



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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### **MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.**

Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated.

Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

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Anti-Defamation League, 1934-1935.

## CLASS OF SERVICE

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# WESTERN UNION (59)

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HJ133 27=CHICAGO ILL 26 347P

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE=

## MINUTES IN TRANSIT

FULL-RATE

DAY LETTER

NECESSARY COMMITMENTS IN RE MATTER DISCUSSED REQUIRES  
FINANCIAL ASSURANCES STOP JUBILANT OVER PROGRESS THUS  
FAR BUT EFFORT MUST CONTINUE STOP PLEASE ADVISE ME WITH  
REGARD CLEVELAND GREETINGS=

RICHARD E GUTSTADT.

627  
130 m. Wells St  
Suite 1419  
Chicago, Ill.

THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTIONS WERE RECEIVED BY RABBI SILVER  
FOR A FUND WHICH MR. GUTSTADT OF THE ANTI-DEFAMATION  
LEAGUE REQUESTED

E. E. Wolf.....	\$ 50
N. Dauby .....	\$100
H. Rivitz.....	\$100
Sol Reinthal.....	\$ 25
A. Lewenthal.....	\$ 25
Sam D. Wise.....	\$ 25
Nathan Loeser.....	\$ 10
Nathan Richman.....	\$100
Charles Richman.....	\$100

\$535





E.E. Wolf. 50- (Gav. <sup>Gav.</sup> 185)

M. Dancy 100-

H. R. V. 15. 100-

Sol Reinthal 25-

A. Lewenthal 25-

— Sent out. 250-

Sam D. Wicks. 25-

Nathan Jones. 10-

Nathan Richman 100

Charles " 100



November 2, 1934.

Mr. Richard E. Gutstadt,  
Anti-Defamation League,  
130 N. Wells St.,  
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Gutstadt:

I am enclosing herewith a check of \$250 from  
the following people:

Nate Dauby - May Co.....	\$100
Hiram Rivitz - Industrial Rayon Corporation W. 98th St. and Walford.....	100
Saul Reinthal - Bamberger-Reinthal Co. 6118 Kinsman Rd.....	25
A. Lewenthal - Union Trust Bldg.....	25

You will recall that I gave you a check for \$50 from Mr.  
Eugene E. Wolf - Engineers Bldg. That makes it \$300. As  
soon as I get additional money I shall send it to you. I  
would suggest that you write an acknowledgement to the  
above people.

300

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK  
Enc.

S. D. Wise	25
Nathan Loeber	10
Charles Richman	100
Nathan	100

235



# ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE

130 N. WELLS ST., SUITE 1417

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

PHONE FRANKLIN 2221

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November 7, 1934

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
East 105th Street at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

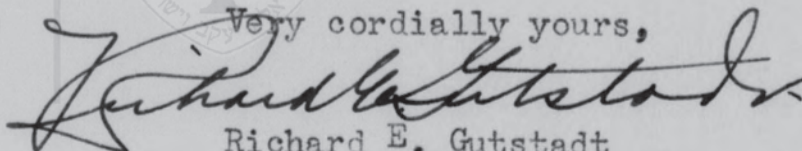
My dear Rabbi Silver:

Pursuant to your suggestion, I have written to the four men whose subscription you have forwarded to me. In doing so, I have utilized my personal stationery since I believe this to be the preferable method.

The earliest reports were somewhat sketchy. For your information, I have just heard by long distance telephone that we have been successful.

I know you will be gratified.

Very cordially yours,



Richard E. Gutstadt  
Director

REG:rs



November 13, 1934

Dr. Harry Lee Franklin  
P. O. Box 3458  
University of Kentucky  
Lexington, Ky.

My dear Dr. Franklin:

I acknowledge receipt of yours of November 8 which I hasten to answer. I was in Cleveland last Wednesday and Rabbi Silver spoke to me directly with regard to your visit there.

We are interested in arranging visits to other cities. We are happy to note that you can give us 4 or 5 days at a stretch, and I am communicating with some of our representatives in important centers to make tentative arrangements and advise me thereof. I shall then be happy to correspond further with you so that the arrangements may be consummated. We will be satisfied to pay the fee as set down by you and the actual expenses.

You should hear from us within the very near future.

Very sincerely yours,

Richard E. Gutstadt  
Director

REG:rs

cc--Rabbi Silver



CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
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TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

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# WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

November 19, 1934

19

To Richard Gutstadt,

Street and No. 130 N. Wells St.

Place Chicago, Ill.

PLEASE SEND ME SPECIAL DELIVERY COPY OF PROTOCOLS I AM LECTURING ON IT

SUNDAY

A H SILVER

Sender's address  
for reference

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY  
IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

Sender's telephone  
number



EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
**ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE**  
OF B'NAI B'RITH  
130 N. WELLS ST. SUITE 1417  
PHONE FRANKLIN 2221

SIGMUND LIVINGSTON,  
CHAIRMAN  
RICHARD E. GUTSTADT,  
DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY  
MILES M. GOLDBERG,  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

CHICAGO,  
January 9, 1935

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
105th St. at Ansel Rd.  
Cleveland, Ohio

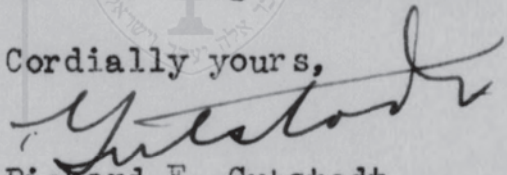
My dear Rabbi Silver:

I enclose herewith copy of a letter just written to Judge Drucker, the content of which is, I believe, quite clear but which, as you will immediately deduce, treats of a very vital point.

If we can establish the fact that either the German ambassador at Washington or the German government has been using pressure on the German consul at Cleveland to secure public engagements for Mrs. Bodenschatz, it does two things. It establishes her as a paid propagandist, and it also shows the duplicity of the German government and the falseness of its avowals.

I trust that it will not be imposing on you too much to bespeak your cooperation with Judge Drucker.

Cordially yours,

  
Richard E. Gutstadt  
Director

REG:EF



January 9, 1935

Judge Louis Drucker  
305 Leader Building  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Lou:

About a year ago our people in Louisville, Kentucky, and subsequently in a few communities of Ohio were considerably upset over the public lectures of a Mrs. George K. Bodenschatz of Louisville. She is the wife of a Unitarian minister of that city. She had returned some time previously from Germany, and her lectures were very pro-Hitler. Through correspondence with our people in the area which we had reason to believe she intended to visit, some of her lectures were cancelled. At other places very embarrassing questions were asked her at the conclusions of her address, always by liberal non-Jews, and always confusing her so greatly as to very measurably dissipate the effects which she was trying to create.

I am now advised of an interesting situation, namely, that the German consul at Cleveland has requested Susan Doudican, of the Program Service Bureau, 1189 Brookley Avenue, Lakewood, Cleveland, to secure Mrs. Bodenschatz for an address. He also called Susan Doudican on the telephone and at her request sent a printed copy of a speech by Mrs. Bodenschatz and some further information.

One of our representatives in Louisville had theretofore had some little correspondence with Mrs. Doudican, and had warned her against the possibility of propagandists securing place on her programs. The attitude of Mrs. Doudican is most commendable, for she seems anxious to avoid doing anything which might have unfavorable results.

The bulletin of Mrs. Bodenschatz 's address refers to it as "The Saar--Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow." Mrs. Doudican's correspondence with Louisville has been conducted with Mrs. Herbert E. Ottenheimer of 1832 Eastern Parkway who is very active in women's club movements and who frequently books speakers. Mrs. Ottenheimer does not want to write a letter condemning Mrs. Bodenschatz because the latter lady has already threatened Mrs. Ottenheimer, and Rabbi Bazell, who has been cooperating with us in our work, and it is their belief that nothing is to be gained from controversy. Mrs. Herzog, of 2558 Euclid Heights Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio, is the sister of Mrs. Ottenheimer, so that you have a point of contact which should prove very helpful.

With this background, I want to explain our interest. Firstly, Mrs. Bodenschatz adds nothing factual or helpful in her presentations. If Speakers Bureaus are closed to her, so much the better. I am even more concerned in the interest of the German consul and if it could possibly be established that the consul at Cleveland was requested by the German consul at Louisville to use his influence, it would also be very helpful in aiding us to discover whether or not the German government, perhaps, through the ambassador's



Judge Louis Drucker

-2-

January 9, 1935

office, has been contacting American cities urging Mrs. Bodenschatz's lectures. This information might prove very helpful to us later on.

Now there are certain difficulties which I appreciate. The matter must be approached tactfully, but we have the advantage of Mrs. Doudican's sympathy and desire to be fair. We have also the advantage of her desire to be persona grata with Mrs. Ottenheimer and then we have Mrs. Herzog who, I am satisfied, would do anything reasonable that may help.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Rabbi Silver, who has been very helpful to us on different occasions. I am sure that his great prestige in academic circles and in the educational field may help considerably with Mrs. Doudican, if it be necessary. It should be borne in mind that Mrs. Doudican has written to Mrs. Ottenheimer asking for information on Mrs. Bodenschatz. She has stated that the German consul in Cleveland has made the request that Mrs. Bodenschatz be brought to Cleveland. Now Mrs. Ottenheimer does not desire to be projected into the picture, as nullifying the possibility of an engagement for Mrs. Bodenschatz. At the same time, Mrs. Ottenheimer wants us to so manipulate it, if possible, that Mrs. Bodenschatz will not be booked.

I trust that this matter is quite clear, and I should be grateful to you if you would immediately communicate with Rabbi Silver, who will get a copy of this letter, discuss the matter, and keep me advised.

With personal regards, I am

Very cordially yours,

Richard E. Gutstadt  
Director

REG:EF

cc: Rabbi Silver



Executive Offices  
ANTI\*DEFAMATION LEAGUE  
of B'nai B'rith  
130 N. Wells St.  
Chicago, Illinois

January 15, 1935

Judge Louis Drucker  
305 Leader Building  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Lou:

Enclosed herewith you will find a few excerpts from one of the early addresses of Mrs. George K. Bodenschatz, concerning whom I recently wrote you. These excerpts will indicate what I mean by the type of propaganda which she has been disseminating.

Cordially yours,

*R. E. Gutstadt*  
Richard E. Gutstadt  
Director

REG:EF

cc: Rabbi Silver



EXCERPTS FROM AN ADDRESS  
DELIVERED BY MRS GEORGE K.  
BODENSCHATZ

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....."They, (the Germans,) are aware of the many problems facing them, but a thing has happened which has been unknown in Germany since the war. They are united..... They seem to be working for a common cause from one end of the country to the other."

....."It is said a German thinks and thinks again, and then once more, and then perhaps, he acts. Knowing this characteristic to be true seems to me to indicate that National Socialism is what the people of Germany want today, and they want the present leaders at the helm. Many say that the present government was forced on them. This seems utterly ridiculous when you take into consideration that they have seen it grow for 15 years, and finally it swept into power by an overwhelming vote. I am inclined to think that Germany will be the first country to work her way out of the present chaos because she has been the first to hit bottom.....

....."He, (Hitler,) is loved to the point of worship. He is spoken of as a Messiah. I have frequently heard German people say, "He is a Messiah not for us alone, But for the whole world. They always speak of him as "Our Leader." The individual says "My Leader."

....."Morals have much improved. Berlin since the war has been known as the "wide open city of the world." Homosexual vice openly flourished, nude pictures and design and profane literature could be seen and purchased at every corner. All of these are now prohibited, etc.....

....."The women are splendidly organized. In their meeting places they are not classified. The wife of the banker walks beside the scrubwoman. They mend and wash the clothing of the unemployed men other than workers, etc.....

....."You heard much at first that the intelligentsia was not behind Hitler. This is gone. Today it is changed. I have no less authority than Herr Major Fehn, President of the Maximilian Institute of Munich, that great institution of learning where only the most talented can qualify, as students. He told me that three-fourths of the intelligentsia support the Hitler movement today, one-half out of firm conviction, the other because they feel it is the lesser of two evils. If Hitler hadn't come to Germany, they feel that Germany would have been lost.....

....."This brings me to the anti-Semitic question, a thing that is supposed to be loaded with dynamite. Why? Because we know the Jew as a respected and admired citizen of the world over. The public feels a sympathy for a race that has withstood persecution and prosecution from the days they fled from the land of Egypt. Spain, England, France, Austria, Poland, Russia, and Germany have from time to time made things difficult for the Jew. He has been deprived of political equality and discriminated against in many ways. The German Jew represents an especially high state of culture and advancement. When the National Socialists came into power, the whole world protested when they began to carry out their program against the Jews. The world cried out "Barbarians," "cruelty," etc. Germany has always been anti-Semitic. Before the war, when the Jew was given the title of Von or a minor position of state, he was obliged to give up his faith and become a Christian. These Jews were known as "baptized Jews." After the war, especially during the revolution, the anti-Semitic feeling everywhere flared up in Germany and continued to smoulder, burning deeper and deeper until the revolution last March. On this subject I am not going to express a single personal opinion, because I feel that you have not come here to hear what I might personally think. I am not an authority on the situation, consequently my opinion is worthless. I can only tell you the things that I have seen personally, what people have said to me, and give you the names of my informants. A few weeks ago, Mr. Seebode delivered from this pulpit a sermon that had no bearing whatever on the German subject, but he said at that time that every subject has two sides. This is true. That we don't deny. The German says the Jew is an Oriental; that the matter is not religious, but racial; being an Oriental, he has different standards of civilization, culture and morals. Last year, when I was in Germany, I made a special effort to cultivate the acquaintance of educated Jews. For many years I have had a number of Jewish friends in Germany. I have been a guest in their homes, have enjoyed the closest social and business contact, and I feel convinced that they are as good friends to me today as I am. This year I spent much time with the Jews. I am going to present their side of the question as they told it to me, and I am going to present the German's side of the question\*\*\*\*\*



....."After the war, the Jews, being the better educated and with greater culture naturally were better situated, to fill positions of authority. It has been frequently asked how the Jews, with only one percent of the entire German population, could hold so many high state positions. Before the war they only held positions of state according to percentage. This was also true of schools and professionals. After the revolution, being naturally brilliant, it was possible for them to pass the difficult examinations; they being, as, I have explained, the intelligentsia of the new regime, it was possible for them to come into power in the schools and professions. These figures were given to me by Professor Dr. Ernest Shultz, famous Berlin surgeon. He told me that out of 6,000 doctors of medicine in Berlin, 4800 were Jews; that the Board of Examining Physicians was composed of 16 Jews and one Christian, and the Berlin Public Hospital Staff was one hundred percent Jewish. Due to the pension state in Germany, the greater percentage of the physicians were directly or indirectly in the employment of the State.

"Concerning jurisprudence, these figures were given by \_\_\_\_\_. In Berlin, 45 percent were Jewish lawyers; in Breslaw 70 percent; in Frankfurt am Main 64 percent. The judges in all classes of German courts were many Jews. The governing committee of the Berlin Exchanges has been composed exclusively of Jews; the Committee on the Stock Exchange had 11 Christians and 25 Jews; Produce Exchange, 4 Germans, 12 Jews; metal exchange, 2 Germans, 12 Jews. Theatre and moving picture industry were under Jewish control. The management of the largest banks was almost entirely Jewish. Germany is the first country to which the Jew comes out of the east from Russia, Poland, Roumania and Galicia. Frequently not of the best type, they came here and stayed for a few years until their material condition was improved, and then go on to other countries in Europe, England, or come to the United States... After the war, great hordes came out of the East. During the inflation, so far as the exchanges being in their power, for them to acquire much wealth. Due to the conditions set forth in the Treaty of Versailles, they couldn't be refused admission. The government in power at that time encouraged their entry, making it possible for them to become citizens within two years. They say the Germans are the main reason why the dislike of the Jew grew so rapidly in the last few years. Unemployment was increased; the people were growing poorer and poorer; the public began to feel the Jew was monopolizing the government and industry. National Socialists have said the following concerning the Jews: "No Jew can hold a position of authority and this ~~rule~~ goes down even to a woman being president of a club. Only according to the percentage of Jewish population in a city or town can a Jew enter a profession, or colleges or universities, or hold directorships on boards of control in industry and finance. They are not restricted in business life. Those who were public officers before the 1st of March, 1914 or fought in the war for Germany and her allies, whose fathers or sons died in the War, are allowed to retain their positions. The same rule applies to participants in the Baltic War. Public officials who do not come under this provision have been dismissed or retired as Non-Aryans. The legal profession, just as teachers in public schools, colleges and universities come under the same rule. Lawyers who practiced law before August 14th, who fought in the World War, or whose fathers or sons died in the World War, are admitted to the Bar. For example, in Berlin, out of about 2000 Jewish lawyers, 1200 are still permitted to practice.

"The intelligent Germans say that they regret exceedingly the boycott, adding that if this boycott had not been established, there would have been an uprising that would have gotten out of control. So say the Germans. The Germans admit that all Jewish shops were placarded, but that the proprietor of the shop was not molested. It is admitted that at least 2 Nazi men stood in front of Jewish shops and said that a Nazi man must not go in a Jewish shop, and when a customer would approach the shop, they would say, "This shop is owned by a Jew. If you are patriotic, you will not make a purchase with him." The following day, the placards were removed and the windows cleaned by the Nazi men. This information was given to me by some Jewish merchants in Berlin. The government admits that there were some scattered cases where private grudges were indulged and Jews were beaten or killed, for which the State was blamed. For example, I was told of a case in Breslaw where a wealthy Jew had been guilty of seduction of two Christian girls. The families of the girls took advantage of the opportunity and killed the man in question. That there could be many cases like this, of course, is possible. I cannot vouch for them, for they are only hearsay, so far as I personally am concerned. The government claims that they have been unable to get their side told truthfully through the foreign press because they claim the major press in the foreign countries is under Jewish control. I was told by Frau Anna Schultze that she had been informed directly by some of the foreign press that they were only interested in Hitler and anti-Semitic stories.



"I was told by one of the representatives of the News Agency in Berlin that his company had cabled him to send only atrocity stories. In July, he received instructions to lay off of all Jewish and also atrocity stories. Herr Max Marcus, friend of Dr. Lion Feuchtwanger, the famous Jewish authority, and with whom Herr Marcus shares his apartment when Dr. Feuchtwanger is in Berlin, told me that he had seen this thing coming. He said, "We Jews have been too oppressive in Germany; we have not been willing to be pioneers, to teach our children that work ~~begins~~ begins with the hands. We have been too anxious to get the positions of authority and power." They have worked at the expense of the majority. Dr. Joseph Grabisch said to me that Herr \_\_\_\_\_, brother of the merchant who had lived in the same apartment building with Dr. \_\_\_\_\_, remarked during inflation, "I see dark days ahead for we Jews unless those in control are wise enough not to be too greedy of power."

"Dr. Grabisch and many others told me that the Jews had a most remarkable and splendid war record.

"Personally, I saw no case of cruelty or brutality while in Germany. I inquired from Jews and Gentiles alike. In some instances, I was told that they had heard of cases, but it was an absolute impossibility for me to get a name or address so that I could personally investigate. From the Jewish standpoint, it was absolutely true that there are many Jews in Germany in dire distress. Especially is this true of the Jews in the small towns where feeling runs high. Physicians and lawyers, as well as teachers, can be included in this class, because nearly all, in one way or another, have been in the employ of the state. Professional people, without exception, are now obliged to confine their practice to those of their own faith, and the number is not great enough to support their families. The new law says that anyone who has one grandparent of Jewish blood is considered a Jew. Consequently, this means the children of recent marriages who have considered themselves Christians find they are now in the non-aryan class. I have a friend, a young woman who is an actress. She had just begun her career. Her mother is a Christian, her father a baptized Jew. She can no longer appear on the German stage. She must give up her art or go back home.

"Jewish lawyers are particularly unfortunate, because they are trained in German law and even if they do go to another country, they must begin at the bottom or find another trade or profession.

"Many of the large industries sent out notices to the employees that were Jews, simply saying that after a certain date, the policy of this concern is not to employ any more Jewish help. I talked with Mrs. Heinrich Nebenzahl of Berlin. She is the mother of the largest film producer in Germany. Mrs. Nebenzahl herself is a Jewess of American birth, being married to an Austrian and having lived in Germany thirty years. She told me her son had films produced which had cost him over a million dollars. He was not permitted to produce them in Germany. He took them to France; there it was hissed because it had been made in Germany. Finally, it was produced in Belgium, where it was fairly well received.

"Mrs. Nebenzahl told me of a young Jewish lawyer who lived in another city who had been put to death. She refused to give me the name and address of the man in question, saying that her information was hearsay, but she had every reason to believe that it was the truth. She told me of another case where the man from whom she bought things on the market had been arrested simply because he had repeated to somebody that he had seen a man in Nazi uniform strike a Jew. Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ said that she thought it would be twenty years before Germany would regain her lost ground. The \_\_\_\_\_ family have moved to France.

The professional men in Germany seem to greatly regret the loss of the German Jews in the schools. \_\_\_\_\_ told me that Dr. Miller, the great German diagnostician, has said, "Where would medicine be without the Jews." I asked some of the authorities why the Government had not discriminated against men of this type. I was told that Germany could not be \_\_\_\_\_.

"Mr. Sydney Schmidt, head of a very great leather industry in Frankfurt-Am-Maine, told me that he had no knowledge personally of any cruelties, but on the day of the boycott, he had given orders that all of his places of business remain closed. \_\_\_\_\_ did say that the government had made the conduct of big business very uncomfortable, by subjecting all major industries to close and frequent inspection. He seemed to feel that the situation would ease, but that he noticed less interruption. His business requires him to travel abroad much of the time and he said he did not experience difficulty in getting a passport. He told me



that many of the business Jews in Germany had not been investigated. Germany has a law which is very strongly enforced, which does not permit anyone to take more than 200 marks out of the country without special permit. This law applies to natives and foreigners alike. All travelers in Germany for the last three years, know that they are required to declare their money at the German borders. The government will permit anyone to take 75,000.00 of made up merchandise out of the country, but it must have been manufactured in Germany. \_\_\_\_\_ told me of having brought his merchandise to New York which had been his custom for many years. This last May, he could not fill any ~~with~~ orders, because the New York Jewish merchants were boycotting German goods. He remarked that in this instance he had to suffer in both ways, and in this country the suffering was brought on by \_\_\_\_\_. I was told by Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ that the Rabbi in the temple where she worshipped had said that the German Jews were the most anti-Semitic class of people, because they refused to accept socially or otherwise the more orthodox Jews who came out of the East; that they had forgotten their church, and that up until last March, the temples had been empty, but that now, when trouble was at hand, there was only standing room in his church.

"I found many intelligent Jews who feel that this is only the beginning of an international anti-Semitic campaign. They ~~said~~ say that if Germany succeeds, this will mean that many other countries will try the same thing.

Professor Winterstein, of the University of Zurich in Switzerland, told me that a Jewish student is not allowed to remain in Switzerland 24 hours after he had made his examination. Mr. Max Kahn, head of a large \_\_\_\_\_ industry in Amsterdam, Holland, said that only according to percentage were Jews permitted to enter professions or hold positions of state in Holland. He seemed to think that a boycott would be a boomerang against the Jews.

"Mr. Paul Lackner, head of the Associated Press in Berlin, told me Germany must carry through her anti-Semitic plan or she will perish if she stops in mid-stream. The German Jew is suffering terrifically. His soul has been tormented; his children cannot secure higher education; he is reduced to a second-class citizen; he can conduct his business without molestation, but he must make no complaint or leave the country. He does not hope for a change in conditions, because he thinks like many others that National Socialism has come to stay for a long time. Many Jews are without income and are forced to lower their standard of living or to remain in want. They must have aid from the outside or they perish. Germany offers no hope for the ~~the~~ young Jews.

She realizes that today she is the hated nation of the world. She regrets this, because she does desire the good opinion of the world, but she feels that she has been blundering along for fifteen years, gradually sinking. Her young people have known nothing but suffering and privation. They have decided to take the helm in their hands and use the \_\_\_\_\_ instead. They are convinced that they will succeed. They feel they are working along honest lines and they think that in the near future they will be able to prove to the world that they are working for the best and for the up-building of their own country. Many condemn the methods; many regret what has happened, but the majority seem to feel that it is the only way out of a very bad situation.

"The world today is in turmoil. One can almost hear the rumbling of the cannon. Every nation cries out for peace. All admit nothing is gained by war. Yet we go on ~~making~~ heating and breeding prejudices, ~~and~~ refusing to be tolerant. In nature, everything begins with a single call. If we are to see a world peace, we must ~~begin~~ begin with individuals. Every one of us must turn hate from our hearts. Because a man has a different policy, a different race or religion, it is not necessary to hate him. A few years ago, I had a feeling that we were coming to a better international understanding, but now when I talk, I feel like a voice in the wilderness. The world seems to have remembered little from the last war. Everything good cannot be lost. I had the very good fortune to hear Dr. Jonah Wise speak at Adath Israel Temple a few weeks ago. He presented his case simply, truthfully, without malice or hatred. Several times I heard his talk criticized, saying that he was not forceful enough, not bitter enough in his attack. I can only speak for myself. I came away from that meeting a better woman, with greater faith in God and man, because after many days of discouragement concerning the sincerity of the desire for peace, Dr. Wise left me with a hopeful feeling that after all, tolerance is not dead. Are you sincere when you say you want people to \_\_\_\_\_; just throw out the prejudice and then you can go before the world and talk about love and peace.



EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
**ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE**  
OF B'NAI B'RITH  
130 N. WELLS ST. SUITE 1417  
PHONE FRANKLIN 2221

SIGMUND LIVINGSTON,  
CHAIRMAN  
RICHARD E. GUTSTADT,  
DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY  
MILES M. GOLDBERG,  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

CHICAGO,  
February 15, 1935

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th St. at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Friend:

We know your deep interest in the problems with which the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith is coping.

We therefore enclose for your attention copy of the annual report of the League office to the Executive Committee of B'nai B'rith.

While necessarily, the report does not tell the whole story, we feel that there will be considerable informative material in it.

These reports are not generally circulated, and we would appreciate your keeping it as a confidential document.

Very sincerely yours,

*Richard E. Gutstadt*  
Richard E. Gutstadt  
Director

REG:EF  
ENC.



March first  
1935

Hon. Lewis Drucker  
Superior Court  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Lew:

Gerhart Seger will be in Cleveland March 14, 15, and 16. As you probably know, he is a former Social Democratic member of the German Reichstag and the author of "A Nation Terrorized". He was confined for many months in the Oranienburg Concentration Camp.

I have heard Seger speak. Of the many men who have come from Germany and who show up the viciousness of the Nazi regime Seger is, in my judgment, one of the most effective. He speaks with a sincerity that carries conviction. His English is fluent, without accent, and his diction is excellent.


His publishers are Reilly and Lee of Chicago. They are, of course, primarily concerned with securing a wide distribution of his book. We are likewise deeply interested in this, because all who read it are impressed with it as an indictment of the whole rotten system.

The purpose of this letter, however, is to secure, if possible, the value of Seger's appearance before a general meeting in Cleveland. It ought to be a big meeting, non-sectarian in character, and sponsored by some important non-Jewish group. The publishers are at liberty to make arrangements for meetings at luncheon clubs in Cleveland. Our cooperation with them permits us to book him for the evenings.

Seger has just returned from a Western trip. We were able to put him before very big audiences all over the Pacific Coast. The results of his meetings were unusually good.

Copies of this letter are being sent to the Chairmen of the other Cleveland B'nai B'rith Lodges and to Rabbi Silver. I urge you to contact them immediately for the opportunity to present so important a message should not be overlooked. By special arrangements Seger's fee is \$50, of which one-half goes for some very special work which I would rather not put into this letter. If it is absolutely necessary this office will defray a portion of the fee. In practically every other city, however, it has been unnecessary to do this. Please let me hear from you at your earliest opportunity so that I may be able to definitely fix his schedule.

Cordially yours,

  
Richard E. Gutstadt  
Director

REG:sg  
c.c. Rabbi Silver ✓  
Leo Weidenthal  
Robert Skall  
George Furth

David Copland



April 4, 1935.

*Geiser*  
Notes on Prof. Geiser's Lecture

At Hayden Hall the Evening of March 26th.

Subject: The Intellectual Revolution in Germany

Auspices: The German Club of Department of Western Reserve University

Prof. Geiser announced that he would talk on the intellectual revolution in Germany but hastened to add that he would not discuss it from the literary point of view because he has not read the literature. He would speak rather on the political aspect and the new mental attitude he observed during his trip to Germany last summer.

"No country is so consciously controlled as Germany by the premeditated thought of the philosophers, by the great men who thought things through. Germany has been a country guided by the philosophers. This is in contrast to America. America has derided a government of thinkers and has preferred a government of politicians. Theodore Roosevelt condemned Wilson by always referring to him as the "Professor," and the country accepted that title as a condemnation. Such a thing would never happen in Germany. But now Germany is no longer ruled by the philosophers. Now I want to tell you the philosophy of this new rule; it is hard to explain. Americans do not understand Germany nor the Germans. They never have understood them. They are 90% wrong in their estimation. This is not due to ignorance on the part of the Americans but due to propaganda."

He complained against current American prejudice toward Germany which has been stirred up by newspaper propaganda. He implied that everyone opposed to the Nazi government is a Communist and stated that pressure had been brought upon him to begin all his talks on Germany with a denunciation of Hitler.

"The Treaty of Versailles is the most despicable treaty in all history. During the Kaiser's time and since, Germany has been the leader in humane legislation, in the care of women and children, and it abolished slums and cared for health and old age. How could such a humane people do a cruel thing unless there were some good reason for it? I, as a student



of government, must ask, 'How did this thing come about, what was the change?' Americans don't understand. Their government is an outgrowth of economic thinking, so they are not capable of understanding Germany that has such a different philosophy of government."

He ridiculed the idea that Germany has been carried away by a bad man. Hitler's power rests on a broad foundation of popular support which guarantees its permanency. It is not an arbitrary dictatorship but a new philosophy of government based on the Leadership principle. It is closer to democracy than the Hohenzollern idea because it envisages a classless society from which the most competent are called the leadership. He recommended "Mein Kampf" for its new and revolutionary philosophy of state. He praised Hitler as a great thinker, who is primarily interested in the welfare of the worker and the peasant. He said the government maintains its contact with the masses by letting them pass on questions of major policy, and that Hitler calls in the experts and the philosophers for advice and help in working out details of a specialized nature.

"Hitler is stronger now than ever. The Saar vote has strengthened him. What is his source of strength? The system now in Germany is probably permanent. Any modern government that is permanent must rest on the broad popular foundation of the will of the people. Hitler said, "I want the mass of the people with me." Voting in Germany is free. Last summer I saw the vote cast. Voting there is freer than here. A judge was sent to jail for one year for putting a cross on an envelope that contained a ballot, so that he could identify the ballot. Don't believe the English press when it tells you that voting is not free."

"The mass of the people have brought about a great revolution in Germany. A revolution in the thoughts of man has taken place, the greatest revolution in history and it has been a bloodless revolution, contrasted with the French revolution, or even with the Austrian uprising last summer. More people were killed in Austria in two weeks than in Germany during all of the revolution. I talked to someone about the persecution and he said, "You had five



lynchings in the United States last year, and you shoot down people in strikes. You kill without revolution in your country." Shootings occur all the time south of the Mason-Dixon line. In Germany a man is shot for treason only."

"When my colleagues blame Germany they are not sincere. They want to think of Germany as wrong or else they must admit that they were wrong in condemning Germany for her part in the war. What has caused the great change in political thinking since the war? Under the Kaiser, Germany had 26 states and Alsace-Lorraine. Under the Republic she had less. Now under Hitler there are 14 states and these states are used as administrative agents for the government something like the counties here are used for the administrative agents of the States. But this is not a perfect comparison as the philosophy back of the German State is different. Hitler conceives of the State as an aggregation of individuals who will live for the State and as a part of the State. The Germans of today have the same idea of the State as did Plato and Aristotle. They do not have the conception of Marx or Lenin, and their conception of the State is not of the Communistic State nor the Socialist State. As in Plato's Republic, every man has his place according to merit, Hitler believes that every man should be dealt with according to his due, that no man is to be exterminated but to be given his place according to his abilities to fill that place, as Plato outlined in the Republic. There must be a place for everyone, and everyone must find himself in that place. For this reason Hitler is interested in the peasant class. "A bold peasantry." (Dr. Geiser opened his talk by quoting lines from the Deserted Village regarding a bold peasantry.) This peasantry, these people who are put in their places according to their merits will be ruled by the philosophers and the experts. Hitler himself does have a philosophy, but it won't appear in the United States papers or textbooks for the next five years. Hitler does take advice from experts. The Hitler government is a true democracy and not a dictatorship."

He admitted that Hitler has suppressed the labor unions, but said it is a mistake to regard the labor unions as the salvation of labor; that they were abolished because they were lobbying and fighting against the government; that labor must not be outside the government fighting it, but it must be inside cooperating <sup>with</sup> the government.



"One of your Professors here said, "Hitler destroyed labor and the working class." He thinks this because Hitler destroyed trade unions. The working class in Germany does not rest upon trade unions. The American Federation of Labor is outside the government. It tries to force the government."

He claimed that the church conflict was brought on by  
the church itself because it was not serving the people.

Christianity has failed because of insincerity and hypocrisy.

"Germany has a classless society under leadership. This leader principle is a contribution to political science thinking. Because I am a student of political science I have given much study to this great contribution to political philosophy."

"A German student at Oberlin said, "We never heard the word 'dictator' in Germany. This is something that belongs to the Middle Ages. Hitler is our leader, not a dictator." What Americans don't understand is that his leadership rests upon the solid basis of a 90% electorate. He is not a dictator. He has told the people that he will not stay in power a minute after they do not want him."

"We can't believe in the English papers. There is more sense and truth in the Waechter and Anzeiger than in all the other Cleveland papers put together...I hope there are no reporters present... The English press does not want to be fair to Hitler or the Germans. Before I went to Germany last summer I asked if they would publish an article by me as a result of my studies there; I told them I was not interested in pay for the article. But they would not give me the assignment to me because they knew that I would tell the truth.

"In Germany last summer I delivered some lectures at a university on the subject of the Constitution of the United States. I still believe in this Constitution. Another great idea that Germany has given the world is the conception that under a monarchy the State is something abstract, a la Hegel. The Italian monarchy exemplifies this. But in Germany today the State exists for the people. My colleagues and many parents who are paying \$300 to have their children mis-educated don't grasp this great idea of Hitler's, for my colleagues don't grasp that the German people are a great people, that their contribution to political thinking is great and that this is a great movement. It is the most interesting experiment in the world today, or maybe at any time, and it is the most intelligent. Students should be studying



the German language so that they can study this greatest of all experiments in government at first hand. The conception is that every man must serve the State so that the State can exist for all men. Of course, there may be some fanaticism in connection with this but there is the least pain attendant on this revolution. The scoldings of Germany is defensive action on the part of other people."

In his peroration Prof. Geiser described the Germans as a great people, the greatest on earth rising higher still through the efforts of Hitler, as they launched upon the greatest of all experiments in government and in human relations.

"I see in them a great people, perhaps the greatest on earth. Out of this turmoil will come the greatest ideas in government."





In Answer to the Question: What About The Freedom Of The Press In Germany

"Well, does anyone think we have freedom of the press in the United States? I am a liberal and believe in free speech and a free press. So much of the modern vile and sex literature was pouring into the German homes that the German people who still place their faith in God, the Fatherland, and the home, determined not to have this sewer flowing through their homes, and so censored the press in order to keep it out of the homes and away from the youth. The press is free politically except if you are against the government. The press cannot publish treasonable articles, articles against the government. Personally I think the world would be better off if there were no newspapers."

"Yes, it is true that there are 60,000 intellectuals out of sympathy with Hitler Germany but aren't there that many in every country? Einstein is out of Germany because he said he would not enter Germany as long as Hitler was in power. Do you want to have Hitler get out of power just so Einstein can enter the country?"

"Now about the Jews; thousands of Galician Jews poured into Germany and added to the problems of the Republic. This gave rise to the race question. The Execution of the orders against the Jews is regretted by all. Their brilliance is acknowledged, but they are a foreign race. They claim they are a chosen people but who has done the choosing? When I talked to people in Germany about this question they said to me, what about the treatment of the Negro and the Chinese, the black and the yellow races in the United States? I know of an American college that was about to award a Fellowship to a student, but first wrote to someone to find out whether or not the student was a Jew, and because she was a Jew she was refused the Fellowship. I am a liberal. I don't believe in race discrimination but there is no solution for this Jewish problem in Germany. The stand the government has taken against Jews has to be. What is the solution of the Negro problem in this country? Hitler Germany makes no apologies for its stand regarding the Jews, nor do I. It is regrettable but it must be. I must trust the Germans to do their own governing in their own way."

"We don't like to think of what happened last summer. The only persons executed, and they all had a fair hearing, were traitors, and only the leaders were executed. Hitler said that he would punish only the leaders and forgive the followers as they were misled."



If these leaders had not been executed for treason just when they were, within six hours almost 400,000 Storm Troopers would have overthrown the government. Let us trust Germany to deal with her own problems, and doesn't she deal with them like other nations? When Lincoln was assassinated, Booth took refuge in an innocent woman's barn, but that woman was hanged as an accomplice to the act, and I guess this country kind of admits that was wrong in hanging her."

Answer to question re: Hitler's Relation to The Industrialists and  
Asking for explanation of Why The Working Class Now Receives Lower  
Wages in Germany.

"I don't know anything about your figures, but I deny that Hitler favors the industrialists. German industrialists never made the great profits that American industrialists have made, and profits above a certain amount are always taken away from the industrialists. The big industrialists support Hitler because they are afraid of Communism. Germany is the bulwark against Communism. Hitler does not favor the great industrialists but they favor him because they are afraid of Communism and they know that Hitler will never tolerate Communism. Hitler is not starting war. War will not come from Germany. To blame Hitler is all a bluff. Hitler is bringing us one step nearer peace by bringing us nearer to reality, but if there is war in Europe the newspapers will claim it was started by Germany. That is a lie." Three years ago I said in a speech that we would have no recovery in the United States until Germany is stabilized, and time has shown the truth of my statement, and again I say you will have no recovery in the United States until Germany is stabilized."

"My only criticism of Germans in America is that they are too meek and do not exert themselves. You Germans are 200,000 strong in Cleveland, and if you would band together you could do anything; you could change elections. You ought to support the German peoples and assert yourselves---show your strength."

"Now about this boycott, why do you stand for it? I told a merchant to look up my account for the last thirty years and then refuse to buy German merchandise if he dared! I am an American but my blood is German. My ancestors fought the Caesars. I am proud of this blood."

(LOUD APPLAUSE)



Someone in the audience of about 100 persons, few if any of whom were students, rose to say that he wanted to thank Prof. Geiser, in behalf of those present, for the fine and frank talk he had given them, a talk that it took much courage to give and that he knew must have been hard for him to give.

With the exception of Miss Chadsey and three women with her, and of Rabbi Sherman and another man with him, and of a young man who asked the question regarding Hitler's Relation to the Industrialists, etc., everyone in the room was apparently in complete sympathy and accord with Prof. Geiser. In other words the members of the audience for whom these lectures are given, all appeared to be Pro Nazi, Anti Semitic sympathizers.

An admission of 25 cents was charged. May we ask for what purpose the money is spent?





THE LEAGUE  
FOR  
HUMAN RIGHTS AGAINST NAZIISM

608 Ninth Chester Bldg.

Cleveland, Ohio

April 5th, 1935.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
East 105th & Ansel Rd.  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I am enclosing a copy of the notes of Professor Geiser's lecture, hoping you will think of some way to use these notes effectively.

The President's office at Oberlin informs me that Dr. Geiser retires at the end of the present college year, having passed the normal age of retirement. He said in his lecture at Western Reserve University that he was returning to Germany again this summer. I think we are safe in assuming that upon his retirement from Oberlin he will take the lecture platform, and for this reason I feel that we should take some drastic steps now.

I expect to protest his activities to President Wilkins of Oberlin when he returns from Florida. I have asked several of the alumni of Oberlin to write to President Wilkins. I have asked the following people to protest not only Professor Geiser's speech but the activities of the German department of Western Reserve University with President Leutner: Mr. Samuel Horwitz and Mr. Edgar Hahn. I have suggested that they get one or two other people and that they interview President Leutner in person. I have also asked Mr. Dan Moley, president of the Cleveland Federation of Labor and Mr. Max Hayes editor of The Cleveland Citizen to protest. I have also asked Mrs. Bassett, and will ask Mrs. Goff when she returns to Cleveland. I am also sending a copy of the speech to Mr. Furth whom I understand is the Cleveland representative of the Anti-Defamation League, and another copy to Mr. E. M. Baker whom I understand is the Cleveland representative of the Jewish Committee.

I do not think this is a sufficient program, especially as it relates to Western Reserve University. I think President Leutner and Dean Trautman should hear from more people and made more uncomfortable than they will be made by the protests of these few people. What will you do, and do you suggest that I do?

Yours sincerely,

MC:LT  
ENC:L

Mildred Chadsey

I have also asked Henry Busch to take up this subject at the University in any way he can that will not embarrass him in his relations there.



EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
**ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE**  
OF B'NAI B'RITH  
130 N. WELLS ST. SUITE 1417  
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SIGMUND LIVINGSTON  
CHAIRMAN  
RICHARD E. GUTSTADT,  
DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY  
MILES M. GOLDBERG,  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

CHICAGO, June 4, 1935

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th and Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

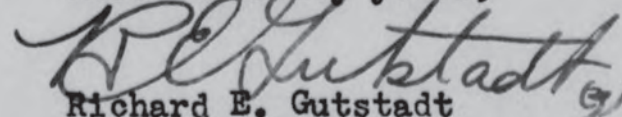
We have been hearing some rather disquieting rumors which I would like to be in a position to scotch completely. Word has come to us from different sources to the effect that syndicates of wealthy Jews, one in New York and one in Chicago, have purchased from the original owners at ridiculously low prices, most of the available land around Palestine. It is further reported that they are disposing of this to German and other refugees at tremendous profits.

A second rumor that is gaining currency is that German refugees in Palestine are continuing to look askance at Jews from Russia, Poland and Roumania, and are avoiding contact with these groups as much as possible. It is difficult to conceive of a people having recently passed through so tragic an experience adopting such an attitude. Nevertheless, the rumor persists, and I sense an early double danger. One group of Jews now discusses this unpleasant rumor with a thought of curtailing their support of the German relief program. The second dangerous aspect of the rumor is the possibility of withholding support for Palestine, since it is maintained that we develop Palestine in order to add to the profits of Jewish real-estate speculators who are exploiting Jewish idealism.

I am wondering whether you have any information on these matters. I would like very much to be in a position to definitely deny such allegations and I think were we able to do so, it would perhaps prevent such rumors gaining a currency which would definitely impair fund-raising efforts.

I know that you keep in very close touch with all developments in Palestine. If you can enlighten me in connection therewith, I shall be most grateful. With personal regards, I am,

Most cordially yours,

  
Richard E. Gutstadt  
Director

REG :rs



June 5, 1935.

Judge Julian Mack,  
Woolworth Bldg.,  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Judge Mack:

I am sending you the enclosed letter which I received from Richard Gutstadt of the Anti-Defamation League. Can you perhaps enlighten him? I shall be glad to send on the information to him without, of course, mentioning your name.

Do you plan to attend the Zionist Convention in Atlantic City and are you going abroad this summer to attend the Congress?

With all good wishes to you and to Mrs. Mack in which Mrs. Silver joins me, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK  
Enc.



JULIAN W. MACK  
1220 WOOLWORTH BLDG.  
NEW YORK CITY  
—  
TEL. CORTLANDT 7-2775

June 8, 1935

Dear Silver:

I am afraid that Gutstadt, whose letter I *shall* return, has been reading "Our Voice", the Revisionist monthly. I feel sure I would have heard something about the things that he quotes if they were true. Furthermore, I don't know what he means "by more of the available land around Palestine".

There is not any question on the other hand that there are some Jews in Palestine who are speculating in land, buying and selling it at good profit to anyone who is ready to buy - a German or otherwise. It is one of the real difficulties out there, but everybody is aware of it - government and organization - and are endeavoring to find some remedy.

I have not any doubt that mutual prejudices between German and East European Jews exist in Palestine, as they do in America. On the other hand I know that they exist definitely less out there than they did in my youth here, and I believe less than they do here today. I cannot, however, for an instant believe that this ought to or can effect support of the German relief program.

I am, however, sending the letter to Robert Szold who has just returned from a couple of months there and am asking him to supplement my letter to you of which I am sending him a copy, if he has anything to add to it.

Mrs. Mack is doing quite well and I have some hope that she will be able to make up her mind to go to Europe with our son-in-law on the Rex on the 15th, but this is not certain. If she should go before the Zionist convention I am hopeful of being able to get down there for at least one day, and if as I feel certain she goes to Europe, then I expect to attend the Congress.

She would join me in kind regards to you and Mrs. Silver.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver



June 10, 1935.

Mr. Richard E. Gutstadt,  
Anti-Defamation League,  
130 North Wells St.,  
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Gutstadt:

I corresponded with New York about the question which you put to me in your last letter. I am sending you herewith the statement of one whose knowledge of Zionist affairs is as extensive as that of anyone in the country and whose judgment I value a great deal. I am withholding his name for reasons which I need not dwell upon.

"I am afraid that Gutstadt, whose letter I shall return, has been reading 'Our Voice', the Revisionist monthly. I feel sure I would have heard something about the things that he quotes if they were true. Furthermore, I don't know what he means 'by more of the available land around Palestine.'

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The above quotations express fairly well my own opinion in the matter. I shall send you additional information when I hear from some of my other friends to whom I have written.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK



EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
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SIGMUND LIVINGSTON,  
CHAIRMAN  
RICHARD E. GUTSTADT,  
DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY  
MILES M. GOLDBERG,  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

CHICAGO, June 12, 1935

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Road at 105th Street  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

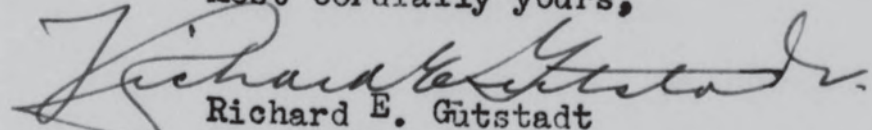
Thanks for yours of June 10. The information which it contains is helpful.

I regret somewhat that your correspondent jumped to conclusions not warranted by the facts, namely that I had been reading the Revisionist medium. The basis of my inquiries was exactly that which I stated in my letter, namely that certain people of importance had approached me and had argued the rumors as justification for withholding support from two of Jewry's most vital needs. It is a deep concern for the success of essential fund-raising efforts that prompted my inquiries. I want to be in a position to repudiate, in part at least, unwarranted allegations which cannot possibly do us any good but may conceivably do us considerable harm.

Thanks very much for your interest in the matter and please be assured that I will appreciate such further information as you may be able to transmit.

With warm personal regards, I am,

Most cordially yours,

  
Richard E. Gutstadt  
Director

REG:rs



JULIAN W. MACK  
1220 WOOLWORTH BLDG.  
NEW YORK CITY  
—  
TEL. CORTLANDT 7-2775

June 19, 1935

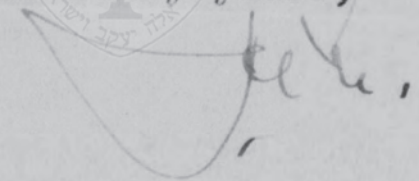
Dear Silver:

Bob Szold returned the enclosed letter of Gutstadt with the statement that he has nothing to add to my letter.

My wife got away Saturday and I hope to follow on the 9th, 10th or 11th of July.

I am going to try to be at the Zionist Convention on Sunday, (or at least a part of it), the 30th.

Cordially yours,



Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
East 105th Street  
Cleveland  
Ohio