

1 ORAL HISTORY OF: Helen Zuckerman
2 INTERVIEWED BY: Sharon Alterman
3 DATE OF INTERVIEW: Friday, August 26, 2005
4 LOCATION OF INTERVIEW: Her home in Franklin, Michigan
5 SUBJECT MATTER: personal and family history, her
6 husband Paul's involvement in
7 World Jewish leadership,
8 philanthropy, Israel, role of a
9 widow in community

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11 MS. ALTERMAN: I'm so pleased that you are going to
12 be part of the Leonard N. Simons Jewish Community Archives.
13 This is a project that we started for the Jewish Federation to
14 interview the great leaders of our community and you are
15 certainly one of them. As I reviewed all the information
16 about you and your husband, I thought we can't possibly get
17 through all of this today. So what we're going to do is skim
18 the surface and talk about what is important to you. But
19 before we start I have one question. Can we use the topics we
20 discuss as part of our historic record in the future?

21 MS. ZUCKERMAN: Yes.

22 MS. ALTERMAN: Thank you. Where were you born?

23 MS. ZUCKERMAN: Bay City, Michigan.

24 MS. ALTERMAN: And who were your parents?

25 MS. ZUCKERMAN: Samuel Fleisher and Freida

1 Oppenheim. They came from Europe. We lived outside of Bay
2 City in a little town called Auburn, Michigan, where my father
3 was in business. When we left Auburn, I was four and we had
4 four girls and one boy. When we moved to Detroit, my mother
5 and dad had another girl. We lived on the east side of
6 Detroit.

7 My father was in the department store business with
8 his brothers-in-law. We lived in an all gentile neighborhood,
9 so I was brought up in a non-Jewish neighborhood. I lived on
10 the east side in various homes where my father had stores
11 until I got married. After that, they moved to the Jewish
12 neighborhood because my other sisters needed husbands, and
13 they decided that was the thing to do.

14 MS. ALTERMAN: Was it a Jewish life?

15 MS. ZUCKERMAN: It was not a Jewish life because
16 there weren't enough Jewish people. We had a little bungalow
17 someplace that they called the temple or synagogue. I wasn't
18 very Jewish. I knew all of the rules and regulations of
19 having a kosher home because my mother's mother and my
20 father's mother lived with us. Until they passed away she was
21 very diligent about that. But when they did pass away, she
22 let down and made it easier for herself and us. We followed
23 all the holidays because the grandmothers taught us all of
24 those things. But we didn't have any long-time friends from
25 grade school or anything. We did the best we could.

1 We could have gone to Sunday school at Temple Beth-
2 El, but it was a long ride on those two-decker buses. My
3 mother soon got tired of driving us and she said you'll have
4 to go on a bus. We said we're not going, and that was the end
5 of the Jewish education and the Jewish friends for that
6 matter.

7 **MS. ALTERMAN:** So what kinds of things did you do to
8 amuse yourself as a youngster?

9 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** We just went to school and played
10 with the neighborhood kids, just like any other childhood,
11 except when we got to be 15, 16 years old we didn't date
12 because our parents didn't want us to go out with non-Jewish
13 boys. We soon met people through people and we became regular
14 citizens of both communities.

15 **MS. ALTERMAN:** How did you meet your husband?

16 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** I met Paul on a Temple Beth-El
17 moonlight. That was quite an event in those days. I was on a
18 date and he was with a group. He was acting silly and I
19 thought ugh. Then he started to call me and just kept calling
20 and calling. And I said to my mother, "What is it with him?
21 He just doesn't give up." I finally went on a blind date with
22 him and there was my husband.

23 **MS. ALTERMAN:** What kind of person was he?

24 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** He was very ambitious, an excellent
25 businessman, lots of stamina. Of course he had his own ideas

1 on things, but he did very well. Then he turned to
2 philanthropy and working in the community. He didn't have to
3 go to war because he was in an important business,
4 manufacturing peanut butter, and that's what the soldiers all
5 ate, practically, during the war. His business was important.

6 Then he went into the potato chip business and the
7 pre-cooked bacon business and importing businesses, wines,
8 liquors, that sort of thing, and into real estate. When he
9 started to be more affluent, he was able to do the charitable
10 things that he wanted to do. He worked hard for the community
11 and was given many honors. Of course I enjoyed all of the
12 honors with him. It was a very interesting life.

13 **MS. ALTERMAN:** How did he get into the peanut butter
14 business and what was he doing when you met him?

15 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** When I met him, he worked in a
16 warehouse for wholesale grocers. He was the head man of the
17 warehouse. Then he met a young man from New York that was in
18 the peanut butter business, and he thought he'd like to be his
19 own boss and he would like to find a business. He became a
20 partner of this man from New York, but the New Yorker decided
21 he'd like to go back to New York, and he sold out to my
22 husband. He started his peanut butter business in a little
23 garage off of Twelfth Street, downtown Detroit. It was good
24 peanut butter evidently because it became the best known in
25 the area. He couldn't ship too far because they didn't have

1 plastic at the time. It was all glass-packed. I guess he
2 borrowed money from some of his grocery people friends to get
3 started in the business. He just grew and grew until he
4 became what he became.

5 MS. ALTERMAN: What was your life like as a young
6 wife?

7 MS. ZUCKERMAN: I had two children. I lost one
8 child at birth. Linda Klein is my daughter and my son, they
9 were six and a half years apart because of the lost child in
10 between. I was just a stay-at-home mother.

11 I joined many organizations. ORT had just gotten
12 started, and Hadassah, all the older ones because I'm older.
13 I just joined all the organizations and went to the meetings.
14 I didn't take any lead roles because I was busy with my
15 husband's things, too, and I had my children to take care of.
16 It was after my husband passed away that I got more involved
17 in things and did things on my own and got more involved in
18 Federation, because he was doing all the Federation things and
19 he preferred that I just went along with him and did the
20 things that he was interested in. I liked that, too, because
21 I went to lots of places that I probably wouldn't have gotten
22 to, met a lot of people that I wouldn't have met. All of it
23 was very interesting. From all over the country.

24 We were going into Israel when we were taking
25 missions to Israel. At least 10 people that would be givers

1 of a certain amount would go on these missions. That was when
2 Israel was in its beginning. It was the most interesting
3 place. How it got to where it was after the war started
4 boggles my mind.

5 MS. ALTERMAN: You have recollections from the very
6 early years.

7 MS. ZUCKERMAN: Yes. I think our first trip was in
8 '58. That was the beginning of our missions. We would go to
9 Italy, Rome, Paris, France, and then on to Israel and stay
10 there for two weeks. There would be maybe 50 people or so,
11 and we'd all get on the buses and go to all the places, the
12 deserts. Linda at this time is more knowledgeable, and there
13 are more places that she can go to.

14 After Paul passed away, the family went on a couple
15 trips of our own where we dedicated a community center in his
16 memory. We have different things that we bought so to speak.
17 Hebrew University has a study hall and a scholarship. Paul is
18 honored there. It just was very interesting.

19 We had a home in Israel for 15 or so years. We
20 would go in June and October and Paul would go in February.
21 We would stay for three or four weeks. It was so peaceful and
22 so lovely there. After the '67 War it was terrific to be
23 there and see the progress. But after the '73 war everything
24 went downhill and they started the Holy War, the Jihad, and
25 then the Palestinians started blowing up different restaurants

1 and buses and killing the Jewish people and trying to ruin
2 Jerusalem because they wanted it so badly themselves. It's
3 come to where it is today. I certainly hope that from what's
4 going on peace will come, but I'm not sure.

5 **MS. ALTERMAN:** During the time you were in Israel
6 you made so many connections with the leaders there. When we
7 look around this room, we see so many of those people. Let's
8 talk about a few of them. Did you know Ben-Gurion well?

9 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** Yes. We knew Shimon and Sonya Perez
10 and Leah and Yitzhak Rabin were very good friends. All the
11 government people. We were more friendly with the top
12 government. Golda Meir was a very dear friend. As a matter
13 of fact we had her come to the house and bring her children
14 from the kibbutz. They stayed at the house for two or three
15 weeks. She had some sort of cancer and went into the hospital
16 and died after that visit. We were so thrilled that she had
17 been to the house.

18 I used to have other Israelis, the not so famous
19 ones, who would come on Saturday for lunch, a Shabat lunch.
20 They'd bring their kids and they'd bring their bicycles and
21 run around the house and it was really quite a riot. It was a
22 great experience.

23 **MS. ALTERMAN:** So you really became part of that
24 country.

25 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** Right. For a while. Then my

1 husband passed away shortly thereafter in '86. I think early
2 '85 was our last trip to Israel.

3 MS. ALTERMAN: Let's talk about some of the other
4 people that you knew so well like Teddy Kollek.

5 MS. ZUCKERMAN: Teddy Kollek. Yes. Teddy and Paul
6 were very dear friends. We went to visit the Kolleks and
7 immediately they started punching each other. That was their
8 way. Even if it was in a hotel or our home here or at his
9 apartment, they'd wind up on the floor like two little boys
10 wrestling. Foolishness. They had fun. I still hear from
11 Teddy.

12 MS. ALTERMAN: I heard that your husband was a light
13 weight wrestling champ?

14 MS. ZUCKERMAN: No.

15 MS. ALTERMAN: Moshe Dayan was also one of your
16 favorites; right?

17 MS. ZUCKERMAN: Yes, he was. He wasn't very
18 friendly with many people, but we would have dinner with him.
19 I knew both his wives, his first wife Ruth and second wife
20 Raquel. We would have dinner and visit his house.

21 He would have big meetings. Everybody wanted to go
22 to Moshe Dayan's house because he had like a big gallery in
23 his back yard of things he dug up. His place was loaded with
24 these antiquities and he had a shop where he fixed them up
25 himself. He didn't do it in a legitimate way. He found

1 pieces that matched fairly well, at the museum they don't try
2 to fool you. They put a putty or clay, and I have one to show
3 you. We had a dig in our back yard, and when they were
4 digging out all this stuff, we found one piece of sculpture
5 that wasn't too beat up. He insisted that they were going to
6 give it to him and the museum didn't want to, but he
7 persisted, and so now I have it in my living room.

8 **MS. ALTERMAN:** So you were the benefactors of many
9 of his artifacts.

10 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** Yes. We have many around the house
11 that he just gave us. They were just dug up whole and he
12 wrote his name on it and Raquel's name. I have quite a few of
13 those.

14 **MS. ALTERMAN:** You talked to me about some of the
15 people in Israel that you became close to. I remember you and
16 Linda mentioning a little girl in Kiryat Shimona.

17 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** Mariam Ohana. They were fired on
18 from Lebanon. It was close to the border. Paul flew down to
19 see if he could comfort the people. She just clung onto his
20 leg and she wouldn't let go of him. From that time on,
21 whenever we'd go to Israel, we would go to visit her or she
22 would come to visit us. We even brought her here to Detroit,
23 took her all around. Now she must be in her 30s. While we
24 were still going to Israel she had three little children. I
25 think she must have been 12 years old when we met her. I send

1 her a New Year's card every year and I hear from her, but I
2 don't go to Israel. I can't travel that far anymore.

3 MS. ALTERMAN: I know that you and your husband were
4 great bridge builders and you brought Israeli soldiers here.

5 MS. ZUCKERMAN: Yes, we did. They were crippled,
6 disabled. The picture up there in the corner are all of the
7 soldiers; from every war there was at least one. They were
8 house guests of different people in Detroit. I think there
9 were 12 or 14 of them. Paul and some of the others took them
10 to Washington, New York, different spots of interest. We had
11 parties for them. They were a pleasure, and it was a treat
12 for them and for us.

13 MS. ALTERMAN: And what about the scholarships for
14 the youngsters in Israel?

15 MS. ZUCKERMAN: We had a nursery school while the
16 mother's worked and we had a pre-kindergarten. We donated a
17 park to them in Jerusalem. A community center in Sede Boker.
18 That's where Ben-Gurion's home and his grave is and it's quite
19 a sight. I only hope that that isn't part of what they're
20 giving back. That's near Ben-Gurion University. It's the
21 high school that the community center is connected to, sort of
22 like between the two. Just different things that I can't even
23 remember.

24 MS. ALTERMAN: Another thing that was so important
25 to the Jews of the world was your husband's involvement in

1 bringing Soviet Jews out. Were you friendly with Scoop
2 Jackson?

3 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** Very friendly. As a matter of fact
4 we have a picture of Scoop and his wife when they were
5 planning -- I don't remember who the other person was that he
6 was working with on that project. He also was able to get the
7 Panovs, the Russian dancers, to come to Israel. I have
8 pictures of them there and different places in the house.
9 They just needed that help. In those days Russia was still
10 the Soviet Union, and to get them out, it was a horror.

11 **MS. ALTERMAN:** Your husband was so instrumental in
12 bringing that Jackson-Vannick Bill to fruition. What about
13 any other political ties within the United States? Was he
14 involved with any of the presidents?

15 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** He was involved with the Democrats.
16 I've been to the White House several times when different
17 people from Israel would be guests there. Rabin and Golda
18 Meir. If I'm not mistaken, Nixon was the president in the '73
19 War; that's when most of that was being done. That was the
20 worst war because that's the one that really killed the whole
21 thing. It never was the same after. There was no friendship
22 or anything. They all used to be so friendly; the Arabs and
23 Israelis would visit back and forth and go to homes for
24 dinner. The wives would be under the house -- they had those
25 houses with the sticks underneath -- they'd be cooking and the

1 husbands would be waiting on tables. The wives had no part in
2 any of the social things at all.

3 **MS. ALTERMAN:** It was so different. You were
4 mentioning the '70s when Paul was the chair of the UJA. That
5 was a very important time in his life.

6 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** And it just so happened it was a
7 time to raise tons of money. They had to get out and do it
8 and we had a meeting here. There were so many men they filled
9 up the patio and the house and everything and raised the most
10 they ever raised. Of course it was the most important war.
11 What came out of that is what's happening now. Sharon was the
12 big general at the time; then he became prime minister. It's
13 a strange phenomenon I think that when the Likud Party was in
14 power, there was always trouble except in the '67 War; then
15 Labor Party was in. It never seemed to be wars or blow-ups,
16 or the car bombings and things like that not in '67, not in
17 the in-between wars. But that just capped the climax. That
18 was the end.

19 In my mind I can't figure out how they started to
20 hate the Israelis. They felt they didn't own anything and the
21 Israelis owned everything. Well, that is true because they
22 can't make a living by themselves. They can't do anything. I
23 don't know what's going to happen to them if they should get
24 their state because Israel is the one that had all of the
25 industry, the planes are made by Israel. They just were

1 workers who came over the borders and got jobs and had food.
2 Now they have nothing. It's just a poor state.

3 I think there's a lot of monkey business there, too.
4 Like they would have an old beat up house, but then on the
5 hill over there they had a big beautiful mansion. It wasn't
6 all pink and roses or whatever you want to say. There was
7 some hanky-panky going on there, too, on the Palestinian side
8 or Arab side. I can't figure out where the hatred came from
9 when they were so tight and so good together.

10 MS. ALTERMAN: One of the things you did was build
11 that Detroit park. Wasn't that a place for Arab and Jewish
12 children to come together and play?

13 MS. ZUCKERMAN: Yes.

14 MS. ALTERMAN: We can only be hopeful that things
15 will change for the better.

16 MS. ZUCKERMAN: I certainly -- they're trying.
17 Sharon has made an about-turn that he tried a couple times but
18 I guess he couldn't go through with it. But now what's going
19 to come of it, I don't know but he is trying.

20 MS. ALTERMAN: I also read that when Israel gave up
21 the Sinai, you were there and you visited some of the
22 families.

23 MS. ZUCKERMAN: That's why I just pray they don't
24 give up more. They're giving up the Gaza Strip. I just hope
25 at the end of the day that Israel has a state.

1 **MS. ALTERMAN:** That's everybody's wish and desire.
2 There were a few other people we didn't talk about,
3 political figures. One was Pat Moynihan.

4 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** A very good friend. He was one of
5 Paul's Democratic friends. They had a 25th anniversary and
6 they spent it in Israel. We have a picture of Pat cleaning
7 our pool. It's right on the desk. He's down there, the pool
8 is empty and he's scrubbing with some kind of brush or rake.
9 They were good friends.

10 When he was being elected senator of New York,
11 that's when we went on the plane with someone else, I can't
12 remember. When Pat got in, he was on the staff. I think he
13 was a treasurer or something. I cannot come up with his name.
14 He was Jewish, but he wasn't an admitted Jewish person. It's
15 probably one of those names I probably haven't mentioned and I
16 know it but I can't think of it right now. I have a picture
17 there.

18 **MS. ALTERMAN:** I think after we talk we'll walk
19 around the room a little and maybe we'll view some of those
20 photos. This is such a wonderful room.

21 Let's talk about things you've done in the city of
22 Detroit. One being your involvement at the Orchards and how
23 you had the youngsters swimming every summer.

24 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** When the Orchards opened, they came
25 to swim every Monday. The club was closed on Monday, and it

1 didn't matter if they hollered and screamed and fought and
2 jumped in the water. They came for about six or seven years,
3 and then the Orchards decided the children should be grateful
4 to them for everything, and I think there was a disagreement
5 over some pop or something like that that we would give them.
6 They decided that they would not let them come anymore.

7 **MS. ALTERMAN:** Were you involved at the Orchards as
8 a volunteer?

9 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** Yes. That's how I knew about being
10 able to have them come and swim.

11 **MS. ALTERMAN:** After your husband died, what were
12 some of the organizations that you became involved in?

13 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** I had never gotten deeply involved,
14 but mostly I just belonged to them. I got more involved in
15 Federation and I did fund-raising for them. I got involved in
16 the Michigan Cancer Foundation. I think my husband was
17 involved in it, and when he passed away, I got involved and
18 was on the board. I'm on the board of the DIA and the DSO and
19 Michigan Opera Theater. I was involved deeper after Paul
20 passed away. I did the Angel's Gala for Michigan Cancer for
21 12 years. I think it was on the day of one of the first
22 \$1,000 dinners that Paul found out that he had bladder cancer.
23 That was September the 28th in '85, and he passed away on the
24 8th of January of '86. That happened to be Linda's birthday.

25 **MS. ALTERMAN:** Were you also very involved in Israel

1 Bonds?

2 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** I was honored by Israel Bonds and I
3 bought Israel bonds and went to their events. I wasn't a big
4 worker, I just volunteered for certain things. I didn't take
5 on a lot. By that time I was pushing my 70s. But I found it
6 very interesting. Especially Federation had many things a
7 widow could learn. They had classes. You learn about laws
8 and about the IRS and all sorts of things you didn't know
9 about before because mostly the husbands took care of all of
10 that. I wasn't really educated in it, but I certainly got a
11 lot out of what Federation offered.

12 **MS. ALTERMAN:** What were some of the challenges of
13 being a widow?

14 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** I didn't feel very challenged. I
15 was lonely, but I kept busy. I went to all the events the
16 different charities gave. Today I send in the money but I
17 don't go. They were always lovely parties and someone was
18 being honored. The time has passed and I had a few accidents
19 that have done harm to me. I certainly have had not too much
20 social goings on in the past few years. I'm trying to get
21 back into it, but it's a little difficult.

22 **MS. ALTERMAN:** One more thing we didn't talk about
23 is your love of the arts. If you walk through your beautiful
24 home, you see so many things of beauty.

25 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** My husband loved museums, and I did,

1 too, but he was more into it than I was. He would go to the
2 art galleries. We had a woman next door that was an artist
3 and he was sort in a contest with her who could know more
4 about ~~the~~ that artist than the other person. He'd be going to New
5 York for meetings and he would say what artist are you
6 interested in, give me a few names. I would give him a few
7 names ,and he would go and look around and bring back
8 transparencies and we would choose them together. If I didn't
9 like them and he did, he would take them to his office. We
10 knew pretty much what we wanted in our house. It just
11 evolved.

12 **MS. ALTERMAN:** Did you collect a lot of Israeli
13 artists, also?

14 **MS. ZUCKERMAN:** Yes. I'll point them out to you.
15 There's one out there in the yard; it's called The Target.
16 There's one in the back yard on the other side, that's a Benny
17 Fratt, and I have a couple in the house. I have a Cottage
18 Man, who was an architect. Then behind you is a piece of
19 sculpture. Why I have so many of them is because Paul met
20 these two Israeli starving artists in London and he would give
21 them money and they would give him pieces of art. He was
22 pretty warm blooded and perspired a lot, but when he would go
23 to their flats, he would freeze to death. They had no heat.

24 I have a Bach painting of eggs in the hallway, some
25 other sculptures. I have the names written up someplace. I

1 can't remember them all, there are too many pieces.

2 MS. ALTERMAN: It will be fun just to look.

3 MS. ZUCKERMAN: The collection is eclectic. It
4 isn't just modern or just any one thing. Then of course we
5 have the antiquities.

6 MS. ALTERMAN: Is there anything else that we didn't
7 discuss? Let's hear more about your family, your
8 grandchildren.

9 MS. ZUCKERMAN: I have my daughter Linda, who is a
10 very interested Detroitter for the community and outside the
11 community. I have a son, Norm^b; he lives in Aspen and in
12 Florida. I have two wonderful granddaughters. Kathy is the
13 oldest. She has two adorable children. Grandchildren are so
14 wonderful and then come the great grandchildren. Then I have
15 Liz, who is a second granddaughter and John who was the third
16 grandchild. Now they all have children. John just had a baby
17 boy and Liz has twin boys.

18 MS. ALTERMAN: What are their names?

19 MS. ZUCKERMAN: The names of the great grandchildren
20 are Alex, my oldest, Abbey, then Joshua, Matthew, Liz's kids,
21 and John just had Nate the Great, Samuel --

22 MS. ALTERMAN: Nate. How old is he?

23 MS. ZUCKERMAN: He's a few weeks old. He weighed 10
24 pounds 2 ounces.

25 MS. ALTERMAN: He is a great big baby.

1 MS. ZUCKERMAN: Yes. That's why we call him Nate
2 the Great. I had never seen a baby that developed and
3 adorable. They're all darling and smart. Just too bad they
4 live in Chicago, but we do have John here.

5 MS. ALTERMAN: You'll enjoy having a baby nearby.
6 Is there anything else we missed? Sometimes we ask
7 if there's any kind of message you'd like to leave for your
8 children or the community.

9 MS. ZUCKERMAN: Just keep on being what they are and
10 how they are, be good to each other and love each other.
11 That's what life is all about.

12 And peace in the world. It doesn't seem like
13 there's peace anywhere. Maybe the United States isn't in any
14 war, but I swear it's just appalling what's going on in this
15 world, and especially the Iraqi war is getting so hard on
16 everybody.

17 MS. ALTERMAN: Those are good hopes and dreams.
18 Let's hope that they come true.

19 MS. ZUCKERMAN: They're fighting to get the troops
20 out of Iraq, but I tell you, our president is fighting just as
21 hard to keep them there.

22 MS. ALTERMAN: Let's stop and let's take a little
23 tour.

24 (Reviewing photographs.)

25 MS. ZUCKERMAN: Moshe Dayan and Paul became very

1 good friends. They both had the same type of sense of humor.
2 You had to be a special type of person or you wouldn't get
3 along with Moshe at all. They became very good friends and we
4 had a very good relationship with he and his wife until he
5 passed away. We enjoyed every bit of it.

6 This is a photograph of Paul with Ben-Gurion. He
7 was the first prime minister of Israel. He was a pistol.

8 That's a photo of our home in Israel. It's probably
9 a Saturday afternoon. We had a bunch of people for a Shabat
10 lunch. There are the Panovs, the Russian dancers that America
11 was trying to get out of Israel. Paul was involved in that
12 venture. When they finally got to Israel, they came to visit
13 us. Unbelievable people. They were stuck in one apartment
14 for three years. They wouldn't even let them go outside in
15 Russia. So they were thrilled to be free in a country where
16 they could do what they wanted and not be like in a barrel.
17 We became friendly with them, too. I believe he is now the
18 head of the dance ballet school in Germany, but they still
19 live in Israel.

20 That's Paul's 50th birthday. On his right is Tom
21 Klein, our son-in-law. On his other side is our son Norm.
22 They're smoking from the Turkish pipes. Paul was born in
23 Turkey. He came to the United States at a year and a half.
24 The gentleman behind him was an employee of Paul's in the
25 peanut butter plant, and he offered to get into that costume

1 and fan him. They really were something. They had a ball.
2 Really good party.

3 This is a photograph of Ben-Gurion and Paul and
4 Golda Meir and they're having a conference over some argument
5 or something. Ben-Gurion had a sense of humor. He would
6 tease Paul and Golda. There are other pictures where he's
7 poking Golda and telling her to poke Paul. He would ask if he
8 could speak Turkish and Paul would say no and he'd say, speak
9 Hebrew and Paul would say a little. He'd say well thank God
10 for something. He really had a strange funny sense of humor
11 for as old a man as he was and he was brilliant. He was the
12 beginning of Israel.