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Mendel N. Fisher testimonial, 1945.

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Isidor H. Finkler



1945

# Testimonial Dinner

to

## MENDEL N. FISHER

ON THE OCCASION OF HIS TENTH  
ANNIVERSARY AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
OF THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND



Sunday, March Fourth, Nineteen Hundred and Forty=Five

### HOTEL COMMODORE

NEW YORK

## In Appreciation

THE democratic character of the Zionist Movement is singularly illustrated in the fellowship of its officials, elected and selected. No single Zionist official demonstrates this relationship better than Mendel N. Fisher. He enjoys the comradeship and the admiration of Zionist leaders and workers throughout the land without distinction of rank or position. This he has won by his utter and untiring devotion to the interests of the Keren Kayemeth in this country and by his unusual capabilities in stimulating the growth of the Jewish National Fund of America and of Zionist ideals during his incumbency of ten years in the office of Executive Director.

JUDGE MORRIS ROTHENBERG,  
*President, Jewish National Fund.*



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 CAPT. ISRAEL WIENER, Camp Lee  
 LEO WILSON, Bronx  
 DR. ALEX S. WOLF, St. Louis  
 CHARLES WOLF, New York  
 PROF. H. A. WOLFSON, Cambridge  
 J. VERDI, San Francisco  
 MAX ZARITSKY, New York



## Resolution

MENDEL N. FISHER has completed ten years of devoted service as Executive Director of the JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (Keren Kayemeth Le Israel), INC. It has been a decade of truly remarkable growth of our beloved Eretz Israel. In no small measure has this growth been the result of the organizing ability, exemplary devotion and indefatigable efforts of MENDEL N. FISHER. His work, his zeal and his love of Zion have constituted a challenge and an inspiration to all who labor for the JEWISH NATIONAL FUND and for PALESTINE. His genial good humor and his warm personality have endeared him to Zionists throughout the land. His dynamic energy and his resourcefulness have been invaluable contributions to our sacred cause.

To commemorate the milestone and to record its regard for him, the Board of Directors of the JEWISH NATIONAL FUND, at a meeting held in the City of New York, on February 15, 1945, unanimously

RESOLVED, that it express to MENDEL N. FISHER the gratitude and the debt of the JEWISH NATIONAL FUND and of all American Zionists for his outstanding contribution to GEULATH HAARETZ and its wish for many more years of distinguished service for him.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto subscribed our names and affixed the seal of the JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (Keren Kayemeth Le Israel) Inc.

MORRIS ROTHENBERG  
*President*

JACK SINCOFF  
*Treasurer*

I. M. KOWALSKY  
*Treasurer*

LOUIS SEGAL  
*Honorary Secretary*

HARRIS J. LEVINE  
*Chairman - Finance Committee*



# DAIS

•

MENDEL N. FISHER

*Guest of Honor*

SAMUEL BLITZ

SAMUEL BONCHEK

MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN

MRS. MENDEL N. FISHER

DANIEL FRISCH

LEON GELLMAN

RABBI WOLF GOLD

COMMANDER JOSHUA GOLDBERG

DR. NAHUM GOLDMANN

DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN

MRS. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN

MRS. SAMUEL GOLDSTEIN

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SAUL SPIRO

ELIHU D. STONE

PIERRE VAN PAASEN

MEYER WEISGAL

HERMAN L. WEISMAN



# United States Senate

CONFERENCE OF THE MAJORITY

Mr. Mendel N. Fisher  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York City 17

Dear Mendel:

My attention has been called to the fact that a testimonial dinner is being given to you in honor of the Tenth Anniversary of your connection with the Jewish National Fund, and I am taking the liberty of sending you this greeting.

I am sure you know how greatly I have appreciated the splendid work you have done in the cause of the distressed and outraged Jews of Europe who are seeking refuge, as well as the many other Jews who, even prior to these persecutions, desired to go to Palestine and establish their homes. The work which you have done has been not only very effective but it has inspired all those who have worked with you in behalf of this great cause.

I congratulate you and the Jewish National Fund upon this decade of great and outstanding service and I wish for you and for the Fund the satisfaction of being able to render even greater service in the future.

With all my personal good wishes and congratulations,

Cordially yours,

Allen W. Barkley



## EDITORIAL COMMENT

So Mendel Fisher is to have his banquet after all. The invitation before me says so very plainly. The banquet is to be held on Sunday evening, March 4th, at the Hotel Commodore, in New York, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of his appointment to the post of Executive Director of the Jewish National Fund. But somehow I still can't believe it. The thing seems incredible.

Why incredible? Certainly not because Mendel Fisher has not done enough to deserve a testimonial dinner of his own. If banquets were given solely as a reward for services rendered or achievements accomplished, Mendel should have gotten at least one banquet a year in the course of the last ten years. As Executive Director of the Jewish National Fund, he has been tireless and incomparably successful. Making a transcontinental tour with a score of stops on the way has been to him a mere bagatelle. He has done it time and time again, delivering speeches, seeing people, making connections, organizing groups, exhorting to further and increased labors in behalf of the Jewish National Fund. He has been a veritable dynamo, working without a stop. And the results could not but be forthcoming. The total sum raised for the JNF in America since 1933, up-to-date, is close to 16 million dollars. Of course, he was fortunate in the leadership of the JNF but I think it is no exaggeration to say that a great deal of this money is due largely to the tireless efforts of Mendel and his staff. Surely, the increase in the proceeds of the JNF since Mendel took over, is nothing short of phenomenal. The amount raised for JNF in the year 1934-5, that is the year when Mendel came in, was \$287,846.53. The income of the Jewish National Fund for the last fiscal year, that is October 1, 1943, to September 30, 1944, was \$2,958,269.46. I'll leave it to the mathematicians to figure out the ratio of the increase. To me, it is absolutely staggering. If ever a Zionist official could point to the record and say with pride "you can judge me on my performance," his name is Mendel Fisher.

So then why should it be so incredible that Mendel Fisher would, after these ten years of tireless service and unexampled achievement, be tendered a testimonial dinner? Well, it's because of something in Mendel himself, that makes it hard to believe that he would sit at the head of the table and permit himself to be showered with praise, until very late in the night when all the adjectives as well as the guests are exhausted and all he could do is to mumble his thanks. For Mendel belongs to that category of Jewish communal workers who, for some reason I have never been able to make out, have made it their business to magnify and glorify others while they themselves remain in the shade. There are a number of such workers I know who, for a lifetime, have lent themselves, their abilities, their pens, their speech-making, their free time, to build up a reputation for some of those who today occupy the top positions in Jewish leadership. Of course, they have believed in those leaders and they have supported them because they were convinced that through them much could be achieved in the interests of the Jewish people. But the strange thing is that while remembering to promote the interests and the greatness of others, these communal workers have altogether forgotten about themselves, their own interests and even their own claim to greatness. Occasionally, it would happen that a great leader, after having climbed to greatness on the shoulders of the communal workers, forgot them too.



Mendel Fisher has spent a lifetime in the service of the Zionist movement. I can remember him singing the praises of, even conducting campaigns for, some of the Zionist moguls. I don't remember his ever conducting a campaign for himself. He has been content to work behind the scenes and let the credit go elsewhere. If ever he saw a man ready to work and give of himself unstintingly, Mendel made sure to back him up, to fall behind him. He has a way of serving enthusiastically. He never wearies of throwing bouquets at those who deserve it. He remains steadfastly loyal to their name and fame. Indeed, loyalty is Mendel's chief and most abiding characteristic. Throughout the years, he has remained unswervingly loyal to the Zionist cause, to his Zionist leaders, to his friends. They have always been uppermost in his mind; he has always remembered them. But very often he has forgotten all about himself.

So I shall be glad to be at Mendel's banquet, to see him sit at the head of the table listening to speeches about himself. Yet, somehow it all seems incredible. To watch Mendel sit at his own banquet instead of running around arranging banquets for others will be a novel experience, and I shall have to pinch myself repeatedly to really believe it.

*Dr. S. Margoshes*  
—THE DAY

On Sunday, March 4th, there will be a Dinner for our friend, Mendel N. Fisher, Executive Director of the Jewish National Fund in America, in honor of the Tenth Anniversary of his service. The Arrangements Committee which is headed by Dr. Israel Goldstein and Judge Morris Rothenberg, includes members of all groups and parties who participate in the activities of the Keren Kayemeth. Many other prominent friends throughout the country have also enthusiastically responded and are sponsoring this Dinner.

In many Zionist circles, Mendel Fisher is called "the dynamic driving-force" of the Jewish National Fund. His energies, initiative, and worthy activities, his aggressive grasp of National Fund aspirations, have made many friends for him throughout the country, and have in no small measure brought to prominence the meaning of Jewish National Fund in American Jewish life. His testimonial is therefore deserved, and therefore, everyone will gladly join in public expression of love and acknowledgment of his outstanding work.

In such a large national organization as the Jewish National Fund, it is understood that the Executive Director does not work alone. Together with him there are many deserving, sincere, and active colleagues, each one having a positive share in the program of the large Jewish land-redemption fund. They will all be honored, and their activities acknowledged in the testimonial to Mendel Fisher.

—DOS YIDDISHE FOLK



Jewish columnists are calling attention to the fact that Mendel N. Fisher will round out a decade of service to the Jewish National Fund next March. In New England, and especially in Boston, we take pride in the fact that Mr. Fisher is one of our own. His service to the Jewish people, particularly to Palestine, dates back long before he became Executive Director of the J. N. F. His whole life has been devoted to Eretz Israel.

He began to serve the J. N. F. under the presidency of Dr. Israel Goldstein, who has written a glorious page in the history of the Keren Kayemeth. This record is being continued splendidly under the leadership of Judge Morris Rothenberg. Mendel Fisher has been fortunate, indeed, in working with such devoted Zionists. They have furnished, and are still furnishing, matchless inspiration.

Spurred on by these devoted leaders, Mr. Fisher, who is a veritable dynamo, has helped make the J. N. F. a fine instrumentality for land acquisition in Palestine. The year Mr. Fisher was called to this organization the income of the J. N. F. was \$200,397.46. For the ten months of 1943-1944 the income from traditional sources alone is \$1,672,000. That does not include the UPA share of the J. N. F.

Mendel Fisher would be the last person to claim credit for these wonderful results. He would say that it represents the deep devotion of the men and women of all Zionist groups to Eretz Israel. He would, as he always does, insist that the hard working staff of the J.N.F. deserves full credit for what has been accomplished during the time he has managed the business of the Keren Kayemeth.

The fact remains, however, that his ingenuity, his ardent labors, his enthusiasm and down-right hard work as Executive Director had very much to do with what has been accomplished. He never spares himself. That is why he doesn't spare others in this work. Those who have watched the growth of the J.N.F. in the past ten years know that Mendel Fisher has labored in sickness and in health. During his years of service there was depression and riots, war and invasions. Palestine was bombed. Things looked dark and gloomy. Others were ready to give up. But he insisted that for Zionists there can be no let-up, with respect to land redemption in Eretz Israel. By sheer force of character he carried along even those who were ready to give up.

We should like to see suitable recognition given by the Zionists of America, by all parties in Zionism, since the Keren Kayemeth is the instrumentality of all Zionists, to this devoted servant of Israel.

—BOSTON JEWISH ADVOCATE

On March 4 the friends and colleagues of Mendel N. Fisher, Executive Director of the Jewish National Fund, will celebrate with and for him the tenth anniversary of his tenure of that important office. They will do so with keen satisfaction. They know—and American Zionists know—with what ardor, with what tirelessness, with what skill and devotion he has labored for the *Keren Kayemeth l'Yisrael*. The decade of his directorship, first under the chairmanship of Dr. Israel Goldstein and now under that of Judge Morris Rothenberg, has been one of unparalleled progress in the sacred task of acquiring land in Palestine as the inalienable property of the Jewish people. The friends and colleagues of Mendel Fisher will express to him on March 4 their deep appreciation of his work; they will also express to him their sense of the value of the gaiety, the wit, the warm-heartedness which he has brought to his difficult task and which has made their work with him and beside him a source of encouragement and of delight.

—NEW PALESTINE



# Greetings

**DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN** . . . The nine years during which Mendel Fisher was at my side witnessed the rise of the Jewish National Fund in America to a place of unprecedented prestige and popularity. His part in that achievement was major. Therefore, Eretz Israel and American Zionism are indebted to him, though Mendel would be the first to insist that he is indebted for the privilege of Zionist service.

It is good that we are honoring one to whom Zionist endeavor is both vocation and avocation. Mendel Fisher may well be considered a fine symbol of a group of men and women in the daily service of the Zionist movement, whose devotion deserves to be noted and hailed.

Mendel Fisher is a Zionist in every fibre of his being. He would stop at no personal sacrifice when the welfare of Israel or Eretz Israel is at stake. Yet he combines with this burning zeal, good cheer, staunch friendship, practical sagacity, ingenious resourcefulness and dynamic force in extraordinary measure.

His decade of service to the J. N. F. finds him at the height of his powers. On behalf of the Zionist Organization of America, I felicitate him, wish him many more years of extraordinary service, and convey to him our universal affection and admiration.

**STEPHEN S. WISE** . . . I cannot tell you how much I regret that I shall not be in or near New York on the night of March 4th, on which will be celebrated the years of faithful and dedicated service of Mendel Fisher to our common cause. All of us know of the energy, devotion (I had almost said fanaticism) with which he has consecrated himself in the service of the Keren Kayemeth. His effectiveness is best attested to by the conduct of those who duplicate his limitless energy in what we hold to be the best of causes.

May Mendel have many years of serving Eretz Israel, in a very special sense and in his own special—not to say unique—way.

**LOUIS LIPSKY** . . . I am glad to join with the host of his friends in expression of esteem and appreciation for Mendel Fisher's devoted services to the cause of the Jewish National Fund for the past ten years. During this decade, he has grown in stature as a Zionist and as an effective leader in the work for which he is responsible. The Jewish National Fund has become the outstanding symbol of Redemption. Implicit in its works are all the principles of Zionism, and yet it is above partisanship and makes an appeal to all Jews. To Mendel Fisher and his able associates is due recognition of this great achievement.

**DR. NAHUM GOLDMANN** . I have always had a deep admiration for Mr. Fisher's energy and his complete devotion to our cause. He set an example for all Zionist workers. His contribution to the expansion and the outstanding success of the Jewish National Fund is well-known to everybody. I hope and wish that he may continue for many years in undiminished vigor in his Zionist work and may see with all of us the realization of our ideals.



**DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER** . . . Men who serve as faithfully, energetically and successfully a great cause for a decade, as Mendel Fisher has served the cause of the Jewish National Fund, are deserving of the highest commendation from all friends of the cause. I join Mendel Fisher's friends and co-workers throughout the country in extending to him my heartiest felicitations.

He has demonstrated extraordinary zeal and a single-heartedness in behalf of this most beloved and democratic Fund, so vital to the upbuilding of Eretz Yisrael. I hope that our historic movement will be privileged to enjoy his splendid leadership and executive talents for many years to come.

**DR. JAMES G. HELLER** . . . No one who has not traveled extensively about this country, and been in touch with Jewish communities, can know how great an impression he has made upon Jewish life, and how much he has done to disseminate that fervid love of Zion which now possesses the hearts of the overwhelming majority of Jews.

I congratulate the Keren Kayemeth upon his conduct of the work in its behalf, and hope that he will be at their side and at their head for many years to come.

**DR. HARRY FRIEDENWALD** . . . I have been greatly gratified by the splendid progress which the J. N. F. has made under his guidance and care. Its steady growth has been marked by an ever increasing rate and the institution has retained the affectionate appeal with which it was created. I trust that he will continue his ministration for many years with undiminished enthusiasm and will ever remain unsatisfied, never crying "enough"!

**RABBI SOLOMON GOLDMAN** . . . I extend to Mendel my best wishes, heartfelt congratulations, as well as the gratitude that many of us owe him for the great work he has done in behalf of the J. N. F. and Palestine. His organizing ability, exemplary devotion and indefatigable efforts have constituted a challenge and inspiration to many of the J. N. F. workers. His contact with the communities has been personal and intimate and he has come to know and claim as friends literally many hundreds of devotees of the Fund throughout the land.

**LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL** . . . Mendel Fisher's genial good humor, his ebullient gaiety and his warm personality are precious assets endearing him to his host of intimate friends, among whom I am happy to be included. Dynamic energy and intelligent resourcefulness have been his most valuable contributions to our sacred movement. May we long continue to enjoy his warmhearted personal association and his tireless and ingenious direction of the Jewish National Fund.



**HENRY MONSKY** . . . Jewish community leaders throughout America have observed with profound admiration the spirit of consecration that has characterized Mendel Fisher's activities throughout the decade of his services as Executive Director of the Jewish National Fund.

**MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN** . . . One of the most zealous and devoted workers in the ranks of the Zionist movement has been Mendel N. Fisher, whose dedication to the fundamental Zionist task of landpurchase and reclamation has, in no small measure, helped to make the words Jewish National Fund familiar in tens of thousands of households in this country.

We of Hadassah who have worked so closely with the Fund for two decades and have, in the course of our cooperation, had many occasions to think through mutual problems with Mendel Fisher, are happy to send to him our fraternal Zionist greetings and hopes for his continuing service for Israel.

**DANIEL FRISCH** . . . To few men is afforded the happy lot of becoming the lens through which a whole constellation of ideas is focused into view.

The accelerated tempo of modern day living and the ramified complexities of present day giving created the efficiency expert, the professional driver, for whom the cause is often a temporary springboard, into feverish, high-powered money-raising campaigns.

It is a commonplace to assert that the work of an important executive in Jewish organizational life is hopelessly impoverished unless he can maintain both characteristics of love and efficiency in proper proportion.

Rarely have both these necessary qualities been so superbly synthesized as they are in Mendel Fisher.

Dynamo par excellence, Zionist by birth, Jew by inner motivation, he personifies, in my judgment, the two types of executives—old, and new.

To be privileged to work with him and to count myself as a close personal friend of his, is, for me, a source of true gladness.

**SAUL SPIRO** . . . Mendel Fisher is an inspiration to all of us. In periods of despair and disillusionment, he is to be found striking a note of hope and faith. In an atmosphere of confidence, he preaches caution. At all times, he remains the staunch and tried Zionist. We are both thankful and grateful for his vigor and enthusiasm, for his determined efforts on behalf of the Zionist Movement and the Jewish National Fund.



**PIERRE van PAASSEN** . . . Mendel Fisher might have been a great journalist or an industrialist, a man of affairs or a political organizer, for his talents are distinguished and manifold. He chose the humbler path and he became the servant of the Jewish people. He is the collector of internal American revenue for the Keren Kayemeth leIsrael and the proponent par excellence of the philosophy underlying the National Fund in these parts.

There is no man who has been a more dynamic force in American Zionism than Mendel Fisher. He has never failed. He is for that reason a beloved son in Israel and the object of the respect and admiration of many non-Jews.

It is well that we honor him and pay tribute to him on the occasion of the completion of ten years of intensive efforts to translate the ideal of Zion restored into action.

May the next decade see the fulfillment of his dream: A Free Jewish Nation in the Free Jewish Land!

**DR. WALTER C. LOWDERMILK** . . . It is a rare privilege to sponsor this testimonial dinner honoring Mendel N. Fisher after ten years of devoted effort in acquiring land and restoring its fertility as a foundation for a Jewish National Home-land in Palestine. Land is the silent partner with man in the rise and fall of civilizations. After 1200 years of neglect and wastage of the land, Palestine was largely depopulated and decadent. But a new day has come to Palestine, due to the Jewish National Funds donated by devoted Zionists and the sacrificial work of the colonists. This Jewish demonstration in Palestine is the finest reclamation of old lands that I have seen in three continents and they have worked out the most successful colonization of modern times. They have also done something new under the sun, for they have worked out the most righteous adjustment of a people to their land resources that I have found anywhere in 26 countries where I have studied land-use. They have not exploited the land nor cheap Arab nor cheap Jewish labor, but have worked creatively with their own hands to achieve modern miracles. This remarkable demonstration in land reclamation and rehabilitation of refugees points the way for the rejuvenation of the entire Near East. In this magnificent achievement, much credit is due the Jewish National Fund and the energetic devotion of Mendel N. Fisher during these ten strenuous years.

**LUDWIG LEWISOHN** . . . I am happy to add my words of congratulation and my warmest wishes on the occasion of the celebration of Mendel N. Fisher's tenth anniversary as director of the Jewish National Fund. Doubtless he has much older friends than I; he certainly has none who are more happily aware of his hard and brilliantly successful work for the Fund and of that warm and genial and sensitive nature of his that makes working with him a constant delight and inspiration.



**SENATOR CLAUDE PEPPER . . .** Will you, on this Testimonial occasion, please accept and express my warm commendation to Honorable Mendel N. Fisher. He has been a great builder and doer. While he is yet living and vigorous he has built an enduring monument to his own faithful service as well as to his people. May his strength be renewed from the deep satisfaction of this Testimonial Dinner.

**JAMES G. McDONALD . . .** His decade of service in helping to rebuild the very basis of the Jewish homeland is so representative of that unyielding spirit of devotion and enterprise which is advancing the Zionist ideal in this moment of world crisis when Palestine is so desperately needed as the refuge for the victims of Hitler's insensate hate.

**GUY M. GILLETTE . . .** It was my great privilege to meet personally and have considerable correspondence with Mr. Fisher. In these contacts I was impressed not only with the knowledge of the entire field of activity which Mr. Fisher possessed, but also with the deep sincerity and earnestness with which he performed his duties as an active participant in the work of the J. N. F. I wish to add my expression of congratulation and good wishes to the fine gentleman who is the honoree of this banquet.

**SALMAN SCHOCKEN, Jerusalem . . .** Mendel Fisher whom I would be glad to honor for his devoted work for the Keren Kayemeth.

**AARON WRIGHT, London . . .** On behalf of Honorary Officers Jewish National Fund Great Britain Ireland send warmest greetings and best wishes on occasion of ten years superb service by Mendel Fisher to Kayemeth stop the magnificent progress of the Fund in America which is an inspiring example to J.N.F. workers throughout the world owes so much to his devoted and untiring labors stop warmest personal greetings to both of you.

**LEOPOLD SCHEN, London . . .** Delighted opportunity joining all National Fund workers throughout America in paying well deserved tribute Mendel Fisher on completion decade outstanding service land redemption stop full of admiration his loyalty devotion and remarkable successes achieved stop hope his next decade of service will see Eretz Israel completely redeemed warmest greetings.

**NATAN BISTRITZKY, Bogota . . .** On behalf of Jerusalem and myself accept heartiest greetings on the occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of great service rendered by you to Geulath Haaretz. On this occasion wish to express deep appreciation and gratitude for the comradely cooperation you have given.



**JACOB SINCOFF** . . . Mendel N. Fisher is being honored by his many friends and colleagues for his service in the interest of Geulah Haaretz as Executive Director of the Jewish National Fund. He has merited this recognition due to his ten years of devotion and his outstanding ability resulting in the enhancement of the good name of the J. N. F. throughout our country.

**HERMAN L. WEISMAN** . . . Mendel Fisher's name lights up the Zionist mind with the glamor of J. N. F. Mr. Fisher's services, capacities and sense of dedication make him an outstanding warrior for Zionism and Palestine. He brings to the service of the Jewish people a bold imagination wedded to a multi-faceted intelligence and boundless energy. Any people or government would be proud to have him in their civil service.

**BERNARD A. ROSENBLATT** . . . Mendel Fisher will go down in Zionist history as the expounder, if not the "expander" of the term "traditional collections." These collections of the Jewish National Fund have increased and multiplied so that it has become a "million dollar business" a year—able to survive while running the gauntlet of an Arbitration Committee for a full year. That, in itself, is an achievement of first magnitude over and above the splendid work done as Executive Director of the Jewish National Fund in its decade of greatest expansion.

**DR. A. L. SACHER** . . . The dedication and the conscientiousness which Mr. Fisher has poured into his service in these turbulent times thoroughly deserve this recognition and I know that there will be an outpouring of affection and esteem for him.

**LOUIS SEGAL** . . . I am well aware of the great service rendered by Mr. Mendel N. Fisher to the Jewish National Fund. I have had the pleasure of working with him for the entire period since he has assumed the position as Executive Director. I have always admired his talent for constructive planning and his unlimited devotion and love for the J. N. F.

**RABBI ISRAEL H. LEVINTHAL** . . . He has rendered most capable and devoted service to the cause of the Jewish National Fund. It was through his efforts, in a large measure, that the JNF has made the great success it has. I hope and pray that he may be blessed with health and strength to continue to serve our people and our people's land, for many, many years to come, with the same vigor and the same enthusiasm that marked his service in all these many years.



**GUSTAVE KLAUSNER** . . . It has been my good fortune to work side by side with Mendel Fisher for a number of years. His sincerity, devotion, and the sacrifice he is ever ready to make for the cause of Zion stands before me as a symbol of that eternity which gave Israel renewed hope in their darkest hour. Being blessed with an inexhaustible capacity for work, one of the most precious gifts of heaven, he served as a source of inspiration to all who came in contact with him. His strength within, and service to the Zionist cause grew until today he commands deeprooted love and admiration. His was an unusual gift to understand and comprehend the ideals of Jewish life.

**DR. ALEX S. WOLF** . . . Tonight, the greatest Zionist constituency of the world pays to Mendel Fisher the well-deserved tribute of recognition and appreciation of his outstanding services to the Yishuv to whose physical growth he has contributed more than any other Zionist in the ten years of his administration of the Jewish National Fund of America.

**MAX ENGELBERG** . . . May I ask you to extend my own, as well as the greetings and good wishes of the officers and board members of the Pittsburgh JNF Council to Mr. Fisher. We, who have worked with him for many years in behalf of the cause of Palestine land redemption are fully aware of his devoted services and of the many successful undertakings, which were carried out by the JNF during the past decade of his able directorship.

**JOE WEINGARTEN** . . Mendel Fisher is a mighty good friend of mine and I am delighted to hear he is thus being honored. He has certainly done a fine job.

**J. VERDI** . . . It gives me great pleasure in joining you in expressing towards him, mine and my coworkers' appreciation for his ceaseless and tireless work. I am sure he finds reward in the joy of creation, creating the homeland for the homeless. He should feel a pride in his achievement, now when we stand on the threshold of realization of our aim. If we have men like Mr. Mendel Fisher (ר' מנדל פישר) Israel is not bereaved.

**RABBI ISRAEL CHODOS** . . . I think that the J. N. F. has been blessed with him as all of his friends have been.

**MARVIN KANE** . . . You know my best wishes are with you and I hope you stay well and carry on the great work you are doing.



**THEODORE STRIMLING** . . . Los Angeles and the entire Pacific Coast join the Board of Directors of the Jewish National Fund of America in paying tribute to Mendel N. Fisher, our capable Executive Director, whose zeal, devotion and resourcefulness are largely responsible for the great progress made by the Keren Kayemeth during the past ten years.

**MORTIMER MAY** . . . I should take much pleasure in being present and thereby evidencing my regard for the fine piece of work and devoted service that Mr. Fisher has rendered to the Jewish National Fund in the last decade.

**RABBI ARTHUR J. LELYVELD** . . . His ten years have been a period of consecrated service to Zionism in its most practical form—the redemption of land for the redemption of our people—and to that cause he has brought a single-mindedness and a devotion which has been an inspiration to all of us who are his younger colleagues. As I have traveled through the country I have heard in community after community from coast to coast testimonials to the way in which his verve and his enthusiasm have been reflected in the labor of local leaders whose support he has won.

**CAROLINE GOLDSTEIN** . . . Permit me to congratulate you upon the honor being bestowed upon you.

**H. I. CHERNICHOWSKY** . . . In Portland, Mendel Fisher has many admirers. I believe that due to his executive ability, the J. N. F. projects for the past decade assumed proportions on behalf of Palestine that measure up to the great events our people are going through in this generation.

**RABBI PHILIP GRAUBART** . . . Mendel Fisher has truly distinguished himself in the redemption of our land with the sincerity and readiness to serve the Cause for Geulah Haaretz.

**DR. BERNARD HELLER** . . . I have found Mr. Fisher to be a sincere and indefatigable servant of Israel, and obsessed with a passion to give his utmost toward the reestablishment of the Jewish Homeland. The J. N. F. is fortunate in having as its Executive Director a man of the ability and idealism of Mr. Mendel Fisher.

**RABBI ELIJAH D. STAMPFER** . . . No matter how great a name Mr. Fisher created for himself by his tireless efforts and outstanding achievements, he may, for many healthy and happy years to come, go from strength to strength, until all Israel shall be restored to its entire Land of Israel in security and peace.



**MRS. SAMUEL INSELBUCH** . . . Having worked with Mr. Fisher closely for many years, I am personally very happy to participate in this affair.

**RABBI BARUCH BRAUNSTEIN** . . . I extend to Mendel Fisher my very best wishes and congratulations upon his 10th Anniversary at the helm of the Jewish National Fund. I wish him every good wish for continued happiness in the work to which he has brought great energy, vision and understanding.

**PHILIP M. KLUTZNICK** . . . I am delighted to join with many others in paying tribute to my good friend Mendel N. Fisher. He was one of my early teachers in Zionism. To me he has always symbolized the zeal and spirit without which Zionism would be colorless.

The Jewish National Fund is the bulwark and foundation of our hope to regain Palestine. It has captured the loyalty of distinguished and steady characters of indomitable will who have labored to make possible the achievement of its aims. Indeed, Mendel Fisher, through tireless devotion to his difficult assignment and through the exertion of depthless energy, has earned the right to be counted among this galaxy of illustrious personalities.

**JOSEPH GOLDBERG** . . . I extend to Mendel our most sincere wishes for a long life filled to the nth degree with continued service to our people, coupled with the wish that we have a similar dinner for him on the completion of his 20th year of service.

**JULIUS BISNO** . . . I am happy that his friends have seen fit to give public testimony to his magnificent services and unequalled devotion to the Jewish National Fund.

His personality and sincerity have won thousands of new friends for the J. N. F. and as a result the support of the J. N. F. has increased immeasurably under his stewardship.

**ISAAC HAMLIN** . . . Please convey my sincere regrets at being unable to join Mr. Fisher's many friends on this occasion. I join the sponsors and guests in extending my most cordial felicitations to Mr. Fisher on the completion of his tenth year of activity on behalf of the Jewish National Fund. It was a job well done and whatever honor has accrued to Mr. Fisher, he richly deserves.



**NUMA TORCZYNER** . . . May I on this occasion extend my sincerest congratulations to Mr. Fisher with the hope that this manifestation will be a great success.

**SIMON GREENBERG** . . . I am among those who have a high regard for the devotion and energy and vision with which he has guided the affairs of the Jewish National Fund these past ten years. The results speak for themselves more impressively than anything anyone else can say.

**M. MALDWIN FERTIG** . . . Mendel Fisher has been a veritable dynamo of J. N. F. work this past decade. The impact of his efforts has been far-reaching and eminently successful.

**RABBI FERDINAND M. ISSERMAN** . . . I want to express my great appreciation for his ability, his clarity of mind, for his tolerance of opposing views, and for the energy and consecration which he has brought to the task of reclaiming the soil of Palestine from the hands of incompetent and greedy men and putting it for perpetuity under the control of a community, which I believe will be moved by noble ideals. I hope that God will bless Mendel Fisher for many more years of distinguished service.

**SAM BEBER** . . . May I take this opportunity of expressing my heartiest congratulations to Mendel Fisher for having done a magnificent job during these past ten years as Executive Director of the Jewish National Fund. His remarkable and unstinted devotion to the cause of Palestine has won for him the acclaim of lovers of Zion from one end of this nation to the other. We, who are many miles from the nation's metropolis, are nevertheless quite aware of all that has been achieved by Mendel Fisher during these past ten years.

**A. BLOOMENSON** . . . Mr. Fisher has done a marvelous job and well deserving of whatever your committee feels he is worthy of.

**RABBI ABRAHAM E. HALPERN** . . . He certainly deserves recognition for all that he did for the Jewish National Fund. To me J. N. F. is synonymous with M. N. F. The two are almost inseparable. I say this because I have watched his devotion to the cause that is sacred to all of us and which alone has given hope and comfort to our people. He has made J. N. F. an ideal in American life and for this he will deserve the fullsome praise that will be given him at the Dinner.

**ALBERT D. SCHANZER** . . . Mendel Fisher has always impressed me as a remarkably efficient administrator—a Chief of Staff who knows his field and how to marshal his lieutenants to produce results.

He has been a genuine asset to the Jewish National Fund and his service in helping to reclaim our ancient land will constitute a glowing chapter in Zionist history.



**FRANK GARSON** . . . I sincerely believe that he is a valuable person and it is nice that people know and appreciate it. Congratulations and best wishes for your continued good health.

**ALBERT SCHIFF** . . . I want to send him my heartiest congratulations and best wishes upon the occasion of his Tenth Anniversary as Executive Director of the Jewish National Fund, in which capacity he has rendered invaluable service to Palestine and our great cause.

**HYMAN J. REIT** . . . On the occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of Mendel N. Fisher with the Jewish National Fund, I take this opportunity of extending to him on behalf of myself, as well as the Manhattan Zionist Region, congratulations and best wishes for a decade of worthy attainment for the Jewish people and Palestine in particular. His conscientious endeavors, untiring effort and splendid accomplishment in the rebuilding of our National Home is a great commendation of his sincerity, loyalty and love for Zion.

**SAM J. PERRY** . . . Land purchase through the efforts of the Jewish National Fund of the United States has made a great part of our growth possible and it is notable that during the last ten years, Mendel N. Fisher has been the Executive Director.

Mr. Fisher's executive ability, dynamic initiative and last but not least, his ardent Zionism has been the motivating force behind the remarkable record of the J. N. F. It has been a great privilege to have been associated with Mendel and it is my ardent hope that he carry on a long time beyond the legal establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine.

**DR. MORDECAI SOLTES** . . . I was gratified to note the recognition given to a Jewish civil servant, who, during his decade of professional association with the Jewish National Fund, has manifested fine qualities of leadership and selfless devotion to the sacred cause of Zion. He has well earned the fine record of constructive achievement which he has to his credit.

**A. H. ROSENBERG** . . . I extend my best wishes to Mendel on the wonderful job he has done in the ten years he has been with the Fund.

**AARON WEISS** . . . Mr. Fisher is doing an outstanding job and certainly deserves every consideration.

**DR. A. GREENBERG** . . . I have known and have been closely associated with Mendel for years and consider him one of the finest fellows with whom I have come in contact.



**DVORAH ROTHBARD** . . . All of us who have worked with Mr. Fisher these many years cherish him as a friend and co-worker, and appreciate his loyalty and integrity to the Zionist cause and his devotion to the work of the Jewish National Fund.

**MRS. BERTHA LEVIN** . . . I know Mendel Fisher deserves all the support of Jewish National Fund workers everywhere for the excellent devotion and service he has given.

**DR. FRANCES BURNCE** . . . I am rejoicing at the occasion—a worker of Zion receiving appreciation for his years of devotion, unflagging zeal and infectious enthusiasm! It's really inspiring to all of us.

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We wish to express our deep appreciation to Mr. Mendel N. Fisher on the occasion of his Tenth Anniversary as Executive Director of the Jewish National Fund of America, for his tireless labor and unswerving devotion to the cause of Geulah Ha'aretz. We also wish to express our loyalty to him and pledge our support along with him, to the achievement of greater heights for the Keren Kayemeth.

On the occasion of this milestone in Mr. Fisher's career, we wish him many more years of health and energy to enable him to carry on his fruitful labors for the cause of Land Redemption.

EXECUTIVE AND FIELD STAFFS  
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND

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