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Zionist Organization of America, 1949.



Fifty Second
annual
Convention

1919

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



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Report

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



52nd Annual Convention



MAY 27-30, 1949

New York City

Harold P. Thuermer



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

National Headquarters

41 East 42nd Street

New York 17, N. Y.

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ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

1948 - 1949

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Executive Director

LIVING A ZIONIST life resembles a reading of great history. The sheer majesty and grandeur of these historic days has filled every Zionist with a deep sense of humility. Zionists are privileged to be part of that revolution which created the Jewish State on May 14, 1948, and one year later, on May 11, 1949, witnessed the admission of Israel as the fifty-ninth member of the United Nations.

It was an eventful year. The period in which these achievements occurred almost coincided with the period between conventions of the Zionist Organization of America. It was inevitable that the continuing struggle for total Jewish emancipation should enter a period of heart-searching reevaluation which has not yet ended. That process affects the World Zionist movement as a whole, and the Zionist Organization of America in particular, as the foremost and most dynamic Zionist body in the world.

During this year Dr. Emanuel Neumann and his administration successfully carried forward those courageous policies which he and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver initiated. Jewish history will record that the Zionist Organization of America, spearheading American Jewish efforts, played a crucial role in aiding the embattled Israelis and helping them to achieve independence.

The sessions of the World Zionist Actions Committee in Israel last fall found Zion-

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ism confronted with the realities which inevitably resulted from the fulfillment of Zionism's immediate objectives. Having achieved that part of the Basle program calling for the creation of the Jewish National Homeland, the World Zionist Organization sought to define its future relationship with the new state. The Zionist Organization of America prevailed, in resolute stand, for a complete organic separation between the new state and the World Organization. At the same time the maintenance of interest in the future welfare of Israel and its people was reaffirmed and the work intensified.

This has also been a year of transitional thinking on the part of the organization and Jewish communal life as a whole. The American Jewish community experienced a great surge of emotional exaltation with the establishment of the state. There was no immediate realization of the great economic and social tasks which the historic event had created in its wake. The other objectives of the Basle program have since been clarified in importance, however, and are now being understood by American Jewry.

Dr. Neumann appointed a Commission to Study the Structure and Program of the World Zionist Organization, more commonly known as the Rifkind Committee, under the Chairmanship of Judge Simon H. Rifkind and Co-Chairmanship of Rabbi Philip Bernstein. This committee of Zionist thinkers, representing every viewpoint in Zionism, has been meeting steadily for months, and their deliberations on the future of the Zionist movement will be the subject of a report which will be presented to this convention for discussion and adoption.

In every field of activity, membership, education, fund-raising and public relations, our work has intensified. The changing times brought the need for new emphasis and our patterns have demonstrated their flexibility and adaptability. We have continued to play the outstanding role in safeguarding Israel's political and territorial integrity. There is at least another decade of effort in this direction. The success of this effort depends to a large extent upon maintaining an alerted and organized American Jewish public opinion. As the major constituent instrumentality in the American Zionist Council, we must continue to enlist public support and mobilize all constructive forces in this country for Israel.

The hundreds of thousands of Jews who are entering Israel must continue to be our concern. The building of an economically self-sustaining community will require enormous efforts and sacrifices.

Food, jobs, trade, commerce and industry, housing, clothing—the basis of decent standards of living—already occupy our attention. Millions of pounds of food have already been shipped to Israel through our “Food for Israel” campaign which helped alleviate the initial strain on Israel’s economy. Economic activity was greatly stimulated through the establishment by leading General Zionist individuals of the Israel Corporation of America, under the Presidency of Albert Schiff, and the encouragement of public and private investment in Israel was emphasized.

Z. O. A. officers and membership have already provided the great bulk of personnel and investors in every public investment corporation for Israel. An economic department was at once established which is now providing authoritative economic information for hundreds of inquirers monthly through personal interviews, economic research, seminars for manufacturers and industrialists on “how to do business with Israel”, financial and economic bulletins, and other forms of stimulation.

Also on the American scene, despite differences of opinion with respect to jurisdiction over internal administration of American fund-raising for Israel, Dr. Silver, Dr. Neumann, their associates and the entire membership of the Zionist Organization of America have continued to assume major roles of leadership and contribution in the fields of fund-raising for Israel. The United Jewish Appeal, as always, has taken priority in our efforts and we have likewise devoted energy and support to the Jewish National Fund, the American Zionist Fund and all constructive activity in the support and direction of vital Jewish communal efforts.

* * * * *

This convention meets in the midst of change. Policies must be adopted which will enable us to be of the greatest service to Jewry everywhere, in Israel, the United States and wherever our people has found roots. These policies will be reflected in a renewal of the unique enthusiasms and the heartwarming, selfless devotion of Zionists to their tasks and responsibilities.

A greater Zionist movement is required. A weak organization would simply play into the hands of those forces which want American Zionism liquidated. Our effectiveness in recent years has been due to the fact that our great force of numbers was an integrated unit, able

to mobilize united strength, which we knew how to exploit. This great strength in numbers must continue to grow. The tasks ahead for the economic redemption of Israel's people and the stimulation of a throbbing American Jewish consciousness, building the cultural bridge between Israel and American Jewry, organizing the Jewish community, will require a great army of militant, consecrated Jews. Zionists must therefore understand that the creation of the new state was only the beginning of their Zionist obligations.

We have already provided the new pattern for Zionist life. Our expanded education work, our superb public relations activity, every project sponsored by the American Zionist Fund, are already blazing new trails. Israeli colonies are being adopted by Zionist regions. Direct participation through reception centers, research institutes in Israel for trade and commerce, social and industrial hygiene, schools, study tours and other devices for service are already beyond the planning stages. Our educational work in the fields of Hebrew, general community service, radio broadcasting of "Report from Israel", specialized publications on Israel's economic life, functional and historical Zionism, audio-visual techniques, show the dynamics of our work. Institutes on "Education for Jewish Living" are projected for the American Jewish community. These are exciting adventures for the Zionist in the present and the tomorrow.

Youth, chalutzit, youth camps, are all facets of the same challenge. The patterns of the past are in the process of being revised. A greater sense of participation, of belonging, must be keynoted. In this fruitful well is to be found the answer to tomorrow's Jewish survival. We must build youth strongly, both in spirit and in pride. The concept of the Jewish people, basic to our faith, is being attacked. The answer is to be found in the revitalization of our Jewish structures, youth and adult. A positive, dynamic program will be gratefully received by an impatient American Jewry.

With this revolutionary approach, we can continue to provide unstinting aid and cooperation to American and world Jewish communities, organizations and institutions who make great demands upon us for cultural and economic assistance.

* * * * *

This brief comment on the annual report bears some small elaboration. The daring and scope of our work are products of the zealous

efforts of the hundreds of thousands who constitute our membership, but it is also more than that. Dr. Emanuel Neumann, our President, his colleagues on the National Executive Committee and Administrative Council, the national chairmen and the regional and district officers were devoted and solicitous stewards of the welfare of our organizational structure. The exacting care and fidelity with which they administered the work of the organization have been highlights of this administration. The Inner Committee, faithful and devoted to the daily tasks of the organization, consisted of Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Chairman; Daniel Frisch, Vice-Chairman; and Benjamin G. Browdy, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Abraham Goodman, Joseph W. Greenleaf, Rabbi Irving Miller, Milton Pollack, Charles Ress, Mendell Selig, Dewey D. Stone, Mark Sugarman, William H. Sylk, Jacques Torczyner and Herman L. Weisman.

Dr. Israel Goldstein is this year on leave to act as Treasurer of the Jewish Agency in Israel, another example of our undivided efforts for the new state.

I want to note particularly the outstanding work of several national committee men. Milton Pollack, Chairman of the National Finance Committee, Joseph Goldberg, Chairman of the National Membership Committee, William H. Sylk, Chairman of "Food for Israel", Herman L. Weisman, now succeeded by Leon Kohn, as Chairman of the American Zionist Youth Commission, Mendell Selig, Chairman of American Zionist Fund, Mortimer May, Chairman of the Economic Commission, Louis Schwefel and later Rabbi Joseph Sternstein, Chairmen of the General Zionist Chalutzit Commission, are devoted servants of our movement.

Appreciation should be extended to my associates on the staff, the men and women whose teamwork and cooperation have kept the wheels of the organization turning smoothly: Rabbi Jerome Unger, Ernest E. Barbarash, Carl Alpert, Manuel Posy, Herschel Auerbach, Henry Stern, Bernard Endelman, Seymour Liebman, Joseph Vogel and the other staff members, executive and clerical both in the National Office and throughout the country. In his supplementary report, Rabbi Unger pays eloquent and deserved tribute to these fine servants of the Zionist movement.

We record the gratitude of the organization to Jacques Torczyner, Convention Chairman, to Michael Egnal, his co-chairman, and to the Convention Committee for their fine work in the preparation

of this great conclave. We must take note, too, of the fine fraternal cooperation of the various Zionist agencies.

This is the Convention of Challenge. These words are not an empty phrase. We are at the crossroads in Jewish life. American Jewry must study the history of recent years and consider whether its accomplishments and achievements are a beginning or an end. Zionism, because of its revolutionary character, is confronted by no such dilemma, and the Zionist Organization of America has its course clearly charted. Our primary interest is in Jewish survival. Israel, American Jewry, world Jewry, will bring increasing responsibilities to us. We will create that plan—that scope—that vision for the future of Jewry—which will bring full realization to the prophetic teachings of Dr. Theodore Herzl for all Jews everywhere.

SIDNEY MARKS

Executive Director



Regional and Staff Administration

MEETING JUST a few days after the admission of Israel into the United Nations and following the first anniversary of its establishment as a State, the members of the Zionist Organization of America and the delegates to this 52nd Annual Convention are rightfully filled with a sense of exaltation. This has been a year of great accomplishment for Israel—military, administrative and diplomatic. The Zionist Organization of America has been a bulwark of strength for Israel in the Western world. In the pages of this Annual Report are the testimony to the unexampled enthusiasm, loyalty and devotion to our task of its vast membership.

It is my privilege to join the many who will bear witness to the peerless quality of guidance and direction that our leaders have given to the organization and movement. I want, however, in this brief explanatory statement to deal only with the organization from the point of view of its administration and smoothly running operation. It is no small task to keep so large and complex an organization moving toward its objectives with dispatch and efficiency, especially when each day brings its new crop of crises. We have flourished and progressed not only because of the tireless supervision of our leadership but also because of the equally devoted and loyally dedicated men and women on the staff, in both executive and clerical capacities, who serve the organization and our people.

We operate as a team of fellow workers at all times. In the hands of Dr. Sidney Marks and myself are concentrated direction, control, and responsibility. But these are shared by a splendid body of men and women which no organization or business enterprise can match.

The vast problem of Public Relations including all phases of publicity as well as the editing of the New Palestine, Inside Israel and Spot News are in the capable hands of Ernest E. Barbarash who brings to his task not only experience but sagacity and penetrative insight. It is no wonder that every member of the staff inevitably turns to him as to a mentor.

Fund raising and the various projects which are inescapably allied to it have the keen direction of Manuel Posy, tireless and ingenious in devising ways and means to provide the wherewithal for our enterprise. Herschel Auerbach brings to the Membership Department a spirit and exuberance of high value and equal resourcefulness in stimulating campaigns and drives to attain the maximum of our potential membership.

The duties of Carl Alpert, as Director of Education, include not only programming, production of pamphlets, books and other publications, but the Speakers' Bureau and the whole complex system of ideas and projects designed to inform and educate our people. His office demands dynamic qualities which he supplies with a cool level-headedness vital to our operations.

Henry Stern is not only Auditor and Comptroller, but faithful watchman of every expenditure. His priceless service sustains the financial structure of our organization and makes for efficiency.

Our new department of Economic Projects, under the capable direction of Seymour B. Liebman, has begun to explore the field and devise the means whereby Americans may aid and encourage the economic stability of Israel. It has already to its credit a network of contacts, the promotion of valuable seminars, and the publication of the Economic Newsletter which fills a void and performs valuable service to American Jews and to Israel.

Bernard Endelman as Executive Assistant to the President, has been a liaison between Dr. Emanuel Neumann and the whole staff. In addition, he has contributed immeasurably in the matter of pamphlet production as well as handled the difficult task of our Radio broadcast program, "Report From Israel" which has met with such phenomenal success everywhere. Joseph Vogel, a competent and efficient administrator, directs the mechanics of day-to-day operations in such matters as personnel and technical supervision.

Assisting these department heads is a corps of Junior Executives whom I can mention only by name but whose services, day by day, week after week, have been of inestimable value. To these men and women not only their respective supervisors but the entire organization is indebted: Edna Bloom, Judith Daniel, Gertrude Goldblatt, Julia Kirtz, Jules Lates, Rose Levinson, Helen Liebowitz, Esther

Lopatin, Jennie Michaels, Cora Miller, Sarah Stein, Aaron Taub, Arthur Taub, Eugene Sattler, Bernice Solomon.

The relationship of our staff to the organization goes beyond that of employee and employer. The staff members are a corps of Zionists whose professional activities spring from the depths of their being. Throughout the country we have stationed Regional Directors and assistants whose personalities and efforts have not only made a contribution to the movement but have been imprinted indelibly on the personality of the movement itself as it moves forward in its achievements. There is not room enough in these pages and paragraphs to evaluate the individual services of our Regions and their Directors. Suffice to say that in the hands of these men has been entrusted a high responsibility which they have met with characteristic accomplishment. I speak here of Carl Altman, Max Cohen, Adalbert Freedman, Irving Garbarsky, Saul Gottlieb, Herman Imber, Julius M. Israel, Nathaniel Kaplan, Franz Katz, Ezekiel Leiken, Sol Lewis, Leonard Lifton, Jess Nathan, Earl Peltin, Dr. Walter Platz, I. G. Simon, Louis Stein, Uriah Tchack and Morris Walkenfeld.

To these I add the names of other men and women who, while not technically employed on the national staff of Regional Directors, have brought similar talents and devotion to their tasks as Directors in autonomous Regions and Districts and with whom all of us feel a deep sense of comradeship—Rose Bender, Dr. William Furie, Daniel Harrison, David Hirsch, H. H. Kimmel, Philip Katz, Charles L. Levin, Rabbi Meyer Passow and Maurice Solomon.

I have left to the end mention of the clerical workers not because their duties and contributions are less significant, but because I wish at this point to lend emphasis to them and their achievements. These too are not just hired labor. The secretaries, stenographers, typists, clerks and machine operators are the very sinews of our organization upon whom all of us, executive members and leaders alike, lean very heavily and without whose understanding and effort our organization could not operate at all. They have earned the gratitude of all our people for their service.

Our organization is going through a period of transition. We must be filled not only with a spirit of exaltation but with a deep sense of consecration to the work ahead of us. It is because of the enthusiasm, loyalty and devotion to the unfinished task that all of us

look ahead to this Year of Challenge, confident that we shall meet its responsibilities and fulfill its obligations.

If Israel is to endure as a stable nation we American Zionists must bend every effort in its aid and encouragement. Only by unrelenting concentration upon the building of our organization through membership, through support of the American Zionist Fund and through the furtherance of its many projects can we hope to achieve success. I know that our membership will continue to be in the vanguard of workers and builders. On behalf of the staff, I pledge its equally devoted service in the year and years ahead.

RABBI JEROME UNGER
Associate Executive Director

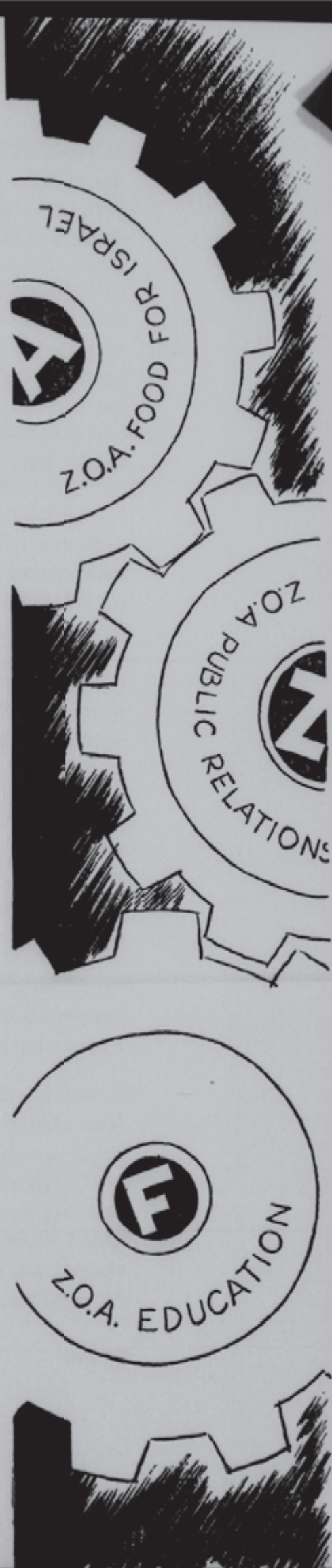


American Zionist Fund

THE ANNUAL financial statement issued simultaneously with this Convention report indicates that considerable progress has been made by the A.Z.F., although it was beset with many difficulties. The awareness of membership to the necessity of implementing the program of the national organization through its fiscal agency, the American Zionist Fund, is a tribute to the calibre of our districts and regions throughout the country. Now in its fifth year of operation, the American Zionist Fund has held its own as one of the largest independent established Jewish fund-raising and campaign organizations in the United States.

The true significance of the A.Z.F. can be understood only when the total picture of gross collections is taken into consideration. By prior arrangements the Districts, Regions and Zionist Chests retain a percentage of the collections to implement the national program on the local level. These gross collections, as reported to the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, indicate that we are the fourth largest Jewish fund-raising organization operating independently of the national funds.

Also significant is the fact that on the whole we have maintained our status in those communities that included the A.Z.F. in their community budgets. Some Welfare Funds have even included the A.Z.F. in their 1949 allocations without solicitation. The necessity,



however, of having national collections revert entirely to the U. J. A., has in many cases held up the payment of allocations until later this year. The premise is accepted that the program of the ZOA is significant to the entirety of the community.

It has long been recognized that the ZOA, through its constituent districts and through its medium of publicity and public relations, has given unconditional support to community campaigns. Our members and leadership invariably are included in the leadership of community drives. The inspiration received through membership and adherence to our cause has made possible the overwhelming success of most campaigns on behalf of Israel.

With the inception of the A.Z.F. a considerable part of the campaign efforts of the organization were devoted exclusively to the mobilization of active assistance to the communities in their efforts on behalf of their community fund campaigns and the U.J.A. specifically.

The campaign committee created by the A. Z. F. and the techniques and devices used by the A. Z. F. were also made available to communities. The A. Z. F. has never failed to meet any request made of it in the interests of the U. J. A.

Statistically it has been proved that when the A. Z. F. is included in a welfare fund the amount of additional contributions received from our membership, over and above the regular contributions of these members, has always been far in excess of the actual amount allocated to the A. Z. F.

This therefore has benefited the U. J. A. to a large extent and has proven our contention that the inclusion of the A. Z. F. into the community budget is to the best interest of all concerned.

Since the inception of this fiscal year even more services have been added to the services of the A. Z. F. to the community. Every single pamphlet, leaflet, and service of our Education Department and our Speakers' Bureau, has been made available to the welfare funds and they are in regular receipt of material published by the Z.O.A. Our Economic Department, a project of the A. Z. F., has included the welfare funds on its mailing list. All these services are received by them without charge.

The fund raising procedure employed in New England was very successful and the New England Zionist Chest is being emulated by more and more communities, and A.Z.F. income is thereby secured by the operations of these Zionist Chests. In the large communities, where by prior arrangements with the U.J.A. certain times in the year are set aside for A.Z.F. Campaigns, outstanding results have been achieved this year.

The Metropolitan Zionist Fund, fiscal agency of the A.Z.F. in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Westchester, led by Paul Kaminaky, its President, has conducted a successful joint effort in conjunction with the "Food for Israel" Campaign; the Bronx Zionist Region led by David Moskowitz has surpassed its last year's collections; the Long Island Zionist Region led by Ben Friedman has conducted an emergency effort in conjunction with the "Food for Israel" Campaign; the Zionist Organization of Chicago, operating on the basis of the Chest equaled its last year's collections, inspired by the efforts of its President, Mr. Milton Silverstein; Philadelphia still leads the country despite difficult odds, under the capable leadership of its President, Michael Egnal. Campaigns have been concluded throughout the Pacific, Southwest and are currently in operation in the Southeast. Campaigns are still in progress throughout New Jersey, Michigan, Ohio Valley and the Seaboard Region.

The American Zionist Fund made a significant contribution this year by administering the highly successful and nationally acclaimed "Food for Israel" Campaign. Its staff and its office doubled its duties in order to insure the smooth functioning of this effort.

Architects of these developments were Mendell M. Selig, National Chairman of the American Zionist Fund, Dewey D. Stone, National Honorary Chairman and Fred Monosson, I. J. Caplan and Willy Nordwind, National Co-Chairmen, among many others.

Assisting in their capacities as National Vice-Chairmen of the American Zionist Fund, all of them meriting the highest commendation were: Samuel Frankel, Bronx, J. Leon Friedman, Bronx, Charles Wolf, New York, David Spiegel, Brooklyn, Jacob Wolk, Pittsburgh, Archibald Silverman, Providence, Morris J. Rabinovitz, Boston, Mrs. Hannah Kirschner, Nashville, Louis Berry, Detroit, Abe Kasle, Detroit, Alex Himmelman, Milwaukee, Cyrus Levinthal, Los Angeles, Morris Friedman, Los Angeles, Abe Banchek, Pittsburgh, Philip Lerner,

San Francisco, William H. Sylk, Phila., Charles H. Liebman, Phila., Abe J. Miller, Indianapolis, Sam Rivkin, Hartford, Albert Goldman, Rochester, Jacob Rabinowitz, Boston, Herman Keisler, Seattle, Abraham Meltzer, Spring Valley, I. H. Medalia, Charlotte, Benjamin Berger, Minneapolis, Ellis Goodman, Camden, Sydney Shanfield, Mahanoy City, Philip Hornbein Jr., Denver, Isidore Turover, Washington, D. C.

The excellent American Zionist Fund literature and campaign bulletins were made possible under the expert advice and direction of Ernest E. Barbarash, Director of ZOA Public Relations. The American Zionist Fund is also indebted to the entire field staff of the ZOA, without whose efforts our campaign would not have been possible.

The annual report of the organization contains accounts of the numerous projects and departments financed by the American Zionist Fund. Tribute must be paid to the excellence of these projects and departments, their lay leadership and their personnel, whose efficiency and diligence have made so worthy the cause of the American Zionist Fund.



MANUEL POSY
Director

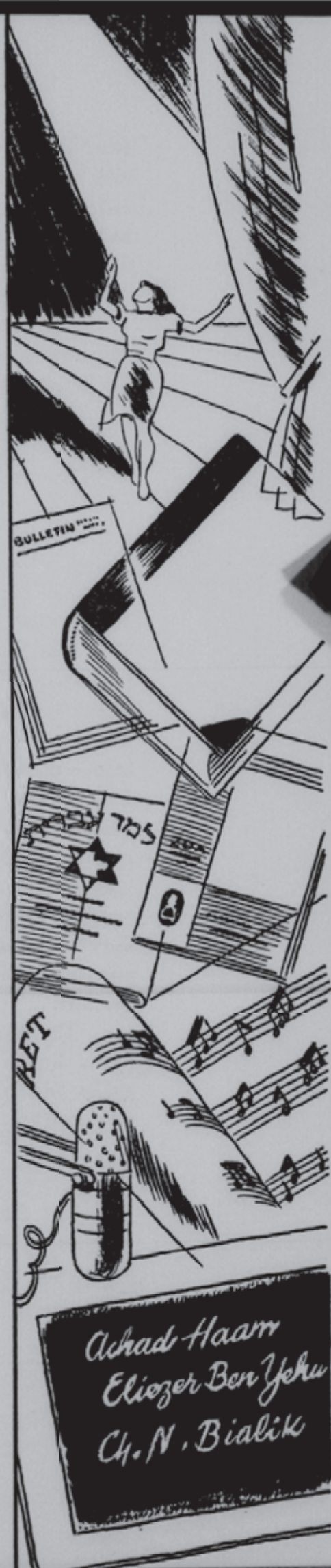
Education Department

MORE THAN any other field of ZOA operations, the National Education Department experienced the full impact of the creation of the State of Israel. Yet the Department was ideologically prepared for the revolution in American Zionist life, largely as the result of the Conference on "Reorienting Zionist Education," held in the preceding year, as the first serious attempt in America to study and to influence the trends resulting from events in Israel.

The basic philosophy of the Z.O.A. Education Department during the past year has grown out of that Conference and out of the studies and experiences which have followed. To be sure this philosophy is still emerging and cannot be readily defined during this period of change in all of Jewish life. Yet the programs and policies of the year, both as planned and as viewed in retrospect, fit into an unmistakable pattern—a pattern drawing inspiration from the realities of Israel and motivated to create a Jewish way of life in America which would be rich, meaningful and attractive.

This has been a phase of Zionist operations in which, for the first time, there have been no precedents, and the tasks and responsibilities imposed this year proved onerous. Full and understanding cooperation was extended on almost every hand, and as a result we can look back upon a year which, measured by

Nineteen



every standard, has been one of the most successful in the long history of Zionist education in America. New trails have been blazed, and a direction has been pointed in which the Z. O. A. must continue to travel if it is to fill its new role on the American scene. The record of what has been achieved this year may well prove a helpful signpost in planning the program for the next.

For convenience as well as clarity this report is divided into numerous sub-divisions, constituting in full the year's activities of the Education Department.

Classes and Courses

For the first time this year an organized campaign was undertaken to encourage the holding of District courses in a number of subjects, and a survey completed several months ago revealed encouraging results. More than 100 Zionist Districts have reported that they conduct periodic and sustained classes in Hebrew, Jewish history, Bible, Literature, religion and customs and other topics.

The National Education Department has prepared special syllabus material to aid in these classes, has in many instances furnished lecturers and has in every way possible sought to encourage the extension of the study habit among Zionist members. It had been said that Z. O. A. members were not interested in intensive Jewish education, but the facts have shown that in almost every District there is a nucleus of men who avidly participate in this kind of program when it is offered under competent leadership.

Serious and sustained study, even though undertaken by a minority of the membership, can be responsible for the elevation of Zionist cultural standards for the entire membership, and these courses can have an ultimate influence far out of proportion to their numbers.

The success experienced this year should invite the Department, during the coming season, to add to the syllabi and study guides, and to expand this activity to the extent where the Z. O. A. may establish a well defined School of Adult Jewish Education.

Special Publications

The Education Department has published, either in its own name or jointly with commercial publishers, five new books during the present year. Several of these appear on the eve of this convention.

"The Zionist Idea," by Joseph Heller, is a serious and penetrating study of the philosophy and ideology of the Zionist movement, and fills a long-felt gap in Zionist literature.

"Israel: A History of the Jewish People", by Rufus Lears, is a new one-volume history, written from the fresh perspective of Jewish Statehood.

"Theodor Herzl", by Deborah Pessin, is the biography of the founder of Zionism written in dramatic and stirring style for young people.

"Palestine Year Book", Vol. IV, edited by Sophie Udin, continues to maintain its high standard as the foremost basic reference work on the Middle East.

"Vision and Victory", by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, is an anthology of the historic papers and addresses, delivered in recent years, which helped influence the course of history during those years.

In addition to these new publications, books previously published by the Z. O. A. continue to enjoy a widespread sale. Chief among these is "Hebrew Self-Taught", which has been accepted as the leading text for adults, and has already gone through three editions, and "The Zionist Movement", by Israel Cohen.

Speakers' Bureau

As the number of individual lecture bookings made during this year continued to increase over previous seasons, the Speakers' Bureau sought to encourage the utilization of speakers offering vital information or significant educational content. Interest continued high in political discussion and in first-hand accounts of events in Israel, but many parts of the country reported a demand for speakers dealing with basic Jewish values.

This vital service of the Education Department has been extended to a large number of groups outside of the Z. O. A., and synagogues, Jewish Community Centers and other bodies have learned that they can obtain alive and intellectually stimulating programs from this bureau. It is expected that even greater effort will be made next year to make Z. O. A. speakers available to all elements in the Jewish community.

One of the interesting developments of the year was the promotion of serious discussions on contemporary problems of Israel

and a large number of special institutes, addressed by qualified Israeli speakers, was recorded by the Bureau.

Chief among the active officers and members of the Z. O. A. who placed their talents freely at the disposal of the Bureau were Rev. Martin Adolf, Charles Auerbach, Rabbi Leon Feuer, Daniel Frisch, Paul Gaiser, Joseph Goldberg, William Kapelman, Rabbi I. Usher Kirshblum, Edmund Koblenz, Leon A. Kohn, Abraham Redelheim, Dr. Morton J. Robbins, Dr. David Tannenbaum and Jacques Torczyner. Among the 300 or more speakers who have appeared on Z. O. A. platforms this year, these have been the volunteers most frequently called upon.

Pamphlets

The highly popular Z. O. A. Pamphlet Series now numbers twelve titles, and enjoys a widespread circulation. Unlike throw-away literature, a small charge is made for these pamphlets on the well-proven theory that such cost enhances the value of the leaflet to the recipient. First editions of these pamphlets are printed in quantities of ten thousand, and several of them have already gone through three or more printings.

Recent titles include: 8. The Jewish Problem—How to Solve It, by Louis D. Brandeis; 9. The Government of Israel—A Democracy in Action; 10. Leaders in Israel, Edited by Sarah Kisch Stein; 11. The Birth of Jewish Statesmanship, by Emanuel Neumann; 12. America's Role in Israel's Independence.

Other pamphlets published this year include Bnei Brith Moledeh, a study of the Moshav Shitufi in Israel; Source Book on Zionism and Israel, by Elihu Katz; texts of the Israeli Declaration of Independence in both Hebrew and English, text of the proposed Israeli constitution, and a tourist guide, "So You're Going to Israel."

All these have been added to the previously existing supply of pamphlet literature, the sum total of which constitutes a comprehensive library of information and education on Israel and the Zionist movement.

Playwriting Competition

The urgent need for good dramatic material relevant to our times led the Education Department this year to launch its \$1,000 prize contest to encourage the creation of one-act plays to deal with

"the problem of developing a full and meaningful Jewish life in the United States or elsewhere." Though closing date is not until October 4, 1949, numerous inquiries and early entries indicate an excellent response.

National judges of the contest are Eddie Cantor, Norman Corwin and Moss Hart, and they will be assisted by an educators' advisory committee composed of Dr. Israel S. Chipkin, Rabbi Armond Cohen, Dr. Azriel Eisenberg, Miss Hannah Goldberg, Dr. Robert Gordis, Dr. Louis L. Kaplan, Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld and Rabbi David Polish.

Artists' Bureau

While the Z. O. A. has long been guilty of neglecting the arts as media of education, a giant step forward was made this year with the establishment of a special Artists' Bureau. In its first year of existence it has met with encouraging success, and has made available to Jewish groups throughout the country, on a non-profit basis, the talents and artistry of Israeli vocalists, instrumentalists, dancers and others. Many received their first introduction to American audiences through the Z. O. A.

It is our belief that through this medium some of the richness and color and cultural appeal of the Jewish State can be brought to the consciousness, understanding and appreciation of the American Jew.

To this end the Artists' and Speakers' Bureau this year united in the production of a special monthly bulletin, "Notes," which has carried the news and reports of available talent into every community in the land.

Book Bureau

The primary purpose of this education department service is to encourage the acquisition and the reading of good Jewish literature. Not all popular best-sellers are necessarily "good" books, but the Bureau has sought to inculcate reading habits and to promote the building of home libraries. To this end all Districts were urged to participate in the national observance of Jewish Book Month.

The Bureau serves its major function in providing for the needs of Jewish families away from the metropolitan centers. Outside of New York there are few Jewish bookstores, and we have sought, suc-

cessfully, to build a mail-order service which would facilitate the purchase of books. The extent of these efforts can be estimated from the fact that at the present rate the Book Bureau will have done a gross business of over \$40,000 by the end of the current fiscal year.

An important adjunct of the book sales is the promotion of art objects such as pictures, plaques, book-ends, etc., designed to add beauty and dignity, with Jewish motif, to the Jewish home.

The Bureau operates on a completely self-supporting but non-profit basis.

One unusual phase of its activities deserves brief note. We have set up a standard, comprehensive Zionist book-shelf and have promoted the idea of presenting such complete shelves to universities, public libraries and other local institutions. Scores of communities have adopted this project, and it is hoped that many others will follow suit.

Filmstrips

The production by the Education Department of a set of twelve filmstrips on Israel has been hailed on every hand as a major contribution to Jewish education in America. Dealing with such topics as The People of Israel, Holy Places, Cities Old and New, Industries of Israel, A Culture Reborn and Planning for Peace, these filmstrips have provided visual material on the Jewish State in a medium which modern, progressive education recognizes as being of great value.

The filmstrips, which are accompanied by full narrative script, have been used both by Zionist districts and other groups at intimate parlor meetings, where they are utilized for intensive discussion purposes, and by Jewish schools, where the teachers have found them invaluable for instruction of young people.

Use of such filmstrips is still comparatively limited, and many groups, unfamiliar with them, have hesitated to try them. It is planned to issue special guides, for leaders and teachers, to facilitate proper use of this film material.

Programming

This phase of educational activity deals with the month to month planning of District meetings, and the effort to provide local District program chairmen with helpful and interesting material.

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Except for major events it is difficult to anticipate the needs or circumstances of individual communities, or to know what special talents or abilities are available for the purpose of program planning. Accordingly, this has been one of the less successful aspects of our work.

The manuals issued by the national office have been helpful to a large number of districts, though not to all, and much study and planning is required here. The Department published a basic Program Chairman's manual at the beginning of the year, which was supplemented during the season by guides and source books dealing with Jewish Book Month, Jewish National Fund, Chanukah, Purim, Passover and Jewish State Day. The latter, the first manual of its kind published this year, proved to be the most popular, and numerous organizations outside of the Z. O. A. requested copies for their use.

Fellowships

In previous years the Z.O.A. has awarded a limited number of fellowships, on a national basis, for a year of study in Israel. This year, in an effort to increase the number of such awards, and to provide opportunities for young people in communities away from New York, the Education Department decentralized the awards. Individual Districts were asked to conduct their own local competitions and to finance their own winning candidates. The project was carried on with the cooperation of the American Zionist Fund.

As a pioneer effort the plan ran into some difficulties. Despite these, the number of scholarship winners this year exceeds the total of all scholarships awarded by the Z.O.A. for the past four years combined.

It is hoped that operation of this plan can be further refined, and that ultimately every major Zionist District will consider it part of its responsibility to local youth to subsidize one or more such fellowships to Israel.

The scholarship project has again this year enjoyed the devoted and diligent leadership of Rabbi Armand Cohen, of Cleveland, under whose direction it has become one of the Z.O.A.'s major educational activities.

Miscellaneous

Other activities and projects of the Education Department which do not fall within the scope of items presented above may be summarized as follows:

The Department has this year sought to extend its association with other educational agencies, Zionist and non-Zionist, and has found these relationships most valuable. Particularly pregnant with significance is the degree of cooperation between the Z.O.A. and the American Association for Jewish Education in a field in which the two can be mutually helpful.

Of similar nature has been the cooperation offered by this Department to the Histadruth Ivrit and to the Brit Ivrit Olamit in the promotion of the Hebrew cultural activities carried on by these organizations.

Additional numbers of the newest Israeli sheet music were published here and the Z.O.A. Shirei Tzion series has earned its place in the listing of Israeli musical literature.

The Department has continued to serve as a reference center and source of information, and many thousands of college students, Hebrew school children, public school teachers and others in search of information on Zionism or Israel have utilized the available facilities.

The Director is grateful to the Program and Education Chairmen of districts throughout the country who have, indeed, carried the brunt of the educational activity in American Zionism. Whatever success we have enjoyed has been due to their thoughtful and intelligent planning, their warm Jewish consciousness—and where warranted, their helpful and constructive criticism.

Members of the national staff of the Department have been towers of strength and support. Sarah Kisch Stein, Judith Daniel, Edna Bloom, Esther Lopatin and Ralene Levy, in one or another of their capacities often come into contact with an appreciative public. And to the otherwise anonymous personnel, Beatrice Gersoff, Vera Greif, Gloria Halpern, Abbie Brener Katz and Ruth Weiss, there must go this expression of deep appreciation for faithful and able service.

CARL ALPERT
Director

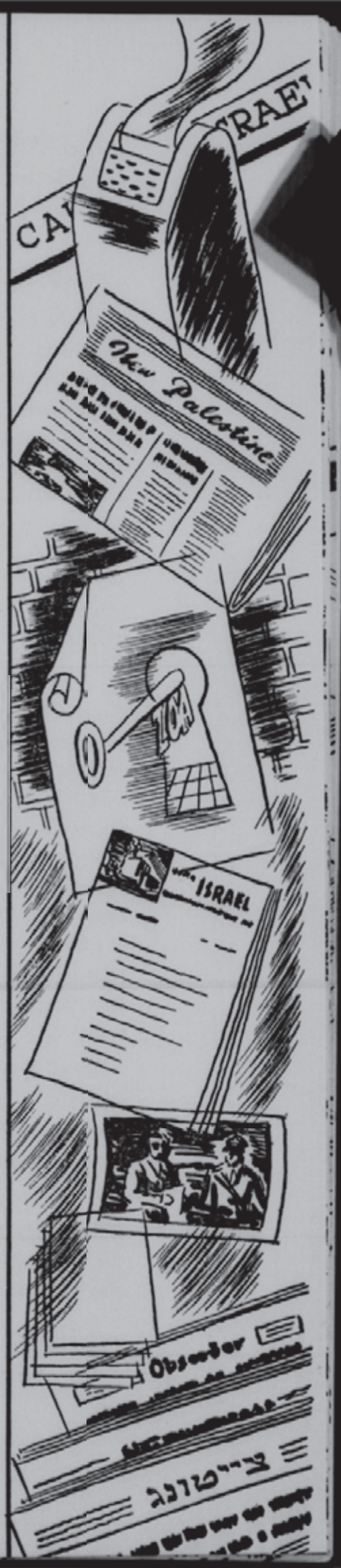
Public Relations

IN THE eleven month period since the last convention, the facilities of the ZOA Public Relations Department were taxed to a maximum degree in keeping the American public informed of the new tasks and responsibilities which the creation of the Jewish State has imposed upon American Zionists. Through the media of the press, special bulletins and publications and other vehicles of public information, this Department endeavored to keep the public fully abreast of developments in the infant State, the impact of Jewish statehood upon the future of American Jewry and the imperative need for continuing in ever greater measure, economic and moral support to the Jewish State to safeguard the fruits of its labors and sacrifices.

Particular stress in the sphere of public relations was laid upon the warnings of the American Zionist leadership lest the sense of elation over the establishment of the Jewish State lull American Zionists into a sense of complacency that the honeymoon period would last forever.

In the past year wide publicity was given to the continued role which the ZOA, as the largest Zionist Organization in the world, must play on the American scene in serving as a survivalist instrument of the Jewish people, charged with the mobilization of all constructive forces in American Jewry for the economic development of Israel, for the rallying of its nationwide constituency on behalf of the UJA, for alerting American public opinion in behalf of the cause of freedom of

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the Jewish State, and for the building of an indestructible cultural bridge between Israel and America.

Press Coverage

1) On the basis of the clipping file maintained in this Department the number of ZOA items which appeared during the past eleven months in the general, Anglo-Jewish and Yiddish press, exceeds that of any preceding year. High tribute is due to the press of this country for the generous space allotted to the Zionist scene. Thus *The New York Times* and *The New York Herald-Tribune* and other great dailies of this country have in the past year recognized the role which the ZOA plays through commensurate coverage given to its activities and the pronouncements of its leaders. High praise is particularly due to the splendid cooperation of the Yiddish dailies, the *Jewish Morning Journal* and *The Day*, and last but not least, to the splendid and objective manner in which the bulk of the Anglo-Jewish press treated ZOA items.

2) Major events which were relayed on the wires of the Associated Press, United Press and International News Service included coverage of all meetings of the ZOA National Administrative Council and the National Executive, the inauguration of the ZOA radio broadcast, "Report from Israel", the emergency gathering held in January at the Waldorf Astoria, New York, to review the political situation confronting Israel, the testimonial dinner tendered by the ZOA to Major Aubrey Eban, the ZOA "Food for Israel" campaign, the activities of the ZOA membership, education and economic departments, the Extraordinary National ZOA Conference to discuss the internal situation, the formation of the ZOA "Friendship Food Train", the launching of the ZOA "Book of Remembrance" and other major events.

3) The publication of feature stories and articles of ZOA projects and activities in the Yiddish and Anglo-Jewish press as well as furnishing of general source and background material on Israel and Zionism to newspaper writers and organizations.

4) The publication of such special bulletins as ZOA Spot News and "Inside Israel", containing factual information on all phases of the economic and cultural development of Israel. These bulletins are also furnished to district and regional presidents, cultural chairmen,

ZOA speakers' lists, libraries, institutions, research workers and many organizations and individuals by special request.

A recent addition to these bulletins is the Economic Newsletter published jointly with the Economic Department of the ZOA.

5) This Department continues to maintain cordial relations with members of the editorial staffs of the general, Yiddish and Anglo-Jewish press.

6) The activities of this Department also include the editing and supervision of posters, publicity leaflets, illustrated literature and other promotional items in furtherance of the work of the major departments of the ZOA.

7) In the past year, our photo and mat service has been enlarged due to the increased demands for Israeli photographs by newspapers, editors of ZOA district bulletins, organizations and individuals. This expansion in our photo service has been made possible thanks to the cooperation of the Photo Service Department of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in Jerusalem.

The New Palestine

In the past year, your editor has made every effort to continue improving the content and format of *The New Palestine*. During his visit to Israel last December he arranged for additional exclusive features embracing every major aspect of life in the New State. The recent issues of *The New Palestine* reflect these improvements, with each successive issue devoting more space to photos and news and interpretations of events in Israel. The contents of *The New Palestine* are being reproduced widely by newspapers in this country and abroad. Its effectiveness as an organ of policy and information is attested to by the fact that requests for *The New Palestine* reach us from many distant countries; our subscribers include a cross-section of educational institutions as well as leaders in Christian life.

Recognizing the merit of according due recognition to the manifold activities of Zionist districts and regions and the multitude of ZOA workers who are giving of their time and energy in the promotion of membership, American Zionist Fund and cultural activities of the ZOA, *The New Palestine* has been allotting two or three pages

of each issue to district and regional projects. The publication of these pages are at the expense of other features and articles dealing with Israel and the American Jewish scene which cannot be included due to the limited number of pages at the disposal of our publication. I would earnestly recommend to the incoming administration to initiate the publication of a special newsletter printed in tabloid format and attractive style, exclusively devoted to the activities of our districts and regions. This publication instead of being mailed to the entire membership, would be sent to a limited list of leaders and key workers throughout the country. Thus, such a newsletter would reach a circulation of about 5,000. This would relieve *The New Palestine* of the burden of carrying purely organizational items and enhance its value as an organ of information and interpretation of events on the Zionist and general Jewish scene.

I would suggest a change in the name of *The New Palestine* to "The American Zionist" which would reflect the reoriented program of the ZOA in the light of the establishment of the Jewish State.

Hearty thanks are due to the Assistant to the Editor of *The New Palestine*, Eugene Sattler; Bernice Solomon, Business Manager; Cora Miller, assistant in the Public Relations Department; Asher Wolk, Yiddish publicity; Rosalie Kroll, part-time editorial secretary and Phyllis Marcus, Secretary. They have been of valuable help to me in carrying out all the functions of both these departments.

ERNEST E. BARBARASH
Director

Membership

BY THE time the current fiscal year began on October 1, 1948, Israel no longer made newspaper headlines—an indication that general interest was turning to other matters. Anticipating this, the ZOA mobilized its forces early in the year, in fact before the year began. Our first general billing to members went out in September. Membership efforts began in September rather than waiting for the usual Rosh Hashanah date.

Joseph Goldberg, the dynamic spark-plug of our national effort, mobilized the National Vice-Chairman in each area, and through them the regional and district membership chairmen and the hundreds of loyal membership campaigners, who voluntarily undertook to rally continued support of the American Jewish community for our organization and its great cause.

The September billing was immediately followed by the organization of Rosh Hashanah and synagogue campaigns. Charles Auerbach, Dr. F. M. Falkman, Adolph Fram, Louis Falk, Phil Lassar, Robert Persky, Leo Pevsner, Dr. David Reiss, Sam Segal, Dr. Arthur I. Shain, Albert Silverman, Charles Wolf, all Vice-Chairmen of the National Membership Committee, conferred with their membership chairmen and workers for carrying through these campaigns most successfully. Rabbis in hundreds of synagogues were contacted and tens of thousands of special cards were distributed on synagogue seats in connection with the sermons appealing for ZOA membership.

Our president, Dr. Emanuel Neumann,

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proclaimed November as "Zion Month" calling attention to Balfour Day and November 29th, the first anniversary of the United Nations partition resolution. He asked all Jews to affiliate and render all aid and assistance for the upbuilding of the Land of Zion. Membership breakfasts were the major means of implementation of Dr. Neumann's call. Our regional staffs visited the communities within their areas and organized these breakfasts. Sunday mornings in November found Zionists breakfasting in Community Centers, synagogues, restaurants and hotels and then proceeding in a door to door drive for membership. The American Jewish community was personally told the what, why and wherefore of continued Zionist membership.

Particular attention was given to the Metropolitan New York area which has the greatest concentration of Jewish population. A special committee under the chairmanship of Phil Lassar, Brooklyn, and Murray Langbaum, Long Island, was set up with the assistance of Murray Ehrlich, Bronx, Rabbi Jacob Polish, Manhattan, Thomas K. Saltzman, Westchester and Harold Silvey, Brooklyn. Plans were worked out for a coordinated campaign in the five regions. The Westchester Region took the lead in membership results for the country, and has remained in that position to this day.

However, with the coming of winter, it was felt that returns were not great enough, and Joseph Goldberg who has traveled nearly 100,000 miles this year, visiting community after community, led the members of the National Membership Committee and of the national staff in key visits to each major district in the country.

Our most dramatic effort was launched in conjunction with the Book of Remembrance. The ZOA will present this book, containing the signatures of every member of our organization, to the people of Israel. The book is dedicated to the theme "If I forget thee, o Jerusalem", and every signature signifies a deep concern as to the future of Israel and the future of Jerusalem.

Tens of thousands of Jews have already signed. The Governors of most of our states have become honorary members of the organization and signed the book. The Mayors of hundreds of cities have also recorded their signatures. Official state and city proclamations have been issued proclaiming Remembrance Week throughout the country and calling attention to the vital importance of continued active interest in Israel and membership in the ZOA.

The Book of Remembrance is still on display throughout the country. Synagogues, Community Centers and other appropriate places, all have displayed the Book of Remembrance and have invited and are inviting their constituents and the Jews of the community to sign the book and to join the ZOA. The original book, hand-tooled, leather covered, several feet thick and containing signatures of hundreds of thousands of American Jews affiliated with our organization, will be presented to the people of Israel with appropriate ceremonies.

What has already been achieved in the first 7½ months of the current fiscal year, stands as a tribute to the hundreds of devoted membership chairmen, membership campaigners and officers of the districts and regions of our organization.

Life Membership

Life Membership in the ZOA represents complete and full understanding of the work of our organization and therefore can be secured only through personal contact and explanation. Mr. Willy Nordwind, National Life Membership Chairman, has done enormous work in this regard. In the past two thirds of the current fiscal year we have secured hundreds of new Life Members, most of them through Willy Nordwind's individual attention and application.

Personal letters were sent to all Life Members asking each one to secure at least one additional Life Member. A personal correspondence has been carried on with individuals in every corner of the country.

The tens of thousands of dollars which were received in payment for these Life Memberships, were immediately put to work for the welfare and the future of Israel. The signatures of our Life Members are being entered in a special Life Membership section of the Book of Remembrance and will be preserved in Israel. The lifelong devotion and dedication of this group will never be forgotten.

Great tasks still remain in the further spreading of an understanding of enrollment for life as a symbol of unswerving devotion to our movement and our cause. We shall forge ahead in significant increase, as our work progresses in the remaining months of our current year.

HERSCHEL AUERBACH
Director

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Dos Yiddishe Folk

THIS MONTHLY MAGAZINE, the official Yiddish organ of the Zionist Organization of America, now in its 34th year of publication, is sent to 9,000 Yiddish reading homes. An additional 500 copies are mailed to various Zionist groups in Israel and the Latin American countries. The recent influx of immigrants from Eastern European countries who have joined the ranks of the ZOA throughout the United States has increased the circulation this year by 1,000 readers.

Dos Yiddishe Folk is primarily dedicated to articles of ideological and political content, dealing with all phases of Zionism in Israel and the United States and featuring regularly monthly reviews of important events and developments in Zionist life.

Our contributors represent a number of distinguished writers and publicists: Dr. Ignatz Schwartzbart, Arnold K. Israeli, Dr. A. M. Schulwas, Dr. Zvi Rudy, and a number of other men of letters prominent in Jewish literature.

This paper is welcomed by many groups in Israel and particularly abroad where a great many articles are reprinted or translated for the local press. The paper is especially welcomed in almost every country in Latin America where the articles are largely reprinted in the various Yiddish magazines or are translated into Spanish and disseminated throughout the Jewish communities there. In compliance with urgent requests of a great many Zionist groups in Latin America, the publication is being sent to them by airmail because they want to keep their people abreast of current American Zionist views.

DR. S. BERNSTEIN
Editor

Economic Commission

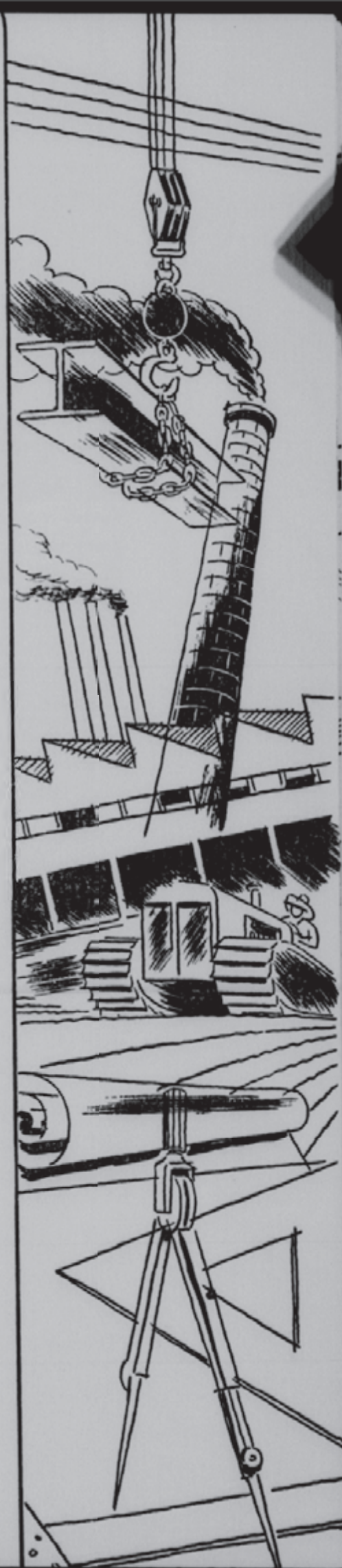
THE ESTABLISHMENT of the State of Israel has created new spheres of interest and activity for the ZOA and its membership. No longer is the focus of interest merely on the raising of contributions, or the achievement of independent political status for the Yishuv.

During the past 20 years Israel's economy and industry were being steadily developed, but this activity, being devoid of glamour, failed to receive the full attention of American Jewry. The establishment of a factory, the opening of new enterprises, the creation of the industrial life in Israel proceeded without fanfare. The reclamation of the land, the bringing to Palestine of immigrants, or "repatriates" as they have been termed by Dr. Neumann, evoked emotional responses far greater than could the prosaic enlargement and growth of a middle class economy. Not many knew, or are there many who know now, that private capital constitutes over 80% of all capital investments in Israel, the balance being represented by public ownership coming from public funds and co-operative ownership.

As part of the re-orientation of the ZOA program since the last convention, the Economic Commission was created with Mortimer May, Nashville, Chairman; Jacob Alkow, Los Angeles, Co-Chairman; and Albert Schiff, New York City, Vice-Chairman.

The work of the Commission has fallen into two general fields. The first is concerned

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with the dissemination of information concerning the industrial development of Israel, through pamphlets, bulletins, the "Economic News-letter; and the answering of correspondence and personal interviews. Information concerning Israel, covers every phase of life from how to secure a passport, visa, means of transportation, purchase of gifts, housing and hotel accommodations in Israel, businesses that are to be opened or the possibility of securing jobs in Israel, to how to be generally useful.

The Economic Commission is the sole distributor in America of the Anglo-Palestine Year Book, 1947-48, which is the outstanding single volume economic digest of Israel.

An Economic Institute for Israel has been created, which conducted a series of three seminars at Town Hall, New York City with prominent authorities and economists from Israel and America participating. Milton Blecher, foreign business consultant, presided brilliantly at these sessions.

Included in this service, rendered without charge by the ZOA, is the stimulation of American Jewry in making capital investments in Israel. Speakers are supplied who explain why American investments in corporations such as the Israel Corporation of America are of importance, side by side with the philanthropic aid channelled to Israel through the United Jewish Appeal.

Of course, capital investments must not affect the individual's contribution to the U.J.A., and in connection therewith the point is made that capital investments bear a potential return by way of dividends, and are not outright gifts or donations. The Israel Corporation of America was formed by prominent Zionists, among them Albert Schiff, who is serving as President, Abraham Goodman, Chairman of the Board, Mortimer May, Vice-President, and Benjamin G. Browdy, Treasurer. Other directors are equally prominent and have made substantial investments.

The establishment of the new State has created this entirely new field of interest and activities for the ZOA membership, which will certainly expand and grow in the months and years ahead.

SEYMOUR B. LIEBMAN
Director

Food For Israel

IT WAS LAST SUMMER that the Supply Mission of the Government of Israel and the Assistant Administrator of Defense, Mr. Joseph Jacobson, requested that the ZOA embark upon a "Food for Israel" Project, in order to meet the interim requirements of Israel.

Under the leadership of Mr. William H. Sylk of Philadelphia, the "Food for Israel" campaign was without any doubt the most effective effort of this kind exerted by any organization in the United States. Capturing the imagination of hundreds of communities, it aroused a deep desire to be of service in thousands and thousands of loyal workers to our cause.

Tremendous quantities of food were shipped and boats left from New York, Philadelphia, New Orleans and Los Angeles; quotas were easily exceeded and a flow of food to sustain the people of Israel was forthcoming throughout the period of this campaign. The Food Campaign has exceeded by far the expectations of the Supply Mission of Israel on whose behalf the drive was conducted.

The initial campaign was inaugurated by the Philadelphia Zionist Organization, which shipped a quantity of food estimated to be the largest shipment of this nature from the port of Philadelphia. Milk powder was forthcoming from Washington, D. C., Taunton, Mass., and Pittsburgh; cheese, Long Island; coffee, Chicago; rice, New Orleans; sugar, Houston; fish, Bronx; meat, Metropolitan Zionist Fund.

General merchandise including all cate-

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gories of food came from every part of the country. Sustaining contributions were forthcoming from almost every community in the country.

Philadelphia collected in excess of 500 tons. New Jersey exceeded their quota and contributed 200 tons. Seaboard sent tremendous quantities of milk powder. Washington, D. C. was responsible for the purchase of two and one half carloads of milk powder. Baltimore remitted \$23,000 worth of purchased food and 400 thousand pounds of food collected in kind, exceeding its quota.

All the communities in the Southeast contributed large quantities of food purchased. The outstanding campaign was in New Orleans, making it necessary for a ship to come right into New Orleans to pick up their local collections and to accommodate the sugar contributed by Houston and nearby communities.

The Southwest contributed large quantities of rice and was responsible for the purchase of vast quantities of priority needs. All communities participated without exception. On the West Coast collections were of such a nature that more than 400 tons were shipped directly from Los Angeles. All communities on the West Coast participated, from the Pacific Northwest to San Diego in Southern California. The Northwest Region and Central States Area all featured overwhelming food collections. The most dynamic campaign of its kind was conducted in St. Louis where more than \$9,000 worth of food value was contributed during the course of a single day's campaign.

Empire State and Western New York conducted vigorous campaigns resulting in excess of 200 tons, which were delivered to our warehouse for processing.

The Bronx campaign covered every part of that large borough resulting in a collection of 250 tons received in the warehouse and direct delivery to the boat of a large quantity of much needed fish.

Long Island included the "Food for Israel" in its emergency effort and was responsible for meeting a great portion of the cheese requirements of the Israeli Supply Mission. A very substantial amount of food was delivered directly to the Supply Mission in its initial transaction.

The outstanding success of the "Friendship Food Train" to Israel, which was greatly publicized, was the result of the effort of the Metropolitan Zionist Fund Campaign on behalf of this project.

Tri-State, Ohio Valley, Michigan, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Eastern Pa., all without exception exceeded their quotas and rendered outstanding service.

New England, spearheaded by the campaign in Worcester, met its full obligation. Connecticut exceeded its quota by more than 200% and remitted over 300 tons of food. The outstanding drive was that of Hartford and New Haven; Rhode Island conducted a one day campaign and exceeded its quota.

There is no doubt that this Food Campaign resulted in a tremendous amount of good will and caused many groups to work together who never before had the occasion to cooperate. It made the country aware of the tremendous power and effectiveness of the ZOA, and showed what could be accomplished when a real emergency confronted the organization. It signifies the potency of the A.Z.F., which administered this effort and it helped establish a unity and showed the way by which the ZOA would at all times be able to meet any emergencies of this nature should they once again confront us. It paved the way for more tasks which the ZOA will always accept on behalf of Israel.

Architects of this development were William H. Sylk, National Chairman of the Food for Israel drive; Benjamin G. Browdy, Benjamin Doft, Joseph Greenleaf and William Kapelman of the National Steering Committee.

In addition, the following National Vice-Chairmen rendered exceptional service in their communities as leaders of our effort: Max Bressler, Chicago, Harry Epstein, Cleveland, Rabbi Solomon Faber, Pittsburgh, Charles Feller, Pittsburgh, Cantor Myra Glass, Indianapolis, Ellis Goodman, Camden, Max Gorby, Terminal Island, Calif., Phil Harris, Los Angeles, Jack Maziar, Atlanta, Abraham Melizer, Spring Valley, Ben Netrick, Compton, A. I. Pollack, St. Louis, Abraham Redelheim, Brooklyn, Herman Reicher, Los Angeles, Milton H. Richman, Hartford, M. Robinowitz, Tulsa, Theodore Shotten, Hartford, Abraham Toub, Bayonne, Theodore Weiner, Los Angeles, Lou Wolens, Corpus Christi.

Tribute must be paid to my able Associate, Arthur Taub, who was responsible for most of the technical arrangements; to the entire staff, to our Public Relations Department and to the entire organization whose teamwork made this effort possible. Word of commendation must also be given to the Israeli Supply Mission and to its liaison officer, Mr. Yohanan Boehm, who cooperated with us throughout the campaign and without whose able assistance and expert advice this campaign could not have been possible. Genuine indebtedness is forthcoming to the Trio Packing & Shipping Corp. for their expert and efficient manner of handling, packing and freight forwarding.

MANUEL POSY
Director



Radio

SINCE JANUARY of this year, the Zionist Organization of America has been bringing into the American home daily on-the-scene radio broadcasts direct from Tel Aviv, reaching an unprecedented listening audience of several hundred thousand.

These news-feature commentaries on life and trends in Israel, the first regular schedule of broadcasts from Israel to the United States, are heard in New York and its environs every weekday night at 10:03, over WMCA, and over leading independent stations in a growing list of cities throughout the country.

These unusual and revealing broadcasts are transmitted by shortwave by WMCA's special correspondent Arthur D. Holzman, speaking from the Israeli capital. The 6 to 8 minute reports are preceded by a special program of news of Israel, exclusively compiled for this broadcast from the wires of the Associated Press and the Overseas News Agency. As sponsor, the ZOA has the opening and closing portions of the program in which it devotes full coverage of the program and policy of the ZOA and its affiliated bodies.

The exciting new radio series was personally initiated late last year by Nathan Straus, philanthropist and Zionist, who is President of WMCA. Mr. Straus, recognizing the need to bring to the American public the facts in and about the new State of Israel, made a special visit to the Jewish State, where he completed arrangements for the broadcast and himself made the opening broadcast.

"Report from Israel" has been the sub-

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ject of widespread favorable comment in the press, in the organizational world, and among listeners from every walk of life. It has been especially commended for its broad and inclusive scope which embraces every perspective of the total picture in Israel today. In order to meet the rigid requirements for news broadcasts established by the radio industry, every effort is made to give listeners the complete and unvarnished facts. The position of the ZOA has been to adhere closely to this policy, in which the correspondent, officially accredited by the Government of Israel and subject to its regulations governing radio transmission, is given wide discretionary powers in selecting and compiling material for his broadcasts. The result has been a fresh and interesting series of informative broadcasts, unparalleled by any program in the Jewish or Zionist field, and containing information often hitherto unavailable in other media.

The tremendous pulling power of "Report from Israel," reaching as it does a regular and faithful following, is partially demonstrated by the response to various offers of special ZOA services in the sponsor's message. For example, some 600 requests for the New Palestine were received in answer to two weeks' introductory offers. As a result, many joined the ZOA, and others took out regular subscriptions. Similar offers resulted in scores of subscriptions to the Economic Newsletter, and several hundred books sold by the Book Bureau.

The program has been listed among the features recommended for listening by such papers as the New York Post, the late New York Star, and many others throughout the country. Many of the early broadcasts were carried in their entirety by the Jewish Day. Weekly summaries of noteworthy programs are being carried by the Jewish Examiner in a series of special articles.

The program is now being brought to listeners outside of New York in Philadelphia over WPEN, in Providence over WEIB, in Birmingham over WBRC and in Norfolk over WLOW. It is scheduled to open in such cities as Detroit, Baltimore, Chicago, Cincinnati, Atlanta, and others. "Report from Israel" is made available exclusively through the ZOA to its local districts or regions at nominal cost covering only the expense of transcriptions, shipping and broadcasting rights. The great bulk of the cost, including the complete production expense, is borne by the ZOA through the American Zionist Fund.

BERNARD ENDELMAN
Director

Accounting

THOUGH ONE vital phase of Zionist activity has been completed, the program of ZOA work which remains to be achieved, as outlined in many of the reports in these pages, will place continuing and heavy financial burden on the Organization.

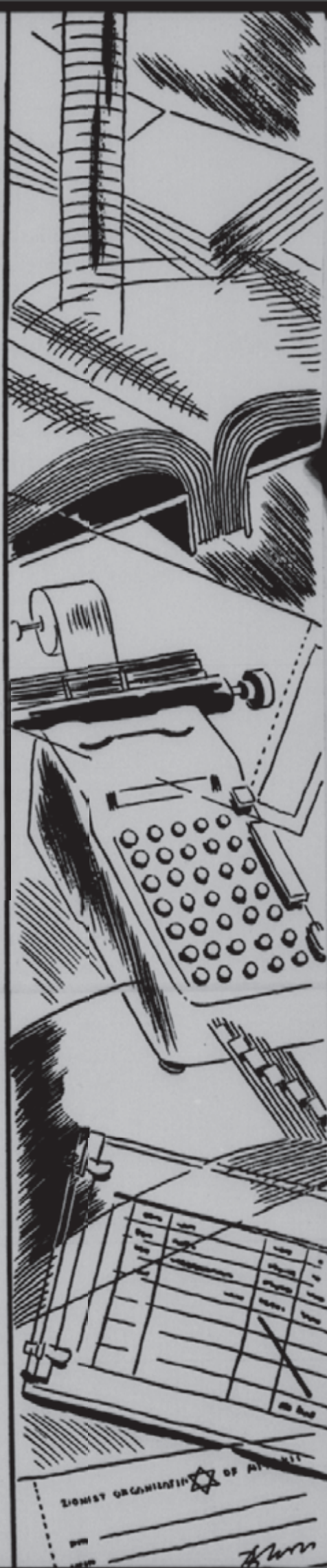
Now more than ever, therefore, a sound financial base is required, particularly in view of the new undertakings in Education as well as with respect to Aid for Israel which the ZOA contemplates. The need for supporting financial resources was demonstrated by our experience during the past year when large sums were required to carry on our projects for equipment, food, and economic development.

All funds received are administered and allocated with great care. Bills, on the basis of which disbursements are made, are scrutinized and checked for accuracy and legitimacy. Purchase orders are issued and wherever feasible competitive bids obtained. The most modern and meticulous accounting methods in current use in American business are applied to all financial operations of the ZOA.

In recent months, with shrinking income, we have imposed stringent economy measures and have cut down on various items which could be reduced without impairing the efficiency and functions of the Organization. Further economies are planned with every effort to preserve organizational resources and ensure basic operations.

It is significant to note that the National Office still receives the same portion of

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membership dues that it did several years ago though operating costs have risen tremendously. Had it not been for the supplementary resources raised by the American Zionist Fund, we could never have maintained the full program of the organization or carried the Zionist ideal to glorious fulfillment.

Operating costs rose again in the past year, in addition to which the organization's special projects for aid to Israel have strained our resources to the utmost. The Finance Committee, therefore, had a most difficult year in keeping the Z.O.A. on a steady keel. That our financial position at this time is still sound is in no small measure due to the untiring efforts of Mr. Milton Pollack, Chairman of the Finance Committee, and the other members of his Committee.

Thanks should be extended to officers of all Regions and Districts for their cooperation, as well as the National Executive Director, Associate Director, Heads of National Departments and Regional Directors. I also wish to give well deserved praise to my co-workers in the Accounting Department, chief among them Miss Julia Kirtz and Mr. Jules Lates.

Members of the Finance Committee are: Mark Sugarman, Treasurer; William H. Sylk and Joseph W. Greenleaf, Associate Treasurers; Milton Pollack, Chairman; Bernard E. Singer, Vice-Chairman. New York Members: Marcus Abramson, Samuel Berson, Benjamin G. Browdy, I. J. Caplan, Irving Cohen, Sol Cohen, Louis Dince, Benjamin M. Friedman, J. Leon Friedman, Jacob Goodman, Samuel Inselbuch, Leo B. Kagan, Paul Kaminsky, Abraham Krumbein, Philip Lassar, Charles Ress, Albert Schiff. Out-of-town members: Benjamin Berger, Minneapolis; Albert M. Bershad, Philadelphia; Lester Cohen, Uniontown; James I. Ellman, Detroit; Max Engelberg, Pittsburgh; Abraham Goodman, Miami Beach; Leonard Kastle, Detroit; Rubin Klainer, Boston; Frank Licht, Providence; Ben Prince, Indianapolis; Morris J. Rabowitz, Boston; Aaron J. Robbins, Newark; Morris Roth, New Brunswick; Louis M. Siever, Philadelphia; Archibald Silverman, Providence; Jacob Singer, Lafayette.

A full and detailed financial report has been separately published and is available for scrutiny.

HENRY S. STERN,
Comptroller

Technical Administration

THIS DEPARTMENT supplies the personnel, materiel and apparatus for the implementation of all the work of the departments of the Zionist Organization of America. The smooth functioning of the organization is greatly dependent upon the skillful operations of this department.

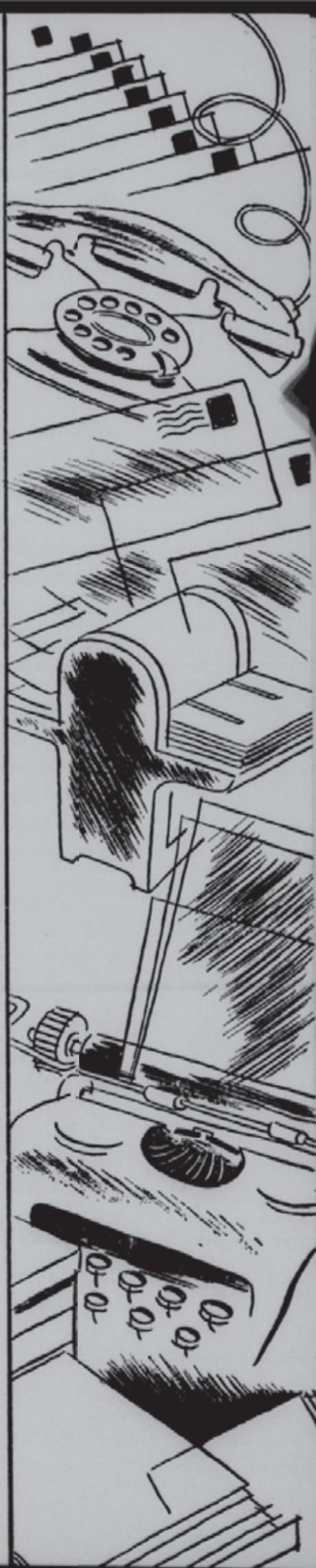
The emphasis this year, as in the past, has been to reach maximum efficiency at minimum cost. This task has been carried on by the various sections within the department.

The Service Section, which performs the mimeographing, multilith work, collating, enclosing, mailing and various other duties, is charged with the duties of putting out the "Spot News", "Inside Israel", Speakers Bureau Notes, education program manuals, and a multitude of releases, letters, reports, etc., which has now reached a volume of two million pieces of mail a year. Following study and experimentation a new type of ink is now being utilized which permits the printing of mimeographed material on both sides of the paper. This not only cuts the cost of paper in half, but makes the job of collating simpler and permits the use of automatic folding equipment. Naturally the cost of postage is also greatly reduced.

Rose E. Levinson is in charge of this section and has performed her tasks admirably.

The tremendous bookkeeping job entailed in the maintenance of membership rec-

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ords and issuance of membership cards, as well as all statistical matters pertaining to membership, falls within the section directed by Miss Gertrude Goldblatt, whose capable operations have permitted this section to run with utmost efficiency.

There has been developed within the section a new technique of issuing membership cards which will not only reduce the costs considerably but will also permit issuance of cards at maximum rate during our peak periods.

New equipment and successful utilization of personnel has enabled the Addressograph Section to carry on its gigantic task of providing the addressing for The New Palestine, Dos Yiddishe Folk, national mailings, district mailings, billing, and various other addressing jobs with the utmost speed, accuracy and economy. This department is also charged with the responsibility of keeping membership plates tabbed for payment of dues. Previously this work had required a considerable amount of overtime which has now been eliminated by the capable and intelligent use of personnel and methods by the head of this section, Mr. Aaron Taub.

Renegotiation of existing contracts by the Purchasing Department has reduced the cost of operation by many thousands of dollars. The purchasing of the many thousands of items required for the daily functioning of the Zionist Organization is a herculean task. Chief among these is the purchase of printing, which includes the organizational publications, as well as the membership and educational material.

The engaging of new personnel, their training and careful placement, and the many details involved in proper personnel procedures is also an important function of this department.

The technical arrangements for the Friendship Food motorcade, the Aubrey Eban and Dr. Israel Goldstein dinners, as well as many other meetings, dinners, conferences, national convention, etc., were handled by the Technical Administrator and his assistant.

The multitude of functions of this department would be impossible to handle without the assistance of Mrs. Helen G. Leibowitz. Her diligent devotion to her duties, and her many years of experience are a great asset to the ZOA.

JOSEPH VOGEL
Director

United Palestine Appeal

THE YEAR that has passed since the last convention of the Zionist Organization of America has been a year of superlatives. The most important battles have been fought; the greatest victories won; the most stirring accomplishments have been achieved; the greatest number of immigrants have entered the new State; the largest advances in upbuilding have been made.

But still the giant question mark looms on the horizon. So great and so unprecedented have been the challenges confronting Israel that even statehood by itself does not provide all the answers.

Of all the crucial problems facing the new State, the influx of masses of newcomers is the greatest. Never before in history has any country of any size been called upon to assume a burden of this proportionate magnitude. Obviously, Israel itself could in no wise be expected to cope with the financial responsibilities created by these tasks. It was, therefore, the primary obligation of the United Palestine Appeal, as the major beneficiary of the nation-wide United Jewish Appeal campaign, to provide the American financial support—the largest portion of the funds required—for the immigration and development programs of its constituent agencies in Israel: the Jewish Agency for Palestine, the Palestine Foundation Fund and the Jewish National Fund.

The freedom of immigration into Israel has set off a chain reaction of responsibilities felt in every corner of the Jewish State's structure. Almost every newcomer, destitute and shaken by the long years of languishing in the camps of Europe, presents a complex of needs which has to be met quickly and effectively. For these Jews, requirements in broad categories which are the responsibilities of the UPA agencies include: providing food, clothing and medical attention on arrival; constructing housing; maintaining immigrants in hostels during the rehabilitation period; special assistance to problem cases; vocational guidance and retraining; participation in youth immigration program; construction of new settlements and enlargement of those already in existence for the absorption of newcomers; pur-

chase of tens of thousands of dunams of land, its reclamation and improvement; promotion of trade and industry to expand the integration of newcomers within Israel's productive framework.

In the last months of 1948, when UPA budgetary estimates were prepared, it was expected that approximately 180,000 immigrants would enter Israel. The weeks and months that followed, however, proved this to be a great underestimation of the mass migration to Israel which, in the first four months alone of 1949, reached 100,000. Nevertheless the budgetary estimates, keyed to the 180,000 immigration figure, have been retained as a working basis. With a minimum of 180,000 Jews entering Israel this year, the UPA budget for the over-all program of receiving, rehabilitating and resettling these immigrants totals well over \$290,000,000.

In the years since the mass genocide of Jews the focus has radically changed. The emergency task of rescuing Jews and keeping them alive has evolved dramatically into a program of unparalleled scope. Today the major objectives are the emptying of the DP camps and, at the same time, the speedy return to normalcy and productive living of those hundreds of thousands who will be repatriated in the Jewish State. The label DP is to be erased forever, and in its place will be the designation, citizen of Israel.

Following, in major categories, is an analysis of United Palestine Appeal requirements in 1949 as stemming from the programs of its constituent agencies.

Immigration and Housing

Of the 25,000 Jews who are received in Israel each month, an average of 96 percent—more than 9 out of 10—are destitute and in need of immediate aid. The initial reception costs, covering the provision of food, clothing, medical attention, transportation in Israel and maintenance in immigrant camps, is now at the all-time high. This is merely the first of a score of major financial obligations directly involved in immigration. Actually, immigration expenditures incurred by the UPA begin long before the emigrants start for Israel. In Europe and other areas special personnel help set up training and rehabilitation programs so that newcomers will at least have started on the road to resettlement by the time they enter Israel. UPA agencies maintain offices in 24 countries for premigration work. In the Middle East, Jewish Agency expenditures are expected to reach

\$9,600,000 on rescue, relief and transportation for Jews now in that area.

In Israel, another major project is housing for newcomers. Housing construction requires an outlay of \$2,250 per unit. At least 70,000 new units are desperately needed. Also included within the immigration category are: participation in the Youth Aliyah program, care of aged and invalid, maintenance of newcomers in hostels until they are finally settled, vocational guidance and training and similar projects. According to Jewish Agency estimates, the total cost of immigration in 1949 (on the basis of 180,000 immigrants) will be a minimum of \$150,450,000.

Agricultural Settlements

Intimately related to immigration is the UPA agencies' upbuilding program, particularly as carried out in the development of agricultural settlements. Israel today has close to 400 settlements which have played a key role in the task of integrating newcomers. To facilitate further the productive absorption of immigrants, the established settlements are to be consolidated and expanded and at the same time scores of new settlements must be founded throughout the country with the aid of UPA funds. This aspect of the UPA's program in 1949 will entail an expenditure of \$22,200,000.

Land Acquisition and Improvement

The land on which the great majority of Jewish settlements, villages and housing projects are built is provided by the Jewish National Fund, the land-buying agency of the Jewish people. JNF blueprints are projected for the purchase of more than 900,000 dunam of rural land as well as eight million square meters of urban land, mainly for housing projects, all of which is to be effectively utilized as part of the over-all upbuilding program for the resettlement of some 15,000 newcomers a month. The program also provides for land reclamation, improvement and irrigation. Total JNF budgeted expenditures in 1949, including its participation in the Jewish Agency's colonization program, reach \$77,280,000.

Urban Settlement

With the realization that only an industrial economy can expect to absorb the momentous number of newcomers, UPA agencies

are focussing special emphasis on the development of existing industries and the launching of new endeavors which will provide jobs and at the same time, directly or indirectly, create the necessary goods for the growing numbers of new consumers. Through the Jewish Agency's Trade and Industry and Labor Departments, and with UPA funds, grants-in-aid, loans, etc., are provided for urban and industrial development. The Jewish Agency will spend at least \$5,850,000 in 1949.

Development of Jerusalem

This is a new category necessitated by recent events. To help in the upbuilding of Jerusalem for the absorption of newcomers, it includes promotion of industry, special housing projects, agricultural settlement in Jerusalem's hinterlands, etc., which involve a total estimated expenditure of \$15,000,000.

Repair of War Damages

Like every nation dedicated to the principles of human freedom and dignity, Israel was born amidst bitter struggle. The evidences of this struggle are bombed-out settlements, gutted buildings, razed fields, charred forests. Repair of these widespread damages is vitally essential to the effective absorption of immigrants. Expenditures in 1949 for this purpose will require a minimum of \$15,000,000 from the Jewish Agency.

Additional expenditures as part of the bugetary requirements for 1949 include:

Educational Allocations (for children of immigrants)	
and Cultural Grants	\$ 3,450,000
Debt Service of Jewish Agency and Palestine	
Foundation Fund (repayment of principal	
and interest)	10,200,000
General Administration	600,000
Total required by UPA Agencies	300,050,000
Less Participation of Jewish National Fund	
in Budget of Jewish Agency	8,784,000
Total Budgetary Requirements of United	
Palestine Appeal Constituent Agencies	
in Israel	291,246,000

The foregoing are the major aspects of the over-all UPA program geared to the mass migration looming on the Israeli horizon. While they represent different categories, they are all closely related and interdependent, since the primary tasks of UPA agencies are not only to care for the newcomers, but more important to make possible their successful rehabilitation and resettlement so that they can in turn become productive citizens and builders for future immigrants.

Educational Program

The UPA has made available to the Jewish and non-Jewish public literature as well as photographs and films on Palestine upbuilding and development and has published surveys and reports on the various aspects of Palestine life. Periodical publications of the UPA are the "UPA Report", a monthly illustrated bulletin and the "Israel reports . . ." a monthly newsletter. The UPA published a number of booklets including "Challenge to American Jewry" by Dr. Israel Goldstein, the United Palestine Appeal Year Book and "The Curtain Rises".

Four new films entitled "Israel Reborn", "Israel in Action", "Memorandum on a Victory" and "Homecoming 1949" were added to the UPA's film library and are available in 16 mm sound prints to interested organizations throughout the country.

A Special Debt

As the acting National Chairman of the United Palestine Appeal, I wish to express my profound appreciation to the President, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, and to the administration and members of the Zionist Organization of America, who are in the vanguard of the American Jewish Community in mobilizing maximum support for the programs of the UPA agencies, and in contributing to the upbuilding and preservation of the State of Israel, through the United Jewish Appeal.

On behalf of the UPA I wish to express deep appreciation to the ZOA personnel who have taken speaking assignments and to the ZOA executive staff who have cooperated in the tasks of the UPA and to my fellow officers and the executive and field staff in the United Palestine Appeal for their aid in furthering the interests of the UPA.

MORRIS EOTHENBERG
Acting National Chairman

American Zionist Emergency Council

THE PUBLIC RELATIONS activities of the American Zionist Emergency Council since the last ZOA convention were designed to assist in meeting the enormous problems which confronted Israel. As the public relations arm of American Zionism, the Council led the struggle in the United States for the preservation of reborn Israel.

Our first major actions took place during the months of June and July in Philadelphia, where the Republican and Democratic National Conventions were held. Despite the ill-concealed attempts made by certain officials of the State Department to "water down" the planks on Israel originally submitted to the Resolutions Committees of both parties, the Zionist spokesmen at the Conventions were successful in their efforts to bring about the adoption of unequivocal declarations. Harold P. Manson, then Director of Information for the Council, was the official Zionist spokesman before the Republican Resolutions Committee and Judge Louis Levinthal represented the Council before the Democratic Committee. The Zionist efforts at both Conventions were guided throughout by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver.

It was on the basis of these strong pro-Israel planks that the Council was subsequently able to defeat the attempts of the State Department to impose the Bernadotte Plan on Israel.

In September, Secretary of State Marshall gave his unqualified endorsement to the Bernadotte Plan which would have cut away the Negev from Israel. Within a matter of days the other Western powers were aboard the bandwagon. For a time it appeared that the Bernadotte Plan might be rushed through the United Nations General Assembly. The Emergency Council once again set the entire machinery of American Zionism in motion. From all directions the two Presidential candidates—President Truman and Governor Dewey

—were urged to repudiate the Bernadotte scheme. Telegram campaigns, newspaper advertisements, radio programs, editorial opinion and high-level political conversations were all aimed at achieving a "reversal of the reversal" of U. S. policy towards Israel.

Every candidate for local, state and federal office was approached by representatives of the Jewish communities and the Zionist bodies. The press and radio took up the issue and pointed up the fact that neither of the Presidential candidates had as yet disavowed Count Bernadotte's recommendations.

Finally, the resistance broke. On October 22, Governor Dewey issued his now-famous letter to Dean Alfange, Chairman of the New York State Chapter of the American Christian Palestine Committee, in which the Republican standard-bearer reaffirmed his party's Israel plank. The wall of silence, which had been set up months earlier on the basis of the so-called bipartisan foreign policy, was broken down completely on October 24 when President Truman stated in unequivocal terms that no changes in Israel's boundaries would be countenanced unless these were acceptable to Israel.

Shortly after the November elections, Israel was again faced with a grave crisis in the form of a British-conceived resolution in the Security Council aimed at imposing sanctions against the Jewish State. Personal appeals to the White House by political, industrial and labor leaders—a veritable "Who's Who" in American life—to disown the State Department's maneuvers in the Security Council in support of the British again succeeded in changing the tide in Israel's favor.

The achievement of two goals long sought by the Zionists of America followed in swift succession. In the middle of January, the United States Government announced that it had granted a \$100,000,000 loan to Israel; at the end of the same month, President Truman extended de jure recognition to the Jewish State. These significant gains were not won overnight. The Council had done long and arduous spadework in these directions over a period of many months. Thousands of resolutions, editorial and radio comment, innumerable telegrams to the White House, and addresses in both Houses of Congress had effectively paved the way for these diplomatic victories.

However, Israel was again menaced by military intervention and possible invasion from a familiar quarter—Great Britain. While

Israel was driving the last Egyptian invaders from the Negev, the British injected themselves into the desert warfare by dispatching airplanes to the battlefront, presumably to reconnoiter the Egyptian border. This resulted in the shooting down by Israelis of five R. A. F. planes well within the borders of the Jewish State. Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin reacted by ordering a British naval demonstration of force in the Mediterranean and by reinforcing the British garrison at the port of Aqaba.

The Emergency Council's action was immediate and decisive. It convoked an extraordinary conference of eighty leading national Jewish organizations at the Park Sheraton Hotel in New York City. A concerted program of action was devised to meet this latest threat against Israel's security. Through a full-page advertisement published in the New York and Washington press, and through a subsequent memorandum, the Emergency Council was able to marshal American public opinion against British maneuvers. The British Foreign Secretary not only failed to achieve his objective of intimidating Israel, but was forced to announce that Britain would permit the 12,000 Jewish internees on Cyprus to proceed immediately to the Jewish State. This was followed by the granting of de facto recognition to Israel by the British Government.

Throughout the year the various departments of the Emergency Council—Political, Information, Special Events, Publications, Research, Yiddish Bureau and Washington Office—continued to supply information and guidance to the 400 local Emergency Committees in the United States, who at all times responded vigorously to our directives. Radio forums, television events, book promotion were organized most effectively.

A significant accomplishment recorded by the Political Department was the successful culmination of its long drawn-out correspondence with the State Department for the removal of restrictions imposed upon Americans desiring to travel to Israel. On March 1st, Mrs. R. B. Shipley, Chief of the Passport Division of the Department of State, informed the Council that henceforth U. S. Passport regulations for travel to Israel would be similar to those in other parts of the world.

The American Christian Palestine Committee again rendered invaluable support to the cause of Zion. Through its many state and local chapters, the Committee was instrumental in mobilizing Chris-

tian support during the several critical periods in Israel's first year of existence. The Speakers' Bureau of the Committee—Club Program Service—placed effective speakers on hundreds of lecture platforms throughout the nation. Seminars on Israel were organized in Miami, Pittsburgh, Trenton, Princeton, French Lick and New York City. A Study Tour in Israel is bringing to the Jewish State several distinguished American Christians who are thereby given the opportunity to see Israel at first hand.

American Zionism, under the leadership of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, again demonstrated its maturity during the past twelve months. At this critical juncture in world history, it would be most unwise to relax our vigilance and assume that Israel is, at long last, "out of the woods." The Jewish State is still beset by enemies, near and far. Although significant gains have been won on many fronts, there are great tasks still before us.

ABE TUVIM
Executive Director



Jewish National Fund

WHEN THE HEBREW YEAR 5708 (September 1947) opened, the total area of land owned by the Keren Kayemeth amounted to 925,749 dunams. This was the result of persevering efforts carried on by the Land Fund during a period of 46 years. 330 Jewish agricultural settlements existed in Palestine at that time, and 235 of these settlements, or approximately 71% of the total, had their foundation on the national land acquired by the Keren Kayemeth. When the Hebrew year 5708 ended (October 1948) including the first four and one-half months of Israel's Independence, the land holdings of the Jewish National Fund were increased by 96,914 dunams, thus making a total of 1,022,663 dunams.

A further development of utmost importance which was totally unanticipated and proved to be of decisive significance with respect to the facilities for large-scale land purchase occurred during the year. Under the impact of the victorious defense by Israel's Army, a panic-stricken flight of the Arabs from the borders of the new nation began. Village after village was abandoned. The land was occupied by Israel's Army. But the occupation by force of arms of land that was the private property of individuals did not mean that it would be taken by Israel as a prize of conquest.

The situation clearly called for a new land policy which would create the possibilities of the absorption of the new large-scale immigration. Thus the vital needs of Israel would be served and the requirements of fairness even to the enemy would be met.

At the historic session of the Zionist General Council held in Israel during the summer of 1948, which the undersigned was privileged to attend, it was decided that the Jewish National Fund in Israel and in other countries continue to function not as a governmental agency but as an instrument of the Jewish people throughout the world, cooperating fully but acting independently of the Government of the State of Israel. This understanding was further defined in a formal agreement which was entered into between the Board of

Directors of the Keren Kayemeth and the Government of the State of Israel.

This agreement was set forth by Prime Minister David Ben Gurion in his communication of February 18, 1949 to Dr. Abraham Granovsky, World Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael, and in the Prime Minister's broadcast to the Extraordinary Keren Kayemeth Conference held in New York City on March 6, 1949. It was further elucidated in the messages of President Chaim Weizmann, Brigadier Yaakov Dori, Eliezer Kaplan, Israel's Minister of Finance, David Remez, Minister of Communications, and Joseph Sprinzak, Speaker of the Knesseth, addressed to that Conference.

Acting in accord with this policy and responding to the call of the Keren Kayemeth as formulated by Dr. Granovsky and the Administration of the American JNF, the delegates to this historic Conference adopted a three-year program which calls for the redemption of 1,000,000 dunams of land by the end of 1949 and pledges American Jewry to raise for the national land purchase program of the Keren Kayemeth the sum of \$3,000,000 within the next three years. This is to be done under the above-mentioned agreement between the Government of Israel and the Jewish National Fund and under the guarantee of the Government of Israel.

Conscious of the increased needs, the JNF is now engaged in acquiring the second million of dunams under a procedure which requires the Keren Kayemeth to turn over to the Government of Israel a fixed sum of money as the purchase price of such land, and the Government in turn will compensate the Arab owners of such land with the monies paid over by the Keren Kayemeth at values to be fixed by a Governmental Commission, following the final conclusion of peace.

The accelerated tempo of settlement on the land, to which the Jewish National Fund is also contributing in a very substantial degree, is also part of the new program. Even while the war effort was proceeding, land settlement made steady progress. Not less than 65 new settlements were founded on the land of the JNF during the year between May 14, 1948 and May 4, 1949. Thirty more settlements are in the process of creation as this report is being written, and in the first year of statehood 95 new villages will thus have been

created, not counting the rehabilitation and reconstruction of 6 settlements which were destroyed in the course of hostilities.

These 95 new settlements strengthened the position of Israel, in addition to opening new Jewish settlements in the Jerusalem corridor. These new settlements are spread over the entire map of Israel. Seventeen are in the Negev and the south; sixteen in the Jerusalem corridor; sixteen in Samaria; nine in Lower Galilee, and twenty-seven are in Upper Galilee. The land allocated for these new settlements totals 400,000 dunams, while the number of families settled amounts to 6,000. Pioneering youth groups who have undergone presettlement training in the older villages accounted for 61 of the new points. Thirteen settlements were established by war veterans of the Israeli Army. The remaining 21 villages were founded by new immigrants.

The accelerated tempo is also reflected in the progress of the JNF's reforestation program. During the first year of statehood the Keren Kayemeth planted in the state of Israel 750,000 new trees. The Land Fund has also participated substantially in the national housing construction for the accommodation of the new immigrants. Soil reclamation work, highway construction, and preparations for regional irrigation programs have also made enormous progress.

American Jewry's part in these historic achievements found expression in the fund-raising effort and remittances of the American JNF. Our fiscal year September 1947 to October 1948 was concluded with an income of \$39,006,102.90, comprised of traditional income of \$3,164,877.77, and \$35,841,225.13 as the JNF's share in the proceeds of the United Jewish Appeal through the United Palestine Appeal. The abiding interest and enthusiastic participation of American Jewry in Jewish National Fund activities during the current year was further evidenced in the results obtained during the first six months, which show as of March 31, 1949 a substantial increase in the traditional JNF income. The traditional collections amounted to the sum of \$1,728,575.89, and the UPA allotment was in the sum of \$10,817,982.67, making a total of \$12,546,558.56 for the six-month period.

The JNF Administration is glad to record its profound appreciation to the officers of the Zionist Organization of America, its Executive Staff, its Regions and Districts; to Hadassah and its Chapters; to the Pioneer Women's Organization; to Mizrahi and Mizrahi Women's Organization; to B'nai Zion and its branches; to the Poale

Zion and the Jewish National Workers' Alliance; to the JNF Councils and cooperating groups in all parts of the country, and to all workers for JNF for their splendid cooperation and active support without which the unprecedented response of American Jewry to the cause of Geulah Ha'aretz could not have been obtained. To the Officers of the JNF, to the Board of Directors representing all parties and groups, the undersigned voices his deep appreciation of fine service rendered in a spirit of true fellowship. To the members of the JNF Executive and Field Staffs the special tribute of the Administration is extended in recognition of devoted and indefatigable labor in behalf of Israel and the foundations of Israel's freedom.

MORRIS ROTHENBERG
President



World Confederation of General Zionists

THE WORLD CONFEDERATION of General Zionists was constituted in its present form during the 22nd Zionist Congress at Basle, in December, 1946. Dr. Israel Goldstein was elected chairman of the Confederation, with Prof. Selig Brodetsky (England), Mr. Bernard Gering (South Africa), Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin (U.S.A.), Dr. Cornel Jancu (Rumania), Joseph Serlin (Israel), Samuel Rabinovich (Argentina) and Samuel J. Zacks (Canada) as vice-chairmen. A World Executive and Council were also elected.

For the first time, an organizational framework was established for the party, with an ideological platform and a constructive program. For the first time, General Zionists in all parts of the world could receive advice and consultation services. These factors became especially important with the growth of General Zionist emigration to Israel. For these new arrivals, additional institutions were created by the World Confederation in Israel.

The most outstanding accomplishment of the World Confederation was the creation of the General Zionist Constructive Fund during the last Zionist Congress, and a number of projects have been developed by this Fund in the villages and cities. All of them parallel in kind, though not as yet in degree, the projects already established by other Zionist parties.

More than two million dollars has been allocated to the Fund during the past two years, the major portion of which came from the United Palestine Appeal in the United States. This money has facilitated the subsidizing of General Zionist colonies, the training of immigrants, youth aliyah and middle-class enterprises in Israel. During the past year eight new General Zionist kibbutzim have been established, two of them in the Negev, one on the "Courage Road" to Israel and others on the Syrian border. Three colonies of private farmers were also established.

Large housing projects have been erected by the Shikun Ezrachi, the General Zionist housing company in Israel. Thousands of loans have been granted to new immigrants by Mifdeh Ezrachi, General Zionist financial institution. A very happy achievement has been the establishment of three General Zionist youth aliyah institutions in which more than one thousand children were absorbed, and our other youth centers and children's homes in Israel have extended their facilities to meet the aliyah of children from the sixteen European orphanages under General Zionist auspices. And now, our liberated kibbutz, Nitzanim, in the Negev, has established a new institution to accommodate immigrant children.

One of the most eminent of the Confederation projects in Israel was the construction of the residential section on Basel street in Tel-Aviv. There are now two large apartment houses for immigrants and an immigrants' hostel named for Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the World Confederation.

In the organizational field, a significant feature of Confederation activities has been the growth of the General Zionist Youth and Chalutz movement. Hachshara centers have been established in many countries, with scores of delegates from our kibbutzim in Israel directing the educational and professional training needed in preparation for aliyah to Israel. An encouraging recent development was the establishment of a kibbutz in Israel which is composed equally of Israeli born members of our youth movement, Hanoar Hazioni, and American youth who went through their hachshara at the General Zionist training farm in Poughkeepsie, New York, and later served in the Israeli Army.

With the organization of the Israel Equipment Project, substantial quantities of machinery, tools and other implements have been procured by the ZOA regions and districts and then turned over to the New York office of the World Confederation. These materials, after shipment to the Constructive Fund in Israel, are distributed in settlements and towns for the building of workshops and for training large numbers of refugees arriving from Europe.

Expansion of educational activities during the past year has been marked by the publication of many weeklies, monthlies and other periodicals in various parts of the world and in different languages. News releases, a monthly bulletin and a permanent news service have been supplied to the Confederation branches for their own publications.

Also in the last year a number of important conferences have taken place in Israel, Europe, the United States, Latin America, Great Britain and Canada. Last August, at a meeting of the World Executive of the Confederation in Tel-Aviv, we were faced with the problem of two slates for our constituent groups in Israel in the forthcoming Israeli Parliamentary elections, and efforts to unite the opposing factions failed. Confronted with this situation, our World Executive adopted the following resolution:

1. "The World Executive of the Confederation of General Zionists heard the declaration of Moshe Kolodny, head of the Haoved Hazioni, about the new party which is being formed and notes that in the next elections to the Israeli Parliament there will be two General Zionist slates;
2. The Executive of the World Confederation will continue until the next World Zionist Congress, to support both wings of the General Zionists in Israel;
3. The Confederation Executive declares that this arrangement is the result of a peculiar situation in Israel at the present time and will not serve as a precedent in any country in the Diaspora;
4. The Confederation Executive charges the chairman of the Confederation, Dr. Israel Goldstein, to do everything possible to bring about complete unity in General Zionism in Israel within one organizational framework;
5. The Confederation Executive has noted with satisfaction the declaration by Mr. Kolodny that the party being formed will not establish contacts with any General Zionist factions or groups in the Diaspora outside the authoritative territorial or World Confederation institutions."

With the creation of the State of Israel the General Zionist organizations in the Diaspora have assumed new responsibilities. As the largest Zionist party in the world Zionist movement, the World Confederation of General Zionists has the greatest responsibility for the development of the State of Israel, the speedy absorption of hundreds of thousands of immigrants and the strengthening of General Zionist activities throughout the world.

ITZHAK J. KARPMAN
Executive Director

Hadassah

INTO this past year has been compressed a whole era of change. The state of Israel, which dared to declare its independence while threatened with destruction by six Arab nations, has completely turned the tables on its antagonists. Simultaneously with fighting a war for independence, it has absorbed 150,000 immigrants from Europe. All this was achieved at the cost of great sacrifice. The Yishuv faced and met its ordeal without flinching. And playing a not inconsiderable role in this achievement stood Hadassah.

In April, 1948, the Hadassah Medical Organization undertook the hazardous task of transporting equipment, beds, patients from Hadassah Hospital down the shell raked Scopus road to the city of Jerusalem, because the American supported healing institution on the hill outside the Holy City had become inaccessible to the wounded who needed its services. Over 600 tons of equipment were brought down under fire and set up in four emergency hospitals in town. Behind barricaded walls, and in an underground operating theatre, in a starved city, cut off from fuel, power and water supplies, our doctors and nurses treated 90 per cent of the area's casualties and 60 per cent of the Jewish wounded in all of Palestine. They delivered 100 babies a month and set up a ward for children suffering from malnutrition.

The fact that we never abandoned the hospital on the hill, that we held on, correctly estimating the danger, preparing for and meeting it—this had enormous significance in keeping Mt. Scopus in Jewish hands and influenced the eventual status of Jewish Jerusalem. The fact that our medical services, school luncheon and youth aid programs were accelerated in the town during the Jerusalem emergency was of great practical importance in its defense and in sustaining civilian morale throughout the siege.

In retrospect, it becomes more apparent than ever that Hadassah's work was closely intertwined with the fate of Jerusalem. On April 13, 1948, on the Scopus road there occurred a tragedy which wiped out the lives of our medical director, Dr. Haim Yassky, and 75

of the staff of Hadassah and Hebrew University. Just a year later, in the armistice agreement between Israel and Transjordan, provision was made for Jewish access to Mt. Scopus, and a contingent of Hadassah women from the United States, together with the new director Dr. Eli Davis, traversed the same road up to the hospital, filled with the determination to reopen its doors to patients from Jerusalem and all of Israel.

And on the first anniversary of Israel's independence, Hadassah and the Hebrew University opened the first medical school in the Jewish state. This is the culmination of 20 years of work and planning.

During the coming year, we shall turn to tasks of reconstruction. The damage to Hadassah Hospital will be repaired, and its present buildings expanded. In addition, we look forward to executing our plans for erecting the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School on Mt. Scopus and moving the school from its present temporary site.

Hadassah, by maintaining the focus of its hospital, social service and medical school activities in Jerusalem, is making a significant contribution to the development of the Holy City as a seat of research, healing and learning.

In the field of vocational education, the mid-winter conference of February, 1949, voted an extraordinary appropriation of \$400,000 for training in crafts and trades, and for vocational aptitude tests to be given every elementary school graduate in Israel. Hadassah has pioneered in this aspect of education through the Brandeis Vocational Center in Jerusalem, where boys and girls receive training in printing, mechanical trades, hotel management, domestic science, dressmaking and fashion designing. The youngsters enrolled at the Brandeis Center rendered invaluable aid to Israel's war effort—the girls by preparing and serving meals to Army personnel and the boys by producing precision instruments and repairing equipment for the fighting forces. With the additional grant for expansion of buildings and courses, skilled hands will be provided for Israel's industrial development and to satisfy the consumer needs of a population swelled by hundreds of thousands of new arrivals.

Not only in Jerusalem, but in the Negev, in Jaffa, and in other new areas of Jewish settlement, Hadassah is bringing its services to

Israel's frontier communities. The decision to build a \$300,000 modern hospital in Beersheba, gateway to the Negev, was greeted with acclaim at the 1949 convention. It was also acclaimed by the Army and the government, which now felt assured that the new settlers in the Negev would have adequate medical attention.

The institution, named the Hadassah-Yassky Memorial Hospital, is a fitting memorial to a man who laid the foundations for public health work in Israel, and is part of the government's developmental scheme for the new town which will rise in historic Beersheba. As in the case of the medical school, the Army and the government urged us to begin operation now of the Beersheba hospital instead of waiting for the new buildings to go up. We have therefore taken over a former Army installation in the town and have improved its facilities so the treatment of patients could start in April, 1949.

In the former Arab city of Jaffa, where immigrants have been resettled, Hadassah has already established two health welfare stations. The present network of 54 stations is being expanded throughout the country.

Continually gearing our activities to Israel's changing needs, Hadassah has assumed responsibility, together with the Jewish Agency, for tuberculosis control among incoming immigrants. This is an acute problem, since medical experts estimate that one out of every 200 newcomers is infected with the disease. It requires a broad program of mass x-rays, vaccination, hospitalization and the training of orderlies and nurses.

On another sector of the immigration front, Youth Aliyah, Hadassah is extending itself to aid the reception of 35,000 Jewish children from Europe and North Africa in 1949. As the official representative of Youth Aliyah in the United States, Hadassah celebrated the 15th anniversary of the youth immigration movement in February, 1949, using the event to promote interest in the project throughout America. We pointed out that Youth Aliyah had rescued 40,000 children from Nazi Europe and brought them to Israel since 1934, and that now in a single year it was undertaking to bring almost the same number into the Jewish state. In February, 1949, we opened the Ramat-Hadassah-Szold Reception Center for Youth Aliyah children at Alonim, near Haifa. Accommodating 350 boys and girls for a screening and adjustment period of 4 to 6 weeks, this

center, built with a \$480,000 grant from Hadassah, is proving to be an experimental station for child care in Israel.

Our many-sided endeavors in this year of challenge also include the redemption of land for Migdal Hadassah, a settlement in the defensive belt between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

A bare sketch of the highlights of Hadassah activities cannot, of course, suffice to give a picture of the day-to-day work of 264,520 American women Zionists—membership as of October, 1948—who carry the message of Israel into their communities in every one of the 48 states of the Union. It cannot reveal the extent of the job in public relations, Jewish education, training of Zionist youth, directed from national headquarters through political kits, program material, radio dramatizations, editorials and news stories, which are disseminated by 1000 chapters and groups throughout the country. The cumulative effect of Hadassah work grows geometrically. For we are assured, not only of the \$6,500,000 budget for this year, but of the loyal and unwavering support of every member of the Women's Zionist Organization of America so that we can confidently predict new and greater achievements for the Jewish people and for Israel in the coming year.



MRS. SAMUEL W. HALPRIN
National President

American Zionist Youth Commission

THE AMERICAN ZIONIST YOUTH COMMISSION is an important means to bring new life to the Jewish youth of America and to build the spiritual bridge between them and the youth of Israel.

The Commission has a dual purpose: first, to serve as the coordinating and guiding agency for the four affiliated national youth groups (Young Judaea, Junior Hadassah, Masada and IZFA) whose membership today totals over 42,000 young people; second, to serve as a resource instrument for the promotion of Zionist ideals and knowledge among the general community of American-Jewish youth. These two objectives require the preparation and distribution of program literature, as well as personal counselling and assistance to the network of Youth Commissions and their staffs throughout the country.

In November of 1948 the Commission engaged Rabbi Amram Prero to serve as its director. (Mr. Edward Polsky, who has served ably and with devotion as assistant to the director for the past two years, was continued in that capacity.) Since that time a number of innovations have been launched, and the activities to which the Commission is dedicated have been intensified. A Program Department was established, with Mr. Bertram Rosenberg at its helm. It has already begun to make an impact on youth work nationally and locally. We have issued a series of brochures designed to promote the program. We have established a Camp Service Bureau, for the purpose of integrating Zionism in the program of Jewish camps all over the country. A national Youth Leaders' Council, for the purpose of coordinating program and administration among the four affiliated groups, has now been functioning for four months. We have activated the Independence Day Program Guide, a joint venture under the auspices of the Commission, for the proper celebration of the first anniversary of Israel's independence by our young people. In addition, the AZYC has laid the foundation for mutual confidence and assist-

ance among the many local Zionist Youth Commissions, via a National Directors' Conference in February, personal visits, many meetings, and extensive correspondence.

While branching out into these activities, the AZYC has been pursuing its traditional work directly with the four national youth organizations. I am happy to report that the Zionist Youth Commission now has within its framework the largest Jewish youth movement in this country. As of this date, the figures are as follows: Young Judaea: 15,000; Junior Hadassah: 15,000; Masada: 3,000; IZFA: 9,000. This is, of course, mid-year for these groups, and it is realistically anticipated that the total figure will be above 45,000 before this activity year is out. It is generally conceded that the program content matches the progress in numbers.

In mentioning the achievements of our youth work, I am well aware that what we have done is very little in comparison with what should and can be done, if we will it. This is a period of tremendous opportunity for us. Our youth is emotionally receptive, as never before, to all that Israel implies, and to a positive Jewish survival. It is imperative that we turn our attention ever more strongly, in these strategic days, toward expanding and intensifying this work. If the ZOA and Hadassah will indicate their active determination to have a large and vital youth movement—and manifest that determination by furnishing necessary funds—they will have that movement, and the movement will have a deep spiritual content.

LEON A. KOHN
Chairman

Chalutziuth Commission

CREATED IN JANUARY, 1948, under the joint auspices of the Zionist Organization and Hadassah, the General Zionist Chalutziuth Commission has a two-fold purpose: To mould in the American General Zionist community an understanding of chalutziuth, and to support, financially and morally, Plugat Aliyah, the General Zionist Chalutz movement, and Haoleh, the non-partisan intercollegiate chalutz movement.

In the summer of 1948 Camp Hatzofeh—the first chalutz tent camp in the history of American General Zionism—was established on the site of the Plugat Aliyah training farm near Poughkeepsie, New York. More than 150 boys and girls, aged 15 to 18, worked, studied and played in the spirit of chalutzim in Israel. Camp Hatzofeh, though experimental in nature, was a distinct success, and conclusively demonstrated the great need for such a summer program. A substantial number of Hatzofeh graduates have joined Plugat Aliyah, feeling the desire for personal service to Israel and their people.

In order to meet the growing demand for the approaching season, the Commission will enlarge and improve Camp Hatzofeh in addition to staffing other camps requesting personnel from the ranks of the Plugah, thereby benefitting other areas of the country which are relatively inaccessible to the Camp.

During the past year the Commission has made it possible for Plugat Aliyah, in cooperation with Young Judaea and the Youth Commission, to promote the concept of the study group—"Chug Aliyah"—to educate select groups of young people for more intensive and active Zionism in the United States, as well as to equip them with knowledge and understanding of Chalutziuth in Israel if such is their desire.

Field trips have been made throughout a large section of the country, in which local Youth Commissions, Z. O. A., Hadassah and youth groups have been contacted and informed of the existence and purposes of Plugat Aliyah, the chugim and Camp Hatzofeh.

Throughout the year, the Chalutziuth Commission and Plugat Aliyah have sponsored successful social and educational affairs, generally in commemoration of Jewish holidays and festivals; pamphlets and brochures presenting the ideological and technical aspects of chalutziuth have been issued; educational outlines have been published; *Hakol Hakoreh*, a magazine devoted to articles concerning Chalutziuth, the Plugah and Israel is distributed bi-monthly to various affiliated organizations. Weekend seminars and conferences have been held frequently at the chava (farm) in Poughkeepsie for members of the chugim, Young Judaea, Junior Hadassah and Masada.

The Chalutziuth Commission has also undertaken the maintenance of two shlichim from Israel (one in conjunction with Junior Hadassah) to aid Camp Hatzofeh, educational and promotional work and to vitalize our link with Israel.

At this writing, our eyes are turned with anticipation and pride to the Upper Galilee, which will be the site of the first American General Zionist kvutzah. This will be the culmination as well as the opening of a new chapter in constructive American General Zionist accomplishments in Israel.

We also record with gratification the steady growth of Haoleh, the campus movement sponsored by the Intercollegiate Zionist Federation, during the past year. They have acquired and are manning their own training farm, as well as embarking upon exploitation of professional prospects for aliyah. The Commission contributes both financially and ideologically to its development.

We must pay tribute to Mr. Louis Schwefel, our devoted and energetic Chairman, who is now visiting Israel. He should be singled out for high commendation for his indefatigable efforts, sagacious guidance and determined leadership. We are happy to extend an expression of gratitude to Mrs. Samuel Insellbuch, the Hadassah co-chairman, for cooperation and joint leadership in this increasingly vital sphere of Zionist activity.

RABBI JOSEPH P. STERNSTEIN
Acting Co-Chairman

Bnai Zion

BNAI ZION, the fraternal Zionist Organization of America, has maintained its leadership in the work for Geulah Ha'aretz by continuing to make the largest per capita contributions to the Jewish National Fund for the past year.

The annual Order Day of Bnai Zion was held on January 31, 1949, and was tendered in honor of our Nassi, Harry A. Pine, in recognition of his twenty-five years of outstanding service to the Zionist movement.

The achievements of Bnai Zion in the field of constructive efforts for Israel through the Eretz Israel Committee were due chiefly to the inspiring leadership of its chairman, Dr. Harris J. Levine, and the devotion of his associates and members of the committee.

The past year witnessed a marked increase in activity on behalf of Kfar Bnai Zion, which has received an additional 500 dunams of land as a result of our last Order Day income. In the forefront of our activities for Kfar Bnai Zion were the members of the Women's Council, headed by Mrs. Dorothy Levine, who raised the funds necessary for the erection of a kindergarten and nursery to accommodate an additional group of forty war-orphaned children, assigned to them by the Jewish Agency.

Bnai Zion, having organized and sponsored the American Red Mogen Dovid for Israel, is justly proud of the great strides made by this organization and its important contributions to the first aid work in Israel, particularly during the war effort. Large quantities of dry blood plasma and scores of ambulances, together with first aid medical and surgical supplies were sent to Israel. With respect to blood plasma and ambulances the full requirements of the Israeli Army as well as the civilian population in the Jewish State were filled by the Magen David Adom.

A Red Mogen Dovid commission, consisting of Congressman Emanuel Celler, Dr. Harris J. Levine, Mrs. Archibald Silverman and

Zalman Friedman, who visited Israel last October, discussed with the leaders of the Israeli Government the part that this first aid agency will play in the structure of the new state, with a view to arranging for the Magen David Adom to be the official representative of Israel in the International Red Cross.

Recently, Bnai Zion made available the facilities of its medical clinic for the examination of returning American young men and women who served with the Haganah forces in Israel, and has made arrangements for those who are in need of further treatment and physical rehabilitation.

In our effort to strengthen the organizational structure of Bnai Zion, we have organized councils in the various communities where more than three or four Camps (branches) of Bnai Zion exist. This de-centralization of many of our activities has tended to bring Bnai Zion closer to the homes of our individual Camps and members and has afforded an opportunity for active participation of local leadership through the arrangement of rallies, symposia and forums.

Our insurance in force is mounting rapidly and we are certain that under the leadership of our Sgan Rishon, Dr. Jacob I. Steinberg, we will pass the \$2,000,000 insurance in force mark during the year of 1949. Dunne's International Insurance Report for last year gave Bnai Zion a rating of A+ Excellent and we now issue insurance certificates in amounts up to \$25,000 on whole life, twenty payment and twenty-year endowment plans. A new feature has been added to the Bnai Zion insurance certificates in the form of the disability waiver of premium, which is available on all policies of \$1,000 and over.

The Plan and Scope Committee, headed by our Sgan Sheni, Dr. Sidney Marks, has inspired all our efforts. Our membership activities have continued at an unprecedented pace under the able leadership of Louis K. Bleeker, chairman of the National Membership Committee. A new spirit of membership undertaking has been instilled in our organization.

In the field of youth work, they were ably assisted by Norman Levine, chairman of the Youth Council, through the formation of three new groups—Israel Camp No. 55, Bnai Herzl Camp No. 19 and Reunion Camp No. 40. We also have organized two adult Camps, Zion Camp No. 50, organized by our Field Director, Garson W.

Danglo, and Lieut. Abe Reznik Camp No. 26, organized by T. David Reznik.

We are extremely happy to announce that a group of friends and admirers of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, headed by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Daniel Frisch, Dr. Harris J. Levine, Albert Schiff, Dr. Sidney Marks, Jacques Torczyner, Mendel N. Fisher, Abraham Goodman, Jack Goodman, Joseph Greenleaf, Louis B. Kagan, Phil Lassar, Martin Adolf, David Moskowitz and other prominent Zionists, are organizing a national Camp (branch) of Bnai Zion as a living tribute to the great American Zionist leader, in recognition of his great achievements on behalf of the State of Israel. We are confident that this will serve as an additional bond between Bnai Zion and the Zionist Organization of America.

HERMAN Z. QUITTMAN
Mazkir - Secretary



Histadruth Ivrit of America

COGNIZANT OF the need for broadening the base of Hebrew cultural activities, and with a view to enlisting every segment of American Jewry in an over-all program for Hebrew cultural work, the Histadruth Ivrit, in cooperation with the World Hebrew Union, convened a national conference (*Kinnus*) which was held on the week-end of April 30. Dr. Alexander Rosenfeld, director of the World Hebrew Union, was invited from Israel to direct the preparations for the Conference.

Close to 40 national organizations responded to the call. Men of note in the world of Hebrew letters and American Jewish life participated in the Conference. Simultaneous with the *Kinnus* there was held the bi-annual Convention of the Histadruth Ivrit.

Hadoar, the only Hebrew weekly periodical outside Israel, under the able editorship of Menachem Ribalow, noted critic and essayist, has made great headway. The financial position of the *Hadoar* improved but it is far from being self-supporting. The support of the Histadruth Ivrit, the cooperation of the Zionist Organization of America and the interest of Friends of Hebrew make it possible for the *Hadoar* to operate. Some increased assistance will have to be forthcoming, if its potentialities for growth and influence are to be realized.

Musaf Lakorei Hatzair, the vocalized bi-weekly periodical, completed its fifth year of publication under the editorship of Haim Leaf. It is published both as a supplement to the *Hadoar* and as an independent periodical for the Jewish youth. *Hadoar Lanoar*, the Hebrew bi-weekly for children, under the editorship of Simcha Rubinstein, entered upon its sixteenth year. This children's periodical is also published as a supplement to *Hadoar* and as an independent children's publication.

Sefer Hachanah, the Hebrew bi-annual year book, now in its eleventh year, appeared recently under the editorship of Menachem

Ribalow. The 714 pages of this valuable publication contain literary and scholarly articles on all phases of Jewish life. A special section is devoted to the new State of Israel.

Ogen, our book publishing department, issued two books this year. A worthy contribution to Hebrew belle-letters is a volume of short stories by Bernard Isaacs, *Bein Shnei Olamot*, published recently. The first volume of the translations of the poetic works of Chaim Nachman Bialik, under the editorship of Israel Efros, was warmly received by the Jewish public. The cost of publishing Hebrew books has risen to unexpected proportions and *Ogen* was compelled to limit its activities for the current year. However, several books are now in preparation, including *Igeret Teyman* (Yemenite Epistle) edited by Dr. Solomon Goldman and a book of Hebrew poems by Yaakov Kahan.

Ogen Li-ladim, a publication department for children's literature, was started this year and the first story, *Aym Hashomrim*, edited by Dr. W. Z. Chomsky, appeared recently.

The Histadruth Ivrit this year joined the Jewish Education Committee of New York in establishing a Hebrew theatre for children. The premiere of the first play, "The Dancing Bear," took place on April 10 and was warmly acclaimed. Performances will continue into the Fall.

Yaakov Kahan, one of the great contemporary Hebrew poets, visited America for a three months' period and receptions were arranged for him in all leading Jewish communities in the United States and Canada.

Histadruth Ivrit continues to sponsor the Bialik School, an experimental progressive all-day Hebraic school, for children between 4 and 8.

The second Massad camp was opened in the course of the year and augmented the large number of boys and girls who are afforded the opportunity of spending their summer in a complete Hebrew environment. The position of the Massad camps is being consolidated and a new building program is being projected.

Hanoar Haivri continued to establish Hebrew speaking circles of Jewish youth all over the country. It concentrated this year on

Massad campers and their friends, and on College campuses. A *Kinnus*, national conference of Hebrew speaking youth, is being planned for the summer to map a more extensive program for the coming year.

Since March 5, 1949, the Histadruth Ivrit has been sponsoring a radio program on Saturday evenings over WEVD, conducted entirely in Hebrew. The program includes Bible readings, Hebrew songs, addresses by and interviews with leading Jewish personalities.

Duchan (Hebrew Forum) presented to large audiences an array of noted lecturers in Hebrew. Among those who graced our platform were: the Hon. Abba Even, Joseph Aricha, Samuel J. Borowsky, Dr. Alexander M. Dushkin, Dr. Israel Efros, Dr. Simon Federbush, Prof. M. Lazarson, Prof. Samuel K. Mirsky, Menachem Ribalow, Dr. Eliezer Rieger, Dr. B. Akzin, Dr. I. S. Silberschlag, Prof. Eliezer L. Sukenik, A. Zeitlin and others. The 60th birthday of the outstanding Hebrew novelist, S. Agnon, was observed.

The demand for adult courses increased and it was met by the organization of a large number of classes in the New York Metropolitan area. Thirty classes met regularly under the supervision of the Histadruth Ivrit and in cooperation with local organizations and Zionist regions. The Long Island and Bronx Zionist regions were particularly helpful.

Branches of Histadruth Ivrit, both Hebrew speaking and non-Hebrew speaking, flourish in over 60 communities. Chicago, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Cleveland and New Haven showed special progress. These branch groups were provided with material and speakers by the central office.

Hebrew Month, which was observed March 15 to April 15, featured this year the Hebrew Sabbath on April 2. Hebrew sermons were delivered from pulpits in Synagogues on that Sabbath. The major Rabbinical organizations cooperated. Over 400 Hebrew and religious schools joined in the observances. A large public function in New York marked the opening of Hebrew Month, with Hon. Abba Even, Israel representative to the United Nations, as the guest speaker.

The New York annual dinner, held on November 19 was honored this year by the presence of the Israel Ambassador Mr. Eliahu Elath. Samuel J. Borowsky, Daniel Frisch and Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin also spoke. Harry P. Fierst was chairman of the dinner and

Joseph Weiss served as treasurer. A plaque for distinguished service to the Hebrew movement was presented by Dr. Alexander M. Dushkin to Samuel J. Borowsky in behalf of the organization.

Overseas activities continued on an accelerated scale. Our periodicals, publications and reading materials were sent, in ever increasing quantities, to D.P. Camps in Europe and the *Kibutzim* in Israel. The presence in the United States of Dr. Alexander Rosenfeld, director of the Hebrew World Union, helped to strengthen the ties between Histadruth Ivrit and Brit Ivrit Olamit, and a substantial subvention, based on our membership dues, was allocated to Brit Ivrit Olamit.

Mr. Mordecai Halevi resigned his post as executive director at the beginning of the year and Mr. Abraham Spierer was chosen as secretary for the balance of the year. He was assisted by Hy Lev, campaign director, I. L. Wohlman, field representative, and Z. Glatstein, in charge of several educational activities.

The newly elected officers are: President, Mr. Samuel J. Borowsky; Past Presidents, Dr. Alexander M. Dushkin, Prof. Chaim Tchernowitz, Dr. Israel Efros, Dr. Solomon Goldman, Boris Margolin, Rabbi Samuel K. Mirsky; Vice Presidents, Dr. Moshe Davis, Dr. Simon Federbush, Samuel Fishman, Menachem Ribalow; Treasurer, Harry P. Fierst; Chairman Finance Committee, Joseph Weiss; Secretary, Mordecai Halevi; Executive Secretary, Abraham Spierer.

SAMUEL J. BOROWSKY

ALEXANDER M. DUSHKIN

BORIS MARGOLIN

Presidium.

The Hebrew Arts Foundation

THE HEBREW ARTS FOUNDATION seeks to develop an appreciation and interest in Hebrew Art and Culture throughout the American-Jewish community. Our aim is to accomplish what Jews have long known to be true: that the strongest and most positive identification our people can achieve as Jews comes from real pride and active interest in our cultural heritage.

Aided by a subvention from the Zionist Organization of America, we have continued to work through the media of music, the film and the theatre. We have an effective Program Service offering a distinctive cultural contribution to the community.

The Kinor Sinfonietta under the direction of Siegfried Landau has had a very successful season and has performed in the major concert halls in New York. Kinor has introduced new works on Hebrew themes at each one of the concerts given and has been accorded the honor of being chosen by the State Department, "Voice of America" program as the outstanding group performing Jewish Music. Transcriptions were taken at a Brooklyn Museum concert to be used all over the world.

We are producing a series of song films for the Jewish festival periods. They are done professionally using animation, the words appearing both in Hebrew and in English transliteration on the screen. The films are used in schools, centers and by community groups.

The Hebrew Arts Foundation has sponsored the creation of Bubatron—a Children's Hebrew Puppet Theatre which has already had four major performances in and around New York with many more still to be given. The response to these showings has demonstrated that there is a definite need in the community for an art media which will convey the vitality of the living Hebrew word.

We service organizations planning meetings, functions, etc.

and provide American and Israeli talent on a high cultural level for such affairs.

We have serviced over 75 groups during the past season with a total audience of approximately 25,000 people.

The officers of the Foundation are: Chairman, Rabbi Edward T. Sandrow; Co-Chairman, Victor M. Ratner; Vice-Chairman, Dr. Moshe Davis; Treasurer, Ethel W. Schleifer; Chairman of Executive Committee, Rabbi Bernard Mandelbaum; Rabbi Jack Cohen, Rabbi Arthur Chiel, Rabbi Samuel Geffen, Ben Gradus, Herbert Lukashok, Richard Manoff, Rabbi Charles Schulman, Hillel Silverman, Irving Galt, and Richard Yaffee. The Board of Film Review: Carl Alpert, Louis Berger, Dr. Samuel Blumenfeld, Rabbi David Cedarbaum, Dr. Samuel Dinin, Robert Disraeli, Dr. Azriel Eisenberg, Dr. Abraham Franzblau, Samuel Freeman, Dr. Emanuel Gamoran, Hannah Goldberg, Dr. Joseph Kaminetsky, David Kouselovitz, Rabbi Benjamin Lowell, Dr. Judah Pilch, Hyman Ruffman, Louis Ruffman, Prof. Zevi Scharfstein, Rabbi Abraham Soltes, Schlome Schulsinger, Dr. Zalmen Slesinger. The Bubatron Review Board: Samuel Citron, Phillip Goodman, Dr. Joseph Kaminetsky, Mrs. Judith Leiberman, Dr. Ezra Millgram, Schlome Schulsinger, David Wertheim. Executive Secretary, Lucy D. Manoff.

RABBI EDWARD T. SANDROW
Chairman.

Keren Hayesod

DURING 1948, as heretofore, Keren Hayesod has continued to function as the fiscal arm of the Jewish Agency. It has again foregone direct fund collections in the United States and has operated in this field through the United Palestine Appeal and the United Jewish Appeal. The officers and governing boards of Keren Hayesod knew that the establishment of the State would mean the influx of immigrants in unprecedented numbers and that vast funds would be needed. They therefore supported and welcomed the setting of the 1948 goal of \$250,000,000. In 1948 Keren Hayesod in the United States made available to the Keren Hayesod, Jerusalem, and the Jewish Agency for Palestine, a total of \$30,095,704. In addition, there was repaid on bank loans \$2,820,000. It also received, as the Keren Hayesod share of collections in Latin-American and other countries, amounts aggregating \$944,045 which were forwarded to Keren Hayesod, Jerusalem. Since these sums were not collected in the United States, Keren Hayesod merely acted as transmitting agent.

These resources made possible the transportation of hundreds of thousands of immigrants and their integration into Israel's economy. The traditional activities of Keren Hayesod: colonization and settlement, hachsharah, aid to industry, support of scientific, cultural and educational institutions, urban and agricultural developments, all have been carried on at accelerated pace.

On the American scene the Zionist Archives and Library of the Keren Hayesod, has continued its outstanding service. A fuller report of its activities is appended, submitted by Miss Sophie Udin, Director, who, together with her staff, have continued to administer and conduct the library with zeal and ability.

Service for Palestine, a wholly self-supporting project of Keren Hayesod, was responsible for shipping 50,000 gift food packages from persons in the United States to their relatives in Israel. It helped meet a great need in Israel and evoked many expressions of approval and gratitude. Aid was extended to the Mizrahi Zionist food project in the amount of almost \$130,000. Dr. Werner Feilchenfeld,

Executive Vice President of this project, has written a separate report which follows.

The Keren Hayesod, after a considerable amount of spade work, made progress during 1948 in stimulating interest in the United States in the arts and crafts of Israel. A number of impressive exhibits were arranged in many sections of the country, and the response has been gratifying. Only the difficulty of obtaining deliveries due to the war conditions prevailing in Israel retarded sales in volume. Since many of the artisans are returning to work, it is expected that Keren Hayesod's activities in this field will bear fruit in sales of sufficient magnitude to keep many artisans in Israel gainfully employed. The sale of these items in the United States will, it is expected, also have the effect of stimulating manufacturers to adopt modern means of production, and decrease in costs will also result from improved competitive conditions.

The officers of the Keren Hayesod take this opportunity to express their thanks to the staff for their continued devoted and conscientious work, and to the Finance Committee, which met regularly and discharged its duties cheerfully and efficiently. The President's thanks are due especially to Abraham Krumbein, Charles Wolf and Jacob Lukashok for their unstinted, capable and self sacrificing cooperation. As heretofore, Miss Sarah Behrman, Executive Director and her staff, have worked faithfully and well. Their service has been indispensable.

CHARLES RESS
President

Zionist Archives and Library

THE MOMENTOUS events of the year were mirrored in the activities of the Zionist Archives and Library of the Palestine Foundation Fund, and there was a great increase in the demands for information from organizations, members of the press, members of Congress, authors, students, universities and libraries. Fortunately, the material in our collection, due to our persistent efforts, was so well organized that we were able to meet these increased demands.

Our Hebrew collection was augmented by the hundreds of current Hebrew works which were selected and purchased during the director's visit to Israel. Likewise, through the kindness of the Zionist Central Archives in Jerusalem, we were able to obtain some of the Protocols of the Russian Zionist movement during the period from 1901 to 1903. The same visit was instrumental in establishing for the Library contact with all governmental departments in Israel and these departments are now forwarding their material directly to us. Among the more important documents are the "Iton Rashmi," the official Israeli Gazette, and the "Yeshivot" which are the Proceedings of the Sessions of the State Council. All these acquisitions have enriched the holdings of the Library.

One of the more important services which we render is the issuance of a bibliography of books, pamphlets and periodicals called "Palestine and Zionism." This index is issued bimonthly and lists material on Zionism, Israel, Palestine, the Middle East and the Jews. "Palestine and Zionism" is now a standard index for all who are in quest of information in the fields which it covers, and its three year cumulative volume includes all material indexed from January 1946 through December 1948. We are proud that "Palestine and Zionism" has been termed an indispensable bibliographical tool.

Pictures have a way of telling a story that sometimes cannot be put into words and the Zionist Archives and Library, feeling that

this is a dynamic part of its activities, inaugurated a picture collection. In its first year 5000 pictures have been assembled. Among the important pictures in the collection are the first Zionist Congress, the founding of Tel Aviv, the establishment of some of the first settlements as well as those founded recently. This department has been called upon to provide scenes of roads in Palestine with signposts in English, Arabic and Hebrew and a picture of Palestinian cigarettes for Universal Pictures for its forthcoming movie on Palestine. It provided material for the series of twelve film strips issued by the Zionist Organization of America on "Israel Today." Universities and other institutions of learning have received photographs for exhibit purposes. The United Nations requested pictures of refugees and immigrants. The "Herald-Tribune" used our pictures of Weizmann for the autobiography which they serialized. These are but a few of the needs supplied by this department whose collection is being augmented daily.

During this year we supplied information on the currency laws, the foreign exchange ordinances and other economic material to the committee which drew up a memorandum submitted to the United States Government. Biographies of Israeli Cabinet members were supplied to the "New York Post," the "New York Times," "Current Biography," the "Forward," the "Jewish American," etc. The new Israeli flag was also a source of great interest and there were daily requests for the history of the Zionist flag which is also the new Israeli flag. All Zionist bodies and the Israeli government itself, as well as the Israeli offices in Washington and New York, desired information. A considerable number of books was sent to Israel for the use of the Israeli government.

The users of the Library for the year 1948 were 3,844 and for March, 1949, were 456. The number of books circulated during 1948 was 1,164.

With the establishment of the State of Israel the Zionist Archives and Library of the Palestine Foundation Fund will strive to extend its services so that all who wish information can readily acquire it.

SOPHIE A. UDIN
Director and Librarian

Palestine Bureau

WHEN THE Consulate General of Israel was opened in New York in June, 1948, we had on register about 1,750 applications for visas by American residents. Thereupon we notified the applicants that they could proceed freely to Israel under any desired category. Several hundred applicants promptly replied requesting us to secure visas for them.

However, relatively few of them were enabled to carry out their plans, only those in possession of American passports issued prior to the establishment of the State of Israel. The State Department advised others to renew their applications at a later time when conditions in the Middle East would be restored to "normal." This restriction, which was in force for more than six months, made it impossible for many hundreds of persons to make the trip to Israel. Due to the intervention of the American Zionist Emergency Council, which had undertaken an intensive action to bring about a change in the official policy, the State Department finally relaxed the restrictions and by the beginning of February, 1949, passports were being issued freely.

From then to the present time, additional applications exceeding 2,500 were received by us. Of this number, some 1,100 have already proceeded to Israel.

All these applications have been approved by the Israel Consul General, whose brotherly cooperation and assistance in the numerous difficult cases has been a source of gratification to all concerned. At the present moment, since April 1st, 1949, when the Palestine Bureau was transferred to the Jewish Agency for Palestine, we still have over 1,000 cases pending in our files. From the lists of applicants who have already left and those who expect to sail it is learned that 25% of them, representing a capital of several million dollars, are to be residents, while the other 75% applied for visitors' visas. Note should be taken, however, that more than half of the latter, considering their present trip to be of an exploratory nature, intend to apply for a change of status from tourist to resident after arriving in Israel. They are prepared to start their activities in various trades and industries,

mostly small industries, with the hope of having their families join them in the near future, their immediate concern being the securing of housing facilities.

It should be stressed that the typical traveller "for pleasure" has yet to make his appearance to a substantial degree. It is hoped, however, that in the near future, with travel conditions improved, there will be an increasing stream of such traffic.

Assistance to Relatives Abroad

Throughout the period of 1948 we were of assistance to a great number of American Jews in behalf of their relatives in the Balkan countries, Czechoslovakia, Roumania and Hungary. Arrangements were made whereby the applications submitted to us by the American relatives were forwarded through the Israeli Consulate in New York to the Government in Tel Aviv, which in turn instructed the Israeli consulates in the respective countries to issue the visas.

About 400 such applications have been granted by the immigration authorities in Tel Aviv and quite a number of them were permitted by the governments concerned to set sail for Israel.

With the transfer of the Palestine Bureau to the Jewish Agency for Palestine, we wish to express our thanks and appreciation to Mr. Charles Ress, President of the Keren Hayesod, and to Miss Sarah Behrman, its Executive Secretary, for their constant interest and helpful cooperation in the year and a half we have been together. We found in them thoughtful friends, deeply concerned with the tasks and problems of the Palestine Bureau.

DR. S. BERNSTEIN
Director

Service for Palestine

IN APRIL, 1948, all mail services, including parcel post, were interrupted with Israel, while the situation in Israel required additional food supply from friends and relatives in this country. Faced with this situation, the Keren Hayesod decided to set up an organization on the lines of CARE, working without any commercial interest of its own and being at the disposal of individuals and institutions eager to send food to Israel.

The response of the public after the first advertisement of Service for Palestine, Inc., on May 10, 1948, was overwhelming. 250 orders were received in the first week, 750 in the second and well over 1,000 in the following weeks. The peak was reached in September with close to 2,000 orders in one week. One year's total turnover amounts to about 50,000 food packages with a value of over \$600,000.

In order to give the donor the full benefit of the cheapest possible price, we bought the food stuffs, rented two warehouses and were responsible for packing, shipping and insuring with the assistance of expert brokers. The price of our food packages thus was almost 25% below the usual price for similar food packages sent to Europe. After several months, the difficulties of applying for port licenses for every individual package and the wish to transfer Zionist funds from Europe induced us to make an agreement with one Scandinavian country, transferring purchases, packing and shipment of the food from this country to Scandinavia. An agreement with the respective government assured us part payment in dollars while for the balance Zionist funds in the respective country could be used for our payments. We thus succeeded in clearing all accumulated frozen funds there of the Keren Hayesod, Keren Kayemeth, the WIZO and most of the funds of the Haganah which we transferred at the full rate of exchange to Israel without any loss or fee.

In Israel we set up an organization similar to CARE, and secured a stockpile of several thousand packages bought, shipped and stored in advance, enabling us to deliver our packages immediately

after arrival of the order by airmail in Israel. The distribution there, however, suffered under the extraordinary conditions still prevailing in the war. However, with a total order volume of almost 50,000 packages, we have received until today only 1,377 complaints, most of which were caused by mistakes in addresses and all of which were cleared after some investigation. Refunds to donors, necessitated by non-delivery, or other mistakes had to be given in only 26 cases in spite of our obligation to make refund in full if delivery was not made during a reasonable time.

During the time of our activity, we kept in close contact with the United Palestine Appeal, the Zionist Organization of America and with the Israeli government, and the head office of the Keren Hayesod in Jerusalem. We never made any attempt to attract donations which could endanger the outcome of the U. J. A. From the beginning we were in touch with the Food Controller of the State of Israel, trying to select the food which was urgently needed in Israel. The last information received from the Food Control Office reported that under the present provisions of austerity, more than 5,000 packages monthly should be supplied by us as gifts from donors in this country to their friends or relatives in Israel and we were asked to intensify our activity accordingly.

At the beginning of this month, we were glad to announce the extension of our service to gifts other than food, especially household appliances, typewriters, sewing machines, etc., for which we had submitted a special plan to the Israeli government. We have just started to execute this plan providing the dispatch of refrigerators, washing machines, other electrical household appliances, office appliances, professional equipment, bed linens, suitings, etc. from donors in this country to beneficiaries in Israel on a similar basis which should safeguard the interest of donors and donees.

DR. W. FEILCHENFELD
Executive Vice President