

Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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United Palestine Appeal, 1938.

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This hour in Jewish history is as grave as any which our people have experienced in two thousand years. A wave of reaction has swept over the Western world which has already shattered two great Jewish communities in Germany and Austria and which is threatening with a similar fate other Jewish communities in Central and Eastern Europe.

Three million Jews in Poland live in the midst of almost continuous attack and harassment. They are subjected to numerous restrictions and intolerable hostile propaganda while the economic plight of more than a million of them beggars description. They live in the direct and most abject poverty.

It is a time of great affliction for Israel because it is a time of great affliction for mankind. An unclean spirit, a plague of diseased ideas risen from the ten million graves of the last war has come to dwell in the habitation of mankind. The ghosts of the Dark Ages - tyranny, oppression, hatred, intolerance and sheer cold brutality - cast their horrible shadows over the lives of men and nations. The rights of the individual are trampled under foot. The rights of races, religions and minorities are flaunted. The human mind is shackled and the spirit of free inquiry is outlawed. Vicious propaganda is poisoning the wellsprings of human thought. An ingrown and war-breeding nationalism is rampant and the youth of the world is indoctrinated with a hateful, truculent and arrogant provincialism. In Central Europe the racial state is rising upon the ruins of the state built upon law and citizens who do not belong to the racial stock of the majority are disfranchised, degraded, denied the right to practice their professions and callings and doomed to poverty, exile or suicide.

In such a world of reaction and recrudescent barbarism the Jewish people everywhere a minority finds itself a nigh helpless victim. Nations

gone mad with Chauvinism and militarism, torn by internal economic strife and embittered by defeat, frustration and impoverishment, are turning upon the Jews in their midst and are making of them a scapegoat for all their sins and miseries.

Our position seems desperate in many parts of the world today.

However, while we face the present with deep concern and with profound sorrow over the fate which has overtaken so many of our people, we do not despair. It is not characteristic of our people to despair or to succumb to persecution. Our long history which records so many triumphs over calamity and misfortune keeps us from losing faith in our ultimate triumph and vindication. We shall wait patiently and work heroically until the present madness shall have passed from the earth, until mankind shall have rediscovered its basic sanity and decency and, returning from the jungles into which it has strayed, it will resume its march upon the highway of human progress towards freedom, justice, tolerance, brotherhood and peace.

For the present, our task is a twofold one. We must render maximum aid to our fellow Jews in the lands of persecution. We must save them from physical want and suffering as far as that is possible. We must help those over whom the storm has swept who now find themselves without any means of livelihood. We must help Jewish communities abroad to maintain their communal institutions. The sense of Jewish solidarity which has stood us in such good stead throughout all these weary centuries must assert itself today as never before if great sections of our people are to be saved from utter physical and spiritual collapse.

We must not accept even though for the present we are compelled to yield to the solution of the Jewish problem in Central and Eastern Europe

which is proferred by the enemies of Israel. A deceptive slogan has been coined by some of the governments hostile to our people in an effort to rationalize their intolerance - the slogan of surplus population. Thus, the Polish Government as well as the Rumanian have suddenly announced that their countries suffer from excess population. This excess population is of course the Jewish population. In order to relieve the pressure upon their countries the Jewish population must emigrate. This is tantamount to the Medieval edicts of expulsion under twentieth century cynical pseudo-economic camouflage.

Some Jewish leaders, have fatuously toyed with this self-same idea of the evacuation of whole Jewish communities as a means of solving the problems caused by anti-Semitism. An eminent delegation of British Jews came to the United States a few years ago to persuade American Jewry that a large scale exodus of German Jewry should be arranged for and financed by the Jews of the world. Within a few weeks of that widely publicized visit, the governments of some of the countries adjacent to Germany, likewise eager to get rid of their Jews, quickly announced that they too would like to have the Jews of the world arrange for the exodus of their Jewish populations. Today it is clear that the solution by evacuation is fantastic in the extreme and impossible of realization. Today it is no longer a question of evacuating 500,000 Jews, who are under pressure from hostile governments, as was the case in 1933, but of 5,000,000 Jews in Germany, Austria, Rumania and Poland and no one knows when Czechoslovakia and Hungary will join the constellation of these lands of Jewish misfortune and disabilities.

At best, and at the cost of heroic sacrifices, and only with the aid of the democratic governments of the world, which aid our own government recently solicitated, will it be possible to transfer to new

homes a small percentage of these Jews. The present economic condition of the world is not favorable to large-scale migrations. Every country is today discouraging rather than encouraging immigration.

We must, of course, do all that we possibly can to help those who must and can get out and enable them to re-establish themselves elsewhere in new lands. We must also do our utmost to assist those who must remain behind. But to hope for a permanent solution of the vast and tragic problem of Central and East European Jewries through emigration or relief is vain and futile. We should face this hard and unpleasant fact without blinking.

And we must bring home this fact very simply and very clearly to those governments which are today proposing to solve the economic problems of their countries by forcing their Jewish minorities to emigrate. We must leave them in no doubt as to what we can do or propose to do.

We may not be able to persuade them that a country cannot solve its economic problems by artifically reducing its population through enforced emigration. Such drastic surgery frequently leads to a still more serious impoverishment of a country.

No essential relationship has, as yet, been established between population and prosperity. In our own country we experienced disastrous economic depressions when our population was one-half, one-third or one-fourth its present size. And we enjoyed periods of prosperity when immigrants were pouring into our country by the hundreds of thousands.

It is just as logical for Poland to try to solve its economic problem by compelling three million Jews to emigrate, as it would be for the United States to attempt to solve its present depression by sending back to Poland the 1,400,000 foreign-born Poles who are here, and to Germany the 1,600,000 foreign-born Germans who are here, and to Italy the 1,800,000

foreign-born Italians who are here, and to Great Britain the 1,000,000 foreign-born Englishmen who are here, and to Ireland the 800,000 foreign-born Irish who are here. There are fourteen million of such foreign-born in the United States, not to speak of the twenty-five million more of foreign or mixed parentage. Would such a forcible emigration set the wheels of our industries running again?...

Again, you do not solve the economic problem of a country by taking away opportunities to earn a living from one group in the population and giving it to another. By so doing, you succeed only in diminishing or destroying opportunities for all.

It is only by a sound reorganization of its economic life, and by the creation of new opportunities through more intelligent planning that an economic solution can be approximated.

I say that we may not be able to persuade the governments of Poland and Rumania and elsewhere of these very simple truths. But we ought to leave them in no doubt whatsoever about our ability or our readiness to cooperate with them in any scheme for wholesale and enforced Jewish emigration. We are not able. We are not ready. We are not willing.

Poland will have to reconcile itself to its Jewish minority of three million and to its other minorities. They cannot be evacuated. It is impossible under present conditions, with the doors of the world closed, to effect the transference even of a million people at a rate fast enough to overcome the normal increase in the population through births. Even if there existed facilities and opportunities for moving fifty thousand Jews annually out of Poland, after a generation of such emigration, Poland would still have three million Jews.

In Poland, and for that matter, in Rumania and in all Eastern European countries, the Jews will continue to remain, as they have for

pogromized or not - for the simple reason that they cannot go elsewhere. The question then arises: Is it more statesmanlike for these countries to allow the Jews full political and economic equality so that through their talents and abilities and services they may help to develop and enrich the economic life of those countries - or will they remain an harassed and discriminated minority group, a source of constant conflict and embitterment and the breeding centers of revolution?

For these three million Jews in Poland and the one million in Rumania, even as all underprivileged minorities, will not forever take it lying down. It is not human nature. They will seek to undermine the governments which oppress them and in the long rum they will succeed, even as they succeeded in Czarist Russia.

I sometimes hear men wonder at the fact that there were so many Communist Jews in Russia. The number has, of course, been grossly exaggerated by anti-Semites. The overwhelming number of Jews in Russia were democratic, or constitutionalists. But all of them wanted the Czarist regime destroyed. Is there any wonder? Think of the life of degradation and infamy and disabilities under which they were compelled to live! Can you find it in your heart to blame if many of them were driven into the most extreme revolutionary movements? Would you act differently? Not if you are a man and not a coward!

Any government which in the twentieth century sets about singling out men, on account of their race or religion, for political disfranchisement, or economic discriminations, or social degradation, is prescribing its own doom. It is doing its best to raise, train and equip the malcontents and revolutionaries of tomorrow who will destroy it root and branch.

You can hold such persecuted people down for a time with bayonets, or what is more effective than bayonets, with lying propaganda among the enclaving majority. But propaganda, sooner or later, must succumb to truth, and as far as bayonets are concerned, it was Napoleon who declared that there is one thing you cannot do with them - you cannot sit on them....

I said at the outset that our task is a twofold one: first to render maximum aid to our fellow Jews in the lands of persecution. Secondly, to make the maximum sacrifice for the upbuilding of the Jewish homeland in Palestine. Not because Palestine is the solution of the Jewish problem. There is no one Jewish problem and there is no one solution. Nor yet because Palestine will become the home for all the persecuted Jews of Europe. Palestine can become and has become the home of tens of thousands of Jews who have been driven out from their former homes. In fact, between the years 1931 and 1936, Palestine absorbed 71% of the total world Jewish immigration. Since the rise of Hitler to power, almost 200,000 Jews have entered Palestine, over 40,000 from Germany alone.

Thousands of Jewish children whom the infamous Hitler Regime would have consigned in their adult life to the status of outcasts and pariahs, have been rescued and taken from Germany to Palestine and in the colonies, villages and towns they have been xixi given loving care and shelter and they are being trained for useful and joyous careers in the midst of their own people and in a Jewish land. The plight of Jewry today would be immeasurably more tragic but for the fact of the new life, the new hope and the new opportunities which Palestine is offering to hundreds of thousands of our people.

Due to the political uncertainties in Palestine today, produced by the indecision of the British Government and its delay in acting one way or another on the report of the Royal Commission touching the Partition of the country, immigration into Palestine last year sharply declined. But Palestine has had such periods of decline in immigration before in recent years, and they were invariably followed by periods of great expansion. Perhaps as a result of the international conference for political refugees convoked by Secretary Hull, the British Government may be persuaded as an emergency measure and before final disposition is made of the Royal Commission Report, to permit a much larger immigration schedule for the year 1938 than it has already assigned.

In so far as Palestine does drain off a substantial number of Jews from the hard-pressed centers of Jewish population in Eastern and Central Europe, it will ease to that extent the pressure in those countries and will make the condition of our people there somewhat less harrowing and less hopeless.

But Palestine's major contribution to Jewish life is that of offering a national home for our people, a land to which Jews will come as a matter of right and not of sufferance, a place where they will be in the majority and therefore in control of their own political and economic destiny, a place where Jewish life will be able to develop normally as does the life of any other people in its own land, a place where Jewish culture will develop along its own authentic traditions, drawing strength from its own native soil. A national home in Palestine will give to our people that which it has lacked for two thousand years - national status in the world. The importance of it is incalculable. There is no people on the face of the earth which does not reach for and fight for such status. It is the elementary prerequisite for a people's normal existence. Our bi-millennial tragedy has been that we did not have it.

It is twenty years now since Great Britain issued the Balfour

Declaration. It isforty years now since the great man of dreams and visions, Dr. Theodoxe derzl, convoked the first Zionist Congress at Basel. Much water has run under the bridges since that time. Many revolutionary changes have come over Jewish life. Many political volcanoes have shaken our people. The world war and its shattering consequences, the rise of Communism in the Soviet Union which isolated a great section of world Jewry, the large-scale new migrations of Jews which have created a new Jewish diaspora and the upsurging of the most determined and relentless official anti-Semitism known to our history - all these epochal events have swept over our people in the last few decades. But the thesis which Herzl proclaimed in 1897 has, in spite of these upheavals and perhaps because of them, been vindicated in a three-fold way.

In the first place, his program was vindicated in fact - in that the nations of the world recognized its validity and gave it international sanction. They acknowledged the claim of the Jewish people to a national existence and to a national home, and they established a mandatory regime over Palestine charged with the responsibility of facilitating the upbuilding of a Jewish national homeland there.

Herzl's thesis was further vindicated by the tragic experiences of our people. Emancipation and enlightenment did not fully achieve or protect the rights of our people in Europe. Force of circumstances and not logic has compelled those who originally resented violently the Palestine movement to accept it as a new hope, if not for themselves and their own children, then for those who live in lands where formerly it was thought their position was secure and their rights of citizenship permanently established.

And finally, Herzl's dream has been vindicated by Jewish enterprise and Jewish sacrifice in and for Palestine. People said it couldn't be done. They reasoned quite logically and cogently that Palestine had not the physical resources to maintain a substantial Jewish population, that it was a backward and forsaken land, and that the Jew was not a pioneer. They reasoned well, these practical people, but they failed to take into account the power of an ideal, the drive of circumstances and the amazing initiative and sacrificial valor of the Jews. What the Jews achieved in Palestine in two short decades constitutes an amazing and glorious chapter in Jewish history.

At this time when so many governments and parties have set in motion high-geared propaganda machines which daily pour out scurrilous denunciations and derogations of our people calculated to undermine our morale and to justify the withdrawal of our civil and political rights in the world, it is important for the sake of ourselves and our children to recount simply and factually the amazing story of Jewish pioneering work and achievement in Palestine, the like of which mankind has not witnessed in this century. All too frequently we accept our enemies' low estimate of ourselves. This is one of the tragic by-products of the Galut. Decidedly we should recount today with justifiable pride what Jewish initiative, courage, and sacrifice have achieved in a land which Mark Twain once described as "leagues of blasted, blighted, sandy, rocky, sunburnt, ugly, dreary, infamous country." To such a land, neglected for centuries by Arab and Turk, shot through with malaria and trachoma, these pioneers came and brought healing and redemption. They drained the marshes. They cleared the swamps. They introduced sanitation. They revived agriculture. They built orchards and gardens. They built roads and highways and power stations. They dotted the plains of Sharon and Jezreel with settlements

and villages. They built schools and high schools and a Hebrew University. They revived a language and a culture. They erected hospitals and clinics and opened them for the service of all - Jew and Arab and Christian alike. Whereas twenty-five years ago there were only sand dunes in the suburbs of Jaffa there rises today a modern thriving city of 150,000 souls.

And all this was achieved to the hurt of none and the blessing of all. The Jews who came to Palestine did not expropriate a single Arab.

They did not take away a single dunam of land from any one. They received no free grants from the government. Every acre of land was bought and paid for. Much of the land was poor land and had to be irrigated or drained or wells had to be dug for water. No sacrifice was too great for these builders of a new life in the ancient land of their fathers.

During the past year, in spite of the unsettled political conditions in Palestine, nineteen new settlements were founded. Many new buildings were constructed. New land was acquired. A new port was built at Tel Aviv.

The exports of Palestine were substantially increased. With the return of security to the country and with the investment of substantial public funds, such as the United Palestine Appeal is endeavoring to raise in the United States, the ecohomic activities of Palestine will be greatly stimulated and increased opportunities will be created for a much larger Jewish immigration. There are literally tens of thousands of trained young Jews and Jewesses in many parts of Europe who are anxiously and prayerfully waiting for the opportunity to emigrate to Palestine.

The World Budget which was set up by the Jewish Agency for Palestine, composed of Zionists and non-Zionists alike, calls for seven and three-quarters millions of dollars. This Budget provides for the purchase of land, afforestation, immigration, the promotion of business and industry and education. An important part of the Budget is for the settlement of German and Austrian Jews in Palestine. The American share of this Budget is

four and one-half million dollars. American Jewry represents more than half of the total Jewish community of the world which is not now dependent upon relief.

It is my profoundest hope that American Jewry, in its traditional generosity, will rise to the challenge of this grave hour and make possible the upbuilding of the land which was the cradle of our race, the place of our great historic achievements, and now the Promised Land of myriads of our people who seek a new life for themselves and their children. The upbuilding of Palestine is the expression of an immemorial hope as well as of a desperate emergency. The United Palestine Appeal aims to meet this emergency and to realize this immemorial hope.



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In such a world of reaction and recrudescent barbarism the Jewish people everywhere a minority finds itself a nigh helpless victim. Nations

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Our position seems desperate in many parts of the world today. However, while we face the present with deep concern and with profound sorrow over the fate which has overtaken so many of our people, we do not despair. It is not characteristic of our people to despair or to succumb to persecution. Our long history which records so many triumphs over calamity and misfortune keeps us from losing faith in our ultimate triumph and vindication. We shall wait patiently and work heroically until the present madness shall have passed from the earth, until mankind shall have rediscovered its basic sanity and decency and, returning from the jungles into which it has strayed, it will resume its march upon the highway of human progress towards freedom, justice, tolerance, brotherhood, and peace.

For the present our task is a twofold one. We must render maximum aid to our fellow Jews in the lands of persecution. We must save them from physical want and suffering as far as that is possible. We must help those over whom the storm has swept who now find themselves without any means of livelihood. We must help Jewish communities abroad to maintain their communal institutions. The sense of Jewish solidarity which has stood us in such good stead throughout all these weary centuries must assert itself today as never before if great sections of our people are to be saved from utter physical and spiritual collapse.

And we must make the maximum sacrifice for the upbuilding of the

Jewish homeland in Palestine. Palestine has become the great refuge and the

sustaining hope of the masses of our people who have been forced into exile and who are

now seeking new homes, when new homes are not available. Even free and tolerant nations find it necessary to close their doors against new immigrants.

Since the rise of Hitler to power almost 200,000 Jews have migrated to Palestine, among them 45,000 from Germany alone. Between 1931 and 1936, Palestine absorbed 71% of the total world Jewish immigration. Thousands of Jewish children whom the infamous Hitler regime had consigned to the status of outcasts and pariahs in Germany have been rescued and taken to Palestine. There in the colonies, villages and towns they have been given shelter and love and they are being carefully trained for serviceable and joyous careers in the home of their own people. The plight of Jewry today would be immeasurably more tragic but for the fact of the new life, the new hope, and the new opportunity which Palestine is offering to hundreds of thousands of our people. Out of the iron which is entering the soul of our people today, it is fashioning in Palestine the weapons of its own deliverance.

My friends, at this time when so many governments and parties have set in motion such high-greared propaganda machines which daily pour our scurrilous denunciations and derogations of our people calculated to undermine our morale and to justify the withdrawal of our civil and political rights in the world, it is important for thesake of ourselves and our children to recount simply and factually the amazing story of Jewish pioneering work and achievement in Palestine, the like of whick mankind has not witnessed in this century. All too frequently we accept our enemies low estimate of ourselves. This is one of the tragic by-products of the Galut. Decidedly we should recount today with justifiable pride what Jewish initiative courage, and sacrifice have achieved in a land which Mark Twain once described as "leagues of blasted, blighted, sandy, rocky, sunburnt, ugly, dreary, infamous country." To such a land, neglected for centuries by Arab and Turk, shot through with malaria and tachoma, these pioneers came and brought healing and redemption. They drained the marshes.

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And all this was achieved to the hurt of none and the blessing of all. The Jews who came to Palestine did not expropriate a single Arab. They did not take away a single dunam of land from any one. They received no free grants from the government. Every acre of land was bought and paid for. Much of the land had not been cultivated for centuries. Much of the land was poor land and had to be irrigated or drained or wells had to be dug for water. No sacrifice was too great for these builders of a new life in the ancient land of their fathers.

During the past year, in spite of the unsettled political conditions in Palestine nimeteen new settlements were founded. Many new buildings were constructed. New land was acquired. A new port was built at Tel Aviv. The exports of Palestine were substantially increased. With the return of security to the country and with the investment of substantial public funds, such as the United Palestine Appeal is endeavoring to raise in the United States the economic activities of Palestine will be greatly stimulated and increased opportunities will be created for a much larger Jewish immigration. There are literally tens of thousands of trained young Jews and Jewesses in many parts of Europe who are anxiously and prayerfully waiting for the opportunity to emigrate to Palestine.

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millions of dollars. This Budget provides for the purchase of land, afforestation, immigration, the promotion of business and industry and education. An important part of the Budget is for the settlement of German and Austrian Jews in Palestine. The American share of the Budget is four and one-half million collars. American Jewry represents more than half of the total Jewish community of the world which is not now dependent upon relief.

It is my profoundest hope that American Jewry, in its traditional generosity, will rise to the challenge of this grave hour and make possible the upbuilding of the land which was the cradle of our race, the place of our great historic achievements, and now the Promised Land of myriads of our people who seek a new life for themselves and their children. The upbuilding of Palestine is the expression of an immemorial hope as well as of a desperate emergency. The United Palestine Appeal aims to meet this emergency and to realize this immemorial hope.

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For the present our task is a twofold one. We must render maximum aid to our fellow Jews in the lands of persecution.

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The World Budget which was set up by the Jewish Agency for Palestine, composed of Zichists and non-Zionists, calls for seven and three quarters millions of dollars. The Budget provides for the purchase of land, afforestation, immigration, the promotion of business and industry and education. An important part of the Budget is for the settlement of German and Austrian Jews in Palestine. The American share of this Budget is four and one-half million dollars. American Jewry represents more than half of the total Jewish community of the world which is not now dependent upon relief. It is my profoundest hope that American Jewry, in its traditional generosity will rise to the challenge of this great hour and make possible the upbuilding of the land which was the cradle of our race, the place of our great history achievements, and now the Promised Land of myriads of our people who seek a new life for themselves and their children. The upbuilding of Palestine is the expression of an immemorial hope as well as of a desperate emergency. The United Palestine Appeal aims to meet this emergency and to realize this immemorial hope.

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (KEREN KAYEMETH)
EMERGENCY FUND (MIFAL BITZARON)
OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
For the Settlement in Palestine of Jews of Germany, Poland, Rumania and Other Lands

111 FIFTH AVE. CABLE ADDRESS—PALFUND NEW YORK CITY

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September 19, 1938

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, East 105th St. & Ansel Road, Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

A hard year is closing for our people, a year of bitter attack on many fronts. The disaster of Austrian Jewry was added to the disaster of German Jewry. Recession was the experience of our people throughout Eastern and Central Europe. In Italy the racist propaganda which is the inevitable fore-runner of political disfranchisement and economic ruin has been officially launched. Millions of our people are in flight, driven from their old homes and seeking new homes in a world where few new homes are available.

In Palestine too, struggle and conflict have been the lot of our brothers during the past year. Our people have been forced to defend with their lives what they have builded with the sweat of their brows and souls. Jewish blood has now sanctified the soil which Jewish labor redeemed. Political uncertainty and the failure of the Mandatory Government to maintain law and order in the country have hung like a pall over the Yishuv and have intercepted its economic progress and development.

Nevertheless, though the year has been an extremely trying and difficult one and the immediate prospects are not bright, the remarkable courage, faith and tenacity of our people in Palestine, which in recent years accomplished such seemingly impossible tasks and wrested so many glorious victories, is continuing to stand them in good stead. Their morale has been splendid. They have not yielded to violence and terror. They have proceeded to build new colonies and settlements in the very zone of battle and have defended them valiantly. These Jews of Palestine who are our chosen vanguard have been carrying on the hard and sacrificial labor of land and nation building with a courage and a dignity which might well fill us with deep and justifiable pride.

Though the remarkable rate of progress which Palestine experienced in recent years, which in less than two decades brought three hundred thousand Jews into the country, has for the time

being slowed down, the country nevertheless is continuing to develop. New settlers are arriving, among them hundreds of children rescued from the horror-pits of Austria and Germany. New areas are being opened for settlement and cultivation. Palestinian exports have substantially increased. Intelligent effort is being applied toward the strengthening of industry and the solution of the unemployment problem which the enforced curtailment of immigration and the disturbances in the country have aggravated.

Palestine Jewry for the time being is holding and defending the political and economic positions already won, waiting for the hour of release from uncertainty and insecurity to make another decisive advance towards growth and expansion, as it has done so often in the last twenty years following brief periods of economic relapse.

Fellow Jews! Our task of building a National Homeland for our people is not the work of a year, a decade or of a single generation. That task should not be envisaged or evaluated in terms of separate moments of check or progress. Nor can our work in Palestine be stopped or postponed because of any temporary unfavorable condition. We are engaged in an historic enterprise of long duration, calling for wide perspectives and long-range planning, demanding patience and resoluteness and above all unfailing and generous offering of substance and man-power.

If a fraction of the life, labor and love which some Jewish communities had invested in other lands from which they are now being driven had been invested by us in Palestine in recent years the Jewish Homeland would now be a reality. Had there been a greater outpouring of vision, men and means, and greater cooperation on the part of the Mandatory Government, we could have built much faster and with much less difficulty. But we were unprepared when the great moment arrived in 1918. Our forces were unorganized, our household divided. Our resources were not adequate and the Government of Palestine was often either a negative or an obstructionist factor. We must now move along the harder way, the longer way. But move we must - towards the goal of national rehabilitation in our historic home.

Events have demonstrated conclusively what the seers of our movement had foreseem unerringly. Our people as a people needs a national status and a national homeland. In adversity we remembered it, in prosperity we frequently forgot it. Today we are being most tragically reminded of it again. Large communities in Israel, long established in their native homes, cultured, integrated in a thousand ways within the life of those countries, have been compelled, suddenly and cruelly, to taste the bitter taste of exile and homelessness. The Jewish people -- and not merely individual Jews -- needs a home! Let us never again lose sight of this inescapable fact of our existence. The Jewish people needs a home! Across the dark curtain of hate, persecution and exile, spread across the face of two-thirds of Europe today, there is written large in letters of fire and blood this legend which our people must read and, reading, resolutely act: The Jewish people needs a home!

To be sure there are other important tasks which we must perform at the present time to help our fellow Jews throughout the world. There is political work to be done. Relief funds are desperately needed at this hour to help our people in Central and Eastern Europe, and no Jew will want to shirk this compelling obligation in this crucial hour. There are the continuing tasks of maintaining our communal life everywhere, our religious, philanthropic and educational institutions. Palestine does not and must not claim any exclusive allegiance or devotion. But Palestine does claim priority. Palestine is not just another worthy project in Jewish life. In the profoundest sense, it is the most vital and crucial need of our people at this time and at all times.

On the threshold of the New Year I transmit to you the appeal of the Yishuv in Palestine for a brotherly strengthening of their hands and hearts, for reassurance for a just sharing in sacrifice and for tools and materials with which to build the temple of our national life and of our imperishable ideals.

Jewish communities in the United States which have not yet organized their efforts for the United Palestine Appeal, are urged to do so at once. Those which have had their campaigns during the year and are conscious that they have not met their full responsibility in the present situation, are urged to supplement their funds. Individual Jews who cannot be reached by organized communal effort, are urged to make their direct and individual contributions to the cause.

May the coming year be a better year for our people. May it witness the lifting of the dark clouds from over the lives of those who are at present in tribulation and suffering. For Palestine may it be a year of redemption, progress, and peace.

Cordially yours,

Abba Hillel Silver National Chairman

United Palestine Appeal

To the officers and workers of the United Palestine Appeal Campaign in New York City and to its many contributors, I send my warmest greetings through the medium of this "Night of Stars" Souvenir Program. All those who have contributed of time, service or substance to the 1938 Campaign are deserving of the profound gratitude of our people and of the Yishub in Palestine.

of two things, Jewry may be justly proud: the magnificent courage and heroism of our pioneers in Palestine who have withstood the long siege of terror, lawlessness and intimidation and have carried on under fire in a manner which has amazed the world; and the loyalty of the Jews outside of Palestine who have worked indefatigably to strengthen the hands of these pioneers and to provide them with resources with which to carry on.

To be sure, the contributions of the Jews in the diaspora cannot match the sacrifices of the Jews in Palestine. Nor has their giving been adequate or comparable to what they should or could give. Nevertheless they have not utterly failed in this grave hour of Jewish history. There is an increasing awareness among all sections of our people of the significance of the epochal drama which is now being played in the land of Israel, of its tremendous implication for future generations of Israel, and of the urgent need to give more and more generously.

We are beset with terrific difficulties in Palestine and our course for the immediate future is not clear. There is little clarity anywhere in the international situation today. But it is strengthening to remember that in spite of mounting obstacles we did succeed in less than twenty years to build a strong Jewish community in Palestine and added to its population more than three hundred thousand souls. We did take care of more than half of the total Jewish refugees of the world. We did establish a full and creditable complement

of cultural, economic and social institutions for the evolving national life of our people. Our generation is prepared to do even more in the next twenty years if Great Britain will live up to its pledges and to those obligations which it voluntarily assumed under the Mandate.

It may well be that the unclean spirit which is now abroad in the world, the moral anarchy, cynicism and brutality which dominate the chancelleries of the earth and the councils of nations will thwart and check our work in Palestine. We shall, of course, be greatly saddened by such a turn of events and embittered. But we shall not desist.

The Balfour Declaration did not establish our historic right to Palestine. It merely registered Great Britain's recognition and approval of that right. This is true also of the Mandate. Our claim to Palestine as the National Homeland of the Jewish people antedates by long centuries the very rise of the British Empire itself and the birth of nearly all the nations of the Western World.

Fifteen centuries of Jewish life, labor, and world-shaping spiritual and cultural achievements within Palestine made that land of divine Promise the land of Jewish possession. Nineteen centuries in exile of unbroken effort and messianic hope for national restoration to Palestine attest our unfaltering hold on that land.

The decades of monumental toil, labor and sacrifice of men and means in our own time, during which Jewish pioneers reclaimed this land from neglect, desolation, poverty and stupor and, having revived and enriched it, set it on the highway of human progress, have vindicated anew our just claim to this thrice-earned homeland of our people.

With that Jewish pertinacity which some have called stiff-neckedness, with that patience born of faith and wisdom, and in the conviction, daily re-enforced by all that is happening to the Jewish people in the diaspora, that our people must have a national home, let us continue to work, to sacrifice and to build.

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From Page One

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ETES SURPRISE TRIP

Godowsky Has Only Her bag in Southampton

N, April 23 (AP).—Dagmar, daughter of the noted copold Godowsky, arrived rittanic today from New h a black handbag as herige.

plained that the vessel ile she was saying goode pianist, Josf Hofmann, Hofmann,

really didn't matter, she she had planned to come I in May anyway. ton officials provided

ton officials provided emporary identification

rday it was announced rk that Miss Godowsky unexpectedly two days a Britannic, having exarewells to Josef Hoffter the liner had left hite Star pier at West . According to it back to her factorical descriptions in the star pier at West .

GERMANS AROUSED BY BRAZIL'S CURBS

Bitter Over Effort to Check Development of Organized Minority Looking to Berlin

NEW SCHOOL LAW SCORED

Santa Catherina Edict Will Result in Moral Collapse, Newspaper Warns

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BERLIN, April 23.—Bitter feeling has been aroused here by the movement in Brazil to make all schools Brazilian and by other attempts of the Vargas government to interfere with the development of an organized German minority training its children as Germans and looking to Berlin for its ideology and cultural inspiration.

The Boersenzeitung on Thursday carried an article warning against the new school law issued in the State of Santa Catherina providing that private as well as public schools must use Portuguese as the chief language and that the Brazilian flag must be displayed in all schoolrooms and forbidding the display of foreign symbols such as the swastika.

The newspaper asserts that such laws will alienate children from their families and result in a general moral collapse.

Heading its article "Incomprehensible," the Boersenzeitung says:

"The new law, in a country with large foreign-language groups, means enforced suppression of the language employed in the parents' household. It means the alienation of children from their parents, and the children will have forced on them a mentality entirely different from that of their parents.

"Education without the parents' cooperation is impossible. It will bring youth into a conflict of opinions and emotions that will be anything but advantageous for its morality."

Special objection is made to the part of the law providing that all teachers must be of Brazilian birth.

The newspaper says:

"This program makes the exchange of teachers impossible and visits by foreign professors and speakers are made out of the question, except as they are specifically approved by the Brazilian authorities."

In the past regular teachers in the German schools have been recruited and sent out to teach in ostensibly independent private German schools in Brazil where the children of Brazilian citizens of German origin are educated.

The period of residence in Brazil has been reckoned for purposes of seniority and pension rating as a part of their service in the German school system.

Objection apparently is also made to the part of the law prohibiting schools from accepting the of foreign government organizations.

Uniforms for Diplomats Are Approved by Hitler

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES. BERLIN, April 23.—German diplomats are to be put in uniforms. The cut and insignia will exclude any chance of mistaking the government that they represent.

Each member of the German diplomatic service will receive two separate outfits that Hitler has approved. One will resemble closely Hitler's Elite Guard black uniform, but will be more elaborate.

The uniform cap will be decorated with broad bands of gold braid as will the jacket. Special diplomatic service insignia resembling those designating military rankks have been devised to differentiate the various grades.

Another uniform for formal occasions consists of the customary evening dress with a white waistcoat but with additional gold buttons on the coat and a thin gold stripe down the trouser-legs. Care will be taken to prevent confusion between the latter uniform and the somewhat similar garb worn by butlers and footmen in many legations.

THREE TO GET MEDALS AT PARENTS DAY FETE

Uncle Robert Plans Honors for Public Officials May 8

Three gold medals will be presented next month to New York public officials for "outstanding contributions for the betterment of the city's children," it was announced last night by Uncle Robert, founder of Parents Day, Stay-on-the-Sidewalk movements and children's clubs bearing his name.

The medals will be presented at the Parents Day celebration to be held on the aftermoon of May 8 at the Mall in Central Park, Uncle Robert announced. The awards will be made to three "outstanding"

officials, he said.

Plans for the Parents Day fete are nearing completion. Thirty thousand persons attended the celebration last year, Uncle Robert said, and this year he expects 40,000 or more. Children who attend and bring their parents will get buttons on which is inscribed "A kiss for mother, a hug for dad."

Mayor La Guardia is expected to be present, and the program, the founder declared, will be broadcast at 3 P. M. over radio station WNYC. The All-Cities Senior Selected Students Symphony Band, composed of 150 students, will supply the music.

A color guard will be made up of students of Public School 77 in the Bronx. Thirty school children, all under 10 years of age and representing as many nations, will be present in native costume, Uncle Robert announced. Dr. Robert J. Frost, assistant superintendent of schools in New York, will make the opening address.

DANUBIAN CO TO OPEN HE

Parley at Fordham
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The Danubian confunder the auspices of University, was to have March 31 and which we because of the Austroschluss, will be held to May 8, it was annot university yesterday, bilities of a political a rapprochement among bian states and the coranschluss" will be the of discussion.

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cious action of the Congress and I should be happy to have you convey to your eminent colleagues my thanks and my personal good wishes.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, President of the United States.

Reply Expresses Appreciation The message from Deputy Garcia was as follows:

April 18, 1938.

His Excellency Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of North America,

Washington, D. C. The members of the Chamber of Deputies of the Thirty-seventh Congress of Mexico, through the channels of its Bloc, see with deep approval your attitude with regard to the economic liberation the Indo-Spanish peoples and believe that the statement made by you that "international differences of all kinds can be settled by peaceful regotiations" is a foundation for good relations between all the peoples of America. World democracy has found in our President Cardenas and yourself its two most vigorous representatives; those composing this Chamber set a historical precedent in clasping your hand, and, in the name of the people of our own country, and that of the American people, which now joins the rest of the continent in interpreting laws which will achieve happiness for all our peoples by the deepest sentiments of social justice.

The President of the Bloc. Deputy Leon Garcia.

The expressions of good-will were echoed here today by Josephus Daniels, the United States Ambasby Josephus sador to Mexico, who has returned to this country for the observance of his fiftieth wedding anniversary on May 2 and who conferred for more than an hour today with Sumner Welles, Acting Secretary of State.

Daniels Urges Cordiality

He expressed the hope that the spirit of cordiality which governs the peoples and governments of the United States and Mexico will lead to "a fair and friendly solution" of the oil question.

"The spirit of the people and of the governments of the two countries is based on a desire for con-tinued friendship," he said.

Ambassador Daniels did not see President Roosevelt, but will con-Mr. Danfer with him next week. iels will go to New York tomorrow for the annual meeting of The Associated Press and will return here and confer with Mr. Welles again next Wednesday

Dr. Francisco Castillo Najera, the Mexican Ambassador to the United States, returned to his post today from Mexico City, where he had gone to confer with President Cardenas and receive the latest information and suggestions from his government.

with Mr. Welles He will confer to be the first of a series of con-ferences aimed at reaching a solu-soon released.

tion of the controversy. The indications are that considerable time will be required before any substantial progress can be announced.

His presence here and the ab-sence of Ambassador Daniels from Mexico City means that the principal negotiations have been transferred here, whereas previously they had been conducted in large part in the Mexican capital.

Effort at Compromise Seen

The belief is that the United States Government may seek a compromist between the position of the Mexican Government and that of the American oil companies, which are demanding adequate compensation for their properties in terms of cash. It is assumed that much will defend upon the political situation in Mexico in the next few weeks and whether the oil companies adhere to their position.

A possible source of complication also is seen in the attitude of Great Britain, which is insisting upon the return of the British expropriated oil properties and signifying that her attitude is stiff and uncompromising.

Much may also depend upon the economic situation in Mexico. is now feeling the pinch acutely of causing a cessation of the oil business. Even the tourist trade has been hit and American tourists spend annually \$35,000,000 in Mexico. Even the tourist trade has

Ambassador Daniels said today he had received many inquiries from Americans about the advisability of visiting Mexico under present conditions. He always had replied, he said, that tourists would continue to receive every consideration and that there was nothing to fear.

CHURCH MARKS 25TH YEAR

1,000 at Reception to Pastor of Hitchcock Memorial, Scarsdale

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES. SCARSDALE, N. Y., April 23 .-One thousand persons attended a reception last night at the Hitchcock Memorial Church here in celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the church and the work in Scarsdale of the Rev. Dr. George Hugh Smyth, pastor, and Mrs. Smyth, organizer of the Sunday School. The church is Presbyterian. An afternoon reception was attended by 200 children.

New York and Westchester clergymen of all denominations greeted Dr. and Mrs. Smyth tonight and there were many written testi-monials. On behalf of the congregation, Alden Noble, president of the trustees, presented an automobile and a \$12,000 annuity policy to Dr. Smyth.

Police Watch Bucharest Cafes

BUCHAREST, Rumania, April 23. -Police have notified all café and restaurant owners to report forthwith any patrons discussing politics, especially if they criticize the government. Thursday night the early next week in what promises police raided several cafes, arrestYou and and inroad





Daily and Sunday Weekday Sunday

ANNALIST (Finance), Fridays, A year, \$\frac{1}{2} parts Western Hemisphere, \$7.50; other

THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REV a year, \$2; Canada, \$2.50; foreign,

TIMES INDEX-12 monthly volumes, Cumulative Index \$26; Monthly and An

RAG PAPER edition for preservation, clos-volumes per month, \$170 per annum; se bound volumes, regular newsprint, \$72 per

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RULTER

Once more the books are to burn. Once again German Kultur will assure its continuity, this time by purging the Vienna National Library and disposing of all that is of "non-Aryan" origin or otherwise proscribed. As the flames feed on these volumes from the Hofburg, they will cast queer, flickering shadows against the background of a day's news-of elderly men and women, citizens of Vienna, forced to dance before crowds of hoodlums and sing, "I am a dirty Jew"-of children. made orphans by so-called "suicides," shipped for export to the closed border of a neighboring State - of a girl obliged to kneel and rise continuously while carrying a placard urging boycott of the store in which she had previously earned her living.

The blood-red flames rise high. shadows cast are long and black.

TAXES OUT OF CONFERENCE

There are several ways of looking at the Tax Bill that has finally emerged from conference. If we compare it with existing tax provisions it is very substantial improvement. Thoug it retains the "principle" of the und tributed-profits tax, that tax has me the merest shadow of its Its capacity for harm h seed to ewist-except in

Testimonial Dinner
in honor of

Dr. Abba Killel Silver

National Chairman of

United Palestine Appeal

Tursday, the Third of May Mindeen Kundred and Thirty-eight

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BY

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Honeydew Ball Fantaisie

Filet of Lake Trout Cucumber Windsor

Consomme aux Legumes

Green and Ripe Olives

Celeri

Salted Almonds

Squab Chicken aux Cresson Sweet Potato Delight

Garden Peas

Coup de Main

Mother of Pearle Salade

Ice Fraisette

Huckleberry Sauce

Demi Tasse