



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

Reel
186

Box
70

Folder
955

Jewish Welfare Fund, Cleveland, 1957.

1) You have assembled here in such large numbers for two
purposes. ^{First} To pay honor to a brave man whose soul lived
and J. S. made him Lord Mayor, Dublin.

Ireland, they say is a country in which the probable never happens
but the impossible always does. - And what ^{is} ~~are~~ more important
than in the minds of those who do not know the ~~republican~~ ^{republican}
Irish, than for a ~~thorough~~ Jew to be elected chief
magistrate of ~~Catholics~~ the principle city of Catholic Ireland.
But there are 2 places in the world where miracles still
happen - Ireland and Levant. Mr. Trevelyan has it that
the millenium will be preceded by two wonders -
Mess. Ben Joseph and Mess. b. David. Well, the
election of a Jew to be Lord Mayor of Dublin means that
Mess. b. Joseph has ^{come} ~~arrived~~ - When Mr. Trevelyan
will be elected Mayor of Jerusalem - it will mean that the
Mess. b. David has ^{come} ~~arrived~~ - And the millenium will be
have definitely arrived!

2) I am heartened and gratified for Mr. Bristow's presence
in our midst to-night - for Ireland has very much
in our minds when we carried on our long, often
little struggle for the establishment of Ireland. The ^{history} ~~history~~
experience, the Irish people, ^{has so much to say} ~~and~~ their long, uphill struggle
for freedom, was an inspiration and challenge to us - as
was the loyalty of the Irish-Americans to their ancestral
home.

3). I said, at the outset, that we are assembled here in such
large numbers for two purposes. The second is to inaugurate
an 1957 Campaign for the J.W.F. - That you have inaugurated
it most auspiciously the figures which you recorded here
this evening ~~are~~ clearly indicate... you are living up to
your noblest traditions - and the high expectations which you
have of yourselves. - We should never lose confidence
in our people. When Moses - commissioned by God to return
to Egypt and summon the people ^{Israel} to freedom - expressed the
fear - "I wonder if [?] - They may not heed me." - the
Rabbi declared [?] all shall be well -

The heart, I say, is sound; its instinct for survival
was — its fundamental loyalties, ~~unalterable~~ ^{unalterably} ~~unalterable~~. At times it is
confused and sorely troubled. It is then the duty, its ^{trusted} ~~deeds~~
to give it light and ~~to~~ ^{to} uphold its faith and courage —
but never to doubt it.

4/. Since we last met in 1956 - events of greatest moment transpired - which put Israel and the Near East upon the front page, ~~the world~~ every newspaper in the world and upon the lips of all men. - In a drastic effort to put an end to an intolerable situation brought about by the ~~disaster of Egypt~~ ^{the disaster of Egypt} that descended on the Nile ~~who who~~ perched on the ~~at~~ giant shoulders of Communist Russia - the J.B., France and Israel struck into Egypt - the former to take ~~back~~ ^{control} the Suez Canal which Nasser had ^{illegally} seized, the latter, to smash the military power, Nasser - which were ~~gave~~ ^{were} murdered.

And why is that prime lobbyist, the Secy-General, the U.S.-
Mr. Hammer, who has been so meticulous about defending
every jot and tittle of Egypt's sovereignty ~~and~~ not spoken out
in indignation ~~or taken any action~~ in the case of Egypt
^{clear} violations, the U.S. Declaration, Human Rights which
declares that "no one shall be subject to arbitrary arrest,
or deprived his nationality, or of his property."



pure, self-defence, and build for strength. This is possible, and its recent experience may justify a confident prospect. (2)

What you are doing in this campaign - what the Jews, America - are doing - is helping Israel build for strength -

It is good to have had the process, the President of the U.S. ~~that~~ made at the time, the withdrawal, Israeli's ~~from~~ ^{Sherry et Sherry} ~~from~~ ^{that} "Israel will have no cause for regret" this step. It is even better to know ~~that~~ ^{that} it is subject to know that a first-class Israeli fighting force is on hand to see that there will be no cause for regret. Legal experts can find

loop-holes in any phrase or promise - and there are plenty of them in our State Department. But men and women - by the thousands and the men, thousands and the hundreds, thousands who are trained and prepared and equipped to defend their home-land - will act as a powerful deterrent to any political adventures.

8). The sympathy, the free world is with Israel. Israel seeks recognition. It is eager for peace with all its Arab neighbors. It is prepared to negotiate all outstanding issues. It will, however, insist on the same sovereign right which it considers to its neighbors + it will, with our aid win through - these valiant borderers and fighters and warriors will win them - as they, all best Rth.

9/ I recall a visit, which I made to Russia in August
of 35. I ~~visiting~~ ^{as a tourist} the Tzar's - Selo - the palace, the Gars
in the outskirts of Leningrad. ~~when~~ The palace had been
converted by the ~~Bolsheviks~~ ^{Soviets} into a National Museum -
but they kept it exactly as it was left by the Gars and
his family - before they were carried off and ~~shot~~ ^{exiled}.
I passed through many rooms, the palace - and
finally came to ~~the~~ a small library adjoining the
bed-room of the Gars and Garna. - and ~~there~~ ^{on one}
of the book-shelves - I was started to see General Sargolov
"Diaries, the Shells". I ~~can't~~ ^{can} you can imagine
what thoughts came through my mind at that
moment - The Gark - the ~~life-long~~ ^{beloved} ~~husband~~ ^{husband} and ~~father~~ ^{father}
of the ~~juer~~ ^{juer} - now long since dead, riddled with bullets
Golubent bullets - with a ~~Verbe~~ ^{Verbe} of his family ~~leaving~~ ^{leaving}
and this little volume - Diaries, the Shells - ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~higher~~ ^{higher} ~~as it~~
was, a lovely ~~very~~ ^{very} ~~vigil~~ ^{vigil} over his ~~departed~~ ^{departed} ~~father~~ ^{father}
and ~~play~~ ^{play}. -

10/ The ~~Gars~~ ^{Gars} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~dead~~ ^{dead} ~~but~~ ^{but}
The "Diaries, the Shells" - have left their ~~many~~ ^{dark} ~~shells~~ ^{shells}
and have by their faith ~~scanned~~ ^{scanned} and ~~ideas~~ ^{ideas} ~~built~~ ^{built} ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~themselves~~ ^{themselves}
and those who will come after them a ~~land~~ ^{land} ~~other~~ ^{other} ~~are~~ ^{are} -
and a free home, their own #
And we share in their joys and hopes and sorrows.

My dear friends, ^Ryou have assembled here, in such large numbers, for two purposes: first, to pay honor to a brave man, whose Irish luck and Jewish ~~Mazel~~ ^{Mazel} made him Lord Mayor of Dublin.

Ireland, they say, is a country in which 'the probable never happens, but the impossible always does'. And what was more 'impossible' in the minds of ~~these~~ ^{us} who do not know the unpredictable Irish, than for an orthodox Jew to be elected chief magistrate of the principal city of Catholic Ireland.

But there are two places in the world where miracles still happen - Ireland and Israel. Our tradition has it that the millenium, when it comes, will be preceded by two Messiahs, one, the Messiah ben Joseph, and the other, ^{the} Messiah ben David. Well, the election of a Jew to be Mayor of Dublin, ^{seems to suggest} ~~means~~ that the Messiah ben Joseph has come, ^{and} when an Irishman will be elected Mayor of Jerusalem, it will ^{I am sure} mean that the Messiah ben David ~~had~~ ^{will} come, ^{then} and the millenium will have definitely arrived....

^{We are all} ~~I am heartened and~~ grateful for Mr. Briscoe's presence in our midst tonight, ^{and very much heartened by it} ~~for~~ Ireland was very much in our minds when we carried on our long, often bitter, struggle, for the establishment of the State of Israel. The historic experiences of the Irish people was so reminiscent of our own that their long, ^{desperate} ~~uphill~~ struggle for freedom, was an inspiration and challenge to us, ^{so} ~~as~~ was the loyalty of the Irish Americans to their ancestral home.

Centuries of brutal persecution and oppression, which in the early half of the 19th century, sent tens of thousands of ~~its~~ impoverished and starved sons and daughters ^{of Ireland} to leave their native land and to seek new homes -- and ^{the} ~~a~~ prolonged

directed against them.
campaign of slander and revilement[^] did not break the spirit of this valiant ~~race~~ *people*.
Their fortunes touched bottom when they began their heroic ^{uphill} fight for freedom, for
home rule and for ~~their~~ national dignity.

Toward the close of the last century, the American poet, Walt Whitman, spoke
of Ireland as an "ancient sorrowful mother, once a queen, now lean and tattered,
crouching over a grave."

But the grave was not the goal of the Irish patriots, ~~and~~ many of ~~them~~ ^{whom} paid
with their lives, that Ireland might be resurrected. They fought ^{relentlessly} ~~valiantly~~ against a
pen and sword, above ground and underground. Many of ~~them~~ ^{were} died, many were imprisoned,
~~many~~ ^{others} were driven into exile, ~~and~~ ^{the Irish in America} their brothers and sisters, though loyal citizens
of the United States, came to their aid, politically and materially. They invoked
the support of both political parties in our ~~own~~ country. In May 1919 a Resolution
was adopted in the Senate of the United States;—

*powerful
as the
over-
whelming
odds!*

"Resolved that the Senate of the United States
express its sympathy with the aspirations of the
Irish people for a government of their own choice."

And the Irish people won through to victory! All this ^{as you can readily see, would} ~~was very much in the~~ ^{not escape}
~~the attention of the~~ ^{the} ~~minds of Jewish~~ fighters for the freedom of the Jewish people, and ^{for} the reestablishment
of the State of Israel.

^{therefore}
I can understand clearly enough, ~~therefore~~, why an underground fighter for the
freedom of Ireland, like Mr. Briscoe, is such an ardent champion of the young State
of Israel — and why ^{Jews} ~~those of us~~ who ~~have~~ fought for the freedom of Israel are such
admirers of Mr. Briscoe and such friends of free Ireland.

I said at the outset, that we are assembled here in such ~~large~~ numbers, for
~~two~~ ^{purpose} purposes. The second ^{is} to inaugurate our 1957 Campaign for the Jewish Welfare
Fund. That you have inaugurated it most auspiciously, the figures which ^{have been} ~~are~~ recorded
here this evening clearly indicate. You are living up to ^{its} ~~your~~ noblest traditions, ^{and} ~~and~~
and the high expectation which you have of yourselves. ^{It demonstrates again that} ~~One~~ should never ~~lack~~ confidence
in our people. When Moses, commissioned by God to return to Egypt and to summon the
people of Israel to freedom, expressed the fear, "They may not believe me", the rabbis

on this occasion

-3-

declared that "~~our~~ Moses spoke not properly".

The heart of Israel is sound; its instinct for survival sure; its fundamental loyalties *unwavering* ~~unchangeable~~. At times ~~it~~ *the people* is confused and sorely troubled. It is then the duty of its trusted leaders to give it light and ~~to~~ replenish its faith and courage, but never to doubt it.

Since we last met in 1956, events of gravest moment have transpired which put Israel and the Near East ~~upon~~ *as an ultimate* the front page of every newspaper in the world and upon the lips of all men. ~~In a determined effort~~ to put an end to an intolerable situation, brought about by the dictators of Egypt, Nasser, that dwarf on the Nile, ~~who was~~ perched on the giant shoulders of communist Russia, Great Britain, France and Israel struck into Egypt, - the former to take back the Suez Canal, which Nasser had illegally seized, - the latter to smash the military forces of Nasser, which ~~were~~ *had been* mustered in large numbers in the Sinai Peninsula, ~~together~~ *along* with ~~staggering~~ *vast* arsenals of ~~military equipment~~ *weapons and*, poised to invade and destroy Israel. The campaign which Israel waged against Egypt was brilliantly successful, ~~and in~~ *- hours not days -* one hundred hours, the vaunted might of Egypt Nasser ~~lay~~ *was* broken, ~~scattered~~ *and shattered*, and ~~completely~~ *his army* routed. The dwarf proved after all, ~~to be~~ *to be* only a dwarf, with great lung power. The forces of great Britain and France ~~proceeded~~ *were* systematically ~~to~~ *with* the taking over of the Canal Zone, when the United States intervened, as you well know, ~~and~~ *and* an outburst of righteous indignation, ~~summoned~~ *it* the Assembly of the United Nations, and with the cooperation of the Soviet Union, ~~and the Asian-African Bloc, voted a cease fire order.~~ *where hands were put then red with the blood of Hungary, succeeded in having a cease-fire order adopted* Great Britain and France, responsive, as Democracies must be, ~~to world opinion,~~ *even if we succeed* stopped their operations and withdrew from the Canal. Israel too, after considerable, but largely fruitless negotiations, and in the face of threatened sanctions, also withdrew behind the armistice line. A United Nations force was dispatched to the area to supervise the maintenance of peace. Nasser, ~~who was~~ *though* decisively beaten, ~~is now~~ *is* back again, in full control of the Suez Canal. ~~The Egyptian Civil Administration~~ *is* is back again in Gaza, from which it had been expelled. ~~The dwarf is on the shoulders~~ of the Giant again, crowing about his ~~great~~ *glorious* victories, ~~and~~ laughing at the world and

on the military plane where he had hoped to score a major diplomatic triumph

frightening it.

Today, six months later, one wonders whether our government feels as righteous ^{and exalted} about its precipitous intervention, ^{there are many who} ~~in this affair~~. Some are inclined to recall the words of Heine,

"For such a righteous act, men deserve to go to heaven, and there be thrashed every day with rods."

The past year was a very severe and trying one for Israel, one which tested it politically - its statesmanship - its maturity and, economically - its power of survival. ~~Under terrific economic strain and reduced income~~, Israel met both tests successfully. ^{and all kinds of hostile pressures were applied} Even while these unnerving and unsettling events were taking place ^{to it} (and they are still taking place) Israel was admitting thousands of new settlers -- ^{in the} victims of Egypt's ^{acts of} terror, expropriation and expulsion. In passing, it might be noted that our government did not ease its immigration restrictions to permit the entrance of these victims of political persecution, as it had done in the case of the Hungarian refugees, and that no mercy air-lift was provided for them. Nor did ^{the United States} ~~it~~ call upon the United Nations to investigate Egypt's outrageous treatment of ^{its} Jews -- arrests, expulsions - economic strangulation - revocation of citizenship, as it did in the case of Hungary.

And why, ~~one wonders, is~~ that prim legalist, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Hammerschold ^{4/22}, who has been, and is, so solicitous about defending every jot and tittle of Egypt's sovereignty ^{rights} -- why has he not spoken out in indignation, in the case of Egypt's clear violation of the United Nation's Declaration of ^{Human Rights} ~~Human Rights~~ which states that "no one shall be subject to arbitrary arrest, or deprived of his nationality, or of his property."

Israel has been admitting Jewish refugees from other countries -- North Africa, Hungary, Poland -- some 20,000 in the last two months alone. It is estimated that 100,000 will come to Israel this year! ^{has been} It ~~constructed~~ thousands of housing units for the new ~~immigrants~~ arrivals. It built and completed, during these days of strain and tension, a pipe-line, which will carry oil from Elat on the Gulf of Aqaba to Beer-Sheba, the metropolis of the Negev -- and the construction of another line

has been begun to carry oil from ^{there to} a port on the Mediterranean. This opens a vast new vista upon the future economic growth and development of the young State.

What courage is here -- and what vision! "No weapon that is formed against you shall succeed".

Israel's troubles are by no means ^{over} at an end, for there ^{can} will be no peace in the Near East until our government, which is today the most powerful factor in the Near East situation, adopts a clear policy in reference to that important region and assumes clear, just and unequivocal commitments there. Such a ~~clear~~ policy ^{has} is not yet evolved. What emerges, from time to time, is ^{some} an unpredictable ^{act} initiative, ^{on its own} without careful consideration of consequences, such as the reversal of ^{its} our stand on the building of the Aswan Dam, or a total referral of all Near East problems to the United Nations, ^{without indicating its own firm position} or an isolated military commitment to the Baghdad Pact, or an ~~Airfield for Arms~~ Pact with Saudi-Arabia, ^{as the matter of building an airfield} by the terms of which the United States will continue to sell arms to Saudi-Arabia and American officers will train the ^{entire} army, navy and air personell, ~~of Saudi-Arabia~~. On condition, of course, that no American-Jew is to be included among these American officers. President Eisenhower, presumably to advance the cause of the American ideal of Democracy ~~and of~~ the equal rights of all of its citizens, signed that agreement. I wonder if he would have signed such an agreement if it called for a ban, not on American Jews, but on American Presbyterians, or American Episcopalians, or American Catholics. Presumably the red carpet is rolled out for those who can speak in the name of 3,000 ^{million} ~~billion~~ barrels of oil, but the rug is pulled from under the feet of those who can speak only in the name of the equality of the American citizens and their inalienable human rights.

Israel will, for some time to come, and until a clear policy emerges, have to rely on itself -- on its own powers of self-defense and ^{will have to} build for strength. This is possible, ^{in Sinai} and its recent experiences may justify a confident prospect for the future.

What you are doing in this campaign -- what the Jews of America are doing is helping Israel to build ^{for} ~~her~~ strength.

It is good to have had the promise of the President of the United States, ~~which~~
~~was~~ made at the time of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza and Sharm El Sheikh
that, "Israel will have no cause to regret this step". It is even better to know
that a first-class Israeli fighting force is on hand to see that there will be no
cause for regret. Legal experts can find loopholes in any pledge or promise which
our government makes, and there are plenty of them in our State Department. But
men and women by the thousands and the tens of thousands and ^{the} hundreds of thousands,
who are trained and prepared and equipped to defend their homeland, will act as a ^{defendable}
^{and} powerful deterrent to any political adventure in that part of the world.

The sympathy of the free world is with Israel. Israel seeks no one's territory.
It is eager for peace with all its Arab neighbors. It is prepared to negotiate all
outstanding issues with them. It will however, insist on the same sovereign rights
which it concedes to ^{them} all its neighbors. ^{And} It will, with our aid, win through. These
valiant builders and fighters and dreamers, will win through -- in spite of all
hostilities ^{and conspiracies}.

I recall a visit which I made to Russia in August 1935. I went to the
Tzarske-Selo -- the Palace of the Czars ^{on} the outskirts of Leningrad. The Palace
had been converted by the Soviet ^{into} ~~to~~ a National Museum and they kept it exactly as
it was left by the Tzar and his family, before they were carried off ^{to their death} and executed.

^{where} I passed through many rooms of the Palace and finally came to a small Library
^{adjoining} the bedroom of the Czar and the Czarina, ~~and~~ there on one of the bookshelves,
I was startled to ^{find} ~~see~~ a copy of Israel Zangwill's, ~~called~~ "Dreamers of the Ghetto".....
You can imagine what thoughts ran through my mind at that moment; the Tzar, the
last of a long line of oppressors of the Jews, who denied them their elementary
human rights, now long since dead, riddled with Bolshevik bullets -- and here is
this little volume, "Dreamers of the Ghetto", the story of the indomitable faith
and courage of the Jews whom the Czars persecuted, keeping, as it were, a lonely
vigil over ^{all that} ~~his~~ vanished pomp and power and glory.

The Czars are dead. But the dreamers of the Ghetto, ^{have} ~~have~~ left their many dark

Ghettos in the world, and have, by their faith and courage and ideals, built for themselves, and ^{for} those who will follow them, a land of their own and a free home of their own. *They live; they live alone and creatively.*

And we are determined to share in their hopes and in their sacrifices, even as we share in their pride.



1957 JEWISH WELFARE FUND APPEAL

Hotel Statler Ballroom
Cleveland, Ohio

April 11, 1957

ADDRESS

by

DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

My dear friends,

You have assembled here, in such large numbers, for two purposes: first, to pay honor to a brave man, whose Irish luck and Jewish Mazal made him Lord Mayor of Dublin.

Ireland, they say, is a country in which 'the probable never happens, but the impossible always does'. And what was more 'impossible' in the minds of men who do not know the unpredictable Irish, than for an orthodox Jew to be elected chief magistrate of the principal city of Catholic Ireland.

But there are two places in the world where miracles still happen - Ireland and Israel! Our tradition has it that the millenium, when it comes, will be preceded by two Messiahs, one, the Messiah ben Joseph, and the other, the Messiah ben David. Well, the election of a Jew to be Mayor of Dublin seems to suggest that the Messiah ben Joseph has come, and when an Irishman will be elected Mayor of Jerusalem, it will mean, I am sure, that the Messiah ben David had come. The millenium will then have definitely arrived . . .

We are all grateful for Mr. Briscoe's presence in our midst tonight and very much heartened by it. Ireland was very much in our minds when we carried on our long, often bitter, struggle for the establishment of the State of Israel. The historic experiences of the Irish people was so reminiscent of our own that their long, desperate struggle for freedom, was an inspiration and challenge to us. So was the loyalty of the Irish Americans to their ancestral home.

Centuries of brutal persecution and oppression, which in the early half of the 19th century, forced tens of thousands of impoverished and starved sons and daughters of Ireland to leave their native land and to seek new homes -- and the prolonged campaign of slander and revilement directed against them did not break the spirit of this valiant people. Their fortunes touched bottom when they began their heroic uphill fight for freedom, for home rule and for national dignity.

Toward the close of the last century, the American poet, Walt Whitman, spoke of Ireland as an "ancient sorrowful mother, once a queen, now lean and tattered, crouching over a grave."

But the grave was not the goal of the Irish patriots, many of whom paid with their lives, that Ireland might be resurrected. They fought relentlessly against a powerful empire, in the face of overwhelming odds, with pen and sword, above ground and underground. Many died, many more were imprisoned, others were driven into exile. Their brothers and sisters, the Irish in America, though loyal citizens of the United States, came to their aid, politically and materially. They invoked the support of both political parties in our country. In May 1919 a Resolution was adopted in the Senate of the United States:-

"Resolved that the Senate of the United States express its sympathy with the aspirations of the Irish people for a government of their own choice."

And the Irish people won through to victory! All this, as you can readily see, would not escape the attention of the fighters for the freedom of the Jewish people, and for the reestablishment of the State of Israel.

I can, therefore, understand clearly enough why an underground fighter for the freedom of Ireland, like Mr. Briscoe, is such an ardent champion of the young State of Israel -- and why Jews who fought for the freedom of Israel are such admirers of Mr. Briscoe and such friends of free Ireland.

I said at the outset that we are assembled here in such numbers for two purposes. The second purpose is to inaugurate our 1957 Campaign for the Jewish Welfare Fund. Our Fund is a many-splendored thing, covering a large range of beneficence. That you have inaugurated the Campaign most auspiciously, the figures which have been

recorded here this evening clearly indicate. You are living up to the noblest traditions of our community and to the high expectation which you have of yourselves. It demonstrates again that one should never lose confidence in our people. When Moses, commissioned by God to return to Egypt and to summon the people of Israel to freedom, expressed the fear, () "They may not believe me", the rabbis declared that () "on this occasion Moses spoke not properly".

The heart of Israel is sound; its instinct for survival sure; its fundamental loyalties unwavering. At times the people are confused and sorely troubled. It is then the duty of its trusted leaders to give it light and replenish its faith and courage, but never to doubt it.

Had I time, I should be inclined to dwell on the importance of many of the agencies, local and national, which are included in our Fund, and which commend themselves to our generosity. I limit myself to one or two of the major beneficiaries because of the urgency of their needs, and their historic importance.

Since we last met in 1956, events of gravest moment have transpired which have put Israel and the Near East on the front page of every newspaper in the world and upon the lips of all men. As an ultimate effort to put an end to an intolerable situation, brought about by the dictator of Egypt, Nasser, that dwarf of the Nile perched on the giant shoulders of communist Russia, Great Britain, France and Israel struck into Egypt — the former to take back the Suez Canal which Nasser had illegally seized — the latter to smash the military forces of Nasser, which had been mustered in large numbers in the Sinai Peninsula, along with their vast arsenals of weapons and military equipment, forces which were poised to invade and destroy Israel. The campaign which Israel waged against Egypt was brilliantly successful. In one hundred hours, — hours, not days — the vaunted might of Nasser was broken and shattered, and his army completely routed. The dwarf proved, in truth, to be, after all, only a dwarf — with great lung power. The forces of Great Britain and France were proceeding systematically with the taking over of the Canal Zone, when the United States intervened, as you well know. In an outburst of righteous indignation it summoned the Assembly of the United Nations and with

the cooperation of the Soviet Union, whose hands were just then red from the shambles of Hungary, and of the Asian-African Bloc, succeeded in having a cease-fire order adopted. Great Britain and France, responsive, as democracies must be, to world opinion, even if momentarily misguided, stopped their operations abruptly and withdrew from the Canal zone. Israel too, after considerable and largely fruitless negotiations, and in the face of threatened sanctions, also withdrew behind the armistice line. A United Nations force was dispatched to the area to supervise the maintenance of peace. Nasser, though decisively beaten on the military plane, thus scored a major diplomatic triumph. He is now back again, in full control of the Suez Canal. The Egyptian Civil Administration is back again in Gaza from which it had been expelled. The dwarf is on the shoulders of the giant again, crowing about his glorious victories — laughing at the world and frightening it.

Today, six months later, one wonders whether our government still feels as righteous and exalted about its precipitous intervention. There are many who are inclined to recall the words of Heine:

"For such a righteous act, men deserve to go to heaven, and there be thrashed every day with rods."

The past year was a very severe and trying one for Israel, one which tested it politically — its statesmanship — its maturity and, economically, its power of survival. Israel has met these tests successfully.

Even while the unnerving and unsettling events were taking place and all manner of hostile pressures was being applied to it, Israel continued to admit thousands of new settlers — in the first place the victims of Egypt's acts of terror, expropriation and expulsion. In passing, it might be noted that our government did not ease its immigration restrictions to permit the entrance of these victims of political persecution to our shores, as it had done in the case of the Hungarian refugees, and that no mercy air-lift was provided for them. Nor did the United States call upon the United Nations to investigate Egypt's outrageous treatment of its Jews — arrests, expulsions and economic strangulation and the revocation of citizenship, as it did in the case of Hungary.

And that prim legalist, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Hammarskjold, who has been so solicitous about defending every jot and title of Egypt's sovereign rights, has been strangely mute in the case of Egypt's clear violation of the United Nation's Declaration of Human Rights - which states that "no one shall be subject to arbitrary arrest, or deprived of his nationality, or of his property."

Israel has been admitting Jewish refugees from other countries as well -- North Africa, Hungary, Poland -- some 18,000 in the last two months alone. It is estimated that 100,000 will come to Israel this year! Israel has been constructing thousands of housing units for these new arrivals. It built and completed, during these days of extreme strain and tension, a pipe-line, which will carry oil from Elat on the Gulf of Aqaba to Beer-Sheba, the metropolis of the Negev -- and the construction of another line has now been started to carry oil from there to a port on the Mediterranean.

What courage is here -- and what vision! ()
"No weapon that is formed against you shall succeed".

Israel's troubles are by no means over; for there can be no peace in the Near East until our government, which is the most powerful factor in the Near East situation today, adopts a clear policy in reference to that important region and assumes clear, just and unequivocal commitments there. Such a policy has not yet evolved. What emerges, from time to time, is some unpredictable act, on America's own initiative, without prior consultation with its allies and without careful consideration of consequences, such as the reversal of its stand on the Aswan Dam or, on the other hand, a sudden total abdication and referral of all Near East problems to the United Nations without indicating its own position on the issue involved or a belated military commitment to the Baghdad Pact, or a pact with Saudi-Arabia on the matter of building an airfield, by the terms of which the United States will continue to sell arms to Saudi-Arabia and American officers will train the latter's army, navy and air personnel, on condition, of course, that no American-

Jew is to be included among these American officers. Our government, presumably to advance the cause of the American ideal of the equal rights for all its citizens, signed that agreement. I wonder if it would have signed such an agreement if it called for a ban, not on American Jews, but on American Presbyterians, or American Episcopalians, or American Catholics. I recall the time when a President of the United States abrogated a commercial treaty with the powerful Czarist empire because it discriminated against American Jewish citizens in the matter of honoring American passports. Presumably the red carpet is rolled out for those who can speak in the name of 3,000-million barrels of oil, but the rug is pulled from under the feet of those who can speak only in the name of the equality of American citizens and of their inalienable rights.

Israel will, for some time to come, and until a clear policy emerges, have to rely on itself -- on its own powers of self-defense and will have to build for strength. This is possible, and its recent experiences in Sinai may justify a confident prospect for the future.

What you are doing in this campaign, dear friends, -- what the Jews of America are doing -- is helping Israel to build for strength.

It is good to have had the promise of the President of the United States, made at the time of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza and Sharm El Sheikh that, "Israel will have no cause to regret this step". It is even better to know that a first-class Israeli fighting force is on hand to see that there will be no cause for regret. Legal experts can always find loopholes in any pledge or promise which our government makes, and there are plenty of such experts in our State Department. But men and women by the thousands and the tens of thousands and the hundreds of thousands, who are trained and prepared and equipped to defend their homeland, will act as a dependable and powerful deterrent to any political adventurer in that part of the world.

The sympathy of the free world is with Israel. Israel seeks no one's territory. It is eager for peace with all its Arab neighbors. It is prepared to negotiate all outstanding issues with them. It will, however, insist on the same sovereign rights which it concedes to them. And it will, with our aid, win through. These

valiant builders and fighters and dreamers, will win through -- in spite of all hostilities and conspiracies.

I recall a visit which I made to Russia in August 1935. I went to the Tzarske-Selo -- the Palace of the Czars in the outskirts of Leningrad. The Palace had been converted by the Soviet into a National Museum and it was kept exactly as it was left by the Tzar and his family, before they were carried off to their death.

I passed through many rooms of the Palace and finally came to a small library which adjoined the bedroom of the Czar and the Czarina. There on one of the bookshelves, I was startled to find a copy of Israel Zangwill's, "Dreamers of the Ghetto"... You can imagine what thoughts ran through my mind at that moment; the Tzar, the last of a long line of oppressors of the Jews, who denied them their elementary human rights, now long since dead, riddled with Bolshevik bullets -- and here in his former home, is this little volume, "Dreamers of the Ghetto", the story of the people whom the Czars sought to destroy, keeping, as it were, a lonely vigil over all their vanished pomp and power and glory . . .

The Czars are dead. But the dreamers of the Ghetto, having finally left their many dark Ghettos have, by their faith and courage, built for themselves, and for those who will follow them, a land of their own and a free home of their own.

They live; they live gloriously and creatively!

And we are determined to share in their hopes and in their sacrifices, even as we share in their pride.

Centuries of brutal persecution and oppression, which in the early half of the 19th century, ^{forced} ~~sent~~ tens of thousands of impoverished and starved sons and daughters of Ireland to leave their native land and to seek new homes -- and the prolonged campaign of slander and revilement directed against them did not break the spirit of this valiant people. Their fortunes touched bottom when they began their heroic uphill fight for freedom, for home rule and for national dignity.

Toward the close of the last century, the American poet, Walt Whitman, spoke of Ireland as an "ancient sorrowful mother, once a ^u ~~q~~een, now lean and tattered, crouching over a grave."

But the grave was not the goal of the Irish patriots, many of whom paid with their lives, that Ireland might be resurrected. They fought relentlessly against a powerful empire, in the face of overwhelming odds, with pen and sword, above ground and underground. Many died, many more were imprisoned, others were driven into exile. Their brothers and sisters, the Irish in America, though loyal citizens of the United States, came to their aid, politically and materially. They invoked the support of both political parties in our country. In May 1919 a Resolution was adopted in the Senate of the United States:-

"Resolved that the Senate of the United States express its sympathy with the aspirations of the Irish people for a government of their own choice."

And the Irish people won through to victory! All this, as you can readily see, would not escape the attention of the fighters for the freedom of the Jewish people, and for the reestablishment of the State of Israel.

I can, therefore, understand clearly enough why an underground fighter for the freedom of Ireland, like Mr. Briscoe, is such an ardent champion of the young State of Israel -- and why Jews who fought for the freedom of Israel are such admirers of Mr. Briscoe and such friends of free Ireland.

I said at the outset that we are assembled here in such numbers for two purposes. The second purpose is to inaugurate our 1957 Campaign for the Jewish Welfare Fund. ^{Our} That you have inaugurated ^{the Campaign} ~~it~~ most auspiciously, the figures which have been recorded

here this evening clearly indicate. You are living up to the noblest traditions ^{Fund is a many splendored thing covering a large range of beneficence}

of our community and to the high expectation which you have of yourselves. It demonstrates again that one should never lose confidence in our people. When Moses, commissioned by God to return to Egypt and to summon the people of Israel to freedom, expressed the fear, "They may not believe me", the rabbis declared: that "on this occasion Moses spoke not properly".

The heart of Israel is sound; its instinct for survival sure; its fundamental loyalties unwavering. At times the people are confused and sorely troubled. It is then the duty of its trusted leaders to give it light and replenish its faith and courage, but never to doubt it.

Since we last met in 1956, events of gravest moment have transpired which

have put Israel and the Near East on the front page of every newspaper in the world and upon the lips of all men. As an ultimate effort to put an end to an intolerable situation, brought about by the dictator of Egypt, Nasser, that dwarf on the Nile perched on the giant shoulders of communist Russia, Great Britain, France and Israel struck into Egypt — the former to take back the Suez Canal which Nasser had illegally siezed -- the latter to smash the military forces of Nasser, which had been mustered in large numbers in the Sinai Penninsula, along with vast arsenals of weapons and military equipment, poised to invade and destroy Israel. The campaign which Israel waged against Egypt was brilliantly successful. In one hundred hours, - hours not days - the vaunted might of Nasser was broken and shattered, and his army completely routed. The dwarf proved to be, after all, only a dwarf, with great lung power. The forces of Great Britain and France were proceeding systematically with the taking over of the Canal Zone, when the United States intervened, as you well know. In an outburst of righteous indignation it summoned the Assembly of the United Nations and with the cooperation of the Soviet Union, whose hands were just then red with the blood of Hungary, and the Asian-African Bloc, succeeded in having a cease-fire order adopted. Great Britain and France, responsive, as democracies must be, to world opinion, even if misguided, stopped their operations and withdrew from the Canal. Israel too, after considerable but largely fruitless negotiations, and in the face of threatened sanctions, also withdrew behind the

and which covered them selves to an generosity. I limit myself to one or two of the major beneficiaries because of the urgency of their needs, and their historic importance.

The heart of Israel is sound; its instinct for survival sure; its fundamental loyalties unwavering. At times the people are confused and sorely troubled. It is

then the duty of its trusted leaders to give it light and replenish its faith and courage, but never to doubt it. It is a duty which is often to be fulfilled in the face of the most difficult and dangerous circumstances. Since we last met in 1950, events of greatest moment have transpired which

have put Israel and the Near East on the front page of every newspaper in the world

and upon the lips of all men. As an ultimate effort to put an end to an intolerable situation, brought about by the dictator of Egypt, Nasser, that heart of the Nile

perched on the giant shoulders of communist Russia, Great Britain, France and

Israel struck into Egypt - to take back the Suez Canal which Nasser

had illegally seized -- the forces of Nasser, which

had been mustered in large numbers in the Sinai Peninsula, along with vast armaments

of weapons and military equipment, poised to invade and destroy Israel. The

campaign which Israel waged against Egypt was brilliantly successful. In one hundred

hours, - hours not days - the mounted might of Nasser was broken and shattered, and

his army completely routed. The desert proved to be, after all, only a desert, with

great lung power. The forces of Great Britain and France were proceeding system-

atically with the taking over of the Canal Zone, when the United States intervened,

as you well know. In an effort of righteous indignation it summoned the Assembly

of the United Nations and with the cooperation of the Soviet Union, whose hands were

just then not so clean, and the Asian-African bloc, succeeded in

having a cease-fire order adopted. Great Britain and France, responsive, as

democracies must be, to world opinion, even if misinterpreted, stopped their operations

and withdrew from the Canal. Israel too, after considerable and largely fruitless

negotiations, and in the face of threatened sanctions, also withdrew behind the

WRHS



armistice line. A United Nations force was dispatched to the area to supervise the maintenance of peace. Nasser, though decisively beaten on the military plane, *thus* scored a major diplomatic triumph. He is now back again, in full control of the Suez Canal. The Egyptian Civil Administration is back again in Gaza from which it had been expelled. The dwarf is on the shoulders of the giant again, crowing about his glorious victories -- laughing at the world and ~~frightening~~ it.

Today, six months later, one wonders whether our government ^{still} feels as righteous and exalted about its precipitous intervention. There are many who are inclined to recall the words of Heine:

"For such a righteous act, men deserve to go to heaven, and there be thrashed every day with rods."

The past year was a very severe and trying one for Israel, one which tested it politically - its statesmanship - its maturity and, economically - its power of survival. Israel ^{has} met both tests successfully.

Even while the unnerving and unsettling events were taking place and all ~~various~~ ^{was being} kinds of hostile pressures ~~were~~ ^{continued to} applied to it, Israel ~~was~~ ^{admitted} thousands of new settlers -- in the first place the victims of Egypt's acts of terror, expropriation and expulsion. In passing, it might be noted that our government did not ease its immigration restrictions to permit the entrance of these victims of political persecution, ^{to our shores} as it had done in the case of the Hungarian refugees, and that no mercy air-lift was provided for them. Nor did the United States call upon the United Nations to investigate Egypt's outrageous treatment of its Jews -- arrests, expulsions, ^{and the} economic strangulation, ^{to} revocation of citizenship, as it did in the case of Hungary.

And that prin legalist, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Hammarskjold, who has been so solicitous about defending every jot and tittle of Egypt's sovereign rights, has been strangely mute in the case of Egypt's clear violation of the United Nation's Declaration of Human Rights - which states that "no one shall be subject to arbitrary arrest, or deprived of his nationality, or of his property."

Israel has been admitting Jewish refugees from other countries ^{as well} -- North Africa,

Hungary, Poland -- some ¹⁸25,000 in the last two months alone. It is estimated that 100,000 will come to Israel this year! ^{Israel} ~~It~~ has been constructing thousands of housing units for ^{these} ~~the~~ new arrivals. It built and completed, during these days of ~~system~~ strain and tension, a pipe-line, which will carry oil from Elat on the Gulf of Aqaba to Beer-Sheba, the metropolis of the Negev -- and the construction of another line has ^{now started} ~~been begun~~ to carry oil from there to a port on the Mediterranean.

What courage is here -- and what vision! ^{p. 3, 1st p. 11, 23-1, 6, 5} "No weapon that is formed against you shall succeed".

Israel's troubles are by no means over; for there can be no peace in the Near East until our government, which is ~~today~~ ^{to-day} the most powerful factor in the Near East situation, ^{to-day} adopts a clear policy in reference to that important region and assumes clear, just and unequivocal commitments there. Such a policy has not yet evolved. What emerges, from time to time, is some unpredictable act, on ^{America's} ~~its~~ own initiative, without prior consultation with its allies and without careful consideration of consequences, such as the reversal of its stand on the Aswan Dam or, on the other hand, a ^{sudden} ~~total~~ ^{abdication and} referral of all Near East problems to the United Nations without indicating its ^{on the issue involved} ~~own firm~~ position, or a belated military commitment to the Baghdad Pact, or a pact with Saudi-Arabia on the matter of building an airfield, by the terms of which the United States will continue to sell arms to Saudi-Arabia and American officers will train the latter's army, navy and air personnel, on condition, of course, that no American-Jew is to be included among these American officers.

^{Our government} ~~President Eisenhower~~, presumably to advance the cause of the American ideal of the equal rights ~~of~~ all ~~of~~ its citizens, signed that agreement. I wonder if ~~he~~ ^{it}

~~he~~ would have signed such an agreement if it called for a ban, not on American Jews, but on American Presbyterians, or American Episcopalians, or American Catholics.

^{our} Presumably the red carpet is rolled out for those who can speak in the name of 3,000 million barrels of oil, but the rug is pulled from under the feet of those who can speak only in the name of the equality of American citizens and of their inalienable ~~human~~ rights.

Israel will, for some time to come, and until a clear policy emerges, have

I recall the time when a President, the
United States abrogated a century
treaty with the people. Grant signed
because it discriminated against American
Jews at that time in the matter of ~~protection~~
immigration. American papers

you shall succeed".

Israel's troubles are by no means over; for there can be no peace in the Near

East until our government, which is today the most powerful factor in the Near

East situation, adopts a clear policy in reference to that important region and

assumes clear, just and unequivocal commitments there. Such a policy has not yet

emerged. What emerges, first time in time, is an unpredictable act, on its own

initiative, without prior consultation with the allies and without external consid-

eration of consequences, and it is based on the Jewish Law of, on

the other hand, a total rejection of the United Nations with-

out indicating its own position in the Arab-Palestine

a pact with Saudi-Arabia on the matter of building an airfield, by the terms of

which the United States will continue to sell arms to Saudi-Arabia and American

officers will train the latter's army, navy and air personnel, on condition, of

course, that no American-Jew is to be included among these American officers.

It is a pity to advance the cause of the American ideal of

the equal rights of all its citizens, signed that agreement. I wonder if

we would have signed such an agreement if it called for a ban, not on American

Jews, but on American Presbyterians, or American Baptists.

Presumably the red carpet is rolled out for those who can speak in the name of

3,000 million barrels of oil, but the rug is pulled from under the feet of those

who can speak only in the name of the equality of American citizens and of their

inalienable rights.

Israel will, for some time to come, and until a clear policy emerges, have

to rely on itself -- on its own powers of self-defense and will have to build for strength. This is possible, and its recent experiences in Sinai may justify a confident prospect for the future.

What you are doing in this campaign, ^{dear friends,} -- what the Jews of America are doing -- is helping Israel to build for strength.

It is good to have had the promise of the President of the United States, made at the time of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza and Sharm El Sheikh that, "Israel will have no cause to regret this step". It is even better to know that a first-class Israeli fighting force is on hand to see that there will be no cause for regret. Legal experts can ^{always} find loopholes in any pledge or promise which our government makes, and there are plenty of ^{such experts} ~~them~~ in our State Department. But men and women by the thousands and the tens of thousands and the hundreds of thousands, who are trained and prepared and equipped to defend their homeland, will act as a dependable and powerful deterrent to any political adventurer in that part of the world.

The sympathy of the free world is with Israel. Israel seeks no one's territory. It is eager for peace with all its Arab neighbors. It is prepared to negotiate all outstanding issues with them. It will, however, insist on the same sovereign rights which it concedes to them. And it will, with our aid, win through. These valiant builders and fighters and dreamers, will win through -- in spite of all hostilities and conspiracies.

I recall a visit which I made to Russia in August 1935. I went to the Tzarske-Selo -- the Palace of the Czars in the outskirts of Leningrad. The Palace had been converted by the Soviet into a National Museum and ^{it was} ~~they~~ kept ~~it~~ exactly as it was left by the Tzar and his family, before they were carried off to their death.

I passed through many rooms of the Palace and finally came to a small library which adjoined the bedroom of the Czar and the Czarina. There on one of the bookshelves, I was startled to find a copy of Israel Zangwill's, "Dreamers of the Ghetto". . . . You can imagine what thoughts ran through my mind at that moment; the Tzar, the

last of a long line of oppressors of the Jews, who denied them their elementary human rights, now long since dead, riddled with Bolshevik bullets -- and here in ^{his} ~~its~~ former home, is this little volume, "Dreamers of the Ghetto", the story of the people whom the Czars ~~persecuted and~~ sought to destroy, keeping, as it were, a lonely vigil over all ^{their} ~~that~~ vanished pomp and power and glory...

The Czars are dead. But the dreamers of the Ghetto, having ^{finally} left their many dark Ghettos have, by their faith and courage, built for themselves, and for those who will follow them, a land of their own and a free home of their own. They live; they live gloriously and creatively!

And we are determined to share in their hopes and in their sacrifices, even as we share in their pride.



Centuries of brutal persecution and oppression, which in the early half of the 19th century, sent tens of thousands of impoverished and starved sons and daughters of Ireland to leave their native land and to seek new homes -- and the prolonged campaign of slander and revilement directed against them did not break the spirit of this valiant people. Their fortunes touched bottom when they began their heroic uphill fight for freedom, for home rule and for national dignity.

Toward the close of the last century, the American poet, Walt Whitman, spoke of Ireland as an "ancient sorrowful mother, once a queen, now lean and tattered, crouching over a grave."

But the grave was not the goal of the Irish patriots, many of whom paid with their lives, that Ireland might be resurrected. They fought relentlessly against a powerful empire, in the face of overwhelming odds, with pen and sword, above ground and underground. Many died, many more were imprisoned, others were driven into exile. Their brothers and sisters, the Irish in America, though loyal citizens of the United States, came to their aid, politically and materially. They invoked the support of both political parties in our country. In May 1919 a Resolution was adopted in the Senate of the United States:-

"Resolved that the Senate of the United States express its sympathy with the aspirations of the Irish people for a government of their own choice."

And the Irish people won through to victory! All this, as you can readily see, would not escape the attention of the fighters for the freedom of the Jewish people, and for the reestablishment of the State of Israel.

I can, therefore, understand clearly enough why an underground fighter for the freedom of Ireland, like Mr. Briscoe, is such an ardent champion of the young State of Israel -- and why Jews who fought for the freedom of Israel are such admirers of Mr. Briscoe and such friends of free Ireland.

I said at the outset that we are assembled here in such numbers for two purposes. The second purpose is to inaugurate our 1957 Campaign for the Jewish Welfare Fund. That you have inaugurated it most auspiciously, the figures which have been recorded here this evening clearly indicate. You are living up to the noblest traditions

of our community and to the high expectation which you have of yourselves. It demonstrates again that one should never lose confidence in our people. When Moses, commissioned by God to return to Egypt and to summon the people of Israel to freedom, expressed the fear, "They may not believe me", the rabbis declared that "on this occasion Moses spoke not properly".

The heart of Israel is sound; its instinct for survival sure; its fundamental loyalties unwavering. At times the people are confused and sorely troubled. It is then the duty of its trusted leaders to give it light and replenish its faith and courage, but never to doubt it.

Since we last met in 1956, events of gravest moment have transpired which put Israel and the Near East on the front page of every newspaper in the world and upon the lips of all men. As an ultimate effort to put an end to an intolerable situation, brought about by the dictator of Egypt, Nasser, that dwarf on the Nile perched on the giant shoulders of communist Russia; Great Britain, France and Israel struck into Egypt -- the former to take back the Suez Canal which Nasser had illegally siezed -- the latter to smash the military forces of Nasser, which had been mustered in large numbers in the Sinai Penninsula, along with vast arsenals of weapons and military equipment, poised to invade and destroy Israel. The campaign which Israel waged against Egypt was brilliantly successful. In one hundred hours, - hours not days - the vaunted might of Nasser was broken and shattered, and his army completely routed. The dwarf proved to be, after all, only a dwarf, with great lung power. The forces of Great Britain and France were proceeding systematically with the taking over of the Canal Zone, when the United States intervened, as you well know. In an outburst of righteous indignation it summoned the Assembly of the United Nations and with the cooperation of the Soviet Union, whose hands were just then red with the blood of Hungary, and the Asian-African Bloc, succeeded in having a cease-fire order adopted. Great Britain and France, responsive, as democracies must be, to world opinion, even if misguided, stopped their operations and withdrew from the Canal. Israel too, after considerable but largely fruitless negotiations, and in the face of threatened sanctions, also withdrew behind the

armistice line. A United Nations force was dispatched to the area to supervise the maintenance of peace. Nasser, though decisively beaten on the military plane, scored a major diplomatic triumph. He is now back again, in full control of the Suez Canal. The Egyptian Civil Administration is back again in Gaza from which it had been expelled. The dwarf is on the shoulders of the giant again, crowing about his glorious victories -- laughing at the world and frightening it.

Today, six months later, one wonders whether our government feels as righteous and exalted about its precipitous intervention. There are many who are inclined to recall the words of Heine,

"For such a righteous act, men deserve to go to heaven, and there be thrashed every day with rods."

The past year was a very severe and trying one for Israel, one which tested it politically - its statesmanship - its maturity and, economically - its power of survival. Israel met both tests successfully.

Even while the unnerving and unsettling events were taking place and all kinds of hostile pressures were applied to it, Israel was admitting thousands of new settlers -- in the first place the victims of Egypt's acts of terror, expropriation and expulsion. In passing, it might be noted that our government did not ease its immigration restrictions to permit the entrance of these victims of political persecution, as it had done in the case of the Hungarian refugees, and that no mercy air-lift was provided for them. Nor did the United States call upon the United Nations to investigate Egypt's outrageous treatment of its Jews -- arrests, expulsions - economic strangulation - revocation of citizenship, as it did in the case of Hungary.

And that prin legalist, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Hammarskjold, who has been so solicitous about defending every jot and tittle of Egypt's sovereign rights, has been strangely mute in the case of Egypt's clear violation of the United Nation's Declaration of Human Rights - which states that "no one shall be subject to arbitrary arrest, or deprived of his nationality, or of his property."

Israel has been admitting Jewish refugees from other countries -- North Africa,

Hungary, Poland -- some 20,000 in the last two months alone. It is estimated that 100,000 will come to Israel this year! It has been constructing thousands of housing units for the new arrivals. It built and completed, during these days of strain and tension, a pipe-line, which will carry oil from Elat on the Gulf of Aqaba to Beer-Sheba, the metropolis of the Negev -- and the construction of another line has been begun to carry oil from there to a port on the Mediterranean.

What courage is here -- and what vision! "No weapon that is formed against you shall succeed".

Israel's troubles are by no means over, for there can be no peace in the Near East until our government, which is today the most powerful factor in the Near East situation, adopts a clear policy in reference to that important region and assumes clear, just and unequivocal commitments there. Such a policy has not yet evolved. What emerges, from time to time, is some unpredictable act, on its own initiative, without prior consultation with its allies and without careful consideration of consequences, such as the reversal of its stand on the Aswan Dam or, on the other hand, a total referral of all Near East problems to the United Nations without indicating its own firm position or ^{a belated} military commitment to the Baghdad Pact, or a pact with Saudi-Arabia on the matter of building an airfield by the terms of which the United States will continue to sell arms to Saudi-Arabia and American officers will train the latter's army, navy and air personnel, on condition, of course, that no American-Jew is to be included among these American officers. President Eisenhower, presumably to advance the cause of the American ideal of the equal rights of all of its citizens, signed that agreement. I wonder if he would have signed such an agreement if it called for a ban, not on American Jews, but on American Presbyterians, or American Episcopalians, or American Catholics. Presumably the red carpet is rolled out for those who can speak in the name of 3,000 million barrels of oil, but the rug is pulled from under the feet of those who can speak only in the name of the equality of American citizens and of their inalienable human rights.

Israel will, for some time to come, and until a clear policy emerges, have

to rely on itself -- on its own powers of self-defense and will have to build for strength. This is possible, and its recent experiences in Sinai may justify a confident prospect for the future.

What you are doing in this campaign -- what the Jews of America are doing -- is helping Israel to build for strength.

It is good to have had the promise of the President of the United States, made at the time of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza and Sharm El Sheikh that, "Israel will have no cause to regret this step". It is even better to know that a first-class Israeli fighting force is on hand to see that there will be no cause for regret. Legal experts can find loopholes in any pledge or promise which our government makes, and there are plenty of them in our State Department. But men and women by the thousands and the tens of thousands and the hundreds of thousands, who are trained and prepared and equipped to defend their homeland, will act as a dependable and powerful deterrent to any political adventurer in that part of the world.

The sympathy of the free world is with Israel. Israel seeks no one's territory. It is eager for peace with all its Arab neighbors. It is prepared to negotiate all outstanding issues with them. It will, however, insist on the same sovereign rights which it concedes to them. And it will, with our aid, win through. These valiant builders and fighters and dreamers, will win through -- in spite of all hostilities and conspiracies.

I recall a visit which I made to Russia in August 1935. I went to the Tzarske-Selo -- the Palace of the Czars in the outskirts of Leningrad. The Palace had been converted by the Soviet into a National Museum and they kept it exactly as it was left by the Tzar and his family, before they were carried off to their death.

I passed through many rooms of the Palace and finally came to a small library which adjoined the bedroom of the Czar and the Czarina. There on one of the bookshelves, I was startled to find a copy of Israel Zangwill's, "Dreamers of the Ghetto". . . . You can imagine what thoughts ran through my mind at that moment; the Tzar, the

last of a long line of oppressors of the Jews, who denied them their elementary human rights, now long since dead, riddled with Bolshevik bullets -- and here in its former home, is this little volume, "Dreamers of the Ghetto", the story of the people whom the Czars persecuted and sought to destroy, keeping, as it were, a lonely vigil over all that vanished pomp and power and glory.

The Czars are dead. But the dreamers of the Ghetto, having left their many dark Ghettos have, by their faith and courage, built for themselves, and for those who will follow them, a land of their own and a free home of their own. They live; they live gloriously and creatively.

And we are determined to share in their hopes and in their sacrifices, even as we share in their pride.



My dear friends, you have assembled here, in such large numbers, for two purposes: first, to pay honor to a brave man, whose Irish luck and Jewish mazel, made him Lord Mayor of Dublin.

Ireland, they say, is a country in which 'the probable never happens, but the impossible always does'. And what was more 'impossible' in the minds of those who do not know the unpredictable Irish, than for an orthodox Jew to be elected chief magistrate of the principal city of Catholic Ireland.

But there are two places in the world where miracles still happen - Ireland and Israel. Our tradition has it that the millenium, when it comes, will be preceded by two Messiahs, one, the Messiah ben Joseph, and the other, Messiah ben David. Well, the election of a Jew to be Mayor of Dublin, means that the Messiah ben Joseph has come. When an Irishman will be elected Mayor of Jerusalem, it will mean that the Messiah ben David has come, and the millenium will have definitely arrived.

I am heartened and grateful for Mr. Briscoe's presence in our midst tonight, for Ireland was very much in our minds when we carried on our long, often bitter, struggle, for the establishment of the State of Israel. The historic experience of the Irish people was so reminiscent of our own that their long, uphill struggle for freedom, was an inspiration and challenge to us, as was the loyalty of the Irish Americans to their ancestral home.

Centuries of brutal persecution and oppression, which in the early half of the 19th century, sent tens of thousands of its impoverished and starved sons and daughters to leave their native land and to seek new homes -- and a prolonged

campaign of slander and revilement did not break the spirit of this valiant race. Their fortunes touched bottom when they began their heroic fight for freedom, for home rule and for their national dignity.

Toward the close of the last century, the American poet, Walt Whitman, spoke of Ireland as an "ancient sorrowful mother, once a queen, now lean and tattered, crouching over a grave."

But the grave was not the goal of the Irish patriots, and many of them paid with their lives, that Ireland might be resurrected. They fought valiantly, with pen and sword, above ground and underground. Many of them died, many were imprisoned, many were driven into exile, and their brothers and sisters, though loyal citizens of the United States, came to their aid, politically and materially. They invoked the support of both political parties in our own country. In May 1919 a Resolution was adopted in the Senate of the United States:-

"Resolved that the Senate of the United States express its sympathy with the aspirations of the Irish people for a government of their own choice."

And the Irish people won through to victory. All this was very much in the minds of Jewish fighters for the freedom of the Jewish people and the reestablishment of the State of Israel.

I can understand clearly enough, therefore, why an underground fighter for the freedom of Ireland, like Mr. Briscoe, is such an ardent champion of the young State of Israel — and why those of us who have fought for the freedom of Israel are such admirers of Mr. Briscoe and such friends of free Ireland.

I said at the outset, that we are assembled here in such large numbers, for two purposes. The second is to inaugurate our 1957 Campaign for the Jewish Welfare Fund. That you have inaugurated it most auspiciously, the figures which are recorded here this evening clearly indicate. You are living up to your noblest traditions — and the high expectation which you have of yourselves. One should never lack confidence in our people. When Moses, commissioned by God to return to Egypt and to summon the people of Israel to freedom, expressed the fear, "They may not believe me", the rabbis

declared that "our Moses spoke not properly".

The heart of Israel is sound; its instinct for survival sure; its fundamental loyalties unchangeable. At times it is confused and sorely troubled. It is then the duty of its trusted leaders to give it light and to replenish its faith and courage, but never to doubt it.

Since we last met in 1956, events of gravest moment have transpired which put Israel and the Near East upon the front page of every newspaper in the world and upon the lips of all men. In a determined effort to put an end to an intolerable situation, brought about by the dictators of Egypt, Nasser, that dwarf on the Nile, who was perched on the giant shoulders of communist Russia, Great Britain, France and Israel struck into Egypt, - the former to take back the Suez Canal, which Nasser had illegally seized, - the latter to smash the military forces of Nasser, which were mustered in large numbers in the Sinai Peninsula, together with staggering arsenals of military equipment, poised to invade and destroy Israel. The campaign which Israel waged against Egypt was brilliantly successful, and in one hundred hours, the vaunted might of Egypt Nasser lay broken, scattered and completely routed. The dwarf proved after all, to be only a dwarf, with great lung power. The forces of great Britain and France proceeded systematically to the taking over of the Canal when the United States intervened, as you well know, ^{and} in an outburst of righteous indignation, summoned the assembly of the United Nations, and with the cooperation of the Soviet Union, and the Asian-African Bloc, voted a cease fire order. Great Britain and France, responsive, as Democracies must be, to world opinion, stopped their operations and withdrew from the Canal. Israel too, after considerable, but largely fruitless negotiations, and in the face of threatened sanctions, also withdrew behind the armistice line. A United Nations force was dispatched to the area to supervise the maintenance of peace. Nasser, who was decisively beaten, is now back again, in full control of the Suez Canal - the Egyptian Civil Administration is back again in Gaza, from which it had been expelled - the dwarf is on the shoulders of the giant again, crowing about his great victories - laughing at the world and

4

frightening it.

Today, six months later, one wonders whether our government feels as righteous about its precipitous intervention in this affair. Some are inclined to recall the words of Heine,

"For such a righteous act, men deserve to go to
heaven, and there be thrashed every day with rods."

The past year was a very severe and trying one for Israel, one which tested it politically - its statesmanship - its maturity and, economically its power of survival. Under terrific economic strain and reduced income, Israel met both tests successfully. Even while these unnerving and unsettling events were taking place (and they are still taking place) Israel was admitting thousands of new settlers - victims of Egypt's terror expropriation and expulsion. In passing, it might be noted that our government did not ease its immigration restrictions to permit the entrance of these victims of political persecution, as it had done in the case of the Hungarian refugees, and that no mercy air-lift was provided for them. Nor did it call upon the United Nations to investigate Egypt's outrageous treatment of Jews -- arrests, expulsions - economic strangulation - revocation of citizenship, as it did in the case of Hungary.

And why, one wonders, is that prim legalist, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Hammerschold, who has been, and is, so solicitous about defending every jot and tittle of Egypt's sovereignty - why has he not spoken out in indignation, in the case of Egypt's clear violation of the United Nations Declaration of human rights which states that "no one shall be subject to arbitrary arrest, or deprived of his nationality, or of his property."

Israel has been admitting Jewish refugees from other countries - North Africa, Hungary, Poland - some 20,000 in the last two months alone. It is estimated that 100,000 will come to Israel this year! It constructed thousands of housing units for the new ~~immigrants~~ arrivals. It built and completed, during these days of strain and tension, a pipe-line, which will carry oil from Elat on the Gulf of Aqaba to Beer-Sheba, the metropolis of the Negev - and the construction of another line

has been begun to carry oil from a port on the Mediterranean. This opens a vast new vista upon the future economic growth and development of the young State.

What courage is here -- and what vision! "No weapon that is formed against you shall succeed".

Israel's troubles are by no means at an end, for there will be no peace in the Near East until our government, which is today the most powerful factor in the Near East situation, adopts a clear policy in reference to that important region and assumes clear, just and unequivocal commitments there. Such a clear policy ^{has} ~~is~~ not yet evolved. What emerges, from time to time, is an unpredictable initiative, without careful consideration of consequences, such as the reversal of our stand on the building of the Aswan Dam, or a total referral of all Near East problems to the United Nations, or an isolated military commitment to the Baghdad Pact, or an Airfield for Arms Pact with Saudi-Arabia, by the terms of which the United States will continue to sell arms to Saudi-Arabia and American officers will train the army, navy and air personell^m of Saudi-Arabia. On condition, of course, that no American-Jew is to be included among these American officers. President Eisenhower, presumably to advance the cause of the American ideal of Democracy and of the equal rights of all of its citizens, signed that agreement. I wonder if he would have signed such an agreement if it called for a ban, not on American Jews, but on American Presbyterians, or American Episcopalians, or American Catholics. Presumably the red carpet is rolled out for those who can speak in the name of 3,000-billion barrels of oil. But the rug is pulled from under the feet of those who can speak only in the name of the equality of the American citizens and their inalienable human rights.

Israel will, for some time to come, and until a clear policy emerges, have to rely on itself -- on its own powers of self-defense and build for strength. This is possible. And its recent experiences may justify a confident prospect for the future.

What you are doing in this campaign -- what the Jews of America are doing is helping Israel to build her strength.

It is good to have had the promise of the President of the United States, which was made at the time of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza and Sharm El Sheikh that, "Israel will have no cause to regret this step". It is even better to know that a first class Israeli fighting force is on hand to see that there will be no cause for regret. Legal experts can find loopholes in any pledge or promise which our government makes, and there are plenty of them in our State Department. But men and women by the thousands and the tens of thousands and hundreds of thousands, who are trained and prepared and equipped to defend their homeland, will act as a powerful deterrent to any political adventure in that part of the world.

The sympathy of the free world is with Israel. Israel seeks no one's territory. It is eager for peace with all its Arab neighbors. It is prepared to negotiate all outstanding issues with them. It will however, insist on the same sovereign rights which it concedes to all its neighbors. It will, with our aid, win through. These valiant builders and fighters and dreamers, will win through -- in spite of all hostility.

I recall a visit which I made to Russia in August 1935. I went to the Tzarske-Selo -- the Palace of the Czars on the outskirts of Leningrad. The Palace had been converted by the Soviet, to a National Museum and they kept it exactly as it was left by the Tzar and his family, before they were carried off and executed.

I passed through many rooms of the Palace and finally came to a small Library adjoining the bedroom of the Czar and the Czarina and there on one of the bookshelves, I was startled to see a copy of Israel Zangwill's, ~~and~~ "Dreamers of the Ghetto". You can imagine what thoughts ran through my mind at that moment: the Czar, the last of a long line of oppressors of the Jews, who denied them their elementary human rights, now long since dead, riddled with Bolshevik bullets -- and here is this little volume, "Dreamers of the Ghetto", the story of the indomitable faith and courage of the Jews whom the Czars persecuted, keeping, as it were, a lonely vigil over his vanished pomp and power and glory.

The Czars are dead. But the dreamers of the Ghetto have left their many dark

Ghettos in the world, and have, by their faith and courage and ideals, built for themselves, and those who will follow them, a land of their own and a free home of their own.

And we are determined to share in their hopes and in their sacrifices, even as we share in their pride.






*You are cordially
invited to attend the
official opening
dinner meeting*



1957 Jewish Welfare Fund Appeal

Thursday, April 11, 6:30 p.m.

Hotel Statler Ballroom



Guest Speaker

The Right Honorable Robert Briscoe

Lord Mayor of Dublin, Ireland

Campaign keynote address by

Rabbi Akiva Hillel Silver

DRESS INFORMAL

\$5.00 PER PERSON

Kindly mail reservations, with check, in enclosed envelope.

Reservations accepted up to capacity of the Ballroom.

