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The New Palestine, 1947 May.

THE New Palestine

NEWS REPORTER ISSUE

Vol. XXXVII No. 17

MAY 9, 1947

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United Nations Hears Silver's Plea

On the second anniversary of VE Day, marking the end in Europe of World War II in which six million Jews were exterminated, the voice of the Jewish people for the first time was heard before a world tribunal, through Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, as chairman of the American section of the Jewish Agency Executive. Before representatives of 55 nations, Dr. Silver made a powerful plea to the UN, as heir to the League of Nations, to recognize and honor international commitments which promised the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish State. In behalf of the Jewish Agency, the official body recognized under the Mandate as representing the Jewish people in relation to Palestine, Dr. Silver asked an immediate relaxation of the restrictive measures on immigration into Palestine and the abolition of the White Paper policy of 1939.

In an impressive half-hour address to which the delegates of the 55 nations listened with rapt attention, the American Zionist leader, who was flanked by Moshe Shertok, Dr. Emanuel Neumann and Dr. Nahum Goldmann, presented the following proposals for the projected Inquiry Committee:

1. That Great Britain be asked for an account of its stewardship of the Palestine Mandate.
2. That the Inquiry Committee visit Palestine to ascertain how Jewish achievements have

been of benefit to all elements of the population.

3. While in Palestine, the Inquiry Committee should consider the potentiality of the country if properly developed.

4. The Commission in Palestine should inquire into the real causes of the violence and inquire why Jewish immigrant ships are driven from its ports; Jewish pioneers came not with weapons but with tools.

5. The Commission should visit displaced persons camps in Europe and pending its report, displaced Jews should be allowed to immigrate in large masses into Palestine; the problem of displaced persons brooks no delay, he said.

QUOTES BRITISH, U. S. PLEDGES

Dr. Silver in his address traced the legal justification for the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine from the Balfour Declaration of 1917, the Mandate of 1922 and statements and pledges by Lloyd George, Winston Churchill, Field Marshal Jan Christian Smuts and Lord Robert Cecil, all representatives of the British Empire; Presidents Wilson and Truman, and the platform of the British Labor Party in support of the Zionist position.

Seated at a great oval table between the Cuban and Czechoslovakian delegates, Dr. Silver's appearance before the Political Commit-

tee of the United Nations gave the Zionist cause a great moral boost after weeks in which the fate of the Jewish people was under discussion while the voice of our people was stilled. It came a day after the General Assembly yielded to Arab threats, and in an appeasement move, convened an emergency session to approve a formal invitation to the Arab Higher Committee headed by the former Mufti, for equal standing with the Jewish Agency.

Dr. Silver read his statement with an eloquence of restrained force, his voice becoming slightly suffused with emotion only in a few passages which stressed the Jewish tragedy. There was a hushed and respectful silence as Dr. Silver spoke. Gomyko and Cadogan watched him intently. As he finished, Lester Pearson, the Canadian delegate who is the chairman of the Committee, showed his respect in his manner and in his voice. Asaf Ali, the Indian delegate, was the first one to congratulate Dr. Silver on his eloquence and his moderation. He then proceeded to ask some questions which the chairman good naturedly declared to be out of order. Sir Alexander Cadogan felt it was proper for him to offer his contribution by a readiness to answer questions now—which was in answer to Dr. Silver's request that the Mandatory give an account of its stewardship now rather than wait till the regular Assembly in September.

Fight on Composition of Committee of Inquiry

As we go to press, the composition of the proposed Inquiry Commission is being fought over in the Political Committee as well as sub-committee on terms of reference. U. S. representative Austin, supported by Britain, demanded that the proposed Committee of Inquiry be composed of representatives of seven neutral states with the five big powers excluded. Gromyko, supported by Slavic states, demanded that the Big Five be included

with an Arab representative as a member on the Committee. A compromise has been offered by Argentina.

David Ben Gurion has arrived in New York. He will appear at the United Nations together with Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Moshe Shertok, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Haim Greenberg and Mrs. Rose Halprin, members of the Executive.

Letter on Palestine Policy of U. S. Misinterpreted, Says Sec. Marshall

U. S. Secretary of State Marshall, at a press conference on May 7, declared that his "no policy" letter to 30 Congressmen was misunderstood. He asserted that there has been no change in our attitude towards Palestine. We are just not press-

ing our point of view at this time. We believe that the matter should be settled at a high level at the special UN session. An Inquiry Committee of neutrals other than the great powers will have the best chance of reaching an acceptable conclusion," he declared.



Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American section of the Jewish Agency Executive, testifying before the United Nations' Political and Security Committee at Lake Success (N.Y.).

Latin Americans, Slavs Force Hearing for Jewish Agency

Stand by U. S. Delegate At UN Session Attacked

According to many newspaper reporters, the Jewish Agency for Palestine had "a good day" on May 5, when the General Assembly voted to give the Agency a hearing before the Political Committee. But the "patient" suffered a relapse of a sort, for upon second thought, it was realized that a "hearing" was not quite the same thing as non-voting participation before the full Assembly. Thus, even though the weak American proposal to refer Jewish requests for a hearing to the Political Committee was beaten, the Jews remain more on the outside looking in than inside together with the Arabs.

It was apparent, as the General Assembly met on Monday, May 5, that most of the nations were unwilling to follow the weasel-worded American resolution. But the Polish-Czech proposal that the Jews be heard before the full Assembly went down to defeat 39 to 8, with seven abstentions. The Slav bloc, which fought furiously for the Jews, knew they faced defeat, but for the sake of the record, they asked for the open vote. When they lost, it became clear to the delegates and to Mr. Aranha, the chairman, that a compromise solution would have to be found. This was highlighted when Dr. Herman Cruz of Chile, Sava Kosanovic of Yugoslavia and Enrique Fabregat of Uruguay made eloquent and moving speeches favoring hearing the Jews. Dr. Cruz attacked Senator Austin's views and said that "there can be no real difference between the two methods" (being heard before the committee or the Assembly).

More Than Procedure

The Yugoslav, who opened the debate, stressed time and again that the Jews were looking to the UN as a symbol of fairness. There is more than just procedural debate involved here, he said: there is the question of the survival of a people. He added that if the Agency itself did not receive a hearing in the Assembly, he would ask for a vote on his own resolution. The Uruguayan was particularly penetrating and he declared that he had studied the UN charter closely to discover whether "by any kind of casuistry" the Jewish Agency was barred from a hearing before the Assembly. He said it was not. This was a blow against Austin's viewpoint.

When Aranha heard these speeches, he realized that something had to be done, so he suggested that those in favor of hearing the Agency draft a resolution to that effect.

After lunch, a joint resolution was drafted by Chile, Byelo-Russia, Yugoslavia, Argentina and Uruguay, which resolved that "the first committee grant a hearing to the Jewish Agency for Palestine on the question before the committee." The second part of the resolution was just as meaningful. It proposed that "other communications of a similar character from the Palestinian population" should be submitted to the first committee.

The Arabs realized that this meant the Arab Higher Committee may not be heard at all. They grew furious, especially after the joint resolution was overwhelmingly carried 44 to 7. Of course the seven included the five Arab states, plus Afghanistan and Turkey. India, Iran and Siam abstained. Costa Rica was absent.

Previous to this stage, the Arabs made their most serious

mistake. All week they had been taxing the patience of Mr. Aranha by talking irrelevantly. When the Arabs realized that they faced complete defeat, one of their scheduled speakers, Farid Zeined-dine of Syria, delivered himself of a repetitive speech. But this time the Jews were thankful that he did. Instead of pertinently asking that the adopted resolution be amended to allow the Arab Higher Committee to speak at the first committee, he rambled. Mr. Aranha cut him short, saying that he had been more than liberal with the tiresome Arab speakers.

When the Syrian was finished, the more astute Arabs realized that they had thus far been unable to amend the resolution. Frantically they waved their hands and asked for the floor. Mr. Aranha refused to yield to any of them. When the Arabs chirped for a "point of order," the Brazilian stolidly declared that if he were to permit them to speak they would deviate, as they had in the past, to substantive matters. Fadhel Jamali of Iraq desperately complained that he had been scheduled to speak since Saturday but was being overlooked. Mr. Aranha said that was too bad. Bitterly, Charles Malik of Lebanon asserted that the chairman's ruling was incorrect. Blandly, Mr. Aranha called for a vote. He was upheld 32 to 12, and the debate was ended.

As had been evident from events earlier in the week, the Arabs again proved to be poor lawyers and their verbosity finally militated against them when it counted the most.

Partial Triumph

Nevertheless, the victory for the Jews is only a partial one. A "hearing" is not the same thing as non-voting participation. The present Agency status is that the Jews can be called to the witness chair, asked questions and then sent back to a spectator's seat. Under the non-voting procedure, the Agency would have been able to talk at any time, to call up those who were making incorrect statements, and otherwise act like an equal. As is, the Agency is merely a guest, to be dismissed at will. But the first committee session helped clarify that situation.

One of the significant issues at this session was that the United States was forced to amend its stand after the Slav and Latin American countries stood up for the Jews. Until now, one was given to believe that the Latin American nations would follow the United States, right or wrong. But obviously the wrong was too blatant.

The United States continued to fight against the Jews in the first committee, which convened for the initial time on May 6 at Lake Success. Now that the General Assembly had voted to hear the



Dr. Silver, in Washington, Assails U. S. Position in UN

WASHINGTON.—Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, ZOA president and chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency Executive, at a press conference held here, labeled the U.S. attitude on Jewish representation at UN as "baffling and bewildering," since United States opposition to granting a hearing to the Jews on the Assembly floor is contrary to statements frequently made by our Chief Executive and to resolutions by both Houses of the U.S. Congress. "Instead of the U.S. raising its voice in behalf of the Jews, our spokesmen are Russia, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Chile," he said.

"A Grave Injustice"

In one of the largest press conferences ever held here, nearly 150 press and radio people, including such outstanding men as Raymond Swing, Elmer Davis and others listened to Dr. Silver's discussion of the Palestine problem and his criticism of the American position. Dr. Silver expressed concern about the events at the UN because Arabs had their field day using the United Nations as a sounding board to spread their hostile propaganda, whereas the voice of the Jewish people most directly concerned was not heard due to technicalities. Dr. Silver considered it "a grave injustice to the Jews" and voiced the opinion that this may affect the UN prestige.

Dr. Silver stated that the Jewish people assumed that the U.S. representative at the UN would press for presentation of the Jewish case in view of the many pronouncements made by American presidents, from Wilson to Truman, and by the U.S. Congress. He expressed the hope that the U.S. would maintain a position of leadership in keeping with clear commitments and public pronouncements.

Thorough Review Seen

Dr. Silver added he was pleased that the UN was reviewing the entire Palestine question, which is an indication that Britain "will no longer be the judge and jury in the case in which it is the accused." Questioned as to the British sincerity because of statements by its official spokesmen that Britain has no intention to be bound by final recommendations of the UN, Dr. Silver voiced the hope that the UN Inquiry Committee will be composed of real neutrals and not British stooges.

Dr. Silver said that the "Jews came to Palestine with tools and not with weapons. The latter was forced into their hands by the Mandatory power, by its lawless policy and illegal immoral acts. The only way to end terror in Palestine is to open its doors to Jewish immigration."

Jews, the United States attempted to limit severely that hearing. Senator Austin proposed a resolution whereby the Jewish Agency would be restricted to discussing the setting up of an investigating committee. The real interpretation of the restrictive American clause was to forbid the Jews from arguing on the substance of the issue, as the Arabs had done for a full week.

Restrictions Removed

But after a hard, 5-hour debate, in which 168 speeches were delivered by delegates in a highly informal session, the Americans were defeated by a Latin American-Slav bloc. By a close 23 to 19 vote, all restrictions on debate

were called off. Now the proposal reads, in part, that the Jewish Agency, the Arab Higher Committee (and whichever other groups the committee may hear) should "present such views" as these groups "may have to offer." A lot of legal terms may snarl up the clarity of the final resolution as accepted. But the attitude of the Russians and many of the Latin American countries won out. As Humberto Palza of Bolivia pertinently put it, restricting the Jewish Agency "is like inviting a person to walk in without using his feet. What are the Jews going to talk about if it is not their problem?" Gromyko, whose speech demolished the American facade

of "procedure," declared that the Jews don't care about procedure, after all is said and done. They want their case to be heard, just as the Arab case was heard.

When Gromyko concluded his powerfully-reasoned talk, Lester Pearson, the harried chairman of the committee, murmured, "I feel worse than ever about this job." No one blamed the Canadian, for the Arabs snarled up matters even more than the American resolution did.

Discrimination

Angry because the Arab Higher Committee had not been given "equal" treatment with the Jew-

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Marshall's 'No Policy' Statement Shocks Zionists

Wishes to Avoid Showdown by Delay; Refuses to Heed Congressional Leaders

By MURRAY FRANK

SPECIAL
TO THE
NEWS
REPORTER

WASHINGTON. — The United States has taken on an attitude of "watchful waiting" on the Palestine question. This country wants to avoid a showdown at this time before the United Nations, for the simple reason that it has no policy on Palestine.

It may seem strange that after the support given to Jewish aspirations by every president, by Congress and by the American people in more than a quarter of a century, this country finds itself today without a definite policy regarding Palestine. Such, however, is the fact and it is admitted by none other than Secretary of State Marshall in his reply of May 6 to the 30 Republican members of Congress who recently inquired about this government's policy in the matter.

The State Department believes, Marshall informs the 30 Representatives, that "it would be premature for this Government to develop its policy with regard to the substance of this question." His explanation for the lack of a definite Palestine policy is that the special UN session was convened at the request of Great Britain for the purpose of creating a committee to prepare the question for consideration by the UN General Assembly next September and, therefore, by determining the United States policy now would "limit the full utilization of that Committee's recommendations and its report."

This is purported to mean that the United States is trying to be objective and impartial. Actually, it is an admission that this country is not desirous of making a clear-cut choice now, it is seeking to hold its hand at least until the Fall and to delay taking sides as long as possible. Our representative at the UN will merely vote on issues as they come up and will do his utmost to keep those issues within the narrowest limitations. This explains also the fact how and why this country became involved in the maze of the legalistic and procedural phases of the question, talking around it instead of about it.

Regrets Lack of Policy

In a statement given this correspondent by Rep. Javits concerning Marshall's reply, the New York Congressman voiced his opinion that "the lack of a policy on the part of the United States at this time is regrettable." He also expressed the belief that the special session of the General Assembly would not merely remain satisfied with the naming of a new investigating committee, but that it would also decide that in the interim period between now and September, not less than 100,000 additional Jewish immigrants should be admitted into Palestine. In general, Rep. Javits felt that Marshall's reply still left unanswered two important questions:

1. What will the United States do about insisting that Great Britain should comply with the United Nations' recommendations? Will we permit the new investigation to become another farce, as the Anglo-American Inquiry Committee was?

2. What is going to happen in the interim period? Will Britain continue its White Paper policy of restricting Jewish immigration and the purchase of land?

Javits and his 29 Republican colleagues in the House of Representatives have not been the only ones in Washington urging this government to instruct its representative at the United Nations to abide by the American policy on Palestine as resolved by Congress and supported by all American Presidents since Wilson. Members of the U. S. Senate have, likewise, raised their voice on the floor of Congress and outside of Congress to support the Jewish position and to press for fair and adequate Jewish representation before the United Nations. A few examples will suffice.

Pepper for Representation

Sen. Claude Pepper, Florida Democrat, told the Senate: "I should like to suggest that fundamental justice and fair play require that a reasonable opportunity be given to the Jewish Agency to state the case for Palestine . . . The Arab members

have had and will have full opportunity to state their position in the United Nations Organization discussions. The U. S. representatives to the UN not only can, but should take the position, on grounds of morals and justice, that the Jewish Agency should have an opportunity to present its case. That does not imply in any way that the U. S. is prejudging the case either for itself or for anyone else. On the contrary, failure to give the Jewish Agency an opportunity to be heard would be unfair and unjust, and might well lead to the interpretation that the U. S. is prejudging the situation."

Compare Sen. Pepper's viewpoint with Sec. Marshall's reason for not determining U. S. policy on Palestine now. One cannot help feeling that not only does Sen. Pepper's view seem much more logical, but also more within the scope of America's traditional views in the matter and much more in the interests of world peace and justice to the Jewish people.

Sen. Owen Brewster, Maine Republican, wired the U. S. representative at the United Nations, Warren Austin, that "the American people will be profoundly shocked in any maneuvers which result in five Arab states using the United Nations Assembly for a sounding board on Palestine without any comparable opportunity for Jewish Agency to reply . . . The United States has tremendous responsibilities to insure justice and fair play in this situation."

Wagner, Murray Wire Truman

Democratic Senators Robert F. Wagner of New York and James Murray of Montana wired Austin and President Truman urging them "to vigorously support the



Prince Emir Faisal al Saud (left), foreign minister of Saudi Arabia, talks with Sir Alexander Cadogan, Great Britain's delegate to the UN special session on Palestine at Flushing Meadow.

Silver Asks UN to Probe British Palestine Misrule

On the eve of the opening of the special UN session, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, as head of the American section of the Jewish Agency, demanded in behalf of the Agency the right to defend the inalienable right of the Jewish people to a national home in Palestine, and called upon the UN to investigate Great Britain's dereliction of duty in its administration of the Palestine Mandate.

Dr. Silver, who was supported by Moshe Shertok, member of the American section of the Agency, voiced the demand of the Jewish

Agency for full and complete participation in the deliberations of the UN and called on the U. S. delegation to take the lead in advancing the cause of the Jewish National Home in conformity with the declared position of President Truman and the U. S. Congress. He also proposed that the Inquiry Committee, which is to be set up by the UN, visit Palestine and the DP camps. Attacking the British military rule in Palestine, he said that all violence in the country would end in 24 hours if Jews were permitted to enter.

program for Palestine which the U. S. Congress has repeatedly reaffirmed" and to see to it that "the Jewish Agency for Palestine be accorded full representation in all deliberations regarding Palestine." The two Senators warned that a "negative or even a neutral attitude by the U. S. Government may seal the fate of the proposal and deprive the Jewish people of representation" which would be "a shameful mockery of all pledges of assistance we have given to the Jewish people."

Despite the views and warnings expressed by these men, as well as by many others, those who determine official views in the White House and State Department prefer to follow a policy of "watchful waiting" and of hoping for some miracle that a delay of several months will not force this country to make a choice. On the Palestine question, perhaps more than on any other foreign policy issue, we are dancing to the tune of the British Foreign Office and its universally recognized bankrupt policy and administration in Palestine.

Agency Thanks Nations For Support

The Jewish Agency, in a statement issued in New York, thanked those nations in the UN Assembly which have supported its request for an opportunity to be heard before that body, but added that it expressed "keen regrets" that the "Mandatory power, the first great nation to promise assistance to the establishment of a Jewish National Home, and the United States, which has always supported Jewish national aspirations in Palestine, have not taken a similar position."

Latin Americans, Slavs Force Hearings

(Continued from Page 2)

ish Agency, the Arab Higher Committee, in a letter read by Emil Ghoury, declared that because of "discrimination," the Arab Higher Committee was withdrawing its request to be heard. Although the first committee said that it would grant the Arabs a hearing, the political game being played by the Higher Committee left in mid-air the question of whether the Committee would "reconsider." After the session was over, the Arabs in the lobby were buttonholed and asked this question. "What do you think?" they said, smirkingly. They have until Thursday to re-submit their request.

Not only did the Americans try to refuse the Jews the right to talk on the substance of the matter, but the American delegation also attempted to give the right to Britain alone of deciding which organizations to hear. Again, this inept and undiplomatic policy met with defeat. The first committee decided to establish a sub-committee of Colombia, Poland, Iran, Sweden—and Britain, to deal with these requests.

An interesting by-product of the acceptance of the Arab Higher Committee is that one of its leading members—as are many others—has been considered and actually was an Axis agent. He is Rasim Khaladi, who was refused a visa by the State Department. With the tacit recognition by the UN of the Arab Higher Committee, Khaladi, and other dangerous Arab diplomats, may be permitted to jam Lake Success.

Another interesting offshoot of the session was the persistence of the defeated Americans to block the Jews at every turn.



Delegates to the UN session of member states of the Arab League meet in the Waldorf Astoria suite of Prince Faisal al Saud, foreign minister of Saudi Arabia. Seated (l. to r.): Mahmoud Bey Fauzy, Egypt; Azzam Pasha, secretary of the Arab League; Prince Faisal al Saud; Dr. Victor Khouri, Lebanon; Henry Cattlan, Palestine, member of the Arab Higher Committee. Standing (l. to r.): Isa Nakhleh and Emile Ghoury, Palestine, of the Arab Higher Committee; Abdel Meneim Bey Mustapha, Egypt; Ramiz Shamma, Lebanon; Shaikh Ibrahim Sulaiman, Saudi Arabia; Shaikh Ahmed A. Jabbar, Saudi Arabia; and two bodyguards.

THE NEW PALESTINE

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ERNEST E. BARBARASH, Editor

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Bewildering and Disappointing

The deep sense of apprehension voiced by Zionist leadership on the eve of the United Nations session over the stand to be taken by the U. S. delegation was unfortunately confirmed. In truth, the U. S. delegation under the cloak of "neutrality" has adopted what is tantamount to a hostile stand on the issue of granting the Jewish people a voice in the Assembly. Both the American delegate and the deputy delegate, throughout the long discussions in the Assembly, have taken meticulous pains to invoke high-sounding phraseology of "dignity" and "prestige" in preventing the Jewish people, on a question of procedure, from being heard on the Assembly floor. Questions of justice, international law, humanity were completely subordinated to the need of observing the dignity of technical procedure. Legal technicalities and split-hair interpretations of procedural rules were invoked to accomplish this end.

These pilpulistic arguments came from the representatives of a nation which has committed itself to support the upbuilding of Palestine as a Jewish national homeland in resolutions passed by both houses of Congress and in pronouncements by every President from Wilson to Truman. This attitude by the U. S. representatives is indeed cause for deep disappointment. It can hardly be called neutrality. There has been stalling and vacillation all along the line. It is bewildering, to say the least, in view of the reputation enjoyed by Senator Austin as a man of fair play and a friend of our people.

Zionism Validated

There is indeed, as the Jewish Agency pointed out, "great irony in the technical objection that the Jewish people cannot be heard in the General Assembly because their spokesmen do not represent a state. This is striking evidence of the validity of the Zionist thesis that a Jewish state must be established in Palestine."

Instead of the U. S. government's taking the lead, in keeping with its commitments, it is the Slavic countries who have assumed leadership on an issue of justice and fairness, to allow Jewish representation after the Arabs have had their field days on the Assembly floor and in the General Committee.

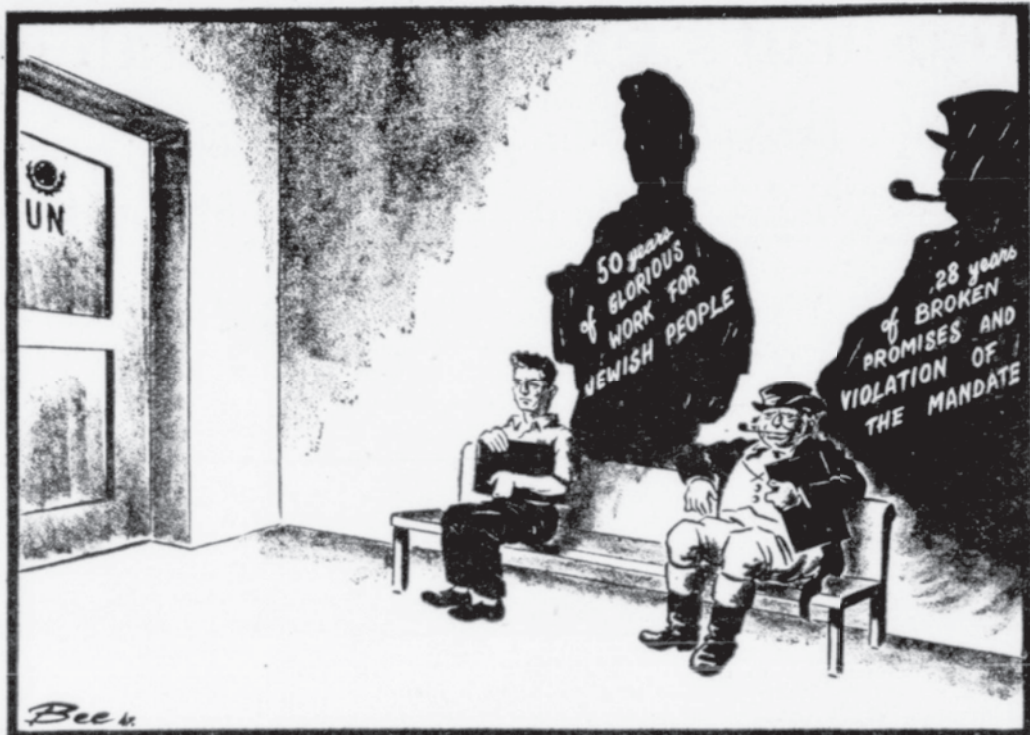
The revolt led by the Latin-American countries, Soviet Russia and other Slavic countries forced a compromise proposal to which the U. S. representative finally acceded. This proposal granted a hearing to the Jewish Agency before the Political and Security Committee. Even the term "hearing" has been made the subject of interpretations by the American-British bloc as giving the Agency spokesmen the status of witnesses only. If this interpretation is heeded, Jewish spokesmen are to give their statements, answer any questions asked by members of the Committee, and then resume their seats among the spectators.

Issue Clearly Stated

Even from the standpoint of procedure so ardently championed by the U. S. representative, the original American proposal which asked that the question of Jewish representation be referred to the General Committee for consideration, is lacking in reason. This proposal meant little and would only have resulted in protracting the discussions still further. Instead of streamlining the UN session, which the U. S. representative so fervently advocated, it would have accomplished the very reverse. It remained for the Yugoslavian representative, Mr. Kosonovic, to state the issue in simple terms when he said:

"In supporting a voice for the Jewish Agency in the Assembly itself, we do so as a symbol that we, the free, peace-loving peoples of the world, after a victory over Nazi ideologies, would identify ourselves in understanding, in support and in appreciation of those who were the first victims of the brutal Nazi, fascist ideology of race superiority and discrimination, the first victims of gas chambers and concentration camps."

We should have liked such words to be heard also from the mouth of the representatives of the U. S., to which



the small peoples of the world look as the foremost champion of democracy and justice. Instead, we witnessed the bewildering spectacle of a representative of this great nation defending the "dignity" of procedure when the life of a people is at stake.

Still Time for U. S. Lead

There is still time for the U. S. to redeem its position by assuming the lead as the protagonist of justice for the Jewish people to which it is committed and to discard the cloak of neutrality which is not neutrality at all; it is playing the game of the British Foreign and Colonial Offices.

In the final analysis, the decisive factors involved will reduce themselves to the line laid down by the Big Three. Realistically speaking, the control of the overwhelming Assembly vote is dominated by the pattern set by the Big Three powers. Shifts and changes in the Assembly will be determined by U. S. position, for the U. S. government still holds the key to the entire situation. Its failure to assume the lead in behalf of the cause of the Jewish people will mean betrayal of the hopes of all small peoples.

Marshall's Letter

The letter of Secretary of State Marshall to 30 members of Congress, in which he declares that "it would be premature for this Government to develop its policy with regard to the substance of this (Palestine) question," is shocking. Coming as it does from the Secretary of State of the Government which is already committed in precise terms to support and advance a long-standing policy in Palestine, this statement can only be viewed as a further step backward by our Administration, which has apparently been induced to cooperate with the British Government's present program of scuttling the historic pledges and obligations to the Jewish people.

Along with millions of other Americans, we have been under the impression that our Government has a policy on Palestine—set forth in the pronouncements of our country's Chief Executive and in resolutions of both houses of the U. S. Congress. We also quote from President Truman's letter of October 28, 1946, to King Ibn Saud:

"The Government and people of the United States have given support to the concept of a Jewish national home in Palestine ever since the termination of the first World War..."

Do not these then constitute declarations of American policy?

The Late Henry Monsky

The untimely passing of Henry Monsky has deprived the Jewish people in a crucial period of its history, of one of its foremost statesmen and militant fighters. His heart gave out in weariness amidst arduous labors for the cause of his people in a Jewish Palestine, to which his whole life was dedicated.

Were it in the power of the Jewish people he would have been awarded posthumously the highest medal for services rendered beyond the call of duty. His memory will be eternally cherished in the hearts and minds of our people everywhere.

Comments

By LUDWIG LEWISOHN

Any day or hour is as good or as bad as any other for commenting upon the sufficiently tortuous proceedings of the United Nations in respect of Palestine and the destiny of the Jewish people. And that is so for two commanding reasons. Reason one is this, that there is today no responsible thinker in the Western World who is not convinced of the entire justice of the case of the Jewish claim to Palestine; reason two is that, despite swelling and not ignoble declarations, the UN Assembly intends—at least for this day and hour—everything except even the beginning of a right and final adjudication of the case.

As of this writing, the Jewish Agency is to be admitted to testify before the Political Committee of the General Assembly. Senator Austin, having returned from Washington, insists that the Agency be heard only before the Political and Security Committee. But his insistence shows that our government has joined Britain in the determination that this session of the Assembly shall, if possible, limit its activities to the appointment of another investigating committee—a committee that is to investigate what all the world knows, what has been proven up to the very hilt by non-Jewish scholars, scientists, intellectuals, economists, from Lowdermilk to Nathan, from every responsible journalist to the luminous revelations of Bartley Crum.

Grim Irony

Do statesmen and diplomats fail wholly either to read or think? One asks that question seeing that in all the deliberations of the UN during these several days, no

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American Press Asks Justice For the Jewish People at UN

As the special session of the UN General Assembly convened to deliberate upon the vexing problem of Palestine, the preponderance of newspaper opinion, as expressed editorially in a number of New York metropolitan papers, was overwhelmingly sympathetic to the Zionist position. Citing the Palestine Mandate and Balfour Declaration and decrying the British duplicity which has brought about the present impasse, much of the newspaper sentiment went all-out for the establishment—without further procrastination—of a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine.

Following are excerpts from editorials which appeared in The New York Post, The Daily News, The New York Journal-American, The Daily Mirror, and PM:

N. Y. Post

"For more than 20 years, the U. S. has been committed to the proposition that Palestine should be made the Jewish national home. Every President, from Harding to Truman, has reiterated that pledge.

"The U. S. and British Governments were solemnly committed to immediate entrance of 100,000 Jews into Palestine and repeal of the prohibition of purchase of land by Jews, when the Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry made its report almost a year ago.

"We have never believed that there was any need for appointment of a United Nations Commission to investigate Palestine. The facts are known wherever men can read. Appointment of another commission, without immediate and vigorous action, would be mere wardance.

"At the very least, the U. S. delegation, for the honor of the people of the United States and for the personal honor of their President, must take leadership in demanding:

1. Immediate admission to Palestine of 100,000 Jews.
2. Immediate repeal of laws prohibiting Jewish land-purchase.

"Neither of these steps to carry out the original pledge need wait on solution of the political problem. Both are essential preliminaries. Both are vital to immediate justice.

"Today the test begins. If the present session of the United Nations ends without adopting a minimum program of justice for

the Jews in relation to Palestine, the the United Nations will have started along the path of moral bankruptcy to which the League of Nations turned in the case of E.L.opia."

Daily News

"Various Jewish groups are asking that the Jews be allowed to have one or more spokesmen at the UN General Assembly hearings.

"It is not proposed by anybody that the Jews have a vote in the General Assembly. All they want is to send representatives to listen to what goes on and to argue the Jewish side of each dispute that comes up.

"To us, the request seems entirely reasonable. After all, it is the ancient Jewish homeland that is to be under discussion, not China or Persia or Czechoslovakia. The purpose of the debate is to air all factions' grievances and start work toward some Palestine plan into which the Security Council can get its teeth.

"Yet there has been a great deal of hush-hush hesitancy about admitting Jewish spokesmen to the hearings; and Britain, the U. S. and Russia have furnished most of said hesitancy.

"We don't know the reason for it, but it has the aroma of the same old runaround which the Jews have been getting for years from England with reference to Palestine, and lately from the U. S. Government as well.

"We hope the General Assembly will decide to admit Jewish representatives as the logical and honest thing to do."

Journal-American

"Today six million ghosts are converging on the United Nations

Hall in Flushing. They are the helpless Jewish men, women and children slaughtered by the Nazis. They are the martyred dead. They are the remnants living in the DP camps of Europe. They are crying out in one mighty voice: 'We have had enough sympathy. We have had enough of fine words with no action to back them up. Stop the Jewish tragedy once and for all by ending our national homelessness. Fulfill the pledge made to us by the nations of the world. Let us rebuild our lives and our hopes in our ancient land—Palestine!'

"Will the agonized appeal reach the hearts of the powers which are about to determine the fate of an entire people?

"Our Government must take a forthright stand in support of the Jewish homeland. Our Government is pledged to this American policy.

"We have promised Palestine to them. We have allowed them to pour their lives, their dreams and hopes into 'Eretz Israel' and then we shut the doors in their face.

"It is imperative that President Truman instruct our delegation to the UN to take the initiative in achieving a just solution based upon America's historic policy of support for Jewish national aspirations."

N. Y. Post

"There has never been a period in history, from Abraham to this day, that the Jewish people, scattered over the earth, citizens or sojourners in many lands, have not looked toward Palestine as the Jewish Homeland.

"To separate Judaism from Palestine, is to deny to a child the reality of a mother. In that sense, even a non-Zionist cannot deny that Palestine is truly the Homeland, the Motherland of the Jews."

"The League of Nations appointed Great Britain a mandatory in 1920. The British accepted in 1923.

"Great Britain is only an agent for the League of Nations. It possesses no rights to the soil. It promised by the Balfour Declaration to permit the development of Palestine as the national Jewish Homeland.

"Zion built there a 'a modern world upon its ancient soil.'

"Then Britain broke its promise.

"The United Nations has succeeded to the rights of the League of Nations. Therefore, UN is really responsible for Palestine.

"America expects UN to give the Jews a square deal in Palestine. The American people will not accept any solution of this problem which is unjust to the Jews."

PM

"Don't be misled by the loud Arab talk of 'majority-rule' and 'self-determination' and 'democracy' in Palestine. It is curious to listen to talk about democracy from the Arab leaders, like the Mufti of Jerusalem, who were the closest supporters of Hitler. It is interesting to get assurances that

FROM THE N. Y. DAILY MIRROR



Reproduced by courtesy of the Daily Mirror and Fred L. Packer

Ministers Ask Justice for Jews

A striking evidence of non-Jewish support of Jewish Palestine has come from the Peabody Ministerial Association of Peabody (Mass.), Meeting on May 1.

Jewish rights will be respected from men who helped Hitler plot the mass-extermination of six million Jews. The fact is that a Jew has as little chance of freedom in the Arab states as he ever had in Germany, and his chances for life itself depend only on how far the Arabs dare go.

"Actually the argument about the present Arab majority in Palestine is a hollow one: The British mandate was set up for the express purpose of helping the Jews create a homeland which would eventually become a state, and of admitting enough immigration so that they would become a majority."

this distinguished association of church leaders unanimously adopted a strongly-worded resolution calling upon the American government to exert its influence on the UN Assembly that the doors of Palestine be opened to the surviving remnants of Jewry and that the nations of the world do justice to the homeless and landless people of Israel. The resolution also vigorously protests "the illegal and inhumane actions of Great Britain in blockading and preventing the free entry of Jewish refugees into Palestine" and condemns "the callous violation of Great Britain of her obligations under the Balfour declaration and her failure to implement the provisions of the Palestine mandate."

Copies of the resolution were sent by the Association to President Truman, Secretary of State Marshall, Warren R. Austin, Dr. Oswaldo Aranha, President of the UN Assembly, as well as to the governor of Massachusetts and other high state officials.

Press Coverage at UN

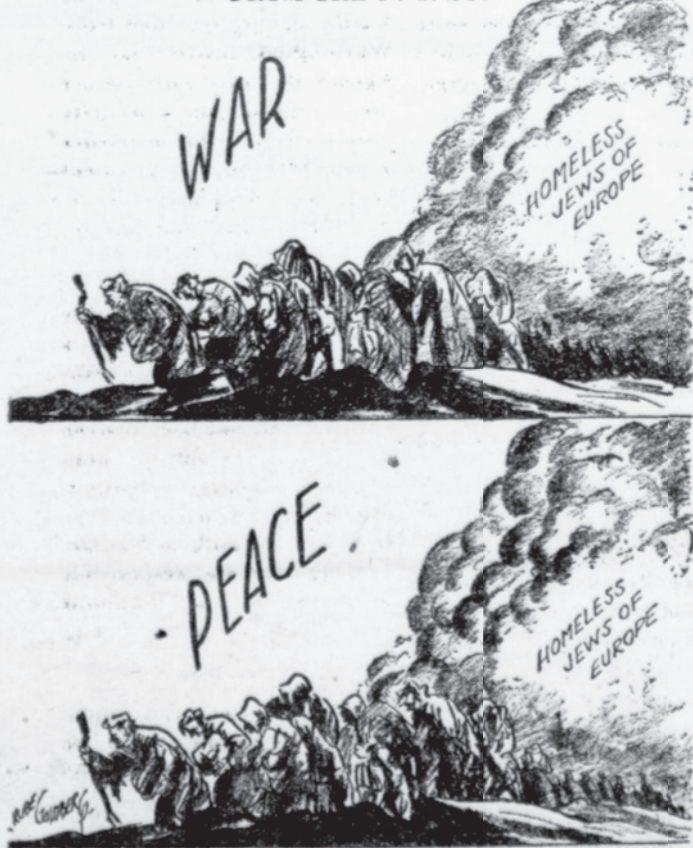
The Jewish press was represented in the press gallery at the opening of the UN sessions by an extraordinarily large array of newspapermen. In addition to all three Yiddish dailies in New York and the Jewish news agencies, whose papers were covered by their editors and feature writers, there were also present representatives of many bona-fide Anglo-Jewish papers throughout the country.

Swarming all over the press gallery, however, were some of the smaller publications, particularly those with circulation that run into the hundreds. Each of them was represented by an inordinate number of reporters. Thus, a bulletin which appears only four times a year and whose circulation is less than one thousand was covered

by no less than three reporters. Another publication of four pages with a circulation of exactly 750 was represented in all its splendor by its editor-in-chief. It was almost reminiscent of a Zionist convention when large dailies are covered by one or two reporters, while small publications with a circulation averaging 500 per issue sent no less than six reporters each, all clamoring for credentials.

These words are prompted by the fact that while certain publications with circulations of less than 1,000 obtained two and more permanent press credentials each, such publications as The New Palestine, with a circulation of 200,000 and the Congress Weekly, with a circulation of 40,000, were denied permanent press credentials and each allowed passes, which are renewable day by day.

FROM THE N. Y. SUN



Reproduced by courtesy of the N. Y. Sun and Rube Goldberg

Behind the Scenes Maneuvering at UN Assembly

By ADRIAN SPIES

(The writer is a member of the editorial staff of one of the great metropolitan dailies in New York.)

The world spotlight played brilliantly on Flushing Meadow when the UN General Assembly's much-heralded session on Palestine began—but, ironically, the Jews were not on the stage.

For though a global parliament had gathered at long last to debate the Palestine issue, the Jews were forced into their ancient role—voiceless, stateless pawns in the high-stakes game of power politics.

To an observer, this was the grim drama which hung over the opening procedural wrangles, the formalities and protocol-laden ceremonies. A people were on trial, the verdict ultimately could only be life or death, and yet they could merely be spectators while the rest of the world glibly carried out bargains over their heads.

The bargaining, the international horse-trading, began early. It started with a clever move by the Arab League, that fantastic conglomeration of bejeweled desert potentates and tweedy, Oxford-trained Egyptian jurists. The British, in calling for the special session, had only asked for the setting up of a fact-finding commission, which was to investigate the situation and report back with a "solution" to the regular Assembly session next Fall. But the Arabs immediately charged that there was no need for such a Commission, that all facts made it clear that only the granting of immediate independence would solve the Palestine problem.

Arab Distortions

The League made its fight in the Steering Committee, which was to adopt an agenda and report back to the full Assembly. Obviously, the Arabs could not win. But they could make speech after speech about Palestine, about the "Zionist invasion" which "squeezes the land" from the Arabs. And the Jews, unrepresented, could not reply.

One by one, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and Saudi Arabia stated its case into a world microphone. Their speeches were about the same: We love the Jews, our Semitic cousins, but Zionism is poisoning the air, and, besides, the Arabs are the rightful owners of Palestine.

Of this group, only Egypt was a member of the 14-nation Steering Committee. But there was help from India, which was throwing a sop to the 95,000,000 Indian Mohammedans.

The U. S., however, was backing Britain—at least thus far. When our spokesmen argued that only the fact-finding commission, and not the Arab demand for immediate Palestine independence, go on the agenda, it carried the weight of the Committee.

But the back-stage maneuvering was far from over. When the Committee report came out to the full Assembly, the Arabs again rolled out with their speeches. Once again, reporters from nations all over the world faithfully took down Arab statements about great love for the Jews, and the promise of peace in the Middle East. Once again, the world was getting its news from Arab mouths.

Face-Saving Try

Late in the day, it was apparent that the Arabs could never override the Committee report. Now came into play that curious political marriage—the Arab League



A view of the Assembly Hall at Flushing Meadow as the United Nations opened its special session to consider the Palestine question. Dr. Oswaldo Aranha of Brazil, president of the session, is standing at the center of the rostrum.

and a segment of the Latin-American bloc. Colombia, Peru and Haiti all started talking about a "compromise"—a motion which would call for "full discussion" on the Arab proposal. It was a face-saving attempt, but it failed, and the Arabs were defeated.

The behind-the-scenes intrigue continued. There was still the question of Jewish representation at the parleys. New blocs and combines began to form, new power alignments. And once again, the Jews, with little to barter, sat mutely on the sidelines.

Russia, which had started out by supporting the Arabs (who, incidentally, had begun backing the Soviets at other UN meetings several months before the current session) now supported the Jews. The U.S.S.R. demanded that Zionist spokesmen be permitted to plead their case before the full Assembly, just as the Arabs were obviously doing. The rest of the Russian bloc went along with this.

Now the Soviets could make things hot for the British and at the same time appear before the world as the defender of the underdog.

U. S. Shift

This left the U. S. in a dismal position. It was known from the outset that the American delegation, desperately trying to balance favors to both the oil-rich Arabs and Zionists, didn't feel there was any need for Jewish representation at a "purely procedural" meeting. But the White House felt the pressure, and, suddenly, a new U. S. policy was born. This nation was in favor of Jewish and Palestinian Arab spokesmen appearing before the Assembly's all-powerful Political Committee, but not the Assembly itself.

There were those who said the American change-of-heart came after President Truman had cocked an uneasy eye at New York state as a factor in the 1948 election. In any event, the U. S., as always, could swing a UN vote. And Zionism, for one reason or another, would at least be offered a front row seat in the courtroom.

The most vital negotiations, however, were just to begin. For the Political Committee was to be asked to work out the "frames of reference" for the fact-finding commission. That vague term could, and would, mean anything. The Committee would have to fur-

The Opening Session:

Arab Teamwork

By HAROLD RIBALOW

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS REPORTER

FLUSHING MEADOW. — As the UN's special session on Palestine opened, there was a good deal of tense expectancy on the part of the newspapermen in the press balcony, but by the time the afternoon wore on, it became evident that the only warmth lay in the hearts of the interested gallery spectators; only coldness seemed to lodge in the hearts of the diplomats. When the session broke up, a small but persistent wave of pessimism swept Jewish leaders and journalists who looked down upon the scene which was being played below for their benefit.

It was a theatrical drama. The entire day's sessions were devoted to the election of officers, a president, seven vice presidents and six chairmen of various committees. These men would serve as the steering, or general committee, which would hold the fate of Palestine in their hands to a very great degree.

There was a spirit about the

nish the commission with the set of rules, the measuring rod, by which it was to study and "resolve" the Palestine situation.

Naturally, the Arabs would want their demands for a "free," Arab-dominated Palestine within the frames of reference. The British would fight for instructions vague enough to support their consistent policy of broken promises. The Russians would take advantage of whatever situation developed to make the British situation in the Middle East even more untenable and, at the same time, to win voting concessions on future, unrelated issues from the Arabs. The French would look cautiously at their Mohammedans in Northwest Africa. The Latin-Americans would look, like careful shoppers, first at the Arabs and then at the U. S. Where the U. S. would look was any man's guess.

And the homeless, stateless Jews would continue, in the death camps of Europe, in the barbed wire "detention camps" of Cyprus, to look to their Zion.

Assembly Hall—and it was not a good one for the Jewish cause. The Arabs were too prominent. They were felt as well as seen. Faris El Khoury, the white-haired Syrian leader and expert propagandist and diplomat, was seen buttonholing as many delegates as possible. He was one very busy man. Herschel V. Johnson, Warren Austin's deputy delegate for America, constantly rushed about to the Syrian delegate. Then the little Syrian conferred quietly with stolid Andrei Gromyko of Russia. A few minutes after this head-hugging, Khoury nominated Winiewicz of Poland for a committee chairmanship. Of course the news was bad that Abdul Rahman Azzam Pasha of Egypt was chosen to head the third committee. Pasha is the top mind in the Arab League and is as good a lobbyist as Khoury.

Anti-Zionists Predominate

The truth is that there seemed to be too many anti-Zionists predominating at this session. Asaf Ali, India's smooth-talking representative, who spoke well of the Siamese delegate (Siam was admitted formally to the UN on this day), is a Moslem and only a day or so ago both Jinnah and Nehru announced their support of the Arab cause. Toward the end of the session, Mr. Jamali Iraq's Foreign Minister, stepped to the fore. Earlier one's eye was frozen to the Lebanese bench, for during the election for officers, Prince Faisal ostentatiously stepped to the Lebanese area for advice on the voting. But when little, thin Mr. Jamali rose, one knew that the gloves were beginning to come off. Mr. Aranha had announced that he would refer communications from the various organizations and agencies to the general, or steering committee, chosen earlier that day (the president, vice presidents and chairmen constituted this committee). Then Mr. Jamali rose to ask a question. He minced forward, turned to the delegates and asked in a syrupy and smoothly-modulated voice, "Just a question. Who are these agencies and organizations?"

When Mr. Aranha, in his halt-

ing, accented English, answered, "the Jewish Agency for Palestine, the Progressive Zionist District 95 of New York and the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation," a commotion ensued in the press gallery. The break of discipline in the Zionist Organization made a peculiar impression. It was noted that this was the first time the word "Palestine" was mentioned during the whole day.

When Mr. Jamali heard the list, he seemed to smile with smug satisfaction and then asked whether other agencies could apply and receive the same consideration. Some commentators thought that he was outlining the future path to be taken by the Arab League; others believed he was mocking the apparent Jewish disunity. When he stepped down from the podium, Jewish faces in the gallery were drawn and unhappy.

No Jewish Voice

At this moment, the impression was that the Arabs were working like a smooth football team. Every Arab knew his role. And they looked a lot better than they really were, because there was no Jewish voice to be heard. The Jewish Agency, awaiting a call to the Assembly, was on the outside, not even looking in. But evening newspapers screamed "AGENCY SHUNS UN," as though the Agency were barring the UN, instead of vice versa. The Arabs were deliberately colorful and were being photographed constantly. But the Siamese delegates were not dressed in their native costume to win the attraction of the newsmen. They wore unspectacular everyday suits.

The word "Palestine" and the word "Jew" were not mentioned at all, except when Mr. Aranha announced a communication from the Jewish Agency. The "Jews" were apparently existing in a nameless vacuum.

The sun shone brightly in Flushing Meadow, but the many Jews who came to the session looked gloomy, as though storm clouds were gathering. Incidentally, the inspired reports that the delegates would be in danger were scotched with ease. There was talk of bombs, searching of portfolios, etc. But the hall was more than half empty and the session, with its preconceived acts, seemed to be the dull first act of a drama which, so far, has no ending, but may well end in tragedy.

End Military Rule — A.J.C.

The United Nations must call upon Great Britain to end military rule in Palestine and govern the territory in strict conformity with the Palestine Mandate, while the General Assembly and its fact-finding committee are deliberating on the Palestine problem, the Interim Committee of the American Jewish Conference declared in a resolution adopted at a meeting at the Hotel Biltmore, New York. The resolution urged the U. S. delegation to propose to the General Assembly the adoption of a resolution to the effect that Great Britain should cease its violations of the Mandate and its destruction of the civil and economic rights of the population of Palestine during the period when the United Nations is attempting to solve the Holy Land issue. Otherwise, the American Jewish Conference warned, there is "imminent danger of plunging Palestine into total chaos."

British Public Indifferent to UN Palestine Session

By GEORGE LICHTHEIM

**SPECIAL
TO THE
NEWS
REPORTER**

LONDON, (By Airmail). — It would be oversteating the case slightly to say that the special session of the United Nations Assembly to deal with Palestine was the central political event of the week, so far as the articulate section of London was concerned. (The inarticulate part, which accounts for something like 95 per cent of the inhabitants, had no doubt that it was the football Cup Final at Wembley Stadium). The press, which for weeks had reserved its boldest banner headlines for news of the perpetration of terrorist acts in Palestine, and the occasional arrest of currency smugglers suspected of connection with the Jewish underground, made only a modest effort to acquaint the reading public with the background to the debates at Flushing Meadow.

Full reports were, of course, printed in *The Times*, their degree of prominence being carefully calculated to avoid any impression that the event was considered one of major significance. In the same way, the editorial dealing with the subject was both brief and inconspicuous. Other leading dailies—including the *Manchester Guardian*—carried reticence to the point of not publishing any comment at all.

Decisions Elsewhere

Behind this studied reserve, partly failing to explain the simultaneous prominence given to the activities of the Palestine Government and the terrorists, lies genuine embarrassment and a growing realization that the retreat to the "Cadogan Line" is not going

to be carried out without some loss of face. On the morning after the brief and inconclusive debate in the House of Lords—that refuge of amiable trade union nonentities too vulnerable to face the fiercer blasts of criticism in the lower House—*The Times* felt constrained to improve upon Lord Hall's rhetorical performance by declaring bluntly that Britain was not committed to carrying out any recommendations she disliked. This was coupled with the curious observation that "there is a better chance of arriving at a decision upon the real merits of the conflicting claims if they can be isolated from the larger question of Middle Eastern security. The consideration of such a factor must take place at a later stage." It may not be unduly cynical to assume that this means the real talks are to be conducted elsewhere than at Lake Success—which undoubtedly they will be.

If *The Times* laid so much stress on the obvious, the intention was probably to warn the public not to expect the UN to find some brand-new solution. The politicians, of course, did not have to be told about the Cadogan Line because they had suspected its existence all along. Lord Hall did not really tell his fellow Peers anything they had not known. He merely repeated what Sir Alexander had blurted out the week before, and thereby in turn compelled the British representative at the UN to make his meaning even clearer during those preliminary exchanges with Mr. Asaf Ali and Mr. Gromyko which the majority of London dailies thought too unimportant to print. (Henry Wallace's impression that the British press is more informa-



Dr. Oswaldo Aranha (standing), president of the United Nations General Assembly special Palestine session, addresses the opening meeting of the session at Flushing Meadow (N. Y.). At left is Trygve Lie, UN secretary general; and at right is Andrew Wellington Cordier, executive assistant to Lie.

tive than the American is not universally shared).

Party Politics

At this point, it is well to remember that when Mr. Bevin told the House of Commons in February that Palestine would go to the United Nations, he did not mention the Cadogan Line, and consequently gained Labor plaudits; for nothing is more popular in Labor Party circles than the thought of getting out of Palestine—thereby at one stroke "bringing the boys home" and ridding the Party of an embarrassing obligation. Mr. Bevin, of course, has no intention of bringing the boys home before the Mandate has been rewritten to authorize the foundation of an Arab National Home, with civil and religious rights for the non-

Arab inhabitants; but if he said so in Parliament, or were to say so at the Labor Party conference at Margate at the end of this month, there would be fewer plaudits; there might even be expressions of dismay.

The Cadogan Line was, therefore, carefully kept out of the limelight until the Parliamentary recess had started, it being hoped that by the time the Margate conference assembled, the UN would have voted some resolution which could be passed off as evidence that Britain is being relieved of her troublesome burden in the Middle East. This explains the timing of the special Assembly and the care taken by the popular press—above all the *Labor Daily Herald*—not to stress the existence of the Cadogan Line, and the need to keep it manned with British troops.

So far as the British public is concerned, this startling disclosure will be sprung at some more suitable moment than the present. Readers of *The Times*, of course, are being kept informed, but then they have few illusions and are not committed to Labor Party resolutions passed in those happy days when the Party leaders felt sure they would not be called upon to make good their promises.

Lead from the Rear

So far as the actual maneuvering at Flushing Meadow can be followed from here, there seems to be a case for making it clear to the public that the United States Government, like the Duke of Plaza Toro, intends to lead its

followers from behind. Its leadership need not therefore be less effective. If the behavior of the Argentinian delegation is any guide, Colonel Peron seems to think that he is doing his credit—in the precise as well as in the less restricted meaning of the term—in the United States no harm by displaying sentiments disappointing to Mr. Jamal Husseini. At the opposite end of the political spectrum, the Polish delegation is busy disproving the rumor that members of the Eastern bloc are not permitted to vote in accordance with their conscience.

With the United States discreetly championing the case of those who see no reason why Palestine, of all countries, should be permanently closed to its original inhabitants, and with the Soviet delegate trying to be simultaneously on both sides of the fence as well as on it, the British Government can leave the presentation of the Arab case to the Arabs themselves. Its own position is defined by Mr. Bevin's celebrated distinction between an "Arab State" and a "unitary State" (with an Arab majority and a tolerated Jewish minority), a distinction without a difference, but useful as a debating point.

But the debate has hardly begun. It will rage between now and September, and when it is over, and the United States still shows no sign of willingness to underwrite the British solution, we shall enter a new round. In the meantime, the Cadogan Line is being kept in readiness.

How Arabs in Middle East View UN

By MAJOR E. LASERSEN

**SPECIAL
TO THE
NEWS
REPORTER**

JERUSALEM.—In spite of recent optimistic statements made by Arab personalities in several capitals of the Middle East, the general feeling in the Arab League, in connection with UN, is that of anxiety and expectancy. Many prominent Arabs fear that United Nations intervention may lead to further "Jewification" of the Holy Land. These Arab diplomats consider that the only gain involved so far, is the advantage connected with further delay and indecision.

One should bear in mind the fact that the Arab League had already considered the possibility of submitting the Palestine problem for UN consideration. An opportunity arose at the time when League of Nations Mandates were considered by the Trusteeship Council. Arab specialists in Cairo and Washington, however, advised that such a step could have unpleasant consequences. In their opinion, the Arabs would only have the certain support of their own five states, as well as the votes of a few other members.

In any case, it was quite clear that Poland and Czechoslovakia would vote for the Zionists, in spite of their being under Soviet influence.

Partition?

All Arab declarations as to their "very strong" position at UN should not be taken too seriously. Moreover, many Arabs consider that a partition of Palestine will be the final solution of the country's problem. Such a solution is most eagerly desired by King Abdullah of Transjordan, who thus hopes to become the ruler also of the Arab section of Palestine. He is backed by Iraq and his followers in Palestine and Syria.

The recently promoted Emir has great ambitions. He hopes to revive the old Arab Khalifate,

and to reestablish Arab unity. The partition of the Holy Land is only the first stage of an ambitious plan. From this new East-Palestine kingdom, he wishes to step onward to a "Greater Syria," including the present Syrian republic and the non-Christian part of the nearby Lebanon. The next step should be fusion with Iraq, now ruled by his nephew, King Abdullah's ambitions may go even farther, and may well include Arabia, which once belonged to his family, but was taken by King Ibn Saud only some 25 years ago.

Abdullah's Military Power

How is it possible for little Transjordan, with a population of less than half a million to entertain such dreams of Empire? The answer is a very simple one. While great Egypt is unable to call up for military service most of its male population, which is affected by trachoma, bilhartsia or other diseases, King Abdullah can count on a most loyal and well-trained Arab Legion, composed of several divisions and including motorized and armored brigades, of first-class desert fighters, physically fit and highly adaptable to modern warfare conditions. Very ably led, these men, who have had excellent British training, form today the best and probably most efficient Arab army. Compared to the forces of Syria or the Lebanon, this is an armed might that cannot be contested in the field.

Syria is yet undecided whether it indeed wishes to join Transjordan and discussions on this subject are held very often by the Damascus Parliament. During one of the recent discussions, King Abdullah held large scale maneuvers on the Syrian frontier, a demonstration which served to increase the influence of his Syrian followers, and to weaken the opposition of isolationist republicans.



ANOTHER INQUIRY!

The First Week at the United Nations Session

By M. Z. FRANK

The end of the first week of the special session of the United Nations on the Palestine question finds the Zionists scoring a moral victory, facing a technical defeat or stalemate, and threatened with another delaying device.

The moral victory consists in the fact that the homelessness and voicelessness of the Jewish people as a people has been dramatized in a way that cannot be forgotten. Out of all the debates and maneuvers emerges the fact that the Jews are a people, that Palestine is their country and the Jewish Agency their substitute for a government.

The Arabs, by abusing their position, emphasized the fact that the Jews have no voice in the Assembly. "We are playing Hamlet without the Prince of Denmark," said the Indian delegate, even though he voted with the Arabs and is probably instructed by Gandhi and Nehru to side with them all along the line. "After listening to the Arab delegates," said the Swedish delegate, "I find that the truth has many facets."

Andrei Gromyko, still careful not to give any recognition to the Zionist movement outside of Palestine, was compelled, however, to recognize the Jews as a substantial portion of the Palestine population which is greatly affected and agitated by the deliberation at the Assembly and whose authorized spokesman is the Jewish Agency.

Importance for DPs

The Polish delegation went further and spoke of the Jews outside of Palestine being interested in the fate of Palestine and of the importance of Palestine for solving the problem of the DPs and the detainees at Cyprus. As the debate progressed, the Polish delegation even went further and said there was no real quarrel between the Arabs and the Jews and spoke sarcastically of those who express sympathy without doing anything to help. Even the Russian delegate did at one time mention the fact that Palestine was intended to "establish the Jews" (the word was erroneously translated as "make arrangements for the Jews").

The Indian delegate contradicted himself several times. But by his very suggestion that the Jews ought to get together with their Arab cousins, he recognized the existence of the Jewish people as a group dealing with nations on an equal basis.

The Arab talkfest boomeranged against them by impressing everyone with the injustice of hearing only one side to a dispute. Thus, by implication, the importance of the Jews as an entity was emphasized.

Whether the admission of the Jewish



Agency to the Political Committee or even to the General Assembly will provide the Jews with an equal moral victory remains to be seen. It depends on the terms of admission. It also depends on how the Jews present their case.

Opposition Arguments

Technically, the Jews face a defeat. The United States delegation failed to support the Jewish Agency. The arguments against the admission of the Jewish Agency advanced by the American delegate, Warren Austin, are partly technical, partly political and partly ones dictated by lack of goodwill.

The Jewish Agency is a non-governmental agency and the American government is opposed to the admission of any such agency to the General Assembly. It is afraid of setting a dangerous precedent. The Soviet government, on the other hand, is not at all averse to setting such a precedent. To that extent, the debate between Gromyko and Austin is, in fact, a debate over the nature of the United Nations rather than over the Jewish Agency and has more to do with the situation in China than with the situation in Palestine, and still more with the question of admitting the World Federation of Trade Unions than with Zionism. Had Mr. Austin stuck only to the technical side of the question, the American position would be understandable. But Senator Austin found it necessary to in-

troduce remarks which are a gratuitous insult to the Jewish Agency and which weaken not only the position of the Jewish Agency but the moral position of the United States Government in its international relations.

Austin's View

On the one hand, Senator Austin, reading from the text of the Palestine Mandate, pointed out that the Jewish Agency does have an official status, and, therefore, is entitled to being admitted to the deliberations insofar as any non-governmental body could be admitted. Yet on the other hand, he emphasized that the Jewish Agency does not represent all the Jews all over the world and that in Palestine itself, there are Jews who disagree with the Agency.

It did not occur to the Senator that no organized group in the world, whether governmental or quasi-governmental or purely non-governmental, can boast of representing every individual member in every point of view. The Senator forgot that his government does not question the authority of the Greek government which it has recognized and that he himself represents a government whose former Vice President broadcasts his disagreement with its policies for the whole world to hear.

The only possible explanation for these hardly gracious remarks is that the American representation, in its anxiety to

follow the British line, has not been discriminate in the details. The American policy, we were given to understand, was to support the British move to have a commission set up at the present session and not to engage in any discussion of the merits of the Palestine question. But Mr. Austin went further than that in lending a hand to the British in their design to undermine the authority of the Jewish Agency, in the course of which he needlessly outraged the feelings of millions of American citizens.

Stalling Device

As for the American life of supporting the British policy at the present session, it was wrecked by the Arabs anyway. Whatever may be the ultimate good intentions of the American government, in the meantime the commission is a stalling device. Of that there can be no doubt.

A carefully worded statement read by Herschel Johnson early during the meeting of the present session pointed out that the United Nations will have to find a solution for Palestine that will have the support of world opinion. Senator Austin's dealing with the Jewish Agency is hardly a move in that direction.

If the Jewish side scored a moral victory, the British scored more than one tactical victory which may develop into moral victories, if we are not careful. In the first place, through the Arab talkfest, the dispute, until now marked by events as a British-Jewish dispute, appeared as an Arab-Jewish dispute, with the Arab delegates scrupulously refraining from offending the British. In the second place, the British delegation managed to have others read their lines for it, while it said very little. The Arabs attacked the Jews and the Mandate. The Americans contested the authority of the Jewish Agency. The delegate for New Zealand made a melodramatic appeal to both sides—Jews and Arabs—to proclaim a truce of God. He left out the British Navy, the C.I.D. and Mr. Bevin; he made no appeal to them. Sir Alexander Cadogan said very little. Only Gromyko rivals him in astuteness.

Comments

(Continued from Page 4)

voice was raised, no word was spoken to show the consciousness of any member of the overwhelmingly patent facts and truths and interests of this case. Hence, the high-sounding words of Dr. Oswaldo Aranha have a grim and almost ironic sound to one's ears: "Time has brought forth an hour of decision for our conscience." Alas, the voice of conscience is silent so far and the last thing we are hearing is any word that has to do with an act of decision.

We are told that the Yishuv is both skeptical and pessimistic in regard to the proceedings now going on. Why should it not be? Friends and

colleagues in Jerusalem recall vividly the presence of Senator Austin, whom the writer briefed for his visit to Eretz Israel. It is certain that Mr. Austin is as convinced today as he was then. Yet he, too, is enmeshed in these coils of procedural ceremonies and legalistic devices which, like all such things, have become self-perpetuating methods for increasing the distance between life and law, between conscience and action. Nor do the votes of the delegates of other nations, whether at a given moment they seem for us or against us, have any meaning in terms of justice or the good of mankind, for these votes are all cast in the ethical vacuum of legalistic formulations.

During the discussion in

the Assembly, various Articles of the Charter are quoted, and we are glad that Mr. Austin quoted Article 80, though no one seems willing to make its provisions prevail and insist on Britain's interim execution of the terms of the Mandate. The one Article of the Charter that has not been quoted is Article 79. Yet that Article is the decisive one and explains the strictly superficial character of all these proceedings. For Article 79 provides that any "alteration or amendment" in respect of any dependent territory "shall be agreed upon by the states directly concerned, including the mandatory power." In other words, the great powers well saw to it that no decision of the UN could be enforced against their will or

immediate policy. Hence, no one should have been surprised at the various pronouncements from various British sources that Britain is not obligated to abide by any decisions of the UN and certainly not by any conclusions reached by another committee of investigation.

Delaying Tactics

All that is taking place today is fundamentally a device for postponing decision. It is as though men feared nothing so much as justice and were fairly terror-stricken at the notion that the voice of conscience, of honor, of the true interests of mankind might prevail.

Yet Dr. Oswaldo Aranha was quite right when he said

that "time has brought forth an hour of decision for our conscience." Whether he meant that from the very bottom of his heart or not, he stated an overwhelming fact. Unless the UN bases its ultimate decisions or makes its ultimate recommendations according to honor and conscience, unless it tears asunder the skeins of verbiage and resists the career-diplomats and the stuffed shirts of the world, civilization will plunge back into the jungle. It will be a mechanized jungle, much more horrible than the primitive jungle of tooth and claw. And the case of Palestine and of the fate of the whole Jewish people is the test case, by the decision on which civilization will stand or fall.

Joint Executive, Administrative Council Session Discusses Organizational, Political Problems

Two-Day Conference of Regional Presidents Maps Reorganization

Highly important reports on major phases of ZOA activities and the adoption of a number of plans in the organizational and publication field marked the joint meeting of the national ZOA Executive and the national Administrative Council held on Sunday night, April 27, in New York, with Dr. Abba Hillel Silver presiding.

The joint meeting climaxed a 24 hour conference of regional presidents held Saturday night, and all day Sunday, at which every aspect of the ZOA program was discussed and acted upon. The problems discussed by the joint meeting were an outgrowth of recommendations made by the regional conference and the Inner Committee headed by Rabbi Irving Miller.

The business of the meeting was preceded by reports rendered by Dr. Sidney Marks, executive director, who announced the enrollment of 33,000 new members as of that date; Joseph Goldberg of Worcester, national membership chairman, and by Willy Nordwind of Chicago, national Expansion Fund co-chairman, who stressed the vital importance of reaching the goal to meet the budgetary requirements of the ZOA in this critical period.

An application submitted by Alex Lowenthal of Pittsburgh for recognition of Pittsburgh as the Allegheny County region was referred to a committee of seven appointed at the meeting of the regional chairmen.

Rabbi Irving Miller, as chair-

man of the Inner Committee, reported that some 30 regional chairmen and other representatives attended the all-day conference which discussed fully reorganization of the regional structure, membership dues and publications. He reported that following a comprehensive discussion, the conference recommended that a committee of seven be appointed to study the entire problem of regional set-up and bring in recommendations to the next meeting of the Executive which, in turn, will submit them for consideration and action to the forthcoming convention.

New Palestine Weekly

In regard to publications, he reported that the conference and the Inner Committee unanimously recommended that the present *New Palestine News Reporter*, in improved form in editorial content, be transformed into a weekly. The present *New Palestine* magazine is to be converted into a high literary publication to appear bi-monthly or quarterly on a subscription basis. The conversion of the *New Palestine News Reporter*



Dr. Abba Hillel Silver is shown addressing the opening of the new settlement of Bnei Zion in Palestine on the occasion of his recent trip to Eretz Israel. The settlement is situated on Jewish National Fund land, which is a constituent agency of the United Palestine Appeal, currently raising its funds through the United Jewish Appeal \$170,000,000 campaign in this country.

into a weekly will serve to keep the nationwide membership regularly informed of current events on the Palestine, American and international scene. As the official organ of the ZOA, the weekly *New Palestine* will also carry pungently written editorials and feature articles which will have their impact on Zionist thinking. It was announced that in view of

the acute newsprint shortage, the conversion into a weekly will have to wait until the Fall.

Rabbi Miller also stated that, in addition to the *New Palestine*, the ZOA owes it to the movement and the American Jewish community to publish a literary magazine of very high artistic and educational standards. Such a magazine will be published by the ZOA at a popular price accessible to everyone wishing to subscribe to such a publication.

Following a lengthy discussion in which Dr. Ludwig Lewisohn, Abe Berkowitz of Birmingham, Arthur Pekelnor of Yonkers, Philip Slesnowitz of Detroit, Sol Reiter of Newburgh (N.Y.), Dr. Silver and Dr. Emanuel Neumann participated, the recommendations of the Inner Committee and the conference were unanimously adopted.

Rabbi Miller also reported that

it was the sense of the regional conference that the dues of the organization be increased. Since the present rate is fixed under the constitution, it was suggested that an amendment be submitted to the forthcoming convention which will provide that the rate of the dues is to be fixed annually by the convention. This suggestion was adopted by the meeting.

Rabbi Miller, reporting on youth problems, announced that a survey will shortly be sponsored of our youth program in cooperation with the American Zionist Youth Commission. It is expected that the recommendations of the survey will be presented to the forthcoming convention.

The meeting also adopted the unanimous recommendation of the Inner Committee that the 50th annual convention of the ZOA be held over the July 4th weekend in New York. It was felt that the holding of the convention then will enable the ZOA to effect during the summer months very important structural changes. It was also held feasible to hold the convention in New York during the consideration of the Palestine problem by the UN.

General Zionist Chalutzith

A most illuminating report on the American chalutz movement was rendered by Louis Schwefel, chairman of the ZOA Committee on Chalutzith. Mr. Schwefel reported a visit to three chalutz farms that day, where he met several hundred American boys and girls undergoing training on farms. In the last two weeks, he visited the Plugat Aliyah, General Zionist chalutz farm in Poughkeepsie, one of the most promising projects in American Zionism, which he felt will serve as a rallying point for young people affiliated with the General Zionist movement.

Mr. Schwefel stated that although Plugat Aliyah has been in existence for only a short time, its membership, comprised of boys and girls of Masada and Junior Hadassah, has grown to over 150. "The knowledge that the ZOA is behind them has given them additional strength. The Keren Hayesod board voted a substantial sum for the purchase of the farm in Poughkeepsie in behalf of the Plugat Aliyah train-

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Arab Field Days at UN Session

By HAROLD U. RIBALOW

The Arabs had a field day at the first meetings of the general, or steering committee, of the General Assembly. The heated hour long sessions, which took place in a hot, smoky, jammed committee room, ran on without much direct action taken.

All day long the delegates heard Arab leaders expound their well-known viewpoints. When the whole day's work was over, it was realized that the Arabs had spoken completely unchallenged. The only issues taken with them were on whether or not their proposal for the termination of the Mandate and the declaration of Palestinian independence should be entered upon the agenda. The newspaper headlines screamed that the Arabs had been beaten down, after the smoke-filled room was cleared in the evening. But it was a pyrrhic victory. The Arabs had used the highest tribunal in the world to express themselves. The Jews were not mentioned, except for a moment by the Polish delegate, Josef Winiewicz, who said that the Jewish viewpoint should be heard. His opinion, stated mildly, was important in retrospect only because he was a single voice in a choir of Arab voices.

Planned Strategy of Arabs

During the morning session, Glib Mahmoud Pasha of Egypt, the Arab League's mastermind, continually interrupted Mr. Aranha by demanding debate on the joint demand of the five Arab states. But at least Pasha was in order for he was a member of the steering committee—the only Arab League member. But that did not stop the entire Arab League membership from showing up at the steering committee meeting and holding forth. It was a planned performance because every Arab leader's speech was obviously prepared. This was, on the surface, a spontaneous thing, but the Arabs were well versed in their roles. One after another, they were allowed to voice their views, while there was no chance for the Jewish case to be heard.

The Arabs did so much table-pounding and yelling that the few other speakers were, com-

paratively speaking, drowned out. When Josef Winiewicz, the Polish delegate, said that the case would seem to be prejudged if the Jews were not given a chance to talk, his was the sole voice of justice in the hall, for he was the only speaker to make this point. Even Russian Andrei Gromyko, who, earlier in the day, had said that he saw nothing against allowing the Assembly to discuss the substance of the Palestine question, sounded casual. And the speech of Herschel V. Johnson, the American delegate substituting for Warren Austin, who was in Washington obtaining further instructions, seemed much less vociferous than the Arabs.

Deliberate 'Objectivity'

As a matter of fact, close scrutiny of Johnson's speech indicated that the American Government was not willing to support the Jewish cause, even to the extent of permitting the Jewish Agency to raise its voice in the same hall with the Arabs. Nowhere in his speech did Johnson mention the word "Jew." In listening to him, one was impressed with his cold caution, his deliberate and studied "objectivity." It was particularly bitter to swallow this in the face of a full afternoon of Arab talk and double talk.

Johnson warned against accepting the Arab proposal because a calm and cautious path was the necessary one. And his statement that "the decision we finally reach must be made only after fair and careful deliberation and must be supported by world opinion" was pale and colorless following the propaganda tossed to the world by the Arabs. During the entire day's proceedings, the Jewish Agency, indeed, the entire Jewish voice, was mute and helpless. What is more important, there didn't seem to be anyone willing to permit the Jews a hearing.

The constant Arab barrage led Johnson to make a late-afternoon statement to the effect that America, too, envisaged an independent Palestine state as the ultimate UN aim. But during the bandying about of the term "independence," the Britisher, Cadogan, maintained a discreet, and, perhaps, painful silence.

Gromyko Address

Andrei Gromyko, Soviet delegate, speaking in favor of giving a hearing to the Jewish Agency on the floor of the Assembly, said that the Jewish Agency represents the Jews of Palestine and must be given a hearing by the UN General Assembly. Speaking tersely as usual, the Soviet dele-



ANDREI A. GROMYKO

gate made it clear that he speaks strictly on the question of hearing Jewish organizations and does not at this time express any views on other issues relevant to the Palestine problem.

Both the General Committee and the General Assembly must hear Jewish organizations, he said. The Arabs have expressed their views, not only on the agenda but even on the substance of the Pal-

estine question, and it cannot be denied that the Palestine question is of concern to the Jews. Certainly the solution of the Palestine problem involves the Palestine Jews. The world, the Jews, and particularly the Jews of Palestine, would not understand if Jewish organizations were not given a hearing. The Soviet Union does not interpret the provisions of the Charter as excluding Jews from a hearing. There is no precedent, true enough, for the United Nations to invite Jewish organizations, but the UN being a young organization, there similarly is no precedent for not permitting the Jews to express their views in the General Assembly. It is not correct to say that a hearing given the Jewish organizations would harm the prestige of the UN. To hear the Jews in Committee No. 1 and not in the General Assembly is inconsistent. Speaking of the various communications from Jewish organizations, it is clear that the Jewish Agency represents Palestine's Jews, and the Jews of Palestine and the population of Palestine must be heard. Naturally the demands of other Jewish organizations for a hearing may be considered, he said.

50th Annual Convention Of ZOA in N.Y. July 3-6

The 50th Annual Convention of the Zionist Organization of America will be held at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York, beginning July 3 through July 6, according to a decision by the ZOA National Administrative Council.

Convening at a time when the Palestine issue is being considered by the United Nations, the Golden Jubilee convention will be the most significant in the history of the Zionist movement. Delegates from all 48 states will participate in its proceedings, which will be addressed by foremost leaders of Jewish Palestine and Zionist leaders from various parts of the world.

The Palestine situation in all its aspects, particularly in the light of their discussion by the UN, will be the major item of the political sessions at the convention, which will be presided over by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, ZOA president. The convention will also be called upon to discuss and act upon plans for the reorganization, as well as plans dealing with education and youth.

Monsky Widely Mourned

Henry Monsky, outstanding American Jewish leader of Omaha, Nebraska, and president of B'nai B'rith, died in N. Y. of a heart attack as he was presiding over a meeting of the Interim Committee of the American Jewish Conference at the Biltmore Hotel.

Long an ardent Zionist, Mr. Monsky was stricken while addressing national Jewish leaders on the tremendous need for Jewish unity in order to cope with the problems of Palestine in the current United Nations General Assembly session. He was largely responsible for bringing the B'nai B'rith to play a closer and more effective part in the upbuilding of Jewish Palestine.

In behalf of the Zionist Organization of America, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, president of the organization, voiced his shock at the untimely passing of Mr. Monsky, whom he termed "a prince of Israel."

Dr. Silver added, "Mr. Monsky, in the true sense of the word, gave his life to the cause of our people. He died on the battlefield of the struggle for justice for our brethren. His memory will be eternally cherished and his achievements will constitute an eternal monument to his unparalleled record of devotion to the welfare of Jewry everywhere."

Wide Tributes

Warm tributes were also paid in messages and addresses by Louis Lipsky on behalf of the American Jewish Conference; Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Rabbi Irving Miller for the American Jewish Congress; Dr. Israel Goldstein, chairman of the United Palestine Appeal; Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president of the Keren Hayesod, and many other leaders and organizations.

Called to testify before the Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry in Washington last year, Mr. Monsky pleaded for the establishment of a national Jewish Homeland in Palestine.

In April of this year, Mr. Monsky took strong issue with Lessing Rosenwald, head of the American Council for Judaism, on the issue of Palestine. In a telegram to President Truman, he described the Council as "an insignificant splinter group" and said "elementary justice requires equitable representation of Jewish interests" before the United Nations session.

Recognition of Mr. Monsky's deep interest in welfare, civic and philanthropic endeavors came from



THE LATE HENRY MONSKY

many sources. In 1945 he was appointed a consultant to the United States delegation which helped write the charter of the United Nations at San Francisco. The late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in 1941, appointed him a member of the National Voluntary Participating Committee of the Office of Civilian Defense.

Mr. Monsky was honorary national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal and the United Palestine Appeal; a director of the Joint Distribution Committee; member of the Board of Governors of the American Association for Jewish Education; honorary vice president of the Jewish Publication Society of America. He also held positions of prominence in a number of other Jewish and non-Jewish welfare organizations, including membership on the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

The foresight and initiative of this great leader were largely responsible for the creation of the American Jewish Conference and earned him election to the chairmanship of its Interim Committee, its highest functioning unit.

Mr. Monsky was honored with the degree of Doctor of Hebrew Letters by Dropsie College in Philadelphia in 1942 and by Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, in 1946. In 1943, Phi Epsilon Pi selected him as the "Jewish Man of the Year."

Interment took place in Omaha following funeral services at Temple Israel.

An evaluation of the late Mr. Monsky's life and accomplishments, from the pen of Murray Frank, noted Washington publicist, will be published in a forthcoming issue of *The New Palestine News Reporter*.

Meet Eretz Israel in New York

By DR. ALFRED WERNER

Associate Editor, Chicago Jewish Forum

A half century ago, a powerful monarch and a noted journalist met in the Holy Land. "This a very hot country," said Emperor William II, "but it has a future." "For the time being, it is still very sick," Theodor Herzl remarked. "It needs water," the German Kaiser continued, "plenty of water." "Yes, it does need water," said Herzl, thoughtfully. "large-scale irrigation."

At that time, fewer than 50,000 Jews lived in Palestine, and most of them belonged to the old, alms-receiving type, living on the Halukkah. There were already a few modern agricultural Jewish settlements, and the two distinguished visitors were impressed by their accomplishments, but beyond these green oases, Palestine, then part of the Turkish Empire, was half a stony desert, half a malaria-infested swamp.

Scope Expanded

By 1946, however, the picture had changed completely. When Trans-World Air Lines inaugurated a service to the Middle East, bringing Palestine within 30 flying hours of New York, a group of American businessmen gladly participated in the first flight. They were pleased to see that Palestine had not only emerged unharmed from the Second World War, but had even expanded its economic scope.

Some of the visitors were already acquainted with the new country's achievements through Arie El Hanani's beautiful Palestine Pavilion at the New York World's Fair of 1939, but now they discovered that many new industries had been added to the old ones, especially in the fields of textiles, metals, chemical and pharmaceutical products, canned foods, and arts and crafts. The Palestine of 1946 had become, largely through the relentless efforts of its 600,000 Jewish inhabitants, the most progressive region in the Middle East!

Since it was not feasible, technically and otherwise, to let all American businessmen visit Palestine, the latter had to come to the United States in order to prove to America that it had become the springboard to business for large parts of Western Asia. And it did come to America, in the shape of an exhibition, Palestine — Democracy at Work, opened at the Museum of Science and Industry, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York.

Standing before one of the key displays of the imposing show, an illuminated model of the Jordan Valley Authority, I remembered Herzl's prophetic words: "Palestine needs water — large-scale irrigation." When the gigantic scheme of the JVA will be fully realized, the Jordan waters will be used to irrigate two and a half million dunams, or 600,000 acres, of now arid land, and the country will be able to accommodate and feed nearly four million people.

Cultural Progress Shown

Another striking exhibit is the scale model of the Hebrew University and Hadassah Town, modeled in Palestine's original colors by William D. Raffel after a design by Richard

Kauffmann. Of course, the businessman's eyes are likely to be attracted more strongly by the products of Palestine's soil and skilled labor, from nicely-packed chocolate to modern costume jewelry, from Shemen Olive Oil to women's wear rivaling that seen on Fifth Avenue.

That Palestine is also a cultural center is proved by the exhibits showing Hebrew self-government, schools, newspapers, theaters, and concert halls. To me, one of the most striking sections of the show is the one devoted to Palestine's living art. Gouaches by Mané-Katz, water colors by Elias Newman, etchings by Jacob Steinhardt, show the characteristics of the land and the people, of the hills and the ocean, the modern villages and the ancient cities, as seen through the creative eyes of artists.

Most of the masters are under the influence of French painters, as for instance Castel's strong, sensuous colors are reminiscent of Rouault.

Slogans distributed throughout the Exhibit urge the visitor to remember that the Yishuv's unparalleled work needs his moral and financial support, that only a free independent Jewish Palestine can be a happy Palestine. To stir the visitor's curiosity, small posters ask him: Do you know that the tulip came originally from Palestine . . . that it costs only \$13.20 to phone from New York to Jerusalem? Personally, I should have liked to see more valuable bits of information given. For not all of the visitors of this striking show may realize that it was in Palestine that the equality of all men, or the idea of the United Nations, were first proclaimed thousands of years ago.

Judaism Council Strength Waning, Says Rabbi Unger

The American Council for Judaism has been, for the most part, steadily losing ground in its effort to confuse general public opinion on Palestine through its program of virulent propaganda, according to Rabbi Jerome Unger, executive director of the ZOA Committee on Unity for Palestine.

For the past six months, Rabbi Unger has been making a systematic sweep of key communities in the Middle West, South, Southwest, the Pacific Coast and the

Northwest. Local Zionists, working in cooperation with the Committee on Unity, have, he reports, successfully forestalled abortive Council attempts to establish new chapters.

The total membership in the Rosenwald group has been steadily waning, with increasing numbers of adherents tiring of the negative propaganda line in the face of a growing desire to effect a positive solution of the Palestine problem. Today's events, according to Rabbi Unger, have stirred many of them to evince more concern for our people, a concern often translated into Zionist sympathy and activity through the Committee's efforts.

Executive, Administrative Council Session

(Continued from Page 9)
ing courses. It is planned that this farm will attract young people, members of Young Judaea and others, who will become imbued with the ideal of American chutzpah.

Mr. Schwefel also reported an overwhelming response on the part of American youth in all skilled vocations, including professionals, who evinced a sincere desire to go to Palestine and help in the reconstruction of the Jewish National Home.

American Youths for Palestine

Stressing the importance of American Chutzpah, the speaker said "that every American boy and girl leaving for Palestine brings new hope and courage to the Yishuv. It brings to the Yishuv the knowledge that Zionism in America is not only philanthropic but a pulsating, living movement." He announced that 30 American youths had left the previous week for Palestine and that their numbers will increase.

Mr. Schwefel urged the establishment of chutzpah committees in every district and region and that the subject of Chutzpah be made the theme of Zionist meetings.

The speaker recommended, on behalf of his committee, the establishment of a General Zionist Chutzpah Bureau, under the supervision of a director charged with stimulating the growth of Chutzpah. He declared that such a bureau would help to revitalize and instill new life in American Zionist activities. It was announced that the Inner Committee will consider Mr. Schwefel's recommendation and report to a forth-

coming meeting of the National Executive.

Silver, Neumann Report on UN

At the conclusion of the business session, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Emanuel Neumann gave detailed analyses of the situation in connection with the consideration of the Palestine problem by the UN. Both Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann stressed the point that America holds the key to the entire problem and that a strong lead by the U. S. representative will rally support from other countries in behalf of the Zionist case.

Dr. Silver impressed in strongest terms upon ZOA district leaders the imperative need of exerting every effort to arouse public opinion in their communities and to convey to the American government the sentiment of their communities in the direction of a firm stand by the U. S. representative at the UN.

Among others participating in the discussion at the regional conference and joint Administrative Council and Executive Committee meeting were Dr. Morton J. Robbins, Nashua (N.H.); Samuel Goldstock, Pittsburgh; Oscar Robbins, Pittsburgh; Leon Kohn, New York; Sol Cohen, Long Island; Abraham Goldstein, Hartford; Selig Auerbach, New York; Morris Jacobs, Detroit; Robert Perski, Augusta (Ga.); John J. Fox, New Haven; Ernest Freudenheim, Buffalo; Jack B. Cohen, Brooklyn; Milton J. Silberman, Chicago; Mendel Fisher, New York; Aaron Robbins, Newark; Jacques Torenzner, New York; Charles Ress, New York; Elihu Stone, Boston; and Marcus Abramson, Bronx.

ZOA horizon

DEVOTED TO EXPANSION FUND, MAJOR PROJECTS, MEMBERSHIP AND GENERAL ZIONIST ACTIVITIES



Herman L. Weisman, chairman of the American Zionist Youth Commission, is seen addressing the banquet in Los Angeles for the Pacific Coast Brandeis Camp, which also heard Dr. Shlomo Bardin and Mrs. Shirley Pincus Kauffman, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Strimling and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bauman have been among the leaders in the camp drive.

West Coast Brandeis Camp Nears Goal

Climaxing a three months campaign for funds for the erection of a Brandeis Camp on the Pacific Coast was a banquet held in the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, which proved to be one of the most outstanding social and cultural events in Southern California in years. Over a thousand people packed the main ballroom to hear about the Brandeis Camp from such leaders as Herman Weisman, chairman of the American Zionist Youth Commission; Dr. Shlomo Bardin, national director of the Commission; Mrs. Shirley Kauffman, Zionist youth leader; Mrs. Edward Meltzer, vice president of the Beverly Hills Chapter of

Hadasah and banquet chairman; and Julius Fligelman, prominent Pacific Coast Zionist and leader in the movement to erect a Brandeis Camp in Southern California.

Approximately \$80,000 was raised at the banquet and, according to Edward Meltzer, president of the Brandeis Camp Committee of the Pacific Coast, the goal of \$125,000 should be reached by the Fall of this year. The selection of a camp site has been entrusted to a committee headed by Marion Travis and Mrs. Julius Fligelman and it is expected that the camp will be functioning this summer.

Mr. Meltzer paid high tribute to Mr. Fligelman for his unceasing efforts in stimulating interest on the Pacific Coast for a Brandeis Camp and for his untiring work for the cause of Zionist youth education.

In New England

First week's efforts in the downtown building canvass showed outstanding results, reports Jacob S. Aronson, chairman. Among workers making excellent progress are Saul J. Coppelman, Hirsch M. Swig, Arthur Schactman, Mordecai Shore, Henry I. Morrison, Leonard Schlesinger, Louis S. Hausflig, Dr. Maurice Kraft, Aaron J. Bronstein, Joseph B. Wolbarsht, Leo J. Sieve, Max Kabatznick, Leon Kowal, Harry Fishman, Henry Gesmer, Reuben S. Klainer, Wm. Levenson, Benjamin Selig, Julius Stone and Moses E. Parsons.

District membership drives are turning in 100 per cent enrollment in many communities of Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, reports Joseph Goldberg, New England membership chairman. New England's goal is 25,000 members.

Members of the Historical Committee are working on a compilation of a historical survey of Zionism. Veterans in the movement or their children are asked to send newspaper clippings, documents, printed programs or other information or material of importance

to Dr. Frances Burnee, chairman, at Zionist House, Boston.

The second in the series of sectional meetings of the New England Zionist Regional Administrative Committee was held in Portsmouth (N. H.), according to Dr. Morton J. Robbins, regional president. Among the matters considered by this body were plans for the Zionist Chest in New England, Zionist week during May 11-18, membership campaign, historical committee, and the 1947 regional convention.

This year's annual convention is scheduled for the week-end of June 7 and 8 in Springfield, and Zionist districts are urged to conclude their membership campaigns before that date, so they may come to the convention with the largest Zionist enrollment for their communities.

Bartley C. Crum, author of "Behind the Silken Curtain," addressed 1,000 members of the Brookline-Brighton-Newton (Mass.) District at a recent meeting. He called on the American government to take "an aggressive attitude and insist on 100,000 immigration certificates into Palestine immediately."

Silver, Neumann Address Palestine Exhibit Dinner

Some 250 leaders in all walks of Jewish life who attended the dinner in Radio City launching the Exhibit of the Palestine Economic Bureau heard Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Emanuel Neumann assail Britain's violations of the Palestine Mandate and call upon the United States government to take the lead in championing the sanctity of international law at the UN session.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann, vice-president of the ZOA, warned against permitting the British to reduce the proceedings before the United Nations to a farce. "Statements made by British official spokesmen," he said, "have made abundantly clear the intentions of the British government on two essential points. The first is that they have no intention of relinquishing the Mandate. The second is that they will not feel themselves bound to carry out recommendations of the United Nations. In this case what does it all amount to but another time-consuming investigation and prolonged deliberations at the end of which nothing definite emerges."

"Our own State Department seems to be impelled by the desire to play the role of a 'neutral,' avoiding the responsibility of leadership and keeping on the sidelines. We can be under no illusions as to what such American 'neutrality' would really mean. The British and the Arabs are there, free to exercise all the influence they can command in opposition to the Jewish cause. In these circumstances, American 'neutrality' would mean nothing more or less than throwing the game to our adversaries. Failure to speak up, to give vigorous support to the oft declared American policy in favor of the National Home would be not merely a failure of leadership, but a betrayal of those humanitarian ideals for which our country has stood," Dr. Neumann said.

Lives Rebuilt

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver declared that the Jews came to Palestine to build peace, life and progress. "All around you in Palestine, he said, you see lives restored and rebuilt. In Palestine our people have achieved a miracle of rebuilding the lives of a whole people. The Jews in Palestine, if permitted to continue their building, will lift the level of the 15th century throughout the Middle East to the level of the 20th century of Palestine."

Dr. Silver said that it is disheartening that a Socialist labor government, which should help a progressive enterprise is instead doing its utmost to liquidate and destroy it.

Charles Ress, chairman of the Administrative Committee of the Palestine Foundation Fund, presided. Other speakers were Admiral Luis De Florez of the U. S. N. R. and Dr. David Tannenbaum, executive director of the Economic Bureau of the Palestine Foundation Fund, which is responsible for the Palestine Exhibit.

6th Bklyn. District Over the Top

Mapleton Park District 57 is the sixth district in the Brooklyn Region to exceed its paid membership over last year. With five months still to go in the current membership drive, Edward J. Silverberg, district president, and Eli Perlow, membership chairman, are confident that the district will double last year's paid membership by the end of September.

At the last district meeting, a Golden Book certificate was presented to the Lipschitz family by Rabbi Leo Cogan, and 35 new members were installed. Phil Lassar, regional membership chairman, delivered a brief address praising the district for its outstanding success in the current membership effort.

Flatbush Zionists to Hear Helen Waren

Helen Waren, the noted actress and speaker, will discuss "Breaking the British Blockade" at a meeting of the Flatbush Zionist District on May 21 at the East Midwood Jewish Center, 1625 Ocean Avenue, Brooklyn.

Goldberg Speaks at New England Rallies

Joseph Goldberg, chairman of the National ZOA Membership Committee, in the last few weeks addressed many rallies under district auspices throughout New England and elsewhere in furtherance of the ZOA Mobilization effort.

The communities which he addressed during March included Jersey City, Chelsea (Mass.), Brockton (Mass.) and Norfolk (Va.). In these communities, he spoke from the pulpit, conferred with district leaders and addressed public rallies devoted to the membership activities.

During April, Mr. Goldberg spoke in Hudson (Mass.), New Haven (Conn.), Worcester (Mass.), and other cities. In Hudson, he spoke at the Methodist church at their Sunday morning service and in Worcester, he addressed the local Rotary Club. This meeting comprised an audience of most representative Christians in that community and it was the first time that a Jewish speaker had the opportunity of presenting the Palestine problem to them. Mr. Goldberg's address made a deep impression upon his audience.

Frisch Addresses Columbus Zionists

Daniel Frisch, chairman of the ZOA National Administrative Council, will address a meeting of the Columbus (O.) District on Tuesday, May 13. He will review the current world Zionist scene in the light of the present special session of the United Nations General Assembly on the Palestine question.

Synagogues Join ZOA Under Pottsville Plan

The plan initiated by Michael Hanin, president of the Pottsville Zionist District, who was responsible for the entire congregation of his synagogue becoming affiliated with the ZOA — now known as the "Pottsville Plan" — has taken root throughout the country, with synagogues from coast to coast following suit.

The Agudas Israel Congregation of Hazleton (Pa.), with a membership of 238, is the latest synagogue to join the ZOA in a body, under the spiritual leadership of Rabbi Herbert Ribner. President of the congregation is Irving Taub.

The Eastern Pennsylvania Zionist Region now boasts no less than nine districts which are organized under the "Pottsville Plan." Most successful is Coatesville where, out of a total of 176 adult Jewish male residents, 171 have been enrolled in the ZOA. Mark Sugarman is president of the Coatesville district.

Other communities in the Eastern Pennsylvania Region where the "Pottsville Plan" is in effect include Laasford, Lebanon, Mahanoy City, Mt. Carmel, Shenandoah and Tamaqua.



Indianapolis Zionist District held a mass memorial meeting recently for Dov Gruner and the other Jewish youths executed by the British. Left to right: Mrs. Ben Paller, Gov. Ralph Gates of Indiana, Mayor Robert H. Tyndall of Indianapolis, Dr. Sumner L. Martin, Cantor Myro Glass and Dr. Leon Levi, district president.



FRED MONOSSON



MENDEL M. SELIG

New England Conference Establishes Zionist Chest

The first Zionist Chest in the country was set into motion in New England at an Extraordinary Conference of leaders at Zionist House, Boston.

Hailed as the greatest achievement in New England Zionist history, the Zionist Chest includes eight constituent Zionist organizations and is designed to raise funds, in one unified effort and at a minimum of expenditure, to meet the expanded needs of all. These organizations are: the national Expansion Fund of the ZOA, the New England Zionist Region, New England Zionist Emergency Council, American Christian Palestine Committee of New England, New England Zionist Youth Commission, Chaim Weizmann Research Institute, Hebrew University Medical School and New England Hechalutz.

Fred Monosson is chairman of

the Chest for New England and Mendel M. Selig is co-chairman. Morris J. Rabinovitz and Benjamin Ulin are treasurer and co-treasurer.

New England and Zionist leaders present at the Extraordinary Conference were: Dr. Morton J. Robbins, president of the New England Zionist Region; Dewey D. Stone, national Expansion Fund chairman and New England chairman of the Chaim Weizmann Research Institute and Hebrew University Medical School; Harry Levine, chairman, New England Zionist Youth Commission; Dr. Arthur I. Shain, New England president, JNF; Joseph Goldberg, national ZOA membership chairman; Benjamin Ulin; Manuel Posy, national director, ZOA Expansion Fund; and Harold Jaffer, of the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

Coast to Coast Broadcast

"What Should the UN Do About Palestine?" will be the subject of a nationwide broadcast when the question is discussed on the American Forum of the Air program on Tuesday, May 13th, at 9:30 P.M., E.S.T., over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Participating in the forum will be Frank Gervasi, noted journalist; Dr. Carl H. Voss, executive secretary, Church Peace Union; Prof. Walter T. Stace, professor of philosophy, Princeton University; and Gordon Waterfield, N. Y. and Washington correspondent for the Kemsley newspapers of Great Britain.

In New York the Mutual Station is WOR; in Washington, D. C., WOL.

Achuza 35th Anniversary

The Achuza Aleph of New York, organized in 1912 in the National Office of the Federation of American Zionists, (now the ZOA), is celebrating its 35th anniversary, and also the 25th anniversary of the founding of its colony Raanana in Eretz Israel.

(Former members and friends of the Achuza who are interested in taking part in the celebration of the 35th anniversary luncheon on Sunday May 18, are asked to communicate before May 14 with the secretary, Sam Cohen, 1312 St. Johns Place, Brooklyn, N.Y.)

E. Penna. Region Ups Activity

The Eastern Pennsylvania Region has shown increased Zionist activity in recent months in membership, Expansion Fund and educational activities.

Outstanding in the work of the Region have been Michael Hahn, Monroe Schneier, Abe Grosky, Rabbi Max Routtenberg, Larry Wurman, Barney Mason, Eli Skaist, Max Yaffe, Rabbi Daniel Davis, Kurt Aronsohn, Rabbi Lewis Grossman, Sydney Shanfield, Mark Sugarman, Harry Magitson, Israel Abramovitz, Rabbi Manning Bleich and Dr. Charles Meil.

Levin Heads Newport

Max Levin was installed as president of the Newport (R. I.) District to succeed Dr. Gerald G. Feinberg at recently-held ceremonies. At the same time, Dr. Maurice Ball was installed as vice-president and Rev. Ely Katz as secretary-treasurer.

Frank Licht, president of the Providence District, was the installing officer.

Five Regions Exceed Last Year's Membership

As the 50th annual convention of the ZOA approaches, five regions have already exceeded their total membership at the end of the last fiscal year. They are Chicago, Milton Silberman, president; Long Island, Benjamin Doft, president; Philadelphia, William Sytk, president; Rhode Island, Arthur I. Darman, president; and Westchester, Robert Lagunoff, president.

Although the convention this year meets on July 3-6, it is expected that the majority of the regions throughout the country will be added to this honor role.

Action for Palestine Week Widely Observed

Action for Palestine Week, which was proclaimed for May 4-11 in connection with the sessions of the UN General Assembly, is being widely observed by all Zionist districts throughout the country. The week has been marked by community-wide rallies in which both Jews and non-Jews have participated.

Such rallies have already been held in all major cities throughout the country. The next issue of this publication will carry a summary of the extraordinary activities which feature the Action for Palestine Week.

Young Zionists in N. Y. Rally to Agency Support

An enthusiastic throng of young Zionists jammed the Joan of Arc Jr. High School in New York to overflowing Wednesday night, May 7, in a demonstration of solidarity for the Jewish Agency and the views it is prepared to present to the UN.

Jack Aronson, a student at Columbia University, chaired the meeting and evoked a positive sentiment from the audience when he called on everybody to swamp the White House with letters and telegrams that this government support the pro-Jewish Palestine promises pledged by six American presidents and passed by a bipartisan resolution of Congress last year.

Daniel Brisker, a recent arrival from Palestine and delegate from General Zionist youth there, told the hundreds of young Zionists that the Yishuv has built in spite of British obstructionist tactics.

Howard Named In California

Jules Howard has been elected president of the San Jose (Calif.) ZOA District for the forthcoming term. Elected to serve with him were Rabbi I. L. Freund, vice president; William Fritz, secretary and Joseph Shulman, treasurer.

DIXIE DOINGS

Herschel Auerbach, former director of the ZOA Veterans Bureau and military intelligence investigator of war crimes in Europe, has been touring the Southeastern Region. He visited Birmingham, Pensacola, Mobile, New Orleans, Memphis and Jacksonville.

The state conference of South Carolina Zionists, meeting in Columbia, accepted a quota of 1,250

MIAMI BEACH.—Pierre V. Paassen addressed a capacity audience at the annual Expansion Fund dinner here. The affair netted a sum of \$10,000 for the Fund.

Another important event was the dinner for the Southeastern Brandeis Camp fund on May 7, which Dr. Shlomo Bardin, director of the American Zionist Youth Commission, spoke. Ed J. Singer, prominent leader in the local Zionist district, was in charge of the dinner.

BIRMINGHAM.—The annual Zionist Day in the community sponsored by the district, is scheduled to take place on Sunday, May 11. A prominent national leader will be the speaker. Proceeds of the affair will go to the Expansion Fund, the Southeastern Brandeis Camp and the Jewish National Fund.

CHARLESTON.—The fiftieth anniversary of the district was observed with a banquet, with receipts going to various Zionist projects, including the Expansion Fund and the JNF. Rabbi Maurice Perlzweig was the principal speaker.

ATLANTA.—The district has resumed its monthly Sunday morning "coffee and beige" discussion groups. The first such forum was in the nature of a talk on Haggadah by Albert Calderon, Palestinian exchange student. Ed Erick and Israel Katz are in charge of the series.

MIAMI.—Rabbi Max Shapiro was the moderator at a symposium recently conducted under the auspices of the district with local talent as the participants. Similar programs are to become a regular feature of activities.

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