

I have deliberately placed the subject of our public relations department at the very end of this report. With due deference to nation-wide news agencies, the only complete coverage furnished to the country and Zionists generally was the product of the work of Ernest E. Barbarash and his colleagues. The relatively brief coverage given to him by Mendel Fisher, my esteemed colleague, and myself were amplified and broadcast throughout the country. It was an outstanding piece of journalism.

The releases, the News-Reporter, the materials which are coming from that quarter give us pause for wonder.

Mr. Harold Ribalow has been added to the staff of Mr. Barbarash. We expect that this addition will enhance our coverage of the United Nations.

A very promising year of public relations is in the offing.

I want to conclude this report with a greeting to all of you on this New Year. We shall need courage and the "tough-mindedness" of which Dr. Neumann wrote to all of you. This man Neumann and his officers will need the fulsome and well-merited support which you can give to them for the tasks we have ahead of us. Let us make this final effort in the spirit of new consecration. What love we bear to the cause of Zion, what esteem we hold this very great Zionist, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, and his colleagues, is sufficient incentive for this dedication. You will not fail Jewry now.



RESOLUTION ON BALFOUR DAY OBSERVANCE

The National Administrative Council of the Zionist Organization of America hereby resolves that Sunday, November 2, 1947 the 30th Anniversary of the issuance of the Balfour Declaration be appropriately observed by all Districts and Regions of the Zionist Organization of America --

That such observance take the form of a special membership effort designed to bring to realization the original aim of the Balfour Declaration -- the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine.

The Council calls upon all Districts and Regions of the ZOA to hold membership breakfasts on Balfour Day followed by intensive enrollment activity on the part of every member of the organization. The Council further urges Districts and Regions in major cities to mark the observance of Balfour Day by the holding of appropriate public meetings and mass rallies designed to gain further support for our cause.

\* \* \* \*

Unanimously adopted --



RESOLUTION ON MOBILIZATION FOR A JEWISH STATE

Taking cognizance of the present meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations which will consider the problem of Palestine,

Calling attention to the program of our movement as enunciated in the Political Resolution here adopted, and

Noting that this year marks the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Zionist Movement of the Zionist Organization of America --

The National Administrative Council of the Zionist Organization of America therefore proclaims a special membership campaign to be launched immediately as a "role call for a Jewish State" or such other slogan. The Council calls upon all Jews 18 years of age or over in this country to enroll all members immediately as members of the organization and thus to demonstrate their adherence to our cause and their solidarity to our leadership in the presentation of our case before the United Nations. The Council further urges the immediate reenrollment of all former members and further urges the constituent regions and districts to take the necessary steps to carry this campaign through to its ultimate successful conclusion -- the realization of a Jewish State in Palestine.

\* \* \* \* \*



## RESOLUTIONS AMERICAN ZIONIST FUND

### Part one.

This Administrative Council takes cognizance of the resolutions adopted by the 50th Annual Jubilee Convention of the Zionist Organization of America calling for the continuance of the American Zionist Fund (Z.O.A. Expansion Fund.)

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the American Zionist Fund is the fiscal means that provides for an extensive program of activities over and above that provided by the membership funds of our organization, and

WHEREAS, anticipated membership income will provide but ~~one~~-third of the 1947-48 budgetary requirements of the organization which will total approximately \$1,500,000.00.

BE IT RESOLVED that the American Zionist Fund be directed to raise from the constituency of the Z.O.A. the sum of \$1,000,000.00 during the coming year.

### Resolution #2

WHEREAS, the National goal sought by the American Zionist Fund can be realized only if the districts and regions accept their equitable and proportionate share of the National goal, and

WHEREAS, any district or region defaulting on its just obligation will cause uneven distribution of responsibility among the other regions and districts,

### Resolution #3

WHEREAS, this National Administrative Council notes the increasing number of fund-raising and other activities outside the orbit of the Z.O.A. on behalf of causes and institutions not directly related with the work of the Z.O.A. carried on by some districts and regions, thereby causing a dissipation of activities among our constituent districts and regions and relegated primary objectives of the organization to secondary importance, at the expense of our own American Zionist Fund and the National funds,

BE IT RESOLVED that districts or regions which without cause, default upon their obligations to the American Zionist Fund, be reported to the attention of the National Executive Committee for such action as that body may deem appropriate

BE IT RESOLVED that the American Zionist Fund, after consultation with districts and regions, advise all constituent units of their equitable and proportionate share of the National goal.



RESOLUTIONS AMERICAN ZIONIST FUND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the American Zionist Fund, after consultation with districts and regions, advise all constituent units of their equitable and proportionate share of the National goal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Administrative Council reaffirm the resolution adopted by the National Executive Committee which provides that the only campaigns which may be conducted by the Z.O.A. districts are: American Zionist Fund, United Jewish Appeal and Jewish National Fund. Any other drive which may be embarked upon as an official project of the district must be reported first to the National office and not commenced until clearance is obtained.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be given wide distribution throughout the districts and regions of the Zionist Organization of America.





MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1947, HOTEL BILTMORE, NEW YORK, AT 8 P.M.

PRESIDING: Dr. Emanuel Neumann, President

PRESENT: Rev. Martin Adolf, Benjamin E. Browdy, Abe R. Cohen, Sol Cohen, Benjamin Dof, Louis A. Falk, John J. Fox, Ben Friedman, Daniel Frisch, Irving Galt, Ben Zion Ginsburg, I.R. Goodman, Jack Goodman, Samuel Goldstock, Ben E. Gordon, Joseph Greenleaf, Paul Kaminsky, Robert Lagunoff, Boris Margolin, Milton Pollack, Abe Redelheim, Jacob Richman, Dr. Morton Robbins, Jochanon Rudavsky, Dr. Hyman Silver, David Spiegel, Dewey Stone, Mark Sugarman, Wm. Sylk, I.S. Turover, Morris Weinberg, Herman Weisman, and Dr. Sidney Marks, Executive Director.

Guests: Meir Hartman, Zvi Herman, Wm. Kapelman, Dr. Leo Lauterbach, Dr. Theodore Lewis, Dr. Harris J. Levine, Louis Schwefel, and Joseph Sternstein.

Staff: Carl Alpert, Herschel Auerbach, Ernest Barbarash, Dr. Simon Bernstein, M.Z. Frank, Yale Goldberg, Leon Ilutowicz, Itzhak Karpman, Franz Katz, Jenn Michaels, Manuel Posy, Eugene Sattler, Henry Stern and Rabbi Jerome Unger.

Dr. Neumann welcomed several of our friends from abroad: Dr. Leo Lauterbach, of the World Zionist Organization, Mr. Meir Hartman, Director of Mifde Haezrachi in Palestine, and Mr. Zvi Herman, representing Haoved Hazioni and Hanoar Hazioni.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The succinct but comprehensive report of the Executive Director is attached for your information.

REPORT ON PURCHASE OF BUILDING

Dr. Neumann stated that this was really a special meeting in order to present an urgent and important item of business in relation to the proposal for the purchase of a building for our organization.

Mr. Mark Sugarman, National Treasurer, made a detailed and careful analysis of the proposed building to be purchased for the ZOA. He pointed out the necessity for the securing of more adequate facilities to house our various activities which are now scattered throughout the City resulting in loss of efficiency and the payment of rentals over many years which could have been applied toward the cost of purchase and operation of our own building.

After a thorough exploration of the situation, the building committee recommended the purchase of two connecting buildings at 225 - 227 West 57th Street and 1780 Broadway. A detailed discussion of the buildings as they are, and a comprehensive discussion of the possibilities of alteration and improvement for our use was presented by Mr. Sugarman.

Mr. Sugarman also entered into the financial aspects of the proposition in detail, and pointed out in his report the possibilities of the assumption by the organization of these responsibilities, and the advantages of such an investment.

Following the presentation of Mr. Sugarman's report there was a lengthy



discussion by Mr. I. S. Turover, Dr. Neumann, Mr. Jack Goodman, Mr. Abe R. Cohen, Mr. Milton Pollack, Mr. Herman Weisman, Dr. Harris J. Levine, Mr. Benjamin Dof, Mr. Morris Weinberg, and Dr. Hyman Silver. The discussion resulted in the following resolution offered by Mr. Herman Weisman:

"I move that we accept the report presented by Mr. Sugarman; that this board authorize the acquisition of these buildings upon details not less advantageous than those set forth in the report, and that the President be requested to appoint a committee with full power to carry out the resolution, including the power in the committee to retain such counsel, who should not be a member of the committee, using their own discretion.

The motion was seconded. Some discussion ensued during which Dr. Neumann pointed out that the motion constituted authority to purchase the buildings, but it is not mandatory. The resolution was passed unanimously, and Dr. Neumann appointed Mark Sugarman, Wm. Sylk, Associate Treasurer, and Herman Weisman as the Sub-Committee, with full power to carry out the resolution in association with Milton Pollack as attorney and advisor, including our Finance Officers. The committee was directed to seek such other advice as they may deem fit.

Dr. Neumann closed this important matter on our agenda with an expression of the appreciation and gratification of himself and the organization to Mr. Sugarman for his great trouble and pains in the finding of a building.

#### INNER COMMITTEE

Dr. Neumann recommended that the Inner Committee be composed of those who served last year and who are in a position to serve this year, as well as those appointed this year. In addition, he suggested Wm. Sylk, Mendell Selig and Dewey Stone. He recommended further that the Chairman of the Building Fund, if such is established, be made a member ex-officio of the Inner Committee. He further suggested that Mr. Daniel Frisch serve as Vice Chairman of the Inner Committee.

Mr. Israel Goodman moved the acceptance of Dr. Neumann's suggestions. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The Inner Committee is composed of the following:

Daniel Frisch, Joseph W. Greenleaf, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Abraham Goodman, Rabbi Irving Miller, Milton Pollack, Dewey D. Stone, Charles Ress, Mark Sugarman, Jacques Torczynor, Herman Weisman, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Rabbi Jerome Unger, Mendell Selig, and William Sylk.

#### REPORT OF EUROPEAN TRIP OF DANIEL FRISCH

Dr. Neumann called upon Mr. Frisch to report on his visit to several countries abroad before his departure for an important Zionist mission in the Argentine.

Mr. Frisch spoke eloquently of the heartbreaking experience he had in visiting the scene of Jewish devastation abroad. He refrained from going into details in order that he might give his attention to important matters that he desired to bring to the attention of the National Executive.



The first of these was his vivid description of the establishment of a fishing village by a small group of General Zionists in the little town of Fano near Rome, Italy. He earnestly recommended that the ZOA undertake the matter of granting subventions to this group of General Zionists in order to enable them to continue the wholesome enterprise in which they are engaged. The Hachshara in Fano requires subvention of \$20,000 in order to build another boat for its purposes, and an additional subvention of \$4,000 to meet a deficit incurred, and to enable the group to continue. He presented the discussion that he had with Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and with Dr. Joseph Schwartz of JDC in Paris, and recommended that the ZOA cable the sum of \$2,000 to this General Zionist group.

After considerable discussion, Rev. Adolf moved the allocation of \$2,000. The motion was seconded. It was subsequently amended to include the following statement: "That for the purpose of bookkeeping that the money be sent and be applied against the funds set aside in the budget for this specific purpose." The motion was passed unanimously.

The matter of the additional subvention for the building of a boat for the Fano Hachshara was referred to the Inner Committee for further study and report back to the Executive Committee with appropriate recommendations.

#### MEIR HARTMAN

Mr. Meir Hartman, Director of Mifde Haezrachi in Palestine, spoke in Yiddish and urged upon the Z.O.A. every possible support for General Zionists in Europe and General Zionist projects in Palestine.

In the discussion following Mr. Hartman's presentation, the matter of the establishment in Palestine by General Zionists of the housing project Shikkun Ezrachi was discussed. This matter was referred to the Inner Committee with the recommendation that Dr. Harris J. Levine, who took part in the present discussion, should be invited to attend this meeting.

#### REPORT OF DR. NEUMANN ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION

Following the transaction of the business before the Executive Committee Dr. Neumann gave a comprehensive analysis and discussion of the political situation as it exists at the present.

The following are salient excerpts from Dr. Neumann's address:

"From such information as we have, we are confident that there is a substantial majority today, in the United Nations, favoring the acceptance of the majority report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine proposing the termination of the British Mandate and the establishment of a Jewish and an Arab State. It has strong support among the countries of Latin America, Western Europe and even among the British Dominions. There is also considerable support for it among the Slav States, as is indicated by the statements already made by Poland and Czechoslovakia. The only definite opposition that has developed thus far, comes from the Arab and Moslem States. In these circumstances it is clear that a two-thirds majority in favor of this solution is definitely attainable. Whether or not a two-thirds vote will actually be cast, now depends almost entirely upon the attitude of the U.S. Government and the American delegation. It lies in their hands. They can make it, they can break it.



"Assuming a positive outcome in the Assembly, the Jewish Agency for Palestine will be confronted immediately with formidable tasks which will brook no delay. We must proceed on the assumption that the British Government intends to carry out its responsibilities as Mandatory and inaugurate an early withdrawal of its administration and military forces from Palestine. It is reported that such withdrawal may begin as early as next January.

"In these circumstances, we are confronted with the necessity of planning along the following lines:

1. The organization of a Provisional Jewish Administration to take over the functions of administration in the Jewish State as quickly as such functions will devolve upon it. Such a Provisional Jewish Administration must be so constituted that it will be able to take over, in due course, full executive power as the provisional government of the Jewish State.

2. The establishment of an adequate force with all necessary equipment to be available at an early date to be placed at the disposal of United Nations for maintaining public security and ensuring implementation of United Nations decisions. Such a potential force already exists in the Haganah numbering some 70,000 men. But immediate steps will be required to develop its full potentiality, especially with respect to trained and experienced officers and certain types of equipment.

3. Special financial resources will be required over and above the funds normally available to the Jewish Agency. While the new Jewish and Arab States will be entitled to international assistance during the early period of their existence, there will be needed immediately during the transition period, however brief, substantial sums to go forward with the establishment of the Provisional Jewish Administration capable of discharging its manifold responsibilities. It may therefore be necessary to launch a Jewish National Loan, a "Freedom Loan," as was done by De Valera even prior to the establishment of the Irish Free State.

"I am confident that the Jews of America stand prepared now as in the past, to give the Jewish Agency and the Jewish community in Palestine every assistance in their power, in connection with the new situation and new talks which will confront us. I am genuinely proud of what American Zionists are doing and have done for several years in the past."

After a brief discussion of questions asked of Dr. Neumann by members of the Executive, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Rabbi Jerome Unger  
Acting Executive Director



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF OCTOBER 8, 1947

My somewhat brief report tonight may be termed cumulative. The proximity of the last administrative council obviates the need for a more extended discussion.

We are really at the very beginning of our year's work. Every department is embarking on its planned program. We have every confidence that the results will justify our efforts.

Dr. Neumann is keeping his steady and sure hand on the day to day work of the organization. He is a comfort and a help to all of us.

Mr. Frisch has returned and provided his over-ready help for us. He is leaving for a six week tour to the Argentine.

Rabbi Miller has provided a most excellent administrative council meeting and the delegates responded to its stimulus.

I want to extend a most hearty welcome to our worthy colleagues from Palestine, Dr. Leo Lauterbach, Mr. Zvi Herman and Mr. Meier Hartman.

Our education plans are ambitious. We now have a functioning education committee under Rabbi Gordis. It will hold its first meeting towards the end of this month. A course on political orientation is being conducted for Z. O. A. speakers by Harry Torczyner, our National Chairman of the Committee for Political Information. We are publishing an edition of the latest words and music from Palestine for distribution to our districts. The Palestine Year Book, Volume III is going to press. Four more young people, General Zionists, are going under our auspices, to Palestine to spend a year of study with the Jewish Agency. We are exploring the feasibility of launching an American Zionist Theatre. I am also happy to report that we have completed plans for the new subscription magazine. The American Zionist Review which is expected to be published in January.

Mr. Alpert, our education director, indicates that these are merely recent developments. It speaks well for these efforts.

Our Public relations department is going to press with the next issue of the News-Reporter. The excellent comments which greeted the past few issues, the production of posters, departmental promotion materials, the various releases to the press, the step-up of general public relations makes the lot of Mr. Barbarash and his associates not an easy one.

It is interesting to note the labors of our Palestine Bureau. Dr. Bernstein tells me that our available visas are just about exhausted and a new request for additional certificates are being made. Many American Jews are determined to go to Palestine and that is the best answer we can give to Arab threats.

Our finance arm is extending its work. Mr. Stern has his department well in hand. The reports by Mr. Pollack and Mr. Sugarman were highly commended for their business-like approach. They will impart to you on the explorations for additional space and the availability of a building. Mr. Pollack has everyone of the Finance Sub-Committee busy at work with business details that spell economy and efficiency for our work.



The Unity Committee for Palestine is studying the American scene for the continued value of its efforts at this time. Rabbi Unger has called a conference of the officers of this committee and a report will be forthcoming. They are proceeding with economical caution at this time.

The fields of Membership and American Zionist Funds are being constantly tilled. We are now on the threshold of ever-new annual efforts.

Willy Nordwind, our National Life Membership Chairman, is linking the campaign with our Expansion Fund contributors of \$100. or more.

Mr. Joseph Goldberg and Mr. Auerbach inform me that the Balfour Day drive has captured the imagination of our Districts. Dr. Neumann sent letters for action to our Districts and Regions and the avalanche of telegrams and letters pledging their support and accepting quotas is very encouraging. New and vivid membership posters have been prepared by Mr. Barbarash's department, the Roll Call petitions are at the printers' and will be distributed within the week, a halfhour broadcast over W.M.C.A. on Balfour Day with breakfasts in New York City launching the second wave of efforts are ready. The country at large will have recordings of Dr. Neumann and excerpts of Dr. Silver's address for their membership efforts. Our New York work in membership is being pressed and coordinated for unprecedented efforts by Yale Goldberg. The samplings of districts throughout the country show that there is heavy re-enrollment.

The Shekel Campaign is already receiving the expert attention of Jacques Torczyner. We are setting up our skeleton structure and will intensify these efforts within the next month. I am happy to report that Mr. Charles Ross was re-elected unanimously as Chairman of the National Shekel Board.

Our American Zionist Fund efforts are very gratifying. Mendel Selig and Manny Posy have already secured voluntary acceptances of quotas from more than half the country and are negotiating with the balance. This is a departure from the previous practice of imposed quotas. We are winding our late campaigns in the Southwest and the West Coast. The New England Zionist Chest is working on its allocation to us.

If our membership will keep its convention promises and supply the wherewithal which in good part could have come from increased membership dues, we will have a year of well financed and most satisfactory activity.

I trust that the next report will contain an even more encouraging picture. We want to assure you of the constant application of our officers and staff to the vital tasks at hand.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director



NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

- - -

Rev. Martin Adolf, Paterson

Abraham Berkowitz, Birmingham

Benjamin Browdy, Brooklyn

Abraham Cohen, Pittsburgh

Sol Cohen, Richmond Hill, L.I.

Benjamin Doft, Lawrence, L.I.

John J. Fox, Hartford

Ben Zion Ginsberg, Chicago

Rabbi Robert Gordis, Rockaway Park, L. I.

Joseph W. Greenleaf, Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

Joseph Goldberg, Worcester

Samuel Goldstock, Pittsburgh

I. R. Goodman, St. Louis

Jack Goodman, Brooklyn

Benjamin Gordon, Teaneck, N. J.

Morris Jacobs, Detroit

Edmund Koblenz, Albany

Julius Livingston, Tulsa

David Moskowitz, Bronx

Boris Margolin, New York

Judge Hyman J. Reit, New York

Dr. Morton Robbins, Nashua, N. H.

Johanon Rudavsky, Brooklyn

Albert Schiff, Columbus, O.

Dr. Hyman Silver, Bronx

David Spiegel, Brooklyn

Dewey Stöna, Brockton, Mass.

Rudolf Sonneborn, New York

Jacques Torczyner, New York

I. S. Turover, Washington, D. C.

Morris Weinberg, New York

Herman Weisman, Scarsdale, N. Y.

Rabbi Simon Greenberg, Philadelphia

Paul Kaminsky, New York

Judge Harry Kolodner, Philadelphia

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The incoming president and the National Administrative Council were authorized to name additional members of the National Executive.

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