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The New Palestine, 1949 March.

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MICROFILM EDITION
SCRAPBOOK 57

Chosen for Cabinet Positions



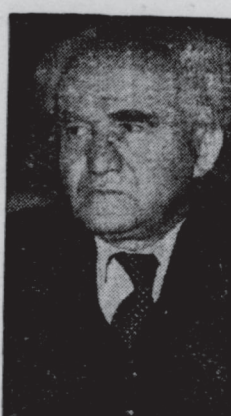
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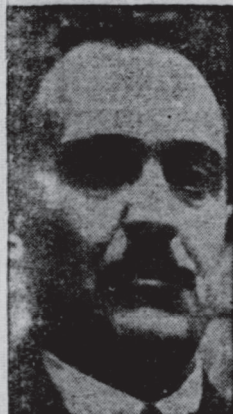
FELIX ROSENBLEUTH



MOSHE SHAPIRO



ZALMAN RUBASHOV



DAVID REMEZ



I. M. LEVIN



BERNARD JOSEPH



JUDAH L. FISHMAN

Government Program Sets Vast Immigration, Development Plans

Prime Minister David Ben Gurion presented a draft of a four-year plan to the first meeting of the Knesseth (Assembly) in Tel Aviv, after he had presented the new Cabinet for approval.

The plan calls for friendship with all peace loving states and especially with the United States and Russia.

There would be efforts to achieve an Arab-Israeli alliance based on economic, social, cultural and political cooperation with neighboring countries, but this alliance "must be within the framework of the United Nations and cannot be directed against any of its members."

This obviously is meant to

stress the policy of not entering into commitments that could be construed as support for any one bloc against another.

The program also calls for:

1. Doubled immigration in four years, with 6,500 new settlements at an over-all cost of \$100,000,000. This would include all agricultural and irrigation development plans.
2. Development of Jerusalem with efforts to concentrate national and governmental institutions there and create a network of villages around it.
3. Establishment of a civil service program.
4. Compensation to owners

for confiscated or requisitioned property.

5. Development of utilities and especially air services.
6. Introduction of an austerity regime and imposition of severe penalties on profiteers and black market operators.
7. Reduction in customs duties and certain taxes to encourage private investment and alteration of foreign trade policy to aid local industry.
8. Establishment of a progressive income tax for fair distribution of the economic burden.
9. Eradication of illiteracy and establishment of compulsory free education for children.

Israel's Cabinet Members Named

Prime Minister David Ben Gurion's Mapai party will hold seven places in the new 15-member Israeli cabinet, whose composition was announced last week. Three seats have been assigned to the religious bloc and one to the Progressive Zionists, and three seats have been set aside for the left-wing Mapam and one for the General Zionist party, both of which have so far refused to participate in the new government because of policy differences.

The composition of the new cabinet is as follows:

- Prime Minister, Minister of Defense (and possibly Minister of Development)—David Ben Gurion (Mapai).
- Foreign Affairs—Moshe Shertok (Mapai).
- Finance—Eliezer Kaplan (Mapai).
- Posts and Communications—David Remez (Mapai).
- Labor and Insurance—Mrs. Golda Meirson (Mapai).
- Education—Zalman Rubashov (Mapai).
- Food Distribution and Supply—Dr. Bernard Joseph (Mapai).
- Religion—Dr. Judah L. Fishman (Religious Bloc).
- Interior and Immigration—Moshe Shapiro (Religious Bloc).
- Social Welfare—Rabbi I. M. Levin (Religious Bloc).
- Justice—Dr. Felix Rosenbleuth (Progressives).

Reserved for Mapam are the portfolios of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Housing and Public Works and Health. The Ministry of Trade and Industry is being held for the General Zionists.

10. Establishment of social insurance.

The suggested program is comprehensive. It even includes a proposal for special allowances to large families to encourage a high birth rate.

The preamble of the plan calls for freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and

culture. It provides that a special Ministry of Education and Culture should disseminate among the Israelis a knowledge of the Middle East and the Arab people, "and safeguard the right of all Arab citizens of the state to use Arabic as a language of instruction, with Hebrew as a language of study."

Statement by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

The following statement was issued by Dr. Silver at the meeting of the UPA Board of Directors held in New York on Feb. 28:

Our position has been right along that the campaign for the United Jewish Appeal, in order to succeed, must be headed by men who would promote harmony and rally all forces in American Jewry. We accordingly regarded the concentration of authority over the conduct of the 1949 campaign in the hands of Mr. Henry Morgenthau Jr. and Mr. Henry Montor as decidedly harmful to the goal of the fund-raising effort for Israel, having in mind that large sections of American Jewry strongly disapprove of Mr. Montor's methods and irresponsible behavior, which the Jewish Agency Executive itself deplored and declared his accusations as unfounded. We re-affirm our long-standing conviction that entrusting an individual who has won widespread hostility as a result of his political machination and intrigues with full authority over the direction of the 1949 campaign, can produce only further tension and controversy.

Agency Intervention

Furthermore we have opposed the unwarranted intervention of the Executive of the Jewish Agency in the internal administrative affairs of an autonomous Zionist body such as the United Palestine Appeal, which has been in the field of fund-raising for Palestine for a quarter of a century and which has received its sanction and authority from the World Zionist Congress. We regard the attempt to supplant this time-honored

American Fund, which has raised hundreds of millions of dollars for Palestine, by the incorporation on the part of the Jewish Agency as a substitute body to take over the function of the United Palestine Appeal as distinctly harmful to the cause of the fund-raising effort and may contribute to the disintegration of the Zionist movement in the United States. The Executive of the United Palestine Appeal has twice, after lengthy consideration of the matter and after hearing the case of the Jewish Agency fully presented, rejected its recommendations in favor of a compromise formula which as recently as February 9 had the unanimous approval of all members of the Executive of the Jewish Agency. We were astounded to read in the press that the Jewish Agency has reportedly signed an agreement with the other beneficiaries of the United Jewish Appeal in spite of the fact that the Board of Directors of the United Palestine Appeal had not yet had an opportunity to take a position on this matter.

Full Responsibility

Because we were thus confronted with a lamentable fait accompli we had no other recourse than to advise our friends to refrain from voting at the Board meeting. We did not wish further to prolong the controversy; on the other hand we could not approve the action which was taken. We wish it clearly understood that those who have demanded absolute control over the campaign and those of the Executive of the Jewish Agency who capitulated to such demands, must now assume full responsibility for the campaign.

EDITORIALS

The Security Council Decision

The decision of the United Nations Security Council by a vote of nine to one, with one abstention (Great Britain) to recommend to the General Assembly the admission of Israel into UN membership, marks another historic milestone in the achievement of full-fledged nationhood of the Jewish state. It is universally conceded that barring unforeseen developments, Israel will be admitted as a member of the UN when the Assembly meets in April.

Great Britain's action in abstaining was in the nature of a warning that serious trouble may yet be brewing in the final settlement of Israel's geographical and political issues. This foreboding is lent credence by the difficulties which have arisen at this time in the armistice negotiations between Israel and Trans-Jordan. The rulers of the latter country have openly admitted that any peace arrangement governing the delineation of territorial boundaries will be subject to consultation with and approval of the British Foreign Office.

Trans-Jordan has already indicated its desire for the acquisition of Jaffa, the internationalization of Jerusalem and other concessions which would affect the geographical and strategic integrity of Israel. Trans-Jordan is under great pressure on the part of the British to stand pat on certain demands which would solidify Britain's stranglehold on strategically located Palestine territory through its puppet, Trans-Jordan.

Israel's reaction to Great Britain's action at the UN Security Council was epitomized by its Foreign Minister, Moshe Sharet (Shertok) when he said that Britain's abstention showed how hard certain prejudices died, but that this was something the state of Israel would have to take in its stride.

Despite the action of the Security Council, vigilance is still the watchword. Until the Jewish state is firmly rooted, its boundaries definitely established and its enemies reconciled to its existence, the need for generating and maintaining public support is stronger than ever.

Is Autonomy to be Destroyed?

The opposition has time and again been using the specious argument that the ZOA leadership has challenged the authority of the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in the matter of fund-raising for Israel. In repeatedly broadcasting this argument the opponents to the Silver-Neumann leadership have tried to confuse the issues in the minds of the public.

Dangerous Precedent

What the American Zionist leaders challenged was whether it was within the purview of the Agency—apart from the wisdom of such action—to intervene in such administrative matters as the appointment of a general chairman and an executive director for a campaign in a given country, a matter which for 25 years has been left, in the case of the United States, to the United Palestine Appeal. The fact that some members of the Executive felt that the chairmanship of a certain individual and the executive direction by a certain individual would yield more money—a supposition which has not been established at all—was no warrant for the Executive to intervene. Its action creates a precedent for intervention at any time in any administrative matter. This not only will destroy the autonomy of existing Zionist bodies and agencies, but will tend to discourage American Zionists from assuming any posts or offices in the Zionist organizations, for the simple reason that their authority will be fictitious. Their positions will be reduced to those of mere figureheads.

Throughout the years, American Zionist bodies carried on their work for Palestine without any such administrative intervention on the part of the executive of the world movement. Perhaps such intervention is now desirable; perhaps the whole world Zionist movement should now be directed in all its details. But certainly such a contingency could have waited until it was discussed at a meeting of the Actions Committee or the Zionist Congress.

Agreed to Compromise

For the record it should be stated that Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Emanuel

Neumann, for the sake of unity, after months of protracted negotiations and after lengthy sessions with the Jewish Agency Executive agreed to a compromise plan. This plan provided for the naming of Henry Morgenthau as general chairman of the UJA and the inclusion of Henry Montor in the management of the campaign as one of three executive vice-chairmen. This compromise was an enormous concession on the part of the American Zionist leaders, after the barrage of wild attacks and slanderous charges levelled against the democratically elected leaders of the movement by an official of the UJA who occupied a position of trust in the movement. This compromise plan was approved by unanimous vote of the entire Jewish Agency Executive.

The ZOA has never opposed the election of Mr. Morgenthau as general chairman of the campaign. What the organization opposed was the reengagement of Mr. Montor upon the coat tails of Mr. Morgenthau. When Mr. Morgenthau rejected the compromise plan and declined to meet Dr. Silver to discuss the compromise plan, and the Jewish Agency Executive yielded to Mr. Morgenthau's demand that he be given a free hand in the engagement of Mr. Montor, both Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann, out of a sense of self-respect, could not act otherwise but to tender their resignations from the Executive.

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Reflections

By DR. TRUDE WEISS-ROSMARIN

A year ago, almost to the day, Menachem Boraisha, whose untimely death on February 12 is now being mourned by Jews the world over, delivered an address at the ZOA Conference for Reorienting Zionist Education which will be remembered as an unforgettably stirring experience by those who were privileged to share that hour of spiritual elevation. Menachem—thus he is known in the world of Jewish letters—was not a professional “educator.” He was a poet, a very great poet, one of the greatest Jewish poets of all times. His *Der Gayer* (The Wayfarer), a two-volume saga of a Jewish “Faust”—a seeker of ultimate truth and meaning—is revered as the Yiddish masterwork of our time.

Menachem held that a Jewish poet must be more than a versifier singing of spring and beautiful maidens. He believed that the Jewish poet has a mission—to spin a bit further the Jewish ethical-creative thread of the ages: the quest for truth and justice, the search for the path man is to pursue under God's sky, the consummation of Jewish Chosenness.

Menachem was a God-intoxicated man with wide-open eyes and an analytical, searching mind. He was a mystic in his truth-seeking-and-embracing lyrical ardor—and the son of generations of sages and thinkers molded in the matrix in which Rabbi Akiba and Saadia were minted.

Realm Was Eternity

Menachem was poor, for great poetry commands no price in the marketplace. He was compelled to turn his noble pen into a spade for cultivating a field which was not worthy of a worker of this sort. Menachem earned his bread as a journalist—and he did prodigiously and fealty as a journalist. But Menachem was too great to be permitted to waste the largest slice of his time and strength on earning his bread as a commentator on events of the day! His realm was eternity.

Because he demanded perfect-

tion, Menachem frequently chided the ZOA in the past year, following his address at the above-mentioned conference. He wanted to see the programs outlined at that conference translated into living, throbbing cultural activity. He wanted the ZOA to perform cultural tasks commensurate with its size and importance.

It says in the Bible, “Reprove a wise man and he will love thee.” But ours, alas, is a generation poor in wisdom. Menachem's critique was not taken in good graces. As one who was often privileged to discuss Zionism with Menachem, I know that there is no more loyal Lover of Zion than Menachem was.

Menachem, who insisted upon perfection, hated diletantism, puerile dabbling in Jewish culture. But when he came upon thoughts and plans of quality, akin to his own high standards and ideals, his enthusiasm was great.

One of his last articles was devoted to a searching analysis of Daniel Frisch's four-point program for the ZOA. In our very last conversation, he referred to this program as the saving light in the present darkness of our Zionist scene. “Daniel Frisch's Program is more than a program,” Menachem wrote in *The Day*, just two weeks before his death. “It is the instrument for giving American Zionism a *raison d'être* at this juncture, a not-to-be-questioned *raison d'être*. How altogether different would be the texture of American Zionism if a program such as Daniel Frisch's had been adopted 15 or 20 years ago!” he mused. “How altogether different would be Zionism's place in American Israel.”

Menachem was a Lover of Zion who demanded intellectual spirituality from those who invoke the hallowed name of Zion. For this reason, too, his name will shine bright in the bundle of life of Zion's lovers, whose hearts dwelled in Zion while their feet trod the stony roads of the Galuth.

Messages Exchanged by Weizmann, Silver, Shertok

In response to the cable addressed to him by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver on the occasion of his induction as president of Israel, Dr. Chaim Weizmann cabled to Dr. Silver asking him to use his influence with American Zionists in behalf of the UJA. The text of Dr. Weizmann's cable follows:

Feb. 20, 1949

"Sincerest thanks for your felicitations. I pray that I may be granted the strength and wisdom to discharge my duties in this fateful historic hour for our people. Never before have we been faced with so great a challenge and equally great an opportunity. It is therefore incumbent upon all of you irrespective of temporary differences to rally to support of Israel with same consecration as have done our sons and daughters in defense of our country. It is my fervent hope that you will use your great influence with American Zionists to ensure concentrating all forces on enormous effort that must now be made through UJA to help us in gathering of exiles. Feel confident you will not fail us in this momentous hour."

Weizmann

In reply Dr. Silver cabled to Dr. Weizmann clarifying his stand in the UJA controversy and the reasons which led to his and Dr. Neumann's resignations from the Jewish Agency Executive. The text of Dr. Silver's cable follows:

Feb. 21, 1949

"Appreciate your cable. Have made every effort for settlement. Executive Jewish Agency unanimously agreed on terms of settlement February 9 calling for Morgenthau as general chairman and Montor as one of three executive vice chairmen, one for UPA, one for JDC, and Montor representing Morgenthau. This agreement Morgenthau rejected insisting on Montor as sole campaign director. At request of Executive, agreed to fly to Florida to meet Morgenthau, but latter declined meeting. Feel strongly a word from you to Morgenthau, Montor to accept unanimous agreement of February 9 would quickly end unfortunate controversy. They are maintaining intransigent position relying on your support and approval. For sake of avoiding hurt to UJA campaign, both UPA and ZOA had

receded from original position under no circumstances to permit return of Montor. Is it not proper for others to make some concession or is our whole movement to capitulate to the dictatorship of two men. Feeling strong here that certain individuals, both here and in Israel, are using Morgenthau-Montor issue to settle political accounts with present ZOA administration."

Silver

In a cable to Moshe Shertok, Foreign Minister of Israel, Dr. Silver expressed the congratulations of the American Zionist movement to the government of Israel for the successful completion of the negotiations at Rhodes culminating in the Egyptian-Israeli armistice. In his cable Dr. Silver, in behalf of the Council, lauded the "magnificent stand taken by Israel in pursuit of an honorable peace." Dr. Silver's cable follows:

"On behalf of the American Zionist Emergency Council and Zionists of America I have the honor to transmit to you and to the government and people of Israel our heartfelt congratulations on the historic achievement of the Egyptian-Israeli armistice. We are happy over the notable part taken in the armistice negotiations by the members of the Israeli delegation at Rhodes and by our two fellow citizens acting United Nations Mediator Dr. Ralph Bunche and Brigadier General William E. Riley who have labored so hard and so ably in the cause of peace. The magnificent stand taken by Israel in pursuit of an honorable peace is worthy to take its place alongside its heroic deeds during the war. May this first armistice which consolidates the territorial position of Israel and stretches a hand of peace across Israel's borders presage similar agreements with the rest of Israel's neighbors and result in durable peace and friendship between them."

Silver

Moshe Shertok, Minister of Foreign Affairs, cabled as follows:

"Deeply grateful for your message of congratulations on occasion of conclusion of armistice with Egypt. Your appraisal of its far-reaching significance has caused us all great satisfaction. Cordial greetings."

Shertok

Montor's Charges Against ZOA Leaders Acknowledged as False

His Accusations Denounced by Jewish Agency Executive As Being "Unfounded"

Our readers are aware of the infamous letter of September 10 which Henry Montor wrote to the UPA, in which he charged the UPA and ZOA leadership with diverting funds for party purposes and with using their alleged control of the funds for political ends. These charges and other fantastic tales were subsequently spread far and wide by the Committee of Contributors and Workers organized by Mr. Montor as a rival to the UPA.

That these charges and false accusations were trumped up as a means to besmirch the prestige of the ZOA and its leadership was clearly manifested time and again and denounced both at meetings of the UPA Executive and the Jewish Agency Executive. We publish herewith salient parts of the letter of retraction by Henry Montor and the accompanying statement by the Jewish Agency Executive, in which the damaging accusations and falsehoods are branded as unfounded.

Letter by Henry Montor —January 24, 1949

"In recent weeks, in discussion of the launching of the United Jewish Appeal campaign, reference has been made publicly and privately to the letter I wrote to the United Palestine Appeal on September 10 submitting my resignation. It is regrettable that note has not been taken of the fact that on October 21 I wrote to the United Palestine Appeal withdrawing the letter dated September 10 . . .

"It is appropriate for me to point out at this time that any circulation or publication of the letter of September 10 was not undertaken by me and was without my approval. I could regret nothing more than that it should in any way serve to lessen support to the genuine needs of Israel . . .

"Insofar as my letter of September 10 is concerned, in order to make my position quite

clear, I hereby withdraw it and all the accusations contained therein and ask that it be expurgated from the record. I offer my apologies to any person or organization offended at its contents, more particularly to the United Palestine Appeal and the Zionist Organization of America."

Statement by Jewish Agency Executive —February 16, 1949

"The Executive deplors the accusations which have been made in the course of the recent controversy with regard to fund raising against responsible Zionist bodies, and especially against the United Palestine Appeal and the Zionist Organization of America, and states that these accusations are unfounded and that the integrity of these bodies and their leadership cannot be impugned.

"Meeting for the first time in the United States in plenary session, the Executive takes this occasion to note with appreciation the steadfast loyalty of and the important contributions made by all sections of American Zionism and by the Jewish community of the United States in general over many years in all fields of activity for the Jewish National Home and Israel. We recall the role played by the Keren Hayesod and the Keren Kayemeth in the United States and by the United Palestine Appeal in mobilizing financial support for this great effort.

The statement also announced the decision by the Jewish Agency Executive that:

1. All Zionist staff members of the UJA shall refrain from any and all controversial Zionist political activity;
2. That the Committee of Contributors and Workers shall discontinue all activity and dissolve immediately.

Distorting Facts

Devious are the ways of those who seek to spread their enmity toward the democratically elected ZOA leadership, and many are the "fronts" created by them for this purpose.

One of the media which is being used in the campaign of subtle distortion aimed at undermining the ZOA structure is the publication "Israel Speaks"—formerly "Haganah Speaks"—which is issued by a group headed by Abraham Feinberg, a leading figure in the Committee for Progressive Zionism and a close associate of Henry Montor.

Baseless Statements Repeated

Both the February 18 and March 4 issues of that publication, in leading editorials, contain a number of unsubstantiated statements in which are repeated the canards which have been spread by Mr. Montor's group and which were contained in his infamous letter of September 10, despite the fact that the falsity of these charges was acknowledged by Mr. Montor in his statement of retraction.

Thus in the issue of February 18, Mr. Feinberg's publication repeated the implication that the ZOA leaders tried to "attach political strings" to the financial aid transmitted through the UPA to Israel, and secondly, that "leaders of the ZOA balked at putting the agreement (reached in negotiations between the Committee of Contributors and the UPA) into effect." Both these charges are false. The very reverse is true.

In its March 4 issue the publication repeats the charge—again proven unsubstantiated and groundless—that the ZOA "controlled a machine which directed the disposition of funds contributed for Israel by the entire American Jewish community."

Transmission of Funds

The charge that the ZOA leaders tried to attach political strings to the transmission of funds for Israel through the UPA has been proven groundless and was denounced both at meetings of the UPA Executive and by the Jewish Agency Executive. We direct the attention of our readers to Mr. Montor's letter and to the statement of the Jewish Agency Executive acknowledging the falsity of these accusations.

Under the agreement reached last December between the so-called Committee of Contributors and the UPA, Mr. Montor's resignation, which had been accepted, was disposed of. Nonetheless the question of the re-engagement of Mr. Montor was raised again by the Montor-Feinberg group (Committee of Contributors) and thus through the breach of the agreement the crisis was precipitated.

Don't Weaken the Zionist Movement

By DANIEL FRISCH

When old Cicero sent his "O Tempora O Mores" ringing down time's famous corridors, he epitomized the great truth that changing times and climes bring in their wake changing attitudes and opinions.

In the Zionist movement too, times have changed. And what a change has been wrought in our "mores"! I wish here to underscore a change that seems to have come upon the idea of Klal Israel in our movement.

Time was when our party opponents within the movement derisively pointed us General Zionists out as the defenders of Klal Israel. We were the ones who objected to separate parties and classes in Zionism. We were those who insisted upon the totality of the Jewish people. We General Zionists based our faith upon the fact that the founders of Zionism themselves were wedded to this all-embracing view. They envisioned no partisan groups. Their aim was to transplant all the Jewish masses who found the Galuth oppressive—everywhere in the world—in the land of our fathers. The Shekel which Herzl created was meant to prove the unity of the entire people Israel.

The early chalutzim from the Biluim to the Second Aliyah—even the majority of the immigrants who came with the Second Aliyah—were just Jews without adjectives, without party membership cards.

Distinctive parties came only later under the impact of the Russian revolutionary movement, and against the will of Zionist leaders such as Herzl and Nordau who could not accept the "party" viewpoint in Zionism.

Parties Emerged Late

Even in Eretz Israel parties did not emerge until long, long after the Balfour Declaration and the first World War. Hapoel Hatzair, which prevailed until that time, and which looked upon the Poale Zion with its organ "Ahdut" as a sort of Marxian afterthought, was not a party in the strict sense of the term. It partook rather of the character of a religious sect whose cult was labor, and whose high priest was A. D. Gordon.

When, however, the new phase of party-Zionism did develop, the General Zionists accepted it and supported the paragons of the new epoch with all good faith. Surely there would have been no K'vutzah in Eretz Israel, with its predominantly laborite control and influence, without the Zionist Executive, just as we would not have today successful Gevirk-

shafthen campaigns if not for the support of the General Zionists who, while not viewing with favor a socialist state, believe nevertheless, in a strong trade unionism in Israel.

Nor do these instances exhaust the list. The number of General Zionists who were propelled by the compulsion to build Israel under any circumstances is legion. Indeed the very coffers of the Zionist movement were placed at the command of this new post-Rothschild era, which was as it should have been.

And we are delighted. The labor parties have honorably and bountifully fulfilled their mission. We wish them God-speed and we stand ready, further, to help them, even though the state of Israel is now entering a new phase of development—the urban and industrial epoch which will again require new pioneers, perhaps of a different sort. The new pioneers will—nolens volens—have to be drawn from the ranks of the middle classes, which will have to play a more telling role in Eretz Israel than ever before.

Turnabout

And so we General Zionists, who gave primacy to Klal Israel, made peace with the inevitable and accepted the new idea of the party as the natural phenomenon. It is passing strange however, when those who hew to the party line turn about suddenly and take up the hue and cry for Klal Israel.

I have reference to two developments in our American movement, which have but recently come to the surface: First the idea that in the administration of purely Zionist funds, the Klal Israel adherents must have a major voice. Labor leaders in Israel, encouraged by American leaders of labor, have insisted for some time now that the UPA, the JNF, and the Keren Hayesod—all purely Zionist funds—ought to invite to their administrative boards Jews without Zionist labels, leaders in the local communities, at least in the same proportion to all Zionist bodies combined.

How did this idea take wing? Which of the communities demands this procedure? Do other major funds invite from the communities, as overseers, men who have never had any interest in the work represented by these funds? Would such overseers understand the needs of Israel better than Zionists, who have for three generations given the best years of their lives to this work?

It is crystal clear that the political

honeymoon in the state of Israel will slowly but surely come to an end. It will be followed by a period of hard realities which must be faced by every young nation, particularly after a war. The young state will have on its hands some hundreds of thousands of Jews who were not prepared for pioneering in some Hachsharah. They will be normal everyday Jews, good and bad, who will have to be molded into pioneers by the temper of the land and the government. A post-war economy is always a critical one. The bold facts of our situation in post-war Israel will even invite severe criticism of our sacred ideal. And who can foretell what will happen vis-a-vis the neighbors of Israel! Can we rest secure in the hope that the millions and millions of fanatic Bedouins and their pan-Arabic leaders will forever accept a modern, progressive state at the very edge of the desert—a state which they claim erects a wall between them and the wide world? And what about other world powers who accepted so grudgingly the establishment of the state of Israel?

New "Friends"

Israel will yet suffer many growing pains. It will need loyal friends, devoted, idealistic supporters. Who will better play this role: a well-established Zionist movement, or stray men picked at random, who have to account to no one? I hope I am wrong. I fear that the first to cast stones at Israel, the first to cry "I told you so," will be many among the newly acquired "friends" of Zion, who fought or were indifferent to our movement for half a century. It is these band-wagon riders who our friends of the left want us to accept as equal partners in our work.

The second matter to which I have reference is a project proclaimed by the Poale Zion, which aims to "bring order" into the affairs of American Zionism. The plan, as officially adopted, involves the calling of an American Zionist Congress, with representation on the basis of Shekalim, after the pattern of the World Zionist Congresses. This Congress will naturally make the important decisions concerning the movement in America, and entrust their execution to an executive committee.

I, personally, like and believe in the idea of a federated Zionist Organization in America, composed of all parties. I heartily approve and pray for a united leadership. Moreover, such a federated organization has the blessing of the World Zionist Congress, and this pro-

cedure already obtains in many countries (Histadruth Ahidah).

But why have our Poale Zion comrades suddenly fallen in love with the principle of the shekel as a basis for the organization? I believe—and many believe with me—that the shekel has outlived its usefulness in the World Zionist Organization. The whole movement has an entirely different character. Its scope is wider. Its interests are too important to be surrendered to neophytes.

Certainly the idea of the shekel as a basis has no place in the local scene. Will we really permit those who reject affiliation with Zionist groups to make decisions which must mold our destiny? I see in this idea, once again, the new vogue which aims to draw "non-Zionists" into the intimate circles of our movement. This trend has become an idol, now worshipped by those who once themselves ridiculed it.

Cannot Succeed

The attempt cannot succeed. Neither the ZOA nor Hadassah—nor even the Mizrahi—will, I believe, consent to it. We cannot help ourselves in the campaign for the World Zionist Congress where the shekel principle is thrust upon us from the past. We believe that ultimately it will be changed even there. It would take an overdose of shortsightedness for Zionists to permit this procedure on the local and community level.

What motivates the Poale Zionists is very clear to me. They can more easily sell Shekalim than create members in good standing. What a pity that all members of the trade unions do not join the Poale Zion as full-fledged members. That would swell their ranks numerically. Surely their interest in Poale Zion affairs should not be less in degree than their participation in the Gevirkshatten campaign. It seems that people dislike the harness. A contribution? Yes. A tear of joy for Israel? Yes. A shekel? Perhaps yes. But to submit to the discipline of an ideology, to give allegiance to a party—that, never!

It is a pity. But it has nothing to do with the principle. The Klal Israel principle has to be built up before it is adopted. At this turn of historic events it threatens to water down our movement, to render anemic the Zionist ideal which spells the renaissance of the whole people—everywhere. And if we are ever called upon to close ranks and defend the achievements of our movement and the state of Israel, this spurious principle will be an obstacle.

Westchester Region Votes Support to Administration

A resolution expressing enthusiastic and unqualified support of the present ZOA administration was overwhelmingly approved at a recent meeting of the Westchester Zionist Region Executive in the Roger Smith Hotel, White Plains. The resolution, proposed by Charles Ress, national vice president, came at the end of a long discussion about the Committee for Progressive Zionism and the serious internal situation in the American Zionist movement.

Moved by Arthur Pekelner of Yonkers and seconded by Bernard Buchholz of Mt. Vernon, the resolution reads:

"The Executive Committee of the Westchester Zionist Region at its regular meeting held February 15, 1949, in White Plains, has given consideration to certain happenings which have occurred in the Zionist movement in this country. Having given consideration to the position of the administration of the ZOA under the

inspiring leadership of its president, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council and pre-eminent leader of world Zionism, in its efforts to preserve the integrity of our movement in this country and its important institutions, including the United Palestine Appeal, we hereby express our unqualified confidence and approval of their actions, at this historic moment, which has witnessed the first meeting in 3,000 years of a Jewish legislative body in Jerusalem, the eternal city of Israel.

"We are conscious of the distinguished services of Dr. Neumann and Dr. Silver and their co-workers in our organization. We pledge to them and our democratically elected representatives our continued and enthusiastic support."

Participants in the discussion

included Michael Bernstein of Yonkers; Wolf Feldman of Yonkers; Joseph Greenleaf, president of the Westchester Region; Rabbi Max Kleinman of Peekskill; Robert Lagunoff of Mt. Vernon and Gustave Rubner of Tuckahoe.

Coalition Cabinet

(Continued from Page 1)

claims that no common basis was sought with the General Zionists, to whom an attempt was made to dictate unacceptable conditions.

Hatzofe, the orthodox organ, explains that Mapam's demands were unacceptable to religious Jewry but the paper deplores the absence of the General Zionists from the cabinet. "The traditional forces are as yet not represented fully, but aggressive secularism has been defeated while we shall continue to strive to make religion the focus of the Jewish state."

Davar, the Mapai publication, points out that the coalition of forces in the cabinet is not complete and calls for the cooperation of all constructive forces.

NEW DWELLINGS GOING UP IN TEL AVIV



In the rapid expansion of the city of Tel Aviv, the construction of vast housing projects to accommodate new immigrants is receiving top priority. Here, a workman gathers lime near a block of almost completed apartments.

Israel Press Sees Attacks on U.S. Leadership Designed to Kill Zionist Organization Here

By M. E. STONE

TEL AVIV.—The resignations of Neumann and Silver have stirred and agitated public opinion here. The influential Hebrew daily *Haaretz* again devotes its lead editorial to the resignation, after launching a bitter attack on the opponents of the ZOA. The editorial states that "the holy purpose has finally been attained, with Silver and Neumann compelled to resign. The task of the Jewish Agency has been completed, as the Executive has purged the representatives of the ZOA. The strong leaders of the Zionist Organization in the diaspora, backed by American Zionism, have been removed from their posts. The balance of the Executive members remain alone, no criticism disturbing them. Only the future can tell if this marks the conclusion of the Montor chapter and this undermining of the chosen leaders of American Zionism with the help of Morgenthau, whose Zionist period is in inverse ratio to his age."

The *Haaretz* further charges that "this undermining has been openly encouraged by the Jerusalem Section of the Jewish Agency Executive and certain members of the Israel government. It is difficult to believe that the resignations will aid in promoting unity or the success of the UJA. The struggle now passes into other

spheres without profiting by the sacrifice of the American Zionist leaders on the altar of the natural alliance between the international ZOA opposition, the Mapai and the non-Zionist donor princes. There is bitter irony in the fact that the decisive factor in the controversy was the obstinacy of Morgenthau who, however esteemed he may be, is difficult to accept as the final arbiter in an internal Zionist issue. It is further unforgettable that the UJA succeeded many years before Morgenthau was involved.

'Irresponsible Maneuverings'

"The representatives of American Zionism have been removed, although American Zionism is the most important constituent of the World Zionist Organization, and the fear exists that serious injury may have been done to the UJA while the irresponsible maneuverings of Mapai may have cost millions of dollars. Kaplan, as treasurer, does not tire of demanding millions from the Yishuv in taxes and loans and did not hesitate to throw his support against the General Zionists in order to serve Mapai purposes at the cost of shaking our financial foundations in America. Possibly, Silver and Neumann made mistakes. But not only are they the elected leaders of American Zionism; they have also raised the prestige of the American Zionist organization immeasurably, as contrasted with

its low state under the previous administrations. . . . The impression exists that the central influential personalities in Israel are toying with the idea that the Zionist Organization completed its task with the establishment of the state, and it can now be dissolved by those whose function is completed. If such an intention to break the living bond between the state and the Golah is real, it should be openly stated. We would then know where we stand and would be able to fight such irresponsible intrigues," concluded that *Haaretz* editorial.

Clarification Needed

The Hebrew daily *Haboker* also states editorially that it deeply regrets the resignation of diligent, devoted personalities when their energy, experience and activity are most needed. "The name of Montor has suddenly arisen amidst Jewish and Zionist affairs to a degree not attained by the best Zionists. There is need for clarification of the part played by several members of the Executive of the Jewish Agency in this rebellion manipulated not alone by Americans. The frequent journeys to and from America have only caused additional complications. The ordinary Zionist here asks why (Israeli) Zionists did not unhesitatingly side with (American) Zionists against Montor. It was the simple duty of Zionist leaders to quell the uprising

of the assimilationists and the non-Zionists who suddenly sensed the rise in Zionist values on which they desired to build themselves up. The undermining of the status of the General Zionist leaders at the present time is due to their great influence in the World Zionist Organization, which disturbs those who would like to force the American Zionists to toe the line also. The personalities of the American Zionist leaders are too powerful, hence it is necessary that they be destroyed. The Montor episode is only an excuse to do just that." The editorial concludes with the expectation that American Zionists will not permit the resignations to deflect the progress of the ZOA.

Hamishmar, organ of the leftist Mapam, prints a mail dispatch saying: "Those closest to the subject in the U. S. admit the truth of the accusation that Mapai is supporting the attack, which has its origin in Israel and not in America. It is questionable if it is necessary to identify the political quarrel with the General Zionists with the attack on the UJA, especially when Israeli needs are at their greatest, resulting in a deterioration of prestige and income from the campaign." The writer is surprised by the attack against Silver in the style of Montor, and asks whether it is the duty of Israeli elements to choose the present decisive months to precipitate a crisis in the campaign.

Anglo-Jewish and Yiddish Press Back ZOA Leaders

Widespread support for the ZOA position against the charges made by the Committee for Progressive Zionism and in the controversy in the United Jewish Appeal was evidenced in editorials and articles which appeared recently both in the Anglo-Jewish press throughout the country and in the Yiddish newspapers.

Thus, in a stinging editorial entitled "Smallness of the Great," the Brooklyn *Jewish Examiner* charges the leaders of the CPZ with behaving "like disgruntled children, who once having enjoyed power, now again yearn to wield the gavel because they are not satisfied to rest on their laurels." By contrast, the editorial lists the accomplishments of the ZOA under the leadership of Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann.

It goes on to charge that the entire Montor affair is part of a pattern "to sabotage the ZOA" and calls the controversy "an explosive situation in which thoughtlessness, self-seeking elements hunger for power and jockey for control to the detriment not alone of the Zionist cause but of the cause of the new Israel and world Jewry."

Flays Desertion

Similarly, the Jersey City (N.J.) *Jewish Standard* praises the "record of achievement" of Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann. It criticizes the CPZ for "having done its planning out of the ranks of the Zionist Organization instead of within it" and flays the CPZ leaders for "deserting the ranks of the Zionist Organization at its time of crisis."

In still another editorial on the subject, the Brooklyn *Jewish Examiner* refers to the outcome of the UJA dispute as a pyrrhic victory and expresses its hope that the UJA campaign has not

been seriously hurt. It adds: "But if that cause has been damaged, the responsibility for it must rest on Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Henry Montor and the Jewish Agency. And if it is their purpose to liquidate the Zionist movement in America, particularly the ZOA, we do not believe they will succeed. Zionism is more vitally needed than ever, for the survival of Israel and world Jewry."

The Providence (R.I.) *Jewish Herald* sees the issue as one in which certain groups have decided that the Zionist Organization here must be reorganized. "The dissidents have elected themselves as the agents best suited to carry out that reorganization," it asserted. "By what democratic right they have come to this conclusion has not been revealed, but they clearly act as if they were chosen for that task by the mandate of the people, although they are, admittedly, an insignificant minority."

The Minneapolis (Minn.) *American Jewish World* quotes the CPZ charge that the ZOA is being ruled "with an iron hand," but goes on to add that "neither Wise nor Lipsky are known as yielding individuals whose rule was soft and velvety." The burden of proving the charges it makes still rests with the CPZ, the paper concludes.

The belief that the ZOA membership will not be misled by the "efforts to weaken and demoralize the ZOA" is stated in an editorial in *The Indiana Jewish Chronicle*. The proper place for the CPZ to present its grievances, it continues, is at the annual convention of the ZOA.

Editorializing on the outcome of the UJA controversy, the Bronx *Jewish Review* saw the settlement as not bringing "the real peace and good will that



Thousands of Jews in Turkey are seeking permission to leave the country in order to go to Israel. Here, a group waits in front of headquarters of the Turkish political police in Istanbul in order to get visas.

everybody has been waiting for. The will of a large section of American Jews . . . has been violated too sharply not to call forth an outburst of resentment and bitterness. Victories such as that won . . . by Mr. Morgenthau and Mr. Montor have been known in history as pyrrhic victories and they have never done any good even to the victors. It will do a great deal of harm to American Jews morally. It is to be hoped that it will not affect as badly European and Israeli Jews physically."

The Buffalo (N. Y.) *Jewish Review* viewed the resignations of Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann from the Executive of the Jewish Agency as the natural outcome of the decisions of the Executive. It went on:

"Although Dr. Silver was not sustained in his position by the Board of the United Palestine Appeal, he has lost nothing in stature as a leader in American Jewry and as a fighting champion for Israel."

Yiddish Press

The Yiddish dailies, the *Jewish Morning Journal* and *The*

Jewish Day, regretted deeply the resignation of Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann. According to the *Morning Journal*, Dr. Silver certainly went far enough in compromising, and the Jewish Agency Executive should have taken this fact into consideration and not have brought about a situation where Mr. Morgenthau might insist on unconditional surrender.

The Yiddish press voices hope that the rift surrounding the UJA will be forgotten now that the campaign is in full swing.

The *Jewish Day* observed that "Morgenthau had accepted the General Chairmanship of the campaign following full acceptance of the conditions upon which he insisted" and "he therefore carried on his shoulder full responsibility for the success of the campaign."

Pointing to the fact that 32 UPA Board members abstained from voting, "among them such tested and important leaders in the Zionist movement in America as Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Emanuel Neumann," the editorial stated that it was regrettable that "such an un-

fortunate situation had been created as to have made it impossible to find another way out," particularly "because there is not the slightest doubt that the 32 UPA members who considered the action of the Jewish Agency a violation of the rights of the ZOA, are loyal Zionists devoted with heart and soul to our remnants abroad."

It referred to Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann as "the recognized leaders of the Zionist movement in America, which played a historic role in the realization of Zionism" and reiterated regret over the fact that the settlement of the controversy is not a complete one and that "the hoped-for unity, which is so essential to the success of the campaign, has not been attained." But it simultaneously noted that irrespective of all differences, the Silver-Neumann group will do all in its power to make the campaign a success.

"It is obvious that when one gets unlimited powers and all his conditions are accepted, he assumes full responsibility for the undertaking with which he has been entrusted."

UJA Compromise Rejected Despite Yielding by ZOA

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the United Palestine Appeal held February 22, which was attended by 40 of its 46 members, the appointment of a UPA Committee on Unity was decided upon by majority vote. Herman Weisman, acting national chairman of the UPA, presided.

The resolution for the appointment of the Committee on Unity was submitted jointly by Mr. Weisman and Rabbi Miller. The resolution was supported by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, and representatives of the ZOA as well as representatives of Mizrahi, Keren Hayesod and the Jewish National Fund. This Committee was to attempt to find a way to restore unity in fund-raising through the UJA. At that meeting Dr. Silver made an eloquent plea for conciliation and moderation for the sake of unity and in the best interests of the welfare of Israel.

Counter Resolution

A counter resolution submitted by Mr. Louis Lipsky calling for approval of the February 16 decision of the Jewish Agency Executive, yielding to Henry Morgenthau's demand that Mr. Montor be the sole director of the UJA campaign, was voted down.

Mr. Weisman, who was authorized to appoint this Unity Committee, named Charles Ress, representing the Keren Hayesod; Judge Morris Rothenberg, representing the Jewish National Fund; Rabbi Irving Miller, of the ZOA; David Wertheim, of the Labor Zionists; Rabbi J. Friedman, of the Mizrahi; Mrs. Moses Epstein, of Hadassah; and Mr. Weisman.

The Committee on Unity came to a unanimous agreement on a compromise formula. It is significant that it was understood all along that the terms of this agreement were also acceptable to Mr. Morgenthau.

The Committee's compromise provided:

1. The UPA and the JDC each appoint a vice-chairman of the UJA;

2. Mr. Morgenthau, enjoying the same rights which he held during the previous campaigns, would also appoint a vice-chairman of his own;

3. The three vice-chairmen would have equal rights, but Mr. Morgenthau would determine the functions of each.

Mr. Morgenthau, however, again insisted that Mr. Montor be given sole direction of the campaign.

Mr. Weisman, as Acting UPA National Chairman, in a telegram to Mr. Morgenthau, charged that the unanimous decision of the Committee on Unity to bring about a peaceful settlement had been nullified by the stand taken by Mr. Morgenthau. He stated that Mr. Morgenthau's request to place the full conduct of the UJA campaign in the hands of Mr. Montor "was not in the best interests of the campaign and at variance with the intent" of the Committee on Unity.

As these developments were under way, a report appeared in the press on February 26 that the Jewish Agency for Palestine had incorporated itself as a New York corporation with the ob-

vious purpose of by-passing the UPA at a time when every possible effort was being made to bring about a peaceful settlement of the controversy. The truth of these reports was borne out by the fact that the express purposes of the Jewish Agency, Inc. almost exactly duplicate those of the UPA.

Commenting on this, Dr. Silver said:

"I was surprised to learn that my name was used in connection with the papers of incorporation which were filed in Albany by the Jewish Agency Executive. I did not authorize the use of my name. I resigned as chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency on February 16. It is an ill-advised move on the part of the Executive of the Jewish Agency, which is aimed to sidestep the legally constituted Zionist agencies in the United States, which have for years had the responsibility of raising the funds for Palestine. It is an unwarranted threat to their existence and might bring about the disintegration of the Zionist movement in the United States. The act will still further exacerbate the unfortunate controversy and will increase the hurt to the 1949 campaign of the UJA. I would personally never associate myself with any such action to ignore the United Palestine Appeal."

Inexcusable Alliance

Mr. Weisman in a statement also condemned what he termed "a stealthy maneuver when we were vigorously pressing to bring about a peaceful and harmonious settlement of the very grave conflict in Jewish fund raising." He charged that this was an inexcusable alliance of the Jewish Agency with Mr. Montor against the UPA. Mr. Weisman said:

"The UPA, since 1926, has transmitted close to \$300,000,000 for the upbuilding of the Jewish national home, now the state of Israel. The UPA, through its constituent agencies, the Palestine Foundation Fund and the Jewish National Fund, has helped hundreds of thousands of Jewish immigrants to resettle in the productive and cooperative framework of Israel.

"I am at a complete loss to understand the motivation of the Jewish Agency Executive, which on the one hand undertakes publicly to help bring about a peaceful settlement of the current dispute, while on the other, secretly sets up a corporation whose obvious purpose is to by-pass the UPA. Such tactics I am certain can only serve to alienate and antagonize the Zionist movement in this country and thereby prejudice the success of the campaign."

The formula agreed upon unanimously by the Committee on Unity was set to be submitted to a meeting of the Board of Directors of the UPA on Monday, February 28. Instead of consideration of this formula, the meeting had before it the fait accompli of an agreement reached between the Jewish Agency, Inc., the Joint Distribution Committee, the Jewish National Fund and the United Service for New Americans, for the launching of a joint fund-raising campaign, by-passing the UPA in the event the Board of Directors of the



HERMAN WEISMAN

UPA rejected the decision to yield to Mr. Morgenthau's condition that Mr. Montor be given sole direction of the campaign.

UJA Announcement

The announcement issued by the headquarters of the UJA read in part:

"Action was taken Sunday, February 27, to launch the UJA campaign for 1949 immediately. In response to an invitation from the Jewish Agency for Palestine on behalf of the Palestine Foundation Fund and from the Keren Kayemeth (JNF), both beneficiaries of the UJA, the JDC and the United Service for New Americans reached an agreement yesterday to constitute the 1949 campaign under the leadership of Henry Morgenthau, Jr. as general chairman, in the event that the UPA at its Board meeting Monday, Feb. 28, fails to accept the decisions reached by the Executive of the Jewish Agency on February 16, 1949, in regard to the conduct of the UJA campaign.

"The four agencies undertook to go forward with the UJA drive for \$250,000,000 on the basis of the decision reached by the Jewish Agency Executive. They agreed to invite Henry Morgenthau, Jr. to become general chairman and to invite Henry Montor to conduct the drive."

Some 90 members of the Board, out of a total membership of 166, attended the meeting on February 28. The Board voted by 52 in favor, with 30 abstentions, to comply with the decision of the Jewish Agency Executive that Mr. Morgenthau be named general chairman of the UJA and Mr. Montor be asked to direct the campaign. Although the proceedings were held behind closed doors, it is learned that in addition to those who abstained were representatives of Mizrahi, who declared they wished to be registered as absent. Before the voting, other members of the Board left the hall and did not vote.

(The text of Dr. Silver's statement made at the meeting is published elsewhere in this issue.)

Judge Morris Rothenberg was elected acting national chairman of the UPA replacing Herman Weisman. It is also learned that additional resolutions for staff changes by the new administration were also adopted.

The Board meeting was addressed by Mr. Weisman, who delivered a lengthy review of the

World General Zionists Back Silver, Neumann

Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann are in receipt of cables from Zionists all over the world voicing support of their stand.

I. Weinberg, general secretary of the Zionist Organization of France, cabled:

"In the name of the General Committee of the Zionist Organization of France, I extend to the great leaders of world and General Zionism, Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann, our expression of profound support. In this hour of the fulfillment of their great ideas, we are united with them."

A similar cable was received from Marcel Bernfeld, president of the French Zionists.

Obadia Feld, president of the Central Committee of General Zionists in Germany and editor of the *Zionistische Stimme* published in Munich, in a cable voicing support of Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann, declared: "European General Zionists stand firmly behind you."

The Central Committee of General Zionists in Germany cabled:

"We recognize the gigantic political achievements of the two American Zionists, Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann, in behalf of the Jewish people of Israel in the hard struggle for our freedom. We will continue to support those leaders against all hurtful political intrigue and provocations. A strong world General Zionist movement is dependent on the leadership of Silver and Neumann."

"Conspiracy of Disruption"

Dr. Lebanon, secretary of the General Zionist party of Israel, in a cable from Tel Aviv, stated:

"We are with Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann in the struggle against the conspiracy of disruption on the part of non-Zionists in cooperation with those inside the movement. We have cabled to the Jewish Agency in New York demanding it take such measures as will make it possible for Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann to continue with their work of great value and achievement."

Dr. I. Klee, chairman of the Federation of Swiss General

developments leading up to the nullification of the formula agreed upon by the Committee on Unity, and Berl Locker, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive in Jerusalem.

It is understood that those who joined in abstaining from voting, did so with the feeling that the ZOA leadership had gone the full length in making every concession to reach a satisfactory solution of the controversy but that each concession and compromise agreed to at the meeting of the Jewish Agency Executive and the UPA Executive met with further rebuffs on the part of Mr. Morgenthau. As one member of the Board expressed himself, they not only capitalized on the ZOA leadership's sense of responsibility not to do anything to hurt the UJA campaign, but wanted to "grind the noses of the ZOA leadership in the dust." The Jewish Agency Executive were all along completely bewitched by the idea of the indispensability of Mr. Morgenthau and Mr. Montor.

On Tuesday, March 1, Henry Morgenthau, Jr. announced his acceptance of the post of general chairman of the 1949 UJA. At the same time, he named Henry Montor to direct the campaign.

Zionists and member of the Executive Committee, cabled a strong protest concerning "the fight against the legally elected world-wide reputed ZOA leadership. The continuation of this internal struggle must endanger the activities of all smaller organizations."

In behalf of the Zionist Federation of Austria, Dr. Neumann cabled solidarity with the stand taken by Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann.

European Support

Dr. Moshe Polakiewicz, General Secretary of the European Bureau of the World Confederation of General Zionists, cabled from Paris:

"We deeply regret your resignation from the Executive of the Jewish Agency and appeal strongly to you as outstanding leader in World Zionism to reconsider your step for the benefit of the movement."

Don Feigenblatt, head of the Zionist War Veterans in Munich, Germany, in a message, urged that the resignations of Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann be not accepted. "Their leaving would be a tremendous blow to the Jewish Movement, both the General Zionist and the world Movement. Our Movement in Germany solidly united behind Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann."

A message of support for the position of Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann was also received from the Central Committee of General Zionist Organization Belgium.

Jerusalem Issue

(Continued from Page 1)

voke an incident in the area where British contingents are in the immediate vicinity, with obvious expectations that it will come to their support.

Present negotiations with Lebanon and Trans-Jordan for future armistice talks with Israel and Syria are made difficult by the fact that the population of these countries know nothing of the true situation in Palestine. Their governments still dare to tell the truth, which would be a tremendous shock after their boasts about alleged victories.

Invitation to Mufti

Although this may sound preposterous at first glance, Israeli political circles are pleased with the invitation sent to the Mufti by the Conciliation Commission to participate in the discussion regarding a settlement of the Palestine problem. The sending of the invitation means that the Commission will explore the possibility of not connecting the Arab parts of Palestine with Trans-Jordan. The formation of an independent state in the Arab parts of Palestine instead of attaching them to Trans-Jordan would be welcomed by Israel. Nevertheless, Israelis regret that the Commission chose the popular Mufti, the former Nazi agent, as their instrument. In this connection, Arab members of the Israeli Parliament unofficially point out that there are several political groupings among Palestinian Arabs on both sides of the border who are not supporters of the Mufti, but are willing to help in the creation of an independent Arab state in the Arab parts of Palestine.