



## 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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Miscellaneous, 1946.

[1946]

Misc.

Memorandum

To: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

From: Emanuel Neumann

I am enclosing memorandum from Dr. Lelyveld together with some clippings attached, bearing on the activities of Rev. R. E. Evans. I really don't know what to make of the matter. He seems to be a splendid propagandist but his personal habits are open to grave criticism. He drinks too much, borrows money which he does not repay, etc..

The Inner Committee therefore decided to terminate his services. On the other hand Dr. Lelyveld thinks very highly of his work and so do many other Zionists.





Memorandum

*Letter to Dr. Silver*

COMMITTEE ON UNITY FOR PALESTINE

SUITE 600

From: RABBI ARTHUR J. LELYVELD

41 East 42nd Street • MU 2-3205 • New York 17

To: Dr. Emanuel Neumann  
521 Fifth Avenue  
Subject: New York, New York

Date: January 25, 1946

I feel that I should pass on to you these letters of commendation that have come in in recent weeks concerning the work which the Rev. Richard Evans did in the tour which he has just completed of the Southeast Region.

From every side I have heard words of high praise for the effectiveness of his addresses and for the unusual energy which he displays in Zionist service in each community.

I am also attaching a collection of clippings which give some indication of the kind of press coverage Evans secures each time he hits a community.

AJL:rl

WRHS



*ASL*

P.S. I might add that in two communities, during his tour, audiences responded with unsolicited contributions to Zionist work. These contributions have been turned over to the Expansion Fund. His address to the Emanuel Episcopal Church led one member of the Congregation to write her personal check for \$50.00 to the Committee on Unity for Palestine.



# Rev. R. E. Evans Rotary Speaker

Rotarians are anticipating an interesting message at their noon-day luncheon Wednesday when the Rev. Richard E. Evans will be the speaker, it was announced yesterday by Program Chm. Gus Lawton. For the past 10 years Dr. Evans, formerly a Presbyterian minister in Milwaukee, has waged



**REV. EVANS**  
... here Wednesday

a nation-wide crusade against the forces of bigotry and intolerance.

He first gained national prominence when the German-American Bund was at its height in Milwaukee and when he crusaded against the bund in its efforts to prevent formation of a Jewish war veterans post in the city. He was one of the first to make a militant anti-Nazi speech in Yorkville in 1940. Since then, he has championed the JWV cause in many places, including Florida. He founded the Congress on Democracy and inspired the chair of Democracy at Florida Southern college.

Recently, Dr. Evans became a member of the executive committee of the Christian Council on Palestine, a group of 1600 clergymen. In his present-day addresses, he seeks to establish the Zionist movement as an American expression of the desire to see the Jewish people redeem themselves in the program of world redemption.



## PREACHER STICKS NECK OUT

# Dr. Evans Crusading to Open Palestine to Jews

By MARGARET SHANNON

The Rev. Richard E. Evans is a crusader, not a lecturer. He is a man who sticks his neck out in places where the display of the cervical member is not exactly healthy—such as the home bailiwick of the notorious American Nazi Joe McWilliams.

He is a Presbyterian preacher, a fast-talking man who pops his hand on his knee to emphasize a point.

His cause is to open Palestine to the homeless, helpless Jewish refugees of Europe, and his crusade is to arouse the Christian conscience of America to its responsibility in the cause.

"If this was a war for moral justice, then there will be no victory unless it is shared by the people who suffered the worst cruelties and savageries of the conflict," the whip-tongued campaigner declared in Atlanta Tuesday.

Now a member of the national executive committee of the Christian Council on Palestine, with headquarters in New York, Dr. Evans is on a constant tour of the United States. His immediate objective at present is to get Congress to stop the loan to Great Britain until the Labor Government keeps its pre-election promise to repudiate the White Paper of 1939 and open Palestine to Jewish immigration.

### "Immigration Not Illegal"

"There is no such thing as illegal immigration into Palestine," he asserted. "The thing that bars the Jews is illegal."

About uprisings in the Holy Land, Dr. Evans declared: "The men who are fighting the Arabs are fighting for life and liberty. They are not terrorists. They have every right to do what they are doing. We ought to support them to the hilt."

The Arab common people have



THE REV. RICHARD E. EVANS  
Sticks His Neck Out

never objected to Jewish immigration, but their "Fascist overlords" have, the minister contended.

The 1,500,000 homeless Jews in Europe are being "sold down a river of oil," he said. "American oil is one of the most evil elements in the picture."

### Outstanding Citizen

The former Milwaukee preacher was cited as the Wisconsin city's outstanding citizen one year because of his relentless crusading against German-American Bund activities. Milwaukee has a heavy German population.

"I've fought bigotry and intolerance, and I've condemned the Bilbos and the Rankins, wherever I found them," Dr. Evans said. "As a Christian minister, I hate this thing called anti-Semitism and have fought it as I would anti-Christianity itself. It is anti-American, anti-human and anti-religious."

He said the Southeast, under the leadership of the Zionist Organization, which has regional headquarters in Atlanta, was keeping apace other sections—and even leading some—in support of the Palestine cause.



## Rev. Evans Schedules Six Addresses Here



When Americans speak of the inter-faith movement and the fight against intolerance in this country, one of the first names that comes to mind is that of the Rev. Richard E. Evans, the fighting clergyman who left the confines of his pulpit to wage a coast-to-coast war against the insidious forces of bigotry and intolerance.

The Rev. Dr. Evans founded the Congress on Democracy and inspired the Chair of Democracy at Florida Southern College. Milwaukee proclaimed him its outstanding citizen, awarding him the Distinguished Service Medal. The YMCA Young Men's Club elected him to honorary life membership—the first in its history—in recognition of his service for the young men of the city. Then came the 150th Anniversary Observance of the Bill of Rights, and Dr. Evans was invited to preside over the national broadcasts commemorating this event. More than that, he served as national director of this historic occasion.

The hearts and minds of thousands in communities all over the nation have been aroused to a heightened consciousness by the man and his message—in part by the eloquence of his addresses and the breadth of his interests, in part by his courageous indictment of society's ills and his practical concern for the oppressed and down-trodden people of the earth.

Within recent months Dr. Evans became a member of the Executive Committee of the Christian Council on Palestine, and joins with such men as Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, Prof. S. Ralph Harlow, Dr. Daniel A. Poling, Prof. Reinhold Niebuhr, and Pierre van Paassen, in formulating the policies of that significant group of 1600 Christian clergy.

The schedule of addresses by the Rev. Evans:

Friday, 12 noon, Lions Club luncheon; Friday, 8:15 p. m., Temple Beth El; Saturday, 9 p. m., Mayflower Hotel; Saturday, 11 a. m., White Christian Temple; Sunday, 4:30 p. m., radio address WJNO; Sunday, 7:30 p. m., Congregational Church, Lake Worth.



# Zionist Crusader Calls for Support For Jewish State

"There will be no victory for justice and freedom unless that victory is shared by those who have suffered the worst cruelties and the most savage brutalities of this war."

A Presbyterian preacher with an evangelical zeal, visiting Atlanta for four days on a nationwide crusade to help Europe's homeless and destitute Jews in their efforts to return to Palestine, voiced in an interview last night, his hopes that Christians of every denomination would meet the challenge and realize that theirs is the duty of aiding these people.

The Rev. Richard E. Evans, Presbyterian minister and a member of the National Executive Committee of the Christian Council on Palestine who landed in Atlanta by plane Saturday afternoon from Nashville, Tenn., is the fighting clergyman who left the confines of his pulpit to wage a coast-to-coast war against the forces of intolerance.

## **FOUGHT BUND**

It was in 1936, when the German-American Bund was rampant in Milwaukee, that the Rev. Mr. Evans, for 10 years a Presbyterian minister in that city, first came into national prominence. At that time, the Bund was trying to prevent the formation of a Jewish War Veterans' post in Milwaukee. Rallying public opinion, Rev. Evans defeated their efforts and by the summer of 1940 he was tackling the Bundists in their lair—Yorkville, N. Y.

He was one of the first men to make a militant anti-Nazi speech in that neighborhood. This invasion of the stronghold in New York marked the beginning of the end for the Bund organization.

Through his friend, William B. Ziff, noted military strategist and author of the best seller of eight years ago, "The Rape of Palestine," Rev. Evans came into contact with the Zionist movement, and for the past two years has spoken in 250 cities throughout the United States and has crossed the continent 20 times in his crusade for Jewish migration into Palestine.

## **UNIVERSAL PROBLEM**

"This is not just a Jewish problem," he said, "it is a problem for every decent, freedom loving American and their allies. This war was fought in Christian countries and that is where so many innumerable Jewish people were killed and tortured."

"The continued migration of the Jews to Palestine is now America's business," he said, "and all British interference with the movement is illegal, unjust and brutal."

Following several addresses in Atlanta to churches, on the radio and to Jewish War Veterans, the Rev. Mr. Evans will leave by plane Tuesday for Florida to continue his coast-to-coast crusade. He will then return to Georgia for other lectures.

# Evans Asks World Justice For Jews

## Urges Palestine For Settlement

Calling for a brotherhood of man that must also include Jews, Rev. Richard Evans, Presbyterian minister, made an all-out plea before the Orlando Rotary club here yesterday that Palestine be restored to the Hebrews. He told the Rotarians the war would not be over until the "No. 1 sufferers" in that conflict find justice.

Rev. Mr. Evans is no stranger to Orlando, having resided in Florida during the late 30's and having spoken in Orlando on several occasions.

"Dick" as he likes to be called by his friends, first took up the fight against intolerance when the German Bund was at its height in this country and was attempting to plant anti-Semitism in the United States.

In his talk yesterday, Rev. Mr. Evans castigated the British politicians for breaking their country's pledged word to open Palestine to Jewish settlement, and said he would base the loan, which the British are hopeful that congress will approve, upon Britain's pledge to make good its promise made after World War I to establish the Holy Land as a Jewish settlement.

The speaker asked why the Arabs, who have inspired Britain's anti-Jewish action, and who are fighting the immigration of Jews into Palestine so bitterly, permitted that land to go to waste when they controlled it, and only now when the Jews have brought its barren lands back into productive fields and orchards, pretend to cherish it. He said that the Arabs, who failed to fire a shot against the tyrannical powers seeking to control the world, had a seat at San Francisco to fight Jewish settlement of what was once the Jewish home land.

Asking for justice for the Jews, Rev. Mr. Evans said 7,000,000 of them were slaughtered in the greatest planned massacre of all history, "not in the dark ages, not in the wilds by uncivilized savages, but in the 20th century, by a nation that had long professed Christianity and called itself cultured."

The speaker said the Book which all Christians cherish, was born and cradled in Palestine, and from it Christians received the foundation for the religion they practice. He called upon all creeds and people to unite in a brotherhood of man, and charged that the world would not know a lasting peace until persecutions of all peoples for their religious beliefs ceased.

The speaker was introduced by Program Chm. Gus Lawton. Pres. James Whitman held the gavel.



# U. S. Is Involved In Jewish Trek, Clergyman Says

Dr. Richard E. Evans, called the "fighting clergyman" of the Zionist movement, declared here yesterday that the continued migration of the Jews to Palestine "is now America's business."

Speaking to the local American-Palestine Committee headed by Jacques Back, Dr. Evans denounced the Chamberlain White Paper of 1939 and all British interference with the movement as "illegal, unjust and brutal."

"If the labor government of Britain turns its back now upon the Jews, then comes before congress for loan, America should turn them down until their pledge to the Jews is fulfilled," the speaker said.

Fascist Arab overlords, not the Arab common people, are objecting to the migration, Dr. Evans asserted, adding that millions of square miles already belong to the Arabs, while only 10,000 square miles, the area of Palestine, is wanted.

"The Jews cannot go back to the lands they've come from where they would face continued persecution," said Dr. Evans, describing Palestine as the only hope for numbers of the race. "With the war six months over, 150 to 200 are dying in concentration camps every day," he added.

A Presbyterian minister (and Gentile) who came into national prominence with his fight against the German-American Bund in Milwaukee in 1936, Dr. Evans is now a member of the executive committee of the National Council for Palestine, New York City.



C O P Y

CENTRAL FLORIDA DISTRICT  
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Secretary  
SIDNEY C. GLUCKMAN  
200 Park Lake Avenue

January 12, 1946

Dear Al,

Dick Evans has left town but his spirit is still here. It is impossible to describe his effect on the people in Orlando.

He was widely acclaimed by both Jew and Gentile and I am sure he has made many new members for Zionist Organization of the World. His enthusiasm and sincerity is very contagious.

While here he spoke at four different Gentile gatherings and one parlor meeting at the Rabbi's house. And all I can say is he is outstanding. Mere words cannot describe a human dynamo.

Al, I hope we can have more speakers like him in the future.

In addition to his speaking dates I was able to get an article published in four different local papers. If you want copies I will be glad to send them to you.

As ever,

s/ Sid

C O P Y



C O P Y

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ATHENS, GEORGIA

DAVID CADY WRIGHT, JR.  
RECTOR

January 17, 1946

Rabbi S. E. Saperstein  
Temple of the Children of Israel  
Athens, Georgia

Dear Rabbi:

Miss Otey Vincent of Emmanuel Church gives fifty dollars (\$50.00) to the Christian Council for Palestine. So please handle the enclosed check either with our local committee or direct with New York

Thank you for bringing Mr. Evans to Athens. We were delighted to have him as our guest at a Church supper last night.

Faithfully and cordially yours,

David  
David Cady Wright, Jr.

enc.

C O P Y



COPY

CONGREGATION CHILDREN OF ISRAEL  
ATHENS, GEORGIA

January 17, 1946

Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld  
c/o Stevens Hotel  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Rabbi Lelyveld:

Reverend Richard Evans who came to Athens after 36 hours of continuous travel has not only arrived; he has spoken and conquered!

Beginning with an address on Tuesday night, before members of the Congregation Children of Israel, he has spoken a number of times here with such fiery and compelling eloquence that his visit cannot but help in the cause of succouring the thousands who look to Palestine as their last hope.

Yesterday afternoon at a luncheon meeting with the outstanding ministers of the city, attended also by Dr. Harmon W. Caldwell, president of the University of Georgia, Dean William Tate and Dean Evelyn Sellers, he made such a compelling impression upon the group that a spontaneous motion was made at the conclusion of his talk to organize a local committee of the Christian Council for Palestine in Athens.

In the evening, at 5:45 an address over the local radio station, WGAU reached many listeners and evoked many favorable comments. And to top off this incredible day of magnificent activity, Rev. Evans was a speaker at the annual dinner of the Episcopalian Church where the response was high and gratifying. A testimony to that response is contained in the enclosed letter and contribution from a member of that church who was deeply moved by his address.

Rev. Evans, in his passionate conviction and untiring zeal gave us a glimpse of that crusading and missionary ardour which is at the center of all consecrated causes. He has won the appreciation and gratitude of this community.

Sincerely yours,

Sanford E. Saperstein



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CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL

Herbert S. Waller, Rabbi

Columbus, Ga.

Jan. 18th, 1946.

Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld  
Belle Rive Hotel  
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Arthur:

As you know, the Rev. Richard Evans has been in Columbus during the past two days. During his stay he has spoken to a ZOA meeting, over the radio, at Temple services and has a number of church engagements scheduled for Sunday.

He has had very fine newspaper publicity, both in the form of interviews and news coverage.

He made a most favorable impression on the members of the Temple in his message from the pulpit last night. I think and feel that his visit to Columbus has been of invaluable service to the understanding of the cause, both in the Jewish community and in the larger community.

I want to tell you how grateful we are that it was possible for Dr. Evans to come to Columbus. I am addressing you in Kansas City, since I am told that you will be there on Monday.

Hoping the family is well and with kindest regards from Sylvia, David and myself, I remain

Sincerely,

Herbert

HSW:r



COPY

CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
Seventh Street & First Ave.  
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

January 20, 1946

Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld  
Kansas City, Mo.

My Dear Rabbi Lelyveld:

Since you do not know me personally, I find it necessary to write about myself what would under ordinary circumstances smack with conceit and vain glory. I was instrumental in organizing the local Zionist District, which counts now about 100 members. Your coming to Columbus, as well as that of Rev. Richard Evans was a result of my efforts designed to capture the anti-Zionists of Temple B'nai Israel and convert them to our Jewish national movement. Our mutual friend Rabbi Herbert S. Waller was helpful, although not enthusiastic.

As a result of your pioneering work with this Temple group and the excellent follow up of Rev. Evans, the ice of indifference, if not actual antagonism was definitely broken. Both of you have succeeded in making a profound impression upon them. Rev. Evans having the advantage of broken ground, worked laoriously. He spoke to our Zionist District las Thursday night, on the radio Friday afternoon, to the Temple on Friday-night, to a selected group in Rabbi Waller's home on the same evening following the services on the radio again on Saturday night, and again the same evening at the home of our local outstanding Jewish citizen Mr. Simon Schwab. Rev. Evans worked very hard, and very enthusiastically. He was, therefore, exceedingly successful. Now, I believe most, if not all, the members of the Temple are prepared to join the Zionist Organization.

I wish therefore to request of you first to write a very warm letter of thanks to our mutual friend Rabbi Waller. Thank him for his splendid cooperation extended Rev. Evans and ask him not to fail taking full advantage of the spade work which both you and Rev. Evans have so successfully wrought in the Temple, but to employ his best efforts and devotion to our national cause immediately, before the profound impressions Rev. Evans has made upon his members are given a chance to fade. Secondly, tell our national leaders of the wonderful work of Rev. Evans has done for our cause. He is able to convert the greatest opponents of Zionism to champion our cause. He did just this here in Columbus. He is therefore indispensable to our common cause.

Wishing you success in your whole enterprise, I am

With Zion's greetings,

Elijah D. Stampfer



MISC.

January 22, 1946

Mr. Emanuel Neumann  
521 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Emanuel:

Please follow through the suggestion  
made last evening about inviting Mr. Rokach of Tel Aviv.

Also get in touch with Mr. Ress and have him settle  
the Hechalutz account.

I assume that the two cables which were to be  
sent to Jerusalem with reference to Mr. Tulin, and to London  
with reference to Transjordan, have been dispatched.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



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*Director*

April 2, 1946

AHS  
4/2/46  
*[Signature]*

*Misc*

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
Zionist Organization of America  
41 East 42 Street  
New York

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I send you enclosed a copy of an article entitled  
"Palestine Notes" by Constantine Poulos, which  
will appear in the April 6 issue of The Nation.

Should you wish to have reprints, it would be  
appreciated if we could know in the next 48 hours.

With kind regards,

Cordially yours,

*Lillie Shultz*  
Lillie Shultz  
Director

