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After the United Nations decision on Palestine, 1947.

Western Reserve Historical Society 10825 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106 (216) 721-5722 wrhs.org American Jewish Archives 3101 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220 (513) 487-3000 AmericanJewishArchives.org TRIBUTE TO DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER Hotel Astor, New York City Monday Evening, December 29, 1947

> Address of <u>DR. AEBA HILLEL SILVER</u>, Chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and of the American Zionist Emergency Council

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It was just a month ago that the decision was taken in the Assembly of the — United Nations. It has been a month of unprecedented exaltation for our people all over the world. Their spirits leaped up like a brilliant flame in the glad surprise of the long hoped for and never quite expected victory. Their parched and thirsty souls drank deep of the waters of salvation. The nations of the world had again vindicated our claim to national restoration. By an overwhelming vote -- only two Christian States dissenting -- they decreed that the Jewish State shall be re-established and set the date for its establishment for October 1948.

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Thus the messianic drama of Israel which had been unfolding in many lands through long centuries of tragic acts and sorrowful scenes suddenly reached a triumphant climax in the dramatic setting of an international council chamber, where in an atmosphere of unspeakable tension, the nations voted, each in its turn, and when the vote was tallied, they had decreed the end of the Galut! We have rejoiced in the fulfillment of a prophecy that has come true: "Mhen the Lord will bring back captive Zion, we shall be like dreamers! Then will our mouth be filled with laughter and our tongue with song."

Our tired hearts were refreshed and uplifted when we witnessed the fine championing of our cause of liberation by one noble country after another -- by the many countries of South and Central America, by the countries of Western Europe, by all the dominions of the British Commonwealth and by other countries of good will. We were deeply moved by the strong, unfaltering support which we received from the Soviet Union and from Poland and Czechoslovakia. And we were, of course, profoundly pleased and happy with the role which our own Government came to play in the final hour of decision. Especially gratifying was that rare phenomenon -- baffling and disturbing to all those who prescribe cold war as the remedy for an ailing and war-sick world and prescribe all suggestions of amity and reconciliation -- which showed the two greatest world powers working in complete accord and unity of purpose to solve a grave international problem, and reaching a solution.

Those who are despendent over the turn of affairs in international relations, and the seemingly irreparable rift which has been created between the East and the West, might well take heart in contemplating the full and ready cooperation which did exist between the United States and the Soviet Union on the issue of Falestine. Here was an area where, we were told, imperial interests were inevitably destined to clash, and where power politics would most certainly tear East and West hopelessly apart. Nothing of the sort happened, to the utter consternation of all the preachers of the irresistible conflict. On the contrary -here was ready and friendly agreement. In my humble judgment, there is much fo od for thought here, and strong warrant for a more hopeful world outlook, and a less intractable statesmanship.

In this connection it should be stated that those who were responsible for the earlier and now discredited propaganda that the Soviet Union, in its desire to penetrate the Middle East and its rich oil fields, would side with the Arabs against the Jews, and that Great Britain and the United States must

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therefore not favor the Jewish cause for fear of driving the Arab States into the arms of the Soviet Union, have now slightly revised their propaganda. The Soviet Union, it is now proclaimed, favored the setting up of a Jewish State in Palestine in the confident expectation that this would arouse the Arabs, create disturbance and necessitate the intervention of the Security Council. The Security Council would have to send troops. The Soviet Union, being a member of the Security Council, would then have its own troops included in whatever international force is sent to Falestine. Once there, they will never be dislodged.

This is the new, or rather the revamped, propaganda which is being peddled about today in Washington by agents of all sorts -- British, American and Arab - as well as in the public press, and which, along with the supplementary propaganda that the so-called illegal immigrants coming into Palestine are really communist agents in disguise, is being adroitly spread to destroy U.S.-U.S.S.R. cooperation on Palestine, and to prevent the implementation of the United Nations decision. Every effort is being made to thrust Palestine back into the dangerous arena of power politics, from which the U.S.-U.S.S.R. agreement and the action of the United Nations have most opportunely lifted it. There are even some members in the Congress of the United States who, out of ignorance or malice, are lending themselves to the spreading of this baseless and mischievous propaganda. Needless to say the Zionist movement has no orientation either to the West or to the East. If we need to define our orientation, it is definitely and unmistakably to the United Nations. We are happy that our problem received a solution by international agreement in which the East and the West harmoniously cooperated. We hope that it will remain so in the future.

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It might be noted, in passing, that our frank joy in the decision of the United Nations, to re-establish the Jewish State was not prompted by an infatuation with the idea of nationalism as such, or by the idolatry of statehood. We are not chauvinists. Zionists have been denounced as secularists and political nationalists. Of course we are secularists insofar as we oppose a theocratic state, and we are political nationalists insofar as we believe in the re-establishment of the Jewish State. But this does not exhaust the full content of our aspirations.

Israel's resolution through the centuries to rebuild its national life in its ancestral home was guided by sound instinct and inspired by the some prophetic idealism which twice beckoned our ancestors from exile to national restoration in Palestine. In both instances, at Sinai and by the rivers of Babylon, there stirred a deep, mystic conviction that only in a free national existence, could that which was best and unique in Jewish life find full scope and opportunity, and what was best and unique was always conceived of as transcending the molety of political independence, or the customary compensations of national status and security. It reached beyond that to a vision of "new things, things kept in store, not hitherto known.".....to a redeemed humanity and a world order reconstructed after the pattern of the Kingdom of God.

In 1929, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the death of Theodor Herzl, I wrote in a Herzl Memorial Volume which was published in that year:

"It is well that the political phase of Jewish Messianism is coming to a close in the upbuilding of the National Homeland. We shall not have to lay so much stress in the future on the importance of nationalism. We shall henceforth be confronted not with its lack but with its consequences. Hitherto wanting the full complement of the attributes of nationalism, we were constrained to over-emphasize its virtues. Many of the spokesmen of our cause were driven to extol nationalism, per se, which is after all q quite recent and demonstrably, a quite inadequate human concept. It is not mankind's

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ultimate vision. Certainly it is not the substance of our own ancestral tradition, whose motif is not nationalism but prophetism. Nationalism is not enough. It is a minimum requirement, not a maximum programme. Our national rebirth was made possible by a war in which nationalism was thoroughly exposed and discredited. Nationalism is a means, not an end. 'What is great in a man,' said the philosopher, 'is that he is a bridge and not a goal.' This is true also of men collectively -- of nations and of national cultures.

"Nationalism will not suffice the eternally questing soul of our people. After its national life is secure, Israel must push on to the frontiers of the new world -- the world of internationalism, of economic freedom, of brotherhood and of peace."

I believe that this motif of authentic Jowish lineage has not been wanting in the humble and consecrated labors of the present-day nation-builders in Palestine, and I am convinced that Palestine will in the days to come become ' the workshop of our people's highest ideals and aspirations.

Our builders in Palestine will have much to endure and much to evercome, but they will assuredly match their hour. They have still to discover their political eyes. They are children of the crucible. They have come from the four corners of the earth and from all parts of the Galut, and the Galut leaves its mark on everyone. They hail from all cultural zones, and from all political backgrounds. They represent most diverse personal experiences and they must all be fused into an organic whole. They must learn unity in diversity and patience under stress, and the knack of subduing the voices of the partisan, the doctrinaire and the familie in the joyous tumult of building.

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Edmund Burke defined the religion of the early American colonists as being a refinement on the principle of resistance. "It is the dissidence of dissent and the Protestantism of the Protestant religion...agreeing in nothing but in the communion of the spirit of liberty." That might well define also the temper and character of our pioneers in Palestine. There is marvelous promise in all this for a free and unshackled life, but also much danger.

Our people will live in a land which is not a "fortress built by nature for herself against infection and the hand of war", as Shakespeare song of England, but in a very open land whose borders are difficult to defend, and whose security must rest on the stout hearts, the political wisdom and the national discipline of its people. What they have gained with courage, they will have to keep with prudence.

But the spirit, the will and the capacity are there, and they will not be found wanting.

The Land of Israel will be shall, made smaller by partition, but the people of Israel will make it great. The monumental contributions to civilization have been made by great peoples which inhabited little countries. Mind and creative endeavor will compensate for what our people has been forced reluctantly to relinquish. Generations to come, living in that land of challenge and renewal, will speak great words and do great deeds, and in the magnitude of their upsearing, there will tower the majesty of that little land of revelation which, like some precious jeweled clasp, draws three continents together on the shore of the Western Sea. Not in epulence but in eminence will their destiny be fulfilled, and the elixir of their pride will be distilled not out of dominion or far-flung borders, but out of the faithful and skillful building of the good society.

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It is now a month since the historic decision, and while our happiness is unabated, our minds are turning soberly to the pressing and difficult problems involved in the implementation of that decision.

Those problems are ours -- but they are also those of the United Nations. The United Nations accepted the responsibility to decide the future government of Palestine. It accented, after long and careful examination and debate, the report of the Special Committee which it had appointed to make a complete and thoroughly objective survey of the entire situation. It has set up the machinery and fixed the time schedule for implementation. It was completely aware of all the difficulties involved, and was forewarned, not once but many times, by delegates of Arab States of their resolve to thwart by vielence a decision of the United Nations favorable to partition. Nevertheless the United Nations acted, despite those threats and in the full knowledge of all that was involved, convinced that there was no other way out, and that a solution could no longer be postponed. If the United Nations were now to be deterred from its course by the planned violence, by riots and demonstrations, calculated to convince the world that the UN decision is impossible of implementation, and thus by force to alter the settlement which it decreed, the United Nations would not only suffer an irreparable loss of prestige and authority, but its future effectiveness as the agoncy "to bring about by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and constitutional law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace" -- would be disastrously undermined.

The Mufti and his heachmon are attempting to sabotage the establishment of the Jewish State, but they and their collaborators in the neighboring Arab States, which are covenanted member states of the United Nations, and as such pledged to

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abide loyally by its decisions, are engaged as well in a shameless, frontal attack upon the very life of the United Nations itself.

We are confident that the United Nations will not permit itself to become the victim of insolent intimidation and the sport of organized hoodlumism. We are also confident that the Security Council of the United Nations -- which is to act as the guide of the UN Commission appointed by the Assembly to implement its decision, will give this Commission every measure of support and encouragement; and should the situation in Palestine come to constitute a threat to the peace, as a result of the attempts to alter by force the settlement envisaged by the resolution of the Assembly, the Security Council will act with decisiveness and dispatch. The confidence of some Arab delegates that the Security Council will fail to back up the action of the Assembly will prove as vain as was their earlier confidence to prevent a two-thirds wote in the Assembly itself.

The future of the United Nations will be enerneusly strengthened in the difficult months ahead if our own Government will remain indubitably firm throughout, and ardently cooperative with the United Nations in this matter. It has not always been so in the matter of Palestine. It was not always so during the protracted Palestine deliberations in the United Nations. Our officials were not always of one mind, and this resulted in confused counsel and stultified action, as well as in the bewilderment of governments who quite naturally looked to the United States for guidance and leadership.

Our Government has, since the last war, assumed unprecedented diplomatic initiative and pre-eminent leadership in world affairs. It has not been content to remain passive, or only mildly active, as just one nation among many, in the tasks of world reconstruction. Destiny has singled it out for leadership in this century and regardless of cost, it has boldly and wittingly assumed that role. In many parts of the world the impact of that political direction is now felt.

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Palestine is definitely within the orbit of those great political problems which America, true to its assumed role, must face, and to which it must bring the same determined leadership which has characterized its approach to other world problems. Should it fail to do so, and should it evidence, as on occasion it did, only a formal and passing interest, for the sake of the record or to allay criticism, the Palestine problem, in spite of the United Nations decision, will sag hopelessly, and the situation will nove from bad to worse.

Time and again, both at Lake Success and Flushing Meadow, we heard from some American spokesmen the oninous slogan: "The Palestine issue is a matter for the UN, not for the U.S. Me will vote for the UNSCOP Report when the time comes, but we will do no more than that." We know who was the author of this quite transparent slogan and who defined that line. Fortunately he did not prevail. Involved in this slogan was the total renunciation by our Sovernment of the clear responsibilities of the new diplomatic leadership which it has assumed in the world, and in that very part of the world. Our Government did not announce that Greece and Turkey, or the political and economic fortunes of Western Europe, or China, were matters for the United Nations and not specifically for the United States.

When the crucial hour of decision arrived, however, our Government rose to the challenge of the hour and the mandates of its destiny. Its voice rose clear and unmistakable; and in so doing, it encouraged other states to back up the recommendations of the UN Special Committee on Palestine. As a result, the resolution was overwhelmingly adopted. Our Government new stands committed to its implementation. The UN plan is new definitely a part of American foreign policy and should be as aggressively and determinedly advanced as other major policies of our Government. Our Government should assist the UN in every way possible and should employ all its diplomatic machinery and influence to expedite the matter. Delay is dangerous. Defent will be catastrophic.

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The problem is to tide over the next ten months. Once the Jewish State is established and admitted to the United Hations, and the neighboring Arab states are confronted by an accomplished fact, they will as a matter of practical politics, seek ways for mutually satisfactory arrangements with the Jewish State and for peaceful cooperation -- and the way will be open. Feace with the Arab world will then be possible. The dangerous period is the short formative one of the next few months. Here is where our Government can be tromendously helpful.

There is no provision in the United Nations resolution for an international police force to insure law and order during the transition period. Great Britain announced that it would be responsible for law and order as long as it remained in the country. It is clearly not doing it. If 100,000 soldiers and police cannot insure security in that shall country, or even patrol properly one main artery of travel in Palestine -- the 42-mile road between Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem -- to enable men to travel on it without being killed by snipers, one is forced to question the sincerity of that government's declaration. It would be highly desirable to have an international force accompany the Commission of the United Nations when it arrives in Palestine to carry out the instructions of the United Nations. It need not be large, but it must know what it is there for. The present military force in Palestine is the blanted instrument of the hopelessly blundering policy of Mr. Bevin, which amounts to this: His Majesty's Government "loyally accepts the Assembly's resolution", but it will do nothing to implement it. The British forces in Palestine will maintain law and order, but they will remain neutral when clashes result between the Jews who have loyally accepted the decision of the UN and who seek peace -- and the Arabs who are violently resisting it and provoke war!

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But whother an international force is sent to Palestine or not -- it is immediately imperative that the Jewish people of Falestine shall be enabled for the to defend themselves. They have the manpower. They need arms. Surely those states -- and foremest among them the United States -- which voted to create a Jewish State must feel honor-bound and duty-bound to see that the citizens of that state in the making are properly protected against the murderous assaults of those who have resolved to defy the will and the conscience of the nations of the world. Here, again, the United States holds the key to the situation, both as regards the formation of an international force, and the equipment of the Jewish militia. Our Government has not hesitated to send arms and military missions to other parts of the world, to back up its foreign policy.

The problem of our refugees still remains next pressing. When will our refugees begin at last to nove in large numbers into Palestine? What conceivable purpose is served by keeping these men, women and children pent up in detention camps where they have languished for so long; or in driving them away from the shores of Palestine now that the United Nations has finally decreed that the Jewish State shall be set up in Palestine in 1948? What else but the meanness of spirit of a defeated statementhy and the spitefulness of a disgrantled bureaucracy can account for it? There are thousands of refugees in various parts of Europe who simply can no longer wait. They will not be permitted to remain where they are. They must nove. Surely it cannot be Great Britain's wish to climax and close her political career in Palestine with some more stark tragedies like the "Exedus". Why cannot the act of parting be sweetened by an act of generosity and humanity which will help to reconcile friends who should nover have been estranged?

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My dear friends, American Jewry has deserved well at the hands of the Jewish people. History will pay homage to the role which it played in this searching and heroic hour. It rose to the occasion splendidly. It knew how to close ranks. It acted with wisdon, dignity, and courage. It speke effectively to the hearts and minds of the American people and its representatives in government, and to the responsible heads of our Government. It is generally acknowledged that what was achieved was due in a large measure to the magnificent labor of American Jewry.

But much remains to be done. November 29th was only the ovening and the morning of the first day -- the day when light broke through the darkness of our world. Our great community, providentially spared for this hour, must new shouldor the vast economic burdens involved in the setting up of the Jewish State. Judging by the remarkable demonstration a few days ago at the conclave of the leaders of American Jewry in Atlantic City, our people are fully aware of their new responsibilities and are resolved to meet them. Whatever aid may come from other sources, the primary responsibility is ours.

We shall also have to stand on guard during the next critical period to see that no political conspiracy of evil-doors shall undo or harn the Jewish State, as its builders proceed to lay its foundations. The Jews of America, proud and loyal citizens of this great country who have demonstrated time and again in peace and in war their devotion and patriotism, will in the spirit of American democracy wish to assist this new free and democratic country which will rise on the shores of the Mediterranean, and which will embedy these same great Biblical ideals of justice, brotherhood, and peace, which inspired the founding fathers of this Republic.

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Those who are despondent over the turn of affairs in international relations and the apparent irreparable rift which has been created between the East and the West well take heart in contemplating the full and ready cooperation which did exist between the United States and the Soviet Union on the issue of Falestine. Here was an area where we were told imperial interests were inevitably destined to clash, and where power politics would most certainly tear East and West hopelessly apart. Nothing of the sort happened, to the utter consternation of all the preachers of the irresistible conflict. On the contrary -- here was ready and friendly agreement. In my humble judgment there is much food for thought here, and strong warrant for a more hopeful world outlook, and a less intractable statesmanship.

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It might be noted, in passing that our frank joy in the decision of the UN to re-establish the Jewish State was not prompted by Infatuation with the idea of nationalism as such, or by ideal ideal ideal of the statehood. We are not chauvenists. Zionists have been denounced as secularists and political nationalists. Of course we are secularists insofar as we oppose a theocratic state, and we are political nationalits insofar as we believe in the re-establishment of the Jewish State. But this does not exhaust the full content of our aspirations.

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that the Security Council of the UN -- which is to act as the guide of the UN Commission appointed by the Assembly to implement its decision, will give this Commission every measure of support and encouragement, and should the situation in Falestine come to constitute a threat to the peace, as a result of the attempts to alter by force the settlement envisaged by the resolution of the Assembly, the Security Council will act with decisiveness and dispatch. The confidence of some Arab delegates that the Security Council will fail to back up the action of the Assembly will prove as vain as was their earlier confidence to prevent a two-thirds vote in the Assembly itself.

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bad to worse

Time and again, both at Lake Success and Flushing Meadow, we heard from some American spokesmen the ominous slogan: "The Palestine issue is a matter for the UN, not for the U.S. We will vote for the UNSCOP Report when the time comes, but we will do not more than that." We knew who was the author of this quite transparent slogan and who defined that line. Fortunately he did not prevail. Involved in this slogan was the total renunciation by our Government of the clear responsibilities of the new diplomatic leadership which it had assumed in the world, and in that very part of the world. Our government did not announce that Greece and Turkey, or the political and economic fortunes of Western Europe, or China, were matters for the UN and not also percifically for the United States.

When the crucial hour of decision arrived, however, our government rose to the challenge of the hour and the mandates of its destiny. Its voice rose clear and unmistakable; and in so doing, it encouraged other states to back up the recommendations of the UN Special Committee on Falestine. As a result, the resolution was overwhelmingly adopted. Our government now stands committed to its implementation. The UN plan is now definitely a part of American foreign policy and should be as aggressively and determinedly advanced as other major policies of our government. Our government should assist the UN in every way possible and should employ all its diplomatic machinery and influence to expedite the matter. Delay is dangerous. Defeat when be catastrophic.

The problem is to tide over the next months. Once the Jewish State is established and admitted to the UN, and the neighboring Arab states are confronted by an accomplished fact, they will as a matter of practical politics, seek ways for mutually satisfactory arrangements with the Jewish State and for peaceful cooperation -and the way will be open. Peace with the Arab world will then be possible. The dangerous period is the short formative one of the next few months. Here is where our Government can be tremendously helpful.

There is no provision in the UN resolution for an international police force

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to insure law and order during the transition period. Great Britain announced that it would be responsible for law and order as long as it remained in the country. It is clearly not doing it. If 100,000 soldiers and police cannot insure security in that small country or even patrol properly one main artery of travel in Palestine -the \$0 mile road between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem to enable men to travel on it without being killed by snipers, one is forced to question the sincerity of the government's declaration. It would be highly desirable to have an international force accompany the Commission of the UN when it arrives in Palestine to carry out the instructions of the UN. It need not be large but it must know what it is there for. The present military force in Palestine is the blunted instrument of the hopelessly blundering policy of Mr. Bevin which amounts to this: His Majesty's Government "loyally accepts the Assembly's resolution" but it will do nothing to implement it. The British forces in Palestine will maintain law and order but they will remain neutral when clashes result between the Jews who have loyally accepted the decision of the UN and who seek peace -- and the Arabs who are violently resisting it and provoke war!

But whether an international force is sent to Palestine or not -- it is immediately imperative that the Jewish people of Palestine shall be enabled forthwith to defend themselves. They have the man power. They need arms. Surely those states -- and foremost among them the United States -- which voted to create a Jewish state must feel honor-bound and duty-bound to see that the citizens of that state in the making are properly protected against the murderous assaults of those who have resolved to defy the will and the conscience of the nations of the vorld. Here, again, the U.S. holds the key to the situation, both as regards the formation of an international force, and the equipment of the Jewish militia. Our government has not hesitated to send arms and military missions to other parts of the world to back up its foreign policy.

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The problem of our refugees still remains most pressing. When will our refugees begin at last to move in large numbers into Palestine? What conceivable purpose is served by keeping these men, women and children pent up in detention camps where they have languished for so long; or in driving them away from the shores of Palestine, now that the United Nations has finally decreed that the Jewish State shall be set up in Palestine in 1948? What else but the meanness of spirit of a province statesmanship and the spitefulness of a disgruntled bureaucracy can account for it. There are thousands of refugees in various parts for for mumpe who simply can no longer wait. They will not be permitted to remain where they are. They must move. Surely it cannot be Great Britain's wish to climax and close her political career in Palestine with some more stark tragedies like the "mxodus." Why cannot the act of parting be sweetened by an act of generolasity and humanity which will help to reconcile friends who should never have been estranged?

My dear friends, American Jewry has deserved well at the hands of the Jewish people. History will pay homage to the role which it played in this searching and heroic hour. It rose to the occasion splendidly. It knew how to close ranks. It acted with wisdon, dignity, and courage. It spoke effectively to the hearts and minds of the American people and its representatives in government, and to the responsible heads of our Government. It is generally acknowledged that what was achieved was due in a large measure to the magnificent income of American Jewry.

But much remains to be done. November 29th was only the evening the morning of the first day -- the day when light broke through the darkness of our world. Our great country providentially spared for this hour must now shoulder the vast economic burdens involved in the setting up of the Jewish State. Judging by the remarkable demonstration a few days ago at the conclave of the leaders of American Jewry in Atlantic City, our people are fully aware of their new responsibilities and are resolved to meet them. Whatever aid

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may come from other sources, the primary responsibility is ours.

We shall also have to stand on guard during the next critical period to see that no political conspiracy of evil doers shall undo or harm the Jewish State as its builders proceed to lay its foundations. The Jews of America, proud and loyal citizens of this great country who have demonstrated time and again in peace and in war their devotion and patriotism, will in the spirit of American democracy wish to assist this new free and democratic country which will rise on the shores of the Mediterranean, and which will embody those same great biblical ideals of justice, brotherhood, and p ace which inspired the founding fathers of this hepublic.



TRIBUTE TO DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER Hotel Astor, New York City Monday Evening, December 29, 1947

FOR IMEDIATE RELEASE

Excerpts from Address of <u>DR. EMANUEL NEUMANN</u> President of the Zionist Organization of America, and Toastmaster

Tonight we pay our grateful tribute to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver for the high statesmanship which he has brought to the Zionist cause. It is to his brilliant leadership that we owe in very large measure the greatest political achievement in 2,000 years of Jewish history. His contributions have been varied and noble. As chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestino, his was the chief responsibility for organizing and directing the presentation and defense of the Jewish case before the United Nations. His appearance as the head of our delegation lent it lustre and distinction. His presentations of the Zionist case, both in the spring and in the fall sessions of the Assembly, will rank as masterpieces of forensic elequence. Much of what he did during those critical months was done behind the scenes and cannot be revealed for the present.

But it is not of all of these things that I think when I refer to the decisive role which Dr. Silver has played in bringing about the historic decision of the United Nations. I am thinking rather of the grand design and over-all strategy of the political struggle which he has spear-headed over a period of years. I am thinking of the marshalling of our forces and the all-out political offensive which he conducted. Above all, I am thinking of the decisive part played by the United States and of Dr. Silver's role in that connection. We all realize that it was not the eloquence of our spokesmen and their brilliance in argument, neither was it any particular maneuver or diplomatic demarche which brought victory. If we recognize, as we must, that without the active support of the United States this result would have been impossible, we must also recognize that it was the great and sustained effort inaugurated by Dr. Silver, superbly organized and

(more)

brilliantly directed by him during the past four years, that mobilized the sympathies of the American people and insured the support of the American Government. The great decision of the United Nations which has thrilled and electrified the Jewish world was the culmination of a great campaign clearly conceived, wisely planned and firmly executed. The Jewish people throughout the world owe a great debt of gratitude to Dr. Silver's genius, courage and audacity in leading that campaign against heavy odds and leading it so vigorously and so fearlessly to its ultimate triumph.

When the full story is told, as it must some day be recorded in detail, our children and children's children, and generations yet unborn, who will live in Palestine in the security of the Jewish State, will speak his name with love and reverance and eternal gratitude, as one of the greatest and most illustrious names in modern Jewish history.

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Hotel Astor, New York City Monday evening, December 29, 1947

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXCERPTS FROM ADDRESS OF DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD CONFEDERATION OF GENERAL ZIONISTS AND NATIONAL CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

Dr. Silver has been the architect-in-chief of American Zionist policy in recent years. More than any other American Zionist leader he has brought the Zionist program onto the highway of American public opinion. This policy utilizing the democratic methods of the American political process, namely, direct communication between the people and their representatives in government, succeeded in winning the legislative and executive aims of our government to the advocacy of a Jewish State. Our government's advocacy proved decisive in bringing about the favorable UN decision. Therefore Dr. Silver's contribution has been a decisive factor in the epoch-making dispensation of a Jewish State. It is fortunate that American Zionism, in this crucial period, had Dr. Silver's far-visioned and courageous leadership. He is deserving of the lasting gratitude of the Jewish people for the successful mobilization of the force of American public opinion and for his masterly presentation of the Zionist case before the UN.

With the UN decision, only the first stage of the Jewish State program is concluded, the stage of policy pronouncement. Now we are in the second stage, that of implementation. The Mufti and his collaborators are doing their utmost to frustrate the decision of the UN and make it come to naught.

Erstwhile Hitlerites openly defying and threatening to thwart a decision of an overwhelming majority of the United Nations must not be permitted by the UN to "get away with it" by taking advantage of the fact that the UN Assembly

(more)

is not in session. The Security Council should act, for inaction breeds a deterioration of the situation. Whatever moral prestige the UN has gained by this great decision will be lost if it is not backed up firmly.

It behooves the United States both as a member of the UN and as an avowed advocate of a Jewish State to react against the breach of international law and order being fomented by the Arab States. Its declared embargo on arms to Palestine helps the Arab aggressors who can secure arms readily from neighboring Arab States and hurts the Jewish forces of self-defense.

Great Britain's policy in this transition stage, under the guise of strict neutrality, in offect gives aid and comfort to the Araba. Under the pretext of evenhanded justice, it is supplying arms to the Arab aggressors and denying them to the Jowish defauders. Invoking technicalities, it is inviting the UN Palestine Commission to stay out of Palestine until Great Britain is ready to leave, thus deliberately planning to create a situation of cheos in which lawlessness and banditry can thrive. What a petty, spiteful, inglerious closing to a chapter which began gloriously with the Balfeur Declaration.

I speak as one who all his life considered himself a friend of England, headed the Jewish effort for British War Relief in the U.S. during the war when Great Fritain was in desperate need of friends here. The Jewish people still clings to the hope that British policy may change for the better so that Great Britain can go out of Palestine honorably by cooperating with the UN instead of obstructing it.

In the meantime the Haganah can be relied upon to defend and protect the Yishuv. Comparing the present flareup in Falestine with the Arab attacks in 1936, it is evident that the Jewish defense force is incomparably better prepared to meet the attacks. As a matter of fact the Haganah is exercising restraint -- the restraint, however, which comes from strength not from weakness. It is also evident that whereas the Arab attacks of 1936 resulted in the infamous British White Paper, restricting Jewish immigration and land purchase, and thus rewarding

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the murderers and the bandits, the Arab attacks of 1947 will prove to be the last desperate attempt of the Mufti to gain his ends. He will not succeed. Instead of a British White Paper there will be a Jewish Blue and White Paper, the charter of the Jewish State.

As American citizens we turn to our government and we say: "You have done a great work in helping to bring about the decision to create a Jewish State. Don't consider your work done until the Jewish State stands securely. Such economic assistance as you can give the nascent Jewish State and such help as you can provide to bring large numbers of Jewish DP's out of Europe into Palestine, will be an important contribution. The Jews of America will do their full part. They are endeavoring to raise through the United Jewish Aproal an unprecedented sum of \$250,000,000 in 1948 for Jewish needs overseas and here. But right new the urgent task on the political level, is to act firmly vis-a-vis the Arab trouble-makers. The prestige of the U.S. and of the UN demend that the Jewish State come into being with the firm backing of the great powers, the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. who brought about the resolution for its establishment.

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TRIBUTE TO DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER Hotel Astor, New York City Monday Evening, December 29, 1947

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MESSAGES

From Governor Thomas E. Dewey

IT IS A MATTER OF THE DEEPEST REGRET TO ME THAT THE HEAVY PRESSURE OF PREFARATION FOR THE FORTHCOMING SESSION OF THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO LEAVE MY DESK IN ALBANY AT THIS TIME OF YEAR. NOTHING ELSE WOULD PREVENT ME FROM ATTENDING THE TRIUMPHANT DINNER IN HONOR OF RABBI HILLEL SILVER WHOSE WISE, BRAVE AND SKTLIFUL LEADERSHIP IN THE ZIONIST CAUSE HAS CONTRIBUTED SO GREATLY TO THE VICTORY BEING CELEBRATED ON MONDAY NIGHT.

IT HAS BEEN MY PRIVILEGE TO WORK WITH DR. SILVER IN THIS CAUSE FOR MANY YEARS, EVEN UP TO THE LAST MINUTE, AS ITS SUCCESS WAS HANGING BY A THREAD IN THE ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THERE IS NO TRIBUTE WHICH COULD BE SUFFICIENT RECOGNITION TO THE QUALITY OF HIS LEADERSHIP AND I JOIN YOU WHOLEHEARTEDLY IN YOUR OUTPOURING OF AFFECTION AND REGARD FOR HIM.

THE FIRST AND WHAT I HOPE IS THE GREATEST HURDLE HAS BEEN OVERCOME. THERE ARE OTHER SERIOUS OBSTACLES AHEAD, BUT SURELY WITH ITS TRADITIONS OF COURAGEOUS AND ZEALOUS PIONEERING, THE FUTURE PROBLEMS OF PALESTINE CAN AS SURELY BE SOLVED AS THOSE WHICH ARE NOW HISTORY. IF THE GREAT NATIONS WILL AS FIRMLY ADHERE TO THE DECISION THEY HAVE JOINTLY EEACHED AND AS STEADFASTLY SERVE NOTICE THAT THEIR DECISION SHOULD BE RESPECTED, I AM SURE THAT WE CAN LOOK FORWARD TO INCREASING STABILITY AND, IN THE END, THE PEACEFUL BUILDING OF THE GREAT NEW PROGRESSIVE HOMELAND FOR WHICH WE ALL FRAY.

From Bartley C. Crum

I REGRET MORE THAN I CAN SAY MY INABILITY TO BE WITH YOU IN HONORING

TRIBUTE TO DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER - 2 -

DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER. WITH THE MOMENTOUS DECISION OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AMERICAN JEWRY AND MEN OF GOODWILL EVERYWHERE MUST REDEDICATE THEMSELVES TO THE BASIC SFIRITUAL AND MORAL VALUES FOR WHICH DR. SILVER HAS BEEN THE UNCOMPROMISING STOKESMAN FOR SO MANY YEARS. IT IS OF PROFOUND SIGNIFICANCE THAT THE JEWS, IN RETURNING TO ERETZ, ARE BRINGING WITH THEM, UNTAENISHED, THE VALUES WHICH WERE LARGELY REMOVED FROM THAT LAND WITH THE DIASPORA. PLEASE SAY FOR ME TO DR. SILVER "SHALOM".

From U.S. Senator Robert A. Taft

I DESIRE TO JOIN IN ANY TRIBUTE TO DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER FOR THE GREAT WORK WHICH HE HAS DONE. I HAVE ALWAYS FELT THAT I WAS ONLY ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE PROBLEM AND UNABLE TO ACCOMPLISH A GREAT DEAL, BUT I HAVE RELIED ON HIS GOOD JUDGMENT, AND I AM FROUD TO HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH HIM IN THE WORK.

From House Minority Leader, Rep. John W. McCormack

I REGRET EXCEEDINGLY THAT, DUE TO OFFICIAL BUSINESS REQUIRING MY PRESENCE IN BOSTON, I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE TESTIMONIAL DINNER EEING TENDERED TO DR. ABEA HILLYL SILVER. I HAVE A VERY HIGH REGARD FOR DR. SILVER AND I VALUE HIS RESIECT AND FRIENDSHIP FOR ME. HIS UNTIRING CONSTRUCTIVE EFFORTS IN BEHALF OF THE ESTABLISHMENT IN PALESTIME OF A FREE AND INDEFENDENT JEWISH COMMONWEALTH ARE KNOWN TO ALL. IT WAS MY PLEASURE TO COOFERATE WITH HIM AND THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH HIM, AND TO DO EVERYTHING I POSSIELY COULD TO BRING IT ABOUT. HE MERITS THE THANKS AND COMMENDATION OF ALL PERSONS FOR HIS OUTSTANDING DEADERSHIF IN THIS GREAT MOVEMENT, AS WELL AS FOR THE NOBLE, CONSTRUCTIVE LIFE HE HAS AND ALWAYS

TRIBUTE TO DR. ABRA HILLEL SILVER

WILL LEAD IN ALL DIRECTIONS. FLEASE CONVEY TO DR. SILVER MY DEEP FEELINGS OF RESIECT FOR HIM AND TO ALL PRESENT MY KINDEST REGARDS.

From Speaker of the House, Rep. Joseph W. Martin, Jr.

EECAUSE OF IREVIOUS COMMITMENTS IN MASSACHUSETTS DURING THE CONGRESSIONAL RECESS, I REGRET IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO BE IN NEW YORK ON THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 29TH. HOWEVER, I DO WISH IT WERE POSSIBLE FOR ME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MERITORIOUS TRIBUTE TO DR. SILVER.

AS ONE WHO HAS LONG BEEN INTERESTED IN THE JEWISH HOMELAND IN TALESTINE, DR. SILVER'S UNFLAGGING AND AGGRESSIVE ESICUSAL OF THIS CAUSE AT ALL TIMES HAS, OF COURSE, COME UNDER MY PERSONAL OBSERVATION. HE HAS BEEN A TOWER OF STRENGTH AND IT IS ENTIRELY FITTING AND APPROTRIATE THAT THIS TESTIMONIAL SHOULD BE GIVEN IN HIS BEHALF.

From General John H. Hilldring

FLEASE EXTEND TO DR. SILVER MY SINCEREST RESPECT AND ADMIRATION, AND MY BEST WISHES FOR A SUCCESSFUL MISSION TO PALESTINE.

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From Dr. Louis Finkelstein, President of the Jewish Theclosical Seminary of America

IT WOULD HE A JOY INDEED FOR ME TO JOIN WITH YOU AT THIS DINNER IF I COULD POSSIBLY DO SO. I HAVE HAD GREAT AFFECTION AND ADMIRATION FOR DR. SILVER FOR MANY YEARS AND REALIZE THE GREAT DEBT IN WHICH HE HAS PLACED US.

From Mayor Thomas A. Burke, of Cleveland, Ohio

AS ONE OF OUR ENTEEMED FELLOW CITIZENS, CLEVELAND TAKES I RIDE IN YOUR

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TRIBUTE TO DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER - 4 -

IMPRESSIVE LEADERSHIP BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS WHICH CONTRIBUTED SO GREATLY TOWARD THE CREATION OF A JEWISH STATE IN PALESTINE AFTER 2000 YEARS OF SEEKING RESTORATION. YOUR STATESMANLIKE EFFORTS, TOGETHER WITH THOSE OF YOUR COLLEAGUES, HAVE MADE WORLD HISTORY. OUR ENTIRE COMMUNITY DERIVES GRATIFICATION IN THE THOUGHT THAT OUR NATIVE ATMOSPHERE OF EQUITY AND DEMOCRACY FROVIDED A NATURAL BACKGROUND IN WHICH YOUR LONG STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE FOR YOUR PEOPLE FOUND SYMPATHETIC SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT. WE JOIN IN PAYING OUR TRIBUTE TO YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS.

From Moshe Shertok, Head of the Political Department of the Jewish Agency for Palestine

I REGRET EXCEEDINGLY THAT MY URGENT TRIP TO PALESTINE HAS MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO BE PRESENT AT THE DINNER TENDERED FOR DR. SILVER ON DECEMBER 29th. I SHOULD LIKE TO ASSOCIATE MYSELF IN THE TRIBUTE TO BE PAID TO DR. SILVER'S LONG AND OUTSTANDING RECORD IN THE SERVICE OF THE ZIONIST GAUSE OF WHICH THE LAST AND MOST SIGNIFICANT CHAFTER IS HIS CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE AMERICAN SECTION OF THE JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE.

IT WAS UNDER DR. SILVER'S CHAIRMANSTHE THAT IT WAS GIVEN TO THE AMERICAN SECTION AT THE SESSIONS OF THE UNITED PATIONS ASSEMELY IN AFRIL AND IN SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER, 1947 TO STEER THE VESSEL OF ZIONIST FOLICY THROUGH THE STORMY SEAS OF DEBATE, OPPOSITION AND INTERNATIONAL ENTANGLEMENTS, TO ITS PORT OF DESTINATION AND TO ACHIEVE INTERNATIONAL APPROVAL FOR WHAT HAS FROVED PRACTICABLE IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, OF THE ORIGINAL ZIONIST PROGRAM. KNOWING AS I DID, HOW STRONGLY DR. SILVER HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN OPPOSED TO THE COMPROMISE SOLUTION, I ALMIRED THE MORE HIS WHOLEHEARTED ACCEPTANCE OF IT AND THE UNSWERVING DETERMINATION WITH WHICH HE FURSUED THE NEW COURSE TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION, ONCE IT EECAME A MATTER OF PRACTICAL POLITICS AND RECEIVED THE APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE AS A WHOLE.

I LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUED HARMONIOUS COLLABORATION WITH DR. SILVER IN THE HARD TRIALS WHICH THE NEAR FUTURE STILL SEEMS TO HOLD IN STORE FOR US. IT IS THE TRIBUTE TO DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER - 5 -

EARNEST HOPE OF US ALL THAT HIS SINGLEMINDED DEVOTION, HIS COURAGE AND DRIVE SHALL FOR MANY YEARS TO COME BE AT THE SERVICE OF OUR PEOPLE AND OF THE JEWISH STATE NOW IN THE MAKING AND SOON WE HOPE AN ESTABLISHED REALITY.



47-13

AFTER THE U.N. DECISION ON PALESTINE

DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

WRHS

This is the text of an address delivered in New York City on December 29, 1947 — the eve of his departure for Palestine — by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council and of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine. T was just a month ago that the Palestine decision was taken in the Assembly of the United Nations. This has been a month of unprecedented exaltation for our people all over the world. Their spirits leaped up like a brilliant flame in the glad surprise of the long hoped for and never quite expected victory. Their parched and thirsty souls drank deep of the waters of salvation. The nations of the world had again vindicated our claim to national restoration. By an overwhelming vote — only two Christian States dissenting — they had decreed that the Jewish State shall be re-established and set the date for its establishment as October 1948.

Thus the messianic drama of Israel which had been unfolding in many lands through long centuries of tragic acts and sorrowful scenes suddenly reached a triumphant climax in the dramatic setting of an international council chamber, where in an atmosphere of unspeakable tension, the nations voted, each in its turn, and when the vote was tallied, they had decreed the end of the diaspora — the Galut! "When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with singing . . ."

Our tired hearts were refreshed and uplifted when we witnessed the fine championing of our cause of liberation by one noble country after another — by the many countries of South and Central America, by the countries of Western Europe, by all the dominions of the British Commonwealth and by other countries of good will. We were deeply moved by the strong, unfaltering support which we received from the Soviet Union and from Poland and Czechoslovakia. And we were, of course, profoundly pleased and happy with the role which our own Government came to play in the final hour of decision. Especially gratifying was that rare phenomenon — baffling and disturbing to all those who prescribe cold

war as the remedy for an ailing and war-sick world and proscribe all suggestions of unity and reconciliation — which showed the two greatest world powers working in complete accord and unity of purpose to solve a grave international problem, and reaching a solution.

Those who are despondent over the turn of affairs in international relations and the seemingly irreparable rift which has been created between the East and the West, might well take heart in contemplating the full and ready cooperation which existed between the United States and the Soviet Union on the issue of Palestine. Here was an area where, we were told, imperial interests were inevitably destined to clash, and where power politics would most certainly tear East and West hopelessly apart. Nothing of the sort happened, to the utter consternation of all the preachers of the irresistible conflict. On the contrary - there was ready and friendly agreement. In my humble judgment, there is much food for thought here, and strong warrant for a more hopeful world outlook and a less intractable statesmanship.

IN THIS connection it should be stated that those who were responsible for the earlier and now discredited propaganda that the Soviet Union, in its desire to penetrate the Middle East and its rich oil fields, would side with the Arabs against the Jews, and that Great Britain and the United States must therefore not favor the Jewish cause for fear of driving the Arab States into the arms of the Soviet Union, have now slightly revised their propaganda. The Soviet Union, it is now proclaimed, favored the setting up of a Jewish State in Palestine in the confident expectation that this would arouse the Arabs, create disturbance and necessitate the intervention of the Security Council. The Security Council would have to send troops. The Soviet Union, being a member of the Security Council, would then have its own troops included in whatever international force is sent to Palestine. Once there, they will never be dislodged.

This is the new, or rather the revamped, propaganda which is being peddled about today in Washington by agents of all sorts - British, American and Arab - as well as in the public press, and which, along with the supplementary propaganda that the so-called illegal immigrants coming into Palestine are really communist agents in disguise, is being adroitly spread to destroy U.S.-U.S.S.R. cooperation on Palestine, and to prevent the implementation of the United Nations' decision. Every effort is being made to thrust Palestine back into the dangerous arena of power politics from which the U.S.-U.S.S.R. agreement and the action of the United Nations have most opportunely lifted it. There are even some members of the Congress of the United States who, out of ignorance or malice, are lending themselves to the spreading of this baseless and mischievous propaganda. Needless to say the Zionist movement has no orientation either to the West or to the East. If we need to define our orientation, it is definitely and unmistakably to the United Nations. We are happy that our problem received a solution by international agreement in which the East and the West harmoniously cooperated. We hope that this cooperation will continue in the future.

IT MIGHT be noted, in passing, that our frank joy in the decision of the United Nations to reestablish the Jewish State was not prompted by an infatuation with the idea of nationalism as such, or by idolatry of statehood. We are not chauvinists. Zionists have been denounced as secularists and political nationalists. Of course we are secularists insofar as we oppose a theocratic state, and we are political nationalists insofar as we believe in the re-establishment of the Jewish State. But this does not exhaust the full content of our aspirations.

Israel's resolution through the centuries to rebuild its national life in its ancestral home was guided by sound instinct and inspired by the same prophetic idealism which twice beckoned our ancestors from exile to national restoration in Palestine. In both instances, at Sinai and by the rivers of Babylon, there stirred a deep, mystic conviction that only in a free national existence, could that which was best and unique in Jewish life find full scope and opportunity, and what was best and unique was always conceived of as transcending the moiety of political independence or the customary compensations of national status and security. It reached beyond that to a vision of "new things, things kept in store, not hitherto known . . ." to a redeemed humanity and a world order reconstructed after the pattern of the Kingdom of God.

In 1929, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the death of Theodor Herzl, I wrote in a Herzl Memorial Volume which was published in that year:

"It is well that the political phase of Jewish Messianism is coming to a close in the upbuilding of the National Homeland. We shall not have to lay so much stress in the future on the importance of nationalism. We shall henceforth be confronted not with its lack but with its consequences. Hitherto, wanting the full complement of the attributes of nationalism, we were constrained to over-emphasize its virtues. Many of the spokesmen of our cause were driven to extol nationalism, per se, which is afte: all a quite recent and, demonstrably, a quite inadequate human concept. It is not mankind's ultimate vision. Certainly, it is not the substance of our own ancestral tradition whose motif is not nationalism but prophetism. Nationalism is not enough. It is a minimum requirement, not a maximum program. Our national rebirth was made possible by a war in which nationalism was thoroughly exposed and discredited. Nationalism is a means, not an end. 'What is great in a man,' said the philosopher, 'is that he is a bridge and not a goal.' This is true also of men collectively - of nations and of national cultures.

"Nationalism will not suffice the eternally questing soul of our people. After its national life is secure, Israel must push on to the frontiers of the new world – the world of internationalism, of economic freedom, of brotherhood and of peace."

I believe that this motif of authentic Jewish lineage has not been wanting in the humble and consecrated labors of the present-day nationbuilders in Palestine, and I am convinced that Palestine will in the days to come become the workshop of our people's highest ideals and aspirations.

O^{UR} builders in Palestine will have much to endure and much to overcome, but they will assuredly match their hour. They have still to discover their political eyes. They are children of the crucible. They have come from the four corners of the earth and from all parts of the Galut, and the Galut leaves its mark on everyone. They hail from all cultural zones and from all political backgrounds. They represent most diverse personal experiences and they must all be fused into an organic whole. They must learn unity in diversity, patience under stress, and the knack of subduing the voices of the partisan, the doctrinaire and the fanatic in the joyous tumult of building.

Edmund Burke defined the religion of the early American colonists as being a refinement on the principle of resistance. "It is the dissidence of dissent and the Protestantism of the Protestant religion . . . agreeing in nothing but in the communion of the spirit of liberty." That might well define also the temper and character of our pioneers in Palestine. There is marvellous promise in all this for a free and unshackled life, but also much danger.

Our people will live in a land which is not a "fortress built by nature for herself against infection and the hand of war," as Shakespeare sang of England, but in a very open land whose borders are difficult to defend, and whose security must rest on the stout hearts, the political wisdom and the national discipline of its people. What they have gained with courage, they will have to keep with prudence. But the spirit, the will and the capacity are there, and they will not be found wanting.

The Land of Israel will be small, made smaller by partition, but the people of Israel will make it great. The monumental contributions to civilization have been made by great peoples which inhabited little countries. Mind and creative endeavor will compensate for what our people have been forced reluctantly to relinquish. Generations to come, living in that land of challenge and renewal, will speak great words and do great deeds, and in the magnitude of their upsoaring, there will tower the majesty of that little land of revelation which, like some precious jeweled clasp, draws three continents together on the shore of the Western Sea. Not in opulence but in eminence will their destiny be fulfilled, and the elixir of their pride will be distilled not out of dominion or far-flung borders, but out of the faithful and skillful building of the good society.

I^T is now a month since the historic decision, and while our happiness is unabated, our minds are turning soberly to the pressing and difficult problems involved in the implementation of that decision.

Those problems are ours - but they are also those of the United Nations. The United Nations accepted the responsibility for deciding the future government of Palestine. It accepted, after long and careful examination and delate, the report of the Special Committee which it had appointed to make a complete and thoroughly objective survey of the entire situation. It has set up the machinery and fixed the time schedule for implementation. It was completely aware of all the difficulties involved, and was forewarned, not once but many times, by delegates of Arab States of their resolve to thwart by violence a decision of the United Nations favorable to partition. Nevertheless, despite these threats and in the full knowledge of all that was involved, the United Nations acted, convinced that there was no other way out, and that a solution could no longer be postponed.

If the United Nations were now to be deterred from its course by planned violence, by riots and demonstrations, calculated to convince the world that the UN decision is impossible of implementation, and thus by force to alter the settlement which it decreed, the United Nations would not only suffer an irreparable loss of prestige and authority, but its future effectiveness as the agency "to bring about by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and constitutional law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace" — would be disastrously undermined.

The ex-Mufti and his henchmen are attempting to sabotage the establishment of the Jewish State, but they and their collaborators in the neighboring Arab States, which are covenanted member states of the United Nations, and as such pledged to abide loyally by its decisions, are engaged as well in a shameless, frontal attack upon the very life of the United Nations itself.

We are confident that the United Nations will not permit itself to become the victim of insolent intimidation and the sport of organized hoodlumism. We are also confident that the Security Council of the United Nations, which is to act as the guide of the Commission appointed by the Assembly to implement its decision, will give this Commission every measure of support and encouragement; and should the situation in Palestine come to constitute a threat to the peace, as a result of the attempts to alter by force the settlement envisaged by the resolution of the Assembly, the Security Council will, we are convinced, act with decisiveness and dispatch. The confidence of some Arab delegates that the Security Council will fail to back up the action of the Assembly will prove as vain as was their earlier confidence that they would prevent a two-thirds vote in the Assembly itself.

THE future of the United Nations will be enormously strengthened in the difficult months ahead if our own Government will remain in-

dubitably firm throughout, and ardently cooperative with the United Nations in this matter. It has not always been so in the matter of Palestine. It was not always so during the protracted Palestine deliberations in the United Nations. Our officials were not always of one mind, and this resulted in confused counsel and stultified action, as well as in the bewilderment of governments who quite naturally looked to the United States for guidance and leadership.

Our Government has, since the last war, assumed unprecedented diplomatic initiative and pre-eminent leadership in world affairs. It has not been content to remain passive, or only mildly active, as just one nation among many, in the tasks of world reconstruction. Destiny has singled it out for leadership in this century and, regardless of cost, it has boldly and wittingly assumed that role. In many parts of the world the impact of that political direction is now felt. Palestine is definitely within the orbit of those great political problems which America, true to its assumed role, must face, and to which it must bring the same determined leadership which has characterized its approach to other world problems. Should it fail to do so, and should it evidence, as on occasion it has, only a formal and passing interest, for the sake of the record or to allay criticism, the Palestine problem, in spite of the United Nations' decision, will sag hopelessly, and the situation will move from bad to worse.

Time and again, both at Lake Success and Flushing Meadow, we heard from some American spokesmen the ominous slogan: "The Palestine issue is a matter for the United Nations, not for the United States. We will vote for the UNSCOP Report when the time comes, but we will do no more than that." We knew who was the author of this quite transparent slogan and who defined that line. Fortunately he did not prevail. Involved in this slogan was the total renunciation by our Government of the clear responsibilities of the new diplomatic leadership which it has assumed in the world, and in that very part of the world. Our Government did not announce that Greece

and Turkey, or the political and economic fortunes of Western Europe, or China, were matters for the United Nations and not specifically for the United States.

When the crucial hour of decision arrived, however, our Government rose to the challenge of the hour and the mandates of its destiny. Its voice rose clear and unmistakable; and, in so doing, it encouraged other states to back up the recommendations of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine. As a result, the resolution was overwhelmingly adopted. Our Government now stands committed to its implementation. The United Nations' plan is now definitely a part of American foreign policy and should be as aggressively and determinedly advanced as other major policies of our Government. Our Government should assist the United Nations in every way possible and should employ all its diplomatic machinery and influence to expedite the matter. Delay is dangerous. Defeat will be catastrophic.

THE problem is to tide over the next ten months. Once the Jewish State is established and admitted to the United Nations, and the neighboring Arab states are confronted by an accomplished fact, they will, as a matter of practical politics, seek ways for mutually satisfactory arrangements with the Jewish State and for peaceful cooperation — and the way will be open. Peace with the Arab world will then be possible. The dangerous period is the short formative one of the next few months. Here is where our Government can be tremendously helpful.

There is no provision in the United Nations' resolution for an international police force to insure law and order during the transition period. Great Britain announced that it would be responsible for law and order as long as it remained in the country. It is clearly not doing this. If 100,000 soldiers and police cannot insure security in that small country, or even patrol properly one main artery of travel in Palestine — the 42-mile road between Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem — to enable men to travel on it without being killed by snipers,

one is forced to question the sincerity of the British Government's declaration.

It would be highly desirable to have an international force accompany the Commission of the United Nations when it arrives in Palestine to carry out the instructions of the United Nations. It need not be a large force, but it must know what it is there for. The present military force in Palestine is the blunted instrument of the hopelessly blundering policy of Mr. Bevin, which amounts to this: His Majesty's Government "loyally accepts the Assembly's resolution," but it will do nothing to implement it. The British forces in Palestine will maintain law and order, but they will remain neutral when clashes result between the Jews who have loyally accepted the decision of the United Nations and who seek peace - and the Arabs who are violently resisting it and provoke war!

But whether an international force is sent to Palestine or not - it is immediately imperative that the Jewish people of Palestine shall be enabled forthwith to defend themselves. They have the manpower. They need arms. Surely those States - and foremost among them the United States - which voted to create a Jewish State must feel honor-bound and duty-bound to see that the citizens of that State-in-the-making are properly protected against the murderous assaults of those who have resolved to defy the will and the conscience of the nations of the world. Here, again, the United States holds the key to the situation, both as regards the formation of an international force, and the equipment of the Jewish militia. Our Government has not hesitated to send arms and military missions to other parts of the world to back up its foreign policy.

THE problem of our refugees still remains most pressing. When will our refugees begin at last to move in large numbers into Palestine? What conceivable purpose is served by keeping these men, women and children pent up in detention camps where they have languished for so long; or in driving them away from the shores of Palestine now that the United Nations has finally decreed that the Jewish State shall be set up in Palestine in 1948? What else but the meanness of spirit of a defeated statesmanship and the spitefulness of a disgruntled bureaucracy can account for it? There are thousands of refugees in various parts of Europe who simply can no longer wait. They will not be permitted to remain where they are. They must move. Surely it cannot be Great Britain's wish to climax and close her political career in Palestine with more stark tragedies like that of the "Exodus." Why cannot the act of parting be sweetened by an act of generosity and humanity which will help to reconcile friends who should never have been estranged?

My dear friends, American Jewry has deserved well at the hands of the Jewish people. History will pay homage to the role which it played in this searching and heroic hour. It rose to the occasion splendidly. It knew how to close ranks. It acted with wisdom, dignity, and courage. It spoke effectively to the hearts and minds of the American people and its representatives in government, and to the responsible heads of our Government. It is generally acknowledged that what was achieved was due in a large measure to the magnificent labor of American Jewry.

But much remains to be done. November 29 was only the evening and the morning of the first day — the day when light broke through the darkness of our world. Our great community, providentially spared for this hour, must now shoulder the vast economic burdens involved in the setting up of the Jewish State. Judging by the remarkable demonstration a few days ago at the conclave of the leaders of American Jewry in Atlantic City, our people are fully aware of their new responsibilities and are resolved to meet them. Whatever aid may come from other sources, the primary responsibility is ours.

We shall also have to stand on guard during the next critical period to see that no political conspiracy of evil doers shall undo or harm the Jewish State, as its builders proceed to lay its foundations. The Jews of America, proud and loyal citizens of this great country who have demonstrated time and again in peace and in war their devotion and patriotism, will in the spirit of American democracy wish to assist this new free and democratic country which will rise on the shores of the Mediterranean, and which will embody those same great biblical ideals of justice, brotherhood, and peace which inspired the founding fathers of this Republic.



American Zionist Emergency Council 342 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.





Tribute

to

DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

on eve of his departure for Palestine



Times Square, New York

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 29th, 1947 at 6:30 P. M.

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Program

DOV ARRES Songs of the Haganah

THE BRIGADE SONG HORA IN THE FOREIGN LAND MA'APILIM CHANITA PALMACH MARIO VITALE, Accompanist

ELLA GOLDSTEIN, Pianist

ANDANTE SPIANATO and POLONAISE BRILLIANTE Chapin

ARNOLD EIDUS, Violinist

| VARIATION ON A THEME BY CORELLI . | | Kreisler |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------|
| DANSE ESPAGNOLE FROM "LA VIDA BREVE" | | De Falla |
| NIGUN | | . Bloch |
| LA CAMPANELLA | | . Paganini |

CECILE SAUNDERS, Accompanist

Speakers

DR. EMANUEL NEUMANN, Chairman RABBI LOUIS I. NEWMAN, Invocation DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN HERBERT BAYARD SWOPE MAYOR ISRAEL ROKACH RABBI MEYER BERLIN HON, IRVING M. IVES HON, JOSEPH C. O'MAHONEY DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

SONGS OF THE HAGANAH

SUNG BY DOV ARRES

THE BRIGADE SONG (Bein E'vulot

Bein g'vulot b'drachim l'Io derech b'leilot chashuchai kochavim Shayarot shel achim m'bli heref Lamoledet anu m'lavim Laolel v'larach shearim po niftach Lamach v'lazaken anu po chomat magen.

HORA IN THE FOREIGN LAND

CHORUS:

Al atzevet, bachurim, bachurim Harabi tziva lismoach Kol chayeynu soarim, soarim, Umitzva yagon lishkoach.

FIRST VERSE:

Havu ketzev, havu saar Havu yain v'shechar Yirk'du zaken v'maar Et hahora banechar.

CHORUS: (Al atze, etc.)

SECOND VERSE:

R'choka ey sham moreshet Ra'ayah u'ven katan Ach balev homa.gosheshet Ahava nahar eitan.

CHORUS: (Al atze, etc.)

THIRD VERSE:

Ronu, ronu b'makhelet Havu shechem, havu yad Kol chayal v'chol chayelet Ma'agal r'lev echad.

MA'APILIM

Bachashai sfina gosheshet Leil shachor. Hayam zaef Hoi, shimi, admat moreshet Shav elaiyich ben ayef. Bachashai sfina gosheshet B'tikva sham lev holem Hoi, shimi, admat moreshet Shav elaiyich ben cholem.

U'bachashai olim achai Al admat moreshet U'vaznam hi sod locheshet Ko lechai! Ko lechai!

CHANITA

Ma milaila baChanita? BaChanita ma mileil? Choshech ba'asher abita Hereg ray b'Yisrael...

Hen avad hakol v'ata Hagam po lo n'gael Adonai, ata yadata Elohiim ata anch!

V'af ot kal lo raita? V'af ramez lagoel? Yesh mishmeret baChanita Kol halaila, kol haleil...

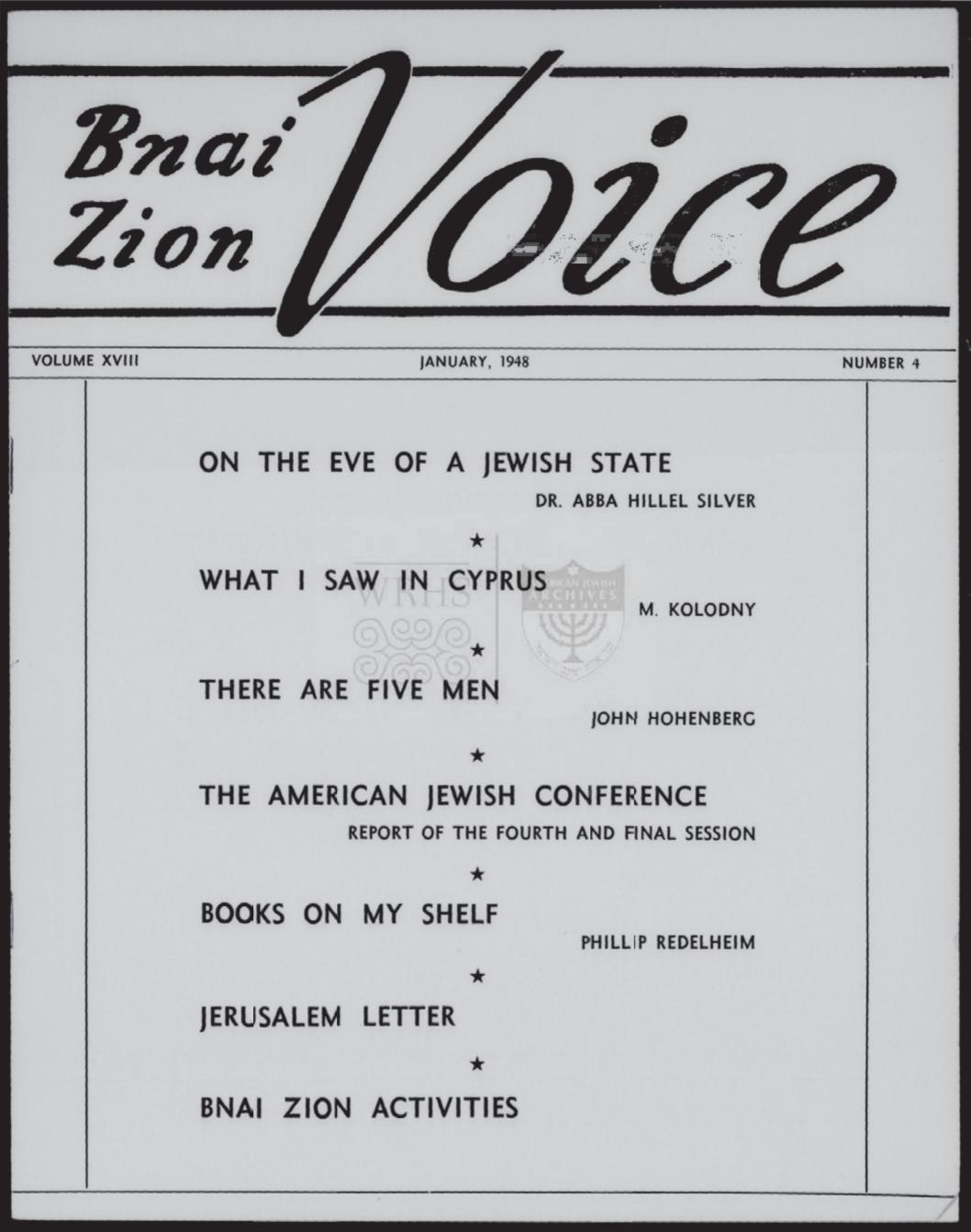
PALMACH

Misaviv yehom hasaar Ach rosheinu lo yishach Lifkuda tamid anachnu, tamid Anu, anu haPalmach!

MiMetula ad haNegev Min hayam ad hamidbar Kol bachur vatov laneshek Kol bachur al hamishmar.

N'tiv lanesher bashamayim Shvil lapereh bein harim Mul oyev darkenu ya'al Bein nikrot u'vein tsurim.

Rishonim tamid anachnu L'or hayom u'vamachshach Lifukda tamid anachnu, tamid Anu, anu haPalmach!



BNAI ZION 40TH ANNUAL ORDER DAY

To provide for the expansion of

Kfar Bnai Zion

on the land of the Jewish National Fund

Tendered in Honor of

UNITED NATIONS DECISION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A JEWISH STATE IN ERETZ ISRAEL

SUNDAY EVENING, APRIL 11TH, 1948

at the

HOTEL COMMODORE

42nd Street and Lexington Avenue, New York City

Our Goal This Year is \$150,000 Your Camp has received its quota Do your share to surpass it

BNAI ZION VOICE is published monthly except March, May, July and August by BNAI ZION, at 220 Fifth Avenue. New York 1, N. Y. Reentered as second class matter January 31, 1947, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under tht act of March 5, 1879. Subscription: 40 cents per year to members; 75 cents per year to non-members. ABRAHAM A. REDELHEIM, Editor JANUARY, 1948

On the Eve of A Jewish State

By DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

It was just a month ago that the decision was taken in the Assembly of the United Nations. It has been a month of unprecedented exaltation for our people all over the world. Their spirits leaped up like a brilliant flame in the glad surprise of the long hoped for and never quite expected victory. Their parched and thirsty souls drank deep of the waters of salvation. The nations of the world had again vindicated our claim to national restoration. By an overwhelming vote—only two Christian States dissenting—they decreed that the Jewish State shall be re-established and set the date for its establishment for October 1938.

Thus the messianic drama of Israel which had been unfolding in many lands through long centuries of tragic acts and sorrowful scenes suddenly reached a triumphant climax in the dramatic setting of an international council chamber, where in an atmosphere of unspeakable tension, the nations voted, each in its turn, and when the vote was tallied, they had decreed the end of the Galut! We have rejoiced in the fulfillment of a prophecy that has come true: "When the Lord will bring back captive Zion, we shall be like dreamers! Then will our mouth be filled with laughter and our tongue with song."

Our tired hearts were refreshed and uplifted when we witnessed the fine championing of our cause of liberation by one noble country after another-by the many countries of South and Central America, by the countries of Western Europe, by all the dominions of the British Commonwealth and by other countries of good will. We were deeply moved by the strong, unfaltering support which we received from the Soviet Union and from Poland and Czechoslovakia. And we were, of course, profoundly pleased and happy with the role which our own Government came to play in the final hour of decision. Especially gratifying was that rare phenomenon-baffling and disturbing to all those who prescribe cold war as the remedy for an ailing and warsick world and prescribe all suggestions of amity and reconciliation-which showed the two greatest world powers working in complete accord and unity of purpose to solve a grave international problem, and reaching a solution.

Those who are despondent over the turn of affairs in international relations, and the seemingly irreparable rift which has been created between the East and the West, might well take heart in contemplating the full and ready cooperation which did exist between the United States and the Soviet Union on the issue of Palestine. Here was an area where, we were told, imperial interests were inevitably destined to clash, and where power politics would most certainly tear East and West helplessly apart. Nothing of the sort happened, to the utter consternation of all the preachers of the irresistible conflict. On the contrary—here was ready and friendly agreement. In my humble judgment, there is much food for thought here, and strong warrant for a more hopeful world cutlook, and less intractable statesmanship.

In this connection it should be stated that those who were responsible for the earlier and now discredited propaganda that the Soviet Union, in its desire to penetrate the Middle East and its rich oil fields, would side with the Arabs against the Jews, and that Great Britain and the United States must therefore not favor the Jewish cause for fear of driving the Arab States into the arms of the Soviet Union, have now slightly revised their propaganda. The Soviet Union, it is now proclaimed, favored the setting up of a Jewish State in Palestine in the confident expectation that this would arouse the Arabs, create disturbance and necessitate the intervention of the Security Council. The Security Council would have to send troops. The Soviet Union, being a member of the Security Council, would then have its own troops included in whatever international force is sent to Palestine. Once there, they will never be dislodged.

This is the new, or rather the revamped, propaganda which is being peddled about today in Washington by agents of all sorts-British, American and Arab-as well as in the public press, and which, along with the supplementary propaganda that the so-called immigrants coming into Palestine are really communist agents in disguise, is being adroitly spread to destroy U.S.-U.S.S.R. cooperation on Palestine, and to prevent the implementation of the United Nations decision. Every effort is being made to thrust Palestine back into the dangerous arena of power politics, from which the U.S.-U.S.S.R. agreement and the action of the United Nations have most opportunely lifted it. There are even some members in the Congress of the United States who, out of ignorance or malice, are lending themselves to the spreading of this baseless and mischievous propaganda. Needless to say the Zionist movement has no orientation either to the West or to the East. If we need to define our orientation, it is definitely and unmistakably to the United Nations. We are happy that our problem received a solution by international agreement in which the East and the West harmoniously cooperated. We hope that it will remain so in the future.

It might be noted, in passing, that our frank joy in the decision of the United Nations, to re-establish the Jewish State was not prompted by an infatuation with the idea of nationalism as such, or by the idolatry of statehood. We are not chauvinists. Zionists have been denounced as secularists and political nationalists. Of course we are secularists insofar as we oppose a theocratic state, and we are political nationalists insofar as we believe in the re-establishment of the Jewish State. But this does not exhaust the full content of our aspirations.

Israel's resolution through the centuries to rebuild its national life in its ancestral home was guided by sound instinct and inspired by the same prophetic idealism which twice beckoned our ancestors from exile to national restoration in Palestine. In both instances, at Sinai and by the rivers of Babylon, there stirred a deep, mystic conviction that only in a free national existence, could that which was best and unique in Jewish life find full scope and opportunity, and what was best and unique was always conceived of as transcending the moiety of political independence, or the customary compensations of national status and security. It reached beyond that to a vision of "new things, things kept in store, not hitherto known."... to a redeemed humanity and a world order reconstructed after the pattern of the Kingdom of God.

In 1929, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the death of Theodore Herzl, I wrote in a Herzl Memorial Volume which was published in that year:

"It is well that the political phase of Jewish Messianism is coming to a close in the upbuilding of the National Homeland. We shall not have to lay so much stress in the future on the importance of nationalism. We shall henceforth be confronted not with its lack but with its consequences. Hitherto wanting the full complement of the attributes of nationalism, we were constrained to over-emphasize its virtues. Many of the spokesmen of our cause were driven to extol nationalism, per se, which is after all quite recent and demonstrably, a quiet inadequate human concept. It is not mankind's ultimate vision. Certainly it is not the substance of our own ancestral tradition, whose motif is not nationalism but prophetism. Nationalism is not enough. It is a minimum requirement, not a maximum programme. Our national rebirth was made possible by a war in

which nationalism was thoroughly exposed and discredited. Nationalism is a means, not an end. 'What is great in a man,' said the philosopher, 'is that he is a bridge and not a goal.' This is true also of men collectively—of nations and of national cultures.

"Nationalism will not suffice the eternally questing soul of our people. After its national life is secure, Israel must push on to the frontiers of the new world the world of internationalism, of economic freedom, of brotherhood and of peace."

I believe that this motif of authentic Jewish lineage has not been wanting in the humble and consecrated labors of the present-day nation-builders in Palestine, and I am convinced that Palestine will in the days to come become the workshop of our people's highest ideals and aspirations.

Our builders in Palestine will have much to endure and much to overcome, but they will assuredly match their hour. They have still to discover their political eyes. They are children of the crucible. They have come from the four corners of the earth and from all parts of the Galut, and the Galut leaves its mark on everyone. They hail from all cultural zones, and from all political backgrounds. They represent most diverse personal experiences and they must all be fused into an organic whole. They must learn unity in diversity and patience under stress, and the knack of subduing the voices of the partisan, the doctrinaire and the fanatic in the joyous tumult of building.

Edmund Burke defined the religion of the early American colonists as being a refinement on the principle of resistance. "It is the dissidence of dissent and the Protestanism of the Protestant religion... agreeing in nothing but in the communion of the spirit of liberty." That might well define also the temper and character of our pioneers in Palestine. There is marvelous promise in all this for a free and unshackled life, but also much danger.

Our people will live in a land which is not a "fortress built by nature for herself against infection and the hand of war," as Shakespeare sang of England, but in a very open land whose borders are difficult to defend, and whose security must rest on the stout hearts, the political wisdom and the national discipline of its people. What they have gained with courage, they will have to keep with prudence.

But the spirit, the will and the capacity are there, and they will not be found wanting.

The Land of Israel will be small, made smaller by partition, but the people of Israel will make it great. The monumental contributions to civilization have been made by great peoples which inhabited little countries. Mind and creative endeavor will compensate for what our people have been forced reluctantly to relinquish. Generations to come, living in that land of challenge and renewal, will speak great words and do great deeds, and in the magnitude of their upsoaring, there will tower the majesty of that little land of revelation which, like some previous jeweled clasp, draws three continents together on the shore of the Western Sea. Not in opulence but in eminence will their destiny be fulfilled, and the elixir of their pride will be distilled not out of dominion or far-flung borders, but out of the faithful and skillful building of the good society.

It is now a month since the historic decision, and while our happiness is unabated, our minds are turning soberly to the pressing and difficult problems involved in the implementation of that decision.

Those problems are ours—but they are also those of the United Nations. The United Nations accepted the responsibility to decide the future government of Palestine. It accepted, after long and careful examination and debate, the report of the Special Committee which it had appointed to make a complete and thoroughly objective survey of the entire situation. It has set up the machinery and fixed the time schedule for implementation. It was completely aware of all the difficulties

JANUARY, 1948

involved, and was forewarned, not once but many times, by delegates of Arab States of their resolve to thwart by violence a decision of the United Nations favorable to partition. Nevertheless the United Nations acted, despite these threats and in the full knowledge of all that was involved, convinced that there was no other way out, and that a solution could no longer be postponed. If the United Nations were now to be deterred from its course by the planned violence, by riots and demonstrations, calculated to convince the world that the UN decision is impossible of implementation, and thus by force to alter the settlement which it decreed, the United Nations would not only suffer an irreparable loss of prestige and authority, but its future effectiveness as the agency "to bring about by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and constitutional law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace"-would be disastrously undermined.

The Mufti and his henchmen are attempting to sabotage the establishment of the Jewish State, but they and their collaborators in the neighboring Arab States, which are covenanted member states of the United Nations, and as such pledged to abide loyalty by its decisions, are engaged as well in a shameless, frontal attack upon the very life of the United Nations itself.

We are confident that the United Nations will not permit itself to become the victim of insolent intimidation and the sport of organized hoodlumism. We are also confident that the Security Council of the United Nations-which is to act as the guide of the UN Commission appointed by the Assembly to implement its decision, will give this Commission every measure of support and encouragement; and should the situation in Palestine come to constitute a threat to the peace as a result of the attempts to alter by force the settlement envisaged by the resolution of the Assembly, the Security Council will act with decisiveness and dispatch. The confidence of some Arab delegates that the Security Council will fail to back up the action of the Assembly will prove as vain as was their earlier confidence to prevent a two-thirds vote in the Assembly itself.

The future of the United Nations will be enormously strengthened in the difficult months ahead if our own Government will remain indubitably firm throughout, and ardently cooperative with the United Nations in this matter. It has not always been so in the matter of Palestine. It was not always so during the protracted Palestine deliberations in the United Nations. Our officials were not always of one mind, and this resulted in confused counsel and stultified action, as well as in the bewilderment of governments who quite naturally looked to the United States for guidance and leadership.

Our Government has, since the last war, assumed unprecedented diplomatic initiative and the pre-eminent leadership in world affairs. It has not been content to remain passive, or only mildly active, as just one nation among many, in the tasks of world reconstruction. Destiny has singled it out for leadership in this century and regardless of cost, it has boldly and wittingly assumed that role. In many parts of the world the impact of that political direction is now felt. Palestine is definitely within the orbit of those great political problems which America, true to its assumed role, must face, and to which it must bring the same determined leadership which has characterized its approach to other world problems. Should it fail to do so, and should it evidence, as on accasion it did, only a formal and passing interest, for the sake of the record or to allay criticism, the Palestine problem, in spite of the United Nations decision, will sag hopelessly, and the situation will move from bad to worse.

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When the crucial hour of decsion arrived, however, our Government rose to the challenge of the hour and the mandates of its destiny. Its voice rose clear and unmistakable; and in so doing, it encouraged other states to back up the recommendations of the UN Special Committee on Palestine. As a result, the resolution was overwhelmingly adopted. Our Government now stands committed to its implementation. The UN plan is now definitely a part of American foreign policy and should be as aggressively and determinedly advanced as other major policies of our Government. Our Government should assist the UN in every way possible and should employ all its diplomatic machinery and influence to expedite the matter. Delay is dangerous. Defeat will be eatastrophic.

The problem is to tide over the next ten months. Once the Jewish State is established and admitted to the United Nations, and the neighboring Arab states are confronted by an accomplished fact, they will as a matter of pracical politics, seek ways for mutually satisfactory arrangements with the Jewish State and for peaceful cooperation—and the way will be open. Peace with the Arab world will then be possible. The dangerous period is the short formative one of the next few months. Here is where our Government can be tremendously helpful.

There is no provision in the United Nations resolution for an international police force to insure law and order during the transition period. Great Britain announced that it would be responsible for law and order as long as it remained in the country. It is clearly not doing it. If 100,000 soldiers and police cannot insure security in that small country, or even patrol properly one main artery of travel in Palestine-the 42-mile road between Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem-to enable men to travel on it without being killed by snipers, one is forced to question the sincerity of that government's declaration. It would be highly desirable o have an international force accompany the Commission of the United Nations when it arrives in Palestine to carry out the instructions of the United Nations. It need not be large, but it must know what it is there for. The present military force in Palestine is the blunted instrument of the hopelessly blundering policy of Mr. Bevin, which amounts to this: His Majesty's Government "loyally accepts the Assembly's resolution," but it will do nothing to implement it. The British forces in Palestine will maintain law and order, but they will remain neutral when clashes result between the Jews who have loyally accepted the decision of the UN and who seek peace-and the Arabs who are violently resisting it and provoke war.

But whether an international force is sent to Palestine or not-it is immediately imperative that the Jewish people of Palestine shall be enabled forthwith to defend themselves. They have the manpower. They need arms. Surely those states-and foremost among them the United States-which voted to create a Jewish State must feel honor-bound and duty-bound to see that the citizens of that state in the making are properly protected against the murderous assaults of those who have resolved to defy the will and the conscience of the nations of the world. Here, again, the United States holds the key to the situation, both as regards the formation of an international force, and the equipment of the Jewish militia. Our Government has not hesitated to send arms and military missions to other parts of the world to back up its foreign policy.

The problem of our refugees still remains most pressing. When will our refugees begin at last to move in large numbers into Palestine? What conceivable purpose is served by keeping these men, women and children pent up in detention camps where thy have languished for so long; or in driving them away from the shores of Palestine now that the United Nations has finally decreed that the Jewish State shall be set up in Palestine in 1948? What else but the meanness of spirit of a defeated statesmanship and the spitefulness of a disgruntled bureaucracy can account for it? There are thousands of refugees in various parts of Europe who simply can no longer wait. They will not be permitted to remain where they are. They must move. Surely it cannot be Great Britain's wish to climax and close her political career in Palestine with some more stark tragedies like the "Exodus." Why cannot the act of parting be sweetened by an act of generosity and humanity which will help to reconcile friends who should never have been estranged?

My dear friends, American Jewry has deserved well at the hands of the Jewish people. History will pay homage to the role which it played in this searching and heroic hour. It rose to the occasion splendidly. It knew how to close ranks. It acted with wisdom, dignity, and courage. It spoke effectively to the hearts and minds of the American people and its representatives in government, and to the responsible heads of our Government. It is generally acknowledged that what was achieved was due in a large measure to the magnificent labor of American Jewry.

But much remains to be done. November 29th was only the evening and the morning of the first day—the day when light broke through the darkness of our world. Our great community, providentially spared for this hour, must now shoulder the vast economic burdens involved in the setting up of the Jewish State. Judging by the remarkable demonstration a few days ago at the conclave of the leaders of American Jewry in Atlantic City, our people are fully aware of their new responsibilities and are resolved to meet them. Whatever aid may come from other sources, the primary responsibility is ours.

We shall also have to stand on guard during the next critical period to see that no political conspiracy of evil-doers shall undo or harm the Jewish State, as its builders proceed to lay its foundations. The Jews of America, proud and loyal citizens of this great country who have demonstrated time and again in peace and in war their devotion and patriotism, will in the spirit of American democracy wish to assist this new free and democratic country which will rise on the shores of the Mediterranean, and which will embody those same great Biblical ideals of justice, brotherhood, and peace, which inspired the founding fathers of this Republic.

IMPORTANT CORRECTION

Due to an oversight in "make-ready" a very grave error appeared on the front page of the December issue of the "Bnai Zion Voice."

The following three countries should appear under the list *Against Partition*: Afghanistan, Cuba and Egypt (instead of Argentina, Chile and China).

The following three countries should appear under the list of *Abstentions*: Argentina, Chile and China (instead of Afghanistan, Cuba and Egypt).

We are very sorry this happened. Please forgive us.

THE EDITOR

What I Saw In Cyprus

By M. KOLODNY (Jerusalem)

I have just returned from Cyprus and I would like to render a brief account of the camps on that island. There are now about 18,000 ma'apilim ("illegal" immigrants) on Cyprus. Of these, 4,000 live in the summer camps at Caraolos near Famagusta, all of whom dwell in tents, and 14,000 are in Castilombo, half of whom are in tents and half in tin shacks.

We can well state that the Cyprus chapter will remain permanently engraved not only in the hearts and memories of those who passed through the experience themselves, but also in the hearts and memories of those who only visited or worked there for a short while. It seems to me that I would not be exaggerating were I to say that, from the point of view of the actuality of the difficult situation, with the exception of the food which is, on the whole, not bad, and from the point of view of the feeling of the people, the situation in Cyprus is more unfortunate than that of the camps in Europe. The Cyprus camps are prisons in the full sense of the word. The Jew in the D.P. camps suffers, but he feels himself to be somewhat free. He has some freedom of movement. The Cyprus camps, in contrast, are surrounded by high barbed wire fences, locked by double and triple gates. This creates a feeling of lack of freedom, of being chained. There is no possibility of movement from one place to another. There are instances of husbands who are in the winter camps and wives in the summer camps who will have no opportunity to meet so long as they remain on Cyprus. The only ones who have the right of free access to camps are the workers of the Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency, whom the Government treats as special cases. The ma'apilim have no such privilege. Families are separated during their entire stay on Cyprus, which may be of many months duration.

Private life in the camps presents an indescribable tragedy. Four to five families live in one large tent or shack, including the children, who are unable to live in the Youth Village. They live in these tents without any sort of separation or privacy. I need not describe the effects of this situation upon both the families and the children.

Summer was almost unbearable. The fierce sun beat mercilessly upon the heads and tin shacks of the people, and there wasn't an inch of shade, not a tree or bush, to be found. The people do not have sufficient covering to protect them from the rains and cold of the coming winter. This presents a critical problem particularly since a good number of the tents will be unable to withstand the rain, and will undoubtedly be torn and knocked down. I was in Cyprus at the time of the first rain, and witnessed the panic that ensued. There was a mass flight to the larger and more solid public and official buildings. The confusion was tremendous. The clothing problem is also an extremely serious one. There is, by and large, no clothing to speak of. Disease is a constant menace. During the summer there was a water shortage. Quarrels would break out every time a water tank pulled in. And now, during the winter, there are practically no shoes. Most people became accustomed to walking barefoot during the summer, but now the prime demand is "Give us shoes."

The problem of employment is great. For the most part, people are idle. We have been conducting negotiations with the Government for many long months about the setting up of workshops for the ma'apilim. They have come to a standstill, despite the fact that the Agency stated that it was ready to invest a sum of 12,500 Pal. Pounds and the J.D.C. agreed to put up an equal sum. Now the entire affair is in question, since the Government announced that it was working according to last year's budget. Meanwhile, people continue to be idle. I visited Cyprus six months ago at the time of the great strike, and now I have been there a second time. I saw the high spirits of the people when they first got off the boats. Now, after six months, they are apathetic and depressed, despite the fact that the time for their aliya is approaching. The reality of Cyprus has affected them for the worse. The feeling of depression and the state of tension are very great, particularly with the discussions at Lake Success and the various proposals that are being taken up there during the General Debate. Most important of all for them are the suggestions in the U.N. about the aliya of the Cyprus detainees and of 30,000 children. They live in a state of unrelieved tension, eagerly await the slightest bit of news, read the papers avidly, in the hope that something will happen which will hasten their aliya. The tension has also been increased by the situation in Palestine and the mobolization of the Yishuv and the other preparations for defense. They wish to stand together with the Yishuv and the other preparations for defense. They wish to stand together with the Yishuv in the period of danger, rather than be shut up, helpless, behind wire fences. It is indeed difficult for them to continue to live under deteriorating conditions of life.

I saw the ma'apillim of the "Jewish State" and the "Redemption." They had only just come from the reality of Rumania. They were cheerful for the most part, and didn't complain about the food. They have hopes 8

that their stay in the Cyprus camps will be much shorter, that the granting of political recognition will make a quick aliya possible. There are both men and women of all ages amongst them.

Our schlichim (delegates), numbering about 40, do extremely significant work in Cyprus. It is a responsibility and duty to mention the work and devotion of the Palestinian schaliach. The schaliach, busy from 6 in " the morning to 12 at night, lives under the same conditions as the ma'apilim He is occupied every minute of the day with a mass of problems on every conceivable issue: employment and social welfare, education and Hebrew study, and so on, and is constantly under pressure. The "amortization" value, so to speak, of the Palestinian schaliach to Cyprus is 3 to 4 times greater than that of the schaliach to Europe or America. The schlichim work with unusual devotion, and the ma'apilim themselves fully recognize this and are highly grateful to the schlichim for their work and devotion.

The J.D.C. also does important work on Cyprus. It lays out 30,000 Pal. Pounds monthly for food, which supplements the rations received from the army, and it contributes towards the maintenace of the Youth Village, of which more later. It maintains medical and nursery personnel, social workers, etc. The degree of cooperation between the Jewish Agency and the J.D.C. is little short of miraculous. There is much work that is conducted in common, and they supplement each other very well. The Joint has about 90 workers on Cyprus. It is totally up to the efforts of the Joint Agency to solve each and every problem of the ma'apilim. There is no question that fails to come up before the Palestinian schilichim and the Joint workers. I visited the nursery school, which houses 360 infants. I felt the sadness which prevaded the entire camp when 6 youngsters died in one week. I witnessed the apprehension with which the approaching winter was regarded and the fear of the doctors and nurses, who also work with tireless devotion. We hope that the time the little children and their parents will have to remain on Cyprus will be short. The Government has a humanitarian approach to this problem, and hopes to solve it soon. We too have hopes that it will be solved.

There are 2,000 children in the Youth Village on Cyprus. This is the finest and most encouraging undertaking. There are schools, meeting halls, vegetable gardens planted and taken care of by the children, workshops and the like. All these are organized within the Youth Village. The children there live in an entirely different reality from that of the ma'apilim. Their life revolves around a regular schedule. A great deal of work in organizing the Village was invested in Greece by Youth Aliya and by the Joint and the Agency. The Village is entirely separate from the camps. The children spend their time working and studying, and are not forced to feel the effects of camp conditions: they do not, above all, live under the crowded and difficult conditions of those living in the tents, with several families living together. There are some 1,500 orphans and about 650 children whose parents are for the most part in Europe, though several have reached Palestine. Let us hope that the Government will soon decide, as a result of its humanitarian approach to the question, to transfer the children to Palestine.

In addition, there is the problem of 800 children who live with their parents in the reality I have described. These parents came to me, tragically complaining, "In what way did my children sin that he is not an orphan, and is forced to live with 3 or 4 families in a tent, in so uneducational an atmosphere?" The army has not provided us with the objective conditions which would have allowed us to accept all these children into the Youth Village. We were forced to allow only orphans and those whose parents weren't in Cyprus, and those children who came through the war alive with their parents, are being punished for that fact....

The ma'apilim in Cyprus have sent their deepest regards to the Yishuy, and expressed their hopes that they too will be with us in the near future. They decided upon an extremely difficult thing, a resolution which is profoundly Zionist, which stems from a deep feeling of Jewish solidarity. It was no easy thing for them to do. Every Jew in Cyprus has the date of his aliya written in his notebook. It is with this date and this hope that he draws breath. Remove this hope-and he has nothing. But despite the great pressure towards aliya, where only those critically ill are given preference and no one is ready to give up his place . . . despite this, they accepted the decision to transfer a month's aliya certificate with great enthusiasm, an enthusiasm which was Jewish and Zionist. The camp administration was informed of the decision. The administration was astounded, for it well knows the conditions under which the ma'apilim live. But the Government reply was negative. They are not ready to accept the contribution of the Cyprus ma'apilim to the ma'apilim of the "Exodus." The latter must be forced to pay full measure!

I was at the discussions which took place before the decision. I witnessed the great tension with which it was adopted. I saw the wave of emotion which swept over them as they accepted it. This act is undoubtedly the greatest contribution that the Jew in Cyprus could possibly make. There is no possible comparison beween this and a donation of money or anything else. Just attempt to conceive of what the voluntary postponement of aliya is for a man who is imprisoned and has the chance to go to Palestine. I saw the tears of mingled joy and sorrow in the eyes of the people as the decision was made. We must give due recognition to it as an expression of solidarity with the Yishuv, of which they consider themselves an integral and inseparable part, and as an expression of solidarity with the ma'apilim from Europe and with those who will continue to come to the shores of Eretz Yisrael and build our homeland.

There Are Five Men

The Five Grave Men Whose Job is Peace and Justice in Zion

By JOHN HOHENBERG

Daily they meet here in a small, stuffy room and gravely discuss their problems at desks piled high with documents. There are few to wait on them, still fewer to watch their comings and goings.

Yet, between them, these five bear the hopes of the United Nations for peace and justice in Palestine and through it, perhaps, for the whole world. They are pledged to restore a small part of the ancient kingdom of David and Solomon to the Jewish people, and create a twin nation for the Arabs.

It is their duty to succeed where the might of the British Empire failed, even though the potentates of the Moslem lands are arrayed against them.

Yet, they are only five men—five lonely pilgrims, as their leader called them, with only the flag of the UN to enforce their will. And these are the kind of men they are:

1. The Chairman, Karel Lisicky is 54, very tall, heavyset and somber of face. He is married, has two daughters and acknowledges diplomacy as his profession although he also is a lawyer of standing and a linguist equally at home in Czech, English, French, Russian, Polish and German.

A native of Moravia, Czechoslovakia, he fought during World War I for the freedom of his country as a lieutenant in the forces of liberation. And in World War II, he remained with the government of exile in London and helped assure the restoration of the freedom the Nazis crushed in 1938.

2. The Vice-Chairman, Raoul Diaz de Medina, is 37, single, good-looking, slight of build and he likes to smile. He is a diplomat and the son of a diplomat. Born in Lapaz, Bolivia, he finished his education in the U.S.

For five years, under the pen name of Nerval, he wrote a weekly column on Latin-American affairs for a Washington newspaper, and he also published a book which was in the nature of an autopsy on the Monroe Doctrine. While attached to the Bolivian Embassy in 1943 he resigned because of what he considered the pro-fascist tendencies of his government. Three years later, after that government was overthrown, he returned to his post as minister-counselor, which he still holds.

3. Delegate of the Philippines, Vicente J. Francisco, is the oldest of the commission, 56, and he is also the most colorful.Born in a far from well-off family in Cavite City, he educated himself, became a court stenographer, studied law at might and was admitted to the bar although he never had seen the inside of a law school. At the time the Japs bombed Manila as World War II came to the Philippines this tiny but determined man was the outstanding trial lawyer in his native land, and



MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS PALESTINE COMMISSION Left to right: Per FEDERSPIEL, Denmark; Karel LISICKY, Czechoslovakia, Chairman; Paul DIEZ de MEDINA, Bolivia, Vice-Chairman; Vincente J. FRANCISCO, the Philippines, and Eduardo MORGAN, Panama.

when peace finally came, he resumed his career and was elected to the Philippine Senate of which he is majority leader, without ever having made a campaign speech. Instead, he wrote letters.

His first wife, Marie Salbuena, is dead but their six sons all survived the war.

4. Delegate of Denmark, Per Federspiel, a robust, handsome, dark-haired lawyer of 42, knows what it means to be a clay pigeon. As a German prisoner of war, his captors forced him to ride ammunition trains, thereby hoping to prevent attacks from his underground friends. For months, later, he was lodged in a cell just under the roof of Vaestre Faengsel Prison, Copenhagen, to discourage Allied bombing of the prison.

Yet, Federspiel sent word to his friends in the underground that his life as a hostage was less important than the success of their efforts and they carried on.

Federspiel was educated at Harrow in England, took his law degree from a Danish University in 1931, served briefly as a newspaperman, and after the war entered the conservative government. In 1946 he came to the UN as an assembly delegate.

5. Delegate of Panama, Dr. Eduardo Morgan, a stout and prosperous-looking lawyer, is 45, and a Welshman born. In his adopted land, he made law his career but he did not neglect mewspaper work. At one time he owned two newspapers, Razon and Renovation, and he also became a Judge of Panama's Supreme Court.

These, then, are the five men . . . the "Lonely Pilgrims" who must settle the fate of Palestine and perhaps of the UN as well. In their work, they will have need of courage, hope and fortitude. But even more, they will require every assistance the UN can give them or the UN will forfeit its own cause.

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The American Jewish Conference

Report of the Fourth and Final Session

The Fourth, and final, Session of the American Jewish Conference will mark a milestone in American Jewish history. By an overwhelming vote, after four years of discussion and debate, the Conference delegates voted to create a permanent body representative of the American Jewish community, and to set in motion the machinery for the attainment of this goal.

The session opened just three hours after the roll call of the United Nations General Assembly placed

its stamp of approval on the establishment of an independent Jewish state in a part of Palestine. The UN decision brought deep satisfaction to the assembled delegates. Conscious that the American Jewish Conference had been the chief instrument for rallying the forces of American Jewry in the battle for a Jewish state through the adoption of the Commonwealth resolution in September 1943, the delegates had the right to feel that they had made a significant contribution in charting the future of the Jewish people.

Thus, it was in a mood of exaltation and dedication that the delegates considered the major task before the Fourth Session. Having united in 1943 to meet the problems confronting the Jewish people overseas, could they now maintain their union, in a permanent assembly charged with responsibilities both on the overseas and domestic scenes? There was no doubt over the answer. The conflict of opinion at Chicago had to do with form, procedure and implementation, but not with the basic principle of union.

Opinion was divided on the question of how to make the proposed organization more effective, better functioning and all-inclusive. There was a feeling among a certain section of the delegates that provision should be made for adequate action when agencies refuse to cooperate or to heed its advice. Efforts were made to link the new organization with certain world Jewish bodies, in advance of its formation.

These proposals were unacceptable to an overwhelming majority of the delegates who favored a framework which would enable the largest possible cohesion of forces within the new body and which would prevent the exclusion of groups fearful of interference with their autonomy or a great concentration of power in the hands of one organization. The majority pleaded for moderation, continuity and a sense of reality. They believed that the plan as drafted by the Committee on Future Organization represented, at the present time and under the present circumstances, the maximum which could be attained if the broadest union in American Jewish life was to be secured.

Not the least among the tenets of the American Jew-

ish Conference is its observance of and respect for democratic parliamentary processes. The new organization has not been decreed by caucus or pressures. The decision to establish a permanent body is the result of painstaking discussion which has been going on for years at sessions of the Conference, in the press and at public hearings. It represents the considered opinion of the overwhelming majority of American Jewry. It is based on the experience gained during the existence of the Conference. Its credo is orderly evolution and progress.

The new organization will not arise magically and without astruggle. No one expects that every segment of American Jewry will at once align itself with the new body. But there is little doubt that much wider circles than are today united in the American Jewish Conference will be represented in the permanent organization. Its prestige and influence will be derived, not from its formal powrs, but from its experience, performance, and broad democratic character.

The implementation plans envisage a more intimate cooperation among the Jewish communal bodies in the process of building the new organization. Existing channels of communication with the voters are to be fully utilized in the elections. Relationship between the new body and its constituents will be closely cemented. Fruitful cooperation between the central body and the functioning agencies will come with time. The future organization will be the symbol of American Jewish democracy by consent.

There will be no gap vacuum in the interval, since the American Jewish Conference, initiator of the new organization, is to carry on the business at hand and to supervise the elections through a National Election Board. When the successor organization is established, the Interim Committee will transfer to it all of the Conference's assets and the status acquired vis-a-vis the United States Government, the United Nations and its various agencies.

The present American Jewish Conference is concluding its work in an orderly manner. Its legacy is a chapter of constructive union in American Jewish history, and a successor which will carry on and develop the precious ideal of a representative organization in American Jewish public affairs.

Upon the good-will of all who created and supported the Conference, upon the sympathetic cooperation of all Jewish communities throughout the United States, rests the success of the plan so overwhelmingly approved on December 1, 1947. JANUARY, 1948

BOOKS ON MY SHELF

By PHILLIP REDELHEIM

"FATHER AND THE ANGELS" by William Manners. E. P. Dutton and Co., New York, 1947. 224 pages, \$2.75.

"Father and the Angels" is the story of an Orthodox Rabbi in a small midwestern community, as seen through the eyes of his ten year old son. For William Manners takes us back with him to relive his youth and as the reminiscing unwinds into tender and fastmoving episodes we find ourselves engrossed in one of the most charming stories we have ever had the pleasure to read.

To a boy of ten only one person in the whole wide world knows more science than Albert Einstein, is handsomer than Clark Gable and can hit more home runs than Babe Ruth, and that one person is his father. To a boy of ten his father is the epitome of all that is powerful and good. His father is his greatest hero.

And so it was with William Manners, who at ten years of age thought of his father as a man who could encompass any paradox and had placed him beyond the realm of wordly happenings, truly residing among the angels.

Putting these impressions and emotions into words in "Father and the Angels" Manners has indeed captured the true feeling and love that is expressed by boys everywhere through their actions and thoughts, bringing to the reading public a touching story of father-son relationships.

We also feel that Manners has rendered a great service to the American Jewish Community by dispelling certain erroneous impressions that were created by Jo Sinclair's "Wasteland." One of the major faults of "Wasteland" was that its readers were inclined to infer that the Browns were a typical American Jewish family; their uncouthness, hate and ignorance typical Jewish characteristics. While Manners' Orthodox family certainly is not a representative group either, "Father and the Angels" does emphasize the strong family ties, the warmth, understanding and loving-kindness that are symbolic of the average Jewish home.

Appealing, humorous and unusual in its approach, "Father and the Angels" should be the next book on your reading list.

"A PICTURE BOOK OF PALESTINE" by Ethel L. Smither. Abington-Cokesbury Press, New York, 1947. 64 pages, \$1.00

Now that Palestine, or at least part of it, has been turned back to the Jewish people for the re-establishment of a Jewish State, it behooves each and every one of us to know something about the history of the Jewish homeland—what our ancestors were like, how they dressed and under what conditions they lived. We are indeed fortunate that a volume has recently been published that makes available to us this very important information. That book is "A Picture Book of Palestine" by Miss Ethel Smither.

We find that in 1 A.D. the people of Palestine lived a rather primitive existence and the great majority of the families lived in simple one-room houses. Even the animals were housed in this one room. In addition, Palestinians were primarily a farming people, but the land even then was, in large measure, sandy desert or rocky soil, and we can therefore imagine how hard the men worked to raise enough grain to feed just their own families.

However, while "A Picture Book of Palestine" is a very factual and authoritative compilation of data, we feel that Miss Smither's attempt to be as objective as possible in her narrative has not served well in the chapter on Jewish holidays and festivals. Let us demonstrate what we mean by quoting an extract from her discussion of Passover:

"There are four cups of wine. A cup was passed and drunk between the answers made by the oldest man to four questions asked by the youngest boy who wanted to know why this night was different from all other nights." Certainly a non-Jew would find difficulty in understanding that portion of the Seder service from the above description, nor does it do justice to that beautiful and meaningful part of our people's history that it represents.

In passing we cannot help but comment on the fact that from this book we have been made to understand that even two thousand years ago the women loved fancy headdresses and ornaments and that gossip was a very important factor in their lives!

Fifty fine drawings by Rusa King, which vividly illustrate Miss Smithers facts, help stake this book very enjoyable and fascinating reading.

W. Barrow

"THE GOLDEN DCOR" by Elma Karlich Levinger. Bloch Publishing Co., New York, 1947. 204 pages, \$2.50.

Once again, from the pea of one of our favorite writers of children's stories, has some a volume of which we in the American Jewish community can be proud. For Elma Ehrlich Levinger has done it again, and this time it is "The Golden Door," a collection of stories dealing with the contributions of Jews to American democracy and freedom—a series of tales that depict various events in the long history of the Jew in America. Among the many interesting episodes we find the tales of Emma Lazarus, Judah Touro and Hyam Solomon; of the attempt by Mordecai Noah to create a Jewish colony near Euffalo in 1825; and of the influential Spanish Jews who made Columbus' voyage and discovery possible.

We have but one criticism, and this pertains to the use of some imaginary incidents in relating the lives

A REPORT FROM OUR MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

In this column last month we sought to elicit suggestions as to whether or not it was advisable to have the clinic hours changed to make them more convenient for a larger number of our members. Thus far, we have received very little response and no suggestions for a change. We therefore assume that the clinic hours— Monday and Thursday, 6-7:30 and Wednesday, 3-4:30 are satisfactory, and we shall continue to maintain that schedule for the present. Please do not hesitate however, to write to us if you feel that the clinic should also be held at other hours.

. .

We would like to emphasize the fact that when members seek to arrange for consultations with our specialists, that appointments should be made through our office. Otherwise, it is difficult for us to make certain that the special fees we have arranged for these services will be adhered to. Only in cases of emergency, when the office is closed, should these consultants be contacted directly. Even then, it is advisable to first try to reach the Chief Medical Examiner at his private office before contacting the consultant directly.

When contacting Bnai Zion, call MUrray Hill 3-7950 and ask for Miss Kahn.

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SUGGESTION OF THE MONTH

During the months when the "common cold" is most prevalent, physicians are frequently embarrassed by being called upon to treat the condition while they themselves may be suffering from it. The truth of the matter is that the "common cold" spares very few and we do not know enough about it to completely prevent it or to prescribe a certain and quick cure when it is contracted. One doctor put it well by saying that a cold

(Continued from preceding page)

of these heroes and heroines. We feel that fiction has no place in a book that aims to bring to its readers important historical information, and certainly with Miss Levinger's pleasant style of writing, the true facts would not seem any less colorful or exciting.

As George Washington stated in his letter to the Hebrew Congregation of Newport, R. I. in 1789, the government of the United States "gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance," and the accomplishments portrayed in the "The Golden Door" have had a very definite influence on the shaping of this American way of life.

"Songs of ZION" edited by Harry Coopersmith. Behrman House, New York, 1942. 241 Pages, \$1.75.

For the past few months we have attempted to bring to the reader reviews of the most recent books of Jewish when untreated will last for seven days, but that when it is treated, it will last only a week.

However, though we have no sure way of preventing "common colds," the following rules, if generally followed, would prove of great assistance:

- 1) Avoid lowering your resistance to "common colds" through chilling, fatigue or overwork.
- Be careful, when in crowds, not to have others sneeze or cough in your face.
- Cover your nose and mouth when you sneeze or cough.
- 4) Have a diet amply supplied with Vitamins A and D, or take vitamins in pill form. Be sure to include in your diet orange juice, fruits and green vegetables. Ultra-violet lamp exposures are also of help along this line.
- 5) Use mild alkaline solution for gargle and mouth rinse, particularly after each meal.
- 6) Keep hands clean at all times. Do not touch the mucous membrane of your nose except with a handkerchief or disposable tissue.

The following are suggestions for treatment if you do not run a fever:

- If possible, stay in bed during the first day of a "cold."
- 2) Maintain mouth and throat hygiene by the use of alkaline mouth wash and gargle.
- Diet must be light and should include oranges or other citrus fruits, as well as plenty of fluids.
- 4) A mild alkaline laxative should be taken.
- 5) Prevent the spread of the infection by not sneezing or coughing into the air, by careful cleansing of the hands and by seeing to it that linens used are laundered and dishes boiled.
- 6) Medication and local treatment should be used only on advice of the physician. Be sure to call your doctor if you have fever, pain in the chest with coughing or when the simple home remedies fail to bring response.

or Zionist content, but this time we just want to put in an honest-to-goodness plug for a publication that deserves much more recognition and acclaim than it has received to date.

"Songs of Zion," which has recently been reprinted and revised, was edited by Harry Coopersmith, and without a doubt contains the finest collection of Jewish and Palestinian songs ever compiled into one volume almost two hundred in all—with music, Hebrew, transliteration, as well as English summaries included for each song.

It can be used for every occasion—in the home, in the Jewish center, club or in any organizational cultural and social program, and we want to take this opportunity to heartily recommend, in fact we would say it is a *must*, that every family have at least one copy of this very valuable book of music in its possession.

JERUSALEM LETTER

December, 1947.

Two weeks of trouble lie behind us, and no one can yet tell how many more are to come. The scenes of unbounded joy which marked the United Nations' decision on the future of Palestine were short-lived. The mood soon changed to one of sober appraisal of the situation created by the Arab campaign of murder and loot. The experience of driving through the serried ranks of an Arab mob armed with sticks and stones, which recently befell and interested your correspondent, is not one that leaves much room for illusion. There is no doubt that organized bands are already at work, and that as their numbers increase and their tactics are perfected, they will constitute a serious menace to the security of the Yishuv. Their present aim is to harry communications and to inflict casualties on the Jewish defence forces; ultimately, doubtless, they aspire to cut communications altogether, isolate Jerusalem, drive a wedge into the coastal belt somewhere between Haifa and Tel Aviv, and prevent the establishment of the Jewish State. Arab leaders are accustomed to playing for big stakes, and it would be idle to expect a man like the Mufti, who has got away with murder before, to attempt anything less now.

Official Jewish reaction to all these provocations has been deliberately restrained. The Haganah has been kept strictly on the defensive, charged with its proper duty of protecting Jewish property and lives. Unhappily, the Government's contribution to security has fallen short of what might reasonably have been expected. "To watch the mounting roll of casualties in Palestine," the Palestine Post has recently declared in an editorial, "must be a harrowing experience for a Government which has proclaimed itself responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the country." The police have remained strictly neutral as between attackers and attacked, the paper goes on to complain. Jewish convoys still have to proceed along the Jerusalem-Jaffa road without effective escort. The slaughter of Kfar Etzion and Beit Nabala, which cost a total of twenty-four young Jewish lives, could have been prevented if the youngsters who manned these convoys had been given proper equipment and arms. Considerable numbers of Haganah members have been arrested by the military and police for carrying arms in defence of Jewish positions. It has almost become routine that an Arab attack on Jews or Jewish quarters is followed by a police search of the Jews for arms. There have been few searches of Arab premises, and scarcely a single arrest of Arabs found armed. The result of this-which the public considers evidence of a clear policy of discrimination against the Jews-has been a general loss of confidence in the police and in the Government's will, or ability, to prevent Arab outrages. The classic cry of "the Government is with us," which has been heard many times before in Palestine, is likely soon again to resound through the Arab ranks.

At present, the Jewish community finds itself caught

between the devil and the deep sea. It is not allowed to defend itself, nor is the Government providing adequate protection. The Jews ask for Government protection only as long as they are denied the right to protect themselves. They would, in fact, much prefer the latter course. At the moment, even Jewish officials in the Government service are left to fend for themselves, unarmed. Many Government offices are situated in Arab districts, which Jews can enter only at the risk of their lives. The Jewish staff of one department, when they drew the attention of their chief to this state of affairs, were told simply : "You're hysterical." Another British head of a department told his Jewish officials: "You wanted a Jewish State. Now you've got it." Jewish nurses at a Government hospital in an outlying district were warned that if they showed their faces outside the building they would be killed. (Almost all the patients in this hospital are Arabs). Under these circumstances it is not really surprising that undisciplined elements in the Jewish community have started to take the law into their own hands and engage in reprisals. To watch scores of Jews lose their lives because they are forced into a state of defencelessness is almost more than ordinary flesh and blood can stand, and it says much for the general discipline of the Yishuv that reprisals and attacks on Arabs have not been more frequent or more bloody. But the Yishuv as a whole understands that to indulge in undiscriminating vendetta against Arabs is simply to play the Mufti's game, and as long as restraint is called for, it will be maintained.

This is one side of the picture. But while all these violent events are besmirching the face of the country, ordinary life proceeds normally and peacefully enough. Everyone is at work, offices are open, factories are maintaining their output, agricultural production continues, children go to school, women do their shopping and washing, and the Hebrew University has just held its annual graduation ceremony with its accustomed dignity. The papers contain advertisements for plots of land at Nir Avoth in the Negev, "the town of the future," and a few days ago a large villa on Mount Carmel was offered for sale as "suitable for foreign legation." The Jewish national authorities are perfecting their plans for the Jewish State; everything is being prepared -from the machinery of government down to hutments for new immigrants. Offers are still being received from British and Arab officials who are anxious to remain on in the service of the Jewish State.

Everyone in the Yishuv realizes that we are in for an exciting year, but no one is abashed or dismayed. Even now, the prospect of the Jewish State is more real than the violence with which the Mufti and his men are attempting to block it. A tremendous responsibility rests upon every Jew in Palestine—and outside. Nobody doubts that this responsibility will be fully met, and that before the year is out, the foundations of the Jewish State will have been well and truly laid.

> BEN YECHIEL. (From "The New Judaea")

BNAI ZION ACTIVITIES

Organization Camp No. 1

The major activity of our Camp for the next few months will be "Order Day." We were given a very stiff quota of \$3,000 and we hope that with hard work, we will realize that quota.

On Wednesday, January 14th we held a card party for the benefit of the Jewish National Fund, which was quite successful. We were fortunate in getting some very fine prizes for our door prize and raffles. In this connection a vote of thanks should be given to Harold Pearler, Mr. and Mrs. Sol Newman, Flossie Frankel and to Mrs. G. Himmelstein, a friend of our president, Mrs. Augusta W. Buchbinder.

Our next meeting which will be held on January 28th will be devoted to a special program dealing with Jewish Music Month. So, please set that date aside. We want a big turnout,—come with your friends.

A special Mazel Tov goes to our Chaver Harold Pearler and his wife. They now have a new acquisition to their family. We hope that the mother and baby are feeling fine. JEANE K, STUCKGOLD

Moses Hess Camp No. 5

The Moses Hess Camp, of Bnai Zion, celebrated the 40th Anniversary of its inception, on Tuesday, December 9th, which coincided with the Chanukah festival and the founding of the Jewish State.

In an inspiring address Mr. Jacob M. Singer, the president of Moses Hess Camp, gave a survey of the activities and achievements during this long period of time. Mr. Singer also brought out that the Moses Hess Camp is the only fraternal organization which may claim quite proully, that from the very beginning of its existence up till now, was strongly identified with the Zionist ideals and aspirations.

Moses Hess, the great visionary, whose name the Camp is perpetuating, believed firmly that Palestine is a part of Jewish religious and cultural heritage and looked forward to ultimate establishment of a Jewish State.

The guest speaker was the Hon. Elihu D. Stone, whose address was the climax of the evening. His prophetic personality and intelectual greatness, his immeasurable faith in the future of the Jewish State, was so profound that he gave the inpression that there was standing before you a great biblical sage and leader.

After his address, our Yoshev Rosh, Mr. Jacob Singer in keeping with the spirit of the evening, made such an impressive appeal for the J.N.F. that the audience responded heartily and right on the spat the sum of \$5,200.00 was raised. Certainly a fine demonstration what Moses Hess chaverim feel towards our Jewish State in strife and stress at this heur.

This evening will be long remembered by all those present, who have rejoiced on this occasion with Hebrew songs led by Cantor Gedallia Sheinfeld and composed especially for this event by Mr. Gedallia Rabinovitz.

Messages of congratulation were received from Mr. A. A. Redelheim, president of Bnai Zion, and from Judge Harry E. Kalodner and others.

WOLF SELIGSON

Bar Cochba Camp No. 8

The third big event of this season in the life of Bar Coehba Camp was our Hanukah celebration Dec. 8th. The Chairman of Arrangements was David Wolfson, First Vice-President and the Presiding Chairman for the evening was Dr. Irvin Michlin. Dr. Bernard Berk, President of Bar Cochba Camp, was the main speaker. He delivered an excellent address on Hanukah in line with the historic decision of the U.N. to grant a Jewish State to the people of Israel. His address was masterly constructed and well rendered. Mrs. Dorothy Michlin, Camp's Cultural Chairman, whose duty is to keep the Camp posted on Current Events in Zionism and Jewish life, spoke of the present duties of Zionists in connection with the forthcoming Jewish State.

The ceremony of kindling the Hanukah Lights scheduled to be performed by Chaver Isaac Nowak was substituted by David Wolfson due to Novak's illness. To the great delight and pleasure of the audience, Chaver Wolfson gave an excellent rendition of the traditional blessings and "Mo'oz Tsur." His delivery had the flavor of a real "Hazan."

Charles Greenberg entertained the audience with songs of his Yiddish repertoire which is always well received. Due to the absence from the city of the Camp's Social Chairman, Mrs. Gussle Blank, her associate, Mrs. Frances Finkelstein had assumed the full task in arranging and providing a great display of refreshments for the occasion which everyone enjoyed immensely.

Rabbi H. B. Walder, J.N.F. Chairman, called the attention of the beauty of the Jewish custom of distributing "Hanukah Gelt" to the children and to members in the family as well as to Funds and charity chests that take care of the needy and the underprivileged. He appealed not to forget on this occasion our "pet fund," the J.N.F. to which the audience responded generously.

The Hanukah celebration wound up with an unusual treat. Through the efforts of David Wolfson, two motion pictures about Eretz Yisroel were shown. One film was "The House of the Hunted" and the other: "Assignment Tel-Aviv." Both were very well done from the point of view of photography and source of information. No doubt



Scene at Chanukah Celebration of Moses Hess Camp

JANUARY, 1948

this Hanukah celebration will long be remembered by everyone present.

Of the other Camp activities, mention must be made of the following in the order they came: First, the Bar Cochba Theatre Party under the Chairmanship of Harry Kaye which took place Nov. 30th, the day after the historic Nov. 29th when the U.N. favorable vote on Palestine took place. Bar Cochba turned out in full force to enjoy a good play as well as to celebrate the U. N. decision. Next, was the Membership Rally arranged by the Bronx Council of Bnai Zion that took place on Dec. 3rd at the Rivoli Plaza. According to the report of Gustave Oberman, Second Vice-President of Bar Cochba and Chairman of Membership of both the Council and the Camp, the Rally was a great success. The addresses of Mrs. Archibald Silverman and our Nassi, Abraham A. Redelheim, left a lasting impression upon the audience that packed the hall to its capacity. Bar Cochba turned out with a large number of members and prospectives. The results of the Rally was an increase in membership in all Bronx Camps. Bar Cochba's fold was increased with a "Minyan" of young and promising members.

Bar Cochba participated in the \$100.00 Dinner of the Histadruth Ivrith of America on Dec. 7th, at the Hotel Astor. Louis Rimsky, Honorary President of Bar Cochba the Camp with the cooperation of Dr. Michlin, Dr. Leo B. Schwartz, Mrs. Goldie Newman, Mrs. Leah Golden, Isaae Nowak, David Wolfson, Samuel Finkelstein and Rabbi H. B. Walder contributed the sum of \$500.

Bar Cochba Camp also joined in celebrating the Golden Jubilee "Simeha" of our sister organization, the "Friends of Zion Camp No. 2" by sending a delegation of eight to the Dinner on Dec. 14th at the Riverside Plaza Hotel. Those attending were Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Berk, Dr. and Mrs. Irvin Michlin, Mr. and Mrs. Morris Silverzweig, Mrs. Jennie R. Levinson and Rabbi H. B. Walder.

Preparations are now under way for the coming celebration of Hamishi Asar Be'-Shevat, the Jewish Arbor Day, to take place in the near future.

Colony Camp No. 25

The Colony Camp has scheduled a full round of activities for the coming season. Our recent successful theatre party was highly enjoyed by the membership and friends and resulted in a substantial profit to the Treasury.

One of our very successful social meetings was held at the home of our gracious President, Mrs. Rhea Bernstein. Social meetings take place once a month at members' homes and are always highly enjoyed and well attended. Besides the usual fine refreshments, members enjoy eard games, mahjong and bingo.

We are now meeting the first Saturday of each month at the Fraternal Club House, 110 West 48th Street, New York, N.Y. We enjoy a spacious and attractive meeting room, and at the last meeting held on January 3rd, we had a very large attendance with several members whom we had not seen for some time attending. We were especially glad to see the Miles Brothers with their wives and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Grief.

Our president is now outlining an unusually fine program for a "Victory" party which will take place the first Saturday in February. The program will celebrate the Palestine Partition and will be highlighted by a presentation of Jewish music commemorating the Jewish Music Month. An address on the recent UN decision concerning the partition of Palestine will be given by a prominent member of the Order.

We welcome into our ranks Mr. and Mrs. Meyer Goldberg, who already have shown evidence of good fraternal spirit. Many members have advised that they will shortly bring in a number of new members.

Our next Executive Board Meeting will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Klein, Saturday, January 11th.

Braila Camp No. 29

Most of our members showed up to our Chanukah Festival on December 9th, in honor of our esteemed guest speakers.

The meeting was called to order by our Vice President, Jack Fischler, until our beloved President, Sam Napoleon, who due to unforseen reasons could not come earlier, arrived, (all out of breath), and conducted the meeting in his most capable manner.

The following program was received very enthusiastically:

1. Singing of the Star Spangled Banner and Hatikvah.

2. Lighting of Chanukah Candles by the Cantor who also sang several Chanukah Melodies.

3. The Eternal Light Records, "The Maccabees."

4. Recorded Palestine songs, consisting of Chanukah and Haganah melodies.

5. Talks by our Nassi, Abraham A. Redelheim and Leo Wolfson, which were enjoyed immensely by members and guests present.

6. Refreshments were served, the Chanukah Cake cut—and a very fine and enjoyable evening was had by all.

We owe our sincere thanks to the Program Department of Bnai Zion for supplying us with the Recordings and to Felix and Jack Fischler for bringing the record player and records to the meeting.

TOBY KOOPERMAN

Dr. Leon Pinsker Camp No. 41

On Saturday, December 13, 1947, the Dr. Leon Pinsker Camp celebrated Chanukah and the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine. Among the speakers was our own Dr. H. J. Epstein, whose inimitable manner of speaking was greeted with much enthusiasm and amusement by our members. We were also very much honored by the presence of Ella Goldman, who entertained our chaverim with a rendition of Hebrew and Jewish songs of modern and old folk lore. Her very fine voice was enjoyed by all.

Adinah Camp No. 43

Adinah Camp is proud to announce that since our installation in November we have twelve new members. A tea was held for the new members to get better acquainted, at the home of charming Julia Stein whose gracious hospitality will long be remembered by all who attended.

Our work for the Jewish National Fund never stops, and we have 100% membership in the Red Mogen Dovid.

A Chanukah party was held together with the Louis D. Brandeis Camp and we had a wonderful time. Of course refreshments were served. We also welcomed several new members into our fold that evening.

ANNA HANCHWERGER

Benjamin Cardozo Camp No. 44

There are bright news from this camp which seems to have outdone itself in spite of its smallness and traditional bashfulness. The members took the Kfar Bnai Zion Nursery to their hearts and the results from this camp multiplied throughout all others, should indeed make the nursery for Jewish children and their future possible in no time.

Mr. Louis Shearn donated a bed in the value of \$100.00, Mr. Phillip Ringel, two surely most welcome gifts, a washing machine and a refrigerator. Mr. Ben Friedman, a boiler or bed whichever is more necessary. Mrs. L. Schenker donated the total proceeds of a home-luncheon card party amounting to \$70.00. Mrs. Louis Shearn, \$25.00, Mr. Joseph Liebman, \$25.00; Mr. Eugene Kraus, \$25.00; Mr.Sam Shearn, \$25.00 and Mr. Sam Schwartz, \$10.00.

Temporarily this project was shelved to take up the work for the J.N.F. which begins with a card party proceeds of which are carmarked for the J.N.F.

LUDWIG SCHENKER

Dorothy Levine Camp No. 46

On Monday night, January 5th, 1948, the Dorothy Levine Camp No. 46 was officially installed into the Bnai Zion by Mr. Samuel M. Stuckgold. Installed as the first officers of the new group were: President, Mrs. Ethel Cooperman; Vice-President, Mrs. Esther Friedman; Financial Secretary, Mrs. Rose Narasin; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Jean Cohen; Treasurer, Mrs. Julia Barron; Trustees, Mrs. Billie Brafman and Mrs. Dorothy Sperber.

The guest speaker was Dr. Harris J. Levine, former Nassi of Bnai Zion and the present Chief Medical Examiner, who spoke on the significance of Zionism today with particular emphasis on the Jewish National Fund. A poetic tribute was paid to our Honorary member, Mrs. Dorothy S. Levine, in whose honor the group was named.

Refreshments were served and an enjoyable evening was had by all.

Mazeltoff! Mrs. Sophie Rosenberg on the arrival of your baby daughter.

MRS. ETHEL COOPERMAN, President

Louis D. Brandeis Camp No. 47

At an open meeting conducted jointly by the Adinah and Louis D. Brandeis Camps at their meeting rooms in the East Concourse Hebrew Center, Bronx, N. Y., during the Chanukah Festival Week on Thursday, December 11, 1947, members and friends of both groups enjoyed a Chanukah Party in the true orthodox tradition, Past President Frank Weitz of the Louis D. Brandeis Camp officiated at the lighting of the candles ceremony intoning the prayers with expert cantoral phrasing, assisted by a chorus of the Camp's officers. This was followed by hymn singing joined in by members and guests. The highlight of the occasion was a phonographic recording of an "Eertnal Light" transcribed program on the meaning and origin of Chanukah.

The members and guests were then treated to refreshments and from all accounts, every one had a good time. The party was especially successful in that out of 125 members and guests present, 10 new members were signed up for the cause of Bnai Zion.

ANNA L. ROCHMAN

Jacob Cohen Camp No. 67

On December 14, 1947, the Jacob Cohen Camp No. 67 held a barn dance at the Old Evergreen Lodge in Springfield, New Jersey. This event was a great success socially as well as financially.

Plans for another card party are in progress. The exact date and location will be announced shortly.

Our membership is making strides in the Shekel campaign and we are looking forward to a very successful culmination of this drive.

The donor dinner of the year 1948 will be held May 2, 1948, at the Latin Quarter in New York City. Our entire membership at the present time, as well as our many new members who are working energetically toward filling their financial quotas, will certainly be on hand for this gala occasion.

The next cultural meeting of the Jacob Cohen Camp No. 67 will be held at the Tunis Mansion, 933 Bergen Street. Newark, N. J. on January 19, 1948. A Rocsevelt Night, to commemorate the birthday of our late President, is being planned by our Cultural Chairman, Mrs. Florence Schwartz. A film, "The Roosevelt Story," will be shown in conjunction with this program.

The entire fund-raising projects of this year are for the purpose of raising a forest of trees in Palestine in the name of the Jacob Cohen Camp No. 67.

MRS. RUTH TRAGER

Dr. Herzl Zion Camp No. 68

At the recently held meeting of the Congregation Agudas Achim Synagogue at Bridgeport, Connecticut, three of its members and officers are also officers of the Dr. Herzl Zion Camp No. 68 of Bridgeport, Connecticut.

THE TEMPLE ANSEL RD.& E.105 ST. CLEVELAND 6.0HIO

Mr. Isidore H. Goldman, president of the local camp, was elected president of the Synagogue and his son Herbert, secretary of the Camp was elected vice-president of the Synagogue. Frank Rabinovitz who was elected as treasurer of the Synagogue, is also treasurer of the camp. For the year 1948, we look forward to several of the Synagogue members becoming camp members and vice-versa.

HERBERT L. GOLDMAN

Kadimah Camp No. 121

Our Chanukah party held in December, was an evening we will long remember. The Eternal Light program plus the story of Chanukah told to us by Mr. Samuel Buchbinder, Vice-president of Organization Camp made a delightful program. This was topped by the serving of delicious 'latkes' made by our famous 'latke makers,' Mrs. Shirley Glicken, Mrs. Frieda Cooper and Mrs. Nettie Rubin.

We are definitely acquiring the title of Mother of the Women's Camp in Bnai Zion. All the women's Camps were organized by members of Kadimah Camp, and this week we gave birth to another group. We are very proud of the fact that the work of upbuilding a National Homeland in Palestine has been enhanced to such a great extent because of our added forces.

On January 12, we are celebrating the restoration to health of three of our members: Mrs. Rose Altman, Mrs. Elizabeth Price and Mrs. Mary Drucker, who have been ill. We are grateful for their recovery and hope that they will remain well from now on.

We are delighted with the engagement of the daughter of Mrs. Leah Lubin, one of our trustees, and our Cultural Chairman, to the son of Mrs. Elizabeth Price, our Vicepresident. May they have lots of 'naches' from them. To Hannah and Joseph we wish sincerely a very happy and prosperous future.

Jacob Hochberg Camp No. 125

We are happy to report that we are continuing in our campaign in enlisting new members, particularly of younger age.

Our card party held November 24, 1947, in support of the drive of the Women's Council of Bnai Zion for the nursery on Kfar Bnai Zion, was a success. We plan in a short time, and at the proper opportunity to turn the funds over to the Women's Council.

On December 8, 1947, we celebrated Chanukah. Our good friend, the eminent Rev. Salem Greenspan, honored us with the lighting of the traditional candles. Our choral group, organized and trained by the lovable Lillian Pine Seidenberg, who happened to be absent on that evening, performed as best they could. Our own Chaver Jacob I. Kaplan then delivered a most timely and most stirring address.

On December 22nd we were honored with having as our guest speaker the inimitable Idelle Lipschitz. Our Camp turned over to Miss Lipschitz a check for a substantial sum raised by and between our own members for the Red Mogen Dovid of Palestine. Previous to that another substantial sum was raised by our Chaver Louis Hochberg at his synagogue. This check was turned over to the office of the Red Mogen Dovid.

On January 12, 1948, we will celebrate Arbor Day. The latest movie of Palestine will be shown. We will also make a drive for trees to be planted in Eretz Israel.

At every meeting we continue in joining someone or some couple of our members in their celebration of some happy personal event.

HUGO KAHN

Max Nordau Camp No. 74

Our Camp maintained its record at the last meeting-a full house and a good meeting . . . many thanks to Hon. Harry A. Pine, who lived up to advance notices and kept the audience interested and in good humor . . . Mr. and Mrs. David Jacovitz, the hosts, unfortunately could not make the meeting, but we all nevertheless enjoyed their generous and tasty refreshments. Many thanks, and especially for the strawberry shortcake . . . we were lad to welcome the following new members present: Martin and Serene Baum, Aaron and Jennie Feldman, Irving and Judy Feldman, Sol and Sarah Klor, Jack and Harriet Mogel, Louis and Sid Rothschild, Kent and Hattie Reiner, Nat and Etta Tatab, and Louis and Della Yanofsky. Sam and Bella Eisikowitz and Benjamin and Rose Feinroth attended as guests, and became Chaverim before the evening was over . . . it was also nice to see Jerry and Mollie Hollander, Max and Anna Isbeck, and brother-in-law, Erich Levy . . . Congratulations to Mollie Bialor (Red Mogen David) and Fannie Goldberg (Yemen Jews) for their good work and nice reports. Keep it up . . . special mention must be made of our hospitality committee, which has been doing a grand job, and the ladies helping them: Mary Appelbaum, Florence Ruddock, Celia Leffler, Ceil Krassner, Zelda Isaacs, and a few more including you . . . Have you heard the perfect minutes of Slyvia Bender? It's worthwhile attending the next Board meeting to hear them . . . Congratulations to Louis and Fannie Goldberg on their 43rd Wedding Anniversary January 25th, and to Fannie for being elected President of the Long Beach Ladies Benevolent Association . . . Congratulations to Marvin Rothberg, of Long Beach, for being able to get our favorite girl, Esther Seidelman, to say yes. They were just engaged ...

We Must Stand on Guard

Those who are despondent over the turn of affairs in international relations and the apparent irreparable rift which has been created between the East and the West might well take heart in contemplating the full and ready cooperation which did exist between the United States and the Soviet Union on the issue of Paiestine. Here was an area where, we were told, imperial interests were inevitably destined to clash and where power politics would most certainly tear East and West hopelessly apart. Nothing of the sort happened, to the utter consternation of all the preachers of the irresistible conflict. On the contrary - here was ready and friendly agreement. In my humble judgment, there is much food for thought here and strong warrant for a more hopeful world outlook and a less intractable statesmanship.

In this connection it should be stated that those who were responsible for the earlier and now discredited propaganda that the Soviet Union, in its desire to panetrate the Middle East and its

Excerpts of Address By DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

rich oil fields, would side with the Arabs against the Jews and that Great Britain and the United States must therefore not favor the Jewish cause for fear of driving the Arab States into the arms of the Soviet Union, have now slightly revised their propaganda. The Soviet Union, it is now proclaimed, favored the setting up of a Jewish State in Palestine in the confident expectation that this would arouse the Arabs, create disturbance and necessitate the intervention of the Security Council. The Security Council would have to send troops. The Soviet Union, being a member of the Security Council, would then have its own troops included in whatever international force is sent to Palestine. Once there, they will never be dislodged.

This is the new, or rather the revamped, propaganda which is being peddled about today in Washington by agents of all sorts -British, American and Arabas well as in the public press and which, along with the supplementary propaganda that the socalled illegal immigrants coming into Palestine are really communist agents in disguise, is being adroitly spread to destroy U.S.-U.S.S.R. cooperation on Palestine, and to prevent the implementation of the UN decision. Every effort is being made to thrust Palestine back into the dangerous arena of power politics, from which the U.S.-U.S.S.R. agreement and the action of the UN has most opportunely lifted it.

Cooperation Hailed

There are even some members in the Congress of the U.S. who out of ignorance or malice, are lending themselves to the spreading of this baseless and mischievous propaganda. Needless to say, the Zionist movement has no orientation either to the West or to the East. If we need to define our orientation, it is definitely address - Denner - Ner. 39, 1947

and unmistakably to the United Nations. We are happy that our problem received a solution by international agreement in which the East and the West harmoniously cooperated. We hope that it will remain so in the future.

It is now a month since the historic UN decision and while our happiness is unabated, our minds are turning soberly to the pressing and difficult problems involved in the implementation of that decision.

Those problems are ours-but they are also those of the United Nations. The UN accepted the responsibility to decide the future government of Palestine. It has set up the machinery and fixed the time schedule for implementation. It was completely aware of all the difficulties involved and was forewarned, not once but many times, by delegates of Arab States of their resolve to thwart by violence a decision of the UN favorable to partition. Nevertheless the UN acted, despite these threats and in the full knowledge

of all that was involved, convinced that there was no other way out and that a solution could no longer be postponed.

If the UN were now to be deterred from its course by the planned violence by riots and demonstrations, calculated to convince the world that the UN decision is impossible of implementation and thus, by force, to alter the settlement which it decreed. the UN would not only suffer an irreparable loss of prestige and authority, but its future effectiveness as the agency "to bring about by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and constitutional law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace"-would be disastrously undermined.

The Mufti and his henchmen are attempting to sabotage the establishment of the Jewish State but they and their collaborators in the neighboring Arab States, which are covenanted member states of the UN and, as such, pledged to abide loyally by its decisions, are engaged as well in a shameless, frontal attack upon the very life of the UN itself.

(Continued on Page 5)

We Must Stand on Guard

tine problem, in spite of the UN decision, will sag hopelessly, and the situation will move from bad to worse.

When the crucial hour of decision arrived, our government rose to the challenge of the hour and the mandates of its destiny. As a result, the UN resolution was overwhelmingly adopted. Our government now stands committed to its implementation. The UN plan is now definitely a part of American foreign policy and should be as aggressively and determinedly advanced as other major policies of our government. Our government should assist the UN in every way possible and should employ all its diplomatic machinery and influence to expedite the matter. Delay is dangerous. Defeat will be catastrophic.

Crucial Period

The problem is to tide over the next ten months. Once the Jewish State is established and admitted to the UN and the neighboring Arab states are confronted by an accomplished fact, they will, as a matter of practical politics, seek ways for mutually satisfactory arrangements with the Jewish State and for peaceful cooperation-and the way will be open. Peace with the Arab world will then be possible. The dangerous period is the short formative one of the next few months. Here is where our Government can be tremendously helpful.

. . .

It would be highly desirable to have an international force ac(Continued from Page 3)

company the Commission of the UN when it arrives in Palestine to carry out the instructions of the UN. It need not be large but it must know what it is there for. The present military force in Palestine is the blunted instrument of the hopelessly blundering policy of Mr. Bevin which amounts to this: His Majesty's Government "loyally accepts the Assembly's resolution" but it will do nothing to implement it. The British force in Palestine will maintain law and order but they will remain neutral when clashes result between the Jews who have loyally accepted the decision of the UN and who seek peaceand the Arabs who are violently resisting it and provoke war!

But whether an international force is sent to Palestine or not -it is immediately imperative that the Jewish people of Palestine shall be enabled forthwith to defend themselves. They have the man power. They need arms. Surely those states - and foremost among them the United States-which voted to create a Jewish State must feel honorbound and duty-bound to see that the citizens of that state in the making are properly protected against the murderous assaults of those who have resolved to defy the will and the conscience of the nations of the world. Here, again, the U. S. holds the key to the situation, both as regards the fermation of an international force and the equipment of the Jewish militia. Our government has not hesitated to send arms and military missions in other

parts of the world to back up its foreign policy.

DP Problem Pressing

The problem of our refugees still remains most pressing. When will our refugees begin at last to move in large numbers into Palestine? What conceivable purpose is served by keeping these men, women and children pent up in detention camps where they have languished for so long or in driving them away from the shores of Palestine now that the United Nations has finally decreed that the Jewish State shall be set up in Palestine in 1948? What else but the meanness of spirit of a prostrate statesmanship and the spitefulness of a disgruntled bureaucracy can account for it. There are thousands of refugees in various parts of Europe who simply can no longer wait. They will not be permitted to remain where they are. They must move.

American Jewry has deserved well at the hands of the Jewish people. History will pay homage to the role which it played in this searching and heroic hour. It rose to the occasion splendidly. It knew how to close ranks. It acted with wisdom, dignity and courage. It spoke effectively to the hearts and minds of the American people and its representatives in government and to the responsible heads of our government. It is generally acknowledged that what was achieved was due in a large measure to the magnificent labor of American Jewry.

But much remains to be done. November 29 was only the evening and the morning of the first day - the day when light broke through the darkness of our world. Our great community providentially spared for this hour now shoulder the vast economic burdens involved in the setting up of the Jewish State. Judging by the remarkable demonstration a few days ago at the conclave of the leaders of American Jewry in Atlantic City, our people are fully aware of their new responsibilities and are resolved to meet them. Whatever aid may come from other sources. the primary responsibility is ours.

We shall also have to stand on guard during the next critical period to see that no political conspiracy of evil doers shall undo or harm the Jewish State as its builders proceed to lav its foundations. The Jews of America, proud and loyal citizens of this great country who have demonstrated time and again in peace and in war their devotion and patriotism, will in the spirit of American democracy wish to assist this new free and democratic country which will rise on the shores of the Mediterranean and which will embody those same great biblical ideals of justice, brotherhood, and peace which inspired the founding fathers of this Republic.

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