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January 28, 1938.

Dear Brodetsky,

From the Minutes of the Executive meeting of December 16th and from the copies of my Hebrew letters to Magnes, dated the 13th and 25th January, you will have seen how the Hyamson-Newcombe-Magnes enterprise has ended.

2. For the beginning of this end I must refer you to the letter which I addressed to Magnes on December 6th, 1937. In that letter I expressed my doubts as to whether the replies transmitted to us about the meaning of certain clauses in the scheme of a Jewish-Arab agreement of November 4th, 1937, really represented the views of authoritative Arab circles. I added that as we did not see much use in prolonging the discussion of these doubtful points through intermediaries, we proposed that the possibility of arranging a direct meeting between us and the Arabs be explored. I made it clear that it would have to be an informal meeting, the purpose of which would be to ascertain by a preliminary discussion whether there was any likelihood of direct Jewish-Arab negotiations leading to any positive results.

3. Weeks passed without a reply forthcoming to this offer. It is true that we received the copy of Hyamson's letter to you dated the 20th December 1937, in which he showed a rather "indecent haste" by tackling such points as the venue of the proposed Jewish-Arab conference, the size and composition of Jewish and Arab delegations, the personnel of the secretariat and chairmanship, and what not. All this was not only premature but irrelevant, for there was no answer yet to the main question which we had put, i.e., whether the Arabs, in whose names Hyamson and Magnes were purporting to speak, were really willing to meet us. As far as I understand, no reply has been given by Hyamson to this main question until the time of writing.

4. Magnes, however, appears to have felt the responsibility of leaving such a question unanswered and took steps on