



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

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

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Zionist Organization of America, press releases, 1948-1949.

Zionist Organization of America  
41 East 42nd Street  
AL 4-8265

[1948]  
FOR RELEASE: Sunday, October 17th

FOOD FOR ISRAEL DRIVE LAUNCHED BY ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Hundreds Of Freight Cars To Meet In New York City To Form  
Food For Israel Train

A nation-wide campaign for the procurement of millions of pounds of food stuffs and agricultural commodities within the next 90 days has been launched by the Zionist Organization of America to alleviate the serious food shortage situation confronting the civilian population of Israel, it was announced by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, ZOA president.

"This great responsibility--to safeguard the health and lives of our courageous brothers and sisters--must be shared by all friends of Israel and members of the Zionist movement in America," Dr. Neumann stressed. "In particular, it is of the utmost importance that the vast manpower and strength of the Zionist Organization of America--enlist all-out cooperation for our Food for Israel project. A mighty intensive effort must be conducted by each region and district as well as by our 250,000 members for this vital undertaking.

"Knowing the caliber and determination of our men and women enrolled in the ranks of the Zionist Organization of America, I am confident that we will match with generosity and devotion the bravery of the citizens of Israel."

The Food For Israel drive--to be conducted in every Jewish community throughout the United States--was initiated by the Zionist Organization of America in response to the official request of the Israeli Supply Mission for immediate aid. In conjunction with the effort, the ZOA's youth affiliate, Masada, embarked on a campaign to place thousands of barrels in grocery stores and community centers in 94 principal cities to aid in the collection of the food.



A special highlight of the Food for Israel drive will be the assembly of hundreds of freight cars filled to capacity with foodstuffs donated by the ZOA districts throughout the country and all merging into a Food Train to be formed in New York City early in December.

Sylk, Chairman of Campaign

William Sylk, of Philadelphia, has been appointed national chairman of the Food for Israel campaign. The country-wide effort, the announcement said, will be conducted through the facilities of the American Zionist Fund, (ZOA Expansion Fund) of which Mendel Solig is the chairman and Manuel Posy, national director. Serving with Mr. Sylk on the ZOA steering committee are Benjamin G. Browdy, Brooklyn; Benjamin Doft, Long Island; and Joseph W. Greenleaf, Mt. Vernon.

Dr. Neumann, pointing out that the food crisis in Israel resulted from diverting the entire resources of the new democracy--its peacetime economy, its civilian manpower--to one of total mobilization for the war effort against the Arab invaders, stated: "The civilian population of Israel having undergone many hardships and privations in the heroic effort to defend the sovereignty of the Jewish State is now face-to-face with an acute food shortage situation. Even now during this second truce period, the citizens of Israel are still on a war-time footing with the concomitant result that agricultural production is limited greatly and the food supply of the nation has reached rock-bottom."

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Public Relations Department  
Zionist Organization of America  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York 17, N.Y.  
MUrray Hill 2-3205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ZOA NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETS IN ALL-DAY SESSION

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NEUMANN HAILS DECISIVE ROLE PLAYED BY AMERICAN JEWRY IN CREATION OF  
JEWISH STATE.

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AUBREY EBAN SAYS ISRAEL WILL PRESS FOR MIDDLE-EAST ALLIANCE  
WITH ARAB STATES.

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WEINBERG, JEWISH DAY PUBLISHER, HONORED AT LUNCHEON.

- - - - -

New York, Dec. 13th - The National Administrative Council of the Zionist Organization of America, the ruling body of the ZOA between conventions, meeting this week in an all-day session at the Hotel New Yorker as the U.N. sessions were drawing to a close in Paris, heard Dr. Emanuel Neumann, ZOA President, assert that the 5,000,000 American Jews under the leadership of Zionist forces played a decisive role in the creation of the New Jewish State of Israel.

The all-day conference arranged in a series of programs was devoted to an exploration of the ZOA's future activities embracing food and economic projects, education, public relations, fund-raising and membership, and featured the first public showing of the new ZOA Economic Exhibit.

Rabbi Irving Miller, of Woodmere, L.I., Chairman of the National Administrative Council, presided.

In his reference to the role played by 5,000,000 American Jews towards the creation of the Jewish State, Dr. Neumann said:

"It may be doubted whether without their active efforts, the American Government would have adopted the line it did, however imperfect we might at times have thought it. More likely, Washington would have followed London in that partnership stand she has taken with England on so many world matters since the end of the war.

"The financial aid which American Jewry provided for the embattled and laboring Yishuv was of course of great significance, but I question whether it was of greater importance than the political bulwark it offered.

"There is no Jewish community on the face of the earth," Dr. Neumann however added, "no one group or class or party which can claim a monopoly in the achievement. Every section of world Jewry made its historic contribution toward the creation of the State of Israel."

(more)



Message from Eban

Aubrey Eban, Israeli representative to the UN, in a special message to the assemblage, in maintaining that "Jewish Statehood and independence have struck firm root both in the life of Israel itself and the consciousness of the world," said:

"We have felt fully re-endorsed in our efforts by the sympathy of the American people which your Zionist Organization of America has done so much to organize and to evoke.

"We are determined to press forward towards our two vital political goals: the admission of Israel to the United Nations and, closely linked with this, an alliance between Israel and the Arab world for the advancement and stability of the Middle-East. In these two vital political objectives as well as in all those which we have already attained, we invoke the support and solidarity of Jewish communities the world over and especially of American Zionism on whose support and assistance we vitally depend. To the Zionist Organization of America and its distinguished leaders, Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann, I send from Paris the cordial and fraternal greetings of the Foreign Minister of Israel and its delegation to the United Nations."

Message from Granados

Dr. Jorge Garcia Granados, Guatemalan representative to the United Nations, in a message from Paris, lauded the defeat of the British proposal for the adoption of the Bernadotte plan. Dr. Granados warned that "a perpetual watch" must be kept in the General Assembly "in order to neutralize and surprise move tending toward the revival of mistaken or ill-intentioned proposals."

Dr. Granados' message continued:

"I have seen Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann at work. I have admired their intelligence and energy and I can tell you that their warm feeling towards my efforts and their kind understanding have strengthened me, and their inspiration has always been a real help in the realization of my aims in favor of justice for Israel."

Resolutions Laud Truman, Approve UPA Peace

A Resolution adopted by the National Administrative Council expressed "deep satisfaction in the accomplishment of Israel's representatives at the recent sessions of the UN in Paris in which they overcame all attempts further to truncate Israel." It commended "the stand taken by President Truman in repelling the attacks against the State of Israel during the session, and urged him to continue to use his power for the fulfillment of his pronounced purpose to make Israel a member of the United Nations."

The National Administrative Council went on record unanimously approving the settlement in the UPA which thus assures united fund-raising in America for the needs in Israel.

The resolution paid special tribute to Dr. Emanuel Neumann, and Herman L. Weisman, acting chairman of the UPA, for their negotiations on behalf of the UPA.



The National Administrative Council approved the appointment of five members to the ZOA National Executive Committee. The five new members are:

Professor Milton Handler of New York City, Professor of Law at Columbia University; Rabbi Philip Bernstein, spiritual leader of Temple Brith Kodesh of Rochester, N.Y., and formerly Adviser on Jewish Affairs to the U.S. Army Commanders in Europe; Joseph Kohn, former president of the Zionist Organization of Philadelphia; Archibald Silverman, veteran Zionist leader and chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council in Providence, R. I. and Rabbi Armond Cohen, spiritual leader of the Cleveland Jewish Center and chairman of the National ZOA Fellowship Committee.

Morris Weinberg Feted

A luncheon was tendered to Morris Weinberg, publisher of "The Day," New York Yiddish daily, on the occasion of his 70th birthday, in recognition of his valuable services to the Zionist movement and his contributions to Jewish life in America.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann, in paying tribute to Mr. Weinberg, a member of the ZOA National Executive Committee, one-time treasurer of the ZOA, said:

"Mr. Weinberg, more than any other single individual, was responsible for mobilizing Jewish public opinion through the powerful medium of the Jewish daily newspapers. His is an extraordinary personality, with a keen insight into world politics and political currents in this country, with steadfast and exemplary devotion to America, to his people, to the cause of humanity and world peace, to the cause of the downtrodden the cause of Israel. He has been a militant Zionist, unalterably and steadily opposed to counsels of appeasement and surrender. He has been a tower of strength to the Zionist leadership and the movement. We hail him as the embodiment of the ancient Jewish virtues of faith, loyalty, devotion to moral principles and moral courages."

Other speakers included Daniel Frisch, a vice president of the ZOA; Rabbi Irving Miller, chairman of the ZOA National Administrative Council and Dr. S. Margoshes, chairman of the Committee on Public Information of the ZOA.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver in a message to Mr. Weinberg from Cleveland expressing regret at his inability to be present in person said:

"I join your host of friends in sending you warmest felicitations on the occasion when the Zionist leadership of the nation is extending to you well deserved tribute for the many years of outstanding service which you rendered to the cause of our people and the reestablishment of the State of Israel through the effective medium of distinguished Yiddish press. In every grave political crises you could be depended upon to speak the word of wisdom and courage and to arouse public opinion in defense of our historic rights. I wish you many more years of effective and satisfying labor."

Among others who sent messages to Mr. Weinberg were Rabbi Israel H. Levinthal, spiritual leader of the Brooklyn Jewish Center, and Abraham Goldstein of Hartford a Vice President of the ZOA and a member of its National Administrative Council.



ZOA Membership Now 280,000

The ZOA National Mobilization Membership Conference preceding the meeting of the NAC was attended by Zionist leaders and key workers from every part of the country. It was highlighted by an audio-visual presentation of all ZOA projects and activities, reviewing accomplishments to date and projecting future plans of the organizations.

Joseph Goldberg of Worcester, Mass., National ZOA Membership Chairman, who led the discussion on membership activities, stated that the present membership of the ZOA stands at 280,000, an increase of thirty percent over last year at this time.

A report was also delivered by Abraham Tuvin, executive director of the American Zionist Emergency Council.

Dr. Sidney Marks, National Secretary and Executive Director of the ZOA in a special report on the "Food For Israel" project sponsored by the ZOA, said that this campaign "is reaching unprecedented proportions." Dr. Marks' report revealed:

"American-Israeli ships are departing with food cargoes from New Orleans, Philadelphia and New York. The New York warehouse facilities maintained by the ZOA are crowded to capacity with food being processed for overseas shipment. Trucks are busily scouring New York City, picking up food collections for every conceivable type of organization and school. Convoys of food are enroute, including initial shipments from the West Coast. The office of the American Zionist Fund is being taxed with calls and inquiries from all over the country. Newspapers throughout the country, American Jewish and general press, are carrying feature stories indicating the immensity of the drive."

Israel Corporation to Build in Sarona

Abraham Goodman, a ZOA vice-president and chairman of the Board of Directors of the Israel Corporation of America, revealed that the first low-cost housing project undertaken by the Israel Corporation of America in partnership with the Jewish Agency will be located in the former German Templar colony of Sarona which was recently acquired by the Tel Aviv municipality.

Mr. Goodman stated that "we must cease to regard Israel as an object of philanthropy and learn to regard it as a place where economic investments may be made with an assurance of a return of capital investment."

The ZOA Economic Commission, Mortimer May, National Chairman and Jacob Alkow, Co-Chairman, announced that an "Economic News Bulletin from Israel" will be issued to meet the flood of inquiries coming into the National Office of the ZOA.

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Public Relations Department  
Zionist Organization of America  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York 17, N. Y.  
Murray Hill 2-3205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York. - Following is the full text of three resolutions adopted at the meeting this week of the National Administrative Council of the Zionist Organization of America, ruling body of the ZOA between national annual conventions:

"The National Administrative Council of the Zionist Organization of America expresses its approval of the accord reached by all interested groups with regard to the United Palestine Appeal. Be it resolved that we commend the position taken by our representatives in the negotiations preceding the accord, in which they maintained the binding authority of the resolution of the Actions Committee and the World Zionist Congress with regard to the continuance of the Jewish National Fund and Keren Hayesod as autonomous bodies and we strongly approve of the stand taken in this connection by the World Zionist Organization."

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"In view of the many unauthorized and uncoordinated efforts being launched in this country on behalf of Israel, the National Administrative Council of the Zionist Organization of America recommends that the duly constituted Zionist bodies, the UPA, the American Zionist Emergency Council and the American Section of the Jewish Agency as the duly constituted bodies, assert their proper authority to ensure an ordered and effective organization of all such activities on the American scene and pledges the wholehearted cooperation and support of the ZOA in this regard."

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"The National Administrative Council of the Zionist Organization of America takes deep satisfaction in the accomplishment of Israel's representatives at the recent sessions of the UN in Paris in which they overcame all attempts further to truncate Israel. We commend the stand taken by President Truman in repelling the attacks against the State of Israel during the session, and urge upon him to continue to use his power for the fulfillment of his pronounced purpose to make Israel a member of the UN."



PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL

SUPPLY MISSION

TELEPHONE:  
CIRCLE 6-7818  
CABLE ADDRESS:  
"SUPISRA"

250 WEST 57TH STREET  
NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

January 6, 1949

Mr. Manuel Posy  
Zionist Organization of America  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Posy:

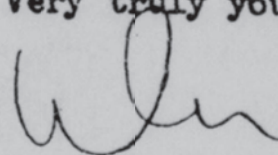
We refer to a list of seven food items which are most urgently required by us now, and which was sent to you last week.

You will observe that hardly anything on this list is likely to be received as a contribution in kind, either because the product is not in use (e.g. egg powder), or because the packing is not common for domestic consumption.

Consequently, there exists an urgent need for emphasis on cash gifts to enable the ZOA to purchase the specified foods.

I hasten to add that you should not for a moment think that the gifts in kind raised so far are not most helpful and useful. They will add to and enrich the diet of the soldier - but they will not relieve us from the need to purchase the seven essentials referred to above. Hence, the importance of cash to acquire these items.

Very truly yours,



Meir Sherman



Public Relations Department  
Zionist Organization of America  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York, N. Y.  
Tel. Murray Hill 2-3205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EMERGENCY GATHERING OF ZIONIST LEADERS HEARS  
SILVER, NEUMANN DENOUNCE BRITISH INTRIGUES AGAINST ISRAEL

- - - -

ZIONIST LEADERS URGE CONTINUED ZIONIST MOBILIZATION;  
WARN LAST BATTLE YET TO BE WON

- - - -

New York -- January 11th.-- In an emergency meeting called by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, ZOA president, five hundred Zionist leaders representing every district in the Greater Metropolitan area, gathered at breakfast at the Waldorf-Astoria to hear a review of the grave political situation confronting Israel.

On a note of widespread indignation, Dr. Neumann, commenting on the recent military and political intrigues against Israel, stated "it is time that the world takes inventory of the actions of war mongers. Let the United Nations in its efforts to bring peace to the world, curb the warlike and intransigent behavior of Bevin and his ilk who are harming the historic prestige of Great Britain and are threatening world peace. There can be no peace anywhere if even the smallest of peoples is threatened. There can be no peace if international commitments are made a mockery."

After urging the leadership to "gird their loins and remain mobilized" Dr. Neumann made a widespread plea for the arousal of American Jewry to join with the ZOA and provide it with that force of numbers of membership which will "speak in the name of decency and honor" for active intervention of the United States and the United Nations to "put Mr. Bevin in his place and stop once and for all the propagation of his ugly aims."

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, in an analysis of the political situation and the present needs of the Zionist movement, said: "We have launched a nationwide effort to counteract the latest British strategy to destroy the State of Israel. I think Great Britain will not succeed. Nevertheless, the situation still remains serious and will remain serious until the very moment when the peace treaty is finally signed between the State of Israel and the neighboring Arab peoples, because Mr. Bevin still has many a trick up his sleeve."

(more)



Dr. Silver stressed that every American Jew must come to realize that this coming year, 1949 and perhaps also next year, will be one of the most critical years in the history of our movement politically, not to speak of economically." Urging the leadership of the ZOA to arouse American Jewry to join with it in large scale numbers, Dr. Silver said: "We must remain mobilized and alerted because it is the last battle, the decisive battle. You may score many a victory in a war: if you lose the last battle, you lose the war." Dr. Silver warned against a sense of complacency of those who feel that everything has already been achieved. He stated: "I must still remind them that the armies are still on the frontiers of Israel. A few days ago they were bombing Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. Not a basic issue affecting the final settlement has been agreed upon. Negotiations between Israel and a single Arab state have not yet begun. The whole situation is as dangerously fluid as it might be."

Making further comments with reference to the actions of the U.S. government, he added: "Our government, which has shown in recent months a friendly attitude toward our cause, has as yet not given full recognition to the State of Israel, nor given the loans to the State of Israel, and has not brought about the admission of the State of Israel into the United Nations."

#### Israel Needs Continued Zionist Support

Concluding his political analysis, Dr. Silver emphasized the role of the Zionist Organization of America. He cautioned that "there is still great need for political effort on the part of America. It is not finished. I should like to caution you against complacency in your efforts. In connection with that, I should like to say, taking the larger perspective of the problem, that Israel will require Zionist support in America for a generation to come -- I say Zionist support, not merely Jewish support. Mark my words and make a note of it!"

#### Neumann Asks for Unity

Dr. Neumann brought the meeting to a close by indicating that there was a need for peace and unity not only in Israel but in America. He stated that the UPA and the UJA must look toward the larger interests of Israel and the Jewish people. This has been the unswerving attitude of the ZOA and its leadership. We are building strong Zionist solidarity for the long pull ahead. It will remain the duty of enlightened, informed, loyal, disciplined Zionists to remain strong and stay at their posts for a generation to come until the State of Israel emerges sound, wholesome and strong as we will wish for that state to be. No negative influence or unwarranted and unwholesome criticism will make us deviate from our path. We shall go forward to victory and shall oppose any dissident movement attempting to undermine the integrity and strength of organized Zionism in America."

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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: ALL REGIONAL AND DISTRICT PRESIDENTS,  
SECRETARIES, AND MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN

DATE: January 12, 1949

FROM: DR. SIDNEY MARKS

SUBJECT: UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

MOST IMPORTANT ARRANGE OUTPOURING TELEGRAMS REACHING ME HOTEL  
MAYFLOWER ATLANTIC CITY AT ONCE EXPRESSING VIGOROUS PROTEST BY  
LARGEST POSSIBLE NUMBER WORKERS AND GIVERS UJA AGAINST REHIRING  
MONTOR IN ANY CAPACITY AND EXPRESSING ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT 1949  
UJA CAMPAIGN BY ZIONISTS OF AMERICA WHO REFUSE TO TOLERATE  
DIVISIVE IRRESPONSIBLE TACTICS OF MONTOR WHICH ARE DISRUPTIVE OF  
MOVEMENT AND DETRIMENTAL TO ISRAEL.



SIDNEY MARKS



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS, DISTRICT PRESIDENTS  
AND FOOD CHAIRMEN

**DATE:** January 12, 1949

**FROM:** MANUEL POSY

**SUBJECT:**

The enclosed photo-offset of a letter is self-explanatory.

This matter of course is confidential and should be treated by you with discretion.

It would be appreciated further if all cash collected for the purchase of food would be forwarded immediately to either your Regional treasury or the National office.

Kindest regards.

MP:es  
enc.





Z.O.A. EXTRAORDINARY CONFERENCE ADOPTS RESOLUTION VOICING CONFIDENCE IN ADMINISTRATION

NEW YORK, Feb. 13. (JTA) -- More than 1,000 leading members of the Zionist Organization of America, meeting here today in an all-day extraordinary national conference, unanimously adopted a resolution expressing confidence in the "administration headed by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Emanuel Neumann."

The resolution noted that the "conference heard the reports rendered by the national administration on recent developments in our movement in its various aspects, including fund-raising, and having reviewed these developments and the position taken by the administration with regard to the problems which have arisen, effecting the status and future of the movement, hereby expresses its full confidence in the administration." The resolution added: "The conference voices its approval of the position taken by its responsible officers and spokesmen and the policies they have pursued. We declare that the Zionist Organization of America in its overwhelming majority stands firmly united behind its democratically-elected leadership whose historic services to the cause of Zionism and Israel reborn will be forever enshrined in the history of our people."

Other resolutions adopted at the parley hailed the "historic convening in the ancient, eternal city of Jerusalem" of the first Constituent Assembly of Israel; "noted with satisfaction" the success of the Food for Israel campaign; and urged all Z.O.A. members to "redouble their efforts towards increasing our ranks" to continue to provide unstinting financial support for the United Jewish Appeal and for the many vital projects of the organization."

Dr. Silver declared in a statement released at the conference that the Z.O.A. is a "democratically-elected body, within which there is room for differences of opinion and points of view. This present administration, elected at the last Zionist convention, can be changed, if the Zionists so desire, at the next Zionist convention. In the meantime, a minority cannot act as if it were the majority, nor can the Z.O.A. be captured by the expenditure of a quarter of a million dollars by the opposition. The place to agitate for a change in the administration is not in the public press."

Dr. Neumann asserted in a statement: "I deeply regret that the opposition has again displayed lack of responsibility by indulging in another broadside given to the press at the very time when the national conference was in session and when prominent spokesmen for the opposition were expected to present their point of view, and were, in fact, given full opportunity to speak and availed themselves of it. We had hoped to avoid further recriminations in the press and had taken precautions to avoid it. The conference after a full discussion has adopted a resolution of confidence in my administration by an overwhelming majority. That's the best answer to the opposition. I let it go at that."

COMMITTEE FOR PROGRESSIVE ZIONISM ADOPTS FIVE-POINT RESOLUTION HITTING Z.O.A. LEADERS

NEW YORK, Feb. 13. (JTA) -- Severe criticism of the present Zionist Organization of America leadership was voiced today at a meeting of the Committee for Progressive Zionism, opposition group within the Z.O.A., which met here at the same time that the Z.O.A. held its extraordinary national conference. A resolution was adopted at the parley which "noted with regret" the following five points:

"1. The antagonism of the present Z.O.A. administration toward suggestions made by lay individuals and groups; 2. The closing of the pages of the New Palestine toward any opinions offered for print that happen to be contrary to the individual wishes and ideas of the national leadership; 3. The intervention of the Z.O.A. leadership into political affairs within Israel and the subsequent support of a political party within that country; 4. The lack of contact between Z.O.A. leaders with the present administration in Washington due primarily to errors in judgment over a period of time; and 5. The complete failure of the present Z.O.A. leadership to mediate successfully with a so-called 'dissident' group within the Z.O.A."



Ernest E. Barbarash, Director, Public Relations  
Zionist Organization of America  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York 17, N.Y.  
Murray Hill 2-3205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ZOA TO SPONSOR ECONOMIC INSTITUTE ON ISRAEL AT TOWN HALL

NEW YORK. - An Economic Institute for Israel, consisting of a series of three lectures under the sponsorship of the Economic Commission of the Zionist Organization of America, will be held at Town Hall, New York, on Monday evenings, April 11th, 18th and 25th.

The ZOA Economic Commission was organized for the purpose of providing American businessmen, as well as the American public at large, with information concerning industrial and economic developments and investment possibilities in Israel.

The lectures will cover the industrial development of Israel, the industrial life of the Jewish state, its growth, expansion, possibilities, labor, resources, foreign credit, financing of sales, currency, imports and exports between Israel and America, Israeli rules and regulations externally and internally, import licenses, the role of private investment and foreign capital, housing, tourists, and other phases of the economic situation in the Jewish state.

Albert Schiff, president of The Israel Corporation of America, will be general chairman of the lecture series. Milton Blecher, foreign trade consultant, will act as seminar chairman.

Among the speakers listed to participate in the institute are A. E. Barrakette, Assistant Chief Engineer, Commission on Palestine Surveys; Michael Diamond, Foreign Control Officer; Col. J. R. Elyachar, civil engineer, president, Straight Construction Corp.; Alexander N. Gentes, vice president, Guaranty Trust Co.; Mortimer May, president, May Hosiery Mills and vice president Israel Corporation of America; Robert R. Nathan, noted economist; Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president, Zionist Organization of America; Abe Stark, Commissioner, N.Y.C. Department of Commerce; Gideon Strauss, Israeli Vice-Consul for Commercial Affairs; Jacques Torczyner, diamond merchant; Karl Tausig, president, American Society Travel Agents and other experts in the field.

Each lecture will be followed by a question and answer period.

Admission is by invitation only, and the attendance will be limited to 200 persons. Invitations may be obtained by writing to Seymour B. Liebman, Director, ZOA Economic Commission, 41 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N.Y.

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Ernest E. Barbarash, Director, Public Relations  
Zionist Organization of America  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York 17, N Y.  
MUrray Hill 2-3205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DAVIES, LABOR MEMBER OF BRITISH PARLIAMENT HERE ON SPEAKING TOUR,  
SAYS BRITISH-ISRAELI AMITY ESSENTIAL TO WORLD PEACE.

- - - - -

SEES BEVIN'S PERSONAL POWER CURBED

- - - - -

PRAISES EFFORTS OF ZOA LEADERS

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NEW YORK. -- The Hon. Harold Davies, a leading Labor Member of British Parliament who has just arrived here on a four-week speaking tour under the sponsorship of the Zionist Organization of America, called for the establishment of friendly relations between Britain and Israel as "imperative to world peace." Mr. Davies spoke at a press conference at the Commodore Hotel.

"A strong, friendly Jewish nation with its technical, scientific and strategic acumen," Mr. Davies emphasized, "will give the British Commonwealth a greater guarantee of peace and stability." he added:

"For centuries the Jew and Arab have lived side by side, without the benefits of modern technology. If Britain will now try to forget the mistakes of the past and sincerely cooperate with Israel, then peace and prosperity will be established in the Middle East."

Asserting that "Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin's approach to Palestine has endangered the peace not only in Palestine but in the entire world," Mr. Davies however emphasized that "the personal power heretofore wielded by Mr. Bevin has been considerably curbed." He declared that from now on British foreign policy would be determined by "Cabinet decisions."

(more)



"The famous vote in the House of Commons on January 26th," he said, "showed that a powerful element in the Labor Party was strongly opposed to the policy then in force. It was this demonstration of strength that changed Britain's attitude towards Palestine, and it reached fruition in de facto recognition."

Lauds Silver and Neumann.

Referring to the establishment of the State of Israel as "a miracle of modern history," Mr. Davies paid tribute to the efforts of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Emanuel Neumann, saying, "Those of us in England who have studied this problem know that it would not have been an accomplished fact were it not for the titanic efforts of the Zionist Organization of America, under the verile leadership of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Emanuel Neumann. Because of its burning faith in the ultimate reality of Zionism, the Zionist Organization of America has contributed magnanimously with money, research and zeal to establish this Jewish State."

Questioned as to his opinion regarding the disposition of the city of Jerusalem, Mr. Davies stated unequivocally that "it should be run by the Jews." He added: "They have already demonstrated their capability of doing so and have been eminently just and even magnanimous to the minorities living there, as well as in the rest of Israel."

He predicted that the State of Israel would soon become "a little America in the Middle East," both in regard to the democratic principles on which it is founded, as well as its application of modern methods of technology coupled with the unbounded enthusiasm and determinations of its people.

Mr. Davies' speaking tour under the auspices of the ZOA will take him through the major cities in the East and Mid-West.

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[undated]

# WHY ZOA MEMBERSHIP TODAY?



ISSUED BY

MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

NEW YORK 17, N.Y.



MARCH, 1949





## WHY ZOA MEMBERSHIP TODAY?

### Outline

#### I. Because we still have uncompleted tasks in Israel.....

##### A. Public Relations

1. To attain permanent peace
2. To fix satisfactory boundaries
3. To guarantee continuance of American support

##### B. Immediate Aid

1. Food
2. Aid to veterans
3. Provide land through JNF
4. Aid to new immigrants through Zionist Funds

#### II. Because we have new tasks in Israel, too.....

##### A. Economic Aid

1. To help build Israel's industry
2. To encourage necessary commerce
3. To help preserve balanced economy

##### B. New relationship with America

1. Scholarships for young people
2. American Jewish tourists
3. Cultural and religious inspiration for American Jewry
4. ZOA as cultural bridge between Israel and America

#### III. Because we have a new and challenging program here at home.....

1. To assert our faith in the survival of American Jewry
2. To participate in Jewish education
3. To reorganize and democratize the Jewish community
4. To give the American Jew pride and dignity in his Jewishness



## WHY ZOA MEMBERSHIP TODAY?

I. We still have uncompleted tasks in Israel requiring our full efforts

### A. Public Relations

1. There is still no peace with the Arab states. Negotiations, or even armistice cannot be confused with permanent peace. Israel must remain fully mobilized until all points at dispute are settled. American Jewry, too, must remain mobilized. The ZOA is Israel's mighty political bulwark; if this should weaken, then Israel is weakened correspondingly in its diplomatic efforts.
2. Israel's boundaries are not yet fixed. Even though victorious on the field of battle, Israel can still lose the war around the conference table. Britain and the Arab states can still gang up against her, and re-draw the boundary lines of the new state. Just as Z.O.A. organized strength served as the mouthpiece of American public opinion, so it must remain strong and ready for any new political emergency. Our enemies are just waiting for us to disintegrate because of over-confidence.
4. American governmental support is vital. Israel has that support today, but we have seen enough of vacillating American policy in the past to know that it is unpredictable. Only a strong ZOA can continue to let Washington know that an organized body of the American public is still interested. It was for lack of such a body of interested Americans, for example, that Britain was able to sell Czechoslovakia down the river in 1938. We must be vigilant and constantly on guard.

### B. Immediate Aid

1. Food continues to be one of the pressing needs of the moment. Israel's manpower is still in the army, and a normal economy has not yet been restored. Hundreds of thousands of new immigrants, too, must be fed. The ZOA



has met that emergency need gloriously, and must be prepared to continue the effort if Israel calls again.

2. The transition to peace, which we hope is really under way, has its own problems. Chief among these is the rehabilitation of the veterans and their reabsorption into the economy of the country. We in America know what veteran difficulties are, but these difficulties exist on a vastly larger scale in Israel. The proportion of casualties has been greater than anybody here realizes. There are thousands of disabled men and women who call to the ZOA for help. They need vocational therapy, education, recreation, entertainment - the lending hand to make them feel that they, heroes in time of war, have not been forgotten in time of peace. Israel has asked the ZOA to assume responsibility for this major undertaking in helping Haganah's heroes adjust to peace. This is an appeal which every American vet, and every vet's family, can understand. Having applauded the exploits of these boys, we cannot fail them. Here is a true challenge to the ZOA and its membership.
3. Land is needed. Much of the area of the State of Israel is owned by Arabs, most of them absentee landlords. Israel will not expropriate these lands; they must be bought. The ZOA must continue to give the Jewish National Fund the fullest measure of support. Without the JNF we shall have a Jewish immigration, a Jewish Government, Jewish independence - but no Jewish land. American Zionist strength must be maintained at full mobilization to implement the JNF program, and provide the land, without which all else is in vain.
4. Large scale aid is needed for the present unprecedented immigration. 25,000 immigrants a month to Israel is the equivalent of four million a month to the United States, and entails terrific problems of economic adjustment and financial aid which Zionists must provide. The problems



of this great wave of immigration from the camps of Europe, and from the Arab countries of North Africa and the Middle East will require vast sums of money. Creation of the State of Israel was only the beginning - the big job remains to be done. Israel has many friends and well-wishers in America - but it requires the efforts of an organization like the ZOA to do the job, to aid the UJA in its campaign. Fair-weather friends cannot be relied on in emergencies. The ZOA carried the flag of Zion when it was unpopular to be a Zionist - when others scoffed or put obstacles in our path. We are glad to welcome the others to our aid now that our program has been vindicated, but we shall be making a great mistake if we think that these newly-found friends can carry the burdens. The American Jew who wants to insure the security of Israel, must join his neighbors in the ZOA.

II. We have new tasks in Israel, too

A. The whole field of economic aid opens up new opportunities for service

1. Israel's industry must be built on a solid basis. Proud as we have been at the great agricultural progress made in Israel, we should not be under the illusion that the country can ever grow if it relies on agriculture. And industry, to amount to anything, and to give Israel a primary economic position in the Middle East, must be on a vast scale. This will be possible only with economic aid from the United States. The ZOA is already pointing the way for American investors to place their funds at the disposal of the growing Jewish State. Economic aid of this nature will do much to make Israel sound, solid and secure. No other organization in America is prepared or equipped to do this job but the ZOA.....yet this may well prove to be the major contribution to the sound



survival of the infant state. The Israel Corporation of America has undertaken vast economic projects through private investments.

2. Hand in hand with domestic industry must go commercial relationships. Israel must trade with the world, must import and export, obtain raw materials, find markets for its goods, etc. The special efforts which the ZOA is paying to this problem, through its economic commission, make it clear that the ZOA has made the quick transition required by the emergence of the State of Israel. American Jewry cannot sit back and watch. If Israel is to grow and thrive and prosper, it must have the full support which the ZOA, American Jewry's major instrument of aid to Israel, can give it.
3. Israel must have a sound and balanced economy, too. Hand in hand with ZOA aid to the great social institutions of the country, goes special help to the small businessman, the little fellow, from whose initiative and enterprise and industriousness America, too, has grown great. The typical American Jew is also a small businessman, and through the ZOA he can see to it that his counterpart in Israel can get a fresh start and a fair start, in the new Jewish State where he goes to begin his new life.

B. There is a new aspect to Israel's relationship with American Jews, too

1. Israel will mean much to us from a cultural point of view. American Jews must begin to think in terms of sending large numbers of our young people to Israel to complete their studies or to pursue special studies which will better equip them for Jewish lives in America. One aspect of this relationship has to do with scholarships. The ZOA is this year offering up to 100 scholarships for a year of study in Israel, and if the ZOA membership grows and becomes even more active, we shall



be able to boost this number year by year.

2. American Jewish tourists will be visiting Israel in ever-increasing numbers. The ZOA plans to set up an American office in Israel which will care for these visitors, help them, guide them, and make them feel at home. This will be a typical ZOA service, made possible by a strong ZOA membership, which will pay off in dividends to every ZOA member who visits the Jewish State.
3. The rich cultural contributions of renascent Israel will now be available to American Jews. We can look to the ancestral homeland for the art, the music, the literature of our people, all of which can help to inspire and invigorate Jewish life in America. The religious traditions and significance of American Jewish life stands to gain, too, from the living faith in Israel, reinfused with fresh meaning for our times.
4. In general, the ZOA will serve as the cultural bridge between Israel and American Jewry, as the liaison for transmission of the great spiritual inspiration of the Jewish State to these shores, and as the interpreter of this message in terms which will help make Jewish life here richer, more beautiful and more meaningful.

III. Finally, there are great tasks here at home, which the ZOA must now turn to with vigor. The classical goal was never merely the establishment of the Jewish State, but the normalization of the life of the Jewish people wherever they live. Less than ten percent of world Jewry now lives in Israel. It is the remaining ninety percent, about half of whom live in America, whom we must now do something for.



1. First of all, we must assert the confident beliefs of the ZOA that not only can American Jewry survive, but that it can create a great and significant Jewish life here. We shall not become a mere appendage to the Jewish State, but have within ourselves, as well, the creative capacity to contribute to Jewish culture and history.
2. The ZOA, strengthened, expanded and intensified, must become a major force in Jewish education in this country. Even as it assumed the leadership in helping to bring about the creation of the State of Israel, so it is today already becoming a major source of educational materials and curricular aids for Jewish schools. Principals, rabbis, teachers, are already beginning to learn that they can look to the ZOA for the sort of material which will help them rear the new generation of proud and understanding Jews. This is something which every Jewish parent will understand, and it is another reason why every Jew should enable the ZOA to proceed even further along this line.
3. The ZOA, too, is the sole instrument of size and strength in this country which can take effective action to bring about the democratization of the Jewish community. The ZOA itself is the very essence of democracy in action; even the controversies which from time to time agitate the organization are merely democracy in action. Hence the ZOA is the logical weapon to bring about reorganization of the Jewish community, and to make community organs properly responsive to the will of the Jewish masses. This is a task for which the ZOA will need the continued support of its members, and the added support of sympathizers and well-wishers who have hitherto stood on the outside.



4. In short, the ZOA, having completed the first phase of its Zionist work in behalf of Israel - having assumed the full burden of the continuing program of activity in behalf of the new state - must at the same time expand its activities in behalf of American Jewry as well. With the organized support of a loyal, democratic and disciplined membership, it can achieve on the American scene miracles comparable to what were attained in Israel. Here is a program which can appeal to every Jew who wants to live as a Jew, and who wants his children to sense the pride and the dignity of their Jewishness. Let's bring this message to our friends and neighbors!

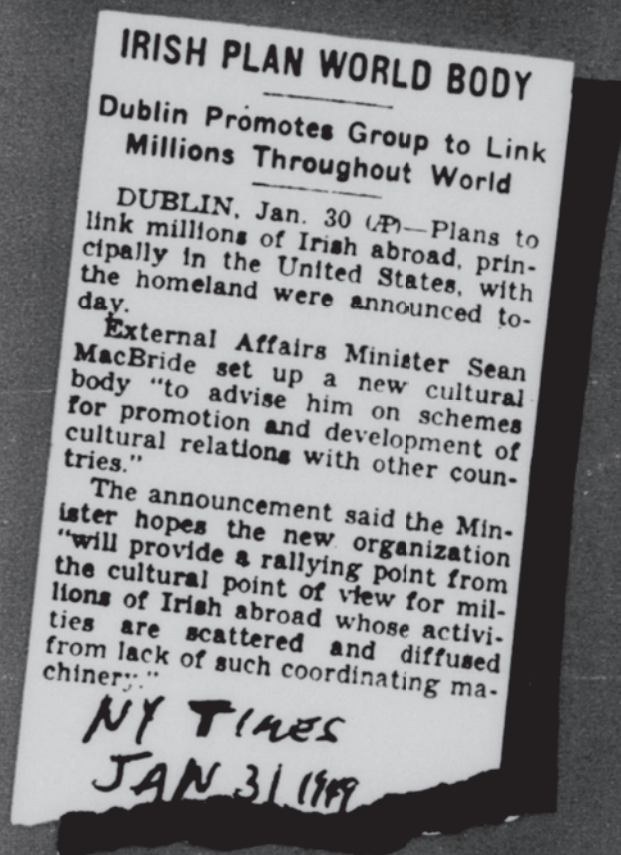
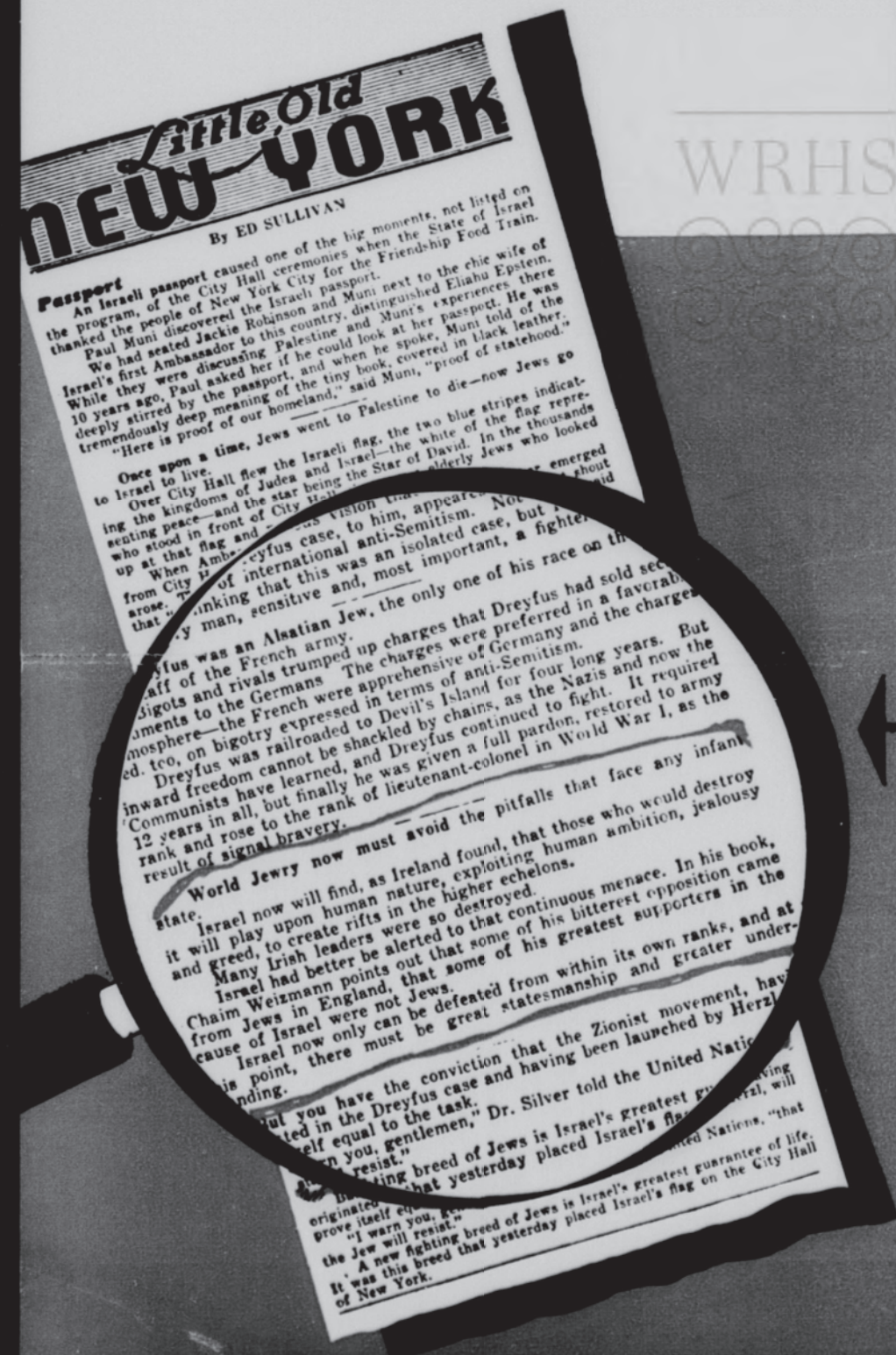


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