

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.

Reel	Box	Folder
15	5	334

Bloch, Ernst, 1933-1934.

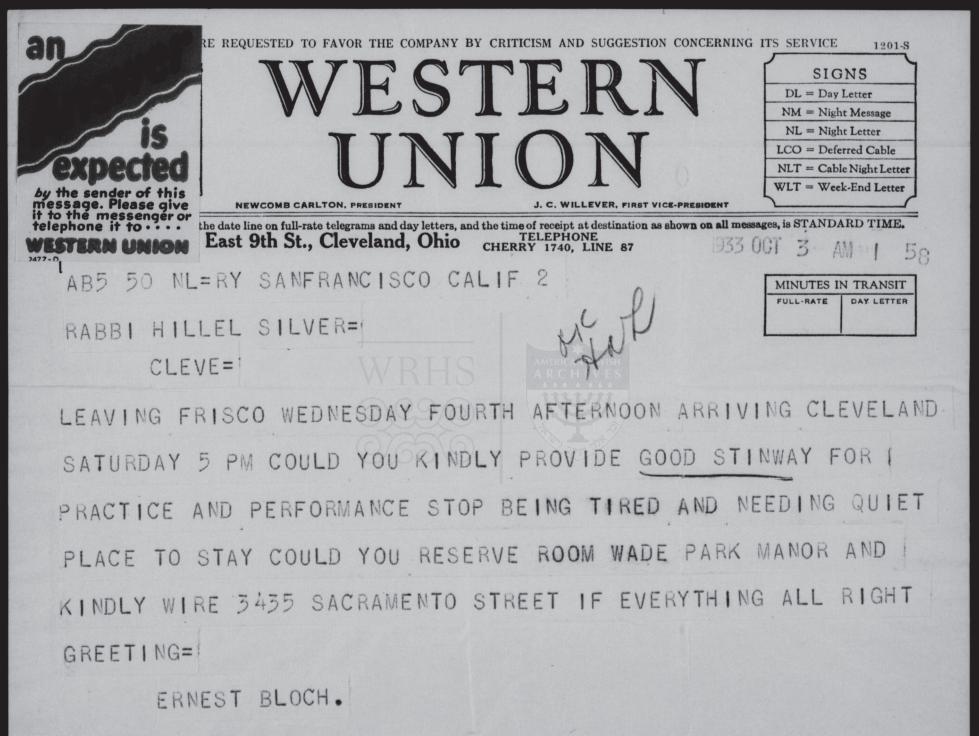
Western Reserve Historical Society 10825 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106 (216) 721-5722 wrhs.org American Jewish Archives 3101 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220 (513) 487-3000 AmericanJewishArchives.org Septembr 24, 1933

Dear Rabbi Siliza, Erwist Bloch just units me from Jan Francisco, that he has aroused a great del f interest there with his lectures on the music he Les uniter for -til Truple Service, and her wondered if Begge would be hraning him interested in As he was about to leave for los angeles & delive a letterre three, he asked

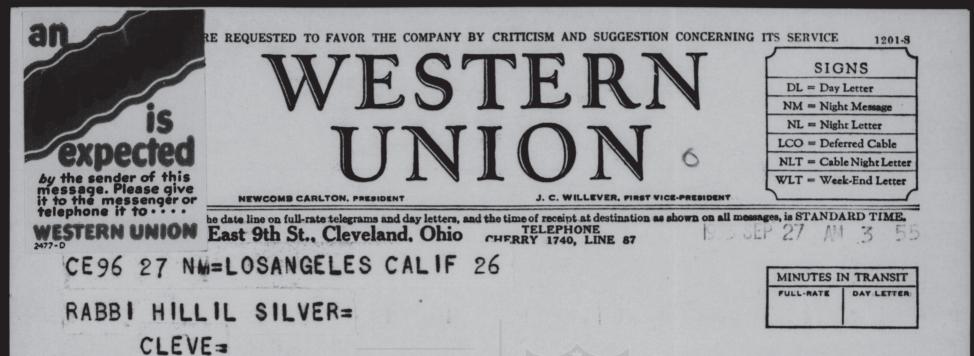
as you can will imagine, to magnificant! and interpretation of this sacred Service, interspersed with his playing and singing of parts of it, is thrilling. this for woned to \$150 -Mr. Bloch come to querice the months apo t anange for the publication and premiere of this fatest work, and in another monter ~ 50, he will return to Europe where he will conduct his

we if I would also try to arrayz an ingagment for him in Centland m. Block hes how in Suitznland for this years, working at this trunculous task - studying the Hubrur and its inflections, the deep maning of the tret - good bicoming more and more imbruid with the the Truck spirit and the greathers fter Shish ruligion a musician , the result

works in England, Pussia 11 and Itag - Lincolus IJ) He could give a lecture in Clurland the soming of october 3nd, the afternoon or wrining of october 4th (or possibly the afternoon of the star if you should want it thin) of course this is very short notice! but it is also a wonderge opportunity for m. Block's many firms in Cleveland -May I wish you and yours i my have yours 613 Richmond ave Condially Quite Trank Buffals, my.



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



LECTURE OCTOBER FOURTH IMPOSSIBLE BECAUSE OF ENGAGEMENTS HERE COULD THIS BE POSTPONED ABOUT A WEEK PLEASE WIRE CARE MRS LEWIN FOUR FIFTY SOUTH STANDREWS PLACE LOSANGELES GREETINGS=

ERNEST BLOCH.

October 4, 1933.

Mrs. Emil Brudno, 2512 Euclid Heights Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mrs. Brudno:

I am enclosing herewith admission cards to the Errest Bloch Lecture Recital next Monday evening.

With reference to the invitation which you extend to me, I find that I cannot accept any engagement on the 18th or the 19th of this month. I am at the beck and call of the American League for the Defense of Jewish Rights, which is prosecuting the boycett. I am chairman of its Administrative Committee and it has been holding meetings almost every week in New York. I would suggest that you ask someoone of my rabbinical colleagues in the city to speak on the German Boycott.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours.

AHS: BK Enc.

C. C. Buchard Puttiching Co. music Publishers Baston Mass.

March 30, 1934.

Mr. Ernest Bloch, New York, N.Y.

My de r Mr. Bloch:

I was happy to read in the newspapers of your return to this country. I trust that you enjoyed your visit abroad as much as you had hoped to.

I was, however, very much shocked at the newspaper account of what was supposed to have been your comments on Hitler and the Hitler regime. Surely you must have been misquoted. The interview has created a painful impression among all Jewish circles and I believe that you owe it to yourself, if your are not clearly quoted to issue a statement immediately. Your praise of that venomous blood thirsty anti-Semite, Hitler, as a man of high principles is utterly incomprehensible. Anyone who has read his book "Mein Kampf" will know that the gentleman is a paranoiac on the Jewish question and a vicious militarist and reactionary on all other questions.

You have put yourself in the wrong light. Whereas Toscanini and other great non-Jewish musicians have refused to enter Germany because of what the Nazi Government has done to the Jewish musicians, you announce publicly that you are going into Germany -- in the fond hope of improving the situation by playing your Friday Evening Service.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS: BK

A QUIET RESIDENTIAL HOTEL OVERLOOKING CENTRAL PARK Botel Peter Stuyvesant

CENTRAL PARK WEST

NEW YORK

April 4, 1934.

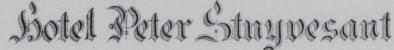
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, The Temple East 105th Street at Ansel Rd. Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Silver;

Since my arrival every minute of my time has been taken with the most frightful job of revising full orchestral material for the forthcoming performance of my Service, which should have been ready months ago. I am exhausted. This accounts for the delay in answering your letter of March 30th.

I am led to think that you have not seen the article you spoke about. Some of it has been misquoted but it has been expecially MISREAD. I am enclosing a copy of it. Where have you seen that I "announced publicly" that I was going to Germany??? I conducted the World premiere of the Service in Torino, January 19th. There was such an interest in it that it was broadcasted all over Europe, was heard even in Palestine, and Germany, naturally, (whereas no broadcasting company in the United States nor any Jewish Community in this country has manifested the slightest interest in having it broadcasted here). Several Jewish people in Berlin heard it and wrote me and this is how Mr. Alexander Weissbaum of the Jewish Kulturbund, after having asked special conditions and renouncements from my part, which I begged my European publishers to accept, decided to give a performance with big chorus, cantor and orchestra in the greatest synagogue of Berlin. I hear that Leipsig is going to do the same. Do you think I ought to have refused them to hear a work that brings them some solace and certainly be more of help to them than all the mock"trials" and other fercical affairs with which many people advertise themsele ves in this country, and which at the end do more harm to the poor suffering Jews in Germany than help them. The rich Jews of course are alright and safe in Germany, as elsewhere, but the poor suffering refugees I saw in Switzerland, in France, and in England are certainly not helped by the theatrical and useless gestures made here in the United States. Many Jews from Germany have written since months to prominent friends of mine in France and in England, begging them to stop such manifestations which only aggravate their sad situation in Germany.

I wish you would again read this interview. You would see that I never "praised" this "venomous, bloodthirsty anti-Semite, Hitler". I did not say "I greatly respect



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A QUIET RESIDENTIAL HOTEL OVERLOOKING CENTRAL PARK

CENTRAL PARK WEST

NEW YORK

Hitler's sincerity", but I said that I believed in his absolute sincerity as well as those connected with him. I have talked to many great Jews and non-Jews in Europe who feel the same and it is precisely what makes him and his movement the more dangerous. It is not in treating him as a "paranoiac", a maniac or a vicious militarist, or as a mad man, as many people say in this country that one can fight with the right weapons a movement that is spreading rapidly and dangerously to all parts of the world. I told you in Cleveland that I had foreseen this movement since 1913 when I read the Chamberlain book. People didn't want to believe me anymore than when I predicted the permanancy of the Soviets at the time when everybody was fighting them here in America, or the financial and moral collapse of the United States' prosperity, which I predicted in 1926. It would be too long to tell you all of my experiences of the growing antisemitism of Europe, the tremendous seriousness of Hitlerism everywhere. I am unfortunately awaiting since months, since years, one single intelligent Jewish voice to answer it in the proper way.

I am sorry too that people like you who pretend to be my friends and know me, can so quickly form such superficial and erroneous judgment about a man whom you know, has always been ready to sacrifice his own interest for a just cause and has never hidden but proclaimed his Judaism.

Yours very Sincerely.

ErnesBloch