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Louis E. Levinthal, President of Zionist Organization of America,
Philadelphia, 1941.

DINNER IN HONOR OF
JUDGE LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL



UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS ELECTION
AS PRESIDENT OF
THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 4, 1941

My interest in the Jewish national home has been expressed on previous occasions, and it is a matter of gratification to note that the danger to Palestine, which was felt to be not inconsiderable a few short months ago, at this time is measurably removed.

It is hardly necessary for me to say that the threat to Palestine does not differ in essence from the threat to this country, and I am confident that this fact will find due recognition in your deliberations. I look forward to the day when the great work which has been accomplished in Palestine may be carried forward in peace and harmony.

Very sincerely yours,

Franklin D. Roosevelt

WRHS



Dec. 12, 1939

Dear Judge Brandeis:

In your efforts to make Philadelphia do their part toward the rebuilding of Palestine, I hope you will make the young intellectuals realize, that, in the whole world, nothing finer - nothing nobler - is being achieved than by the young men and women in the agricultural settlements.

Cordially
Louis D. Brandeis

Judge Louis D. Brandeis

Program

<i>Invocation</i>	DR. ISRAEL HERBERT LEVINTHAL
<i>Greetings</i>	MRS. OSCAR G. BENDER Chairman, Dinner Committee
<i>Toastmaster</i>	RABBI SIMON GREENBERG President, Philadelphia Branch, Z. O. A.
<i>Greetings</i>	MRS. DAVID DE SOLA POOL National President, Hadassah
<i>Greetings</i>	PRESIDENT JUDGE CURTIS BOK
<i>Greetings</i>	EDMUND I. KAUFMANN Former President, Zionist Organization of America
<i>Greetings</i>	JUDGE GERALD F. FLOOD
<i>Greetings</i>	DR. NAHUM GOLDMANN Member of Executive, Jewish Agency for Palestine
<i>Address</i>	DR. SOLOMON GOLDMAN Former President, Zionist Organization of America
<i>Response</i>	JUDGE LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL
<i>Closing Prayer</i>	RABBI B. L. LEVINTHAL

Thursday Evening, November Thirteenth

NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FORTY-ONE

SIX-THIRTY O'CLOCK

BELLEVUE-STRATFORD HOTEL

BROAD AND WALNUT STREETS • PHILADELPHIA

Levinthal

As chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, and as a friend and admirer of Judge Levinthal, I should like to add my word of tribute to him and to express my deep satisfaction at his having assumed the presidency of the Zionist Organization of America. Judge Levinthal is a veteran Zionist, intimately acquainted with the historic development of our movement, with many of its leaders here and abroad, and is sensitive to the group trends and emphases within the movement. I am confident that he will bring to his difficult task in these difficult times his fine gifts of heart and mind, a judicial temperament, and a statesmanlike approach. Free from the blight of partisanship and self-seeking, the leadership of the Zionist Movement in the hands of Judge Levinthal will recover its prestige and its influence. I wish him all good.

Abba Hillel Silver

October 30, 1941

London, September 11, 1941

Heartiest congratulations and good wishes. Sincere thanks for your greetings which cordially reciprocate. Am confident that under your leadership American Zionists will exert every endeavor even more than hitherto, to rise to height of responsibilities now resting on their shoulders. Look forward with pleasure and high expectations to our cooperation in great cause. Affectionate greetings to you and your father.

Ch Weizmann

November 3, 1941

I am happy to have the opportunity to express my warm regard for Judge Levinthal and my good wishes on his assumption of the presidency of the Zionist Organization of America. It is no light duty to which we have called him. No one knows better how great is the labor of this office, how heavy are the responsibilities, than does Judge Levinthal. But he has been willing to accept them because he realizes what a strong Zionist organization means at this critical time, how necessary it is for us to be prepared for the momentous times that lie ahead, how essential that we stand united as a people to uphold the rights and the dignity of our people.

Judge Levinthal has reason to expect that we shall stand steadfastly behind him; and the great gathering on November 13th should give him the assurance of whole-hearted support,—not only from the Jews of Philadelphia but from all of us throughout this land!

I send to Judge Levinthal, to his venerable and honored father and to all the members of his family my most cordial greetings.

Harry Friedman

October 28, 1941

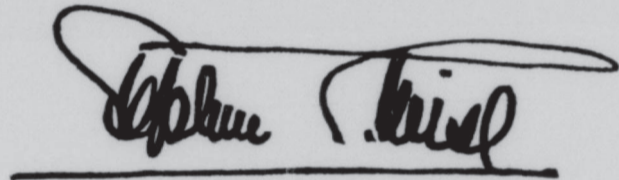
The cause of Zionism has had no warmer supporter than Judge Levinthal. It was natural therefore that he should have been the unanimous choice of the delegates to the last Z. O. A. Convention, not merely to preside at their gatherings, but to lead and inspire them in unceasing work for the accomplishment of Herzl's and Brandeis' aims.

Isaac M. Mack

October 22, 1941

I rejoice to send my greetings to the Jewish community of Philadelphia as it tenders a dinner to Judge Louis E. Levinthal in honor of his election to the presidency of the Zionist Organization of America, and I wish indeed that it were possible for me to be present and to have part in the joy of the celebration.

Judge Levinthal was the unanimous choice of the Convention of the Z. O. A. As is well known, he was not a candidate, but the Convention chose him as the most fitting man for the leadership in this critical hour. I have every confidence that Judge Levinthal will rise to the opportunity which becomes his own. His Zionist devotion, good sense, thorough familiarity with all that Zionism means, and his genuine resolve will bring a spirit of healing and reconciliation to the factions within the Zionist movement. May he greatly succeed, and may his administration redound to his own honor and to the enduring betterment of the great cause which we serve, the leadership of which has been placed in Judge Levinthal's worthy and competent hands.



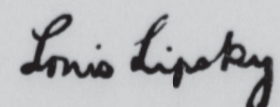
October 30, 1941

Judge Levinthal was called to assume the leadership of the Zionist Organization of America by the unanimous desire of its large constituency, and is therefore in a position, with the assured support of all elements within the organization, to make a historic contribution to the cause of the rebuilding of the Jewish National Home.

The disorders of the world are reflected in, and largely responsible for, the misunderstandings that prevail in all phases of our American Jewish life. Controversy and partisanship have shoved cooperation and a desire for mutual understanding off the stage of our Jewish affairs. Normality must be brought back and given its rightful place in our programs and policies, in order that we may be able to discharge the heavy responsibilities that face American Jewry in this time of crisis.

Judge Levinthal has had assigned to him a leading part in the great tasks duty and loyalty have made the responsibility of American Jewry. He is to be mediator in the midst of extremes. He is to cool and not to heat the passions of partisanship. He is to see the whole problem and not merely its details. The times call for such Judges in Israel, and Judge Levinthal has answered that call.

May success attend his efforts!



October 29, 1941

The election of Judge Louis E. Levinthal to the Presidency of the Zionist Organization of America brings to that important office one who by training, tradition, character and high ideals, is peculiarly fitted to discharge its duties.

I have always regarded the Levinthal family as belonging to the spiritual aristocracy of American Jewry. Judge Levinthal's eminent and revered father, Rabbi B. L. Levinthal, and his scholarly and beloved brother, Rabbi I. H. Levinthal, have long been familiar figures in Zionist life and in all that pertains to the welfare of the Jewish people. No less distinguished have been the contributions of Judge Levinthal in the American Zionist movement, in Jewish communal service, at the Bar and on the Bench. His judicial temperament, his unfailing fairness, his breadth of vision, and his intimate familiarity with Zionist problems, make Judge Levinthal a most admirable choice. He will bring honor to the cause and credit to himself by his leadership.

Morris Rottenberg



October 30, 1941

As chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, and as a friend and admirer of Judge Levinthal, I should like to add my word of tribute to him and to express my deep satisfaction at his having assumed the presidency of the Zionist Organization of America. Judge Levinthal is a veteran Zionist, intimately acquainted with the historic development of our movement, with many of its leaders here and abroad, and is sensitive to the group trends and emphases within the movement. I am confident that he will bring to his difficult task in these difficult times his fine gifts of heart and mind, a judicial temperament, and a statesmanlike approach. Free from the blight of partisanship and self-seeking, the leadership of the Zionist Movement in the hands of Judge Levinthal will recover its prestige and its influence. I wish him all good.

Abba Hillel Silver

October 23, 1941

The threads of Judge Levinthal's career seem in retrospect to have converged toward the high and difficult responsibility which now has come to him in the Presidency of the Zionist Organization of America.

"Zekhut Abot," distinguished family tradition, unusual innate endowment, first-rate academic training, outstanding success in his chosen profession culminating in a high judicial post, participation and leadership in the Jewish communal affairs of his own community coupled with important contributions to civic progress; dignified self-identification with the Zionist cause and leadership of it in Philadelphia, graduating by virtue of service and seasoned experience into the larger national scope compassed by the United Palestine Appeal and the Zionist Organization of America; even in temperament, sound in judgment and genial in manner—"Lou" Levinthal has deserved the unanimous call of the Z. O. A. Convention which summoned him to the helm of American Zionism.

As his former townsman, friend and comrade of college days, I delight to add my word of tribute on the occasion when Philadelphia Jewry delights to honor Judge Levinthal.

He will need all his gifts in order to cope successfully with the huge tasks which lie before him in this crucial period. He will need something else besides, however, in order to succeed, namely, the wholehearted cooperation of his fellow-Zionists from the top down. May this indispensable asset come to him freely and fully.

My affectionate greeting to my fellow Philadelphians and their guest of honor.



Israel Goldstein

November 1, 1941

The election of Judge Louis E. Levinthal as President of the Zionist Organization of America was natural. His predecessor, Mr. Edmund I. Kaufmann, stated publicly that all eyes turned to Levinthal. The later fact justified the Kaufmann statement. There was no opposing candidate. Judge Levinthal was elected at the convention of the Zionist Organization of America enthusiastically, confidently and unanimously.

By his training, background, ability and character he is a fit instrument for a lofty cause.

To accept his new post required personal sacrifice. His judicial duties will be performed, but his family will suffer and his personal health may suffer. Of Mrs. Levinthal we ask patience and understanding.

It is no small tribute to the worthiness of our cause and to Judge Levinthal's high sense of duty to his people, that he permitted himself to undertake the responsibilities of office. Let his noble example be a guide to his fellows.

Robert Szold