

SILVER, E. L. (Dr.)

000018

E. L. Silver

Feb. 27, 1945

Secretary Morgenthau

Miss Hodel

Re: Dr. Silver's Testimonial Dinner

It is my recommendation that you should not agree to serve as sponsor of the testimonial dinner for Dr. Silver.

Dr. Silver is an outstanding figure in the Zionist movement and is probably their coming leader. At the moment, however, he is in the throes of staging a come-back fight in the Zionist organization as the result of the bitter conflict which arose between him and Dr. Stephen Wise over the methods of fighting for an independent Jewish state in Palestine. This conflict reached its climax at the time the Palestine Resolution was pending in Congress a few months ago. Dr. Wise claimed that Dr. Silver violated a resolution of the Emergency Zionist Committee when Dr. Silver insisted on pressing for passage of the resolution after the State Department had advised Dr. Wise that such action would be inadvisable at this time. As a result of this, both Dr. Wise and Dr. Silver resigned from the Emergency Zionist Committee but Dr. Wise was reinstated.

It is my view that if you should agree to sponsor the testimonial dinner for Dr. Silver, such action might be interpreted as support by you of one of the Zionist factions as well as a slight to Dr. Wise.

(S) Florence Hodel

(Signed) Florence Hodel

FH:hd 2/27/45

000019