



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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Dickstein, Congressman Samuel, 1944.

RADIO REPORTS, INC.

MANUSCRIPT SERVICE

April 17, 1944

SPECIAL FOR AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

URGES PALESTINE AS A HOMELAND FOR ALL REFUGEES

The Honorable Samuel Dickstein, Congressman from New York,
at 11:30 P. M. over WOR and the Mutual Network:

Talking of the resolution which he has introduced into Congress to provide temporary haven in the United States for victims of oppression, the speaker said:

"To be sure, my friends, the ideal solution of the problems of the men, women and children who are slated for extermination would be their removal to Palestine. Palestine is ideally situated to receive these persons since it is accessible to them by land, does not require any shipping or transportation, and would be the place in which these victims would find a congenial home. I have not given up hope that some way will be found to open the doors of Palestine to the victims of Hitler's persecution.

"The British White Paper is not recognized by the people of the United States as being within the terms of the British mandate over Palestine, and there is no question in my mind that the so-called White Paper is a clear violation of our treaty with Great Britain, and I will leave no stone unturned to see that this White Paper is abrogated. Palestine should be opened not only as a home for the Jewish victims of Hitler's persecution but to all races and nationalities who can be invited to settle there within the limits of this country's absorptive capacity. I know that sooner or later the great powers will see the wisdom of this step and will themselves propose Palestine as a solution of the problem of persecuted minorities.

"Only recently a Zionist economist and a member of our own Department of Agriculture, Doctor Lowdermilk (?) wrote a very convincing book in which he pointed out the miracle of achievements of Palestine. He showed how this land has been converted into blooming gardens, how empty spaces, which had been neglected for hundreds of years, have become thriving and fruitful.

"So I do believe that since this miracle was accomplished in face of tremendous odds against it these prospective refugees can make Palestine even more fertile and even more suitable for a homeland for the dispossessed. But I am afraid that if we waste too much time in trying to convince people who do not wish to be convinced how wonderful a solution Palestine would be, we shall lose valuable time in affecting the rescue of those who may otherwise not be rescued in time."

The speaker then goes on to urge again the use of the United States as a temporary haven for the refugees.

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April 25, 1944

Hon. Samuel Dickstein
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Dickstein:

On behalf of the American Zionist Emergency Council, may I express our appreciation for your excellent broadcast on Palestine which was carried over the Mutual network on April 17th.

We are grateful to you for your efforts to bring about the abrogation of the White Paper.

Your references to Dr. Lowdermilk's conclusions were most helpful in providing a complete picture of Jewish development in Palestine. However, allow me to point out that your reference to Dr. Lowdermilk as "a Zionist economist" tends to give his findings a partisan quality, which I am sure was not intended. As you undoubtedly know, Dr. Lowdermilk is a nonJew and his investigations in Palestine were conducted quite independent of the Zionist movement.

Sincerely yours,

Harold P. Manson
Director of Information

HPM:BP

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4/26/44