

Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

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

Series II: Harold P. Manson File (Zionism Files), 1940-1949, undated. Sub-series B: Additional Manson Material, 1943-1949, undated.

Reel	Box	Folder
109	38	463

Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, 1951 January 12.

Western Reserve Historical Society 10825 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106 (216) 721-5722 wrhs.org American Jewish Archives 3101 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220 (513) 487-3000 AmericanJewishArchives.org

HEARING BEFORE THE

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

State Department Building

January 12, 1946

PAGES: 1 to 131

NATIONAL 4266 4267 4268 WARD & PAUL (ELECTREPORTER, ING.) OFFICIAL REPORTERS 1760 PENNSYLVANIA AVE, N. W. WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

CONTENTS

		Fage
Dr.	Walter Clay Lowdermilk	2
Dr.	Abel Wolman	28
Mr.	James B. Hays	46
Mr.	Harry W. Bashcre	68
The	Rev. Chas T. Eridgeman	71
Dr.	Daniel A. Poling	96



HEARINGS BEFORE THE

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Held in Room 474 of the Department of State Building

Saturday, January 12, 1946

MORNING SESSION

APPEARANCES

On Jordan Valley Authority

Dr. Walter Clay Lowdermilk Dr. Abel Wolman Mr. James B. Hays Mr. Harry W. Bashore

The Rev. Chas T. Bridgeman

Dr. Daniel A. Poling, Representing the American Palestine Committee

PROCEEDING3

(The hearing convened at 10:10 a.m.) MR. ROOD: Dr. Walter Clay Loudermilk. STATEMENT OF DR. WALTER CLAY LOWDERMILK, REPRESENTING THE JORDAN VALLEY AUTHORITY

JUDGE HUTCHESON: Before you begin, Doctor, I would say for the Committee, as I said to you a little earlier and received your very gracious understanding of it, that we have all read your book, we have read something other than what you said, something from Mr. Nathan, some of his stuff which collaterally touched on what you spoke of, not directly. We are intending not to undertake to either display our knowledge by asking you questions, or our ignorance, whichever it might be. We are hoping that in your presentation you will be able to briefly summarize the substance of what you are doing in such away that it will make us, as we say on the bench, want to look further into it and see wherein these things are true or not true by testing them by the record.

Be very brief, not because we are not attaching importance to your material, but we will not ask questions because we fell that later opportunity to study it would give us a better knowledge of how to

analyze it with the statements you are now going to make.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: If I may add to that, Mr. Chairman, I propose to follow your lead and not to ask any questions either. In fact, I haven't had time to consider the volume in its entirety.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: All right, proceed.

DR. LOWDERMILK: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, Dr. Bennett, my chief, is agreeable and authorizes me to speak before you and with the hope that our work in Soil Conservation, which we have been carrying on in this country, may be of some help.

I am assistant chief of the Soil Conservation Service, employed by our own Department of Agrialture, and I am not in any way connected with the Zionist cause or the Zionist organization.

It might be helpful to the Committee to realize that this study which I made was the outcome of a general study which we made of conditions in the Old World for the benefit of our farmers and stockmen here in the United States, and that finding, the unusual situation, which I shall dwell on a little more later, in Palestine, I felt there was an opportunity there for much greater development and

so said in this book which you are acquainted with, apparently.

New, I recommended to the Jewish Foundation Fund people that there should be carried out and studied an engineering study to work out the details of this proposal which I have made for the Jordan Valley Authority. This agency through private funds and some from other funds, I know--I don't know how it was financed from that point of view--carried on the studies according to our suggestions and they have made the studies, they have appointed, as you know, an advisory board, which is listed in this general report, of people, some of them in the Government service, the TVA, without compensation, just because of our great interest in this unique opportunity in the Holy Lands to develop a way of using the unique resources to full capacity.

Now today I would like to speak for the land. I have been making studies for over 23 years now, trying to learn how we may adjust the human population to the earth, a lasting edjustment, if you please, a righteous adjustment of people to their land resources.

In these studies we have found, for example,

that where mankind has lived longest in organized society, lands are in worse condition, which is an indication that civilization is not yet a success in the use of the earth. We also have come to the conclusion that no treaty or no arrangement or agreement is going to last long if it is not built or founded upon land that is well improved and is conserved and used to the best advantage. We have seen examples not only of farmers being deprived of their income by the washing away of the soil, but we have seen civilizations deprived of their livelihood by the washing away of the soil.

Jo I want to say that our study of these problems comes from a real concern for the lands of the world. Just yesterday Dr. Bennett told me of a letter he had received from South Africa where serious famine is now taking place in an area which the predicted they would have trouble with because it has been practically eroded away. The mealies (corn) down there are not to be had because the land is gone.

There is a problem, not only of our concern here in the United States, but it is a concern the world round. My study was made as an outcome of a

Question by the Appropriations Committee of Congress when we were asking for considerable monies to safeguard our soils in the United States. The point had been made, what had the old nations of the world one about this problem of soil erosion? So I was asked by our department to make such a study.

In 1938 and 1939 I began in England, which is very well favored with good soils, mild rainfall throughout the year, and crops that are not inducive to erosion. Incidentally, the people of England have little conception of what the problems are in erosion in other parts of the world unless they have gotten out into those areas.

Then we went over to Hollani. There I studied the Zuider Zee project, which I consider one of the greatest achivements of mankind so far in reclamation of the earth where they won from the floor of the sea fine agricultural lands, leaching the salt out of the bottom of the North Sea waters.

We went into Les Landes in France where the reclamation of the sand dunes of France is one of the great achievements in that type of work, and saw the torrent control in the southest of France in the Basses Alps. We went into Italy and across

into Africa, where the French, incidentally, are doin; a remarkable job in making practical use of archeology. They have come to the conclusion that there has been no adverse change in climate since Roman times. Therefore, it is possible to re-explore the agriculture that existed since Roman times and the, are doing so and going further, building dams for irrigation, and so on. But they overlook the watershed, and their reservoirs are slipping up because their watersheds are ercding too much.

Then we went on to Libya and Egype where the lands never eroded because of a peculiar situation, and remained productive, and on into Palestine where we saw the rains wash the soil off the hills of Palestine and discolor the Meditevranean out as far as the horizon and up into Lemanon and over in Syria and Irqq in that region which supported, we suspect, 20 millions of people in times past, and which now has a population of less than 4 million, which has capabilities of supporting, I suspect, ten times its present population if the resources there are used. It hasn't been due to the decline of that country.

MR. MCDONALD: Is that Iraq you are speaking of?

DR. LOWDERMILK: Yes, old Mesopotamia.

Well, then, we came back and I spent time because of a special interest in Palestine that I had found because of one thing. I came back for 3 months and studied it in detail, what had been happening there, and went on into Lebanon and continued there for another 6 months.

Now what have I found in all of this region? I say I speak for the land, and the record is written in the land, and you will be able, when you go to Palestime, to read this record if you have eyes to see what is written in the land. It is plain and open for you to see, so you can check me on all my findings.

I hope you can go over into Trans-Jordan, into Jerash, and see that settlement. I know you will be very much conducted throughout this trip, but if you can get off to yourselves and ponder that magnificent city--the ruins of it have been excavated. It has been covered up by erosion, wash off the hills. If you could go out around that city and see what has happened to the land, tewraces are broken down and the soils that have been held by those terraces are wished out.

There is not a tree on this landscape, scarcely

a one. Then you go to the spring, that spring water where the Romans and the Greeks--according to the archeologist who was with me, this was by the style of stonemasonry that was built in Greek times. The water is coming out of the openings cut at the same level that it must have during the time of this great city.

There is a little village there of only 3,000 people, and a somber, squalid condition. What has happened to this country? Throughout 18,000 miles of travel in these Arab countries there is evidence of greater splendor, of prosperity and of a high degree of refinement in agriculture, in the use of soil and water. It is amazing when you go into that. Throughout this region you find that sort of thing.

But in the midst of it I found in Pleatine in these agricultural colonies and settlements, and you can check for yourselves on this, and I hope you will, I found people who demonstrated first a love of the land. I said, "That is what we need in America if we are going to save our own soils."

You know we have destroyed over 57 millions of acres of our fine soils in the United States by

gully erosion. We have got to save these lands because there are no more continents to discover and explore and exploit.

I found in Palestine these people who first demonstrated a love of the land, and by intelligence and by science and by the applications of modern technology whereby they increased the efficiency of production per acre as well as the efficiency of production per man, and that is very important, which gives the farmer the purchasing power that upholds the standards of living. They had restored these old lands to a condition of productivity.

Now wherever I find, whether it be in China, where I have been doing considerable consulting with the Chinese Government, or whether it is down in the hills of Georgia or in Palestine or in Syria, a man who is conserving the soil, saving his basic mesource which supplies the food of mankind, I am going to speak up for him, and so I will speak up for these colonists in Palestine.

They are doing something that is not unknown to themselves, true, tried by fire and by persecution; they are doing something there that has more sigrificance for Palestine alone, significance for that whole Near East, significance for the whole world.

Here for one of the first times is a change in this trend of exploitation of our soil resources to a building up of our soil resources. I don't think we have too much land in this world. We are using the best land already. We are cultivating 3,700,000,000, possibly 4,000,000,000 total acres.

The population in the last 150 years has increased threefold. Le me say with all the conviction I have that unless the United Nations, or any people, build their treaties on productive land, and improving and conserving our resources, we are not going to remove the causes of war, because hungry people don't keep treaties, and hungry people won't stay within their own boundaries.

So we are getting down to the fundamentals of building a sound civilization upon the wise use of the land.

I don't need to go into details of what I found in Palestine, because what I found there is pretty much out of date now, because they have done much more than when I was there, and you can check that for yourselves.

I would like to indicate in my opinion these people in Palestine have demonstrated how those

old lakes that have been so damaged and wasted through 1300 years, or since the seventh century when the Arab nomads swept in with successive invasions that have gradually destroyed the original agriculture and that was a high degree of agriculture I credit to the Phoenicians primarily, and the traditions of agriculture.

Now they are reversing this and they have done something that I think is new under the sum and should have recognition of that fact.

Now another point, I like to identify myself with the farmer, the tiller of the soil, because the condition of the land is very closely tied with the condition of the tiller of the soil. I consider the job of tilling this good earth one of the most noble occupations there is. When it is done correctly and properly it calls for more understanding, more knowledge, more skill and judgment than practically any other profession except, perhaps, medicine, and I doubt, if we use this & of earth properly, if it isn't more than that.

But while this profession calls for it, it hasn't gotten it. This profession of farmer has been looked down upon. The tiller of the soil has been exploited since the days of B_bylon.

They got cheap food from slave labor. The cities have exploited the farmer and the farmer usually has exploited the earth.

So I found, for instance, I go out and if I cannot talk their language the farmer is harvesting and I go out and help him cut the wheat. I get down to the thing he is doing and I have gotten out with the Arab farmers and tried to plow on the rocky hills and I must say that usually I am at a disadvantage because plowing in those rocky hills of Palestine or Syria isn't a very easy job.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: How about plowing on some of those slopes in North Carolina where you came from?

DR. LOWDERMILK: Well, sir, I have plowed there too, but it is much better than portions of Palesting.

Then I have also winnowed the grain, and in that way attempted to get the feel of what this man is up against, and I get also a reaction from him that I am not trying to be greater than he is. In Syria they asked me, "Why have you come over here?" I said, "I came over to see what we could learn from your old agriculture that would be of

benefit to America." "Come to learn from us? Everybody that comes to us tells us something."

But I find this tiller of the soil in the Near East the most exploited of any I think I have seen anywhere in the world. How does this exploitation go on? How does erosion affect this exploitation?

The tenant must give at least a half of his crop to the landlord, and the landlord has set up a certain amount usually. His land is eroding or depleting, production grows less, ow he has less acreage on which to work, there is less to divide, but the landlord usually is the last to give up any reduction because he usually has law and order on his side and the poor tenant then is reduced more and more. That hasbeen the general trend in that part of the world.

I don't believe there is any people, any peasant or any farmer, that has been more exploited.

And here is another point where the Jewish colonies have brought in a new solution. For example, I get the farmers' stories too and prowerbs, which are very enlightening. I got this Arab farmer's story.

This is an Arab farmer's story. The landlord

had sent his son off, with no disrespect, sir, to learn law, and for some reason he had not made very good at it so he returned to his estate to carry on and manage the farm, the farmer's estate. He was out on the threshing floor seeing that the pile of grain for the landlord was equal to the pile of grain for the tenant. Then he saw the straw being piled up to one side and he said to the tenant, "Who gets the straw?" The tenant said, "The tenant gets the straw." Then the young man said to the tenant, "Next year you are to plant wheat, but plant no straw."

In the midst of these Jewish agricultural colonies they have come and they have given an example of how the tiller of the soil can enjoy some of the good things of life. I suspect, gentlemen, some of your troubles are due to the fact that the landlords see that their record is being endangered and that they do not want to see this building up or upress of their exploited tenants carried on any further.

So these agricultural colonies have come into Arabia and they have been pioneers and they have cooperated, they have developed, you will find there, one of the most amazing experiments in

. Ma

sociological experience. I have suggested to some sociologists they make a study of them all from single ownerships up to pure collectives. In between is a type where they give individual initiative to people, but they throw farmland together in large areas where they can use farm machinery and get high, efficient production per man, which gives the farmer purchasing power which enables them to relieve others for industries within the colonies. That is a type of responsibility to the conditions that brings them higher standards of living in that area.

Frankly, it is very useful, I think, to China and it may be for India, but it is showing us a way how people may adjust themselves to the land and yet give to all of the people a high standard of living. That has come into the situation and it is worthy of very serious study.

Now I said I would only use about 30 minutes. We have following the engineers who made the study of the possibilities of what we have called the Jordan Valley Authority. You will notice that these engineers have restricted their study only to Palestine. I feel that I have the right from the point of view of a geographer to say that the use of the land should be based upon the features of the land, the

geographical sufficiency of an area is first important to consider, so that if we are going to use mother earth to the best advantage, and this, remember, is to benefit the Arabs just as much as the Jews, it isn't only for the Jews, but the engineers will follow me and give you the engineering details of this project.

You might be interested to know that when I was flying over Palestine - and incidentally, the British Mandate Government gave me excellent cooperation, furnished me with armored cars so in spite of the terroristic activities I was able to get about over the country. Sometimes they wouldn't let me go very far to get a soil sample off the road, because they feared I might have some mishap. But they also furnished me an airplane, so I was able to fly over the country and study it from the air, and you can see on the whole what has been happening.

When flying over that areait occurred to me, here was this great Jordan Valley, which is some 1300 feet below the sea level, not far from the sea, an opportunity to draw in Mediterranean water and drop it down for power, using the Dead Sea as an evaporation pan, but before that could be dong, however, it would be necessary to take out all the

sweet waters of the Jordan and its territories and use it for irrigation, and do one other thing, which we haven't time to discuss, harmonize the economy of grazing with farming, which I have discussed in the little book.

Now here by using the unique features of this remarkable area and using these resources to full capacity with conservation, there is opportunity in Palestine and there is a need in Palestine of larger population to put in this project which will support several million if it is fully developed, and which may bring a high standard of living to both Jews and Arabs of that area.

It is the constructive approach which we believe has the opportunity, or has means, of putting people to work and getting them busy, cooperating and producing food and their bread. I suspect that many of the ideological ideologies that arise from the conflicts over food or privations of food will be removed when such opportunity is given them.

Now, following me, we would like to have the engineering board--Dr. Wolman, who is chairman of the board--to give you a general idea of the engineering features. I have had no direct concern with the engineering portion of it.

I made this suggestion, and they honored me by putting me on the board, so it is entirely the work of others. However, they counceled with me from time to time. But the engineering features have been worked out entirely by the Palestine Surveys Commission.

I think, Mr. Chairman, that is all

JUDGE HUTCHESON: I understand that you furnish the fruitful imagination and they furnish the controlling facts.

MR. CRICK: Dr. Lowdermilk, you appreciate, of course, that if we were to try and examine this scheme in any detail we should have very few of our 120 days left by the time we had finished. Therefore, I must observe the self-denying ordnance and ask very few questions, but I would like to ask you in the first place a personal question. That is, whether you have had any contact in this matter with the food and agricultural organization, or with the conferences that preceded the foundation of that body.

DR. LOWDERMILK: Yes sir, I have talked with a number of them and I was a member on the Interim Commission, but we didn't have occasion to present this idea affecting Palestine. We referred to it and used it as an example of how we might make full

19

St. CLARK IS NO MONIST

methodine a state

use of the land to the advantage of all concerned, but I haven't been able to inject it into the counsels of the HAD.

MR. CRICK: You haven't any means of judging whether they would be receptive to the idea of taking an active part in any such scheme.

DR. LOWDERMILK: No sir.

MR. CRICK: Now I take it that this scheme is presented not only as an engineering project, but as a piece of economic planning.

MR. LOWDERMIK : Well, it is planning of a project, yes, like we plan our irrigation projects here in the United States.

MR. CRICK: I mention the point because while I don't expect answers to my questions this morning--it would be very unfair to the vitnesses--I would be very grateful and I think my colleagues on the Committee would be grateful if you could give us considered answers to a few questions which I would like to put to you now, and no doubt you can get from the secretary a transcript of it and take them away with you.

I would like to know in the first place what Is the basis of the estimates of cost set out in the two documents which have been put before us.

I mean "basis" in two senses in particular, first, in the sense of the date upon which your estimates are grounded. That is to say, are you speaking of 1939 costs or current costs, or what? You will appreciate it is highly important on account of the inflation in Palestine since 1939. And then a great deal of this total cost must, I take it, represent payment for labor on the work involved in this construction project.

I would like to know whether the estimates are based upon Jewish rates of wages or Arab-rates of wages.

Now the second question on which I would like some light is whether you can give details of the proportion of that total cost which represents external expenditure. For instance, on engineering advice and planning, or engineering materials, or what. What is the external proportion of the total cost?

And then, thirdly, I should like to know who it is suggested should undertake this scheme, if it were in fact adopted. Is it a scheme that could best, im your judgment, be carried out by the mandatory power, or shall we say by the Jewish Agency, or by some interested body, or by whom?

Then fourthly, I would very much like the ideas of yourself and your colleagues on the prosective sources of capital for financing this project. If we set aside the suggestion of reparation-let us assume that that suggestion is not capable of adoption--then where is it supposed the money would be found, firstly, for the internal proportion of the costs, and secondly, for the external?

Then fifthly, I should like to know the views of the projectors of the prospective effects on the general economy of the country, but more particularly upon the export prospects of Palestine. Perhaps that might be developed a little. It is referred to in one of the papers.

And finally, I should like an answer to the question whether it is envisaged that this scheme would be of benefit, direct or indirect, and in that particular manner to countries contiguous to Palestine.

Now I am afraid I have put a very tall order before you, but I am sure the Committee would be extremely grateful for any information or views you can give us along those lines.

DR. LOWDERMILK: Mr. Hays, who follows me, will give you the engineering details and will answer a

number of those questions. Some of the others which have to do with who shall put it in, that, we feel, is a matter which our respective governments, or this Commission may suggest, or however the British Government may find a solution for it. But the principal idea that I have is to present here the possibilities of a very remarkable project which is as practical as any of the projects we have in Southern California, because the two areas are so similar, and that it has the possibilities of offering a solution to some of these problems which are wry grave upon us at the present time.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: I understand Mr. Crick is suggesting that someone connected with the body take these questions and give you plenty of time to formulate your answers and file a memorandum with us.

DR. LOWDERMILK: I am sure that can be done.

LORD MORRISON: Might I ask you one question? I want to get clear, to make sure I have your basic assumption right. Would it be correct to say that your basic assumption is that it is essential for a healthy people to first of all start making sure they are living on a healthy soil?

DR. LOWDERMILK: Yes sir.

LORD MORRISON: That largely we may have been patting the cart before the horse and paying too much attention to keeping people healthy when the cause of their sickness was the fact that they were living on an unhealthy soil and that, therefore, you think that this particular area is a unique opportunity to try at this in order to prove to the whole world that your theory is correct, that you must first of all have a healthy soil if you are going to afterwards have a healthy people living upon it. Is that the basic assumption?

DR. LOWDERMILK: Well, what I say, sir, is founded upon our work here in the United States where we have treated some 78 millions of acres of land. We have a program that covers the entire United States, and incidentally, 30 nations are interested in this. They have ment men over here to study our methods, many of our men are in other countries now, and in India Sir James Jenkins, who had saved a lot of some 90,000 people from famine by bunding in India came over here to take our practical training. When we have these men coming to this country to take the training we put them out in the field. He was on a tractor making

a terrace down in South Carolina when he was notified that he was to be knighted.

So we believe very firmly, we have found it demonstrated, that until the land is used properly and production is increased and the land is conserved so it will produce from year to year and from generation to generation, if you please, that you cannot build a sound social structure.

We have been wasting land. We have grown rich by exploiting the land. We wear it out here and go on somewhere else and take up new land. But that day is over. All the land of the world is taken. So that if we are going to build a sound social structure, the farmer-and that is the problem I am having in China--must produce a lot per man so that he has purchasing power, so that he can enjoy some of the good things of life. Once you produce focd enough for everybody, your standard of living depends upon the divisions of labor and your efficiency in those divisions of labor. First, though, we must begin with the soil, with the farmer who produces on the soil.

MR. MCDONALD: Dr. Lowdermilk, would you attribute the greatness of Britain through history, in part, to its fortunate climate, which has tended

so much to peserve its soil?

DR. LOWDERMILK: England and portions of western Europe are specially well favored in that respect, and because they have an excellent soil, they have a climate suited to grain particularly. And the rainfall of Britain is misty, very gentle. You don't have the downpours we have here in the United States, nor do you grow corn, cotton or tobacco, which exposes a lot of land to the dash of rain. I found one case of erosion in Britain; but only one, which was very small.

The lands of Britain, because of their unique location and favorable climate, have been maintained, and you have done one thing in Great Britain that is important. By the right of prinogeniture the lands have never been broken up into small farms. Now that is very important, because when farms get so small the production per man cannot be high. Consequently purchasing power is low.

That is our trouble in China and also in India. That has saved England some of the division of land into small parcels which you find in Syria. The smallest field I found in Syria, for example, was one furrow wide and about 100 meters long. Now

when land is so chopped up--and may I say in Palestine one of the difficulties in using that land properly is its divisions in small lots. For example the land is divided into small strips, usually up and down the hill, and a man is entitled to use this strip for 2 years and then he goes on and uses another so the equality is distributed around.

Now some of the people, the officials of the Mandate Government, felt that if they owned that land they would have an interest in it and protect it, which seemed very plausible. But how do they divide it? They divided it as they had been dividing it, before, so that narrow strips not more than a meter wide and 700 meters long, that man couldn't use that land conservatively if he knew better.

May I say, some of the troubles in Palestine, and with all due respect--and I hope this is constructive--has been a lack of understanding of land. For instance, in Trans-Jordan I have found the Land Department saying to the Arabs, "Now if you are going to own this land we are going to deed it to you. But how are we going to know it is your land unless you plow it?" So they had men plowing up land that should not be plowed, just like we did in the dust

bowl of western Texas. We have to understand what the possibilities of that area are before we can make the best use of it.

MR. MCDONALD: You wouldn't suggest that too many lawyers are in the British Administration in Palestine?

DR. LOWDERMILK: I didn't ask them, sir.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: That is a good point and gives Dr. Lowdermilk a chance to bring forth his fact-finding.

MR. ROOD: Professor Abel Wolman.

STATEMENT OF DR. ABEL WOLMAN JUDGE HUTCHESON: I understood, sir, without trying to press you and your associates, that an hour between you would be sufficient, because we have our next one coming at 12:0C. I hope our Committee in asking Dr. Lowdermilk questions didn't destroy your time. You have an hour and 5 minutes. I will not let them ask questions.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: May I offend already by asking, will you be so kind as to tell me your history?

DR. WOLMAN: I shall give you some of that, sir. I um a consulting engineer; my residence is in Baltimore, Maryland. I am professor of sanitary

engineering at the Johns Hopkins University School of Engineering. I have been over the last 30 years in the practice of engineering with particular reference to hydrology, to public water supply use, to certain phases of irrigation use, and general multiple use of water supply.

I want to add just one more comment, which perhaps will give the setting for my particular appearance today. For about 7 or 8 years I was chairman of the National Water Resources Board of the United States, whose function it was to review and to coordinate the water supply developments of this country through the auspices of the various governmental agencies. That board consisted of the Eoard of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Federal Fower Commission, the Soil Conservation Service, and other collateral Federal agencies.

My particular appearance today is as chairman of the Engineering Consulting Board on the Water Resources Development of Palestine. Some 8 or 9 years ago I was asked by the Palestine Economic Corporation to review the water resources material, the data, the hydrologic information sufficient to determine on the development of a plan of water development.

Following that period when we reviewed a great deal of material, as Dr. Lowdermilk has already pointed out to you, appeared a partial proposal which he has sketched for you very rapidly. In order to determine on the detailed validity of this particular program we considered that it was desirable to make a much more extensive inventory of the water resources of that country and to develop in this country and in Palestine a thorough search and canvass of the detailed possibilities of a comprehensive irrigation, public water supply and power development.

Furthermore, in order to assure that such 4 study would be made without any ideological aspects, without any of the current passions as to settlement, it was desirable to set up not only an investigating organization in Palestine, but to establish in this country an advisory and reviewing and planning board, which I was given the task of selecting.

I think it is pertinent to review the experience and the distinction of the individual members of that toard. One of its members, who I hope will be able to appear before you this morning, is Mr. Savage, who until recently was the chief designing engineer of the United States Bureau of Reclamation. If I

were put to describing his experience and distinction in the international field of water development I would probably list him as the most experienced man in the world in the planning, the design, and the construction of irrigation and power undertakings. He built, for the purposes of this group, and laid out the Colorado River and Boulder Dam development, the Grand Coulee Dam, practically all of the major irrigation and power undertakings in the country. He has been consultant to the governments of Australia, of India, of China, and I think at one time to Great Britain itself in some of its undertakings.

He has to his credit the personal and official responsibility for the development of somewhere between one billion and two billion dollars worth of development of the character which is presented to you today.

Dr. Lowdermilk, as you know, is a member of this Board. Prior to his death Col. Parker, the chief engineer of the Tennessee Valley Authority, was a member of this Board. He was succeeded by Mr. Blee, the present engineer of the Tennessee Velley Authority, who is here this morning. Another member of the board is Harry A. Bushore, who is

of Reclamation of the United States Government.

This Advisory Board then retained on a fulltime basis the services of Mr. Hays, who will also appear before you, who until he was employed by this group to make the studies in this country and in Palestine had had a long career, somewhat over 30 years, in the field of irrigation, water regulation, and power development, his most recent connection. being with the Tennessee Valley Authority where he was responsible for the supervision of the construction and some of the planning of something in excess of \$500,000,000 worth of work of a character similar to that planned here. Prior to that time he was in private practice and was employed by the Aluminum Ore Company of America, by the Bureau of Reclamation, and has had a very extensive and, we believe, thorough experience in this field with problems directly characteristic of this undertaking.

I felt that that setting was desirable because it is important to be sure that in the review and in the development of the undertaking here and abroad we were making every effort to obtain as dispassionate and as factual a review as we could obtain.

I might add that with the exception of Mr. Hays,

who is a paid employee, that no member of the consulting board has been under any payment arrangement with the Commission on Palestine Surveys. All of the board, including myself, serve without pay.

I might add also, although it might not be quite pertinent, it seemed to us at the time it could be, that the board was selected first for its engineering capacity, experience, and distinction, and sechadly, because it was non-Jewish. I happen to be Jewish, but I made it a point to find, which was quite simple to do, distinguished, experienced individuals who would lend their engineering aid to the review of these data, but who were not in any way affiliated either by politics, by race, or by any other arrangements with the continuing controwersies in relation to the area.

The questions which we posed are quite simple, Assuming, and we had some reason to assume, that there was sufficiently high quality land in Palestine, was there sufficient potential of water resources to make that land available for detailed, profitable agricultural use? It was our desire to determine whether or not the quantity of water available would lend itself to adequate development of this territory. That was the sole and simple question to

which the board devoted its energies and on which two members of the board and the chief of staff and his assistant devoted considerable time in Palestine itself.

I should like to summarize for you, even though it is done to some extent in my memorandum, very briefly what our findings are.

At present approximately 100,000 acres of land are irrigated in this country. Our studies find that there is sufficient water without stretching either the imagination or the available data which we have been able to accumulate, and there is a great deal to support this finding, we are in a position to develop water resources sufficient to increase that acreage by an additional 650,000 acres. In other words, a present irrigated area of 100,000, to which we would add 650,000 acres additional. In round numbers we believe that that would cost somewhat less than \$200,000,000.

Since the question has already been asked, I might answer it to this extent, that these costs are based on 1944 and 1945 costs. They are based on Jewish labor costs, which are higher, as you all know, of course, than the Arab labor costs. We did that in order to be conservative in our estimate,

conservative on the far side. We were not attempting to sell an enterprize by underestimating the possibilities. We have the assurance, which I think will be confirmed by subsequent witnesses who have made detailed inspections on the ground, of the geology, of the terrain, that the sites for dams, for reservoirs, for canals, for the development of underground wells and springs are favorable to the kind of project which we have outlined.

I want to make quite clear, too, because I should like to comment on it a little bit later on, that the 650,000 acres in round numbers are restricted primarily not by available first-class land; it is restricted entirely by the available water within the confines of the territorial limits of Palestine. In other words, we are assured--

MR. MCDONALD: Excuse me. When you are speaking of Palestine, you are referring to Palestine in the sense west of the Jordan?

DR. WOLMAN: West of the Jordan and not including Trans-Jordania and not tapping any of the waters of Lebanon or Syria. I will want to comment on that later on, because the development, as Dr. Lowdermilk feels, could be on a more comprehensive basis. My

own judgment is that it should be.

I want to call attention, further, that in order to develop this undertaking to maximum advantage, a is true in the arid and semi-arid areas of our country, power, of course, is essetial. A fair amount of development, at least in the early stages, is in underground water out of the sand dunes. They would require pumping; a fair amount of pumping is desirable and necessary in order to include the development of acreages which are of good quality but of higher topographical levels.

The hydro-electric development, therefore, which we have in mind comes from two sources, the matural heads which are developed in the drops in the irrigation undertaking, and the diversion of the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea, which Dr. Lowdermilk has pointed out to you. That was undertaken in order to make available the necessary hydro-electric power, supplemented by steam power which would make the pumping possible in each of the irrigation undertakings.

I think it is important, also, that this uniertaking, developed as we believe on a sound engineering basis, is not a grandiose scheme. It is a grand scheme, but it is one which we believe

requires no largess. It is what I would describe as a banker's development of water resources. It is one which we believe can be financed, one which we feel would pay out at a 3 percent rateof interest and at every stage in a period not exceeding 50 years. I use that prticular terminology because to those of you who represent the American opinion you will recognize that that is the method of paying the reclamation undertakings in our own country, with this important exception, that many of our reclamation undertakings do not pay the 3 percent interest.

We believe that this undertaking can be financed with economy, entailing to the farmer both the 3 percent interest, the amortization and the operation and maintenance, and make it a profitable undertaking.

As large as it is, it is important, further, to point out that it can be developed in stages. It is not one which must spring fully finished before any real values can be obtained from it.

As Mr. Hays will indicate to you, the developnent is in eight stages. The results, or the advantages of a first stage would be available within a

37

ないないのであったい

year to 5 years. The results of all the eight stages would be available within a period of not exceeding 10 years after the initiation of construction.

We feel that the cost per unit to farm would be comparable with those in southern California, with those in the Imperial Valley of California, the Jan Joaquin Valley, the well-known Central Valley project, which is now under construction by our own Government.

 $\tilde{\eta}^{(1)}$

 $|| |_{\mathcal{X}}$

For purposes of illustration, without going too much into engineering details, the first stage of development is largely the coastal sand dune development where there are underground sources which can be pumped for the irrigation of adjacent land along that whole north and south strip, with certain minor developments in the plain of Escheelon and the plain of Zebulon, similar ones in the upper Jordan area and very minor ones in the lower Jordan area, followed by successive steps of tapping the upper Jordan, the clearing of the Huleh marshes, the development of the Yarmuk, the impounding of one branch of the Jordan in that major reservoir, and the picking up of what the Palestinian calls the wedis, which run towards the Mediterranean 3es and which would be picked up by this great canal system and reserviced on each of those wadis. The wadis are somewhat analogous to the arroyos in the dry country of the United States, where the flows are intermittent, high winter flows and very low or almost zero flows in the dry weather period.

We would impound and direct the winter storages and then distribute them during the green season.

One of the reasons why this project, we believe, can be made successful is that it is one of the rare projects which would have almost a 12months' growing season. This project is not comparable with those familiar to the Americas, in the Idaho and Columbia River basins where the growing season may not exceed 180 days in the year. It is more analogous, as I have pointed out, to the Imperial Valley, to the Central Valley, to the lower Rio Grande, to the portions of New Mexico and Colorado and Texas which have low rainfall, but rather long and extensive growing seasons. h other words, the projects which are here defined for irrigation literally and figuratively extend from the Biblical "Dan to Beersheba."

It is a progressive undertaking, in no way having characteristics which are unusual, peculiar,

or not paralleled by extensive undertakings elsewhere in this country and in other arid countries.

It is important to point out, also, that this project is intended not to develop where there had never been development before, but to recapture highly fertile area which has been allowed to go to nonuse over a period of several thousand years.

Dr. Lowdermilk referred, for example, to the experience in Holland where the recapture at great less of land from the sea was a necessary economic expedient for the survival of the people.

It may be of interest to this group to know that during the war, as early as 1942, plans were made in this country for the recapture of those Holland lands, assuming they were inundated, as they were, by the Nazis. That plan for pumps and motors, I can assure you of unprecedented size and capacity and cost, went through and was ready for operation at a time when the recapture of that land was desirable.

To us and to the board, the recapture of territory of this sort, which historically was fertile, was valuable, was irrigated, is not an unusual enterprise provided there is both interest and sympathy in carrying it forward.

I should like to say a word before I close on the question of origin of funds. This is an enterprise of a reasonably high cost, even though stages of it can be developed at rather moderate and modest expenditures. The first stage is about \$25,000,000, the second about \$16,000,000, and so on.

54

There are two ways of approaching the undertaking. The two ways are very much analogous to our own experience in this country. It can financed by governmental bond issues on a progressive 10-year basis, on a reimbursable basis, because, as I pointed out, we think that it is a banker's undertaking, one which has engineering and fiscal validity.

Perhaps it should be undertaken by governmental auspices on the same score that we believe that the major development of water resources in many of the areas in the United States are undertaken by governmental auspices, because they are too large to be developed largely through private funds.

However, a second alternative is available, that a joint governmental-private development of financing is entirely possible. The amounts of money involved are not so excessive that on a stage

basis a development could not be worked out between government, or governments, and private sources of funds. Both schemes have been used in our own country. They are revolutionary in a sense. In the early days most of our reclamation undertakings in this country were privately financed, largely on a cooperative basis.

In recent years, as our developments have been extended over wider and wider areas, they have become largely government sponsored, so that our great undertakings in irrigation, the million acres or more in the Grand Coulee basin, the great Imperial Valley, the Columbia River in general, some of the Rio Grande, are now being developed through governmental finance.

There again appeared to me to be no particular obstacles to the joint financing or the single financing under public auspices.

Now if I may step out of character sas chairman of this board, I might call attention to the fact that the developments of the water resources of Palestine should, if at all possible, be accompanied by parallel development of the water

resources of the adjacent countries. As an engineer I look at that territory as a seat of watersheds rather than as a seat of political entities. I mealize that the engineer has difficulty in jumping that hurdle. I point out also, however, that that hurdle is eternally before us in our own country, within the States, between the States, between the States and the Federal Government, and between the Federal Government and Canada and Mexico.

In other words, the problems of negotiation, of a justification of water rights, of the allocation of water rights, is not an unfamiliar or new issue. They are not even more acute in the Middle East than they are right in the State of Colorado or in the State of Nebraska or in the State of California, or as between those States.

I think it is important to point out that historically those difficulties which in our own country have led to shootings--it hasn't been many years ago that those shootings have occurred on the question of water allocation. I should remind this group that it wasn't many years ago when the State of Arizona threatened to secede because the Supreme Court had not agreed to the allocation of the Columbia River waters. And it may also be interesting,

even though entertaining, that the State of Arizona sent its single ship, which it called its navy, up to the Boulder Dam site in order to prevent the construction. That, I remind you, was not in 1860; that was in 1930 some.

My point is that I am fully aware of the fact that the development of any of the water resources in Palestine is bound up with problems of negotiation.

I should point out that the problem of negotation as to water rights in Palestine, with respect to Lebanon and Syria, particularly Syria, was a matter of discussion at the Versailles Peace Conference. I should recall to you that it was determined at that time that that problem of water rights should be worked out by a French-Anglo Commission. As far as I am aware, the situation is the same today as it was in 1918.

My point is that the Middle East, which has high potentials of agricultural development to which the key is in water, has the water provided the engineering lay-out, the fiscal desirability, are recognized, and that the interest and sympathy of governmental and private groups is available in order to turn that project, or projects, into

actuality.

That, Your Honor, is my story.

I would like to be followed by Mr. Hays, who was the engineer on theground, who made all of these detailed studies, who is available to you for any detailed questions or comments that you may ask.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: If I feel equal to asking you any questions I will reserve them for Mr. Hays.

MR. PHILLIPS: May I ask one question? You mentioned the capacity of power development by letting in the waters of the Mediterranean. Does evaporation alone take care of that situation? Evaporation of the waters of the Dead Sea?

ER. WOLMAN: Yes, the amount that we would admit is regulated primarily by two things, the evaporation of the Dead Sea and the necessities of power development. The two fall together, and the two practically match each other. We would divert somewhat in excess of 1,000 cubic feet a second from the Mediterranean in order to make up in this area what we would take out of the fresh waters of Jordan.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: The engineers seem to be much briefer than the lawyers we have had. We are doing very well.

MR. ROOD: Mr. James B. Hays.

STATEMENT OF MR. JAMES B. HAYS

MR. HAYS: I think Professor Wolman has given you quite a bit of my background and experience, but I will add a few notes, that I was born in Idaho, and when I reached college and studied engineering the irrigation business was on somewhat of a boom in hat section of the United States, particularly as regards privately financed developments. It reached a peak, let's say about 1910 to 1915 and ther gradually dropped off. It was generally due to failures of some irrigation projects.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: We had the same thing in Texas.

MR. HAYS: You understand the story I am going to tell.

There were several reasons for these failures. Some of it was improper financing, some of it was improper engineering estimates of water supply, and then the other point was the settlers. Many projects were developed that only had half encugh settlers and they couldn't pay the full bill. The bond issues were probably sold at 50 cents on the dollar. That meant that people settling half of the area had to pay perhaps twice the cost of the

original development.

The size of land areas in the West gradually grew up in some cases to almost 320 acres per family, but now that has been placed under control on Government projects.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: In one district around Dallas the project was bonded so highly and the lands were so little made available that the whole body of land was sold for taxes in one year.

MR. HAYS: You and I understand that point exactly.

In many cases bondholders' committees were appointed to come in and take over and operate the project. I have had a report on some projects, and reports unfavorably on them in one or two cases, and in one case in particular I had an awfully hard time collecting my fee. The bonds were sold and bought by the company that I was reporting to, and some years later I heard indirectly from the statehouse in my home State, where a relative of mine was working, that the people were writing in wondering when the interest was going to be paid, and it was mostly widows and school teachers and people who couldn't afford to lose the money.

The time is, of course, very much limited,

and I am just going to hit perhaps a few high points here.

When I went to Palestine I had this feeling behind me, that I should see what the farmers are doing, so I went directly to the settlements. I had on old trousers and heavy shoes and a slouch hat, and mutual friends generally introduced me.

In many of the settlements I found somebody who eculd speak English. Those where they couldn't had an interpreter. I could talk to them in their own language in a way as to crops and cattle and stock because I had been familiar with it, actually having done some irrigation myself for at least 2 years, including milking cows and pruning trees and putting up hay. So I was able to talk to them and get a great deal of information.

I visited colonies from the south to the north and from the east to the west, all over Palestine. Northern colonies are much older than the southern colonies. Most of the newer colonies consist of a few settlers from the older colonies who had experience and the new immigrants, inexperienced people, are taken into the older colonies and given training.

When I first arrived there in Pulestine it was in September, 1944. The country was dry and I would say burnt up except, of course, where irrigation was under way. It looks very much like spcts in our own West.



MR. HaYS: The southern section in Negeb, which is below around Gaza, is very much like some spots in Texasthe flat plainlands.

50

Now in February you will see the country all green. There will even be green on the Jordan Valley, where their summers, for most of the year, there is no green at all. Seeing all this, you might wonder why they need irrigation, but having seen it as I did in the driest time, it mins in the winter from December to March, and then the balance of the year there is practically no rain at all.

The rainfall increases as you go north. In the southern part of Falestine it increases with the elevation. To go from the coast up to the mountains, there is more rain, and as you go from the southern section of the country, it increases. The highest rainfall is perhaps about 1,000 millimeters, or about 40 inches. That occurs on the higher mountains in the northern part of Palestine.

The largest areas of fine agricultural land are generally in the south in the Negeb.

The biggest amount of water supply is in the north, a large part of it coming from the Jordan River. The balance of it will come from constal bodies and some bodies on the Jordan side and from underground. I went into it there considerably because I questioned the possibility of

2-1

recovering so much water from the underground reservoirs and streams. It is a limestone country, and as such, full of caverns, particularly along the coast near the foothills and the coast to the Esdraelon Valley where the plainlands join from the coast to the Jordan River.

2

Back in my experience with the Tennessee Valley authority Construction, we had a great deal of underground treatment required to make the dam-sitestight so they wouldn't leak. Some of the work done there has practically been considered a classic as far as engineering work is concerned. Dam sites in this country are not as good as they used to be. We have to go farther away to select them, and as a result, we have more treatment to do to make them good.

In the report here, I have shown a photograph which will give you a graphic idea of the topography of Palestine. You will notice the wide coastal plain all the way from north to south, broken only by a mountain at Haifa. Then there is a marrower valley up and down the Jordan River. In some places it is very narrow, and then there is a valley connecting the two from Haifa across between the "T" and "I" in the word Palestine to the Jordan River. That is the Esdraelon Valley.

The highest point of the summit of the Esdraelon Valley is about less than 70 meters above sea level--somewhere around 200 feet.

The Jordan Valley is nearly all below sea level. You

will notice Lake Hulch at the north, and it's about 225 feet above sea level. Tiberius is about 685 feet below sea level. That is known as the sea of Galilee.

The Dead Sea is about a little less than 1,300 feet below sea level.

I would like here to explain a point about Mr. Wolmas's statement about the cost estimates. The labor estimates were based on the pre-war cost in Palestine, plus about 20 per cent. The cost of equipsent and machinery was based on estimates in this country of 1943, and I think in some instances, 1942.

MR. CHICK: Is that all in your report?

Md. HaYS: I think it is.

MR. CHICK: If not, would you send us a copy?

ANLAYS: Yes. The present irrighted area of Palestine, of course, obtains practically all of its water from deep wells--wells of varying depths, some of which perhaps go down 1,000 feet. There is no diversion of surface flow to say extent, except in a very small way. This scheme, of course, proposes the diversion of all possible ourplus waters that we can collect. In other words, if possible, the Jordan giver flow at the Dead Sea would be very materially reduced. It can't be completely reduced because of some inflow that comes in between. The proposal is to divert this water in the Jordan Valley as high up as we can get it. That brings us up to the northern boundary. There is one Large roup of springs in the northern boundary, which includes one spring that is over on the Syrian side.

(Indicating on map)

At Lebanon we propose a reservoir across the boundary. There is no possible way of storing that water within Falestine. This water will be stored at a higher elevation and brought in Falestine, where a drop of some few hundred meters can be had.

at this point, (indicating) this water is diverted by a large canal to an area known as Sahl at Battauf. This is the general scheme I am giving now. There, a large amount of storage capacity is available.

The Sahl at Battauf River is north Nazareth. One of the photo_raphs in the back of the book shows how it appeared January of a year ago. Nearly all the floor was sovered with water, which is due to the rains. The elevation is such that the water can still be carried by _ravity, and the balance of the water would be through a tunnel at the eastern end of Mt. Carmel on the coastal plain, continuing down to the Southern desert. Additional water will be brought in from the North Coastal Flain where there is a surplus pumped in.

It is also proposed to use the water of the Yaramuk

River. we are taking all of the flow of the bottom at the upper end at an elevation of about 185 meters above sea level.

5

We propose taking the water of the Yarmuk River at the point where the Yarmuk is on the boundary between Trans-Jordan and Falestine. Half of the Yarmuk water is set aside in our plan for irrigation of Trans-Jordan lands.

This, together with what they have now under irrigation there, and the possibility of further conserving the waters of various bodies, would irrigate practically all of the land that could be irrigated under any scheme on the Trans-Jordan side.

MR. MC DONALD: How many acres would that be, approximately?

MR. HaYS: About 50,000 acres; about 200,000 dunams. Part of this area was surveyed by Ionides in his report of "39, but it was never completed, because when the engineering party was out, two or three men were killed.

Now, on the Palestine side, there is a plain at Lake Tiberias that has some irrigated areas on it. You will prob.bly see these modern places of banana groves, grapfruit, and some dates, and lots of other crops like alfalfa and some grains.

The surplus water command down in the winter will be stored in Lake Tiberias. At the Present time, the Palestine Electric Company has a right there for the storage of the Jordan waters in Lake Tiberias to the extent of three meters in depth. By taking all of the water out of the Jordan diver above this point (indicating), we put water of the Trans-Jordan in there remaining within that limit. One reason for that limit is there are a number of important religious sites close to the water edge, and to make it go lower would probably not add to the appearance of the country because the shore line runs out in some places rapidly.

Then we plan to eliminate the section of what we call the Jezrah Plain. That is within an hour's drive of Jerusalem. We propose d dam across the Jordan fliver about 15 kilometers, 9 miles, or mmething like that, south of Beisan. It's a very good reservoir site. The water would be stored and regulated. We would pick up the sarplus run-off water, returning the flow from irrigation, rains, and other surplus waters, together with the normal flow, and we have about enough to irright the suitable land in the Jezrah section. There is a large part of that land around Jezrah that is reported as highly saline, but there is some farming around there now. It is all entirely arab. They raise bananas and other crops.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: To what is that due?

MR. HaYS: That is due probably to the ancient level of the Dead Sea. The Palestine Potash Company plant there has washed out some of the most saline soil in the entire Walley, and they are producing wonderful crops.

MR. MC DONALD: Does your propesal include washing out the soil there?

MR. HaYS: Yes. And one good feature about that coun--try is it has good drainage. These slopes are such and the sub-soil is such that it can be done and it has been done.

This map shows eight states. Actually one stage is for power, and that is the Mediterranean Dead Sea diversion, of which one is mentioned of getting water from sund danes, which can be done quickly-getting water from the underground along the coast. There are a few other minor locations in other areas where we know there is underground water available.

This, incidentally, is a copy of the same map that you have in the report.

(Indicating) The colors may be slightly different. So stage I involves the development of the underground water supply. The quickest development of water supply under this stage would be from the sand dunes.

The second stage takes the water of the upper Jordan and carries it into Galilee Hills to supply the high lands. This doesn't include any storage except what is on the Hasbani. It was proposed putting it in the first stage in order to have some power available. This first stage takes a large amount of power.

The third stage provides for the construction of the

Yarmuk. In other words, if we take a great deal of water out of the Jordan Miver, you can take all of it out, Lake Tiberias will lower. The river here is known as Jisr Banat Yacov, which means the bridge of the daughters of Jacob. The flow there is about 110 to 115 million cubic meters per year. Deducting the average outflow of Lake Tiberias at Degania gave 110,000,000 cubic meters per year as the approximate average deficiency or net loss due to evaporation. If you take much water out of the upper end, you have to replace it from the Yarmuk.

In this third stage, we have allowed in our estimates evaporation as coming from the Yarmuk rather than from the upper Jordan. A hundred ten million cubic meters have been set aside as lost through evaporation. Otherwise, the Sea of Galilee or Lake Tiberias would lower and probably become brackish and otherwise undesirable.

The fourth stage on here is the Mediterranean Dead Sea power. This is not a new scheme by any means. It was published and discussed 25 or 30 years ago, possibly many more, I don't know, but I have seen some write-ups that are at least 20 years old. The proposal is to lower the sea water to flow backwards on the dishon fliver. Incidentally, the salt water is found during the low water season on the dishon about 7-1/2 kilometers upstream from the shore of the Sea. We then pump the water up about 140 feet and

57

carry it over to the Emek Esdraelon. Then we have a deep cut and then a canal carrying the water over to the Dura Pend. That furnishes a storage at that point for four, five, or six days running of the plant alone. In other words, if you have an earth quake or something else happened, you still could run the plant for several days. Ordinarily we can repair breaks if we can get at them and work hard enough in a pretty short time.

MR. BUXTON: How long is that canal, please?

MR. HAYS: I believe it is, at this point, about 100 kilometers, or about 62 miles, or something like that.

There were several routes we considered in addition to this. Une of them was a direct tunnel from somewhere near Jaffa to the Dead Sea, but that is long and expensive and would take years to build.

MR. PHILLIPS: How many power sites are there?

Md. HAYS: Two from this reservoir which can be used for several days with pumps as well as without.

The largest drop comes to 1,000 feet. From this point it runs down to the cunal. (Indicating)

Incidentally, all these are as water-tight as cam possibly be made, with asphalt coating or whatever is necessary. Some tests would probably have to be conducted in advance. The water will be carried by canalto the Jeridho Plain where the going is very easy. It is easy to construct

at that point and it winds up with a final drop into the Dead Sea along the northeast corner. There is a photograph of the proposed power house site there. You will motice the steep cliffs rising above the Dead Sea at that point.

10

The fifth stage takes in some additional irrigation of part of the Jordan Valley and some along the coastal plain through the main canal. That includes the installation of this large reservoir at that time.

This reservoir at that time was put in to conserve the winter water. The previous stage takes only the summer water as needed.

We have pretty good records and can construct good records, which has been done in the report. We know what the water supply is and what it has been in the last few years, and we know the water supply of other points for longer periods, so from that, we are able to construct the past record of these streams.

Stage six goes back to the Huleh swamps, and this concession was granted by the Turkish Government and is now held by the Falestine Land Development Company. This Huleh Lake is very shallow and there are a good many thousand dunams of marshes.

The scheme includes the excavation of a main outlet channel in the Jordan fiver for a distance of about 4.4 cilometers from the Lake, of sufficient capacity to enable

the construction of a drainage system in the Lake and marshes, and at the same time being able to handle all but the largest floods that might occur. Up to this point we have attempted to capture all of the flood water and all the normal flow and put it under control and carry it out of the Basin. They won't have the wild flood water to control that they do now.

The water saved in this area due to reduced evaporation will permit us to irrigate this area, together with another additional area in the southern plains.

Incidentally, in order to make this particular stage worth while, we have included the pumping of certain springs. At Haifa there is the Kurdaneh Spring. Part of the water is now being used by the local oil refineries for cooling purposes. It is too saline to be used for irrigation directly, but with a large volume of sweet water coming down from the northern Jordan Valley section, we will mix that water and reduce the salinity so it can be used for irrigation purposes.

Then there is another large spring known as the Auja, or Yarkon River, having a large flow of water.

MR. MC DONALD: You suggested that the Hulch Development would be much more economical if the sixth stage were not done separately.

MR. HAYS: That's right, rather than if it were done

60

11

いろいの

before.

MR. MC DONALD: Would it be practical to do it before?

61

MR. HAYS: The cost would be rather high, and it involves a large channel out of the Lake, which would have to be large enough to take care of extreme floods. If we can capture all those floods, then the canal would be very much smaller.

This channel would be about 4-1/2 kilometers long, or 2-1/2 miles. There are good records on the flow of these warious springs. They don't change much from year to year or during the year.

Stage seven would bring in the lower Jordan, because according to this arrangement of stages, we have taken care of everything above. Then we propose the surplus water, the run-off from irrigation or the return flow with rainfalls, and some spring water that can't be used in the Beisan area. Some of it is too saline also in the Beisan area. There will be cases where sweet water and a saline spring are close together.

There will also be some run-off from the Trans-Jordam side.

We plan this stage after these others are completed. DR. AYDELOTTE: Will the flow of water in the lower -Ordan be a good deal less when you get to this seventh stage?

MR. HAYS: Yes.

DR. AYDELOTTE: It will permanently remain smaller? MR. HAYS: Yes, probably enough to irrigate 50,000 acres. Those figures are in the report.

The e ighth stage continues the picking up of water from the wadis throughout the country, from north to south, and conveying it into the southern section for use at that point.

There will be a number of storage reservoirs along the coast, and some waters will be picked up directly as they come in. Others will have to be held until there is a need for them.

MR. MC DONALD: Is there a precedent for that in our country?

MR. HaYS: It compares to some of that Southern Califormia work where they have high floods and in the winter a rainy season, and practically dry for the balance of the year.

Some of that is charged off to flood control, but they use it for recharging the underground and also for surface water as well as municipal water in some cases. That is the dosest perallel I know of.

There have been lots of small wadis and small streams that are dry part of the year dammed up in the West. Some have been failures and a few have been successful. We think that by combining this one with all of the rest, it can be

13

carried out.

14

MAJOR MANNINGHAM-BULLEd: Can you indicate the extent it is proposed to irrigate?

MR. HaYS: In general, we say that the extent is from Gaza to Beersheba and south of the line. Part of this area is low. It's a beautiful site of land up there that can be irrigated. Some of these white spots are high ground and some is a little too rough. There is enough good land in the country to not have to take in any marginal land.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: Which merely brings us up to your time limit!

MR. HAYS: There are a lot of things I can think of, out I am trying to help you understand an Engineer's Report, which is hard to do.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: I would like to interpolate here and say when I was a lawyer in Texas, I presided over some of these irrigation project sessions, and I saw a great many difficulties with which you have dealt. You have dealt with everything that seems to have given us trouble in some of our projects down there, and I suppose you have dealt with some we never even heard of.

which carries along a system of pints. That is one reason it is expensive. We have to go to all of this expense to save the last drop of water. The depth is so great conveying

it to the south that it wouldn't pay. These stages don't have to be taken, all of them as a whole. For instance, Stage I and Stage VIII could be combined, and you can get almost any unit of land you want. You can start in with a thousand dunams and work from most any combination.

But in general, some of these have to remain in the order in which they are shown. The power scheme was brought it at the fourth stage because at that time we had removed practically all of the water of the Jordan River, except what is shown for the seventh stage. Therefore, we had to put a supply back to the Dead Sea in order to maintain the level at approximately what it is now.

Dr. AYDELOTTE: If no water was going into the Dead Sea, how rapidly would the surface be lowered? How much is the evaporation per day?

MR. HAYS: Per day, I don't know. It's about six feet per year. It's highly saline and doesn"t evaporate quite as fast as sweet water.

MAJOR MANNINGRAM-BULLER: The Negew that you referred to, is that much further south?

MR. HAYS: Some are at higher elevations. We go practically to the Egyptian border.

MAJOR MANNINGHAM-BULLER: what extent do you propose should be irrigated?

MR. HAYS: This scheme as it now stands perhaps irrigates

about half of the total area.

MAJOR MANNINGHAM-BUILER: The whole of the coastal area?

MR. HAYS: Yes,

MR. PHILLIPS: How do you irrigate the higher places?

65

MR. HAYS: By pump. We have attempted here to keep pumping down to the minimum. It is impossible to keep it out.

MAJOR MANNINGHAM-BULLER: Are there any supplies of water that you could make use of in the Negev?

MR. HAYS: There is some surface water which we propose to collect and store and use in conjunction with other water. In an extremely dry year, that water would be very low.

The ground water in that section is highly saline. Some of it is too saline to even drink.

MAJOR MANNINGHAM-BULLER: The southern area had to be surveyed?

MR. HaYS: Not so much in the Negev because there hasn't been so much rain.

LAJOR LANNINGHAM-BULLER: Can you give me any idea of the possible area of the Negev to be imrigated?

MR. HAYS: I would say offhand about half. MR. MC DONALD: Any underground water there at all? MR. HAYS: Saline.

MR. MC DONALD: So far as you have investigated?

66

LR. HAYS: Yes, the Government drilled a number of wells over in that country.

MR. CHOSSMAN: Suppose your terms of reference would be different, and you would be told to recover the plains, including Lebanon, Syria, and Trans-Jordan. Would that be essentially different from this scheme?

MR. HaYS: It would be a part of this; in other words, it would be another step.

MR. CROSSMAN: There is nothing uneccnomic about it by including the others?

MR. HAYS: No.

MR. CROSSMAN: You could simply add on something else? MR. HAYS: I have been in Lebanon and Syria and seen some irrigation projects up there and farming methods and rainfall records...

MR. CROSSMAN: So this would integrate quite naturally into a bigger scheme?

MR. HAYS: It would fit in very nicely.

MAJOR MANNINGHAM-BULLER: No irrigation scheme would take in a great area which is not settled?

MR. HAYS: Yes.

MAJOE MANNINGHAM-BULLER: Could you give any indication of the area it would take in lands not settled?

MR. HAYS: No, I couldn't give you that very well. MAJOH MANNINGHAM-BULLER: The Negev area is such a vague

L7

term.

18

MR. HAYS: It's generally considered as the country south over all that runs from Gaza to Beersheba.

MAJOR MANNINGHAM-BULLER: It runs a long way south? Mr. HAYS: Yes, indefinitely, I guess. In other words, Negev means south.

MAJOR MANNINGHAM-BULLER: What I wanted your statement to give me was a rough plan showing the part of the Negev which would be covered by this irrigation scheme.

MR. HaYs: It is shown on the lower part of this map,

(Indicating)

Then there is one other thing mentioned in the report that I haven't mentioned here. These faraers over here (indicating) do a great deal of irrigation by overhead sprinklers. This saves a considerable amount of water, and they tell me it saves labor. It costs a little money for the installation, but they have been doing that in every ease, when they could get money, materials, and equipment. They tell me, the agridultural experts and farmers, that they save from 30 to 40 per cent, so a large part of this country will be irrigated by sprinklers, I don't think there is any coubt about that. That will increase the amount of water that will be available to add to the Negev.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: I think that's all. I want to say Sir John and I were talking about what a big stout man you

are not to have such a tremendous voice. I didn't tell him what Theodore Roosevelt said once: "You carry a big stick and you speak softly."

(Laughter)

Mr. ROOD: Doctor Savage was unable to be here because his plane was grounded in Chicago.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: Doesn't he have a statement which we can accept?

Mat. MOD: The Engineering group has asked that Mr. Bashore be put on for five minutes in place of Doctor Savage.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: Haven't we a statement from Doctor-Savage?

MR. NOCD: We do have a written statement, that is correct.

STATEMENT OF MR. HARRY W. BASHORE

SPEAKING ON THE JORDAN VALLEY AUTHORITY

MR. BASHORE: Mr. Chairman and Gestlemen of the Committee, my name is Harry W. Bashore. For 39 years I was connected with the Bureau of Reclamation and assisted in the investigation, construction, and operation of irrigation and hydroelectric development.

I have examined Mr. Hays' report with a great deal of interest and somewhat critically. I realize the report is not yet in final shape. It is a preliminary draft, but in

my opinion, it is well prepared and I am unable to find anything seriously wrong with it from an engineering standpoint.

I noticed, as Doctor Wolman has mentioned, that the report is rather unique, due to the fact that interest is computed on the investment. Interest is computed during construction, and there is an amortization period of 50 years at three per cent interest.

It seems to me very likely that the three per cent interest rate is quite ample. In fact, it occurs to me it might be too great an interest rate, judging from the trend that now seems to prevail in our country.

If the interest rate or if the project could be amortized in 40 or 50 years, at two per cent interest, it would make an appreciable difference in the annual cost of the water user and power user.

In our country, of course, we have had money without interest -- 40 years to pay it back without interest. That sounds pretty good, but it has some disadvantages. It is very seldon that the Bureau of Reclamation has been able to secure the money rapidly enough to construct the project in a businesslike way. Now, if you proceed on an interest basis, issue bonds or what not, and proceed in a businesslike way, you can complete much more rapidly and not pile up a lot of overhead of unnecessary expense due to delay in

20

financing.

Perhaps I might briefly say something about irrigation in the United States.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: It will have to be pretty brief to get through in five minutes!

MR. BASHORE: I will stop at any time.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: We want to finish our proceedings this morning and not have an afternoon session.

MR. BASHORE: As a matter of interest, I would like to point out that irrigation in the United States can be considered parallel with this proposed project in Palestine.

The Bureau of Reclamation came into existence in 1902. Since that time, we have developed in this country two million acres of land from the desert. That is new wealth created estirely.

In addition to that, we have supplied water to two million acres--supplement water to land that had been previously irrigated and financed by private capital. That makes four million acres of land that have received water from Federal Irrigation works in the United States in a period of 43 years. That is not a very rapid rate, but remember that the operations in this country are limited by the amount of your Reclamation Fund, which was derived from the sale of public land, oil royalties, and construction repayments began to pay. Before that time, about the first organized effort in irrigation in this country was in 1847 in Utah. There is where we had the cooperative effort, which put into effect the development of irrigation.

Today we have in this country about 20,000,000 acres irrigated by the Government and by private capital. We have possibilities in the United States for irrigating about 20,000,000 acres more, and that is the end of it--20,000,000 acres out of 750,000,000 acres. When we get through with that, we are through for all time, because we don't have any more water. That is our limit.

We believe in this country in the conservation of our resources. We think this project in Palestine, from a strictly engineering standpoint-laying aside all political angles--is a proposition where you conconserve the wealth and provide food for people, regardless whether they are Jews, Arabs, or what not.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: Thank you , sir. Mr. Rood, will you wall the next witness.

MR. HOOD: The next witness will be The Reverend Charles T. Bridgeman. I don't believe he is appearing for anyone. I believe he is appearing as an individual.

STATEMENT OF THE REVEREND CHARLES T. BRIDGEMAN DR. BRIDGEMAN: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, your

Committee has kindly a reed to accept from me a written statement on some of my views with respect to the Palestine problem, so that it hardly seems necessary to repeat here all that is presented therein. Certain major points, however, need underscoring and J should like to comment on points which have arisen during these hearings.

May I preface my remarks with the assurance that I yield to no one in the degree of my sympathy for the unhappy plight of the Jews who have been the victims of Nazism, or in my concern for a humane solution of the problems which face them. I am also one of those who feel that the problems created by the dispersal of so many of Jewish faith throughcut the world should be courageously faced by both Christians and Jews alike, with a recognition that both have shared in the sin and the mistakes which have caused what we know as anti-Semitism.

I regard anti-Semitian as a primitive, uncivilized and un-Christian prejudice against a people who have made a great contribution to our religion and our civilization, and as a purely irrational condemnation of a whole people because of the real or fancied faults of a few. Such unreasoning emotional judgments as the anti-Semites seek to stir up are iminical alike to our democracy and our religious principles.

Just because I have real sympathy for the remnants of European Jewry, I should like to advocate the immediate

22

admission to this country (quite apart from what other free countries may do) of as many of the displaced European Jews as cannot be resettled in decent humane conditions in their former homes or in Europe.

Our President has made the suggestion that we open to them the immigration quotas now available. But when he felt compelled to state that we should achere strictly to the rules of restrictive immigration law, and not displace GIs returning to this country, I feel he underestimated the generosity of the American people.

This great country with its tradition of hospitality to oppressed peoples cannot in this emergency stand upon principles adopted to meet quite different conditions.

destrictive immigration was adopted in 1924 to protect the welfare of the american working man and the integrity of the american way of life at a time when literally a million or more immigrants were arriving year after year. Surely no one can pretend that the opening of a single special quota to permit 100,000 or even 600,000 displaced Jews from Europe to enter this country would seriously upset the economic life of this country or dilute american ideals of life.

The need for a special quota would seem clear if it be true, as alleged, that under our present immigration law only some 20,000 Jews a year could enter, because they do not come from countries which have large quotas available. This

is a pitifully inadequate number to offer any real aid to the people now in need and hardly becomes a nation like America, which is asking Great Britain to force the arabs of Palestine to accept unlimited Jewish immigration.

In this grave war emergency, when we are faced with a problem for which we, through our failure to halt Hitler's madness, are in part responsible, it would be less than american and far less than Christian for us to keep our national gates barred or practically barred against these unfortunates.

Here in this country these displaced persons will find hosts of their relatives and co-religionists and I feel in general a whole country willing to heal the wounds they have suffered and give them a new start in a free country.

This, Gentlemen, is something amorica can do at once. .nything short of this is not sympathy but hypocracy.

For it is hypocracy for this country to refuse on legalistic, nationalistic, or economic grounds to allow refugee Jews to enter this country, and then, on the specieus plea of "humanitarianism" to urge Great Britain to bludgeen the peoples of Palestine, who in the past 25 years have taken in Jews up to half their own number, to accept more heavy dewish immigration--making the absurdity greater by saying that it is the only country open to them!

24

I am well aware that to relieve the present crisis by the migration of displaced Jews to places other than Palestine will disappoint the Jewish nationalists who have counted upon them as an appealing talking point in the demand for a Jewish Palestine and as helping to give them a majority in the population there.

I am also aware that we have been credibly informed that the vast majority of the displaced persons interviewed have expressed the preference for Palestine. This can easily be explained: they have been cold-shouldered by us so long, and they have been fed for years with Zionist propaganda which paints Palestine in rosy hues as The Land of Israel, their "own land" by right.

But the more fact of their preference cannot be taken as determining the matter, provided we have such a tolerable alternative as entry into this or other free countries. We do not allow people to come here just because they would like to, and we have no right to force the Arabio-speaking people of Falestine to accept them against their will and their interests.

Since your Committee was formed, we have heard it said that there is no need for further study of the Palestine question, because the whole matter has been examined time and again and decisions have already been made.

True, Great Britain has made an exhaustive study of

Palestine and after 25 years of experience, embodied her conclusions in a document called the Palestine White Paper of 1939.

26

There she came to the conclusions that all legitimate demands under the Balfour Declaration had already been met, that a Jewish National State had never been promised, and that measures must be taken to safeguard the inalienable rights of the arabic-speaking majority population of the country and to insure the establishment of a bi-national state.

It has been complained that it is a sname and an historical absurdity that the Jews should be excluded by mame from entering Falestine. But it must be remembered that for 28 years they have been accorded specifically as Jews a special privilege to enter the country.

It might be well to amend the White Paper and say simply That the immigration to Palestine shall in the future be determined by the people of Palestine: a simple and uncontestably democratic procedure.

It has also been alleged that to exclude non-arabs from sequiring land in certain areas is aimed unfairly at Jews. Eut again it must be remembered

1. That this restriction leaves free for Jewish and European purchase the best and most premising lands in the country and reserves for the arabs only the more barren hills;

 That the Jewish National Fund expressly stipulates in all leases to Jews that no non-Jews, i.e. Arabs, shall be employed on the ample lands owned by the Jewish National Fund.

27

71-78

This country has never officially examined the question in a judicious manner. We have had endless discussion, vast publicity, and a deal of political pressure, but all on one side of the Palestine question; namely, the Zionist wiewpoint, without any serious consideration of the other side. Not five per cent of the material available to the public has made any attempt to state, even in temperate terms, the arab side of the case.

Meanwhile, because the american people are ignorant of the real merits of the case, they are open to the repeated, and to my mind, slanderous suggestion that Great Britain has been unfaithful to her mandatory obligations.

This stirring up of anti-British feeling in America, with its inevitable counterpart of anti-American feeling in Britain, todes ill for the peace of the world. And it cannot but harm the Jews if they foment trouble between their two greatest friends. The Jews and the world need the Friendship of both Britain and America and the assurance that if mistakes have been made on either side, they were made in good faith.

I venture to think that when we do begin to look into

the matter, we shall realize that there are three fatal weaknesses in the Zionist's official program:

79

1. The numbers and character of the arabic-speaking inhabitants of Palestine;

 The absurdly small and poor nature of the country cast for the role of being "the solution" of the world Jewish problem;

3. The dangers to all Jews inherent in Jewish nationalism which has been stirred up in order to bolster up the claims for a national state in Palestine.

Your committee has doubtless heard from Arabs themselves why they protest against Jewish immigration and a Jewish State being forced upon them against their will,

In my memorandum I felt it well to explain why the use of the term "arab" for the arabic-speaking Moslems and Christians of Paleotine is a misnomer and likely to lead to the falst impression that they are people who came into Paleotine in the seventh or subsequent centuries.

They are not really arabs at all, save for a mere trace of arab blood. Basically, they are descended from the Canaanites and the Israelites who occupied Palestine at the Cawn of history.

They are farmers and not nomads. Only 70,000 of the 1,150,000 Arabic-speaking peoples are even semi-nomadic.

They are the oldest farmers in the world, who having been conquered by the Arabs in the seventh century, subsequently came to speck arabic, share Arabic culture, and in large measure, profess Islam, though previously they had been Christians with a minority of Jews and Samaritans.

As such, the right of the arabic-speaking peoples to claim Palestine as their home is incontestable and far outweighs any claim by a people who long disappeared from Palestine, save for a remnant, and who in their wanderings have intermingled with other stocks.

The so-called arabs of Falestine are not a barbarous uncivilized people, incapable of progress. They have inherited a great tradition of culture; they have a passion for education, now that it is available; for the Middle East there is a high and ever mounting degree of literacy; emong them are skilled craftsmen, competent merchants, clever European-trained doctors, fine lawyers, and men learned in both Eastern and Western culture.

From Palestine have gone teachers, doctors, lawyers, journalists, and civil administrators to all parts of the Hiddle East. In short, they are an upstanding people, capable of great progress, who would have been ready long ere this for representative government and even self-government, as in neighboring arab states, had not they been thwarted

29

because of promises made to the Jews, and Jewish opposition.

0

It is unjust to override the wishes of the people of Palestine. It is undemocratic. Only by a strange misuse of the word "democracy" can it be argued that it is right to prefer the will of some 11,000,000 Jews outside of Palestine (where the wast majority wish, indeed, to remain) to the expressed will of the majority of the people inside of Palestine.

The small size of Palestine is itself an argument against it being thought of as the solution of the world Jewish problem in its numerical aspect.

Here is a country the size of New Hampshire or Wales, only 10,000 sq. miles, of which at least half is so waterless that it is practically useless. Here in half the country lives a population of some 1,150,000 Arabs and about 650,000 Jews--a total of about 1,800,000. This population is growing so rapidly from natural increase that in 25 years the number will rise to about 2,000,000 or 3,000,000.

In my memorandum, I have given figures which show that this great rate of natural increase among the Arabs is not due, as commonly supposed, to medic. I services and malarial control provided by the Jews.

Only three per cent of all the splendid Jewish medical work trickles out to the arabs. The arabs have been cared

for by the British Government medical services and Christian hospitals, with the Moslems now rapidly increasing their share. In 1942, Christian missions alone did 45 per cent of all the hospital work among Arabs, mainly for Moslems, and the Government 52 per cent. The salutary malarial control which has so reduced the death rate has been mainly done by the Government.

The educational work which has given the people a more intelligent outlook on health has been done by the British Government schools for Arabs, seconded in no small measure by Christian schools for Moslems and Christians alike.

One of the witnesses has been reported as estimating that in the next ten years Palestine could support economically between 600,000 and 1,200,000 additional people. This may be true, but it offers no immediate relief for 100,000 refugees. The first lien on future economic absorptive capacity of the country is held by the yet unborn generations of Palestinians which will be asking a living. There will be a million or more, both arabs and Jews, in a very few years.

Schemes for augmenting the abricultural potentialities of the country have been formulated. They are yet in the paper stage, and depend for their success on surmounting serious technical difficulties.

82

If and when these schemes succeed, it will be time to review the question of the absorptive capacity of the country. Until then, no one has the right to overload Palestine with hungry mouths.

2

Doubtless it will be thought that only the Jews have the skill and the capital to improve Palestine agriculture. Granted that they have the money, I would submit that if the skilled Arab farmers had had but a tithe of the capital that the Jews have poured out, they would have done just as good a job, for the Arab farmer is a natural farmer, with 4 love for the soil and knowledge of its ways. What is more, he is capable of learning modern farming methods. And as the pioneer and half-owner of the citrus business, the Arab has contributed to Palestine's main export crop.

While the agricultural side of Jewish Palestine life has been much publicized in past years, even 2ionists themselves have come to see that it has serious limitations. They have accordingly begun to lay stress on iniustrialization as the means whereby large populations can be supported.

Now we see Palestine pictured as the workshop of the Widdle East. (The Midlands of the Middle East, if you will.)

Encouragement has been given by the extraordinary development during the war. But to a high degree, the

phenomenon was tied up with passing wartime needs.

Prior to the war, apart from the usual variety of handieraft shops owned by Arabs and Jews alike and the building industry which immigration caused to boom, there had been established by European Jews with capital and experience a great number of small factories seeking to supply in Palestine a type of European manufactured goods then imported from abroad.

These hopeful industrialists had, with few exceptions, a very difficult time fighting foreign competition. The prices of their goods were too high and the quality too poor. Even Jews had to be persuaded to buy them as a matter of patriotism.

Palestine Jewish labor enjoys a relatively high wage. Raw materials have to be imported, as well as heavy machinery and fuel. Markets were then limited to the Jewish sector of Palestine, for neither the arabs as a whole nor neighboring countries were eager to purchase inferior Palestine products when america and Europe had better and cheaper articles.

Then came the war. Palestine and the Middle East were cut off from the world; there were no imports of Furepean type goods for lack of shipping space.

The domestic market, both arab and Jewish, had no alternative but to accept the local Jewish products, and to a minor extent, those of the less industrialized arabs.

3

Even other Middle Eastern countries, starved of accustomed imports, had to turn to Palestine, despite the fact that they had a prejudice against Jewish-made goods. Struggling factories began to b com overnight.

In addition, the British war Department, needed services and goods from Middle East sources because of shortage of shipping space.

all countries made contributions, but Palestine, with its exceptional reservoir of refugee Jewish industrial talent and capital, was in a favored position. Again activity increased and more manpower was demanded.

The result of this was an increase in the national income of Palestine from \$121,000,000 in 1939, to \$303,600,000 in 1942, and about \$344,000,000 in 1943. Unite apart from increased unit costs and labor costs, some \$157,000,000 of the 1942 income, or about half, was accounted for by activities directly connected with the war.

This sudden blossoming of Palestire's industry inspired the hope that Palestine would have a great future as an industrial country and larger immigration would be warranted. Eut candid observers have recognized that there is certain to be a decided deflation as soon as free importation of goods from the mass-production countries again could come in to Palestine and the Middle East. Reconversion and a sound

34

scheme for salvaging the more permanent and economically practical of the war-born industries was a primary concern of Government. There is good hope that much can be preserved, but it has yet to be demonstrated.

One of the great factors must be markets, and these must be sought in competition with Europe and america in the neighboring arab countries. If, as already appears, Zionist ambitions with regard to Palestine cause uneasiness and resetment in these potential markets, the major outlet for Jewish industry will be curtailed. A prosperous Jewish industry in Palestine cannot exist except in a friendly arab world.

Meanwhile, Zionists see one great possibility of aiding a lagging industrial machine: more immigration, with its continued demands for additional housing, goods, and services.

What is not always remembered is that while a steady stream of immigration may in the future, as in the past, be a salutary "shot in the arm" to a sickening industrial life, the doses must become ever greater if the enlarged community is to be kept economically well.

Like a man on a bicycle, he falls off if he stops noving forward.

The only sound basis for a long-term national economy is an industry which can support its people without ever

35

fresh capital importation and fresh immigration.

Palestine will no doubt go forward, but if the present economy be glutted with too rapid immigration in addition to the steadily increasing local population, there is certain to be trouble.

87

The third question, Jewish nationalism, concerns Palestine, the whole Middle East, and Jews everywhere.

The acuteness of the Falestine situation is due to a large extent to rabid Jewish nationalism. Many fine things have been done by Jews in Falestine with genuine sacrifice for noble ideals, but the type of nationalism developing in a dominant section of the Jews in Falestine is so blatant, so self-centered, and so intolerant even teward Jews in their midst who dissent from the official policy that it must net be confused with the liberal democratie ideals so ably represented by fine Jews in American and British public life, save in the case of some when they are treating of Falestine, which seems to be their blind spot.

This is an East European variety of democracy which, according to the testimony of liberal Jews alarmed at the developments, seems to have taken whole pages from totalitarian systems. It is Jewish nationalism which has enflamed the feelings of the Arabs of the country because they see in it a threat to their own welfare.

News of what has been happening in Falestine and the

exportation of Palestine Jewish ideas to the Jews of neighboring countries has rendered insecure the multitudes of Jews who have lived in peace and security in arab lands for centuries.

Naturally, we are told that these outbursts against Jews are just another argument for the existence of a Jewish mational state, but it was narrow-visioned Jewish nationalism which provoked the tragic situation, and if the fire spreads, Paleatine cannot hold all the fleeing victims.

MR. MC DONALD: Would you mind repeating your last sentence again?

DR. BRIDGEMAN: Naturally, we are told that these outbursts against Jews are just another argument for the existence of a Jewish national state, but it was harrowvisioned Jewish nationalism which provoked the tragic situmtich, and if the fire spreads, Pulestine cannot hold all the fleeing victims.

Certain courageous

37

MR. MC DONALD: Who is the "we"?

DR. BallDGEMAN: I use it primarily for this country, the United States, and I think it might also apply to Great Britain and her Empire, which also has an interest in the question.

MR. MC LONALD: Thank you, sir.

DR. BRIDGEMAN: Certain courageous Jews have braved

the stigma of being called "assimilationists" to voice before you their fear of what stress on Jewish nationaliam may do to the now happy and contented citizens of free countries. They are pointing to a gemuine danger and do well to emphasize the fact that Jews should be regarded as a religious and cultural entity and not as a national one, "homeless" unless they are in Palestine.

In conclusion, I would recapitulate in the following terms:

Palestine is too small to serve as the main, still less as the "only" solution of the world Jewish problem. And in view of the way in which Jewish immigration is being used. as the opening wedge for a Jewish majority and a Jewish state, the long-suffering people of Palestine who have been compelled to do more to relieve suffering Jews in the last 25 years than any country in the world, should not be asked, still less forced, to accept even the major share of the present 100,000 distressed persons.

Falestine is too mixed, too much a land of Three Faiths, to be made into either a Jewish State or an Arab State. after a period of trusteeship during which the diverse peoples, now at odds with one another, have learned to coeperate in self-government, the country should be made into Falestine State, in which all cultural and religious elements shall have their essential interests safeguarded.

39

This leaves us with the problem of the pathetic remnants of Hitler's inhuman system. Their relief must remain a charge upon the consciences of the democratic countries, where indeed it rightly belongs, for it was our lethargy, our isolationism, our national selfishness and our cravem betrayal of our vaunted ideals which left Masism free to run its dastardly course.

We have shed tears for the wrecks of humanity which have survived the concentration camps, but our tears are hypocritical if we do not act promptly and generously, and at our own expense, to relieve their wounded bodies and their frightened souls.

The very act of kindliness of opening for them a special immigration quota would go a long way towards solving the basic problem, the right relations of Jews and Christians.

anti-Semitian can only be overcome by our recognizing some higher loyalty than nationalism, american, Jewish, or British.

The very meeting of the United Nations Organization marks a step forward in human relationships which brands the old idea of racial nationalism as a relic of a barbarous past from which under the awful threat of the atomic bomb we must emancipate ourselves, that we may find fulfillment in a real brotherheed of man. Perhaps I might be permitted to quote from Arthur Sulzberger in the New York Times, November, 1942, when writing about Palestine:

10

"Let us keep it a Holy Land. Let us make sure that we do not transform it merely into another nation, jealous of its own national rights, heedless of those who, for the past two thousand years, lived within its borders."

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: How long did you reside in Palestine?

DR. BRIDGEMAN: From 1924 to 1944.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: where are you now?

DR. BRIDGELinN: I am here in New York.

MRL JUSTICE SINCLETON: I am not sure that the document which you read to us is in the same form as the one which you submitted.

DR. HRIDGEMAN: I said at the beginning it wasn't in the same form. I undertook to give you something different from what you had before you.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: I am not going to ask you any questions with regard to what you said about this country's receiving immigrants, but there are two or three quedions I shall address to you because you have spent some twenty years in Palestine.

DR. BRIDGESSIN : That is car rect.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: You came back recently? DR. BRIDGEMAN: I came back in August, 1944.

1

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: While you were there, were you working as Minister of the Gospel?

DR. BRIDGEMAN: My official position was representative of the American Episcopal Church. As we have no separate mission there, I worked in conjunction with the Church of England and the Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem.

MR. JUSTICE SINCLETON: And you and all those with whom you were associated did all you could to spread Christian spirit through the area?

DR. BRIDGEM.N: You may be certain, sir, we have.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: I understand the result, as far as you see it, is there is more difficulty today than there was some time ago, is that right?

DR. BRIDGEMAN: The condition in the country as to the relation between two great races has become increasingly difficult as the years have gone on.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: Whether right or wrong, it is for us to judge maybe at some time, the spread of Jewish nationalism is plain?

DR. BRIDGEMAN: I think it is true, sir, yes. May I illustrate that just a moment.

You heard mentioned before the war that Jews would be very welcome if they came into Lebanon and Syria. I know

I have had arabs say the same thing to me. They aling say "we don't want them to bring Zionists with them."

During the war, His Majesty's Government made considerable use of Jewish technicians in certain great pieces of war work in Lebanon and Syria, and they used a large amount of arab labor.

It caused an anti-Jewish or anti-Zionist feeling in the country because there came in economic rivalry, and the feeling that they were coming under the sway of great forces from abroad.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: There are difficulties, too, with regard to Arab immigration?

DR. BRIDGEMAN: There are many.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: I thought so yesterday. Whatever the original cause, it isn't all on one side now?

DR. BRIDGEMAN: If I may put it this way, it is true there are faults on both sides. But the difficulties which enflame Falestine at the moment have been due to the very special position accorded under the Balfour Declaration to Jewish immigration and development.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: You say the position adopted after the Mandate would call for an increase in the Zionist movement?

DR. BRIDGELAN: Not the religious side, but it is the political situation which has caused the trouble.

Md. JUSTICE SINGLETON: That's right-due to the political agitation.

94

.

I would like to know if you can suggest any way we can help, or any way in which that feeling of the two races against each other can be alleviated.

Dat. BRIDGEMAN: Yes, sir, may I say first of all, that the fundamental principles contained in the White Paper of 1939 must be accorded recognition as having been basically just, though perhaps that should be altered, in order to reassure the arabic people of Palestine that they are not going to be overridden and swamped by a people alien to them. That is the first principle.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: In other words, you say that the idea of a Jewish State there ought to be Palestine?

DR. BRIDGEMAN: Exactly.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: I noticed in the memorandum which you supplied, two paragraphs. They are on Page 14:

"The selfishness and shortsightedness of the Jewish Federation of Labor has driven Arabs from actual or potential employment by Jews engaged in development of the land or carrying on industry. As a large proportion of the Arab farmers need to seek: seasonal employment to supplement their incomes this has brought the threat of Jewish expansion into every village."

I gather from that paragraph that the Jewish Federation of Labor has acted in a manner which causes apprehension in the minds of the Arabs.

DR. BRIDGEMAN: Yes, sir.

44

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: The more important paragraph is the next one:

"The Jewish owned land in the possession of the Jewish National Fund is leased to Jews only on the express undertaking that they will employ no non-Jewish labor. The Jewish Federation of Labor also seeks to prevent private Jewish landowners from employing Arabs on their lands and Jewish industrialists from using Arab labor."

Is that right?

DR. BRIDGEMAN: Sir, that is my understanding. It is discussed by the Royal Commission.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: I hadn't seen that in that form before. I asked in order to make sure.

DR. BRIDGEMAN: Sure.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: Are you sure of that?

DR. BRIDGHMAN: That may have been changed in the last year and a half, but that was so when I lived there in '44.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: Land owned by the Jewish National Fund is only leased to Jews?

DR. BRIDGEMAN: It is leased to Jews on the condition

that no non-Jewish labor is employed on the land. They have a reason.

45

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: If that be right, Mr. Bridgeman, how could anyone expect the Jews and Arabs to work together, can you tell me?

DR. BRIDGEMAN: No, sir; I don't see how they can.

MR. MC DONALD: Mr. Bridgeman spoke about the Jews as only a religion, and yet a moment ago, as I understood him, he spoke of two great races in Palestine.

DR. ERIDGEMAN: Thank you. I myself do not feel the down are justified in calling themselves a race of people. In a rather broad sense, there is that feeling that they are, but it's a question whether there is any such thing as an Arab race or a Senitic race. Ethnologists think it is all nonsense.

MR. ROOD: Doctor Daniel A. Poling, who is appearing for The American Palestine Committee and the Christian Council on Palestine.

STATEMENT OF DR. DANIEL A. POLING HEPRESENTING THE AMERICAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE AND THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL ON PALESTINE

DR. POLING: Honored Chairman and Gentlemen of the Committee, it is perhaps your misfortune that Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, the Chairman of one of the bodies that was to make a presentation here, was finally eliminated, so that I am meaking as the representative of the American

Palestine Committee and also as the representative of the Christian Council on Palestins. I am a member of the executive committee of these organizations.

The Christian Council on Falestine, of which Doctor Atkinson is Chairman, is made up of 3,000 Clergymen who have full-time employment, of all Christian faiths, with additional laymen who, though not ordained, are in fulltime religious work.

The american Palestine Committee is composed of 8,000 Christians, all of whom, with the exception of less than ten, are laymon in public life-political leaders, educators, businessmen, publicists, and editors.

I have before me a document which is the basis for my own presentation, which has been prepared as "A Brief Statement about the American Palestine Committee," which is in your hands.

We submit some documents which state our principles and indicate our program. The following are included:

A. The Bases of Our Concern

B. Invitation to Membership

C. A Petition to the President of the United States signed by 41 of the 48 Governors

D. A Letter to the President signed by 55 Senators and 262 Congressmen

E. A few short statements from the resolutions passed

97

47

by 33 of the 48 State Legislatures

F. Excerpts from recent resolutions passed at our various conferences, and

G. The recent statement by Summer Welles, a member of our Executive Council, on accepting the Chairmanship of the american Christian Palestine Committee of Maryland.

At this point I would make a reference to Page 3, Exhibit C, as you have it, "A Petition to the President of the United States signed by 41 of the 48 Governors. In almost identical form it appears in the statement which was sent out by the Representatives-262 Members of the House of Representatives:

"We believe that the time has come when concrete measures must be taken to open the doers of Palestine to Jewish mass immigration and colonization and to bring about the earliest transformation of that country into a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, and we most samestly urge you to take such action as will contribute to this end." There is one reference to the statement of Summer welles, which you will find in the last Exhibit, Page 2 of his statement, these two sentencess

"President Moosevelt never believed that the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine was in any sense hostile to the Arab paoples. He

believed, on the contrary, that such a solution would prove beneficial to both Jews and Arabs."

99

Christians who have any semblance of a social conscience, we believe, have a deep sense of guilt because of the centuries of Jewish persecution at the hands of Christians.

The culmination of this anti-Semitism in the Nazi barbarities of the last ten years, which the Christian world did so little to prevent or alleviate, should be a source of shame to all Christians.

If homeless, persecuted Jews would have been admitted to Palestine in accordance with the commitments of the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate of the League of Nations, great numbers, who perished in Nazi gas chambers and trematories, would have been saved.

I had a deep experience in Switzerland in February of 1944, as I saw the romnant cross the borders from Hungary-perhaps ten per cent of those who started on that tragic trek. I felt my Christian indicted by their presence there.

Under "Christian Responsibility," we say

"aroused by the plight of the Jews in Europe and in other places throughout the world, the American Palestine Committee recommends definite, immediate action, designed to achieve a permanent solution of the Jewish problem. We believe the root cause of

the problem throughout the centuries and today is the national homelessness of the Jewish people. The solution is a national home for the Jewish people to which they can go, in winston Churchill's phrase, 'as of right and not on sufferance.' This, we believe, would help to normalize the status of the Jews throughout the world."

Under "Religious Considerations,"

It is the belief of Christian churches, based on the Bible, that God called the Jews to nationhood for conspicuous service to mankind.

Christians believe overwhelmingly-282,000,000 as of the latest Census reports-that Palestine was divinely selected as the site of the Jewish nation and that the comtinuance on that site of Jewish culture, philosophy, and idealian under the protection of national status, would meet with divine blessing and approval.

Recalling the historic contribution of the Jews in Falestine to the ethics and faith of mankind, Christians have confidence that the re-establishment of Israel in its mational home will again be a blessing to all the peoples of the world.

We do not think as Christians of a period of 50 years; we think of more nearly 4,000 years. I am trying as the representative of the Christian groups to present what is,

we believe, the Christian viewpoint. In Christian faith and worship, the Jew is associated as a divine providence for not 50 years, but for more nearly 4,000 years, with this little land.

I may say this viewpoint has been and is now being, with increasing fervor, expressed by representatives of the Evangelical Christian peoples of this country.

May I say that Doctor Clinton M. Howard, who is the editor of "Progress," recognized in the field of social reform in this country and recognized as an eloquent leader of the Evangelical group in this country, had this to say in an editorial:

"The nations that have dispossessed the Jews no possess the earth."

Phareah tried it and failed. He sought to slay Moses and God intervened. Last of all, Hitler tried it and failed.

At this point, I would like to associate myself at one point with what Doctor Bridgeman has said. I feel as he does, with the support of the President, that the quotas should be opened, and all frontiers should be opened to Jewish refugees. I would be glad if this country would receive these 100,000 last week, or if that be impossible, then next week.

Two statements have beenpresented here--one being

50

indirect and the other directly that represent significant Christian groups. I refer to the statement of the Foreign Missions Conference, and to the letter received here from the Acting General Secretary of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, the first sentence of which reads:

"The Federal Conncil of Churches has made no pronouncement concerning the issues which your Committee is to explore, but has made an earnest effort to analyze them for the benefit of our

constituency."

I would say that this is a correct statement, and therefore I regret that by indirection any material from the Federal Council came here, because inevitably the impression would be left that somehow the Federal Council had an opinion and wished to expresss it as the covering letter which follows, a letter from Acting General Secretary, Roswell P. Barnes, states:

"The study brought to light the serious nature of the impassé that hasbeen reached through the clash of the two ardent nationalist movements, and the great obstacles to any solution that rests on coercion or that may bring into jeopardy the rights of either Jews or Arabs, either in Palestine or elsewhere in the world."

I affirm that the letter itself is an indication of a trend in opinion, at least, that is unfortulate, because as a member of the Federal Council participating in the debate on this matter when it was formally before us, I am confident to testify that the matter was not passed. The motion was made to receive it and adopt it. There was a substitute motion which was debated, and then passed, by which the material was referred specially without Ecommendation to the Administrative Committee where

it now reposes. I wish to say that officially there is no material before us from the Federal Council, of which I am a member.

MR. MCDONALD: Dr. Poling, is what you are saying that the Federal Council did not adopt the statement of the Missionary Conference?

DR. POLING: It did not. It had it before it, a motion to adopt it was presented and seconded, it was debated, a substitute motion to refer the whole matter to the Administrative Committee was passed, and the reference was made. I do not think there was a negative vote cast, though all may not have voted.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: What is the status of it now in the Federal Council?

DR. FOLING: It is in the Administrative Committee. The matter may or may not be brought to the Executive Committee on the 15th, when we meet again as an Executive Committee.

I regret the perhaps unintended implication that those of us of the Christian community who are Zionists are either uninformed or ignorant on this whole matter. As editor of Christian Herald, a widely circulated journal, I am able to confirm at one point, at least, the Gallup poll which was

reported on the 9th day of each month in which, first of all, the amazing statement is made that 55 percent of the American people indicate that they are students of this matter, that they have followed the discussion. That is, I think, remarkable. Of these 55 percent, these only had been polled on the next question, 76 percent favor this issue. Those favoring if Jevs are in control are 4 percent; those against the idea, 7 percent; those favoring leaving the question up to the British, 1 percent; those favoring leaving the question up to the Arabs, 1 percent. But also the poll has indicated that among Jevs expressing themselves nine out of 10 are in favor of the issue.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: I didn't get the result of that poll.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: Seventy-five percent and 55 percent.

DR, POLING: No, 76 percent of the 55 percent of the American people who expressed themselves as being informed on this question--

DR. AYDELOTTE: How was the question stated in the Gallup poll?

DR. POLING: I will read that portion of it.

"Three out of every four voters in this country who have followed the discussions about permitting Jews to settle in Palestine are sympathetic to the idea.

"Jewish people included feel even more strongly on the question. Nine out of 10 among Jewish people in the survey think Jews ought to be permitted to move into Palestine. At present, immigration of additional Jews into Palestine has now reportedly been ended by the British.

"In spite of the wide publicity which the issue has had in recent months, only slightly more than half of the people included in the survey said they had followed the discussion at all. It is possible that the report of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry may change public thinking somewhat.

"The questions used in the survey taken throughcut the country are as follows:

Have you followed the discussion about permitting Jews to settle in Palestine?

It was at that point where I said that to me the remarkable thing was that 55 percent had followed the discussion. Remembering the numbers casting wotes on various elections in this country, I think it is a remarkable thing.

"The second question asked only of those who replied yes to the first question:

The remaining 24 percent divided into the various categories.

MR. MDCONALD: What idea?

DR. POLING: Of the Jews entering Palestine.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: Was the question put of a Jewish state?

DR. POLING: No, that question was not put. This has to do only with the entrance of Jews into Palestine.

JUIGE HUTCHESON: There has been no poll on the Jewish state that you know of?

DR. POLING: There has been this kind of a poll.

JULGE HUTCHESON: I understand there has been among the Jews.

DR. POLING: Yes, among the Jews, but I did not think that was germane at this point of the

proceedings. That poll was as you would expect, but I have not presented that here.

I will read at this pint paragraphs from my editorial of January in this publication. I may say that the publication circulates to 43,000 clergymen of all Protestant denominations--it is an interdenominational publication of this country-and to a total net paid circulation of about 300,000.

"The statement is made by Clifton Daniel, correspondent of the New York Times, in a long, exhaustive summary of food and living conditions in Europe and the Middle East, that in Arabian countries generally, hunger and poverty have been little aggravated by years of war, because 'the low standard of living is the same as usual!'

"In contrast to this tragic situation, Palestine fares better today than any other country in either Europe or the Middle East. There is even the prospect of increasing rations in a land that, since Jewish immigration and leadership became a vital factor, has never had a serious shortage in anything except sugar. In a world situation that finds 800,000 Poles facing death from starvation and exposure, 25,000,000 Russians in dire straits because of German occupation and ruthlessness--"

MR. CRICK: What was the date of this?

DR. POLING: This editorial is from the January issue of my own paper.

MR. CRICK: Twenty-five thousand Russions --

DR. POLING: May I say that these figures are taken from the New York Times in the same issue in which I am quoting from Clifton Daniel, all of these figures.

"In a world situation that finds 800,000 Poles facing death from starvation and exposure, 25,000,000 Russians in dire straits because of German occupation and ruthlessness, and with practically every other European people in physical distress, P lestine is today not only the last hope of more than 100,000 Jewish refugees but it is also a living rebuke to those who delay fulfillment of the Balfour Agreement.""

Then this final quote:

"If Great Britain with the support of America, would now repudiate the infamous White Paper of 1939, restore the Balfour Agreement and open Palestine immediately to the more than 100,000 Jewish refugees whose docm may otherwise be sealed in the bitter months of winter, justice would be served, and, without serious Arab opposition, the continuing greatest human wrong of our century would be stopped." MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: That is what you write? DR. POLING: Yes.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: Are you the editor?

DR. POLING: Yes, cf the Christian Herald. That is the American Christian Herald, sir.

MR. MCDONALD: Dr. Poling is also a preacher.

DR. POLING: In other words, in representing these constituencies I am trying now to state, and as briefly as possible, the Christian viewpoint which is, I think, not only the expressed viewpoint of the 11,000 members of these two bodies--

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: The only reason, I didn't realize when you were giving your evidence that you are an editor at all. You must forgive my ignorance.

DR. POLING: I am also pastor of the Baptist Temple in Philadelphia. I hope that you will not discriminate against me because of that.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: Have you, perchance, been in Palestine?

DR. POLING: Yes.

MR. JUSTICE SINGLETON: When?

DR. POLING: The last time in 1936. I have been, however, in the Middle East before and during and after the Cairo Conference, and on to China. I have made during the war period five overseas missions on special assignments.

Now as to the humanitarian need:

"The American Pulestine Committee believes in maximum Jewish emigration from Europe to Palestine as the principal hope of meeting the urgentneed of those who have survived the ordeal of Hitler's mass murders. There they can find the welcome, friendliness, and patient program of rehabilitation which they so desperately desire and need.

"We approve of the recent directives of President Truman in regard to the entry of stateless proons into this country. But even at best the small numbers who will be admitted are only a fraction of those in danger and dire need. The overwhelming majority who will not be affected by this limited provision within our immigration policy will continue to face homelessness, degradation, and possible extermination in Europe."

There is a statement on international commitments which I shall not read because I desire to come to our statement on justice to the Arabs.

"As Christians, we are profoundly concerned that justice be done to the Arabs, as well as to the Jews. "We find that the commitments made by the Allied powers to the Arab countries in World War I have in substance been fulfilled.

"We find that the Arabs in Palestine have been aided immeasurably by the Jewish enterprise in Palestine. Their health, education, and social conditions have been greatly improved. The Arabs in Palestine now have the highest standard of living of any Arabs or Arabic speaking group in the world.

"We find that every responsible Zionist leader individually and the Jewish Agency for Palestine officially have undertaken to guarantee full and equal civil and religious rights to the existing non-Jewish communities of Palestine. Furthermore, they have mepeatedly expressed unalterable opposition to any program that will displace non-Jews in Palestine.

"We find that the chief opposition to the establishment of the Jewish N tional Home in Palestine stems from those Arab forces which are undemocratic, feudalistic in their own lives and in the exploitation of the Arab masses, and sympathetic to the Nazi-Fascist cause in World War II. It has been demonstrated time and again thatthe Arab and Jewish people can live together in amity in Palestine.

"We find that a survey of the backwardness of the Middle East and the progress of Palestine confirms the statement of Major General Orde Wingate, who, after years of experience in that area, said, 'The surest hope of the Arab peoples is the Jews.'"

I have been deeply interested in the relation of holy places toward this problem, or rather, the osition of holy places within the problem itself. Of course, in my faith the Jew is responsible for the holy places of Palestine, overwhelmingly he is responsible, from the beginning, from Abraham's arrival, as he journeyed into the west pitching his tent and building his orders.

I still have a deep appreciate of the prophesies which I heard in my youth. I believe it would be tragic to shut the Jew out from the land where it has established the holy places.

. Gyond this, I believe that the relationship of the Jow to the holy places and to the minorities would inevitably fall within the state if Palestine wore to become a Jewish state. The condition of the minorities would be immeasurably bettered over the condition of minorities within other Arab lands today.

My personal friendships have been generally,

if not exclusively, in the Middle East among Christian Arabs, the remnant of the Assyrians, the Armenians, and Christian Jews. I visited in Iran very shortly after the incredible massacre in Iraq of Assyrians, the remnant there. I met with them in a conference, in convention, and I say again--and I speak humbly with such knowledge as I have of Arab countries--I would much prefer in Palestine to have the Jew responsible for minorities than any other single people.

As to the suggestion that the Arab has not been considered, I am rminded that until 1918 the Arab was also dispossessed and that following World War I he received a vast area of approximately two million square miles, a tiny part of that area of Pulestine, under the Balfour Agreement as originally drawn, not as the acceptance of the white man's burden, but as a treaty, with the agreement of the Arabs of that time, came, or would have come in the fulfillment of the engagements, into the possession of the Jew. Not the white man's burden, I say, but with the solemn treaty, as we Christians understand it, supported by the Arab.

he is an ethnic group of Semitic stock. This fact is at least suggested by the other fact that there are Christian Jews, but there are a few Christian Jews in Pulestine.

A fine old family with which I am acquainted is a distinguished Christian Jewish family, a family that gave the post office building in Tel Aviv, and I think there is another institution, an old people's home.

We find in our studies that the Jews own 6 percent, not more, of the land in Palestine, the Arabs 94 percent; more than half the orange acreage is owned by Arabs.

MR. CROSSMAN: Is that cultivated land?

DR. POLING: The orange acreage?

MR. CROSSMAN: Your 6 percent, is that cultivated?

DR. POLING: That is the total area.

MR. CROSSMAN: Of the total area how much is cultivated?

DR. POLING: I um not informed as to that fact. Six percent of the land, I think that was the statement I made, was owned by Jews, but now the next statement is somewhat to the point you suggested, more than half of the orange acreage is owned by Jews. At least 40 percent of the employees in the orange industry owned by Jews are Arabs. I think your studies will confirm our studies at this point, that for every Jew employed by Arab industry or agency there are 100 Arabs employed by Jewish industry, by farm enterprise.

"The American Palestine Committee believes in our traditional national policy, which found its most recent expression in the Concurrent Resolution passed by Congress."

That has been before you and I need not refer to it.

"We urge that the Committee of Inquiry take into account this policy on Palestine and agree to no recommendations contrary to it.

"We are convinced that recommendations based on the Mandate and in line with American policy will be the best possible solution for the Jews, for the Arabs, and for the British. It will also promote democratic developments throughout the Middle East and be the basis for confidence in international law and in the possibility of permanent peace."

Finally, to return the Christian viewpoint, sir, we would quote the words of Jesus, which concern prophecy, which concern the ancient Scriptures which are ours even as they are the Jews, "I have come not to destroy, but to fulfill."

There is for me, and with this I shall close, giving you ample time, Nr. Chairman, a profound emotion, an emotion as profound in my whole life as the emotion of the Jewish Zionists. I cannot find my faith disaasociated from it. In my youth in my father's house in the far West of this country I found the promise, "I came down the desert path with Abraham and his people." I had an unusual confirmation of that tradition, if you please, on my second visit to Falestine after I have visited the plantations, when one Sunday afternoon in Jerusalem I ame with Mrs. Poling down a steep and narrow street in the direction of the wailing wall. We were going b the Temple Center.

A lady, quietly but richly gowned, was in front of us and would have fallen had I not caught her up. She spoke with an accent with which I was unfamiliar. She asked me the direction to the wailing wall and I told here we were going in that general direction and we would take here.

She was in deep grief. I did not inquire into that. When we came to the wailing wall she flung herself against it and I heard then a cry of the people.

not merely the hunger of a faith, but the cry of a people.

Mrs. Poling had an intuition. She touched my arm and we moved to either side of the Jewish woman as she stood at the wall.

I know that we are concerned here to find the way out, and I have brought you the recent conclusion of these two Christian groups who are also Zionists, who believe in the relief of those who are now dispersed, and who believe firmly in the establishment of Palestine as the homeland, as a Jewish state.

MR. CRUM: May I ask a question? I was interested in one thing in particular that you said. As I recall it you suggested that you hope that the solution proposed by the groups you represent would be accepted and put into effect by the British Government with the cooperation of the United States.

DH. POLING: Always with that. I think our responsibility is as great as Britain's.

MR. CRUM: Have you thought of going on and defining what you mean by "cooperation?"

DR. FOLING: Yes, I have.

MR. CRUM: Would you do so, please?

DR. POLING: I believe, as I have said in this

editorial which I read, that if supported by the Jews, recalling the White Paper, going forward to carry out the Mandate, to establish the particulars of the Balfour agreement, Britain would find that it could not only be accomplished, but that it would be accomplished without serious Arab opposition.

MR. CRUM: That isn't what I am getting at. I think this Committee must in its deliberations consider possibilities, don't you, that there might be difficulties? You think there will not be, but den't you agree we must consider that there might be?

DR. POLING: Yes.

MR. CRUM: How far would your groups go in urging cooperation?

DR. POLING: I am speaking for myself, and I believe I vepresent the groups, I would definitely feel we should go as far in this, and with even greater justification in this, than we go now in the occupied areas of Germany and Japan. Does that answer your question?

DR. AYDELOTTE: You mean to use force? JUDGE HUTCHESON: You don't regard the Arab people as our enemies? DR. POLING: I don't regard them as our enemies, but I think whenever a mandate is assumed in solem pledge, the government who assumes the mandate and makes the pledges is responsible for the police authority that is necessary.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: As a parallel between the way we treat the Germans and Japs, I don't think the Arabs can properly be classed in that category.

DR. POLING: I answered your question insofar as I could. I was trying with conscientiousness to answer the gentleman's question. I believe we are responsible for keeping mandates, and I do not believe that that issue would arise. I do not, in other words, grant that alternative.

MR. CRUM: You recognize it might arise?

DR. POLING: I recognize the fact you must consider everything.

MR. CRICK: You mean military force?

DR. POLING: Whether it is army, navy or not, it is force.

MR. CRICK: Mr. Chairman, I won't keep the witness more than a minute or two.

Dr. Poling, you speak, and I quote you, "as the representative of Christrian groups." I am not familiar, unhappily, with methods of ecclesiastical

government in the United States, but I take it one can assume that every sizeable Protestant body in the United States has a constituent representive assembly capable of declaring its mind on the doctrine of the body on any particular issue. Is that so?

DR. POLING: That is absolutely true, sir.

MR. CRICK: Would you tell me whether any of hose bodies, or some of them, or all of them, have declared themselves in the sense of your statements on page 7?

DR. POLING: I am not able to give you the exact data on that, but practically every Protestant group, general assembly or otherwise, has declared itself in favor of Palestine as the homeland of the Jews. That is the interesting thing over a period of years. It is essential in principle, whether they did it intelligently or not, or wisely or not, it is in the tradition of our religious bodies.

MR. CRICK: Have you page 7 before you, Dr. Poling?

DR. POLING: Now let me make this clear: I speak for no denomination. I speak, cartainly, mot for the Federal Council. I speak only officially for myself as a citizen, for my paper, and for these

bodies that I have named.

MR. CRICK: Do you have page 7? I read there the phrase, "It is the belief of Christian churches" and a bit lower "Christians believe" and in the third paragraph "Christians have confidence."

Would it be more accurate to insert the word "some" or "many" or what?

DR. POLING: It would be more accurate to leave it as it is, but if you were to put in a qualifying adjective it would be "overwhelmingly" in my judgment.

MR. CRICK: I raise the question because I think there is just the suggestion in that terminolcgy of inclusiveness, which perhaps isn't totally justified, but I think you would agree that a Christian who takes another view than this can nevertheless remain a Christian.

DR.POLING: I heartily agree, because I know that my friend, Dr. Bridgeman is a Christian. I do agree. I have said nothing in this document that suggested I did not. But I repeat, in my mind "overwhelmingly" would be the word that would be a proper qualifying word at that point.

MR. CROSSMAN: Would you say that the Catholic Church has taken a stand on the view that Palestine

is divinely selected as the site of the Jewish nation?

DR. POLING: I am saying nothing about the Catholic Church.

MR. CROSSMAN: The word "Christian" excludes the Catholics?

DR. POLING: No, I believe that the word "Christian" and "overwhelmingly" would apply to all faiths, but I am not testifying for the Catholic Church. Also, I think the Catholic Church would cling more tenaciously to prophety of the Old Testament than many Protestant churches

DR. AYDELOTTE: What is the most representative international body? Would it the the Federal Council of Christ of America?

DR. POLING: Definitely.

DR. AYDELOTTE: And I believe you told us that body had refused to commit itself on this question.

DR. POLING: I am grateful to you for raising the question. As a member of that body, and as a member of the Executive Committee and one that participated in the debate, early in the debate I made the point that those of us who were Zionists in the Federal Council had never presented the matter there because we did not believe it was properly before us. We did not believe that that point should be made. It remained for the opposition. to bring it. We did not ask, we never have asked, because there are theological questions and there are questions of doctrine that are heavy enough.

DR. AYDELOTTE: But the question was brought up?

DR. POLING: It was, definitely.

DR. AYDELOTTE: And the body refused to commit itself?

DR. POLING: The body didn't refuse to commit itself on whether we should regard Palestine as the homeland of the Jews. It refused to authorize a statement that we did not favor Palestine as a homeland for the Jews. The two things are different.

MR. MCDONALD: Isn't it true that the issue was whether the Federal Council would adopt as its own the statement which the Foreign Missionary Conference had previously adopted, and which has been here presented?

DR. POLING: That is correct.

MR. CROSSMAN: Could I move to page 10, Nc. 6. Your paragraph 4, reads:

"We find that every responsible Zionist leader

individually and the Jewish Agency for Palestine officially have undertaken to guarantee full and equal civil and religious rights to the existing non-Jewish communities of Palestine."

In your experience out there have you complete confidence that the practice in Palestine of the Jewish communities there conforms in full to those ideals?

DR. POLING: That paragraph I believe as stated or I would not support it here, sir. I malize there are dissident individuals and elements and that always appears, but the statement I would not withdraw.

MR. CROSSMAN: I asked you whether the existing practice in Palestine --

DR. POLING: As to leaders?

MR. CROSSMAN: No, take the Federation of Labor, in regard to trade unionism and wage rates. Would you say that that conforms fully to your statement?

DR. POLING: I would prefer to allow the stmement to stand for itself. When it comes to particulars, say first-hand observation, aside from my visit into adjacent countries I am not personally competent to speak, and I would not care to be committed at that point. The paragraph which is there I support.

MR. CROSSMAN: It states further that the Zionist leaders have undertaken to guarantee.

DR. POLING: That is what I believe.

MR. CROSSMAN: I believe it is your responsitility to see whether the undertaking is in fact fulfilled.

DR. POLLING: I think that is your responsibility, since you have been set up as a commission.

MR. CROSSMAN: Anybody who is going to express an opinion and press this Committee --

DR. POLING: I believe beyond that in my experience that I needn't answer your question in the affirmative as of my visit in Palestine. I believe that Jewish industrialists and agriculturists are, as I have said, employing 100 Arab workers to every Jewish worker who is employed by Arabs, and that is significant. There might be rebuttal that they are cheaper, but nevertheless it is also a fact.

MR. CROSSMAN: For instance, regard also the point you raised earlier in the discussion. You heard about the law forbidding a Jewish tenant on land owned by -- DR. POLING: I would rather thave that confirmed. I thought Dr. Bridgeman was a trifle indefinite there. I would not give my approval.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: I would like to ask you this question: Like yourself, I have been raised on the Old Testament. I am a Presbyterian, but not a Baptist.

DR. POLING: I have brothers who are Presbyterians.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: I have had, like every perscn who knows anything of the history of the Jewish people, a feeling not only against anti-Semitism-of course I don't understand that feeling in my own life. I don't believe I have ever put a Jew down on a place below me in any thought I have ever had. That is what anti-Semitism is largely based on.

I have also had the feeling that you express, that it would be a beautiful thing if the Jew could go to Palestine, his home. I have had that all my life, more or less, and more actively in my later years. But it is that to an extent you are talking about that Christians feel.

Now what I want to ask you is, as the question which is now coming up so much in these hearings of whether or not the Christian people want to put a

Jewish state over the Arab majority, to give the Jews the political control of the Arabs, has that really ever been discussed or considered in this country? Hasn't it always been, shouldn't the Jews be allowed to go to Palestine? That is my point.

DR. POLING: Recently it has been more widely and intimately discussed, and with intelligence. I think the vote in the Senate and in the House--

JUDGE HUTCHESON: I didn't say "Jewish commonwealth." I said "a democratic commonwealth."

DR. POLING: I think that was significant, but may I say on this one point, I have before me the Palestine Royal Commission Report of 1937, and on page 362 there is this statement:

"The government of an independent P_lestine, freed from the Mandate, would have to be either an Arab or a Jewish government."

JUDGE HUTCHESON: Now there are 600,000 Arabs and 100,000 Jews, and we agree to bring about a political arrangement by which it will be stacked against the Arab voter.

DR. POLING: We have discussed it, and the whole question of how the majority, as it is at present, was achieved enters into that picture.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: They haven't got a majority yet.

DR. POLING: How the present Arab majority was achieved I didn't think was for me to discuss, but it will be very important for your consideration. Also, that point is very carefully gone into on pages 146, 147, 148, and 149 as of the statement made in the House of Commons May 22, 1939--this is your document.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: You misunderstand me. I have no doubt the thing has been discussed many times. What I want to find out, has any Presbyterian Church which stands on the basis of the law of God, as far as it can, and of the law of democratic representation, ever announced a doctrine that those who have the majority shall be made into a minority? And point me to the asgembly which did.

DR. POLING: No, that has never been done, but I do not grant all the implications of your question, Mr. Chairman. That is why I said that for me properly to discuss the matter it was--

JUDGE HUTCHESON: No, you are still sticking to it. What have they voted on?

DR. POLING: The Presbyterians have never voted on that question you ased. To my knowledge

no church has. They couldn't vote on that queston as you have stated it and make an intelligent decision.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: Has any church voted on the question as to whether it is more preferable to have & Jewish or Arab majority in Palestine?

DR. POLING: I think that indirectly practically every church has expressed itself on that. I would say again overwhelmingly in my opinion, and in the cpinion of my associate Christians of the United States, preferably Palestine should be a Jewish state.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: That is my mint.

SIF FREDERICK: May I ask one question. On page 6, which you read, "The solution is a national home for the Jewish people to which they can go... This will help to normalize the status of the Jews throughout the world." What, exactly, do you mean by that? Do you mean just as Great Britain is the normal English country in which a British person is born and lives, so Palestine would be the natural country for the Jews?

DR. POLING: Essentially that is what I mean. It does not mean that all the Irish will go to the Irish Free State. SIR FREDERICK: But in the future the normal status of the Jew will be Palestinian?

DR. POLING: Of these who wish to go there.

SIR FREDERICK: What would be the effect?

DR. POLING: I dissent from any suggestion of dual citizenship. I believe there should be such a state that it should be in Palestine, the homeland. I do not believe that all Jews, nor even an overwhelming number of them, would go there. All those that wish to go would go.

JUDGE HUTCHESON: All right, I think we have reached the end of this.

I think we should have our meeting just the same, whether we have anything to eat or not, and I ask the Committee to repair with me down to our meeting. We will adjourn until Monday.

(The hearing adjourned at 1:50 p.m.)