

erected new school buildings: Los Angeles, 12, and Chicago, 11. New York had erected 23 new Jewish school buildings during the previous five years.

### *Personalia*

Jacob Golub, librarian and educational consultant of the Jewish Education Committee of New York, was honored at a dinner on March 3, 1951, on the occasion of his retirement after thirty-five years of distinguished service in Jewish education. Dr. Golub was a pioneer author of Jewish history textbooks from a scientific point of view.

URIAH Z. ENGELMAN

## AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY AND ISRAEL

THE two outstanding developments during the period under review (July 1, 1950, through June 30, 1951), were the launching of the Israel Bond Drive and the preparations for the World Zionist Congress. The bond drive represented the first direct approach by the government of Israel to American Jewry for assistance through a large-scale loan. The debate on the relationship between the Israel government and the Zionist movement, which began in 1948, was intensified by the preparations for the World Zionist Congress. The congress which met in Jerusalem on August 14, 1951, was the first to be held since the state of Israel came into being.

### *Israel Bond Drive*

The Israel Bond Drive was officially launched on May 10, 1951, with a mass meeting in Madison Square Garden in New York City at which Prime Minister David Ben Gurion of Israel, who had come to the United States especially for the occasion, was the chief speaker.

The bond drive was planned at a conference held in Jerusalem early in September, 1950, and a National Planning Conference held in Washington, on October 27, 1950, at which a four-point program was adopted. This program included: the Israel Bond Drive; the United Jewish Appeal (UJA); grants-in-aid and, finally, private business investments. The American Financial and Development Corporation for Israel (AFDCI) was set up, with headquarters in New York City, and branch offices in every important community.

Both Zionist and non-Zionist organizations responded to the call, pledging themselves to raise substantial sums of money and to assist with their organizational machinery.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> For additional information concerning the bond drive and other funds raised for Israel, see pp. 213 ff.

### *Private Investment*

In addition to communal fund raising, there was some advance in the promotion of private investment in Israel. According to the report of the Investment Center in Tel Aviv, Americans invested a total of £10,000,000 (\$28,000,000) in Israel enterprises during the period from March, 1950, to March, 1951. Both the Palestine Economic Corporation (PEC) and the American Palestine Trading Corporation (AMPAL) increased their stocks and undertook new enterprises in Israel. The PEC had 6,119 stockholders as of December 31, 1950, compared with 4,774 a year earlier. It co-operated with the Palestine Economic Corporation of Canada Ltd., and with the Central Bank of Cooperative Institutions in creating new banking facilities (the Union Bank of Israel Ltd., and the Canada-Israel Central Bank Ltd.); during 1950 the PEC completed the largest single factory development in Israel (consisting of twelve modern buildings in Haifa), and began the building of the Radio City of Tel-Aviv on Herzl Square.

AMPAL reported an increase in credit facilities from \$8,500,000 to \$18,000,000 during 1950 and an increase in gross assets of the parent company from \$10,300,000 on January 31, 1950, to over \$20,000,000 on June 31, 1951. Several new projects were undertaken by AMPAL during the year. These included the building of new hotels in Tel Aviv and in Beersheba; the opening of a plywood manufacturing project, a glassware factory in the Negev, and canneries in the Galilee; investment in an oil company; and the financing of purchases. Most of these projects were undertaken in partnership with other concerns.

The Jewish labor movement purchased \$1,030,800 worth of shares in the Amun Israeli Housing Corporation to build low-cost homes in Israel as of July, 1951.

### *American Zionist Problems*

The congress of the World Zionist Organization that met in Jerusalem on August 14, 1951, was the first to be held since the state of Israel came into being in May, 1948. It was faced with ideological and practical problems; most of the latter were concerned with the American scene. Among these problems were: the continued existence of the American Section of the Jewish Agency and of the American Zionist Council (AZC), both of which were established during World War II; and the reorganization of the fund agencies—the Jewish National Fund (JNF), the Keren Hayesod (Palestine Foundation Fund), and the United Palestine Appeal (UPA).

With the consent of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem, a Zionist Emergency Committee had been established in the United States shortly after the outbreak of World War II, to co-ordinate Zionist work in the United States. In time this committee was reorganized into the American Zionist Emergency

Council, to which representatives were sent from every Zionist organization in the United States.

During the period that the Palestine question was before the United Nations, the American Section of the Jewish Agency had been active in presenting the Jewish case before the international forum. Leading members from Jerusalem—David Ben Gurion and Moshe Shertok—participated in the work. At all times the members of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem had insisted on the final authority of the Jerusalem executive in all important matters. After the establishment of the state of Israel, the American Zionist Emergency Council was renamed the American Zionist Council (AZC) and Louis Lipsky was elected chairman.

The respective functions and authorities of the Jewish Agency and the AZC in the United States became difficult to delimit. Originally (1929), the Jewish Agency, as distinct from the Zionist Executive, had been organized in order to broaden the representation of the Jewish people interested in the development of Palestine. Leading non-Zionist bodies and individuals had been given representation in this body. But, in the course of time, the Jewish Agency had become another name for the old World Zionist Executive. From time to time proposals were made to reorganize the Jewish Agency as the body representing both Zionists and non-Zionists interested in the up-building of Israel, as was originally intended.

#### FUND ORGANIZATIONS

The JNF, originally created in 1900 with the purpose of buying land to keep as the inalienable property of the Jewish people, had become an autonomous organization, subject to control only by the Zionist Congress; while the Keren Hayesod, established in 1921, had come under the direct control of the Jewish Agency, serving as its exchequer. In the United States, both the JNF and the Keren Hayesod had for years been receiving their allocations from the UPA, which, in turn, had for years been receiving its allocation from the UJA. The JNF had, in addition, been carrying on "traditional" collections and activities of its own. These collections brought in only a fraction of the total income of the JNF, but were considered of immense value as an educational medium.

With the establishment of the state of Israel and the flight of the Arab population, the government of Israel acquired control as custodian of abandoned property over many times the amount of land that the JNF had bought in the course of fifty years. Consequently, certain members of the government, including the prime minister, expressed the view that there was no longer any need for the JNF. In the United States, the American Section of the Jewish Agency insisted that the autonomy of the JNF should be curtailed and that it should be subject to the jurisdiction of the Agency Executive. The prevalent opinion in the Jewish Agency was that the Keren Hayesod and the JNF should be combined into one fund, both in Jerusalem and abroad, with the Jewish Agency in control. On the other hand, proponents of the JNF argued that the JNF had a rich tradition of work that had grown out of land purchase, such as reclamation, amelioration, and afforestation, which it should be permitted to continue.

## RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AMERICAN ZIONISM AND ISRAEL

Other questions facing the Zionist movement in the United States were: Should the Zionist movement be treated as the sole or main instrument through which the Jews of the Diaspora were to help the development of the state of Israel and to render it assistance? Or should the movement, having completed its pioneer role of propagating an idea now demonstrated to be workable, give way to a larger, more inclusive organization, or combination of organizations? Did membership in the Zionist movement entail an obligation to emigrate to Israel, or at least to encourage and assist other Jews who were not driven by sheer necessity, to emigrate to Israel? What status, if any, should be given Zionist organizations outside Israel in relation to that country?

## ISRAEL POSITION

Prime Minister David Ben Gurion expressed his views on most of these questions on several occasions. He believed that there was need for a strong Zionist movement in the United States, but that it could draw its strength only from its own work and not from any special status or privileges granted it by the government of Israel; that the Zionist movement ought to foster among all Jews Jewish loyalties, the study of the Hebrew language, and a sense of attachment to Israel; but that so long as Zionists remained in the Diaspora, they could have no say in the affairs of the state of Israel. Ben Gurion also expressed the opinion, based on his own observations, that the largest amount of financial assistance to Israel came from people who were not particularly concerned with the organizational structure or strength of American Zionism.

## AMERICAN ZIONIST POSITION

Much of the annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) held in mid-June, 1951 in Atlantic City, N. J., was taken up with refuting Ben Gurion's views. Nearly all Zionist leaders in the United States, while disagreeing among themselves on many questions, were of the opinion that, in the long run, the state of Israel needed a strong Zionist movement in the United States.

Typical of such opinion were statements by Nahum Goldmann and Joseph B. Schechtman, chairman and member, respectively, of the American Section of the Jewish Agency. In the opinion of the former, "The state of Israel must recognize the Zionist movement as a representative of Jewry outside of Israel and give it the necessary status." The latter, who was also a leader of the Revisionists, asserted that "With Israel established as a sovereign state, the World Zionist Organization becomes for Jews living outside Israel, but ready and willing to help Israel and to facilitate the *Kibbutz Galuyot* ["In-gathering of the Exiles"], a *Senatus populusque Judaicus*."

## DUAL LOYALTY

During the period under review the question of the political allegiance of American Jews and the threat of dual loyalty continued to be discussed. In

an exchange of views between Ben Gurion and Jacob Blaustein, president of the American Jewish Committee, during the latter's visit to Israel in August, 1950, at the invitation of the government, Ben Gurion attempted to clarify the position of the government of Israel. The following is an excerpt from his statement made on August 23, 1950:

The Jews of the United States, as a community and as individuals, have only one political attachment and that is to the United States of America. They owe no political allegiance to Israel. . . . We, the people of Israel, have no desire and no intention to interfere in any way with the internal affairs of Jewish communities abroad. The government and the people of Israel fully respect the right and integrity of the Jewish communities in other countries to develop their own mode of life and their indigenous social, economic, and cultural institutions in accordance with their own needs and aspirations. . . .

We should like to see American Jews come and take part in our effort. We need their technical knowledge, their unrivalled experience, their spirit of enterprise, their bold vision, their "know-how". . . . But the decision as to whether they wish to come—permanently or temporarily—rests with the free discretion of each American Jew himself. . . . We need *halutzim*, pioneers, too. *Halutzim* have come to us—and we believe more will come, not only from those countries where Jews are oppressed and in "exile," but also from countries where the Jews live a life of freedom and are equal in status to all other citizens in their country. But the essence of *halutzit* is free choice. . . .

#### HALUTZ MOVEMENT

Most Zionist leaders in the United States were of the opinion that their movement ought to make an American contribution to Israel in manpower. Thus Israel Goldstein, former treasurer of the Jewish Agency, wrote: "American Zionists are called upon to make a contribution of manpower to Medinat Israel. . . . Even if only a fraction of one per cent of American Jewry immigrate to Israel annually, it would be a negligible subtraction here, but it would be a significant addition there, qualitatively if not quantitatively. . . ." On the other hand, it was the consensus of opinion among American Zionist leaders that the training of *halutzim*, or young pioneers, for Israel, ought to receive limited encouragement.

The Hechalutz Organization of America reported that during the year under review it maintained six training farms where 100 *halutzim* received cultural and educational preparation for *aliyah* (emigration to Israel as pioneers). Almost 300 members of Hechalutz embarked for permanent settlement in Israel, the majority to work in collectives and a minority to do professional work.

Hechalutz supported the activities of Haikar Haoved (The Working Farmer), an organization whose aim it was to establish in Israel a *moshav* (smallholder's village) of 100 American families who would invest funds in farms. This project was being supported by the Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency.

### *Political Activity in the United States*

The American Zionist Council's attempts to co-ordinate political activity by American Zionist bodies in behalf of Israel during 1950-51 met with some difficulties. AZC president, Louis Lipsky, saw fit to resign his position in November, 1950, on this very score, but was prevailed upon to withdraw his resignation the following month. Apart from its routine activities of publishing a bi-monthly bulletin, co-operating with the American Christian Palestine Committee, and keeping in touch with its 730 branches throughout the country, the Council undertook special assignments during the year. These consisted of creating a favorable climate of opinion for Israel's application to the United States for a grant-in-aid of \$150,000,000 and its demand for retribution from Germany for confiscated Jewish property.

Influential non-Zionist bodies such as the American Jewish Committee and B'nai B'rith supported Israel's requests for aid. The American Council for Judaism, on the other hand, at its annual convention in Chicago in mid-April, 1951, denounced the "lobbying" in favor of Israel, Zionist "control of philanthropy," and "the spectacle of American Jews being mobilized as salesmen for Israeli bonds."

### *U.S. Aid to Israel*

On December 26, 1950, the United States Export-Import Bank announced a \$35,000,000 credit to Israel to help finance a two-year expansion program for agriculture and the production of new fertilizer plants. According to Oscar Gass, economic advisor to the Israel government, the new \$35,000,000 credit would be used to buy American equipment and materials necessary to double the country's 1949 agricultural output by 1953.

On October 20, 1951, legislation was approved by Congress authorizing an appropriation of \$7,328,903,976 to finance military and economic foreign aid through the newly established Mutual Security Agency. The bill was signed by President Harry S. Truman on October 31, 1951. Under this legislation, which authorized funds for both military and economic purposes, Israel was to receive \$64,950,000 for economic aid, of which \$50,000,000 was earmarked for the relief and resettlement of Jewish refugees. The amount allocated to Israel for military aid had not yet been determined, but it was believed that Israel and the Arab states would share an estimated \$39,600,000.

The allocation of funds for refugee resettlement was approved largely as a result of a special amendment to the mutual security bill introduced on April, 1951, in the Senate by Paul H. Douglas and Robert A. Taft and in the House by John W. McCormack and Joseph W. Martin, Jr.

### *American Zionists and Internal Israel Politics*

The ZOA became involved in an issue of internal Israel politics when it decided to align itself with the General Zionist party in Israel. The alliance

between the group led by Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver and Emanuel Neumann and that party in Israel was of some duration, but the official expression of solidarity was first taken at a meeting of the Administrative Council of the ZOA in October, 1950, shortly before the municipal elections in Israel, when the resolution was carried by a vote of 53 to 8. This stand was sustained by the national convention in Atlantic City in mid-June, 1951, a few weeks before the Knesset elections in Israel, by a vote of 320 to 127.

The members of the minority in the ZOA and the leaders of the Hadassah Women's Organization of America who fought against this stand, were either opposed on principle to any alliance with any party or preferred an alliance with the Progressive party of Israel.

### *American Zionists and Church and State in Israel*

Another issue of internal Israel politics which was strongly debated in the United States was that of the place of religion and religious education in Israel. The first cabinet crisis in Israel in October, 1950, was the occasion for protest meetings in America called by leaders of Mizrahi and Agudat Israel and other Orthodox Jews. These meetings demanded that religious Jews arriving in Israel, notably those from North Africa and the Middle East, not be "coerced" into sending their children to non-religious schools. The second cabinet crisis in Israel, in February, 1951, elicited another wave of protests. Ben Gurion's visit to the United States and the arrest of a group of young zealots in Jerusalem charged with a plot to blow up the Knesset, were other occasions for Orthodox protests. Young yeshiva students picketed Madison Square Garden on May 10, 1951, before Ben Gurion's appearance, and the prime minister was visited by a delegation of Orthodox Jews.

### *Technical Assistance to Israel*

Hadassah, the American Technion Society, and several other organizations continued to lend technical assistance to Israel. During the period under review, Hadassah, with a membership of 300,000, undertook to open a new medical center to take the place of the hospital on Mount Scopus; increased the capacity of its hospital in Beersheba; and opened a children's hospital in Rosh Ha'ayin, as well as the Lasker Guidance Clinic.

The American Technion Society was instrumental in the appointment of Dr. Leon Shereshevsky of Howard University as Visiting Professor of Physical Chemistry at the Haifa Technion for the academic year of 1950-51, and sponsored the trip to the Technion of Dr. Harold Urey. A donation of \$100,000 enabled the Technion to expand its Junior College.

Dr. Urey's trip to Israel was utilized by the Weizmann Institute, whose friends in the United States joined with the American Technion Society and the American Friends of the Hebrew University, for fund-raising purposes.

The American ORT Federation increased its activities in Israel and maintained forty-one trade schools in that country. When Jacob Greenberg, associate superintendent of schools in New York City, visited Israel in May, 1951, at the invitation of the Israel Ministry of Education, the ORT Federation invited him to inspect its schools and submit a report.

The American Committee for OSE, Inc., also increased its field of activities in Israel and maintained seven convalescent homes for children and twelve medical day nurseries in nineteen localities in Israel.

The Pioneer Women's Organization, affiliated with the Labor Zionists, working in co-operation with the Moatzat Hapoalot (Women Workers' Council), was adding the twenty-seventh institution to the list of those which it maintained and the Moatzat Hapoalot in Israel administered. The new institution was a youth village and agricultural training settlement near Gadera, on the road to the Negev.

In January, 1951, the Women's League for Israel, also working in co-operation with the Moatzat Hapoalot, opened in Nathanya its fifth hostel. Most of the above projects lay in the fields of both social work and education. The same was true of the new Student House at the Hebrew University planned by the Hillel Foundation of B'nai B'rith. Rabbi Maurice Pekarsky arrived in Jerusalem in the fall of 1950 to work on that project.

### *Educational Aid*

Another project connected with the Hebrew University in Jerusalem was the financing by the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), in co-operation with the American Friends of the Hebrew University, of an educational faculty headed by Eliezer Rieger of New York. In addition, the NCJW brought to the United States fourteen students from Israel on scholarships for postgraduate courses in social work. The National Jewish Welfare Board sent Louis Kraft, its retired executive director, to Jerusalem, to lecture for six months at the Jerusalem School of Social Science and to organize a YMHA in that city. The American Mizrahi voted at its convention to establish a college in Ramat Gan along American lines.

The American Jewish Congress in January, 1951, laid the cornerstone for the Louise Waterman Wise Youth Center in Jerusalem.

The Jewish Theological Seminary of America sent its dean of the Teachers' College, Moshe Davis, to Israel to lecture on American Jewry at the Hebrew University. At the same time, in his capacity as head of the Eternal Light radio program, Rabbi Davis made arrangements with the Radio Department of the Jewish Agency for jointly sponsored programs.

The Dropsie College of Philadelphia opened a field station at Ein Harod for those of its students who were carrying out social research projects in Israel.

Both the ZOA and Hadassah increased the number of their scholarships for study in Israel. In June, 1951, the ZOA began to publish a new magazine in the United States, entitled *Zionist Quarterly*.

Columbia University in New York City opened a Center of Israel Studies



with Professor Salo W. Baron in charge. The purpose of this center was to prepare American students who wished to become experts in Israel affairs.

The American Fund for Israel Institutions, which aimed to strengthen the cultural ties between Israel and America, sponsored a tour of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra in the United States during the winter of 1950 and spring of 1951.

M. Z. FRANK

## JEWISH SOCIAL SERVICES

**T**HIS article will discuss the developments during 1949-50 in the fields of Jewish immigrant aid, family service, child care, care of the aged, Jewish hospitals and clinics, and Jewish vocational services. (For special treatment of the services in the field of youth and community center work and Jewish education, and an extensive discussion of fund raising, see articles on these subjects under appropriate headings.)

### *Immigrant Aid*

With the end of World War II, aid to Jewish displaced persons (DP's) and other immigrants began to constitute one of the major programs of Jewish social service. The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) and the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) co-operated with such American public agencies as the Displaced Persons Commission, and with the International Refugee Organization (IRO) to expedite the flow of Jewish DP's. The United Service for New Americans (USNA) encouraged communities to make community assurances for DP immigrants lacking individual sponsors, and helped thousands of arrivals to settle in the local communities of the United States through a program involving about 350 communities. Locally, nearly all the regular Jewish social agencies, as well as specially organized agencies and volunteer groups affiliated with the National Council of Jewish Women co-operated in the program of aid to the newcomers.

The peak of postwar Jewish immigration was reached in 1949 when nearly 38,000 Jews entered the United States, 31,163 being admitted under the Displaced Persons (DP) Act of 1948 and the balance under the regular immigration quota laws.

However, the stringent enforcement of the regulations set up in the DP Act as amended on June 16, 1950, particularly as a consequence of the passage of the Internal Security Act, caused a considerable decrease in the flow of DP's. During the summer of 1948, the flow of Jewish immigration had reached a peak of more than 4,000 per month. During the last half of 1950, however, the monthly average was only 650 to 750. A low point was reached in October, 1950, when only 413 Jewish DP's reached the United States.

The private Jewish and non-Jewish social agencies engaged in immigrant aid attacked this problem, and with the co-operation of the responsible gov-