



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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Folder
329

Bernstein, Philip, answer to anti-Zionist rabbis, 1942.

Temple B'rith-Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET
Rochester, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

September 8, 1942

Dear Abba:

I have received word that the Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs has appointed me Chairman of a Sub-Committee to deal with the statement by the non-Zionist Rabbis. I am very eager to have the benefit of your counsel. Are you to be in New York City at any time during the next week or two? If so, I would arrange for a meeting of the Committee at that time. In the event that you are to be in New York and could sit with us for an hour or two, I would appreciate your writing me the day and hour when such a meeting could be arranged. In the event that you find it impossible to attend such a meeting this month, I will be grateful if you will indicate by mail the line of action that you think we ought to follow.

With every good wish for the New Year.

As ever,

September 14, 1942

Rabbi Philip Bernstein
Temphe B'rith Kodesh
117 Gibbs Street
Rochester, N.Y.

My dear Rabbi Bernstein:

Thank you for your kind note of September 8.
I shall be in New York for an Administrative Committee
meeting of the United Palestine Appeal on Wednesday,
September 23. The meeting is scheduled for the
afternoon. I should be very happy to meet with you
on that day, say in the morning, to talk over the
matter to which you refer in your communication.

I trust that you are well and I send you
my warmest greetings for the new year.

Most cordially,

AHS:BK

Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET
Rochester, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

September 16, 1942

Dear Abba:

Thanks for your helpful note. Acting on the basis of it, we are scheduling a meeting of our committee for next Wednesday, September 23rd, at 11 o'clock, in the offices of the Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs. I look forward to seeing you.

Again, with every good wish for the New Year.

As ever

Phi

Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET
Rochester, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

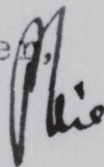
September 19, 1942

Dear Abba:

Jim Heller wires that he has arranged a meeting of the presidents of the three rabbinical bodies and Frank Weil for next Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock, and urges us to hold our meeting in the afternoon. Since their presence is imperative, I am taking the liberty of shifting the meeting to 2 o'clock at the offices of the Emergency Committee. I hope that you will be able to be present for at least an hour. Perhaps we can transact our business in that time. In the event that you should find it impossible to be present at 2, perhaps you and I might meet for an hour in the morning or at noon, so that I might get the benefit of your counsel. But I do hope you can sit in with us.

With every good wish for the holidays.

As ever,



September 20, 1942

Rabbi Philip Bernstein
Temple B'rith Kodesh
117 Gibbs Street
Rochester, N.Y.

My dear Phil:

Two o'clock next Wednesday will be
all right as far as I can judge now.

With best wishes for a happy new
year, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET
Rochester, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

September 28, 1942

Dear Abba:

I am enclosing a draft of the statement that we are preparing in answer to the 90 non-Zionist rabbis. This is not meant to be its final form; there will undoubtedly be revisions. I will be grateful for your suggestions by return mail, if possible, and also if you will inform me whether we may use your name as a member of the sponsoring committee that will send the letter to all the rabbis in the country.

Our plan is to have a sponsoring committee of ten or twelve rabbis send out this statement to all of the rabbis excluding the ninety non-Zionists. We plan to ask the following men to lend us their names: Silver, Bricker, S.S. Wise, Heller, Bernstein, Levitsky, Lookstein, Steinberg, Pool, ~~Sol~~ Goldman, *and Mark* and one or two additional orthodox rabbis, perhaps Gold or Gellman.

When the various drafts reach me, I will have to synthesize them and prepare the final statement that will be sent out to the ten or twelve men for their approval.

Please feel free to let me have your suggestions as to procedure.

With all good wishes.

As ever,

Phie

Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET
Rochester, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

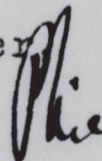
October 2, 1942

Dear Abba:

I am writing to acknowledge and thank you for the revised draft of the statement. What you have done is so good that I forwarded it immediately to New York with the recommendation that it be issued as our statement. I anticipate that this will be done with perhaps a few minor revisions. Your draft is definitely an improvement on the original.

Again, thanks and best wishes.

As ever

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Phil", written in a cursive style.

collect

10-7-42

Rabbi Philip Bernstein
41 E. 42nd St
N. Y.

You may use my name in connection
with statement of Rabbi to be issued.



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FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein
to Emergency Comm. for Zionist Affairs
41 E. 42 nd St.
New York

10-7-42

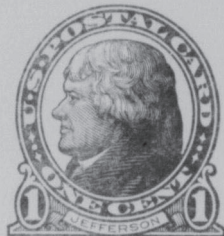
WRHS



You may use my name in connection
with statement of Rabbi to be issued.

A. H. Silver

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



WRHS



Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein,
Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs,
41 East 42nd Street
New York, N. Y.

October 1942

I am willing to sign the
rabbinical statement on Zionism,
Judaism, and Americanism.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____