

HAIFA: Members of Fifth UJA Study Mission prepare to board S.S. "Artsa" to meet and talk with 433 new immigrants from Eastern Europe.

## The *other* side of the coin...

### A REPORT TO AMERICAN JEWRY

*The State of Israel was only in part brought into being or built by ideologists and theorists. It was not until these men became practical that real progress began...*

With these words on November 2, 1958, the *Jerusalem Post*, the leading English newspaper in the mid-East, began an editorial of warm welcome to the newly arrived 5th Annual Study Mission of the United Jewish Appeal.

In the Mission were some 100 representatives of 35 leading American Jewish communities. We had each come at our own expense to see and learn for ourselves what UJA aid means to Israel's people, particularly Israel's immigrants.

Calling the Mission members *practical ideolo-*

*gists*, the Post continued: *It is the decision to do something practical that is the sole principle uniting men and women... into the great organization of the United Jewish Appeal that has been Israel's unflinching partner through every crisis of construction...*

Accordingly we wish to give a brief, practical report on what we saw, heard and learned in our crowded, deeply moving, stay.

#### **Facing UJA—"A Crisis of Construction"**

We wish, particularly, to make clear why we came to the following conclusions and proposals:

**First**—while the United Jewish Appeal and American Jewry have truly been the "partner" of Israel's people—the editorial was too generous in saying that

we have been “unfailing.” Too frequently we have fallen short of what we should have achieved in the face of great needs.

**Second**—that a great new “crisis of construction,” exists at this very moment in Israel. It is one that should not be minimized by declarations that the word “emergency” has been overworked, or answered by cautious, minimal programs of help.

This latest crisis springs both from what needs to be done at once for the thousands of Jews from Eastern Europe who again are pouring into Israel, and what urgently remains to be done to bring hundreds of thousands of earlier immigrants the full distance on the road to new lives as free, self-reliant, citizens of Israel.

**Third**—that the need is very great for the 1959 campaigns of America’s Jewish communities to be conducted so as to raise more money for, and yield greatly increased results to, the United Jewish Appeal and its beneficiaries.

It was our recommendation in Jerusalem, as indicated later in this report, that these funds can best be obtained through another Special Fund for UJA, and additionally, through a review by Welfare Funds of their “regular” campaign allocations to UJA, with a view to insuring a fair and just UJA allotment.

### **Let Us Recapture the Vision**

There is one more thing which we should like to do in this report. Briefly, it is to urge American Jews to recapture the insight into the meaning of our work, the sense of destiny and the vision which gripped us all in 1948 when the 650,000 Jews of Palestine declared to the world that a Jewish state again stood on Israel’s ancient soil.

What this vision of Israel is today, was summed up for us on the evening of November 9, in Jerusalem, at our closing session, by the man who is the world’s greatest living Jew.

Declared David Ben-Gurion, Israel’s Prime Minister:

*I know you have seen something of Israel . . . But what I must tell you is that you haven’t seen the most important things. Neither have we! They aren’t here yet!*

Mr. Ben-Gurion continued:

*You haven’t seen our large, southern desert settled and cultivated by hundreds of thousands of Jews. You haven’t seen the great international port which is going to be in Eilat. You haven’t seen the millions of trees that will be planted in the dunes and the seashore of the Mediterranean. You haven’t seen the large factories which will serve our basic industries. You haven’t seen the great shipping industry which we will develop . . .*

### **The Heights and the Depths**

In the time we were in Israel, we did, however, see and sense something of the young State’s thrilling accomplishments in its first ten years.

In six days of active touring we ranged far and wide through Israel’s north and south, its mountains and its plains.

We ranged, if anything, even further in its spiritual heights and depths. We stood on the emotional peaks of great human achievement and we plodded through the swamps of great human distress.

Thus, on our first day, Sunday, November 2, we stood in the halls of Israel’s newest marvel, the Institute of Nuclear Science of the Weizmann Institute of Science.

One could probably draw a circle a thousand miles in diameter around the Nuclear building without finding an establishment similar to it in any of the encircled countries.

Yet a day later, we walked through Ma’abara David, one of Israel’s 50 remaining *ma’abarot*—shanty towns that still house some 110,000 immigrants. Our visit was accompanied by a torrent of complaint from people who have had to live in these slums, almost as primitive as any in the mid-East, up to 6 and 7 years.

### **Israel’s Ten Years of Progress**

Israel’s people passionately want to get rid of these sickening collections of shacks and huts. Why they have been unable to do so, and what can be done to help meet this and other great unmet needs is the very heart of this report.

First, however, we believe it is important to recall some of Israel’s actual achievements in immigrant



**HERZLIA-ON-THE-SEA:** Israel Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion's opening address, November 2, calls on UJA Study Mission to join with Israel's people in meeting grave 1959 immigrant absorption problems.



**NEW YORK:** Mission leaders Edward M. M. Warburg, UJA Honorary Chairman, and Morris W. Berinstein, UJA General Chairman, confer prior to Mission's departure for JDC 13th Annual Country Director's Conference in Geneva.



**HERZLIA-ON-THE-SEA:** Congratulating Prime Minister Ben-Gurion on his address. (l-r) Herbert A. Friedman, UJA Executive Vice-Chairman; the Prime Minister; Dewey D. Stone, UJA National Chairman; Morris W. Berinstein, UJA General Chairman.

absorption. Wherever we turned the inspiring evidence of ten years of progress was there for us to read.

What has been done adds up to one of the greatest human stories of our time, an epic of rescue and regeneration of whole populations of oppressed, homeless and threatened Jews. What has not been done springs from several factors largely beyond the control of Israel's people or the Jewish Agency, the philanthropic body charged with speeding the absorption of Israel's newcomers.

**The main accomplishments may be listed as follows:**

- *The original Jewish population of 650,000 has taken in 920,000 newcomers.*
- *Nearly nine out of every ten of these arrivals has been housed in acceptable quarters.*
- *Some 482 farm villages have been established, and nearly 130,000 men, women and children settled on the land.*
- *These new immigrant farm villages have played a significant part in trebling farm output.*
- *More than 50,000 immigrant boys and girls have been educated to good citizenship under the Youth Aliyah program.*

In all these basic exploits, the Jewish Agency, main beneficiary of UJA funds, has played a leading part. Some 80 per cent of the monies which the Agency receives from free Jewish communities is derived from the United Jewish Appeal.

### **The Other Side of the Coin**

**But there is another side to every coin, no matter how brightly one side shines. And there is another side to this story of outstanding human achievement.**

**On every hand, we of the Mission also heard and saw the evidence of what has *not* been done to fully absorb Israel's ten year flood of immigrants.**

**Whole areas of need in behalf of these newcomers simply have been beyond the financial capacity of the Jewish Agency to meet, and the progress of Israel as a whole has suffered because they have not been met.**

**What is more, the inability to get rid of this great "backlog" of unmet immigrant needs threatens the country's ability to continue to receive thousands of fresh immi-**

**grants who are clamoring for admission from countries of oppression and despair.**

It became apparent to us that three main factors have operated against the Jewish Agency in its heroic efforts to integrate and absorb all of the 920,000 immigrants who have come to the young state.

**In barest outline, they are:**

- *The Agency's income was at no time sufficient to meet the full needs of immigrant absorption.*
- *Time and again sudden tides of new rescue immigration washed out orderly plans for integration.*
- *More than once the changing fortunes of the country's security prevented the Israel Government from contributing to the costs of immigrant absorption on the required scale.*

For these and similar reasons the Jewish Agency had to assume responsibilities beyond its strength.

### **The Unmet Needs in Brief**

Thus a heavy agenda of uncompleted work has accumulated in many vital spheres of immigrant absorption.

**These unmet needs may be listed as follows:**

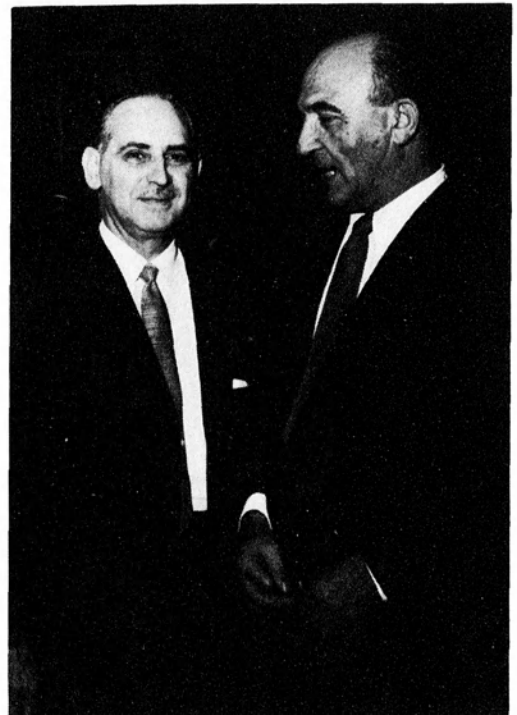
**Housing:** Some 110,000 persons—22,000 immigrant families—still huddle in dreary *ma'abarot*, miserable collections of tin, wood and canvas huts. They feel underprivileged, as indeed they are. It is high time to help them become citizens with opportunities—and duties—like all the rest, by providing them with modest but suitable housing.

At the end of 1952, some 245,000 persons, nearly a quarter of a million immigrants, lived in more than 120 *ma'abarot* and other non-permanent quarters. Only 50 of these *ma'abarot* remain, but it is urgent that they be cleared.

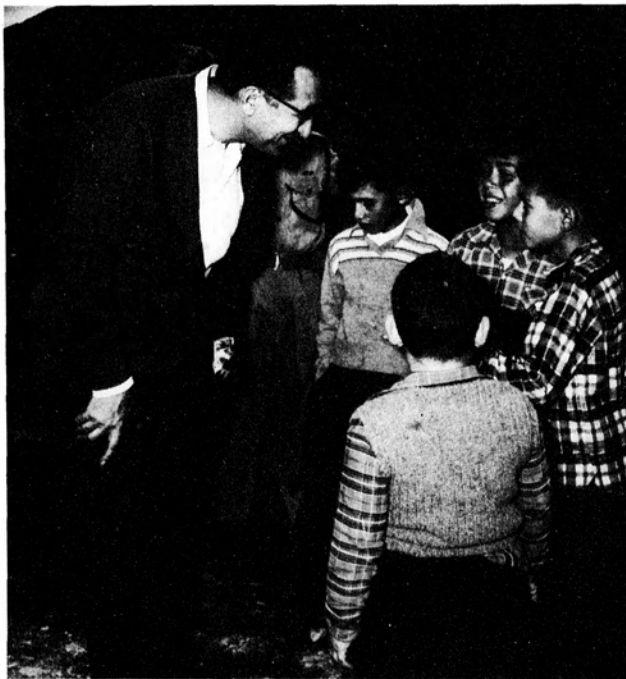
**Agricultural Settlement:** The greatest unmet need financially, is represented by the 482 farm villages for immigrants set up in the past decade. These are made up of 32,000 farm units with a population of 130,000 persons; and they produce more than a third of Israel's overall agricultural production.



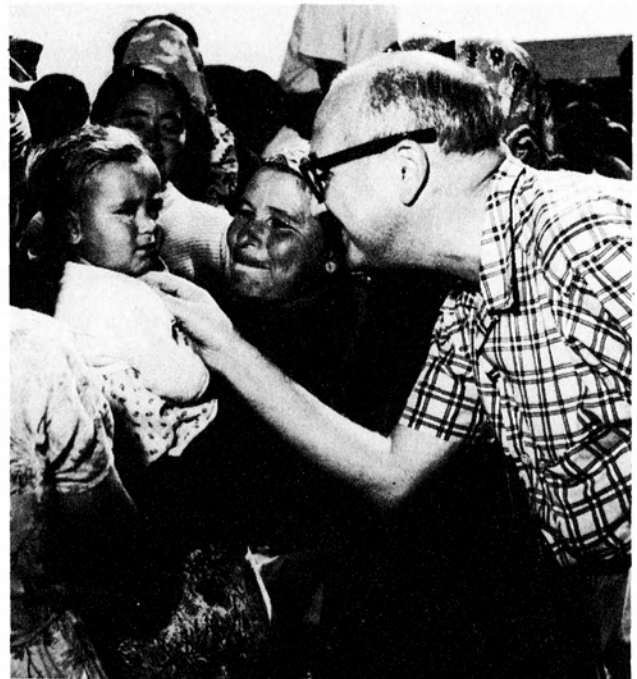
HAIFA: UJA National Chairman Joseph Holtzman talks with happy throng of new immigrants from Eastern Europe on board the S.S. "Artsa."



HAIFA: National Chairman Joseph Meyerhoff (l) confers with Israel Finance Minister Levi Eshkol.



MA'ABARA DAVID: Big Gifts Chairman Max M. Fisher chats with immigrant youngsters who must spend childhood in "shanty town."



LACHISH: Campaign Cabinet Chairman Fred Forman in favorite occupation; "oohs and ahs" over Israel's wonderful children.

Yet the fact is that hardly one of these farm villages today stands on its own feet.

For one thing, it takes time in almost every country before a new farm begins to pay its own way. But more important is the fact that the Jewish Agency has not been in a position to make the required investments for farm machinery, necessary farm buildings, approach roads, livestock and water on time. This amounts to \$16,500 per farm unit, ideally spread over four years. Illustrating this point, after ten years on the land some 700 settlers have not yet received their first cow and about 1,000 are still without their first draught animal.

At best, only 89 of the new farm villages have reached a stage calling for final consolidation within the next two years. The other 393 are not yet even candidates for consolidation. Because they cannot—without animals, machinery and sufficient water—develop their farms properly, the settlers in practically all these villages depend on outside jobs to obtain a meager existence. Many settlements also are deeply in debt.

**Water Resources:** Above all, water resources should be developed without delay. The Jordan-Negev Master Irrigation Scheme requires vigorous pushing. This is a project calling for an investment of at least \$100,000,000; and although the Israel Government shoulders the main burden, the Jewish Agency will also have to contribute its share.

**Social Absorption:** Many immigrants of earlier years have not yet struck roots. The Jewish Agency is therefore obliged to devote half of its current absorption budget to the care of persons who by now ought to be full-fledged Israel citizens.

Meanwhile, despite these expenditures, great needs in this area, too, go unanswered for lack of funds. Some examples:

Thousands of applicants for modest constructive loans are still kept waiting.

Hundreds of highly qualified professional men who have come from Eastern Europe have not yet been put to useful work.

Some 3,000 social hard-core cases—aged persons, widows, invalids and the mentally deficient—are in urgent need of rehabilitation or hospitalization.

**Youth Aliyah:** This year for the first time in its 25-year-old history, Youth Aliyah (youth immigration) has been forced to restrict the reception of new children. Of 600 to 800 applications every month, no more than 200 can be granted. This both robs immigrant children of their best chance to develop and seriously retards the parents' economic integration.

**Scholarship Program:** Again, for lack of means, it is impossible to expand the important Scholarship Fund for post-elementary education. This Fund, set up jointly by the Jewish Agency and the Government, did outstanding work in past years in providing opportunities of vocational training and higher learning for children of the Oriental communities and other underprivileged youth. More than 1,000 deserving scholarship applicants had to be turned down this year.

### To Meet the Unmet Needs

To sum up the major needs, then, disregarding all new requirements of further immigration, the Jewish Agency must play a major role in providing for the following:

	\$ Million
Housing of 22,000 families still in <i>ma'abarot</i> (plus public buildings which go with it)	90
Integration of earlier immigrants, rehabilitation of social cases, Youth Aliyah backlog and educational services	35
Consolidation of 482 agricultural settlements	195
Master Irrigation Scheme	100
TOTAL	420

### Renewed Immigration—The New Challenge

But there never seems an end to the tasks facing the people of Israel or the Jewish Agency. With the Jewish state still in a period of intense growth, how could there be?

As the members of the 5th UJA Study Mission came into Israel, a whole new challenge presented itself in addition to the urgent business of meeting the unmet needs.



**MAHANE ISRAEL:** Cabinet Member Max Firestein talks with attendant at Malben center for aged, sick newcomers.



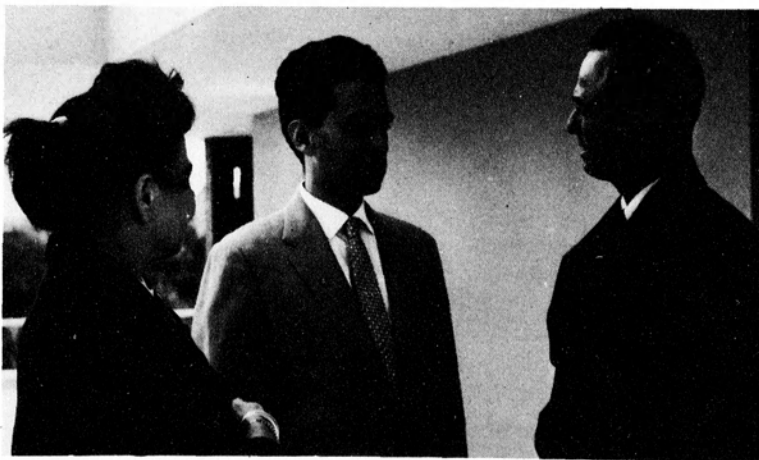
**ADULLAM:** Natl. Women's Div. Chrmn. Mrs. Jack A. Goodman plants a tree while Natl. Chrmn. Joseph Holtzman looks on.



**HERZLIA:** Cabinet Member Morris Senderowitz (center) and Mrs. Senderowitz (2d from l) hear Dr. Dov Joseph.



**MA'ABARA JALIL:** Cabinet Member James Permutt (2d from r), Mrs. Permutt, Fred Nichols are greeted by immigrant children.



**REHOVOT:** Cabinet Member Milton I. Taubman (r) talks with Amos De Shalit, Chief of the Nuclear Physics Institute, Weizmann Institute of Science.



**LYDDA:** New York UJA Chrmn. Charles Frost (l), Maxwell Dane arrive with Mission.



That challenge is the sudden, heavy upturn of immigration from Eastern Europe. It was brought home dramatically for all of us on the morning of November 4, when we boarded the SS "Artsa" in Haifa harbor.

There we met face to face—"heart to heart" would be a more exact statement—with 433 immigrants, men, women and children, at that very moment when they were about to step out of the past into new lives of freedom.

### **A Moment of Intense Emotion**

It was a moment of intense emotion, for immigrants and Mission members alike. Seven days before, a subcommittee of the Mission had seen many of these newcomers arriving from certain East European countries at the railway station in Vienna. Now there were warm reunions, shouts of recognition and welcome, as immigrants and UJA Mission members who had been in Vienna, rediscovered each other.

A miller from one East European country and a builder from Detroit pounded each other on the back for joy. An artist from another East European land and a young business man from Tulsa did the same.

A Jew who just eight days before had walked out of a country where for centuries Jews have known only hatred, summed up the moment in one quietly-uttered sentence: *With the Jews of Israel waiting for us and the Jews of America here, we are no longer alone.*

The greatly increased influx from Eastern Europe has developed almost overnight. Israel received a heavy immigration from one current source of emigration in 1950 and through the summer of 1951. Then, without warning the exit tap was turned off by the authorities of that country—with no reasons given.

### **How Many Will Come?**

Now in Fall, 1958, seven years later, the tap has been turned on—again with no reasons given. How many will come in? No one knows for certain. How long will emigration continue? Again no one knows.

All that the people of Israel, and the Jewish Agency really know is that no matter what the cost, no matter what problems are posed, every Jew who ap-

pears from Eastern Europe will be brought in and made welcome as quickly as possible.

In the month of October some 4,000 immigrants came into Israel. Compare this with the fact that only 8,000 came in during the entire first six months of 1958.

While no one can give an exact figure as to the numbers of newcomers who will arrive in the months ahead, plans for receiving these almost penniless *olim* cannot be based on a zero.

There is every reason to believe that immigration to Israel will continue at the October rate of approximately 4,000 per month. It was reported to us that in one Eastern European country alone, more than 60,000 Jews had registered requests for exit visas by October and that the number was mounting daily. In just one city, 4,300 registered for emigration in a single day.

It is obvious that the Jews of this, and other Eastern European countries, want to leave and are making their desire to emigrate known to the authorities. Whatever the pressures which caused the exit doors to open suddenly, the high registration makes it reasonable to believe that they will stay open for some time.

But with so many unknown factors, it would be pure guesswork to establish any specific immigration figure for the entire year of 1959. We could only assume that the number will be in the many tens of thousands.

### **Costs of the New Immigration**

The new influx has brought with it one certainty in the immigration picture: the Jewish Agency's financial position will become increasingly desperate.

Speaking to us in the Accadia Hotel at Herzliya-on-the-Sea, on Sunday, November 2, Dr. Dov Joseph, the able Treasurer of the Jewish Agency, put the Agency's financial problem to us in these blunt words:

*When we speak of expecting between 16,000 and 17,000 additional immigrants in the next five months, we are also saying we shall be short \$28,000,000 in our present budget!*

Dr. Joseph explained how this figure was arrived at, declaring:

*Each 1,000 additional immigrants costs, for travel and immigration expenses, IL 350,000 (\$192,500). For*

*preliminary expenses for these same 1,000 immigrants, by which I mean money to give them their first parcel of food, to transport them to their homes, to give them their first loans to get started in some way, to get them into an Ulpan (rapid language school) where they begin to learn Hebrew, to care for social service cases among them and the sick, and to begin to make some monthly payment to the very old that arrived, IL 450,000 (\$236,500) is needed . . . Housing for 1,000 immigrants is IL 2,000,000 (\$1,100,000). The total is roughly \$1,600,000 per 1,000 immigrants.*

*I cannot emphasize too strongly how we have suffered because people thought that you bring a Jew to Israel and look after him the first week and everything is all right, Dr. Joseph stated. That has been the great mistake for which we are paying today in Israel and in the Treasury of the Jewish Agency in particular!*

### **Israel's Citizens Will Do Their Part**

And now the Jewish Agency Treasurer revealed to us what Israel is prepared to do to make up the \$28,000,000 shortage.

It was planned, he made known, to ask the Jews of Israel, half of them themselves immigrants of the last few years, to voluntarily provide \$11,000,000 of the required \$28,000,000! The rest he hoped would come from the Jews of the free world, primarily American Jewry!

### **Israel's Financial Problems**

What Dr. Joseph had to say on Sunday was amplified and underscored for us in a heart-warming, moving address by Levi Eshkol, Israel's distinguished Finance Minister, on Tuesday evening, November 4, at the Zion Hotel in Haifa.

Mr. Eshkol, discarding his prepared speech, sought to bring home the disparity of responsibility which has grown up in recent years between the people of Israel and American Jews, in the continuing effort to rescue and absorb tens of thousands of Jewish immigrants from places of oppression and even danger.

He pointed out that the citizens of Israel, largely made up of new immigrants, had to assume responsibility through taxes for a current Budget for Services

amounting to IL 800,000,000 (\$440,000,000) and at the same time participate heavily in a Development Budget of IL 400,000,000 (\$220,000,000).

Israel's Finance Minister noted that many times the people of Israel, through the Government, had had to assume burdens of immigrant absorption which properly belonged to the Jews of the free world, through the Jewish Agency. He indicated that for the education of newcomers alone, the Government had expended more than \$100,000,000 that should have been provided by the Jewish Agency.

The Israel Finance Minister told us that these expenditures of the State *mean that all the children you saw coming in on the SS "Artsa" today, will be going to kindergarten or school in a week.*

Mr. Eshkol told us that an even heavier burden on the State was represented by an outlay of almost \$250,000,000 for immigrant housing and agricultural aid the Jewish Agency could not furnish.

Then he added, almost wistfully: *If you have had a chance to talk to the Israel man-in-the-street, you may have heard grumbling, such as taxpayers always do. Perhaps this grumbling was a little stronger. I am inclined to agree that maybe there is a little too much, and too heavy, taxation. But there is no way out. If children come in it is unbelievable that there should be no schools for them. If people come in, it is unbelievable that there should be no army to protect them.*

One point the Israel Finance Minister made, a point that was also underscored by Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, is that the responsibility for Israel's security needs are those of the citizens of Israel alone. American Jews, he emphasized, were being asked only to fully share in the humanitarian responsibility of rescuing and re-establishing the immigrants who need Israel.

### **Many Moving Experiences**

None of us on the Mission will ever be able to forget a host of memorable sights and visits, which space does not permit us to elaborate upon here. Nor will we soon forget the many persons in official position and in everyday life alike who spoke to us feel-



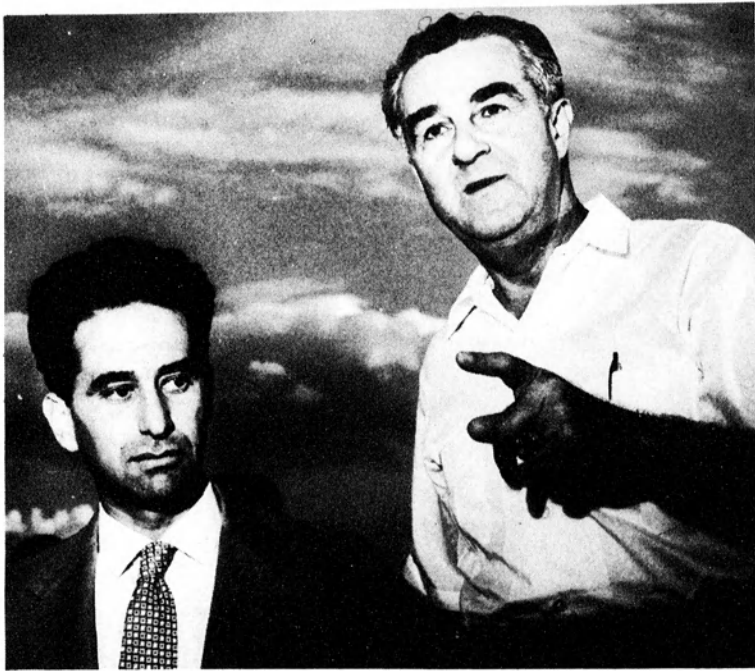
Friday, October 31: Moses A. Leavitt, (front center) Executive Vice-Chairman, JDC — a UJA constituent agency— addresses first meeting of the 1958 UJA Study Mission at JDC overseas headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.



Saturday evening, November 1: Mission delegates arrived at Lydda, Israel, tired but still able to smile happily.



Sunday, November 2: Dr. Dov Joseph, Treasurer, Jewish Agency, addresses UJA Conference at Accadia Hotel, Herzlia.



Sunday Afternoon, November 2: UJA National Chairman and Weizmann Institute Chairman Dewey D. Stone introduces Nuclear Physics chief.



Sunday evening, November 2: Group gathers at Accadia Hotel to Minister David Ben-Gurion. Mrs. Ben-Gurion is seated at front.



Tuesday, November 4: We board S.S. "Artsa" in Haifa Bay to talk heart-to-heart with 433 immigrants from Eastern Europe.



Tuesday, November 4, noontime: We cross the Sea of Galilee to visit the outpost kibbutz of Ein Gev.



...cacia Hotel to hear Prime  
...eated at front row left.



Monday, November 3: We visit Mahane Israel, one of the JDC-operated Malben hospitals for chronically ill and dependent immigrants.



Monday, November 3: We were appalled by Ma'a-bara David, one of 50 such immigrant shanty towns.



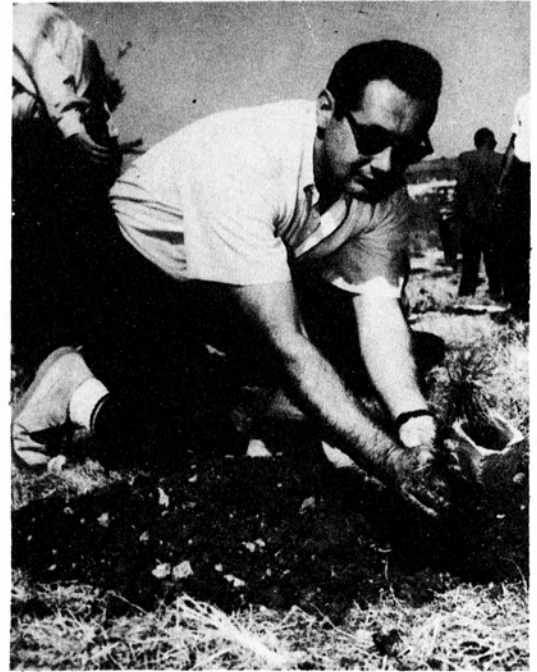
Tuesday evening, November 4: At Zion Hotel we hear Israel Finance Minister Levi Eshkol outline Israel's accomplishments and financial problems.



Wednesday evening, November 5: A memorable evening spent at Ben Shemen, famous Youth Aliyah village.



Thursday, November 6: We visit Eytan, a settlement for North African immigrants established in the Lachish development area.



Friday, November 7: At Adullam each Mission member planted a tree.



Thursday, November 6: We stop in at a school in Ne'Ora, another Lachish village.



Friday, November 7: We visit the beautiful new campus of the Hebrew University outside Jerusalem.

ingly, and often profoundly, of the Israel which they were helping to build.

The course of our tour took us into the Weizmann Institute of Science, the Technion and the Hebrew University, Israel's three major and remarkable institutions of higher learning. It took us to such immigrant development areas as Lachish in the northern Negev, Adullam in the Judean hills, and the Galilee hills where a new, and important effort is being carried out to fill in Northern Israel's empty spaces. It took us as well into two of Israel's 50 *ma'abarot*.

We visited the famous outpost kibbutz of Ein Gev on the east shore of Lake Tiberias, under the constant sights of Syrian guns posted in the hills above. We spent a wonderful evening with the children of the famous Youth Aliyah home of Ben Shemen. On yet another memorable evening, we were entertained by a group of young men and women of *Nahal*, Israel's frontier-farmers. In their songs and skits are reflected much of the spirit, the vigor and the ready humor in the face of hardship, that is Israel today.

### **Israel's Army—School for Citizenship**

Our journey brought us in contact, too, with the impressive representatives of the Israel Defense Forces, a unique citizens' army, that has been forged out of Israel's diverse elements and which serves as a great school for post-army civilian life. These included Chief of Staff Major General Haim Laskov, Brigadier General Yitzhak Rabin, Officer Commanding, Northern Forces, and Colonel Ezer Weizmann, Commander, Israel Air Force.

We met farmers, seamen, social workers, teachers, scientists, and day laborers. We met remarkable women like Rifka Guber, the "Mother of Education in the Negev"—an old-time settler, who, with her husband, sold the farm they had painfully developed many years ago at Kfar Warburg. First they gave the proceeds to aid the new immigrant settlement work and then they themselves moved to Lachish, to help the newcomers from North Africa become farmers and citizens.

In addition to those speakers already mentioned, we heard from various members of the Israel Government and from key figures in the Jewish Agency.

Foreign Minister Golda Meir graciously opened her home of an evening in Jerusalem and spoke to us of Israel's political problems. She warned that the outward calm in the Near East bore no real relationship to Nasser's aim to still drive Israel into the sea.

Moshe Carmel, Minister for Transport, spoke to us in Haifa and outlined the proposed large-scale expansion of Israel's merchant fleet.

Of a Sunday evening on November 9, we were warmly received by President and Mrs. Itzhak Ben-Zvi at the Beit Hanassi, in Jerusalem. President Ben-Zvi asked us to bear in mind three points—that Israel must continue to be developed, that it must continue to receive immigrants, and that these things could only go forward with the understanding and full help of American Jewry.

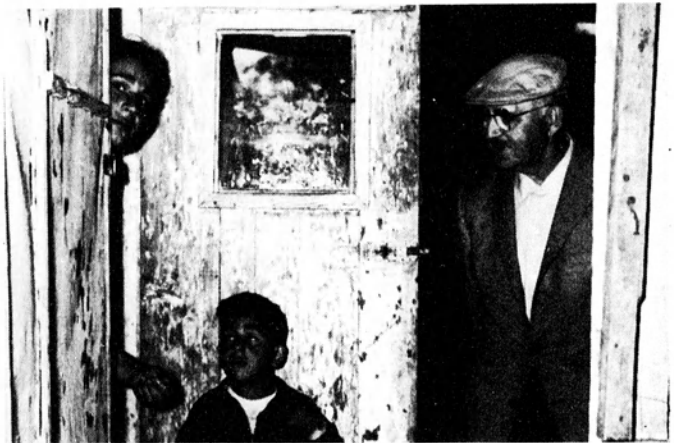
### **"The Shadow of the Third Jew"**

On her own part, Mrs. Ben-Zvi made a moving address. She explained succinctly why the Jews of Israel feel compelled to keep the doors of the land open to all who would come: *When two Jews gather today, there is always the shadow of a missing third Jew—the Jew who was lost in the Hitler holocaust.*

Four members of the Jewish Agency Executive, in addition to Dr. Joseph, were good enough to give us of their time. Zalman Shazar, acting chairman of the Executive, Dr. S. Z. Shragai, head of Immigration, Yehuda Braginsky, head of Absorption, and Avraham Harman, head of Public Information, spoke at various sessions. Mr. Harman was in charge of a particularly illuminating get-together on immigration problems, held at the close of *Shabbat*, in Jerusalem, Saturday, November 8.

Meanwhile, many other persons assisted us. In Adullam, Dr. Raanan Weitz, the forceful head of Agency's Agricultural Settlement Department, spoke to us about the problems of settlement and development. Our thanks go as well to General Yacov Dori, President of the Technion, to Meyer Weisgal, Chairman of the Executive Council of the Weizmann Institute, and to Edward Gelber, member of the Board of Governors of the Hebrew University, for their effective assistance to our Mission, and to many others who aided us in various ways in making our tour a success.

## UNMET NEED NO. 1—TO CLEAR THE MA'ABAROT



Running water, sanitation, electricity and gas, a sound roof between your head and the weather—ordinary and commonplace to you? They're distant dreams to more than 112,000 men, women and children who waste in the 50 Ma'abarot in Israel. UJA Study Mission members who visited two of the tin hut and wooden shanty towns were deeply shocked at what they saw. (Top left) Ma'abara dwellers harangue Mission members: "Why are we left here to rot?" (Top right) This "housewife" has existed in shack for six years. (Center left) Talking to inhabitants at Ma'abara Jalil. (Center right) Inside a ma'abara shack. (Bottom) Mission members in Ma'abara David.



## **The JDC and Malben**

Chronologically, our Mission did not begin in Israel. It began in Geneva, October 29, at the 13th Annual Country Directors' Conference of the Joint Distribution Committee.

Both in Geneva, JDC's overseas headquarters, and Israel, where we visited the institutions of *Malben*, representing JDC in Israel, we were deeply impressed by the devoted, life-saving service which this second major beneficiary of the United Jewish Appeal affords the hundreds of thousands it serves in 24 countries throughout the world.

Edward M. M. Warburg, JDC Chairman and UJA Honorary Chairman, welcomed us in Geneva. He noted the presence of representatives from many countries, and declared: *I greet not only those present, but I also greet Jews in need in countries and areas where JDC cannot work, where they are deprived both of the help we could bring them and a sense of contact with Jews in other parts of the world . . .*

Reporting on a just-completed global survey of refugee and welfare problems, Moses A. Leavitt, JDC Executive Vice-Chairman, warned that submerged Jewish communities in India and southeast Asia face assimilation and extinction unless the Jews of the world outside come to their rescue.

The Mission also heard a warning from Charles H. Jordan, JDC Director General for Overseas Operations, that year-by-year budgeting restricts the JDC to meeting immediate relief problems and curtails its efforts to help Jewish communities and individuals become self-sufficient. He asked that American Jews through UJA, seek to help JDC to budget for the long range planning.

## **Fifteen Thousand Aided in Poland**

In Poland, where JDC was invited last year by the government to resume its aid after a lapse of eight years, Samuel Haber, JDC Country Director, reported that 15,000 of the total Jewish population of 45,000 had received help from JDC since December, 1957. *Most pitiful was the plight of the more than 21,000 Jews newly repatriated to Poland after some ten years'*

*residence in Russia, he said. They returned, without means, to a country that was no longer home for them.*

*Through individual grants, child feeding programs, medical supply centers and JDC-supported ORT vocational schools, Mr. Haber continued, a start has been made toward restoring Polish Jewry to a new life of dignity and hope.*

Meanwhile a radical change in the policy and direction of JDC's work in Israel was reported by Louis Horwitz, JDC Director in the Jewish state. *JDC's network of services in Israel for aged, sick and handicapped immigrants, known as Malben, he said, is oriented today towards breaking down the walls between institutions and communities.*

*Wherever possible, Mr. Horwitz added, the people we aid are assisted to remain with their families, to become self-reliant as rapidly as possible, to enter into the life of their communities.* During the past year, he announced, JDC served 36,670 persons in Israel, expending 40 per cent of its total budget there.

## **A Visit to Mahane Israel**

In Israel, on the morning of November 3, the Mission visited one of *Malben's* remarkable institutions, *Mahane Israel*, a hospital for immigrants suffering from chronic diseases.

Here Dr. M. Vovsi, the Hospital Director, told us that the 140-bed hospital emphasized physical rehabilitation through physio-and-occupational therapy. Meanwhile, we saw patients learning weaving and sewing in two workshops established on the grounds of the hospital.

We learned also that *Mahane Israel* had established three residential units housing patients no longer in need of hospitalization, but too handicapped to be discharged. These residential patients are employed in the hospital workshops while remaining under hospital supervision.

Thus it was that we of the Mission, deeply stirred, and inspired by what we had seen and heard, held a meeting in Jerusalem, on the morning of November 9. Our purpose was to have a frank discussion among ourselves with a view to recommending what course of action American Jews should take in 1959.

## KIDS ARE KIDS—AND THESE ARE AMONG THE GREATEST!



"Our children are our future," says Prime Minister Ben-Gurion, and the future couldn't be in brighter hands. But many of these kids of Israel desperately need educational, vocational and other facilities. (Top left) Happy youngsters, in spite of their *ma'abara* home. (Top right) Lachish school children enjoy a break with UJA Study Mission visitors. (Center left) This cheerful newcomer from North Africa gives Mission member a big hello. (Center right) Well, who doesn't like to dress up and put on a show? (Bottom left) Outdoors for mid-morning break. (Bottom right) Friendly greetings for a Mission member.

## **Recommended—Another “Special Fund”**

Our discussion was direct and candid. From the beginning it centered around the desirability and need of American Jews to vastly increase the flow of funds for immigrant absorption and reception in 1959 through another Special Fund.

### **“A Somber Picture”—Joseph**

In our meeting we were conscious of the words of Dr. Dov Joseph, who, in his opening address to the Mission declared:

*The painful truth is that what we have been receiving in contributions for some years now from the United States and all free countries has been entirely inadequate to meet our vital needs. . . . To meet our current needs on a present-day basis, without additional borrowing, without debit repayments, we would require IL 225,000,000 (\$123,750,000) per year. . . . My friends, it is a somber picture for us to have to manage with a sum of IL 125,000,000 (\$68,750,000) when we need IL 225,000,000 (\$123,750,000)—just IL 100,000,000 (\$55,000,000) more.*

We were conscious, too, of a plea made to us by Finance Minister Levi Eshkol when he said to us in Haifa: *I think I am right in saying in your presence that you want a bigger Israel, a finer Israel, a stronger Israel. . . . But we in Israel, the Government, the Jewish Agency, and I as Finance Minister, must live day and night with the problems of receiving those who come to us. . . . We must begin to prepare now for the new immigration emergency. You are here on the eve of the rainy season . . . and soon the rains will begin. Before my eyes is the specter of ships, our own fleet, which will bring our own people here, men, women and children, and there will be no houses for them. And there will not even be tents and ma'abarot, for even these cost dollars and cents, and we have decided once and for all we will not build more ma'abarot. In the end they cost three times as much.*

### **“On a Rainy Night”—Eshkol**

The Israel Finance Minister continued: *Those who come will not believe that the Jewish people are unable to provide them with a roof. They will forget they left*

*a land where conditions are bad and will say “You called us. Where is your help?” Let this possibility haunt you . . . on a rainy night in New York or Detroit perhaps you will dream that there are thousands of newcomers arriving here and there are insufficient houses for them.*

The discussion which we held was in every way a credit to the ability of the American Jewish community to produce leaders of genuine insight and understanding.

Community leader after leader spoke ably and with great feeling of the need to secure wider understanding at home of what we had just seen and learned. They directed themselves earnestly to such problems as how to get individuals and communities to give more, and how to raise the great additional funds which all felt that UJA must have.

At the meeting's start there were those who expressed themselves as opposed to yet another Special Fund. But the need for such a fund became inescapable as the discussion wore on. To a man the session came to the conclusion that America's Jewish communities must be asked to do these two things:

First, to again undertake a Special Fund.

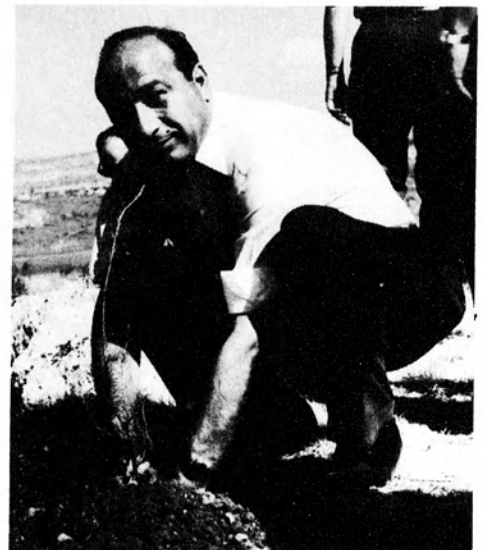
Second, to review their Welfare Fund allocations to the UJA for the purpose of insuring it a fair and just allotment.

Accordingly, we then unanimously adopted a resolution in which we declared ourselves as follows:

**WE HAVE THEREFORE CONCLUDED** it is a matter of urgent necessity that the 1959 campaigns of America's Jewish communities be so conducted as to raise more money, and to yield greatly increased results to the United Jewish Appeal, to the end that the work of its chief beneficiaries, the Jewish Agency and the Joint Distribution Committee, may go forward with full support.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we recommend to America's Jewish communities that these funds can be best obtained if they dedicate themselves to another Special Fund for the United Jewish Appeal. This fund, to be conducted in 1959, is to be “over and above” the sums raised in the regular 1959 Welfare Fund campaigns.

## WHY TREES WILL GROW IN ISRAEL



Perhaps the most profoundly stirring moment during our visit came as each of us, one by one, solemnly planted a sapling—a young and green tree—in the soil of Israel. We had toiled up a hill that rises to Jerusalem from the coast, and there, in breathtaking sight of the ancient hills of Galilee, the shimmering dry south, and the great blue Mediterranean, we turned the earth and in a symbolic way, made a pledge, a spiritual pledge to the land and its people.

**WE FURTHER RECOMMEND** to the Welfare Funds that they sit down with the leaders of the United Jewish Appeal to review the allocation to be made to UJA from their regular campaigns, so that a just and fair allotment of funds may be made to the Appeal.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that resolutions embodying the foregoing be worked out in detail and be adopted at the forthcoming Annual Conference of the United Jewish Appeal to be held in New York City, December 12, 13 and 14.

To this resolution we added one final note:

**AND FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED** that we shall each do our own full part towards raising increased sums towards the 1959 United Jewish Appeal, so that hundreds of thousands of our fellow Jews shall be aided to achieve new lives of dignity and freedom. To this end we are proud to announce that most of our members already have individually pledged that they will contribute substantially more in 1959 than they did in 1958.

We who make this report strongly urge that the American Jewish community look fully and squarely at the issue before it.

That issue is to recapture both the vision of our work and the level of giving to UJA which prevailed in the years that saw Israel born.

After ten years, a great, dramatic struggle continues. It is a mighty, heroic effort to re-establish millions of our fellow Jews in the full light and air of freedom.

The people of Israel are as hard at work fighting to achieve that victory as they were in 1948. They

have already won many major battles. But these victories have been interpreted as meaning that the total struggle itself is over. It is far from that.

On many fronts the people of Israel are even now seeking significant break-throughs. Israel's scientists are working day and night to find the way to turn salt water into sweet on a commercially feasible basis. If they do, Prime Minister Ben-Gurion's dream of a hundred thousand Jewish farmers in the Negev is but a few steps away from reality.

On another front, Israel scientists are fighting to turn solar energy into cheap electric power. That, too, will mean a new day for Israel.

Break-throughs are being sought on many other fronts, in the field of human regeneration as well as the scientific.

But there is one front on which we alone can, and must, create a break-through. That front is the unwillingness to believe in our own power to meet the challenge that exists in 1959.

American Jews have shown many times that theirs is the wonderful, rare ability to understand and respond to great human needs.

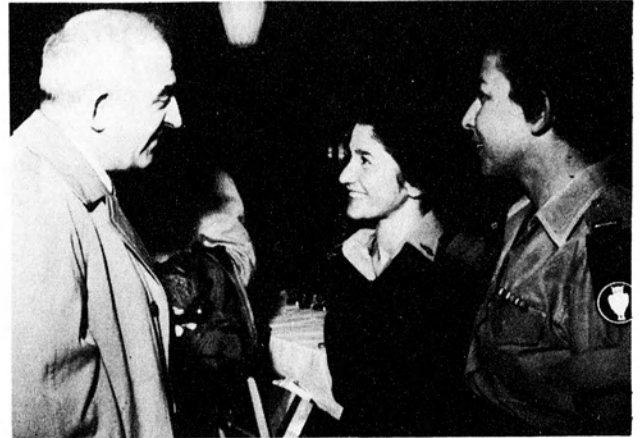
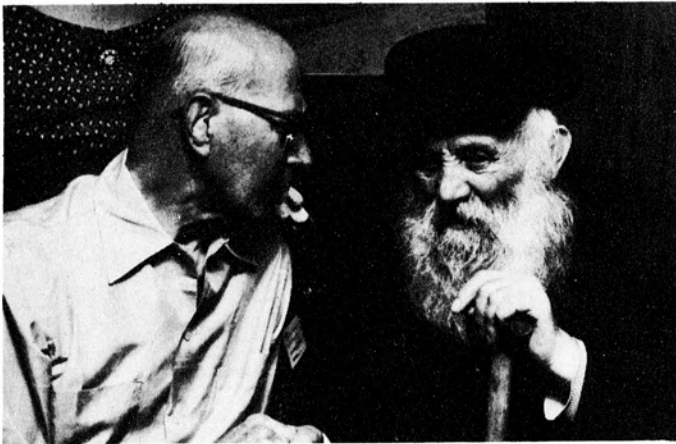
We are certain that they have not lost this ability.

**In 1959 the paramount responsibility of American Jewish leadership is to put the story that has been indicated here before America's Jewish communities in all its richness, drama and significance.**

We are confident that, in return, American Jews will give the right and effective answer.



## WE TALKED WITH NEWCOMERS AND OLD SETTLERS



Travel through Israel and you detect a new spirit—freedom, dignity, security. Its people battle staggering loads that might overtax their capacity. The needy are the immigrants, the children, the homeless and helpless from overseas. But in Israel, the look of free, upright men is on them . . . in the faces of native-born sabras . . . in the faces of new immigrants. (Top left) A new immigrant from Eastern Europe whom we met on the S.S. "Artsa." (Top right) Israel women army officers. (Center left and right) UJA Mission members greet immigrants aboard the "Artsa." (Bottom left) Another mission member chats with an army officer. (Bottom right) Saying "hello" to settler from North Africa.

## RESOLUTION OF THE 5TH ANNUAL UNITED JEWISH APPEAL STUDY MISSION

**W**E, THE MEMBERS of the 5th Annual United Jewish Appeal Study Mission, numbering some 100 representatives of leading communities throughout the United States, having spent eight days in ascertaining the current problems of Israel for which UJA funds are utilized, including immigration aid, housing, immigrant absorption and social welfare, wish to declare as follows:

**We have been** greatly moved and inspired by the courage, devotion and vision of Israel's people and leaders in the great work of reclaiming and building the land.

**We have seen** that the people of Israel, even while they continue to bolster their security at great cost to themselves, are undertaking to add to their already extensive support of the work of receiving newcomers and of speeding the absorption of immigrants of previous years by imposing an emergency levy on all citizens of Israel. They are doing this to make possible the new "now or never" immigration from Eastern Europe.

**Meanwhile, we ourselves have seen** shiploads of these new immigrants entering Israel. There is every prospect that tens of thousands of additional such immigrants will seek entry in the months ahead.

**We have also determined** that, because the funds received from the United Jewish Appeal over the years were far from sufficient to meet the total needs of immigrant absorption, a huge backlog of "unmet needs" now exists in the work of re-establishing and integrating Israel's newcomers amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars.

**We have seen for ourselves** that foremost among these is the need to tear down Israel's shocking *ma'abarot* — immigrant shanty towns — and to provide adequate housing for the 110,000 immigrants who, we are dismayed to learn, still live in these disgraceful collections of huts and shacks, some even after six and seven years.

**We have seen also** that a determined effort must be made to overcome other great unmet needs, which have arisen from insufficiency of funds. Among them is the need to help Israel's 480 new agricultural settlements win economic self-sufficiency.

**We believe that** yet another need is to provide increased assistance, education and training for tens of thousands of immigrant children and youths. We were deeply impressed and moved to see the care, attention and love which the people of Israel expend in the upbringing of these children, but we were also greatly saddened to learn how much more needs to be done, but cannot be carried out for lack of funds.

**WE HAVE THEREFORE CONCLUDED** that it is a matter of urgent necessity that the 1959 campaigns of America's Jewish communities be so conducted as to raise more money, and to yield greatly increased results to the United Jewish Appeal, to the end that the work of its chief beneficiaries, the Jewish Agency and the Joint Distribution Committee, may go forward with full support.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we recommend to America's Jewish communities that these funds can be best obtained if they dedicate themselves to another Special Fund for the United Jewish Appeal. This fund, to be conducted in 1959, is to be "over and above" the sums raised in the regular 1959 Welfare Fund campaigns.

**WE FURTHER RECOMMEND** to the Welfare Funds that they sit down with the leaders of the United Jewish Appeal to review the allocation to be made to UJA from their regular campaigns, so that a just and fair allotment of funds may be made to the Appeal.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that resolutions embodying the foregoing be worked out in detail and be adopted at the forthcoming Annual Conference of the United Jewish Appeal to be held in New York City.

**AND FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED** that we shall each do our own full part towards raising increased sums towards the 1959 United Jewish Appeal, so that hundreds of thousands of our fellow Jews shall be aided to achieve new lives of dignity and freedom. To this end we are proud to announce that most of our members already have individually pledged that they will contribute substantially more in 1959 than they did in 1958.

*Resolutions Committee*

Jerusalem, November 9, 1958

Max M. Fisher, *Chairman*  
*Detroit*

Max Firestein,  
*Los Angeles*

Joseph Kaplan,  
*Boston*

Joseph Meyerhoff,  
*Baltimore*

F. Gordon Borowsky,  
*Philadelphia*

Edward Ginsberg,  
*Cleveland*

David Lowenthal,  
*Pittsburgh*

Milton Taubman,  
*Tulsa*

## MEMBERS OF THE 1958 UJA STUDY MISSION

Julius Atkins  
*Milwaukee, Wisc.*

Morris W. Berinstein  
*New York, N. Y.*

Henry C. Bernstein  
*New York, N. Y.*

David S. Bond  
*Boston, Mass.*

F. Gordon Borowsky  
*Philadelphia, Pa.*

Mrs. S. Alexander Brailove  
*Elizabeth, N. J.*

Ralph M. Brandwene  
*Kingston, Pa.*

Mrs. Abner Bregman  
*Portchester, N. Y.*

Sidney S. Cohen  
*Boston, Mass.*

Leon J. Coslov  
*Pittsburgh, Pa.*

Maxwell Dane  
*New York, N. Y.*

Dr. William Sawyer Eisenstadt  
*Minneapolis, Minn.*

Myer Feinstein  
*Philadelphia, Pa.*

Max Firestein  
*Hollywood, Calif.*

Max M. Fisher  
*Detroit, Mich.*

Edward Fleischman  
*Detroit, Mich.*

Frank I. Fonaroff  
*Louisville, Ky.*

Fred Forman  
*Rochester, N. Y.*

Herbert A. Friedman  
*New York, N. Y.*

Charles Frost  
*New York, N. Y.*

Charles H. Gershenson  
*Detroit, Mich.*

Samuel F. Gingold  
*New Haven, Conn.*

Edward Ginsberg  
*Cleveland, Ohio*

Emil Glucker  
*New York, N. Y.*

Manuel D. Goldman  
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Samuel A. Goldsmith  
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Mrs. Jack A. Goodman  
*Indianapolis, Ind.*

Robert I. Hiller  
*Pittsburgh, Pa.*

Joseph Holtzman  
*Detroit, Mich.*

Arthur Howard  
*Detroit, Mich.*

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*Boston, Mass.*

Abe Lapides  
*Pontiac, Mich.*

Moses A. Leavitt  
*New York, N. Y.*

Joseph N. Leff  
*New York, N. Y.*

Jack O. Lefton  
*Detroit, Mich.*

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Harry Levine  
*Leominster, Mass.*

Aaron P. Levinson  
*Pittsburgh, Pa.*

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*Birmingham, Ala.*

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*Pittsburgh, Pa.*

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*Boston, Mass.*

Fred W. Nichols  
*Birmingham, Ala.*

Ben E. Nickoll  
*Milwaukee, Wisc.*

Joseph Ottenstein  
*Washington, D.C.*

James L. Permutt  
*Birmingham, Ala.*

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*Bridgeport, Conn.*

Morris Senderowitz, Jr.  
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Richard Sloan  
*Detroit, Mich.*

Samuel Smith  
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