



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

Series II: Harold P. Manson File (Zionism Files), 1940-1949, undated.

Sub-series A: Main Manson File, 1940-1949.

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American Zionist Emergency Council, notes for meetings, Abba
Hillel Silver, 1943-1944.

ITEMS FOR AGENDA.

FOR MEETINGS OF THE EMERGENCY COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 3, 1944

I. GENERAL REPORTS

1. Community Contacts - Rabbi Irving Miller
2. Committee for Intellectual Mobilization - Marvin Lowenthal
3. American Palestine Committee and Christian Council for Palestine - Herman Shulman
4. Publications Committee - Louis Lipsky
5. Press Committee - Harold Manson
6. Personnel and Finance Committee - Harry L. Shapiro -
7. Committee on Labor Relations - Max Zaritsky
8. Committee on Economic Planning - Emanuel Neumann.
9. American Jewish Religious Forces - Wolf Gold

II. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. ~~Histadrut - Jewish Commonwealth - Mr. I. Mereminski~~ ✓
2. Vaad Bitachon - Arthur Lourie
3. ~~Washington Report - Leon I. Feuer~~ ✓
 - (a) Letter from War Relief Control Board to United Palestine Appeal
4. Resignation of Mr. Robert Szold as Treasurer
5. Jewish Military Unit (if Dr. Nachum Goldmann has returned and is present)
6. Revisionists
7. ~~Report of the Program Committee - Herman Shulman~~
8. Status of Political Bureau of Jewish Agency (if Committee brings in report)

Petition
Pol. Bureau

Decisions of Executive Committee

at Meeting held April 3, 1944

- X 1) A small committee to be appointed to take proper action with a view to having our program incorporated as part of the platforms of the Democratic and Republican parties. OK
- 2) Program Committee to bring in further recommendations in connection with the relation of our work to rescue work.
- X 3) A committee of three to be appointed to make a thorough study of the oil situation. O.K.
- 4) Proposal re publishing a bi-monthly magazine similar to "Foreign Affairs" was adopted and its implementation referred to the Publications Committee, which is to report back to the Executive. OK
- 5) Recommendation that a library of information be established in Washington referred to the Director in Washington, who is to bring in a detailed report to the next meeting.
- 6) Program Committee to continue to study the matter of the Petition and to bring in its recommendation not later than two weeks hence, to the Executive Committee. OK
- 7) That a book be prepared on "The U.S. Congress Speaks on Palestine."
(REFERRED TO PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE) OK
- X 8) The permanent committee appointed by the National Conference on Palestine, or a subcommittee of that committee to seek an appointment with the Secretary of State and present to him the resolution adopted at the National Conference on Palestine. That committee also to arrange, through the Secretary of State, an appointment with the British Ambassador and submit to him for transmission to the Prime Minister a copy of that resolution.]
- X 9) An official protest to be made to the Chief of the Information Service of the British Embassy against the activities of Freya Stark in this country and the Embassy to be requested to convey this protest to Brenden Bracken. OK

- 10) The question of the continuation of the work of Mr. Rucker's committee be discussed at another meeting, when a member of his committee can be present.

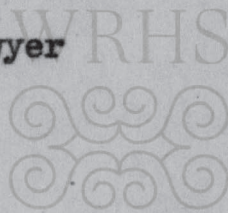
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6-15-44

THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS TO BE
CHECKED UP ON

- 1) Community Contact groups in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, etc.
- 2) Meeting of American Palestine Committee
- 3) Letter to be signed by British writers
- 4) Organization of Artists and Writers Committee
- 5) Signatures of lawyers to the legal document
- 6) Morning Journal
- 7) A complete set of minutes of Executive Meeting of June 5 for
my files
- 8) Give report of Senator Taft and letter of the Bergson group
- 9) Report on the Republican plank
- 10) Appoilt Committee on Democratic plank
- 11) Mr. Hughes as Lawyer



Nov. 11, 1943

DIGEST OF LETTERS FROM MEMBERS OF THE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE SENT IN REPLY TO A LETTER FROM ME ASKING THEM FOR AN EXPRESSION OF OPINION ON THE STATUS OF OUR POLITICAL WORK AT THE MOMENT AND WHAT IN THEIR JUDGMENT SHOULD BE DONE TO INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR WORK.

Answers received from the following:

Mrs. Rose Jacobs
Louis Segal
Arthur Lourie
I. K. Kenen
Rabbi Wolf Gold
Mrs. De Sola Pool
Rabbi Israel H. Levinthal
Judge Louis E. Levinthal
Rabbi Max Kirshblum
Meyer Weisgal
Henry Montor
Abram S. Magida

- 1) Our political situation at present not favorable.
(Rabbi Kirshblum, Jacobs)

Our political status has deteriorated and is now at its lowest ebb.
(Kenen)

- 2) Public opinion has not been built up in our favor because we have neglected education and were willing to resort merely to propaganda. (Jacobs)

They have been following up to now everything except real Zionism
(Kirshblum)

Opportunities for influencing public opinion still remain, but far from being utilized. (Segal, Rabbi Gold)

- 3) Conferences should be held with the leaders of the Republican and Democratic Parties for the purpose of enlightening them on the present situation in Europe, on Jewish achievements in Palestine, on the absorptive possibility of Palestine, and on the necessity of Palestine becoming a Jewish Commonwealth.

- 4) Delegation representing the American Federation of Labor and the C.I.O. should be received by the State Department to present ~~our~~ resolutions on Palestine .

- 5) Conferences with the leaders of the _____ and Labor Councils in the larger cities to persuade them to use their influence on State Legislatures and City Councils to adopt resolutions similar to those of the AFL AND CIO.

- 6) Church leaders should be mobilized. Conferences should be held with representatives of the Catholic Church and Protestant Church. They should be asked to issue statements. A joint delegation representing all churches should

be received by the State Department and by the President. (Gold)

7) A proper resolution should be introduced in the House and in the Senate calling for the endorsement of the Jewish Commonwealth, and the American Palestine Committee should be mobilized for that purpose. (Segal)

8) Our activities should be concentrated, not exclusively, of course, but primarily on that very small group of people, perhaps not more than half a dozen, including, of course, the President, one or two immediate advisers and the heads of the State Department in whose hands vital decisions rest. (Lourie)

I should suggest that we stop centering our attention on the easily accessible small fry and give our fullest concern to contacts with those who hold the power to decide and to act. (Kirshblum)

9) All out agitation in the press and on the platform by advertisements and on the radio may not be the most likely method of achieving the results we aimed at. It may produce resentment rather than support in the very quarters we seek to influence. (Lourie)

Our first line of attack must be through channels of diplomacy and negotiations backed up by the prospect of a vigorous public agitation in the event that our case is rejected. It is politic to try out the first approach before we launch a violent public onslaught on the White Paper which will inevitably lead to attacks on Great Britain. (Lourie)

10) The sooner that we drop the pretense that we expect a triumphant outcome from the state department and the colonial office, the better. The sooner that we inaugurate a political offensive against our enemies the more likely we are to strengthen our position. It is now apparent that we have little to lose and everything to gain by such an offensive. We should embark on a bold and forthright attack on our enemies. (Kenen)

11) That we expose Arab disloyalty to the United Nations. (Kenen)

12) That we speak directly and that we do much of the directing. Indirection is weakness and futility. (Kenen)

13) There is much more importance in winning the intellectual groups such as clergymen, teachers, professors and writers. We have concentrated too much on getting favorable opinions from political leaders. (Rabbi Levinthal)

14) More should be done to enlighten people on the Arab problem in relation to Palestine. (Jacobs, De Sela Pool, Rabbi Levinthal) -- and that Zionism is unfair to the Arabs. (Louis Levinthal)

15) The increased activities of the American Council for Judaism should be taken more seriously. Their influence among non-Jews may be harmful.

16) The accusations made by our enemies that our colonies have never become self-supporting must be met and answered by facts and figures. We should publish pamphlets on the future absorptive capacity of Palestine. (Judge Levinthal)

17) Every important American represented in Who's Who should receive our literature and leaders and individuals should be asked to assume responsibility to distribute literature among persons known to them. (Judge Levinthal)

18) Every ideologic group in Zionism can and must be utilized for political contacts in Washington. (Kirshblum)

