

# NEWS -AND- VIEWS

Documents of Our Times:  
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver on  
State Department Officials.  
What Pres. Eisenhower and  
Sec'y Dulles Must Know.  
Philanthropy and Arab Oil  
Royalties.  
Facts That Cannot Be  
Ignored.

— By DR. S. MARCUSSES —

(From the Address of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Delivered at the 57th Annual Convention of the Zionist Organization of America.)

## II.

I do not believe that these officials represent the true sentiments of the leaders of our government who have time and again given expression of their deep and sympathetic interest in the security and prosperity of Israel. I suspect, though but of course I do not know, that the leaders of our government, being otherwise engrossed in the present extremely difficult international situation, with wars and revolutions erupting, and with critical international conferences monopolizing their attention, have been compelled to leave the affairs of the Near East largely in the hands of people in the Department of State who have in the past displayed such a genius for guessing wrong and for bedeviling the political situation.

President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles must know that Israel is no threat to the basic interests of American foreign policy in the Near East. They must know that Israel is a democracy, deeply rooted in the millennial democratic traditions of the Jewish people and Judaism, and that it will to the last defend its democratic way of life and institutions. They must know that there is a large reservoir of good-will and gratitude to the Government and people of the United States among the citizens of Israel for having helped so vitally in the establishment of their State and for the economic assistance which has been given to this day. They are too proud to put their friendship on the auction block or use it in any diplomatic game of blackmail. They must know that Israel wants peace with all her Arab neighbors, and has time and again asked for it, only to be rudely rebuffed. They must know that Israel is prepared to cooperate in the solution of all the outstanding issues between it and its neighbors in a spirit of good-will and is prepared to cooperate in any project such as the Jordan Valley Authority, to benefit all the peoples involved, provided its own vital and legitimate interests are safeguarded. From all that has transpired in recent years they must know that the Arab League is an instrument for perpetuating turmoil, discord and belligerency in the Near East, and that there is no way of appeasing its intransigence short of dismembering

the State of Israel or liquidating it altogether. They must realize now that the New Look and the new approach which the above-mentioned officials and their colleagues advocated in respect to Arab-Israeli relations have not only not improved matters, but have contributed to a very serious deterioration. These officials are now attempting to cover up this progressive deterioration with speeches and propaganda designed to force concessions from Israel, with no assurance whatsoever of any countervailing action on the part of the Arab governments.

Part of this unfriendly propaganda is to suggest to the American Government and people, that the United States has contributed to the State of Israel grants-in-aid far in excess of what it has contributed to the Arabs. In order to make their case more impressive, they have had the amazing effrontery to include in American subsidies to Israel what the Jews of the United States have of their own personal contributions and through the purchase of the Israeli Bonds, given to Israel; also what the German Government has contributed by way of reparations for Nazi depredations. Nothing is said by them of the hundreds of millions of dollars in oil royalties which the Arab States have been receiving annually from American oil companies—Iraq received in 1953 \$10 million, and Saudi Arabia 170 million, Kuwait 130 million—some of which millions might well have been contributed by these solicitous Arabs to the cause of the Arab refugees, in the same way that Jews have been contributing to Jewish refugees in Israel.

But this is never referred to by these spokesmen who wish

it to be known that they are impartial for this clearly would not be to the advantage of their pro-Arab propaganda.

The State of Israel has done nothing to endanger the position of any Arab State in the Near East. It is threatening no one. It covets no one's territory. It has instituted no boycotts and no blockades, against any Arab State. It seeks to live in peace with everyone. It is convinced that through friendly cooperation and the pooling of resources, the whole area of the Near East can be developed in such a way as to bring prosperity and a higher standard of living, health and education to all the peoples there. Israel has not flirted with Moscow to embarrass Washington. Israel will not sacrifice any of its already sharply apocopated territory of 2,000 square miles in order to augment the 2,700,000 square miles of its Arab neighbors. It will not agree to close its doors to any future immigration—to such who may wish to go there and may have to go there—in order to assure Arab governments that Israel will remain permanently weak and limited as to manpower while they get ready for their "second round." What folly to expect the Government of Israel to issue a white paper against fellow Jews. Within its present borders, given proper industrial and agricultural development, Israel can well support a population of four to five millions.

These facts must be taken into consideration by any government or any statesman who wishes to be helpful in the situation. All those who ignore these facts will prove to be well-intentioned or, ill-intentioned mischief makers.